

## **Tobias Gregory**

Associate Professor of English  
The Catholic University of America  
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Washington, DC 20064  
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### **Academic Positions**

The Catholic University of America  
Associate Professor of English, 2009--  
Assistant Professor of English, 2007-9  
Claremont McKenna College  
Assistant Professor of Literature, 2003-2007  
California State University, Northridge  
Assistant Professor of English, 1999-2003

### **Education**

University of Michigan  
Ph.D., English Language and Literature, 1999  
M.A., English Language and Literature, 1995  
University of Virginia  
B.A., English and Italian, 1993  
University of Pisa, 1997-98  
University of Bologna, 1991-92

### **Publications**

#### **Monographs**

*Milton's Strenuous Liberty.*  
Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2025.

*From Many Gods to One: Divine Action in Renaissance Epic.*  
University of Chicago Press, 2006. xi + 247 pp.

Reviewed in *Renaissance Quarterly* 60.3 (2007) 981-983; *Bryn Mawr Classical Review* (2007) 06-10; *Philological Quarterly* 86.1 (2007); *Comitatus* 38 (2007) 232-3; *Times Literary Supplement* 5484 (May 9, 2008); *Modern Language Review* 103.2 (April 2008) 495-6; *Studies in English Literature* 48.1 (2008) 211-212; *Classical Review* 58.2 (2008) 501-2; *Humanitas* 60 (2008) 323-5; *Sixteenth Century Journal* 39.3 (2008) 906-7; *Christianity and Literature* 58.2 (2009) 314-

318; *Italianistica* 38.1 (2009) 206-210; *Modern Philology* 107.3 (2010) E24-E27; *Kritikon Litterarum* (2010); *Religion and the Arts* (2011) 556-8; *Studi Tassiani* 62-3 (2014-2015) 283-6.

### Scholarly Articles, Chapters, and Review Essays

- “Milton and Ariosto.” *Ariosto, the Orlando Furioso and English Culture*. Eds. Jane E. Everson, Andrew Hiscock and Stefano Jossa. Oxford: Oxford University Press for the British Academy, 2019, 115-24.
- “Milton and his Epic Precursors: Overgoing and Recuperation.” *A New Companion to Milton*. Ed. Thomas N. Corns. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2016, 450-59.
- “Did Milton have an Erastian Phase?” *Milton Quarterly* 49.3 (2015) 159-66.
- “Milton and Cromwell: Another Look at the Evidence.” *Journal of British Studies* 54.1 (2015) 44-62.
- “How Milton Defined Heresy and Why.” *Religion & Literature* 45.1 (2013) 148-60.
- “Seventy-Eight Ways of Looking at John Milton.” *Modern Philology* 109.4 (2012) 544-62.
- “Murmur and Reply: Rereading Milton’s Sonnet 19.” *Milton Studies* 51 (2010) 21-43.
- “The Political Messages of *Samson Agonistes*.” *Studies in English Literature 1500-1900* 50.1 (2010) 175-203.
- “Renaissance Epics and their Readers.” *Huntington Library Quarterly* 69 (2006) 321-31.
- “John Milton in the New Millennium.” *Huntington Library Quarterly* 65 (2002) 513-32.
- “In Defense of Empson: A Reassessment of *Milton’s God*.” *Fault Lines and Controversies in the Study of Seventeenth-Century English Literature*. Eds. Claude J. Summers and Ted-Larry Pebworth. Columbia, MO: University of Missouri Press, 2002, 73-87.
- “Tasso’s God: Divine Action in *Gerusalemme liberata*.” *Renaissance Quarterly* 55 (2002) 559-95.
- “Shadowing Intervention: On the Politics of *The Faerie Queene* V 10-12.” *ELH* 67 (2000) 365-97. (Isabel MacCaffrey Prize, 2001)

### Review Essays, *London Review of Books*

- “Going Up.” Review of Philip Hardie, *Celestial Aspirations: Classical Impulses in British Poetry and Art*. *LRB* 45.10 (18 May 2023) 21-4.
- “Don’t Break that Fiddle: Eclectic Imitators.” Review of Colin Burrow, *Imitating Authors: Plato to Futurity* and Jonathan Bate, *How the Classics Made Shakespeare*. *LRB* 42.22 (19 November 2020) 27-31.

