

WENDY RAPHAEL ROBERTS

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Department of English
1400 Washington Ave
Humanities 325
Albany, NY 12222

FIELDS

Early American Literature; Early American Poetry; Early American Religion

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor of English
University at Albany, SUNY, Jan 2021-present

Assistant Professor of English
University at Albany, SUNY, Jan 2017-present

Visiting Assistant Professor [fellowship leave]
University at Albany, SUNY, Sept to Dec 2016

Visiting Assistant Professor [fellowship leave]
University at Albany, SUNY, 2015-2016

Assistant Professor of English
University at Albany, SUNY, 2013-2015

Visiting Assistant Professor of English
Northwestern University, 2012-2013

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Northwestern University, English, 2012
M.A. University of Arizona, English, 2005
B.A. Biola University, English, Minor in Biblical Studies,
magna cum laude, 1999.

HONORS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

NEH Fellowship. 12 months. 2023-2024.

Early American Literature 2022 Book Award for *Awakening Verse*.

Beinecke Library Short-term Research Fellowship, Yale University. New Haven. 5 months.
2022-2023.

African American History Mellon Short-Term Fellowship. Library Company of Philadelphia.
August 2022.

Sabbatical. University at Albany. Support for monograph research. 2021-2022.
FRAP-B, University at Albany. Archival Research Support for monograph. 2021-2022.
New England Regional Fellowship Consortium. Multiple libraries. 2018-2019.
Dr. Nuala McGann Drescher Award Program. NYS/UUP Joint Labor-Management. Albany,
NY. Sept.-Dec. 2016.
NEH Long Term Fellow at the Massachusetts Historical Society. Boston, MA. Oct. 2015-June
2016.
NEH Long Term Fellow at the American Antiquarian Society. Worcester, MA. June-Sept. 2015.
Provost's Research Grant. Smith Reynolds Library at Wake Forest University. Jan. 2014.
Best Dissertation. English Department. Northwestern University. Spring 2012.
Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship. The Woodrow Wilson National
Fellowship Foundation. 2010-2011.
E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Fellow in Early American Religious Studies. The McNeil
Center for Early American Studies. University of Pennsylvania. 2009-2010.
Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship. The Huntington Library. June-Aug. 2010.
Kate B. and Hall J. Peterson Fellowship. American Antiquarian Society. April 2009.
Lipking-Newberry Fellowship. The Newberry Library. Aug.-Dec. 2008.
Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Charles Davis Award for Outstanding Graduate
Student Presentation at the RMMLA Convention. Tucson, AZ. 2006. Runner-up in 2003.

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed

Book

Awakening Verse: The Poetics of Early American Evangelicalism. Oxford: Oxford University
Press. July 2020. 279 pages.

Book Chapters

"Poetry." *Oxford Handbook to Early Evangelicalism.* Ed. Jonathan Yeager. Oxford, 2022. 464-
478.

"'To assume her Language as my own': The Revival Hymn and the Evangelical Poetess in the
Early Republic." *Nineteenth-Century American Literature in Transition, Volume One,
1770-1828.* Ed. William Hunting Howell. Cambridge, 2022. 112-126.

"Before Poetry: Revival Verse and Sermonic Address in Eighteenth-Century America."
Companion to American Poetry. Eds. Mary McAleer Balkun, Jeff Gray, and Paul
Jausen. Wiley-Blackwell, 2022. 18-28.

"Evangelical Print Culture." *The Blackwell Companion to American Literature, Volume 1:
Origins to 1820.* Eds. Susan Belasco, Theresa Strouth Gaul, Linck Johnson, Michael
Soto. Wiley-Blackwell. May 2020.

