

Curriculum Vitae
RICHARD HUGHES GIBSON

Wheaton College
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Wheaton, IL 60187

Department of English
Blanchard Hall
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. English Language and Literature | The University of Virginia 2009
B.A. English | Princeton University | *summa cum laude* 2002

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Professor of English | Wheaton College 2023-
Associate Professor of English | Wheaton College 2015-2023
Assistant Professor of English | Wheaton College 2009-2015

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

19th- and 20th-Century British Literature History of the Book
Electronic Literature & AI Authors: Homer, Dante
Religion and Literature

CURRENT SCHOLARLY AND CREATIVE PROJECTS

Language Machinery: An Inquiry into the Intellectual Origins of Generative AI (Book in progress)
“After Babelish: On Machine Translation” (Essay in progress for *Hedgehog Review*)
“Typological Scenes” (Article in progress on Robert Alter and Biblical narrative)
“An Amicable Apology for the Printed Book” (Fine press pamphlet in progress; with the graphic designer Jeremy Botts)

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

The Way of Dante: A Journey through the Divine Comedy with Dorothy L. Sayers, C. S. Lewis, and Charles Williams (IVP Academic, Forthcoming, 2025)

Paper Electronic Literature: An Archeology of Born-Digital Materials. Amherst, Mass.: University of Massachusetts Press, 2021.

Charitable Writing: Cultivating Virtue Through Our Words. Co-author: James Beitler. Downers Grove, Illinois: IVP Academic, 2020.

Forgiveness in Victorian Literature: Grammar, Narrative, and Community. New Directions in Religion and Literature Series. London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2015.

Articles in Scholarly Journals:

- “On Not Overlooking Ogilby’s Homer” (Forthcoming at *Restoration Journal*)
- “Lowth, Chateaubriand, and the Tradition Behind Erich Auerbach’s ‘Odysseus’ Scar”
(forthcoming at *Religion and Literature*)
- “Adam Smith and the Mind at Work.” *Adam Smith Review* 14 (2025): 227-249.
- “Wordsworth’s Liturgical Excursion.” *Christianity and Literature* 72.3 (Fall 2023): 405-422.
- “Contact-Tracing War and Peace: A Critical Experiment in Social Network Analysis.” With
Monica Colón. *Russian Literature* 140 (July-August 2023): 163-190.
- “Charles Dickens, Domestic Economist.” *Dickens Quarterly* 39.1 (Winter 2022): 61-81.
- “The Holy Book Which Is a Book: On the Quest to Print a Readable English Bible.” *Religion
and the Arts* 26.1 (Winter 2022): 165-184.
- “Portraying Friendship by the Book: An Example from the Erasmus Circle.” *Erasmus Studies*
42.2 (Fall 2021): 182-199.
- “Companions in the Study.” Co-author: James Beitler, *Religion and the Arts* 25.4 (Fall 2021):
471-484.
- “Beatrice’s Praise and Virgil’s Consolation: Two Appraisals.” *Dante Studies* 137 (2019):
77-106.
- “Does Hector’s Helmet Flash? The Fate of the Fixed Epithet in the Modern English Homer.”
Oral Tradition 33.1 (Fall 2019): 89-114.
- “Signs of Friendship: A Response to Alexander Nehamas’s ‘The Good of Friendship.’”
Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society 109.2 (Summer 2019): 1-7.
- “On Women Englishing Homer.” *Arion: A Journal of the Humanities and the Classics* 26.3
(Winter 2019): 111-144.
- “Browning’s ‘A Forgiveness’: A Grammatical Reading.” Special Issue on Poetry and Forgiveness.
Ed. Emma Mason. *Literature Compass* 11.2 (February 2014): 74-83.
- “Counterfeit Phrases and Illusory Eschatons: Forgiveness in *Jude the Obscure*.” *The Hardy Review* 13.2
(Autumn 2011): 109-121.