- “Did he want the job?” Review of Philippe Desan, *Montaigne: A Life*. *LRB* 40.5 (8 March 2018) 17-19.
- “Lecherous Goates.” Review of *John Donne*, edited by Janel Mueller. *LRB* 38.20 (20 October 2016) 33-35.
- “By All Possible Art.” Review of John Drury, *Music at Midnight: The Life and Poetry of George Herbert*. *LRB* 36.26 (18 December 2014) 25-8.
- “They Rudely Stare About.” Review of Sir Thomas Browne, ‘*Religio Medici*’ and ‘*Urne-Buriall*’, edited by Stephen Greenblatt and Ramie Targoff. *LRB* 35.15 (4 July 2013) 24-6.
- “Runagately Rogue: Puritans and Others.” Review of Christopher Haigh, *The Plain Man’s Pathways to Heaven: Kinds of Christianity in Post-Reformation England, 1570-1640*. *LRB* 33.16 (25 August 2011) 30-1.
- “Mad for Love.” Review of Ludovico Ariosto, *Orlando furioso*, trans. David Slavitt. *LRB* 32.17 (9 September 2010) 23-4.
- “Prosecco Notwithstanding.” Review of Benjamin Black (John Banville), *The Lemur*. *LRB* 30.13 (3 July 2008) 26.
- “Hero as Hero.” Review of Joseph Wittreich, *Why Milton Matters*. *LRB* 30.5 (6 March 2008) 17-20.

### Scholarly Reviews

- Joshua Held, *Bold Conscience: Luther to Shakespeare to Milton*. *The Review of English Studies*, 4 January 2024.
- Alison Chapman, *Courts, Jurisdictions and Law in Milton and his Contemporaries*. *The Review of English Studies*, 28 February 2021.
- Warren Chernaik, *Milton and the Burden of Freedom*. *Renaissance Quarterly* 70.1 (spring 2018) 434-5.
- John Leonard, *The Value of Milton*. *Renaissance and Reformation* 40.3 (summer 2017) 313-5.
- Paul Hammond, *Milton and the People*. *Renaissance Quarterly* 68.3 (fall 2015) 1156-7.
- Roland Greene, *Five Words: Critical Semantics in the Age of Shakespeare and Cervantes*. *Modern Philology* 113.3 (February 2015) E234-7.
- Anthony Welch, *The Renaissance Epic and the Oral Past*. *Milton Quarterly* 47.4 (December 2013) 241-5.
- John Shawcross, *The Development of Milton’s Thought*. *Reformation* 14 (2009) 213-4.
- Sergio Zatti, *The Quest for Epic*. *Comparative Literature* 61.2 (spring 2009) 177-179
- John Watkins, *Representing Elizabeth in Stuart England*. *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 46.2 (April 2004) 421-2.

### Reference Entries

- “Epic.” *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Ed. Roland Greene et al. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2012.

“John Milton.” *The Encyclopedia of English Renaissance Literature*. Eds. Garrett A. Sullivan Jr. and Alan Stewart. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.

“Torquato Tasso.” *Europe 1450 to 1789: Encyclopedia of the Early Modern World*. Ed. Jonathan Dewald. New York: Scribner’s, 2004.

### **Fellowships and Awards (selected)**

ACLS Fellowship, 2014-5.

Short-term Fellowship, Folger Shakespeare Library, 2013.

ACLS/Mellon Junior Faculty Fellowship, 2002-3.

Isabel MacCaffrey Prize of the International Spenser Society, 2001.

Fletcher Jones Foundation Fellowship, Huntington Library, 2001.

Francis Bacon Foundation Fellowship, Huntington Library, 2000.

Mellon Dissertation Fellowship, University of Michigan, 1998-9.

J. William Fulbright Scholarship, University of Pisa, 1997-8.

### **Conference Papers and Invited Lectures**

“Milton’s Ecclesiology: Continuity and Change.” Thirteenth International Milton Symposium, Toronto, July 2023.

“*The Tenure of Kings and Magistrates* and the Fear of a Separate Peace.” Twelfth International Milton Symposium, Strasbourg, June 2019.

“Milton against the Clergy, 1637-1652.” Rutgers University, February 2019.

“*Areopagitica* against the Clergy.” Canada Milton Seminar XII, May 2017.

“*Areopagitica* and the Language of Reform.” Renaissance Society of America, March 2017.

“Liberty and Obedience in *Paradise Lost*.” Association of Literary Critics, Scholars, and Writers, October 2016.

“Ariosto and Milton.” British Academy Symposium: “Ariosto, the *Orlando Furioso* and English Culture,” April 2016.

“Did Milton have an Erastian phase?” Eleventh International Milton Symposium, Exeter, July 2015.