Journal Articles

- [“Phillis Wheatley (Peters).” *Oxford Bibliographies in American Literature*. Ed. Jackson Bryer. Oxford. Forthcoming 2023.]
- “On the Death of Love Rotch,” A New Poem Attributed to Phillis Wheatley (Peters); And a Second Speculative Attribution.” *Early American Literature*. 58.1 (2023): 155-184.
- “Forum: Reimagining Early American Literature.” “Sarah Parsons Moorhead and Revival Poetry.” *Resources for American Literary Study*. 42.2 (2021): 215-224.
- “The Calvinist Couplet: Ralph Erskine’s Gospel Sonnets and Espousal Poetics in Early Evangelicalism.” Special Issue on Poetics. *Christianity and Literature*. 78.3 (2019): 412-431.
- “‘Slavery’ and ‘To Mrs. Eliot on the Death of her Child’: Two New Manuscript Poems Connected to Phillis Wheatley by the Bostonian Poet Ruth Barrell Andrews.” *Early American Literature*. 51.3 (2016): 665-681.
- “Phillis Wheatley’s Sarah Moorhead: An Initial Inquiry.” Special Issue: Stoddard/Whitesell Symposium on Early American Poetry at the American Antiquarian Society. *Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America*. 107.4 (2014). 345-354.
- “Demand My Voice: Hearing God in Eighteenth-Century American Poetry.” *Early American Literature*. Special Issue: “Methods for the Study of Religion in Early American Literature.” 45.1 (2010). 119-44.
- “Gnosis in Aemilia Lanyer’s *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum*.” *The Rocky Mountain Review of Language and Literature*. 59.2 (2005). 11-28. [Published under name Wendy Miller Roberts.]

In Progress Works

- Phillis Wheatley (Peters’) Poetic Worlds*. Monograph on early American women’s poetic coteries and manuscript networks central to Phillis Wheatley Peters’ writings.
- Book Review on *Fair Copy* for *Early American Literature*

Non-Peer Reviewed

- Book Review: *After Print: Eighteenth-Century Manuscript Cultures*, ed. Rachael Scarborough King. *Early American Literature* 56.3 (2021): 950-955.
- Polly’s Girl: The Cruel Maternalism of Kirsten Gillibrand’s *Off the Sidelines*. ” In Online Forum: “Writing the Presidency.” *American Literary History*. Oxford. March 2020.
- “Book Review: Michael Cohen’s *The Social Life of Poems*.” *Journal of American History*. 103.2 (2016): 472-3.
- “Sermon Ridden: Book Review of Meredith Neuman’s *Jeremiah’s Scribes*.” *Common-Place*. 15.1 (2014).
- “Early America, Poetically Speaking.” *Common-Place*. 14.2.5 (2014).

- “Charles Sheldon’s In His Steps in the Context of Regionalist Fiction.” *Rocky Mountain E-Review of Language and Literature*. 61.2 (2007): 44-53. [Under Wendy Miller Roberts.]
- “Richard Shelton.” *Dictionary of Literary Biography, Twentieth-Century American Nature Writers*. Vol. 342. New York: Gale, 2008. 302-6. [Under Wendy Miller Roberts.]

INVITED TALKS

- A Newly Unearthed Poem by Phillis Wheatley (Peters) and the Future of the Wheatley Canon. Library Company of Philadelphia. January 26, 2023.
- “Evangelical Poetry in the Archives.” Connecticut Historical Society. Hartford, CT. May 2019.
- Invited Lecture. “Early American Poetry: Evangelicalism and Phillis Wheatley.” English Department. University of North Texas. March 2018.
- “Redeeming Verse.” Brown Bag Series. Massachusetts Historical Society. Boston, MA. April 2016.
- “Sound Believers: Rhyme and Right Belief.” Early American History Seminary. Massachusetts Historical Society. Boston, MA. Feb. 2016.
- “What if the Author is no Bard?: Bad Religious Verse and the Shaping of American Poetry.” American Antiquarian Society. Worcester, MA. Oct. 2015.
- “Evangelical Poetry.” Clark University. Worcester, MA. Graduate Symposium. Oct. 2015.
- “Revival Poetry and Race, 1740-1770.” Poetry and Print in Early America Symposium held at the American Antiquarian Society and sponsored by the Bibliographical Society of America. Worcester, MA. Sept. 2012.
- “Poetic Conversion and Evangelical Revision in the *Life of the Rev. James Ireland*.” The McNeil Center for Early American Studies. University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA. April 2011.
- “The Monster with Two Backs: Samuel Davies’s Dangerous Poetics of Revival.” Annual Collation Featured Graduate Student Speaker. Northwestern English Department. Evanston, IL. Sept. 2010.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- [Roundtable: "Phillis Wheatley Peters' *Poems of Various Subjects* at 250 years." Sponsored by the Aphra Behn Society. American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Conference. March 2023.]
- [Colloquy on book *Awakening Verse*. Respondent to panelists. Society of Early Americanists. June 2023.]
- [“Indigenous Resistance and the Evangelical Long Poem.” Panel: Outtakes from Recent Books. Society of Early Americanists. June 2023.]
- “Early American Contexts for 21st Century Crisis: Roundtable.” Panelist: Evangelicalism. Society of Early Americanists Conference. Virtual. March 2021.
- “Reconsidering Genres in a Religiously Diverse Early America.” Chair. Society of Early Americanists Conference. March 2021.
- “Women Poets in the Archive.” Charles Brockden Brown Society. Lexington, KY. October 2019.

