

Rev. Dr. Benjamin L. Fischer
Curriculum Vitae

Northwest Nazarene University
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EDUCATION

PhD, English Language and Literature. University of Notre Dame, 2008

M.A. English Language and Literature, University of Notre Dame, 2004

M.A. History, Emory University, 2001

B.A. English and History, Emory University, *summa cum laude*, 2001

Fellowship in Medieval English and History, Corpus Christi College, Oxford University, 1999-2000

PUBLICATIONS

Being a Pastor: Pastoral Treatises of John Wycliffe. Translated and Edited by Benjamin Fischer.
Davenant Institute Press. Forthcoming, January 2021.

Review Essay. "Relating to Jesus: the Quest to Imagine Jesus Beyond the Gospel Portrait." *Religion and the Arts*. Forthcoming.

Dying in Islam, Rising in Christ: Encountering Jesus Beyond the Grave. With Cedric Kanana. Pembroke St. Press, 2018.

"John Milton's Poetic Translation of Clement of Rome in Sonnet 19." *Notes and Queries*. Vol. 64 (2017): 423-27.

"Sacrament, a Short Story." Waterways Smithsonian Exhibit. Nampa Public Library. November 2016.

"Literary Catholicity: An Alternative Reading of Influence in the Work of C.S. Lewis and G.K. Chesterton." *Religion and the Arts* 19 (2015): 389-410.

"Civilized Depravity: Evangelical Representations of Nineteenth-Century China and the Redefinition of 'True Civilization.'" *Victorian Literature and Culture* 43.2, Special Issue: The Nineteenth-Century Pacific Rim (2015): 409-29.

"The Second Dawn, and Other Poems." *Integrite: a Faith and Learning Journal* 12.2 (2013): 70-1.

"A Novel Resistance: Mission Narrative as the Anti-Novel in the Evangelical Assault on British Culture." Peter Clarke and Charlotte Methuen, ed. *The Church and Literature*. Studies in Church History Vol. 48. Oxford: Boydell and Brewer, 2012.

- “Kenneth Scott Latourette.” *Encyclopedia of Christian Civilization*. Vol. II. Ed. George T. Kurian. New York: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011. 1317-18.
- “Kenneth Scott Latourette.” *Encyclopedia of Christian Literature*. Vol. 2. Ed. George T. Kurian and James D. Smith III. Plymouth: Scarecrow, 2010. 423-24.
- “Missiologies.” *Encyclopedia of Christian Literature*. Vol. 1. Ed. George T. Kurian and James D. Smith III. Plymouth: Scarecrow, 2010. 105-09.
- “William Carey.” *Encyclopedia of Christian Literature*. Vol. 1. Ed. George T. Kurian and James D. Smith III. Plymouth: Scarecrow, 2010. 239-40.
- “William Wilberforce.” *Encyclopedia of Christian Literature*. Vol. 2. Ed. George T. Kurian and James D. Smith III. Plymouth: Scarecrow, 2010. 641.
- “He Looked, and Loved.” *Love Among Us*. Ed. Thomas Oord and Darrin Grinder. Nazarene Press, 2009.
- “A Brief Definition of Christian Values.” Jamaica’s National Transformation Plan (Fresh Start). Government of Jamaica. 2009.
- Crafting Cultural Rhetorics: Readings for University Writers*. Ed. April Lidinsky, Benjamin L. Fischer, Connie Mick, et al. Boston: Pearson Custom Publishing, 2004.

Book Reviews

- “*The Invention of Judaism: Torah and Jewish Identity from Deuteronomy to Paul*. Taubman Lectures in Jewish Studies, 7. By John J. Collins.” *Religion and the Arts* 22.5 (2018).
- “*C.S. Lewis and His Circle: Essays and Memoirs from the Oxford C.S. Lewis Society*. By Roger White, Brendan N. Wolfe, and Judith Wolfe, eds.” *Religion and the Arts* 20.3 (2016).
- “*Robert Louis Stevenson and the Colonial Imagination*. By Ann C. Colley.” *Religion and Literature* 40.2 (Summer 2008).
- “*Missionary Writing and Empire, 1800-1860*, by Anna Johnston; *Borrowed Gods and Foreign Bodies: Christian Missionaries Imagine Chinese Religion*, by Eric Reinders.” *Christianity and Literature* 56.2 (Winter 2007).
- “*Pilgrimage in Medieval English Literature, 700-1500*, by Dee Dyas.” *Religion and Literature* 35.1 (Spring 2003).