“Milton’s Anticlericalism.” Marshall Grossman Lecture, University of Maryland, February 2015.

“Milton’s Anticlericalism.” Symposium on Theology and Literature, University of Cambridge, February 2015.

“Milton’s Anticlericalism.” Renaissance Society of America, March 2014.

“*Paradise Regained* and the Rejection of the World.” Renaissance Society of America, April 2013.

“Milton and Cromwell: Another Look at the Evidence.” Tenth International Milton Symposium, Tokyo, August 2012.

“Milton and Cromwell: Another Look at the Evidence.” Folger Shakespeare Library, July 2012.

“*Paradise Regained* and late Miltonic ethics.” Georgetown University,

- April 2012.
- “*Paradise Regained* and late Miltonic ethics.” Columbia University, March 2012.
- “How Milton Defined Heresy and Why.” Modern Language Association, January 2012.
- “After the MLA.” Modern Language Association, January 2011.
- “Milton, Ariosto, and Epic Geography.” Renaissance Society of America, April 2010.
- “Murmur and Reply.” Newberry Milton Seminar, Newberry Library, October 2009.
- “*Samson Agonistes* and the “Drastic Rewriting” Argument.” Ninth International Milton Symposium, London, July 2008.
- “Murder at Askalon.” Renaissance Society of America, April 2008.
- “On Aesthetic Judgment in Renaissance Studies.” Claremont Graduate University, April 2007.
- “Epic Past and Historical Present.” Renaissance Society of America, March 2006.
- “Cautionary Notes Towards an Empsonian Revival.” Renaissance Society of America, March 2006.
- “Petrarch’s *Africa*: The Eternal City and the Renaissance Epic Ideal.” Institute for Antiquity and Christianity, Claremont Graduate University, November 2005.
- “Milton’s Divine Motives.” Renaissance Society of America, April 2005.
- “*Paradise Lost* and the Problem of Devilish Agency.” Claremont Consortium for Medieval and Early Modern Studies, March 2004.
- “Christians and Pagans in *Orlando furioso*.” Modern Language Association, December 2003.
- “Divine Motives in *Paradise Regained*.” Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, November 2003.
- “Supernatural Action in Ariosto’s *Cinque Canti*.” Renaissance Society of America, March 2003.
- “The Epic Supernatural.” Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, California State University, Long Beach, February 2003.
- “In Defense of Empson: A Reassessment of *Milton’s God*.” University of Texas at Austin, November 2001.
- “Falstaff and Comic Verbal Texture.” Los Angeles Shakespeare Festival, November 2001.
- “Epic God’s-Eye Views.” Renaissance Conference of Southern California, May 2001.
- “The Enabling Fictions of Hell: Devilish Agency and Renaissance Epic.” Huntington Library Early Modern Literature Seminar, February 2001.
- “Embodying Evil: On the Physiology of Demonic Possession in Renaissance Epic.” Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, November 2000.
- “In Defense of Empson: A Reassessment of *Milton’s God*.” Fourteenth Biennial Renaissance Conference, University of Michigan-Dearborn, October 2000.
- “Tasso, Homer and Divine Counterbalance.” Renaissance Conference of

Southern California, May 2000.

“Online *Auctoritas*: Teaching Web Research Skills in Renaissance Studies.”  
Renaissance Conference of Southern California Pedagogy Symposium,  
February 2000.

“Hellish Nationalism: Some Versions from Vida to Milton.” South Atlantic  
Modern Language Association, November 1999.

Seminars convened:

Seminar on George Herbert and John Donne, Association of Literary Scholars,  
Critics, and Writers, October 2024

Seminar on Milton, Association of Literary Scholars, Critics, and Writers,  
October 2022

Seminar on anticlericalism (convened with Stefano Villani), Renaissance Society  
of America, March 2019

Seminar on Milton, Association of Literary Scholars, Critics, and Writers,  
November 2018

## **Courses Taught**

The Catholic University of America, 2007—

### *Graduate courses*

Literature and Religion in Early Modern England  
Renaissance lyric  
Milton  
Renaissance epic  
Epic, Homer to Milton  
Readings in Renaissance Literature  
Introduction to the Profession of Letters  
Modern Critical Methods

### *Undergraduate courses*

Shakespeare I  
Shakespeare II  
History of British Literature, part I  
Milton  
Epic, Homer to Walcott  
Intensive Readings: Lyric  
Baldwin and Didion (two-semester senior seminar)  
Age of Discovery (CUA Honors program)  
Shakespeare’s Italian Plays (CUA Rome program)  
Transformative Texts I (Cornerstone program)