- “Hymns and the Epic Function.” Society of Early Americanists Conference. Eugene, OR. March 2019.
- “‘A Lady in New England’: The Evangelical Verse Ministry of Sarah Moorhead.” Religion and Politics in Early America. Society of Early Americanist, Special Topics Conference. St. Louis. March 2018.
- “Seductive Verse: Evangelical Poetry and Early American Sexuality.” Panel “Histories of Sexuality in the Wake of the Post-secular Turn.” American Studies Association. Chicago, IL. November 2017.
- “Early American Women and Evangelicalism: A Roundtable with Catherine A. Brekus on *Sarah Osborn’s World*.” Organizer and Respondent. Society of Early Americanists. Tulsa, OK. March 2017.
- “Seminar: Why We Can’t Read Nineteenth-Century American Poetry.” C19. Penn State, College Park, PA. March 2016.
- “Evangelical Poetry and the Post Secular Lyric.” Sacred Literature, Secular Religion: A Conference on Cultural Practices. La Moyne, Syracuse. Oct. 2015.
- “‘Surprising Works of God’: Eighteenth-Century Evangelical Poetry and American Literary History.” Modern Language Association. Vancouver. Jan. 2015.
- “The ‘Mad’ Poet Abroad: Samuel Davies’s Transatlantic Poetic Community.” Society of Early Americanists. London, UK. July 2014.
- “The Secularization Narrative and Democratic Poetics.” Affinities. SUNY-Albany. April 2014.
- “‘The Sound in Faith’: Ralph Erskine’s *Gospel Sonnets* and the Poetic Form of Calvinism.” American Literature Association. San Francisco, CA. May 2012.
- “Promoting a Taste for Sound: Samuel Davies’s Poetics of Revival.” Society of Early Americanists. Philadelphia, PA. March 2011.
- “The Language of the Perfected: Poetry and the Transatlantic Revival Community.” Society of Early Americanists. Hamilton, Bermuda. March 2009.
- “The Enlightened Ear and the Evangelical Ear Hearing Verse.” Meter Matters: New Approaches to Prosody, 1780-1914. University of Exeter. Exeter, England. July 2008.
- “Regionalizing Christianity: Charles Sheldon’s *In His Steps* in the Context of Regionalist Fiction.” Rocky Mountain MLA. Tucson, AZ. Oct. 2006.
- “*What Would Jesus Do...if He Were a World Citizen? The Hyper-Local and Globally Open Ethic of Charles Sheldon’s In His Steps*.” NEXUS: Religion and the Nation. Knoxville, TN. April 2006.
- “Leslie Scalapino’s Poetics.” Modernist Studies Association. Chicago, IL. Oct. 2005.
- “Sacred Genealogy.” Modernist Studies Association. Vancouver, Canada. Oct. 2004.
- “Asserting an American Blood History: The Indian-Jew in Willa Cather’s *The Professor’s House*.” Rocky Mountain MLA. Boulder, CO. Oct. 2004.
- “—map— : Cognitive Mapping and the Buddhist Self in Leslie Scalapino’s *way*.” Southwest Graduate Literature Symposium. Arizona State University. Tempe, AZ. April 2004.
- “‘If Eve did erre, it was for knowledge sake’: *Gnosis* in Aemilia Lanyer’s *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum*.” Rocky Mountain MLA. Missoula, MT. Oct. 2003.
- “Gnostic Tradition and Aemilia Lanyer’s Hermeneutic of Suspicion in *Salve Deus Rex Judaeorum*.” GEMCS. Newport Beach, CA. Oct. 2003.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Courses

