

JEFFREY ALAN MILLER

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Montclair State University, English Department
Dickson Hall, Room 468
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PROFESSIONAL HISTORY:

Montclair State University

Associate Professor of English (with tenure), 2017-present

Assistant Professor of English, 2012-17

EDUCATION:

University of Oxford

D.Phil., English Language and Literature, 2012

M.St., *with Distinction*, English Language and Literature (1550-1780), 2007

Member of Magdalen College, Oxford, 2006-2012

Princeton University

A.B., *magna cum laude*, English, with a Certificate in Creative Writing, 2006

HONORS AND AWARDS:

John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Fellowship, 2019-2024

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, awarded 2018, taken 2020-21

National Endowment for the Humanities Award for Faculty at Hispanic-Serving Institutions, yearlong fellowship awarded 2018 [*declined*]

Dean's Recognition Award for Excellence in Scholarship, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Montclair State University, 2016

- Sole recipient for the 2015-2016 academic year, and the youngest recipient of the award in the college's history.

Elected to membership, Northeast Milton Seminar, 2015

Phi Beta Kappa, Princeton University, 2006

Rhodes Scholarship, United States of America, Texas and Magdalen, 2006

Class of 1870 Sophomore Prize, Princeton University, 2004

CURRENT BOOK PROJECTS:

Signifying Shadows: Biblical Typology and Its Aftermath in the Early Modern Period (approx. 180,000 words; expected completion 2022)

This interdisciplinary study provides a revitalized understanding of what came to be known as early modern typology: a providential way of interpreting the Bible and biblical history that exerted a widespread and increasingly controversial pull on some of the period's most important works, beliefs, and broader cultural developments. Overturning many longstanding assumptions about early modern typology, the study explores a unique, more global range of sources in modern scholarship on the subject, traversing works both British (including Colonial American) and Continental; both in ancient languages and in European vernaculars; and spanning a diversity of early modern genres, national and confessional identities, and modern disciplinary divides. Through detailed analysis of texts both print and manuscript, prose and poetry, canonical and neglected, the study uncovers typology's volatile capacity for carrying authors and their respective works in unanticipated directions, and to unintended – at times irreversible – lengths, even in the course of a work's being written. In doing so, the study sheds new light not just on the fraught significance of typology in the early modern period but on issues as varied as the origins and influences of religious radicalism; the early Enlightenment rise of secularization and resurgence of allegory and the contested relationship of each to Protestant hermeneutics; and the role that the writing process itself could play in shaping the development of early modern authors' works, thoughts, and beliefs.

Untypical Significance: Milton, Early Modern Typology, and the Writer's Mind at Work (approx. 150,000 words; expected completion 2023)

This study builds on my first book, *Signifying Shadows*, to mount a sustained reconsideration of the influence of typology in and across the works of John Milton, long regarded as the most prominent author in English literary history in whose works typology featured as a recurrent concern. The study provides the most comprehensive account ever attempted of Milton's handling of typology throughout his career – in his reading and writing, in English and Latin, in poetry, prose, and drama – and it sheds new light on the way typology shaped many of Milton's most controversial ideas and important works, along with his treatment of, and reactivity to, language itself. In particular, the book reveals Milton to have written his way into holding some of his most heterodox beliefs through the process of writing about typology, as in the case of his notoriously extreme positions on clerical hierarchy and Sabbath observance, and it recovers the dramatic, sometimes volatile influence that typology exerted not only on the development of his career at large but even on individual works as they unfolded in the very course of being composed. Doing so goes beyond simply challenging enduring notions of Milton as a writer whose works only ever express thoughts at which he or one of his contemporaries had already arrived beforehand. Merging insights fostered by various forms of historicism, formalism, deconstruction, genetic criticism, cultural materialism, and the new histories of books and reading, the study breaks new ground, at the level of both theory and practice, in the ongoing efforts of scholars across disciplines to understand more fully the complex interrelation between texts, intentions, ideas, and contexts, placing a more dynamic conception of the “event” of writing at the heart of the endeavor.

