

## ADAM WALKER

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### EDUCATION

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- 2024                      Ph.D., English Literature, Harvard University  
Dissertation: *William Wordsworth and the Poetics of Natural Piety*  
Committee: James Engell, Deidre Lynch, Gordon Teskey
- 2019                      M.A., English Literature, Harvard University
- 2018                      M.A., Literary Studies, Bucknell University  
Thesis: *Nature as Theophany: Coleridge's Scientific and Theological  
Inquiries into the Imagination*  
Committee: Paul Siewers, Ghislaine McDayter, Greg Clingham
- 2016                      B.A., English Literature, University of Florida, *summa cum laude*  
Honors Thesis: *Understanding Narration in Coleridge's 'The Picture'*  
Advisors: Stephanie A. Smith, Judith W. Page

### PUBLICATIONS

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#### Books

*William Wordsworth and the Poetics of Natural Piety* currently under review.

#### Articles

“Video and AI: The New Orality and Literacy? A Christian Humanist Approach to Teaching Poetry in the 21st Century,” *Proceedings of the Geneva College Conference: Orality & Literacy in an Age of Social Media*, eds. Jonathan M. Watt and Julie I. Durbin, 2025: 121-128.

“[Coleridge's Symbol and the Soul's Vocabulary](#),” *The Coleridge Bulletin*, New Series 60 (2022): 61-66.

“Erasmus Darwin's Theory of Repetition and Coleridge's Primary Imagination,” *The Coleridge Bulletin*, 53 (NS), (Summer 2019): 31-40.

“Objects of Nonsense, Anarchy, and Order: Romantic Theology in Lewis Carroll's and George MacDonald's Nonsense Literature,” *North Wind: Journal of George MacDonald Studies*, 37 (2018): 11-27.

#### Book Reviews

Jeffrey Barbeau (editor), *The Cambridge Companion to British Romanticism and Religion* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2021). In *Reading Religion* (October 12, 2024).

William Edinger, 'Genial' Perception: Wordsworth, Coleridge, and the Myth of Genius in the Long Eighteenth Century (Clemson: Clemson University Press, 2022). In *The Wordsworth Circle* (Vol. 54. Number 4, Fall 2023).

Christopher Stokes, *Romantic Prayer: Reinventing the Poetics of Devotion, 1773-1832* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2021). In *The Coleridge Bulletin* (New Series 61, Summer 2023).

Christopher W. Corbin, *The Evangelical Party and Samuel Taylor Coleridge's Return to the Church of England* (New York: Routledge, 2019). In *The Wordsworth Circle*, 50.4 (Fall 2020): 504-11.

Jacqueline Mulhallen, *Shelley: Poet and Revolutionary* (London: Pluto Press, 2015). In *The Coleridge Bulletin*, 52 (NS) (Winter 2018): 88-91.

Eric Richard Wasilewski, *Coleridge: The Mystic Poet* (London, Woodfern, 2011). In *The Coleridge Bulletin*, 52 (NS), (Winter 2018): 87.

*The Cambridge Companion to Fichte*, ed. David James and Günter Zöller (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2016). In *The Journal of Romanticism*, 3 (2018): 97-101.

## PUBLIC HUMANITIES

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### Versed Community Courses

My online school of poetry with over 600 committed readers makes high-quality literary study for public readers and hosts monthly courses with weekly lectures and discussion seminars.

- 2025 Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*
- 2025 The Breton Lay (Marie de France & Geoffrey Chaucer)
- 2025 Mary Oliver's *Devotions*
- 2025 *Beowulf* as Poetry
- 2025 The Lyric Poetry of W.B. Yeats
- 2025 The Poetics of Enchantment
- 2025 T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land* in Slow Motion
- 2025 Midsummer with Shakespeare | Four Genres and Plays
- 2025 The English Bible and Poetry
- 2024 Early American Literature
- 2024 The American Renaissance
- 2024 Four Devotional Poets
- 2024 T.S. Eliot's *Four Quartets* in Slow Motion
- 2024 English Poetry | A Survey from Old English to Postmodernism
- 2023 Shakespeare's Sonnets

## CLASSROOM TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### **Teaching Assistant (Lecturer), Department of English, Harvard University**

I was one of a cohort of six professors who lectured for the Humanities 10 Colloquium. I prepared and delivered 90-minute lectures, and led weekly seminars on course readings. HUM10 is the introductory flagship course of the humanities.

Fall 2024 Humanities 10: A Humanities Colloquium (HUM 10a)

### **Instructor, Department of English, Harvard University**

Honors Junior Tutorials in English are small, writing- and research-intensive courses with advanced undergraduate students in English. I proposed and designed the syllabus, prepared presentations and discussions, and guided them in the completion of the Junior Essay, a 20-25 page effort of research and criticism drawing on primary and secondary sources and conducted over multiple stages of drafting and revision.