Book Chapters:

- “An Updated Superscript: Paradoxes of Writing Amidst Generative AI” (Forthcoming in *Ecologies of
Writing*, Bloomsbury, 2025)
- “George MacDonald’s Ecumenical Faith in Poetry.” *George MacDonald in the Age of Miracles*. Downers
Grove: IVP Academic, 2018. 61-68.
- “Nineteenth-Century Spiritual Autobiography: Carlyle, Mill, Newman.” Co-author: Timothy Larsen.
A History of English Autobiography. Ed. Adam Smyth. Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University
Press, 2016.

Other Scholarly Writing:

- “Evangelicalism.” Co-author: Timothy Larsen. Victorian Literature: Oxford Bibliographies Online.
Oxford University Press. 2012. [*Annotated Bibliography of Best Current Scholarship*]
- “Keeping the Sabbath Separately: Emily Dickinson’s Rebellious Faith.” *The Norton
Introduction to Literature*. 9th Edition. Eds. Alison Booth, J. Paul Hunter, and Kelly Mays. New
York: Norton, 2005. 2292-2301. [Reprinted in the 10th Edition, 2010]
- “T. S. Eliot’s Mistaken Date.” *Princeton University Library Chronicle* 65.1 (Autumn 2003): 101-105.

Essays in Print Magazines:

- “Comments.” *Hedgehog Review* 27.1 (Spring 2025): 158-160.
- “Supply Chain Sublime.” *Hedgehog Review* 26.3 (Fall 2024): 1-4.

- “Language Machinery.” [on the intellectual origins of generative AI] *Hedgehog Review* 25.3 (Fall 2023): 110-125.
- “The Critic’s Critic.” [on George Steiner] *Hedgehog Review* 23.3 (Fall 2021): 9-12.
- “You are a Writer.” *Common Good* 7 (Fall 2021): 20-21.
- “Paper Revolutions.” *Hedgehog Review* 21. 3 (Fall 2019): 14-16.
- “Technology and Modern Friendship.” *Hedgehog Review* 21.2 (Summer 2019): 83-90.
- “Just Staying in Touch? The Idea of Phatic Communication, Then and Now.” *Hedgehog Review* 20.1 (Spring 2018): 9-12.
- “Friendship by the Book.” *Hedgehog Review* 19.1 (Spring 2017): 11-13.

Web Features:

- “The New Verbal Economy.” *Hedgehog Review* (2 July 2024).
- “The Afterlife of Character.” *Hedgehog Review* (26 January 2024).
- “Taking the Long View.” *Hedgehog Review* (29 December 2023).
- “Unfinished Business.” *Hedgehog Review* (29 November 2023).
- “Why Characters Write.” *Hedgehog Review* (3 October 2023).
- “Border Crossings.” *Hedgehog Review* (31 August 2023)
- “In Through the Out Door.” *Hedgehog Review* (31 July 2023).
- “Conversation Pieces.” *Hedgehog Review* (29 June 2023).
- “The Art of Compression.” *Hedgehog Review* (31 May 2023). [Translated into Italian: “L’arte della compressione.” *Internationazle 1530* (September 22/28).]
- “A New Rule of Education in the Age of AI.” *Hedgehog Review* (24 May 2023).
- “The Human Reader.” *Hedgehog Review* (26 April 2023).
- “Wonder-Working Powers.” *Hedgehog Review* (13 April 2023).
- “On Fiction’s Lawlessness.” *Hedgehog Review* (23 March July 2023).
- “Cosmogonies.” *Hedgehog Review* (8 February 2023).
- “Thresholds.” *Hedgehog Review* (26 January 2023).
- “Autocomplete” [on AI text-generators]. *Hedgehog Review* (23 November 2022).
- “Past Lives of the Paragraph.” *Hedgehog Review* (14 July 2022).
- “Ukraine: Against History and Geography.” *Hedgehog Review* (14 April 2022).
- “The Making of an Everyday Object in a High-Tech World” [on Adam Smith and Christopher Mims]. *Hedgehog Review* (8 February 2022).
- “States of Purple.” *Hedgehog Review* (25 January 2022).
- “Time to Quit: Facebook is the Gift that Keeps on Taking.” *Hedgehog Review* (7 December 2021).
- “Talk with the Hand!: On the Expressive Art of Chirology.” *Hedgehog Review* (15 November 2021).
- “Field Notes of a Sentence Watcher.” *Hedgehog Review* (14 September 2021).
- “In the Sideshadows: Redeeming the Present By Calling Attention to What Might Happen.” *Hedgehog Review* (3 August 2021).
- “The Idiosyncratic School of Reading.” *Hedgehog Review* (13 July 2021).
- “No Mere Acquaintances.” *Hedgehog Review* (25 May 2021).
- “From Pilgrim to Tourist to...? Identifying the Newest Inhabitants of Liquid Modernity.” *Hedgehog Review* (10 May 2021).
- “Reading *Wealth of Nations* and Meeting Adam Smith.” *Hedgehog Review* (7 April 2021).
- “Frederick Douglass and the American Project.” *Hedgehog Review* (22 February 2021).
- “An Appeal for Friction Writing.” *Hedgehog Review* (1 February 2021).
- “Unity: More than Just a Word.” *Hedgehog Review* (20 January 2021).

