

## BRENDAN PRAWDZIK

Assistant Teaching Professor, Department of English,  
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### Education

Ph.D. English; University of California, Berkeley, 2009

B.A. English; Rutgers University, 2001

### Awards, Fellowships, and Grants

- Annabel Patterson Prize for the “best” piece published in *Marvell Studies* in 2019
- Albert W. Fields Award for the most “accomplished” piece published in *Explorations in Renaissance Culture* in 2015
- Lindsay Young Fellowship, two weeks of funded research at the Marco Institute for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, University of TN-Knoxville, July 2-15, 2014
- “Andrew Marvell: Lyric and Public Poems,” organized by Nigel Smith, a National Humanities Center Summer Institute in Literary Studies, June 24-29, 2012
- Roberta Holloway Postdoctoral Fellowship (poetics), UC Berkeley, Aug. 2010 - May 2011
- Ahmanson-Getty Postdoctoral Fellowship, William Andrews Clark Memorial Library, Center for 17th- and 18th-Century Studies, UCLA, September 2009 - June 2010
- Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award, UC Berkeley, Spring 2008
- Mabelle McLeod Lewis Memorial Fellowship, UC Berkeley, Fall 2007 - Spring 2008
- Graduate Division Summer Grant, UC Berkeley, Summer 2006, 2007
- Dean’s Normative Time Fellowship, UC Berkeley, Spring 2006 - Spring 2007
- Department of English Block Grant, UC Berkeley, Fall 2002 - Spring 2004
- Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholarship, University of St. Andrews, Fall 2001/Spring 2002

### Professional Activity

#### *South Central Renaissance Conference: An International Conference*

- President, 2021-
- Vice President, 2019-2021
- Program Chair, 2018-2019
- Webmaster, 2018-present ([southcentralrenaissanceconference.org](http://southcentralrenaissanceconference.org))
- Executive Committee, Member-at-Large, 2016-2018
- Member, 2014-present

#### *Committee for Early Modern Studies (CEMS), The Pennsylvania State University*

- Member, 2018-present

#### *Andrew Marvell Society*

- Executive Committee, 2015-17
- Member, 2013-present

*Renaissance Society of America*

- Liaison to South Central Renaissance Conference, 2016-18
- Member, 2015-present

*Milton Society of America*

- Member, 2008-presenter

## Peer Reviewer / Expert Reader

- *ISLE*
- *Modern Philology*
- *College English*
- *Explorations in Renaissance Culture*
- *Marvell Studies*

**Publications**

- Brendan Prawdzik, *Theatrical Milton: Politics and Poetics of the Staged Body* (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press [UK]; Oxford University Press [US], 2017); paperback 2018.
- *Andrew Marvell: Poet, Polemicist, Politician* (Gale Researcher: 2018).
- "Greenwashing Marvell," *Marvell Studies* 4.1 (2019): 1- 28.
- "Inverted Catharsis in Milton's *Samson Agonistes*," in *Closet Drama: History, Theory, Form*, ed. Catherine Burroughs, 60-82 (New York: Routledge, 2018).
- "Naked Writhing Flesh: Rhetorical Authority, Theatrical Recursion, and Milton's Poetics of the Viewed Body," in *With Wandering Steps: Generative Ambiguity in Milton's Poetics*, ed. Mimi Fenton and Louis Schwartz (Pittsburgh, PA: Duquesne University Press, 2016).
- "'Till Eyes and Tears Be the Same Things': Marvell's Spirituality and the Senses of History," *Explorations in Renaissance Culture* 41 (2015): 201-23.
- "State-Building in Harrington's *Oceana* and Milton's *Paradise Lost*, I-II," *Notes & Queries* 61.3 (2014): 383-87.
- "'Look on Me': Theater, Gender, and Poetic Identity Formation in Milton's *Maske*," *Studies in Philology* 110.3 (2013): 813-50.
- "Milton on Stage: Drama, Sin, and the Holy Script" (PhD diss., UC Berkeley, 2009).
- "Book Review: Martin Dzelzainis and Edward Holberton, Eds., *The Oxford Handbook to Andrew Marvell* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018), *Seventeenth-Century News* 79.1 (2021).
- "Book Review: Quentin Skinner, *From Humanism to Hobbes: Studies in Rhetoric and Politics* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018), *The Seventeenth Century* 35.2 (2020).
- "Book Review: George Klawitter, *Andrew Marvell, Sexual Orientation, and Seventeenth-Century Poetry* (Madison, NJ: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 2017)," *Seventeenth-Century News* 72.4 (2018).
- "Book Review: Susan McClary, Ed., *Structures of Feeling in Seventeenth Century Cultural Expression* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2013)," *The Seventeenth Century* 28.4 (2013): 469-71.
- "Andrew Marvell: 'The Garden,' *The Literary Encyclopedia* (2016).
- "Andrew Marvell: 'The Mower's Song,' *The Literary Encyclopedia* (2015).
- "Andrew Marvell: 'Damon the Mower,' *The Literary Encyclopedia* (2015).
- "Andrew Marvell: 'The Mower to the Glow-worms,' *The Literary Encyclopedia* (2015).
- "Quaker Gestures and the Clark's 'Lost' Heemskerck," *Center and Clark Newsletter: UCLA Center for 17th- & 18th-Century Studies and William Andrews Clark Memorial Library*, 52 (Fall 2010): 8-9.

