

Department of English
1286 University of Oregon
bovilsky@uoregon.edu

EMPLOYMENT

Associate Professor, University of Oregon, Department of English, 2009-
Director of Graduate Studies, 2011-
Assistant Professor, University of Oregon, Department of English, 2008-2009
Assistant Professor, Washington University in St. Louis, Department of English, 2001-2008
Joint appointment in the Interdisciplinary Project in the Humanities, 2003-2008
Lecturer, Johns Hopkins University, Fall 1997

EDUCATION

Duke University

Ph.D., Department of English, September 2001
Dissertation: *Barbarous Play: Race on the Renaissance Stage*
Committee: Jonathan Goldberg (Director), Maureen Quilligan, Leigh DeNeef, and
Laurie Shannon
M.A., Department of English, May 1998

Brown University

A.B. Magna cum Laude (highest honors), English with honors and philosophy, May 1995

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Barbarous Play: Race on the English Renaissance Stage (University of Minnesota Press,
2008), 220 pp.

Reviewed in: *Renaissance Drama* 62.1 (2009); *Shakespeare Quarterly* 60.3 (2009); *Shakespeare
Bulletin* 27.3 (2009); *Journal of British Studies* 48.3 (2009); *Platform* 3.2 (2008)

Articles

“‘A Gentle and No Jew’: Jessica, Portia, and Jewish Identity,” *Renaissance Drama* 38 (2010):
47-76.
“Black Beauties, White Devils: The English Italian in Milton and Webster,” *ELH* 70 (2003):
625-651.

PUBLICATIONS, CONT.

Book Reviews

Review of Ivo Kamps, Karen Raber, and Thomas Hallock edd. *Early Modern Ecostudies: From the Florentine Codex to Shakespeare*. *Shakespeare Quarterly* 62.2 (2011): 292-95.

Review of Jonathan Gil Harris, *Untimely Matter in the Time of Shakespeare*. *Medieval and Renaissance Drama in England* 24 (2011): 187-89.

Review of Carole Levin and John Watkins, *Shakespeare's Foreign Worlds: National and Transnational Identities in the Elizabethan Age*. *The Upstart Crow*, Vol. XXX (2011) (forthcoming).

Review of Jean Feerick, *Strangers in Blood: Relocating Race in the Renaissance*. *Journal of British Studies* (forthcoming).

HONORS AND AWARDS

University of Oregon, New Faculty Development Award, 2008

Washington University Council for Undergraduate Students of Arts and Sciences Teaching Award, Nominee, 2007

Andrew W. Mellon Mid-Career Junior Faculty Fellowship, Honorable Mention, 2004
(Fellowship supports the work of faculty "promoting cross racial understanding.")

Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies Competitive Dissertation Semester Fellowship, Duke University, Spring, 2001

John L. Lievsay Competitive Dissertation Fellowship, Duke University, 1999-2000

James B. Duke Fellowship, Duke University 1996-2000

Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship, 1995-96

Curt John Ducasse Premium in Metaphysics, Brown University, 1995

GRANT

"The Impact of Fictional Robots on Robot Design," Lara Bovilsky (PI), William D. Smart (PI). 1/1/2008-12/31/2009, \$4,900. Washington University Center for Programs Grant for Interdisciplinary Faculty Research.

INVITED LECTURES

"Plucked Chickens: Humanness and Form," The Posthuman Renaissance, Rice University, May 2012.

Keynote Address, Northwest Undergraduate Conference for Literature. Portland, OR, March 2012.

"Spenser's Robots," Humankinds Conference, Carl Friedrich University, Munich, July 2009

"The Impact of Fictional Robots on Robot Interaction Design," Half-day tutorial. Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers RO-MAN 8 (International Symposium on Robot and Human Interactive Communication), Munich, August 2008.