TEACHING

Courses at Northwest Nazarene University, 2008-present:

- “Literary History of Redemption before 1700”
- “Legends, Sagas, and Elegies”
- “Chaucer and the Calamitous Fourteenth Century”
- “Writing about Issues in the Global Church”

“Puritans and Cavaliers: Literature and History of the 17th Century Migration”
“Western Intellectual Tradition II, Honors College”
“Images of Heaven and Hell before 1700”
“Colonial/Postcolonial Literature in English”
“Milton among the Puritans”
“Cornerstone: Learning the Liberal Arts at a Christian College”
“Linguistics: History of the English Language”
“British Literature: Beowulf to the Age of Reason”
“Shakespeare”
“Twentieth-Century Drama”
“Twentieth-Century Poetry”
“Creative Writing—Prose”
“University Writing”
“Senior Seminar”
“ESL: Academic Writing”

Online courses developed:

“British Literature: Beowulf to the Age of Reason.” Quality Matters certified.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES and CAMPUS SERVICE

Presentations:

“Lessons from Late Medieval Hermeneutics.” Lecture. Diocese of the Rocky Mountains Diocesan Synod: Ancient Faith. February 6, 2020.

“Thomas Cranmer for Today.” Panel Discussion with Dr. Ashley Null. Diocese of the Rocky Mountains Diocesan Synod: Ancient Faith. February 6, 2020.

Keynote Address. “Carrying the Bread: Joining God in His Ministry.” SafePlace Ministries Banquet. St. Alphonsus, Boise, Idaho. May 3, 2019.

“Keeping Lay Ministry Alive.” Lecture. Diocese of the Rocky Mountains Diocesan Synod. Local Mission. February 5, 2019.

“Breaking the Spell of Modernity through an Enchantment with Truth: *The Chronicles of Narnia* against the Lure of the Modern.” Feast of C.S. Lewis Lecture. Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church, Nampa, Idaho. November 15, 2018.

“Getting to Know Muslims.” Lecture. Eagle Nazarene Church. July 9, 2018.

Keynote Addresses. “The Ground of our Unity: One Faith” and “Joining God in His Global Movement.” Diocese of the Rocky Mountains Diocesan Synod. Global Relationships. February 5-7, 2018.

“A Temper Out of Tune: C.S. Lewis among his Peers.” Feast of C.S. Lewis Lecture. Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church, Nampa. November 18, 2017.

“Mentoring Millenials toward Restoration.” Lecture. Diocese of the Rocky Mountains Diocesan Synod. February 6, 2017.