Fall 2024 Religion and American Transcendentalism (English 98r)

### **Teaching Fellow, Department of English, Harvard University**

I prepared weekly lectures and presentations for the lecture hall, seminars, writing-intensive tutorials, and discussion sections; graded and provided feedback on students' essays and oral presentations; conferenced with students individually to enhance speaking and writing skills; and helped adapt some courses for online, remote learning.

Spring 2025 Humanities 10: A Humanities Colloquium (HUM 10b)

Fall 2024 Jane Austen's Fiction and Fans (English 145a) Professor Deidre Lynch.

Spring 2023 Foundations of Lyric Poetry (English 182) Professor Peter Sacks.

Fall 2022 Shakespeare and Popular Culture (English 125) Professor Alan Niles.

Spring 2022 Poetry without Borders (GenEd 1052) Professor Stephanie Sandler.

Spring 2021 Elements of Rhetoric (GenEd 1082) Professor James Engell (See the [Business Insider Review](#) of the Ed/X version of this course).

Fall 2020 Poetry in America (GenEd 1172) Professor Elisa New (Creator and host of PBS's [Poetry in America](#)).

### **Research and Pedagogy Associate, National Education Equity Lab & *Poetry in America***

I researched and improved the user experience of writing prompts used by the Poetry in America course designed for high-school students. In addition to improving instructional design, I provided feedback on assignments and supported student writing on discussion boards. This work was affiliated with both [Poetry in America](#) and the [National Education Equity Lab](#).

### Graduate Assistant, Bucknell University

I prepared lectures and presentations; provided feedback on written assignments; and served as a research assistant and a writing tutor for the British and American Literature Lab.

Fall 2018 *Tolkien, Lewis, and Christian Eco-Philosophy (ENLS 341/641)* Professor Paul Siewers.

Spring 2017 *American Poetry (ENLS 216)* Professor Sandra Morris.

*U.S. Diversity Literatures and Cultures (FOUN 098-59)*, Professor Sandra Morris.

Fall 2016 *Emerson, Dickinson, Whitman (ENLS 307/607)* Professor Sandra Morris.

*U.S. Diversity Literatures and Cultures (FOUN 098-59)*, Professor Sandra Morris.

### CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATION

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2025 “Spiritual Poetics and the Theories of Influence,” The British Association for Romantic Studies (BARS) Digital Event: “Romantic Creativity,” December 8. (invited)

2025 “Romantic Religion & the Romantic Lyric: Post-Secular Criticism” 56th NeMLA Conference, Philadelphia, PA, March 6–9. (Chair and Moderator of panel)

2024 “Reading the Lyric: Dylan Thomas’s ‘Fern Hill’” for the Hum10 Mentorship Program, Harvard University. (invited)

2025 “Wordsworth’s Poetics of Conversion” for [Romanticism Across Borders](#) Seminar Series, hosted by LARCA, at Paris-Cité University, France. (invited)

2024 “Lyric Enactments of Spiritual Experience in Wordsworth and Shelley” for the Eighteenth Century & Romanticism Colloquium, hosted by the Department of English, Harvard University. (invited)

2024 “Coleridge’s Symbol and Natural Theology” The Friends of Coleridge Conference, The Wordsworth Trust, Grasmere, UK, July 29–August 2, 2024.

2024 “Video and A.I.: The New Orality and Literacy?” Orality and Literacy in an Age of Social Media, Geneva College, Beaver Falls, PA, April 4-5, 2024.

2024 Chair and Moderator for panel “Romantic Religions: Re-evaluating Secularism in the Romantic Era,” 55th NeMLA Convention, Boston, MA, March 7-10th, 2024.

- 2023 “Poetics of Early Modern Translation: Mary Sidney Herbert’s Psalms in *The Sidney Psalter*,” *The Bible as Literature and its Literary Legacies (ENLS 290)*, Prof. Paul Siewers. (invited)
- 2023 “Lyric Representations of Spiritual Growth in British Romanticism” for the Percy Bysshe Shelley Poetry Society at Oxford University, University College; Zoom lecture. (invited)
- 2023 “Lyrical Non-Events: Wordsworth’s Representation of Spiritual Conversion,” Midwest Regional Meeting of The Conference on Christianity and Literature, Wheaton College, IL, October 23-24, 2023.
- 2022 “The Poetics of Natural Piety: Reconsidering the Secularization Thesis,” The Wordsworth Summer Conference, Rydal Hall, England, August 17, 2022.
- 2022 “Drinking from the Jordan: The Plain Style of the English Reformed Poets,” Davenant Institute 2022 Regional Convivium: “The Poetic Lens: Seeing with Wisdom’s Adornment and Virtue’s Delight,” Landrum, SC, March 10-11, 2022.
- 2021 “The Lyric Tradition and the Psalm Translations of the English Reformation,” *The Bible as Literature and its Literary Legacies (ENLS 290)*, Prof. Paul Siewers. (invited)
- 2020 “Romance and Reform: Shakespeare’s *The Winter’s Tale* and the Reversal of England’s National Reformation,” NEMLA Conference: 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention, Marriott Copley Place, Boston, March 5-8, 2020.
- 2019 “The Moral World: George MacDonald and the Governing Law of the Mythopoetic Novel,” hosted by The Morningside Institute, The Thomistic Institute, and the Philosophy Department of Columbia University, “The Moral Imagination of the Novel,” Columbia University, NYC, NY, October 4-5, 2019.
- 2019 “Reforming the Medieval Conscience: Examining Conscience in Langland and Marlowe,” The Cornell Medieval Studies Graduate Student Conference on “Form and Reform,” Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, February 2019.
- 2018 “Imitation and Imagination: Erasmus Darwin’s *Zoonomia* and Coleridge’s Theophanic Imagination,” Biennial Friends of Coleridge Conference, Jesus College, Cambridge, UK, August 2018.
- 2017 “Nature as Theophany: J.S. Eriugena’s *Periphyseon* and Coleridge’s Imagination,” Annual Wordsworth Conference, Cumbria, England, August 2017.
- 2017 “Apophatic Theology in Novalis’s *Hymnen an die Nacht*,” Romanticism Association Conference, Strasbourg, France, August 2017.