## Conference Papers and Talks

- "Precious Things and Seasonal Change in Robert Herrick's *Hesperides*" (South Central Renaissance Conference, Virtual, March 25-27, 2021).
- "Biosemiotics and Milton's *Paradise Regained*" (International Milton Symposium, Strasbourg, France, June 17-21, 2019).
- "Needlework and Narrative in 'Upon Appleton House'" (South Central Renaissance Conference, Lubbock, TX, April 11-13, 2019).
- "Greenwashing Marvell" (South Central Renaissance Conference, Atlanta, GA, April 12-14, 2018).
- "Greenwashing Early Modern Flowers," invited talk, Committee for Early Modern Studies (CEMS), Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA, November 15, 2017.
- "'Set and Solemn Paneguries' and the Trinity Manuscript Dramatic Sketches," Conference on John Milton, Birmingham, AL, October 12-14, 2017.
- "Marvell against Lyrics? Agriculture, Violence, and Poetic Form" (presented at Exploring the Renaissance: An International Conference [SCRC], Austin, TX, April 20-21, 2017).
- "Embodied Affect and Politics in the Works of John Bulwer" (presented at the Renaissance Society of America conference, Chicago, IL, March 31, 2017).
- "Milton's *Areopagitica* and Hawthorne's 'Young Goodman Brown': Sin, Allegory, and 'The Field of This World'" (presented at the Renaissance Society of America conference, Boston, MA, March 31-April 2, 2016).
- "Similitude, Deception, and the Reader of Andrew Marvell's 'Upon Appleton House'" (presented at Exploring the Renaissance: An International Conference [SCRC], St. Louis, MO, March 24-6).
- "Social Contract as Agential Network in Milton, 1667-71" (presented at the East-Central/American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, West Chester University, West Chester, PA, November 12-14, 2015).
- "Beating the Fool: *Animadversions*, *The Apology*, and *Colasterion*" (presented at the Conference on John Milton, Murfreesboro, October 15-17, 2015).
- "*Samson Agonistes*: Passion's Looking-Glass" (presented at the International Milton Symposium, Exeter, UK, July 20-24, 2015).
- "'Tear our pleasures with rough strife': Sexual Violence and Civil War in Marvell's 'To His Coy Mistress'" (presented at Exploring the Renaissance: An International Conference [SCRC], Raleigh, NC, March 12-14, 2014).
- "'Eyes and Tears': Marvell's Spiritual Phenomenology" (presented at Exploring the Renaissance: An International Conference [SCRC], Tucson, AZ, April 3-5, 2014).
- "Theater of Vegetable Love and the Secret Fall in *Paradise Lost*" (presented at The Conference on John Milton, Murfreesboro, TN, October 17-19, 2013).
- "*The Rehearsall Transpros'd*, Natural Decorum, and Marvell's Uninhabitable Lyric" (presented at Exploring the Renaissance: An International Conference [SCRC], Omaha, NE, March 21-23, 2013).
- "The Ecological Ambivalence of *Upon Appleton House*" (presented at Inarticulacy: An Interdisciplinary Early Modern Conference, Berkeley, CA, November 12-13, 2011).
- "Naked Writhing Flesh: Rhetorical Authority and Theatrical Recursion" (presented at The Conference on John Milton, Murfreesboro, TN, October 13-15, 2011).
- "Needlework, Gardening, and the Poetics of Marvell's *Upon Appleton House*" (presented at Roberta Holloway Fellows Colloquium, Berkeley, CA, April 26, 2011).
- "'With Inward Eyes Illuminated': Critique of Quaker Enthusiasm in *Samson Agonistes*," (presented at the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Conference, Albuquerque, NM, October 14-16, 2010).
- "Spiritual Authenticity, the Acting Body, and Gesturing Apparel in Seventeenth-Century Prose and Milton," Group for the Study of Early Cultures: Ahmanson-Getty Fellows Present, Irvine, CA, May 21, 2010).
- "Miltonic Gestures: Spiritual Authenticity and the Acting Body in Seventeenth-Century Polemical Writing," (presented at Cultures of Communication: Theologies of Media in Early Modern Europe and Beyond, Los Angeles, CA, April 23-24, 2010).
- "'Chastity and Anti-theatrical Monsters in Milton's Ludlow Maske" (presented at the Northern California Renaissance Conference, San Jose State University, May 2, 2009).

