

Sarah Rivett

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San Marino CA 91108

EDUCATION

2005 Ph.D., Department of English, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Dissertation: "Evidence of Grace: The Science of the Soul in Colonial New England"

1997 B.A., Department of English, University of California, Berkeley, CA

TEACHING APPOINTMENT

2005 – present Washington University, St. Louis, MO
Assistant Professor, Joint Appointment in English and American Culture Studies

RESEARCH APPOINTMENT

2008 – 2009 Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Omohundro Institute

2007 – 2008 NEH Fellow, Huntington Library

PUBLICATIONS**BOOKS**

The Science of the Soul in Colonial New England (forthcoming from University of North Carolina Press, 2009) *in progress*

Christian Translations: Indian Grammar and the Quest for a Universal Language in the British Atlantic World

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

2008 "Our Salem, Our Selves," *Special Forum on the Salem Witchcraft Trials, William and Mary Quarterly* 65.3

2007 "Tokenography: Narration and the Science of Dying in Puritan Deathbed Testimonies" *Early American Literature* 42.3

2006 “Empirical Desire: Conversion, Ethnography, and the New Science of the Praying Indian”
Early American Studies 4.1

“Religious Transformations in the Early Modern Americas,” co-authored with Stephanie Kirk (Special issue of *Early American Literature* on “Methods for the Study of Religion in Early American Literature”) *forthcoming in 2009/2010*

BOOK CHAPTERS

“‘Keepers of the Covenant’: Submissive Captives and Maternal Redeemers in Puritan New England,” in *Feminist Interventions in Early American Studies*, edited by Mary C. Carruth (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2006)

“Community Structure, 1492 – 1676” in *Religion in American History*, edited by John Corrigan and Amanda Porterfield (Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, forthcoming 2009).

“The Death of the Devil and the Specter of Science in Salem, 1692” in *Super-Enlightenment: Daring to Know Too Much*, edited by Daniel Edelstein (Oxford: SVEC/Voltaire Foundation, forthcoming 2009)

“The Algonquin Word and the Spirit of Divine Truth: John Eliot’s Indian Library and the Primitive Origins of Universal Language Theory” in *Early American Mediascapes*, edited by Matt Cohen and Jeffrey Glover (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, under review).

BOOK REVIEWS

Review essay of Philip F. Gura, *Jonathan Edwards: America’s Evangelical* (New York: Hill and Wang, 2005) and *Jonathan Edwards at 300: Essays on the Tercentenary of His Birth*, edited by Harry St. Stout, Kenneth P. Minkema, & Caleb J.D. Maskell (New York: University Press of America, 2005), *Early American Literature* 44.2

Book Review of James Delbourgo, *A Most Amazing Scene of Wonders: Electricity and Enlightenment in Early America* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2006), *William and Mary Quarterly* 64.4

Book Review of Tracy Fessenden, *Culture and Redemption: Religion, the Secular, and American Literature* (Princeton: University Press, 2006) *Religion*, 2007

Book Review of Allan Greer, *Mohawk Saint: Catherine Tekakwitha and the Jesuits* (Oxford: University Press, 2005), *Toronto Quarterly* 76.1

Book Review of *The Eliot Tracts*, edited by Michael P. Clark (Westport CT: Praeger Publishers, 2003) *New England Quarterly* 77.3

REFERENCE ARTICLES

“Praying Towns” and “Morphology of Conversion” in *Puritans and Puritansim in Encyclopedia of Puritanism*, edited by Francis J. Bremer and Tom Webster (Oxford: ABC-CLIO, 2005)

AWARDS

- 2008 – 2009 Omohundro Institute, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship
- 2008 British Academy/Huntington Library Research Award
- 2007 – 2008 Huntington Library NEH Long-Term Fellowship
- 2008 International Area Studies (with Professor Stephanie Kirk), Washington University
- 2008 Center for Programs, Interdisciplinary Award (with Professor Stephanie Kirk), Washington University
- 2008 Spanish Government Grant (with Professor Stephanie Kirk)
- 2007 and 2008 Faculty Research Grant, Center for the Study of Ethics and Human Values (with Professor Stephanie Kirk) Washington University
- 2007 – 2008 Folger Library NEH Long-Term Fellowship, *declined*
- 2005 CGS/UMI Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Humanities, Finalist
- 2004 – 2005 McNeil Center, Barra Dissertation Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania
- 2004 – 2005 The Center for Gender Studies Dissertation Fellowship, University of Chicago, *declined*
- 2004 – 2005 Walter Blair Dissertation Fellowship for Americanists, University of Chicago *declined*
- 2002 – 2004 Mellon Graduate Achievement Fellowship, University of Chicago

INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2008 “Christian Translations,” Bates College Honors Program, April 30th
- 2008 “Evangelical Enlightenment,” ARC, University of California, Los Angeles, April 17th
- 2008 “The Science of the Soul,” CHCI Annual Meeting, Washington University, March 15th
- 2008 “Algonquin Word and the Spirit of Truth” Mediascapes Conference, Duke University, February 15th
- 2008 “Religion in America” Salon, Huntington Library, February 12th
- 2007 “The Science of the Soul” Welcome Dinner, Huntington Library, September 11th

ORGANIZED CONFERENCES

- 2010 Co-organizer with Stephanie Kirk: “Religious Transformations in the Early Modern Americas II,” Huntington Library, San Marino CA, November 13 – 14th
- 2009 Co-organizer with Stephanie Kirk: “Religious Transformations in the Early Modern Americas,” Washington University in St. Louis, April 23 – 25th
- 2005 Co-organizer: “The Perils and Promises of Interdisciplinarity”