2007 Wittreich Lecture in Literature, University of Louisville: "Mineral Emotions"

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

- Seminar co-creator/-leader, "Figures of Speech," Shakespeare Association of America (SAA), Bellevue, WA, April 2011.
- "When Extremities Speak': Humanness, Unincorporated," SAA, Chicago, April 2010. (Invited participant.)
- "Love's Face," SAA, Washington, D.C., April 2009. (Invited participant.)
- "English Depersonification," Group for Early Modern Cultural Studies (GEMCS), Philadelphia, November 2008.
- Chair, "Thresholds of English Personhood," GEMCS, Philadelphia, November 2008.
- "Stones of Rome': Political Action and the Mineral Heart in *Julius Caesar*," SAA, Dallas, March 2008. (Invited participant.)
- "Mineral Emotions: Ovid, Marvell, Shakespeare," SAA, San Diego, April 2007.
- "The Flinty Bosom: Shakespeare's Mineral Affects," Renaissance Society of America (RSA), Miami, March 2007.
- Organizer, "Comparative Anatomies," paper session at RSA, Miami, March 2007.
- Seminar creator/leader, "Shakespeare and the Invention of the Quasi-Human," SAA, Philadelphia, April 2006.
- "Spenser's Robots." Modern Language Association Convention (MLA), December 2005.
- Chair, "Artificial Experience in Early Modern England," paper session at MLA, 2005.
- "A Contrariety in Nature': Loathing, Race, and Science in *The Changeling* and *The Merchant of Venice*." SAA, Bermuda, March 2005.
- "The Stock of Barrabas': Jewishness on the English Stage." American Comparative Literature Association Conference (ACLA), Ann Arbor, April 2004.
- "Renaissance Animalalia." SAA, Victoria, B.C., April 2003.
- Chair, "Renaissance Animalities." Semi-plenary session at SAA 2003.
- "Gabbling Like a Thing Most Brutish." MLA Convention, December 2002.
- Chair, "Beastly Measures: Animal Work in Early Modern Texts," paper session at MLA 2002.
- "Black Beauties, Painted Devils: Italians on the English Stage." SAA, Minneapolis, March 2002.
- "Milton's 'Strange Tongue.'" Faculty Colloquium Series, Washington University in St. Louis, Spring 2002.

TEACHING

University of Oregon

- "Introduction to Graduate Studies." Fall 2011.
- "Graduate Job Placement Workshop." Fall 2010, 2011.
- "Introduction to the Major." Winter 2010, 2011, 2012.
- "Milton." Winter 2011.
- "Shakespeare and Pedagogy" (graduate seminar). Fall 2010.
- "Late Shakespeare," Winter 2009; Fall 2010.
- "College Connections: Shakespeare's Stage" (Freshman Interest Group seminar). Fall 2010.
- "Early Shakespeare." Spring 2010.

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University of Oregon Teaching, Cont.

- “The Cultural History of the Robot” (senior seminar). Spring 2010.
- “Character, Agency, and the Courtship Plot” (Honors College). Winter 2009.
- “Early Modern Travel and Colonization” (graduate seminar). Fall 2008.
- “Advanced Shakespeare.” Fall 2008.

Washington University

500 (Graduate Seminar):

- “Race Theory and Early Modern Culture.” Spring 2003.

400 (Graduate/Advanced Majors/Capstone):

- “Advanced Shakespeare.” Spring 2004; Spring 2006.
- “Travel and Colonization in the Renaissance.” Fall 2002, Spring 2007.
- “Humanities Department Senior Capstone Colloquium.” Spring 2007.
- “English Drama, Exclusive of Shakespeare, to 1642.” Fall 2001.

300 (Majors/General Education):

- “Shakespeare.” Spring and Fall 2002; Spring and Fall 2003; Fall 2005, 2006, 2007; Spring 2008.
- “The Cultural History of the Robot.” Spring 2004; Spring 2006.

200 (Introductory/Freshman FOCUS):

- “Shakespeare Unlimited” (Freshman FOCUS). Fall 2007.
- “Text & Tradition: Classical to Renaissance Literature.” Freshman Seminar. Fall 2003, 2005, 2006.
- “Chief English Writers I.” Fall 2001; Spring 2002.