***The King James Bible's Earliest Known Draft: The Text, the Translator, and the Translation that Would Live Forever* (approx. 185,000 words; expected completion 2025).**

In 2015, I announced the discovery of what now stands as the earliest known draft of any part of the King James translation of the Bible, and the only draft yet identified definitively in the hand of one of the work's known translators. The draft, which survives in the archives of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, exists in a complex interplay of English, Greek, Latin, and Hebrew, and it greatly challenges modern ideas about the forms drafts could take both with respect to the King James Bible and more generally in the early modern period. This book provides the first edition, translation, and study of the King James Bible's now earliest known draft, granting readers an unprecedented window into how what became the most widely read work in the history of the English language grew to be as it did. The book also traces the draft's significance for many areas of interdisciplinary concern beyond study of the King James Bible, including issues of textual transmission and knowledge creation across faiths and languages and the heightened possibilities for a novel "history of writing" and continued archival discovery in early modern studies writ large.

OTHER BOOK-LENGTH WORKS IN PROGRESS:

Coeditor of the Pentateuch in *The Oxford King James Version Study Bible* (under contract, Oxford University Press; expected completion 2023).

Coeditor, with Katie Kadue, *Precarious Milton in a Precarious Age*, a collection consisting of essays entirely by contingent, "precariously employed," or unemployed scholars (approx. 100,000 words; expected completion 2024).

Thinking Through Writing: Scenes of Change from the Renaissance to the Enlightenment (approx. 150,000 words; expected completion 2028).

PUBLICATIONS:

Articles

"The Place of Punctuation in Drafting the King James Bible", in Elizabeth M. Bonapfel, Mark Faulkner, Jeffrey Gutierrez, and John Lennard (eds.), *The Cambridge History of Punctuation in English Literature*, 3 vols. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming).

"The Earliest Known Draft of the King James Bible: Samuel Ward's Draft of 1 Esdras and Wisdom 3-4", in Mordechai Feingold (ed.), *Labourers in the Vineyard of the Lord: Scholarship and the Making of the King James Version of the Bible* (Leiden: Brill, 2018), 187-265.

"'Better, as in the Geneva': The Role of the Geneva Bible in Drafting the King James Version," *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies* 47.3, special issue on "The Bible and English Readers", ed. Thomas Fulton (September 2017), 517-43.

- Journal issue co-winner of the 2018 Best Special Issue Award from the Council of Editors of Learned Journals.

“Fruit of Good Labours: The Earliest Known Draft of the King James Bible”, *The Times Literary Supplement* (16 October 2015), 14-15.

- Received additional coverage from *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *MSNBC*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Salon*, *The Guardian*, *The Telegraph*, *The Times* (U.K.), and other news outlets around the world.

“Milton, Zanchius, and the Rhetoric of Belated Reading”, *Milton Quarterly* 47.4 (December 2013), 199-219.

“Milton and the Conformable Puritanism of Richard Stock and Thomas Young”, in Edward Jones (ed.), *Young Milton: The Emerging Author, 1620-1642* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013), 72-103.

- Volume winner of the 2013 Irene Samuel Memorial Award from the Milton Society of America for most distinguished collection of essays pertaining to the study of Milton [essay named in citation].

“Reconstructing Milton’s Lost *Index Theologicus*: The Genesis and Usage of an Anti-Bellarmino, Theological Commonplace Book”, *Milton Studies* 52 (2011), 187-219.

Reviews

Review of Thomas Fulton, *The Book of Books: Biblical Interpretation, Literary Culture, and the Political Imagination from Erasmus to Milton* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2021), in *Modern Philology*, forthcoming.

Review of Ann Baynes Coiro and Thomas Fulton (eds.), *Rethinking Historicism from Shakespeare to Milton* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012), in *Milton Quarterly* 49.2 (May 2015), 137-43.

Review of Angela Leighton, *On Form: Poetry, Aestheticism, and the Legacy of a Word* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007), in *The Tennyson Research Bulletin* 9:2 (2008), 221-28.

DIGITAL HUMANITIES PROJECTS:

Introduction and Bibliography for Digitized Version of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, MS Ward B, for Cambridge Digital Library, University of Cambridge:
<https://cudl.lib.cam.ac.uk/view/MS-WARD-B/1> (published February 2017).

INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS:

“Punctuation and the Drafting of the King James Bible”, Columbia University Seminar in the Renaissance, May 2021.

“Milton’s Thinking Through Writing in Poetry and Prose”, Renaissance Colloquium, Yale University, October 2019.

“‘To the Last Extreme:’ *De doctrina Christiana*, the Sabbath, and Milton’s Mind at Work” (essay pre-circulated for discussion), Northeast Milton Seminar, University of Notre Dame, September 2018.

“What is a Draft (and Why does it Matter)? The Case of the King James Bible”, Harvard University, November 2017.