- . "Milton's Theatrical Places" (presented at the Northern California Renaissance Conference, Berkeley, CA, September 28, 2008).
- . "Grim, Lowering Fools: Milton and the Anti-Prelatical Prose Drama," (presented at the Northern California Renaissance Conference, Davis, CA, Spring 2007).
- . "Birth pangs of a Pregnant Wit: the 1628 *Vacation Exercise*" (presented at the Northern California Renaissance Conference, Oakland, CA, April 27, 2006).

## Teaching

*Assistant Teaching Professor* –Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA: Fall 2015 – present

- English 202B: **Advanced Writing for the Humanities**, Fall 2019; Spring 2020 (2 sections); Fall 2020-asynchronous online (3 sections); Spring 2021-synchronous online (2 sections); Summer 2021-synchronous online
- English 202A: **Writing in the Social Sciences**, Fall 2016; Spring 2017 (3 sections); Summer 2017; Spring 2018 (2 sections); Fall 2019 (3 sections); Spring 2020-asynchronous online; Spring 2021-synchronous online (2 sections)
- English 202C: **Technical Writing**, Spring 2017; Fall 2017 (2 sections); Spring 2018 (2 sections); Summer 2018-online
- English 202D: **Business Writing**, Fall 2018 (3 sections); Spring 2019 (4 sections)
- English 15: **Rhetoric and Composition**, Fall 2015 (4 sections); Spring 2016 (3 sections); Fall 2016 (2 sections).
- English 130: **Understanding Popular Texts**, Fall 2016

*Visiting Professor* – Beijing Jiaotong University: July 2019 (AUIA program)

- **English Literature 101: Visions of Modernity**
- **Art History 102: Pre-History to Postmodernism**

*Visiting Professor* – Shanghai University of Finance and Economics: June 2019 (AUIA program)

- **English 102: Advanced College Writing**

*Visiting Assistant Professor* – Christian Brothers University: Fall 2012-Spring 2015

- English 461: **Andrew Marvell**, seminar, Spring 2015
- English 462: **Early Modern Drama**, seminar, Fall 2014
- English/History 385: **History and Literature of the English Civil Wars**, co-taught seminar, Spring 2014
- English 447: **Seventeenth-Century Poetry**, seminar, Spring 2013
- English 443: **Milton**, seminar, Fall 2012
- English 221: **Introduction to Literature I**, early British literature survey, Fall 2013; Fall 2015
- English 245: **Ecological Literature**, gen. ed., Spring 2013
- English 212: **Introduction to Literature II (Poetry & Drama)**, gen. ed, Fall 2014; Spring 2013, 2014
- English 211: **Introduction to Literature I (Short Fiction & the Novel)**, gen. ed., Fall 2012
- English 112: **Composition II (Research & Argument)**, Spring 2014 (2 sections), Spring 2013, 2014
- English 111: **Composition I**, Fall 2014 (2 sections), Fall 2013, Fall 2012 (2 sections)

*Lecturer* – University of California-Berkeley, Spring 2012

- Rhetoric R1A: **The Craft of Writing I: Reason, the Body, and Emotion**, Spring 2012
- Rhetoric R1B: **The Craft of Writing II: Nature, the Human, and Mediation**, Spring 2012