Johns Hopkins University

- “Renaissance Discourses of Discovery and Colonization.” Fall 1997. (Lecturer)

TEACHING INTERESTS

Shakespeare; Tudor and Stuart drama; Milton; sixteenth- and seventeenth-century poetry; early modern colonialism (English, Spanish); seventeenth-century prose; Renaissance Italian, French, and classical literary influences; critical theories of race, gender and sexuality; early modern cultural studies; literary history of animals, robots, and concepts of the human; philosophy of mind; graduate pedagogy; graduate writing and professionalism

GRADUATE ADVISING

Dissertation Supervisor

Emily Thomas (in progress): Lesbian sexual identities in early modern England

Anita Hagerman (2008): Shakespeare’s history plays in twentieth-century performances of
nationalism

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GRADUATE ADVISING, CONT.

Dissertation Committee Member

Josh Magsam (in progress): Cognitive science and early modern drama

Deniz Tahiroglu (in progress, psychology department): Preschoolers' understanding of anthropomorphism

Daniel Moseley (in progress, mathematics department): Induced group actions in select topological spaces

James Williams (2008): Renaissance hermeneutics

David Schmitt (2005): Restoration spirituality

Bonnie Taylor (2005): Prostitutes in seventeenth-century comedy

Chris D'Addario (2004): Seventeenth-century literature of exile

Matthew Harkins (2003): Poetics of youth in English Renaissance culture

Ben Myers (2003): Spenser's colonial ecology

A. Randolph Robertson (2002): Censorship and English Renaissance literature

Graduate Advisor

Jessie Nance (2010-)

Karl McKimpson (2010-)

Rachel Eccleston (comparative literature department, 2010-)

Orals Field Examiner (Qualifying Exam Committee)

Deborah Parker (Spring 2012)

Jessie Nance (Winter 2012)

Leslie Morrison (Fall 2011)

Karl McKimpson (Fall 2011)

Emily Thomas (Fall 2009)

Breadth Field Examiner

Debbie Killingsworth (Fall 2011)

UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING

Theses Directed

Wendy Kral (2012): Links between codes of masculinity in Milton's *Paradise Lost* and Shelley's *Frankenstein*

Jeffrey Anderson (2011): *The Terminator* franchise's cyborgs' deconstruction of humanness (received honors with distinction)

Michele Fenrick (2011): Creative thesis: stories of intimacy and miscommunication

Lauren Seffel (2007): Representation of women in Aphra Behn's drama and casting

Emily Madison (2005): Gender in performances of Shakespeare's *Taming of the Shrew*

Erin Albrecht (2005): Aphra Behn's fiction

Mary (Angel) Flores (2004): Shakespeare and dance (joint with Performing Arts Department)

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UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING, CONT.

Thesis Committee Member

Charisse Kimura (2011): Gender in *King Lear*, *The Tempest*, and *Equivocation*

Alison McClaren (2010): Modes of truth-telling in autobiography and memoir

Jessica Frazier (2009): Ciarán Carson's poetry and Northern Ireland's Troubles

Brent Dawson (2007): Gothic novels and epistemology

Jessica Pryde (2007): Sixteenth-century Italian travel writing

Emily Schultheis (2007): Simone de Beauvoir

Lindsay Stanley (2007): Aztec representations of women pre- and post-conquest

Isabel Geathers (2006): Faulkner and race

Greg Lenhoff (2003): Joyce and chaos theory

Honors by Coursework Committee Member

Crystl Chang (2008); Megan Trinrud (2008)

Served as Major Advisor to 130 English majors over 10 years

SERVICE

Professional Service

Referee, Ashgate Press, 2010

Referee, Broadview Press, 2010

Consultant, W.W. Norton (*The Norton Anthology of English Literature*), 2010

Referee, submissions to *Renaissance Drama*, 2009-2010

Referee, submissions to *Journal of Early Modern Cultural Studies* 2009

Referee, submissions to *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies*, 2006