Claremont McKenna College, 2003-2007

*Undergraduate courses*

Shakespeare's Tragedies  
Shakespeare's Comedies  
Milton  
British Writers I  
Homer and Virgil  
Composition and Literary Analysis

California State University, Northridge, 1999-2003

*Graduate courses*

Epic, Homer to Milton  
Shakespeare: histories and Roman plays  
Research methods and bibliography

*Undergraduate courses*

Milton  
Shakespeare  
Seventeenth-century literature  
Independent reading courses on Shakespeare, Milton, and Donne

**Doctoral Students Supervised**

As dissertation director:

Hannah Bormann, Ph.D. in English, CUA, 2022  
Benjamin Djain, Ph.D. in English, CUA, 2019  
Emily Alianello, Ph.D. in English, CUA, 2018

As committee member:

Bethany Besteman, Ph.D in English, CUA, 2023  
Sophia Feingold, Ph.D in English, CUA, 2022  
Christopher Petter, Ph.D. in English, CUA, 2021  
Sr. Maria Frassati Jacupcak, O.P., Ph.D. in English, CUA, 2020  
Sr. Mary Edith Humphries, O.P., Ph.D. in English, CUA, 2019  
Veronica Phair, Ph.D. in English, CUA, 2019  
Shaun Stiemsma, Ph.D. in English, CUA, 2017  
Joseph Mann, Ph.D. in Musicology, CUA, 2017  
Christopher Pipkin, Ph.D. in English, CUA, 2016  
Kristen Wright, Ph.D. in English, CUA, 2016  
Sean Lewis, Ph.D. in English, CUA, 2011

As external examiner:

Benjamin Woodford, Ph.D. in English, University of Waterloo, Ontario, 2018

## Professional Service

Folger Institute Consortium, faculty representative for CUA, 2021--  
*PMLA* Advisory Committee, 2014-17  
Milton Society of America Executive Committee, 2014-17  
National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), evaluation panelist, 2017  
Renaissance Society of America Gordan Prize Committee, 2013-15  
Renaissance Society of America Program Committee, 2011-12  
Renaissance Conference of Southern California Executive Board, 2000—2004  
(RCSC President, 2003-4)  
External reader for the University of Chicago Press, Oxford University  
Press, Catholic University of America Press, Wiley-Blackwell, *PMLA*,  
*Modern Philology*, *Renaissance Quarterly*, *Viator*, *Studies in English  
Literature 1500-1900*, *Milton Studies*, *Journal for Early Modern Cultural  
Studies*, *International Journal of the Classical Tradition*, *Milton  
Quarterly*, *Reformation & Renaissance Review*, *Religion & Literature*,  
*Philological Quarterly*, *Reformation*, *The Review of English Studies*,  
*English Literary Renaissance*, *Explorations in Renaissance Culture*

## Service to CUA

Director of Graduate Studies in English, 2009-2011, 2012-14, 2015-2023  
Faculty Awards Committee, 2024—  
University Rules Committee, 2022—  
Cornerstone Program Planning Committee, 2021  
Nineteenth-Century Literature Search Committee, dept. of English, 2019-20  
Director of Graduate Placement, dept. of English, 2019-2023  
University Graduate Board, 2018-2022  
University Undergraduate Board, 2013-14, 2015-18  
University Honors Program Advisory Committee, 2015—  
Faculty Advisory Board, *Inventio* (journal of undergraduate research), 2015-2018  
Committee on Parental Leave Policy, 2015-16  
Medieval Literature Search Committee, dept. of English, 2014-15  
First-Year Experience Advisory Committee, 2009  
Early Modern Literature Search Committee, dept. of English, 2008-9

## Public Lectures

“Problem Shakespeare.” Series of four lectures, Smithsonian Institution, May  
2016.  
“Shakespeare’s Dramatic Art.” Series of six lectures, Smithsonian Institution,  
October-December 2008.

## Professional Development



Folger Institute Symposium, “Political Thought in Times of Crisis, 1640-1660,” 2016.

Folger Institute Faculty Seminar, “Political Theologies in Early Modern Literature,” 2013.

National Humanities Center Summer Institute in Literary Studies, 2007.  
Seminar in English Paleography, Huntington Library, 2002

### **Foreign Languages**

Italian (fluent)

Latin (reading knowledge)

French (reading knowledge)

Spanish (reading knowledge)