“Drafting the King James Bible”, The Bible in the Renaissance Conference, Israel Institute for Advanced Studies, in association with the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Bar-Ilan University, Jerusalem, May 2017.

“Milton, *Paradise Lost*, and the Facts of the Bible”, Rutgers University-New Brunswick, April 2017.

“Inside the King James Bible’s Earliest Known Draft”, English Research Colloquium, Montclair State University, December 2016.

“What is a Draft? The Case of the King James Bible from its Earliest Known Draft Onward”, Book History Colloquium, Columbia University, October 2016.

“Samuel Ward and the King James Bible’s Earliest Known Draft”, Princeton Theological Seminary, April 2016.

“The Earliest Known Draft of the King James Bible: Samuel Ward and the Translation of the Apocrypha”, Committee for the Study of Books and Media Seminar Series, Princeton University, December 2015.

“‘Melting Towards Independency’: Milton, Historicism, and the Event of Writing”, Georgetown 17th-Century English Literature Colloquium, Georgetown University, April 2014.

“Milton’s Types and the Typology of Milton Studies”, Canada Milton Seminar, University of Toronto, April 2011.

“‘If so, then farewell all Lords-dayes, Fasts, Feasts, publike Assemblies for Gods Worship, Ministers, Churches, (God himself together with them) as well as Tithes’: Theological Typology and the Aftermath of Writing, 1618-1659”, Early Modern Graduate Forum, University of Oxford, March 2010.

INVITED PANEL PAPERS:

“‘Often Compounded’: Milton’s Types”, presented as part of a seminar on “Milton”, Association of Literary Scholars, Critics, and Writers, Yale University, forthcoming October 2020 (postponed to October 2022 due to COVID-19 pandemic).

“Thinking Through Writing in the Renaissance: Archival Possibilities”, presented as part of a panel on “New Directions in Textual Studies and Book History”, The Northeastern Humanities Center, Northeastern University, February 2021.

“Milton and the Vision of Scholarship in the Late 1650s”, presented as part of a panel entitled “Currents of Thought in the 1650s: Theology, Law, Politics and Gender”, North American Conference on British Studies, Washington, D.C., November 2016.

“‘Amesius noster’: The Scholars and Scholarship behind Milton’s *De Doctrina Christiana*”, presented as part of a panel entitled “Milton the Scholar”, International Milton Symposium, University of Exeter, July 2015.

“‘Vide de bonis Ecclesiasticis’: Milton, Divorce, and the Unified Question of Liberty in the Context of Anti-Catholic Polemic”, presented as part of a panel entitled “The Personal, the Political, and the Popular: Debating Liberty and Government in the English Revolution”, Mid-Atlantic Conference on British Studies, Johns Hopkins University, March 2015.

“Milton’s Engagement with Bellarmine and Catholic Theology”, presented as part of a panel entitled “Milton’s Italian Influences”, Renaissance Society of America Conference, Venice, Italy, April 2010.

OTHER PAPERS PRESENTED:

“Drafting the Punctuation of the King James Bible”, a plenary paper selected to be presented as part of an international conference on “Points of Interest: Early Modern Punctuation, On and Off the Page”, University of Cambridge, September 2021 (held via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic).

“Milton, the Apocrypha, and the Facts of History”, selected to be presented as part of a panel entitled “Milton and the Hebrew Bible”, Renaissance Society of America Conference, Philadelphia, April 2020 (rescheduled for virtual Renaissance Society of America Conference in April 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic).

“Drafts Behind Drafts: Rethinking the King James Bible’s Composition Process”, presented as part of a panel entitled “The Renaissance Draft I”, Renaissance Society of America Conference, Chicago, March 2017.

“A Newly Discovered Draft of the King James Bible: Individual and Group Translation in Practice”, selected to be presented as part of the panel entitled “Renaissance Collaboration III: Sacred Texts, Sacred Responsibilities”, Renaissance Society of America Conference, Boston, April 2016.

“Milton and the Event of Writing: Beyond New Historicism and the Cambridge School”, selected to be presented as part of the panel entitled “John Milton: A General Session”, Modern Language Association Convention, Austin, January 2016.

“Editing the *Table Talk* of John Selden” (with Thomas Roebuck), a plenary paper presented as part of an international conference on “The Edition as Argument, 1550-1750”, Queen Mary, University of London, July 2014.

“‘You will quickly perceive them to be his’: John Selden’s Writings and his *Table Talk*”, presented as part of a panel entitled “John Selden (1584-1654) and His *Table Talk*: Publication, Literature, Thought”, Renaissance Society of America Conference, New York, March 2014.

