

## CURRICULUM VITA

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### EMPLOYMENT:

8/98-Present		Professor of Literature Point Loma Nazarene University Department Chair, 2003-2008, 2014-2017
9/94-6/98	English Department Faculty	Northwest Nazarene University
8/91-7/94	Visiting Assistant Professor of American Studies	Arizona State University West
9/88-6/91	English Department Faculty	Northwest Nazarene University

### EDUCATION:

1991	University of Minnesota	Ph.D. in American Studies
1988	University of Minnesota	M.A. in American Studies
1983-85	San Diego State University	Graduate coursework transferred to U. of MN
1981	Point Loma College	BA in Literature

### ACADEMIC AWARDS/HONORS/FELLOWSHIPS/GRANTS:

2013	Wesleyan Center Scholar	Point Loma Nazarene University
2002	Wesleyan Center Fellow	Point Loma Nazarene University
2001	Research and Special Projects Grant Recipient: Harlem Renaissance Course	Point Loma Nazarene University
1999	Wesleyan Center Scholar	Point Loma Nazarene University
1998	Excellent Professor of the Year	Northwest Nazarene University
1998	Faculty Award Lecturer	Northwest Nazarene University
1994-95	Nominee—Outstanding Professor of the Year	Northwest Nazarene University
1994-95	Faculty Development Grant Recipient—American Popular Music for Classroom Use	Northwest Nazarene University
1991-92	Nominee—Outstanding Teacher of the Year	Arizona State University West
1985	American Studies Program Grant	U. of Minnesota

## PUBLICATIONS:

- “Shutting Down the Open Road: Flannery O’Connor’s Influence on Bruce Springsteen’s Songwriting” *The Flannery O’Connor Review* 18 (2020): 20-34.
- “Laying Claim to a Christian America: Evangelical Narratives of Exceptionalism” *Jamit!: Journal of American Studies in Italy* 1 (May 2019): 223-243.
- “Apocalyptic Providentialism in the Historical Narratives of Herbert W. Armstrong” *Fides et Historia* 50.1 (2018): 60-84.
- “Competing Authorities in the Nation State of Marvel” *Marvel Comics’ Civil War and the Age of Terror*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2015. 98-107.
- “The Failure of a Pseudo-Christian Community in a Nation-State in Crisis: 28 Days Later,” *Journal of Religion & Film* 18.2 (2014) Available at: <http://digitalcommons.unomaha.edu/jrf/vol18/iss2/6>
- “The Love of Nationalism, Internationalism, and Sacred Space in *Watchmen*” *Sexual Ideology in the Works of Alan Moore: Critical Essays on the Graphic Novels*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2012. 65-74.
- “Inflicting and Suffering Violence in the Kingdom of Heaven: *The Violent Bear It Away*” *Dark Faith: New Essays on Flannery O’Connor’s The Violent Bear It Away*. South Bend, IN: University of Notre Dame Press, 2012.
- “The Plagues of Egypt in the Promised Land: Paul Thomas Anderson’s *Magnolia*.” *Reel Histories: Studies in American Film*. Hollywood CA: Press Americana, 2008.
- “A Journey Home.” *Vocation*. San Diego: Point Loma Press, 2006.
- “Mary, the Mother of the ‘new Jesus.’” *Christianity and the Arts* 8.4 (Fall 2001): 30-33.
- “The Purpose of Government.” *Common Ground: Christians in Dialogue About Critical Issues*. Ed. Everett Leadingham. Kansas City: Beacon Hill, 2000. 61-69.
- “Christians in Government.” *Common Ground: Christians in Dialogue About Critical Issues*. Ed. Everett Leadingham. Kansas City: Beacon Hill, 2000. 71-79.
- The Evangelical Church and American Popular Culture*. San Diego: Point Loma Press, 2000.
- "American Exceptionalism in the Thought of Herbert W. Armstrong." *Canon: The Journal of the Rocky Mountains American Studies Association* 4.1 (1998): 57-75.
- "Bishop's Role in Flannery O'Connor's *The Violent Bear It Away*." *Literature and Belief* 16 (Summer 1996).
- "The Prophetic Intent of Flannery O'Connor's 'The Displaced Person.'" *The Flannery O'Connor Bulletin* 23 (1994-95): 137-57.
- "Flannery O'Connor's Prophetic Imagination." *Religion and Literature* 26.3 (Autumn 1994): 33-58.

## CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION:

“When Bridges and Certainty Collapse: The Power of Narrative (Un)certainty in Thornton Wilder’s *The Bridge at San Luis Rey*” Western Regional Conference on Christianity and Literature, May 2013. Co-presenter with Michael Clark, Point Loma Nazarene University.

“Shutting Down the Open Road: Reading O’Connor through Her Influence on Bruce Springsteen’s *Nebraska*.” Revelation and Convergence: Flannery O’Connor Among the Philosophers and Theologians, October 2011.

“Rumours of Glory: Thirty Years of Listening to the Music of Bruce Cockburn.” Nurturing the Prophetic Imagination, March 2010.

“Competing Visions of the Sacred World in *The Violent Bear It Away*.” Flannery O’Connor in the Age of Terrorism, October 2006.

“Images of the Automobile in the Writings of Flannery O’Connor and Bruce Springsteen.” Glory Days: A Bruce Springsteen Symposium, September 2005.

“Reader-Response Criticism and Prevenient Grace.” Western Region Conference on Christianity and Literature, March 2004.

“Egypt or the Promised Land?: Paul Thomas Anderson’s Use of Biblical Forms in *Magnolia*.” Creative Imagination: Embodying Time, Space, and Form. Point Loma Nazarene University Centennial Conference, Feb. 2002.

“American History According to American Evangelicals.” American Studies Association, November 2001.

“Babylon or New Jerusalem?: Images of America in the Rhetoric of Elijah Muhammad.” California American Studies Association, April 1999.

“American Exceptionalism in *The Light and The Glory*.” Northwest American Studies Association Conference, April 1998

“Tarwater’s Search for His True Self in Flannery O’Connor’s *The Violent Bear It Away*.” Point Loma Nazarene University Wesleyan Center Conference: What Happens to “Person” in Post Modern Era?, January 1997.

“Bishop’s Role in *The Violent Bear It Away*.” Flannery O’Connor and the Christian Mystery: A Seventieth-Birthday Symposium, Brigham Young University, November 1995.

“The Missing Body in the Case of the Death of ‘Christian America.’” Response to David Moberg’s “The Secularizing of ‘Christian America.’” Northwest Nazarene University Wesley Center Conference: Holy Living in a Post-Christian Age, February 1995.

“Uses of American Exceptionalism in *The Book of Mormon* and other Mormon Texts.” Rocky Mountain American Studies Association Conference, April 1994.

“American Exceptionalism and Herbert W. Armstrong’s Worldwide Church of God.” Rocky Mountain American Studies Association Conference, April 1993.

“Flannery O’Connor’s Prophetic Imagination as it is Expressed in ‘The Life You Save May Be Your Own.’” Rocky Mountain American Studies Association Conference, April 1992.

## MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

American Studies Association  
Conference on Christianity and Literature