University at Albany, Assistant Professor

- AENG 581: Early American Religious Writing.* Fall 2022.
- AENG 581: Early American Religious Writing.* Fall 2020.
- AENG 581: Early Native American Literature.* Fall 2019.
- AENG 500: Introduction to Textual Studies.* Fall 2018.
- AENG 581: Hemispheric Turn in American Literature.* Fall 2017.
- AENG 581: Theories of the Secular.* Spring 2017.
- AENG 581: Early American Poetry.* Fall 2014.

Undergraduate Courses

University at Albany, Assistant Professor

- AENG 485: The Problem of Religion.* Spring 2021.
- UFSP 100: First Year Experience.* Fall 2020. Extra Service.
- AENG 413Y: Early Evangelical Literature and Culture.* Spring 2020.
- AENG 373: Early Native American Literature.* Fall 2019.
- AENG 261: American Literary Traditions.* Spring 2019.
- AENG 226: Bible as Literature.* Spring 2019.
- AENG 205Z: Introduction to Writing as an English Major.* Fall 2018.
- AENG 205Z: Introduction to Writing as an English Major.* Fall 2017
- AENG 226: The Bible as Literature.* Spring 2017.
- AENG 373: The Times of Conquest: Almanac of the Dead.* Spring 2015.
- AENG 270: Pocahontas.* Spring 2015.
- AENG 305V: First Contact: Studies in Writing About Literature.* Fall 2014.
- AENG 413Y: The Literature of Evangelicalism and Enlightenment.* Spring 2014.
- AENG 358: Early American Poetry.* Spring 2014.
- AENG 305V: First Contact: Studies in Writing About Literature.* Fall 2013.

Northwestern University, Visiting Assistant Professor

- The Evangelical Public Sphere: Freshman Seminar.* Spring 2013.
- Shakespeare's Power.* Spring 2013.
- Early Native American Literature.* Winter 2013.
- First Contact Narratives: Method and Interpretation.* Fall 2012.
- Shakespeare in Love.* Fall 2012.

Northwestern University, Teaching Assistant

- 20th Century American Literature.* Professor John Keene. Spring 2008.
- American Literary Traditions.* Professor Jay Grossman. Winter 2008.
- Bible as Literature.* Professor Barbara Newman. Fall 2007.
- 20th Century American Literature.* Professor Nick Davis. Spring 2007.
- Guest Lecture: "Form, Culture and Nathaniel West's *Miss Lonelyhearts*."
- Introduction to Poetry.* Professor Susannah Gottlieb. Winter 2007.

Guest Lecture: “Elegy and Whitman’s “When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloomed.”

English Literary Traditions. Professor Kasey Evans. Fall 2006.

University of Arizona, Instructor

Academic Writing. Spring 2005.

Memory and Identity: First Year Composition. Fall 2004.

Academic Writing. Spring 2003.

Literature, Religion, and Gender: First Year Composition. Fall 2002.

University of Arizona, Teaching Assistant

Books in Dialogue: Plato to Beowulf. Professor Christopher Carroll. Spring 2004.

Survey of American and British Literature: Beowulf to Paradise Lost. Professor John Ulreich. Fall 2003.

Guest Lecture: “Margery Kempe and Julian of Norwich: Questions of Authority.”

Other Teaching

Emma Willard High School. GirlSummer Writer’s Retreat. Rising sixth- through ninth-graders. Summer 2017-2019.

THESES and DISSERTATIONS

Dissertation Direction, Puritans and Others, 2022-present.

Dissertation Director, Long Nineteenth-Century Native American Literature, 2020-present.

Dissertation Director, Early American Indigenous Literature, 2019-2021. [Changed project and director.]

Dissertation Committee, Post-Secular Eighteenth-Century British Novel, 2018-present.

MA Thesis Advisor, Penobscot Boundaries in Nicolai’s *The Life and Traditions of the Red Man*, 2019.

MA Thesis Advisor, Impact of Thoreau’s Racial Privilege, 2019.

MA Tutorial/Exam, Second Reader, Emily Dickinson and the Book of Job, regular tutoring sessions, Spring 2019.