- “Merchant of the Gospel: Charles Gutzlaff and the Shift to a Civilizing Mission in China.” *Ecclesiastical History Society 55th Summer Conference*, University of Edinburgh, Scotland, July 26-28, 2016.
- “Friendship: The Theory and Praxis of C.S. Lewis.” Feast of C.S. Lewis Lecture. Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church, Nampa. November 26, 2016.
- “Responding to God’s Call.” Chapel Talk. Northwest Nazarene University. September 12, 2016.
- “C.S. Lewis and His Circle: a Critical Reflection.” Feast of C.S. Lewis Lecture. Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church, Nampa. November 21, 2015.
- “John Milton’s Sonnet 19: Translating Clement of Rome.” *Conference on Christianity and Literature*. Wheaton College. March 20-21. 2014.
- “Psalm 51.” Chapel Talk. Northwest Nazarene University, February 18, 2015.
- “Fighting Injustice.” Keynote speaker, International Justice Mission fundraiser event, Nampa, Idaho, April 21, 2012.
- “Ash Wednesday.” Chapel Talk. Northwest Nazarene University. February 22, 2012.
- “Improving Your Writing.” *Idaho Writer’s Conference*, Meridian, Idaho, March 21, 2011.
- “A Tragicomic Vision of the World.” Chapel Talk. Northwest Nazarene University. November 19, 2010.
- “The Evangelical Archive: the Texts that United the Modern British Missionary Movement.” *Ecclesiastical History Society Summer Conference*, University of St. Andrews, Scotland, July 21-24, 2010.
- “Getting Started with Creative Writing.” *99 Parts Perspiration: God & the Creative Process*, Wesley Center Conference, Northwest Nazarene University, February 6, 2010.
- “Writing Poetry.” *99 Parts Perspiration: God & the Creative Process*, Wesley Center Conference, Northwest Nazarene University, February 5, 2010.
- Moderator. Student Panel: “The Church on Main Street.” *2009 Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society Convention*. March 14, 2009.
- Panelist. Public Forum following film screening of *Collision: Christopher Hitchens/Douglas Wilson*. Sovereign Grace Institute, Nampa, Idaho, November 8, 2009.
- “Missionary *Provocations*: the Evangelical Influence on British policy in China in the Early Nineteenth-Century.” *North American Victorian Studies Association Conference*, Purdue University, August 31-Sept. 2, 2006.
- “Missionary Writing and the Popular Imagination of the Far East in Nineteenth-Century Britain.” *Boundaries of Literature: Examining Literature in an Interdisciplinary Setting*, Baylor University, April 1-2, 2005.

“Dissenting Prophetic Vision and the Voice of the Prophetess: Anna Barbauld and the ‘Sins of the Nation.’” *The Conference on Christianity and Literature, Names and the Unnameable: Literary Art and Spiritual Vision*, September 16-18, 2004.

“Empire Wrestling and Countercultural Christianity: British Missionaries in China at the End of the Qing Dynasty.” *Erasmus Institute Graduate Summer Seminar: Ethics and International Relations*, Portland University, July 2004.

Other Professional Activities:

General Education Council, NNU. 2011-2019.

Advisor. Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society, NNU. 2008-present.

Textbook Review. *The Hodges Harbrace Handbook*. 19th Edition. Cheryl Glenn and Loretta Gray. Cengage Learning, 2017.

Administrator, *Bertha Dooley Writing Contest*, English Department, NNU. 2009-2016.

Editor. *The Literary Gallery: a literary journal of the English Department at NNU*. 2009-2016.

Textbook Review. National Geographic Learning Readers. Wadsworth Cengage Learning. 2014.
Cultural Identity in America
Gender Roles: A Cross-Cultural Perspective
Green

Textbook Review. *Think About It: Critical Skills for Academic Writing*. Ed. John Mauk, et al. Wadsworth Cengage Learning, 2013.

Director, Freshmen Cornerstone Program. NNU. 2010-2014.

Curriculum Development and Program Maintenance

Academic Event Series in cooperation with the Honors Program, Fall 2012

To Die in Jerusalem Screening and Panel on Faith and Politics

Cry the Beloved Country Public Reading

Cry the Beloved Country Screenings

As We Forgive Screening and Panel on Faith and the Arts

Co-Organizer and Panel Chair. Hemingway Symposium. Ketchum, Idaho. October 18-21, 2012.

Lilly Program Network Exchange Conference. “The Human Journey: Integrating a Faith-Based Education for the 21st Century.” Sacred Heart University, April 15-18, 2012.

Advisor. Sophomore Class Council. NNU. 2009-2015.

Textbook Review. *They Say / I Say: the Moves that Matter in Academic Writing*. Second Edition. Ed. Gerald Graff and Cathy Birkenstein. WW Norton, 2011.

Submission Reviewer. *Nineteenth-Century Contexts*, 2006-present.

Servant Leadership Task Force. NNU. 2010-11.