2017 “MacDonald and the Scottish Faerie-Faith: Places, Landscape, and Overlay in MacDonald’s ‘Otherworlds,’” George MacDonald’s Conference, University of Aberdeen, Scotland, July 2017.

2017 “The Semiotic Collaborations of Friedrich Schlegel and Novalis,” BSECS Annual Conference, St. Hugh’s College, Oxford University, England, January 2017.

2016 “Understanding Narration in Coleridge’s ‘The Picture, or, the Lover’s Resolution’,” Biennial Friends of Coleridge Conference, University of Bristol, England, August 2016.

## GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

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2023 Certificate of Distinction in Teaching (*Foundations of Lyric Poetry*, Fall 2023)  
 2022 Derek Bok Center Teaching Certificate  
 2021 Certificate of Distinction in Teaching (*Elements of Rhetoric*, Spring 2021)  
 2021 Dexter Term-Time Fellowship  
 2021 Harvard Summer Research Award  
 2020 Certificate of Distinction in Teaching (*Poetry in America*, Fall 2020)  
 2020 Harvard Summer Research Award  
 2019 Harvard Summer Research Award  
 2018 Friends of Coleridge Conference Bursary  
 2017 Best Conference Paper Award, Romanticism Association  
 2017 Research Institute for Irish and Scottish Studies Travel Grant  
 2017 Richard Wordsworth Bursary, Wordsworth Conference  
 2017 Bucknell Press Book Collection Award  
 2017 Bucknell Summer Research Award  
 2017 Bucknell Literary Studies Conference Award  
 2016 Bucknell Graduate Student Conference Award  
 2016 Friends of Coleridge Conference Bursary  
 2015 University Scholar Research Award

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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2022-23 Founder of the public humanities platform [Antrim Literature Project](#) (forerunner of Versed Community).  
 2021-22 Head Librarian of Francis James Child Memorial Library, Widener Library, Harvard University.  
 2020-22 Co-coordinator, the Eighteenth Century & Romanticism Colloquium, Harvard University.  
 2019-23 Library Assistant, Francis James Child Memorial Library, Widener Library, Harvard University.  
 2017-18 Writing Tutor, the Bucknell Office of Undergraduate Research and Fellowship at Bucknell University.  
 2016-18 Tutor, the British and American Literature Lab at Bucknell University.  
 2016-18 Graduate Assistant at Bucknell University.  
 2016-18 Founder and coordinator of the Shakespeare Society at Bucknell University.

2016-18 President of Tau Sigma National Honors Society at the University of Florida.  
 2016-18 Actor and Executive Officer of Shakespeare in the Park at the University of Florida.

### **LIVE PUBLIC OUTREACH**

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Jan. – May 2024 “Paradise Lost in Slow Motion,” hosted by the Antrim Literature Project. 13 Lectures available [here](#).

April 2024 “The Voices of Poetry: Robert Browning’s ‘My Last Duchess’” for Kang Chiao International School, New Taipei City, Taiwan; Zoom lecture and discussion.

Feb. – April 2024 “Paradise Lost Reading Group” at the Newman School, a private high school in the Back Bay district of Boston, Massachusetts.

Sept. 2024 “Structure in Percy Shelley’s ‘Ode to the West Wind’,” for the Fall Lecture Series 2023; hosted by the Antrim Literature Project. Recording [here](#).

May 2023 “English Poetry in Four Movements: From Mary Herbert to T.S. Eliot,” Four lectures followed by discussion; hosted by Beacon Hill Books & Cafe, Boston, MA.

### **LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**

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German: reading and speaking proficiency; Latin: intermediate reading proficiency