- “A History Lesson from Alexander Hamilton.” *Hedgehog Review* (8 January 2021).
- “In Search of Charitable Writing.” *Plough Quarterly* (14 December 2020).
- “Digital Democracy’s Road Ahead.” *Hedgehog Review* (12 November 2020).
- “The State of Digital Democracy Isn’t As Dire As It Seems.” *Hedgehog Review* (22 October 2020).
- “Can We Salvage Digital Democracy?” *Hedgehog Review* (14 October 2020).
- “The Cassiodorus Necessity.” *Plough Quarterly* (3 September 2020).
- “Tortoises and Tigers: The Pleasures of a Long Read.” *Hedgehog Review* (2 September 2020). [Translated into Latvian and published as “Bruņurupuči un tīģeri: biezo grāmatu lasīšanas prieki” in the January 2021 issue of *Rīga Laiks* (Riga Time).]
- “Still Searching: We Need a New Technical Constitution.” *Hedgehog Review* (23 July 2020).
- “Our Once and Future Citizens.” *Hedgehog Review* (13 May 2020).
- “On Tele-Teaching.” *Hedgehog Review* (1 April 2020).
- “The Rebirth of Purgatory.” *Hedgehog Review* (27 February 2020).
- “The Cat in the Acknowledgments Page.” *Inside Higher Ed* (10 May 2018).

Reviews:

- “Digesting Dante.” Review of *Dante’s Divine Comedy: A Biography* by Joseph Luzzi. *Hedgehog Review* (Forthcoming, 2025)
- “Realism against Utopia.” Rev. of *Wonder Confronts Certainty* by Gary Saul Morson. *Hedgehog Review* 25.2 (Summer 2023): 135-138.
- Rev. of *Archival Fictions: Materiality, Form, and Media History in Contemporary Literature* by Paul Benzon. *American Literary History* 35.2 (Summer 2023): 1064-1067.
- “Spirituality Ascendant.” Rev. of *The Religious Revolution: The Birth of Modern Spirituality, 1848-1898* by Dominic Green. *Hedgehog Review* (Fall 2022): 112-115.
- Rev. of *Religious Vitality in Victorian London* by W. M. Jacob. *Cercles: Revue pluridisciplinaire du monde anglophone* (April 2022).
- “A Happier Enlightenment.” Rev. of *The Enlightenment: The Pursuit of Happiness* by Ritchie Robertson. *Hedgehog Review* (Fall 2021): 138-140.
- “Biography of a Pamphlet.” Rev. of *A Victorian Curate: A Study of the Life and Career of the Rev. Dr John Hunt* by David Yeandle. *Victorian Web* (June 2021).
- “Print Radicals.” Rev. of *Remaking Romanticism* by Casie LeGette. *Coleridge Bulletin* 56 (Winter 2020): 85-88.
- “You’ve Been Hacked.” Rev. of *The Age of Surveillance Capitalism* by Shoshanna Zuboff. *Hedgehog Review* 22.2 (Summer 2020): 132-134.
- “Cross-Cutting Lives.” Rev. of *Fatal Discord: Erasmus, Luther, and the Fight for the Western Mind* by Michael Massing. *Hedgehog Review* 20.3 (Fall 2018): 143-145.
- Rev. of *Imagined Spiritual Communities in Britain’s Age of Print* by Joshua King. *Religion and Literature* 48.3 (Spring 2018): 162-164.
- “A Reader’s Report.” Rev. of *Changing the Subject: Art and Attention in the Digital Age* by Sven Birkerts. *Hedgehog Review* 19.1 (Spring 2017): 121-123.
- “A Circuitous Route.” Rev. of *The White Road*, by Edmund de Waal. *Books and Culture Online* (February 2016).
- “Trollope’s Professions.” Rev. of *An Autobiography*, by Anthony Trollope. *Books and Culture* (November/December 2015): 34-36.
- Rev. of *St John and the Victorians*, by Michael Wheeler. *Religion and Literature* 44.3 (2012): 253-256.

