

Rebecca Kathleen Huskey

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Education: University of Iowa, Ph.D. in Religious Studies, 2005
Dissertation title: "Thought Gives Rise to Hope: An Implicit Theme in the Work of Paul Ricoeur"

University of Oklahoma, B. Musical Arts, *Summa Cum Laude*, 1994

Research interests: interpretation of sacred and religious texts; models of sin and evil; manifestations of hope in literature

Publications

Review of Beauty's Vineyard: A Theological Aesthetic of Anguish and Anticipation. By Kimberly Vrudny.. Villanova University, Villanova, PA: Cambridge University Press. (released December 2017)

"The "Hard Freight" Borne by the "Brave Child": the Theological Humanism in the Poetry of Charles Wright and Gregory Orr" in *Theology Today*, Volume 69 Issue 1 April 2012

"Freed From What and For What? The Differing Liberation Theologies of Grant Tinker and Sherman Alexie" in *Journal of Literature and Theology*, Volume 24 Issue 4 December 2010

Paul Ricoeur on Hope: Expecting the Good, New York: Peter Lang, 2009.

Submitted:

Review of *Ea's duplicity in the Gilgamesh flood story*, by Martin Worthington, in *Classical Journal*.

Review of *Victorian Epic Burlesques: A Critical Anthology of Nineteenth-Century Theatrical Entertainments after Homer* By Rachel Bryant Davies, in *Classical Journal*.

Presentations

Upcoming: "The Mascot Gives Rise to Thought: Decolonizing American Sports Mascots Through a Ricoeurian Lens," to be presented at the virtual International Conference Ricoeur 2020, Ricoeur as World Heritage," Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Leuven, Belgium (November 19-21, 2020).

Regional meeting of the Amer. Acad. of Religion "Religion and Crisis, or what we should go and do after attending this conference," paper delivered at the 2020 SW Commission on Religious Studies, Dallas, TX. (March 1, 2020).

- Regional meeting of the Amer. Acad. of Religion "Is joking about (or even laughing at) God the best theological medicine? Considering possible comedic responses to evil and theodicy," paper delivered at the 2019 SW Commission on Religious Studies, Dallas, TX. (March 11, 2019).
- Regional meeting of the Amer. Acad. of Religion, "Humor: An Everyday Matter of Life and Death (Despite what some church fathers have said)," paper delivered at the 2018 SW Commission on Religious Studies, Dallas, TX. (March 11, 2018).
- Regional meeting of the Amer. Acad. of Religion, "'Sasquatch vs. God: Sherman Alexie on Belief and Doubt'," paper delivered at the 2017 SW Commission on Religious Studies, Dallas, TX. (March 11, 2017).
- "So Very Different, Yet Not at All: the Juxtaposition of Jewish and Native American Genocides in Sherman Alexie's Poetry," paper delivered at the 2016 meeting of the Southwest Conference on Religious Studies, Arts, Literature, and Religion section; Dallas, TX; March 2016
- "Blessed are the poor? Sherman Alexie on the curse (and possible blessing) of not having enough," paper delivered at the 2015 meeting of the Southwest Conference on Religious Studies, Arts, Literature, and Religion section; Dallas, TX; March 2015
- "We had the experience but missed the meaning": approaching an understanding of kairos via T.S. Eliot's "Dry Salvages"; paper delivered at the 2014 meeting of the Southwest Conference on Religious Studies, Arts, Literature, and Religion section; Dallas, TX; March 2014
- "From Critique and Conviction to Action: Ricoeur's directive to use our intellects publicly"; paper delivered at the 2014 annual meeting of the Paul Ricoeur Society; New Orleans, LA; October 2014
- "Life, a Story in Search of a *Reliable* Narrator," paper accepted at the 2013 meeting of the Southwest Conference on Religious Studies, Arts, Literature, and Religion section; Dallas, TX; March 2013
- "Using our Hermeneutical Powers to Find a Symbolism of Good: Building on the Thought of Paul Ricoeur" a paper accepted at the 2012 meeting of the Society for Ricoeur Studies; Rochester, NY; November 2012
- "Can Professors Walk on Water? Using Madeleine L'Engle's Walking on Water: Reflections on Faith and Art as a Tool for Developing One's Academic Artistry" presented at the 2012 Southwest Commission on Religious Studies; American Academy of Religion section on Religion, Literature, and the Arts
- "Visions of the Ideal": An exercise in translating philosophical theology to pastoral theology presented at the 2012 Southwest Commission on Religious Studies; American Academy of Religion section on Theology and Philosophy of Religion
- "The Case of the Criminal Turned Detective: Justice and Forgiveness in G.K. Chesterton's Father Brown Mysteries," paper accepted at the 2011 meeting of the Southwest Conference on Religious Studies, Arts, Literature, and Religion section; Dallas, TX; March 2011
- "Jesus Told Me that Faith and Doubt Are Twins": Sherman Alexie wrestles with the concept of God"; paper presented at the 2011 meeting of the Southwest Conference on Christianity and Literature; Abilene, TX; September 30, 2011
- "Creating and Critiquing Literature as Political Acts: Looking to Paul Ricoeur to Resolve Rifts between Native American Scholars"; paper presented at the 2011 meeting of the Society of Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Ricoeur section; Philadelphia, PA; October 19, 2011
- "Resurrection of the Living: Renewal of Life after the Death of Another in the Poetry of Gregory Orr," presented at the 2010 Southwest Commission on Religious Studies; American Academy of Religion section on Religion, Literature, and the Arts