*Visiting Lecturer*, The University of the Pacific, Fall 2011

- English 25-2: **Love, Loss, Revenge! Poetry and Drama of the Elegiac Renaissance**, Fall 2011
- English 25-4, 5: **Literature and the Environment: Nature, the Human, and Mediation**, Fall 2011

*Roberta Holloway Postdoctoral Scholar*, UC-Berkeley, Fall 2010 to Spring 2011

- English 190-3: **Stages of Conflict: Alternative Early Modern Theater Traditions**, seminar, Spring 2011

*Graduate Student Instructor – UC-Berkeley, 2005-2009*

- English R1B: **The Garden & Revolution: Seventeenth-Century English “Eco-” Poetry**, Spring 2009
- English R1A: **The Garden & Revolution: Seventeenth-Century English “Eco-” Poetry**, Summer and Fall 2008
- English R1B: **English Renaissance Drama: Text and Performance**, Fall 2006
- English R1A: **V-Chips & Codpieces: Intersexions of Early Modern and Modern Texts**, Fall 2005

**Professional Development***Pedagogical Training at Penn State*

English 602(B): Advanced Writing in the Humanities	<i>Fall 2019</i>
English 602 (D): Business Writing	<i>Fall 2018</i>
English 602: Digital Pedagogy	<i>Spring 2018</i>
English 602: Online Teaching	<i>Fall 2017</i>
English 602 (C): Technical Writing	<i>Spring 2017</i>
English 602(A): Writing in the Social Sciences	<i>Fall 2016</i>
English 602(1&2): English 15 (Introduction to Composition)	<i>Fall 2015 – Spring 2016</i>
Certified SafeZone	<i>Fall 2014</i>

**Languages**

English – fluent  
 French – proficient  
 Latin – proficient  
 Italian – proficient  
 Spanish – intermediate

## List of References

*Carla Mulford*

Professor of English and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

The Pennsylvania State University

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*James Grantham Turner*

Professor of English

University of California, Berkeley

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Southern Illinois University

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[professional reference]

*Mark S. Morrisson*

Department Head

Professor of English

The Pennsylvania State University

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**Reviews of Brendan Prawdzik, *Theatrical Milton: Politics and Poetics of the Staged Body* (Edinburgh University Press, 2017; paperback 2018)**

Reid Barbour, advanced praise:

- Ranging across Milton's career in prose and verse, Prawdzik establishes the reasons why theatricality mattered, not only to the poet's understanding of authority, selfhood and the millennial triumph of a nation, but also to his understanding of human vulnerability and sinfulness. A treasury of insight into Milton's views of rhetoric, the body, gender, science, theology, and poetics.

Neil Forsyth, *The Times Literary Supplement* (December 8, 2017)

- A splendid discussion of the many and paradoxical aspects of theatre in Milton, with some surprising insights into his two main dramas.

Peter C. Herman, *Renaissance Quarterly*, 71.2 (2018): 829-31

- The book's crowning achievement is the long chapter at the end on *Samson Agonistes*, which Prawdzik argues creates "an aesthetic experience of polysemic theatricality." Prawdzik's section on how the regenerationist view of the poem as charting the "gradual refinement of Samson's passions into a salvific self-awareness" (189) gets undone by the persistence of Samson's "disturbed emotions" (189) should be required reading for any further discussion of the point.

Timothy J. Burbery, *Milton Quarterly*, 51.2 (2017): 298-306

- As the first monograph of its kind, *Theatrical Milton* constitutes a genuinely ground-breaking study, and Prawdzik's attempt to deploy theatricality to settle some of the perennial questions swirling around Milton's corpus is ambitious and commendable.

David Marno, *Marvell Studies* 4(1) (2019): 1-5

- If the main New Historicist investment in early modern theatricality has been in the performance of the self and identity of the individual, Prawdzik's book suggests that for Milton theatricality is precisely a way of questioning the primacy of the individual. Whether the book is therefore a turn away from New Historicism or an extension of its methods is perhaps less important than the fact that it is part of a welcome trend to address epistemological and even ontological questions by literary analysis.

Anthony Welch, *Seventeenth-Century News* 78(3) (2020): 111-16

- This is the work of a bold scholar, willing to take imaginative risks, and eager to bring Milton into new realms of literary criticism and theory that have too often left him behind.