Residence Hall Development Committee. NNU. 2010-11.

Faculty Representative for AHSS, Athletic Council. NNU. 2009-11.

ABIDE Group Leader. Spiritual Life Program. NNU. 2009-2010.

President's Advisory Council on Mission and Values. Northwest Nazarene University. February 2010.

Student Forum Chair. Presidential Inauguration Committee. NNU. 2009.

Managing Editor, *Nineteenth-Century Contexts*, 2006-2008.

Editorial Staff, *Religion and Literature*, 2001-2008.

Manuscript Proofreader, *The Prison Notebooks, Vol. 3*. By Antonio Gramsci. Trans. and ed. by Joseph A. Buttigieg (New York: Columbia Univ. Press, 2007). Spring 2005.

Committee for Community-Based Learning Program, Center for Social Concerns, University of Notre Dame, 2003-2004.

Teaching Mentor, University Writing Program, University of Notre Dame, 2003-2004.

Textbook Committee, University Writing Program, University of Notre Dame, 2003-2004.

Curriculum Review Committee, University Writing Program, University of Notre Dame, 2002-2004.

Indexer, *The Canterbury Tales*. By Geoffrey Chaucer. Penguin Classics original spelling edition. Ed. Jill Mann. (New York: Penguin, 2005). Fall 2001.

PASTORAL MINISTRY

Rector, Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church. Nampa, Idaho. 2014-present.

Diocesan Theologian. Anglican Diocese of the Rocky Mountains. 2016-present.

Committee for Clergy Formation. Anglican Diocese of the Rocky Mountains. 2016-2019.

Missionary Priest of the Province of Rwanda (PEARUSA), Nampa Anglican Mission, Nampa, Idaho. September 2011-2014.

Associate Rector, Holy Trinity Church, Treasure Valley, Idaho. April 2009-2014.

"History of Christianity to AD1450." Sovereign Grace Institute, Nampa, Idaho. Feb 11-May 20, 2009.

Missions Leader. Bethel College Team to Crossroads International. Tuen Mun, Hong Kong. May, 2008.

Task Force Leader. Bethel College Teams for Hurricane Katrina Relief. September 2005 & March 2006.

Resident Director (RD), Bethel College (Mishawaka, IN), 2006-2008.

Advisory Board of Directors, Oxbridge Summer English Camps, 2006-2008.

Youth Coordinator, Cornerstone Community Church, 2006.

Co-Director, Inter-collegiate Summer English Camps. Oxford, UK, and Guangdong China. Oct. 2004-
August 2005.

Director of Small Groups, Cornerstone Community Church. Mar. 2004- Jan. 2006.

TEACHING AREAS

Nineteenth-century fiction	Post-colonial literature
Literature of empire	Evangelical literary history
History of the English Language	Milton
Old and Middle English	Composition
Christian poetry in English, from 800-present	Shakespeare

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Religion, literature, and culture	History of the Church
Religion and empire	Post-colonial literatures
Nineteenth-century fiction and imperialism	Christian poetry in English

AWARDS AND HONORS

Deep River Books Writers Manuscript Contest, Grand Prize, 2017
Sabbatical Grant, Northwest Nazarene University, 2016
Watson Fellowship, Northwest Nazarene University, 2012
Professor of the Year, Northwest Nazarene University, 2009
Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award, University of Notre Dame, 2007
Dissertation Year Fellowship, University of Notre Dame, 2006
Teaching Fellowship, University of Notre Dame, 2005-2006
Zahn Research Travel Grant, 2005
Erasmus Institute Summer Seminar Fellowship, 2004
Phi Beta Kappa, Emory University, 2001
Oxford University Fellowship, awarded by Emory University, 1999-2000

LANGUAGES

Reading ability: German, Latin, Middle English, Old English, Old Norse

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Conference on Christianity and Literature (CCL)
Ecclesiastical History Society (EHS)
Modern Language Association (MLA)

Fellowship of Confessing Anglicans (FCA)
Global Anglican Futures Conference (GAFCON)