MA Thesis, Second Reader, Russian Poetry in Translation, 2018.

Honors Thesis, Second Reader, Wilde Theology, Spring 2021.

Honors Thesis, First Reader, Christian Feminism in *Little Women* and *The Red Tent*, Spring 2020.

Honors Thesis, Second Reader, Creative Writing / Poetry, 2015.

Honors Thesis, Second Reader, Jewish Holocaust Literature, 2015.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION – Pedagogy

Team-Based Learning: Syllabi Construction Seminar. June 2017.

Engage for Change Course Design Institute. Community-Engaged Course Design Training.
Sienna College. Albany, NY. May 2016.
Instructional Leadership Academy on Team-Based Learning. University at Albany. May 2014.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Department

Undergraduate Director. English Department. Fall 2022 to Spring 2023.
Undergraduate Director. English Department. Spring 2020 to Spring 2021.
Undergraduate Co-Director/Transition. English Department. Fall 2019.
Director of Native American Social Justice Lab, StAR Grant. Fall 2019.
StAR Grant English Department Selection Committee Member. Fall 2019.
American Literature Tract Faculty Liaison. 2018-2019.
Graduate Advisory Council. Fall 2018.
Honors Program Committee. English Department. University at Albany. 2017.
Events Committee. English Department. University at Albany. 2017.
Americanist Lecture Series. Co-Chair. English Department. University at Albany. 2014-2015.
Grant Writing Committee. English Department. University at Albany. 2014-2015.
Events Committee. English Department. University at Albany. 2014-2015.
Professionalization Committee. English Department. University at Albany. 2014-2015.
Events Committee. Volunteer. English Department. University at Albany. 2013-2014.
Professionalization Committee. English Department. University at Albany. 2013-2014.

College / University

Visiting Students, Open Classrooms Initiative. Spring 2023.
Committee Member. Council on Research. University Senate. 2023.
Delegate. UAlbany campus. United University Professions. 2017-2023.
Indian Quad Renaming Committee. Committee Member 2020-21.
CAS Faculty Council. 2018-2019. Nominating Committee.
University Senator. University at Albany. 2016-2017.
Undergraduate Academic Council. University at Albany. 2016-2017.
Curriculum and Honors. University at Albany. 2016-2017.
Committee on Journals and Conferences. Committee on Research. College of Arts and Sciences.
University at Albany. 2013-2014.

Professional

NY State Poet Jury. May 2023.
Manuscript Review of Book on Connecticut Wits Poetry. Anthem Press. Fall 2022.
Outside Tenure Reviewer of Research. Early American Literature candidate. Fall 2022.
Manuscript Review of Book on Phillis Wheatley (Peters). Lexington Books. Fall 2021.
NEH Fellowship Committee. Massachusetts Historical Society. February 2021.
Reader. *New Literary History*. 2020.

Reader. *Early American Literature*. 2018.
Reader. *Journal of Church History*. 2018
NEH Fellowship Committee. Massachusetts Historical Society. February 2017.
NEH Grant Selection Committee. Massachusetts Historical Society. 2017.
Session Organizer. "Early America, Poetically Speaking." Society of Early Americanists.
Savannah, GA. March 2013.
Reader. Early Americanist Writing Group. Videoconferencing. 2013-2020.
Organizer. Eighteenth-Century Aesthetics Reading Group. Northwestern University. 2011-12.
Session Organizer. "Early American Sentimentalism and Religion," Society of Early
Americanists. Philadelphia, PA. March 2011.
Co-Director. American Cultures Colloquium. Northwestern University. 2007-09.
Awarded "Best Organizational Growth" at Northwestern University, 2008-09.
Session Organizer. "Cultures of American Poetry." Midwest MLA. Minneapolis, MN. Nov.
2008.
Session Organizer. "Religion and Contemporary/Postmodern Literature and Theory." Rocky
Mountain MLA. Boulder, CO. Oct. 2004.
Session Organizer. "Literature and Religion: Contemporary Reinterpretations." Rocky Mountain
MLA. Boulder, CO. Oct. 2004.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Modern Language Association
American Studies Association
Society of Early Americanists
American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies
C19