- “Two for the Road.” Rev. of *Places of Faith*, by Christopher Scheitle and Roger Finke. *Books and Culture* (July/August 2012): 16-18.
- “Extravagant Reversals.” Rev. of *Victorian Parables*, by Susan Colón. *Books and CultureOnline* (June 2012).
- “Poets Landscaping.” Rev. of *Abandoned Quarries*, by John Lane, and *Riffraff*, by Stephen Cushman. *Books and Culture Online* (November 2011).
- “Artist of the Portrait.” Rev. of *The Picture of Dorian Gray: Annotated and Uncensored Edition* by Oscar Wilde. Ed. Nicholas Frankel. *Books and Culture* (July 2011): 35.

CREATIVE PROJECTS

Manibus Press Imprints:

- “All Eyes: Box of Technotextual Odds and Ends” | Concept: Gibson and Jeremy Botts | Lead designer: Botts | Artists’ Box with Stack of Risograph Designs | 2022
- “A Sermon for the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord” by Jessica Martin | Concept: Gibson and Jeremy Botts | Lead designer: Botts | Letterpress Artists’ Book in Risograph with Early Modern Designs | 2019
- “Calvino’s Eight Readers” | Concept: Gibson and Botts | Lead designer: Botts | Letterpress Artists’ Book with Risograph Ornamentation | 2018
- “An Acrostic Psalm” [25] | Concept: Gibson and Botts | Lead designer: Botts | Letterpress Artists’ Book Varnished with Alphabetic Designs | 2017
- “Two Acrostic Psalms” [111 & 112] | Concept: Gibson and Botts | Lead designer: Botts | Letterpress Artists’ Book Varnished with Alphabetic Designs | 2016

HONORS AND AWARDS

M.C. Lang Fellowship Rare Book School	2024-2025
Hansen Lecturer: “The Way of Dante” Marion E. Wade Center	2024
Senior Scholarship Award Wheaton College	2023
Summer Institutes in Literary Studies National Humanities Center	2013
Junior Faculty Achievement Award Wheaton College	2012
The Bradley Prize for Dissertation Research University of Virginia	2008
All-University Graduate Teaching Assistant Award UVA	2008
Graduate Teaching Assistant Award, Department of English UVA	2008
The Raven Society (Honor Society) UVA	2006
The Seven Society Graduate Fellowship for Superb Teaching UVA	2005
Walter C. Hughes Thesis Prize Princeton University	2002
Traditio Pew Younger Scholars Program University of Notre Dame	2001

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Contributing Editor <i>Hedgehog Review</i>	2023-
Associate Editor for Religion Victorian Web (Brown University)	2021-2024

Writing for Victorian Web:

“A Glossary of Ecclesiastical Terms and Offices” (Ongoing).

“The Charms of Trollope and His Twentieth-Century Reputation” (20 March 2021).

Peer Reviewer, MIT Press

2024

Peer Reviewer, *Christianity and Literature*

2020-