- “When ‘Once Upon a Time’ Becomes One’s Own Time: Paul Ricoeur’s ‘new quality of time,’ narrative identity, and human capability”; paper given at the third annual meeting of the Society of Ricoeur studies, Arlington, Virginia, October 31, 2009.
- “What is Enlightenment? How and What Liberal Arts Majors Dare to Know”; paper given at the annual meeting of the Association of Core Texts and Courses, Memphis, TN, April 17, 2009
- “Does God Sweat, Burn, or Scurry Like a Roach? The Theology of Sherman Alexie”; paper given at the annual meeting of the Southwest Conference on Religious Studies, Dallas, Texas, March 7, 2009
- “Expecting the Good: Ricoeur’s Definition of Hope”; paper given at the second annual meeting of the Society of Ricoeur studies, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 15, 2008.
- “The Faith of Atheists? Some Possible Responses to 21st Century Atheists, with Assistance from Paul Ricoeur”; paper given at the first annual meeting of the Society of Ricoeur Studies, Chicago, Illinois, November 7-8, 2007
- “Your Ownmost Possibilities Now? Applying Ricoeurian Methods to Works of the Prosperity Gospel”; paper given at the annual meeting of the Southwest Conference on Religious Studies, Dallas, Texas, March 3, 2007
- “An Invitation to Remember: Ricoeur’s Legacy for Thought on Human Suffering,” presented at “After Ricoeur: An Interdisciplinary Conference” at Oklahoma City University, October 21, 2006
- “Forbidden Fruit and the Grocery List: Teaching Textual Interpretation to Undergraduates,” poster presentation at the national American Academy of Religion meeting, Philadelphia, PA; November, 2005
- “Discourse, Not Dogma: Paul Ricoeur’s Philosophy of Mission,” presented at the Southwest regional meeting of the American Academy of Religion/Society of Biblical Literature (AAR/SBL), Dallas, TX March 15, 2003
- “Hope as Regeneration in the Work of Paul Ricoeur,” Upper Midwest regional meeting of the AAR/SBL, St. Paul MN April 5, 2002
- “Ricoeur answers Kant’s Questions: Addressing the Issue of Suffering,” Upper Midwest regional meeting of the AAR/SBL, St. Paul MN April 20, 2001
- “‘How much more’: Paul Ricoeur’s Humorous Hermeneutic,” Midwest regional meeting of the AAR/SBL Chicago, IL March 31, 2001
- “From East and West and from North and South: How to Continue Discourse on the Ethics of Homosexuality,” Upper Midwest regional meeting of the AAR/SBL, St. Paul MN April 28, 2000
- “Vomiting Up our Errors: Sin as Addiction in Augustine’s *Confessions*,” Upper Midwest regional meeting of the AAR/SBL, St. Paul MN April 24, 1999

Areas of teaching competence: 19th and 20th Century theology and ethics, biblical hermeneutics, Greek and Roman mythology, intellectual history

Teaching workshops completed on service learning and Zoom etiquette

Teaching Experience

Associate Professor, University of Oklahoma (Fall 2013 to present)

- Spring 2020: Letters Capstone Course; Classical Influences on Modern Literature
Special Pandemic Note: For March through May of 2020, the University of Oklahoma ceased in-person instruction, due to the public health hazard of COVID-19. To

facilitate best instruction for my students, I pivoted both of my classes to online instruction, conducting lectures via Zoom, discussions on Zoom and Canvas, and doubling the amount of time I spent in contact via email with students. I have continued these practices for the Fall 2020 semester.

- **Fall 2019:** The Examined Life: Enlightenment; Classical Influences on Modern Literature
- **Spring 2019:** Challenging Leadership; Letters Capstone Course
- **Fall 2018:** The Examined Life: Antiquity; Classical Influences on Modern Literature
- **Spring 2018:** Letters Special Topics: Challenging Leadership; Classical Mythology
- **Fall 2017:** The Examined Life: Enlightenment; Classical Influences on Modern Literature
- **Spring 2017:** The Examined Life: Medieval and Reformation Thought; Classical Mythology; Independent Study with Leah Beck
- **Fall 2016:** The Examined Life: Antiquity; Classical Influences on Modern Literature
- **Spring 2016:** The Examined Life: 19th & 20th Cent. Thought; Classical Mythology
- **Fall 2015:** The Examined Life: Enlightenment, Letters Special Topics: Thomas Jefferson's Reading List, directing Letters Honors Research with Daniel Roderick
- **Spring 2015:** Classical Influences on Modern Comedy, The Examined Life: Medieval & Reformation Thought
- **Fall 2014:** Letters Special Topics: Thomas Jefferson's Reading List, The Examined Life: Antiquity, directing Letters Honors Research with Amber Dawn Armstrong
- **Spring 2014:** Letters Capstone, Classical Influences on Modern Literature (Honors)
- **Fall 2013:** Letters Capstone, The Examined Life: Enlightenment Thought