McNeil Center for Early American Studies, Graduate Student Conference, October 6th – 8th

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2009 Society of Early Americanists

Chair: “Transcultural Christianity: The Syncretic Dimensions of Early American Religion”

2008 Modern Language Association

Presenter: “Religion and the Hemispheric Turn: Theories and Methods”

2008 American Studies Association

Roundtable Organizer and Respondent: “Religious Transformations in the Early Modern Americas”

2008 New Worlds/New Publics, Newberry Library

Presenter: “Religious Conversion in a Secular Age”

2008 Society for the Study of Science and Literature, International Conference

Roundtable Organizer and Presenter: “Babel Reversed: Universal Languages, Visible Knowledge, and the Book of Nature” II

2008 American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies

Presenter: ‘Little damsels, Able Divines’: Sermonizing the Prayer Closet Secret

2008 South Central Society for Eighteenth Century Studies

Presenter: “Evangelical Enlightenment: Jonathan Edwards and the Sermonic Sensorium”

2007 Modern Language Association

Organizer and Presenter: “Global Technologies of Translation: Missionary Anthropology and the Planetary Challenge of Language and Culture”

Respondent: Wai Chee Dimock, Yale University

2007 Society for the Study of Science and Literature (SLSA)

Chair and Presenter: “Babel Reversed: Universal Languages, Visible Knowledge and the Book of Nature in the Early Modern Anglosphere”

2007 International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies

Presenter: “Christian Translations” for roundtable on French Theories of Language in Enlightenment Europe

Presenter: “The Death of the Devil and the Specter of Science in Salem, 1692” for panel on The Enlightenment and the Occult

2007 Society of Early Americanists and Omohundro Conference, Williamsburg VA

Roundtable Chair: “Puritan Promiscuities”

Respondent: Sally Promey, Yale University

Presenter: “Narration, Theology, and the Science of Dying in Puritan Deathbed Testimonies”

2006 Atlantic Studies Seminar, Harvard

Participant and Presenter: “Christian Translations: Indian Grammar and the Quest for a Universal Language in the British Atlantic World”

2006 New Visions of Nature: Conference on Science and Religion, Oxford U.K.
“A Trans-Atlantic Science for the Soul in the Early Modern Period”

2006 Shakespeare Association of America
Seminar Leader (with Professor Christina Malcolmson): “Science and Religion in the Early Modern Period”

2005 American Antiquarian Society
Participant: “Publishing God: History of the Book Seminar”

2005 American Literature Association
“Invisible Witness: The Specter of Science in Salem, 1692”

2005 Society of Early Americanists
Panel Chair: “Science and Religion in the Colonial Americas, 1500 – 1800”

2004 Dartmouth Summer Institute
“Ethnography, Conversion, and the New Science of the Praying Indian”

2004 Shakespeare Association of America
“Masculine Form and Experiential Empiricism in Puritan Testimony”

2003 McNeil Center Graduate Student Conference, “Roots and Routes”
“Laboratories of Grace: From Natick Massachusetts to the Royal Society”

2003 American Literature Association
“Invisible Testimony: The Inward Domain of Women’s Religious Narrative”

2003 Colonial Society of Massachusetts Graduate Student Forum
“Deathbed Confessions as Women’s Religious Narrative in Seventeenth-Century New England”

2001 Society of Early Americanists
“Adam’s Perfection Redeemed: Masculine Models and Erotic Piety in Thomas Shepard’s Cambridge”

TEACHING

Washington University

Co-taught, “Travel and Colonization in the Renaissance” (Spring, 2007)
Shakespeare, Rowlandson, de Vaca, Smith, Montaigne, Behn, Williams

“Introduction to Literary Studies” (Spring, 2007)
Melville, Dickinson, Morrison, Dreiser

“Transatlantic Enlightenment” (Fall, 2006)

Cavendish, Newton, Locke, Edwards, Smith, Occom, Rousseau, Jefferson, Wheatley

“Female Authorship” (Fall, 2006)

Wolf, Behn, Winkfield, Foster, Parker, Fuss, Scott, Nicholson, Jaggar, Felski

“Religion and the Public Sphere” (Spring, 2006)

Marrant, Franklin, Whitefield, Brown, Occom, Zaret, Harding, Warner, Benhabib

Co-taught, “Introduction to Graduate Studies” (Spring, 2006)

“Narrating the Self: Identity and Genre in American Literature” (Fall, 2005)

Apess, Sedgwick, Crafts, Bradstreet, Hawthorne

Director of Dissertations: Natalie Spar, Nick Miller

University of Chicago

Instructor, “History, Memory, and the Imaginative Work of Narrative” (Fall, 2003)
Dickinson, Agee and Walker, Shakespeare, Beloved, Barthes, White, Nora, Spillers

Instructor, “Gender and Spirituality in Early American Literature” (Winter, 2003)
Augustine, Bradstreet, Rowlandson, Bunyan, Edwards, Wheatley, Dickinson

Writing Instructor, “Readings in World Literature” (Winter and Spring, 2002)

Course Assistant, “New England Literary Culture,” with Janice Knight (Fall, 2001)

Course Assistant, “Chicago,” with Janice Knight (Fall, 2000)

SERVICE

2007 – present American Culture Studies Executive Committee, Washington University

2006 – 2008 Center for the Humanities Advisory Board, Washington University

2005 – 2007 Graduate Committee, Washington University

2006 – 2007 English Department Executive Committee, Washington University

2006 – 2007 Coordinator of Assistant Professor Forum, Washington University

2006 – 2007 Faculty Advisor for Graduate Student Paper Workshop, Washington University

LANGUAGES

French