“Which Milton Heard Which Parts of *De Doctrina Christiana*”, presented as part of a panel entitled “The Controversy over the Attribution of *De Doctrina Christiana* to John Milton: New Perspectives”, Modern Language Association Convention, Chicago, January 2014.

“‘Jumbling metaphors, and Allegories, and Types, and Figures, altogether’: Bunyan, Secularization, and the End of Early Modern Typology”, 7th Triennial International John Bunyan Society Conference, Princeton University, August 2013.

“Ames, the Sabbath, and the Development of *De Doctrina Christiana*: Milton’s Typically Abrogative Mind at Work”, British Milton Seminar, Birmingham, England, March 2010.

“Figures, Types, and the Changing Language of Foreshadowed Time; or, What We Talk About When We Talk About Typology”, Second Annual Centre for Early Modern Studies Conference, University of Oxford, April 2009.

“Young’s Milton: A Study in the Ways of Belief”, Young Milton Conference, Worcester College, Oxford, March 2009.

“‘Some Thing May Follow’: Stock, Gataker, and the Unintentional Endorsement of Heresy, 1611-42”, Early Modern Literature Seminar, University of Oxford, June 2008.

INVITED PANEL RESPONSES AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS:

Roundtable Discussant, “[Andrew Marvell’s] ‘Mourning’”, organized by the Andrew Marvell Society, South Central Renaissance Conference (held on Zoom due to COVID-19 pandemic), March 2021.

Roundtable Discussant, “Milton to Milton: The Legacy of J. Milton French”, event marking the opening of a new exhibition of rare books, manuscripts, and other artifacts, Special Collections and University Archives, Rutgers University-New Brunswick, October 2017.

Respondent, “Reading [Milton’s] *De Doctrina Christiana*”, sponsored by the Milton Society of America, Renaissance Society of America Conference, Chicago, March 2017.

Roundtable Discussant, “Reformation, Periodization, and the Archive”, sponsored by the Princeton University Committee on Renaissance and Early Modern Studies, Renaissance Society of America Conference, Chicago, March 2017.

Roundtable Discussant, “Beyond the Republic of Letters II: Scholarship, Politics, and Confessionalization”, Renaissance Society of America Conference, Boston, April 2016.

PUBLIC TALKS AND LECTURES:

“‘By Chance’: Milton, the King James Bible, and Discovery in the Humanities”, Montclair State University, December 2019.

“How Discoveries in the Humanities Happen”, invited guest lecture for the Phi Alpha Theta National History Honor Society initiation ceremony, Kean University, April 2016.

Guest Scholar and Respondent to Milton’s *Samson Agonistes*, a staged reading presented at the Red Bull Theater in New York, New York, part of the Red Bull Theater’s Obie Award-winning series “Revelation Readings”, New York, October 2013.

“Wit Works” (with Thomas Roebuck), a series of weekly hour-long talks, each free and open to the public, concerning the rise of early modern experimental science and its relation to the period’s integrated arts curriculum, given in association with the Bodleian Library’s exhibition *‘My wit was always working’: John Aubrey and the Development of Experimental Science*, Bodleian Library, Oxford, July 2010.

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS ORGANIZED:

Founder and Co-Convener, Montclair State University Medieval and Early Modern Studies Seminar, Montclair, NJ, February 2014-present.

- An interdisciplinary seminar hosting speakers from both Montclair State and outside universities and led by co-conveners from across the University’s College of Humanities and Social Sciences, including co-conveners representing the Departments of Classics and General Humanities, English, History, Modern Languages and Literatures, Philosophy, and Spanish and Latino Studies.
- The first seminar of its kind devoted to medieval and early modern studies in Montclair State University history.

Co-Organizer (with Thomas Roebuck), *John Selden, 1584-1654: Scholarship in Context*, an international conference held as a joint event between Oxford University’s Centre for Early Modern Studies and the Bodleian Library’s Centre for the Study of the Book, Oxford, 24-26 June 2010.

- The first ever international conference held on the life, works, and significance of John Selden, seventeenth-century England’s greatest scholar and a central figure in the period’s legal, literary, political, and religious history.
- Raised £28,100 of total funding, with funding given by the British Academy (at the time, the largest grant ever awarded by the Academy to a humanities conference at Oxford); the John Fell OUP Research Fund; the Mellon-Foundation-funded Cultures of Knowledge Project; Magdalen College, Oxford; the Royal Historical Society; the Bodleian Library’s Centre for the Study of the Book; and the Oxford University Faculties of English and History.
- Conference noted in Anthony Grafton, “John Selden: The Life of Scholarship”, *Huntington Library Quarterly* 74.3 (2011), 505-513.