University of Oregon Service

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns Committee, 2010-2012

"I Walked with a Zombie," public lecture, The Undead (Comp Lit film/lecture series), 2009

University of Oregon Departmental Service

Director of Graduate Studies, 2011-

Graduate Job Placement Coordinator, 2010-2012

Tenure and Promotion Committee, Mark Quigley, 2011-2012

President, Departmental Council (elected), 2010-2011

Interview/Search Committee (Moore Chair in 19th Century literature), 2010-2011

Graduate Committee, 2009-

Major Advisor, 2009-

Judge, Kirby Graduate Essay Prize, Spring 2009

Ad Hoc Committee to revise the graduate program, 2008-2009

Graduate Qualifying Exam Committee, 2008-2009

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SERVICE, CONT.

Washington University Service

- Presenter, "Teaching Shakespeare's Sonnets," pedagogy seminar offered to 26 faculty and graduate students by the Interdisciplinary Project in the Humanities, Summer 2007
- Organizer, "Washington University in Translation: Four Conversations about Theory and Practice" (Speakers: Carl Phillips; Michael Kandel; Ebba Segerberg; Fatemeh Keshavarz), Spring 2007
- Sophomore Class Convocation Address, August 2005
- University Mock Interview Committee (Marshall, Rhodes, Mellon Fellowships), 2004, 2006-2007
- Biannual Counselor Visit Weekend Faculty Dinner, English Dept. representative, 2005-2008
- Washington University Mylonas Fellowship, Selection Committee, 2005
- Teagle Foundation Working Group, Rethinking the Pedagogy of Ethnicity, 2004-2006
- Author, "Theorizing Ethnicity in the Humanities," section of working group white paper http://www.teaglefoundation.org/learning/pdf/2006_wustlwg_whitepaper.pdf

Washington University Departmental Service

- Executive Committee (elected), Department of English, 2002-2004, 2005-2006
- Chair, Graduate Job Placement Committee, Department of English, 2007-2008
- Co-chair, Graduate Job Placement Committee, Department of English, 2005-2007
- Steering Committee, Interdisciplinary Project in the Humanities, 2002-2008
- Graduate Committee, Department of English, Spring, 2006-2007
- Interview/Search Committee, Department of English, 2005-2006 (1 hire); 2001-2002 (3 hires)
- Curriculum Committee, Department of English, 2002-2004
- Judge, departmental writing contests (Boysko Essay Prize, Dramatics Club Prize), 2004-2008

Community Service

- "Summer Shakespeare," Four-day seminar in Ashland, OR run by UO Insight Seminars for alumni and community members, Summer 2011
- "Shakespeare's *Tempest*," UO Insight Seminar (adult education course), Fall, 2010
- Shakespeare Breakfast Club, weekly faculty participant, Eugene, 2008-2012, Moderator, Fall 2011-
- Invited Guest Speaker/Discussion Leader, "Fahrenheit 451," The Big Read: St. Louis, Brodsky Library, 2007
- Invited Guest Speaker/Discussion Leader, "Contexts of *The Merchant of Venice*." New Jewish Theater, St. Louis, 2005

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Early Modern Dissertation Reading Group, Faculty Participant, Washington University, 2001-2008
- Renaissance Drama Working Group, American Comparative Literature Association, Spring, 2004-2006
- Folger Institute Seminar, "Shakespeare, Jewishness, and English Cultural Identity," led by James Shapiro, Spring 2001
- Intern at the Archive of Folk Culture, Library of Congress, Fall 1997

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Modern Language Association
Shakespeare Association of America
Renaissance Society of America
Group for Early Modern Cultural Studies

LANGUAGES

French, Latin, Greek (Attic, Ionic)

REFERENCES

Joseph Loewenstein, Professor, Department of English, Washington University
Jonathan Goldberg, Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor, Department of English,
Emory University
Laurie Shannon, E. Blake Byrne Associate Professor, Department of English, Duke University
Michael Schoenfeldt, Professor, Department of English, University of Michigan
Maureen Quilligan, R. Florence Brinkley Professor, Department of English, Duke University