Co-Designer and Co-Convener (with Thomas Roebuck), Early Modern Graduate Forum, University of Oxford, 2008-2009.

- An interdisciplinary seminar, held biweekly in term, consisting alternately of paper presentations by graduate students or Junior Research Fellows working in any field of early modern studies and group discussions focused on a major recent work or concern of scholarship in the humanities.
- Attended by graduate students, research fellows, and faculty members from departments across the University's Humanities Division.

CONFERENCE PANELS ORGANIZED:

Co-organizer (with Thomas Roebuck), "The Renaissance Draft I", 63rd Annual Renaissance Society of America Conference, Chicago, March 2017.

- Presenters: Thomas Roebuck (University of East Anglia), Alan Stewart (Columbia University), and myself
- Respondent: Ann Blair (Harvard University)

Co-organizer (with Thomas Roebuck), "The Renaissance Draft II", 63rd Annual Renaissance Society of America Conference, Chicago, March 2017.

- Presenters: Sophie Butler (Exeter College, Oxford), Jeffrey Todd Knight (University of Washington), and Marcy North (Pennsylvania State University)
- Respondent: Peter Stallybrass (University of Pennsylvania)

Organizer, "John Selden (1584-1654) and His *Table Talk*: Publication, Literature, Thought", 60th Annual Renaissance Society of America Conference, New York, March 2014.

- Presenters: Jason Rosenblatt (Georgetown University), Thomas Roebuck (University of East Anglia), and myself

EXHIBITIONS ORGANIZED:

Co-Organizer and Co-Curator (with Thomas Roebuck), '*Freedom above all things*': A Display of John Selden's Books at the Bodleian Library, a month-long exhibition, free and open to the public, held in the Proscholium of the Bodleian Library, Oxford, June-July 2010.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

I have been solely responsible for the design and teaching of all courses listed, with the exception of the one marked below with an asterisk (), which was a team-taught course.*

Montclair State University

Graduate:

Seminar in Literary Research

Milton

Teaching the Renaissance: Beyond Shakespeare

Theoretical Approaches to Literature

Undergraduate:

English Prose Before the Novel
Renaissance Literature
Milton
Independent Study: Milton and Ecocriticism
Pursuits of English (Undergraduate Course in Literary Theory)*
English Literature I: Beginnings to 1660
Writing in the Major: Atheism and Literature
Great Books and Ideas II
Introduction to Literature: Utopia and Dystopia

University of Oxford

Undergraduate:

Milton
Early Milton
Race and Gender in Shakespeare
The English Bible in and as Literature
Creative Writing: The Stuff of Fiction
Special Authors Extended Essay Course (Final Honour School Paper 7): Marvell
Special Authors Extended Essay Course (Final Honour School Paper 7): Milton

JOURNALS AND PRESSES REFEREED:

Erudition and the Republic of Letters
Journal of the History of Ideas
Milton Quarterly
Milton Studies
Religion in the Age of Enlightenment

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:

At Large

Chair, Northeast Milton Seminar, 2019 - present.

Montclair State University

Member (Appointed by the Provost's Office), Blue Ribbon Task Force for Revising Montclair State University's Core Curriculum, 2019-20.

Member, Graduate Program Committee, English Department, 2014-present.

Co-Organizer, English Department Awards, 2015-17, 2019-20.

Member, English Department Council, 2019-20.

Director of the Graduate Program, English Department, July 2016 - January 2017 (Interim), July 2017 - June 2018.

Departmental Personnel Advisory Committee (for reappointment and tenure review), English Department, 2017-18.

Founding Member (Appointed by the Provost's Office), Distinguished Undergraduate Scholarship Committee, Montclair State University, 2015-17.

Chair, Visiting Writers Committee, English Department, 2013-16 (Member, 2013-18)

English Department Representative, College of Humanities and Social Sciences College Research Committee, 2013-15.

Member, Search Committee for Tenure-Track Assistant Professor of Shakespeare/Early Modern English Drama, English Department, 2012-13.

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Editorial and Publishing Intern, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, New York, Summer 2005.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

Milton Society of America
Modern Language Association
Renaissance Society of America