Assistant Professor, University of Oklahoma (Fall 2007-Spring 2013)

- **Spring 2013:** Classical Influences on Modern Literature (Honors), Introduction to Letters
- **Fall 2012:** The Examined Life: Antiquity; Classical Mythology
- **Spring 2012:** The Examined Life: Emergence of the Modern Academy; Classical Influences on Modern Literature
- **Fall 2011:** The Examined Life: Medieval-Renaissance Thought; Classical Mythology
- **Spring 2011:** The Examined Life: 19th & 20th Cent. Thought; Presidential Dream Course: The Meaning of Education
- **Fall 2010:** The Examined Life: Antiquity, The Examined Life: Enlightenment
- **Fall 2009:** Classical Mythology, The Examined Life
- **Spring 2009:** Classical Influences on Modern Literature, Letters Special Topics
- **Fall 2008:** Greek and Roman Mythology, Letters Special Topics
- **Spring 2008:** Classical Influences on Modern Literature, Letters Special Topics
- **Fall 2007:** Greek and Roman Mythology, Letters Special Topics

Adjunct Teaching

- **Fall 2006:** Adjunct Instructor, University of Oklahoma, Freshman Seminar, "Adult Challenges, Adult Choices: Ethics and morality for college and beyond"; *focus on three methods for doing ethics, with application to the areas of academic integrity, food and consumption, and interpersonal relationships*

- **Spring 2006:** Adjunct Instructor, University of Oklahoma, *Strategies for Success; instruction and support in time management, study skills, and wise choices for college students*
- **Fall 2005, Fall 2004:** Adjunct Instructor, University of Oklahoma, *Gateway to College Learning; an extended orientation for first-year students with an emphasis on study skills, time management, and knowledge of the university's traditions and resources*
- **Fall 2003:** Research Associate/teaching assistant to Professor Tom Boyd, University of Oklahoma, for RELS 1113, *Introduction to Religious Studies*
- **Spring 2003:** Adjunct Instructor, University of Oklahoma, for UNIV 2900; *an introductory course on the New Testament and the Jewish apocalyptic thought and messianic movements that influenced it*

Teaching Assistant Positions

1996 – 2002: Teaching Assistant in the University of Iowa School of Religion

- Roman Civilization (spring 2002) *an introduction to various facets of life in ancient Rome, including architecture, religion, literature, politics, and warfare*
- Quest for Human Destiny (fall 2001, spring 1997, 1998) *an introduction to theological and ethical questions via sacred and secular texts*
- Old Testament Survey (fall semester 2000) *examines issues surrounding sex, parenting, and death in Hebrew Bible texts*
- New Testament Survey (spring 1999, 2000, fall 2000) *examines links between Second Temple Judaism and the earliest forms of Christianity, with particular attention to questions of textual authority and eschatology*
- Judeo-Christian Tradition (fall 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999; lead TA for course in 1999) *examines concurrent themes in Judaism and Christianity (e.g., sin, redemption, afterlife) and the historical tensions between the two religions*

Experience with Instructional Technology

Proficient in use of Zoom meeting platform

User of Canvas course webpage technology (2017 to present)

User of Desire2Learn course webpage technology (Spring 2006 to 2017)

Co-compiler of the University of Iowa Classics Department Digital Slide Library (2001)

Designer of course web page for New Testament Survey (University of Iowa, 1999-2000)

Designer of course web page for Judeo-Christian Tradition (University of Iowa, 1999)

Awards and Grants

University of Oklahoma, Faculty Enrichment Grant

Funds provided by the College of Arts and Sciences to enable travel to the annual meeting of the Southwest Commission on Religious Studies, Dallas, TX, March 2013

Funds provided by the College of Arts and Sciences to enable travel to the annual meeting of the Society of Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, Philadelphia, PA, October 2011

Funds provided by the College of Arts and Sciences to enable travel to the annual meeting of the Southwest Commission on Religious Studies, Dallas, TX, March 2010

Funds provided by the College of Arts and Sciences to enable travel to the annual meeting of the Association of Core Texts and Courses, Memphis, TN, April 2009

Funds provided by the College of Arts and Sciences to enable travel to the third annual meeting of the Society for Ricoeur Studies in Arlington, Virginia, October, 2009.

Funds provided by the College of Arts and Sciences to enable travel to the second annual meeting of the Society for Ricoeur Studies in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October, 2008.

Funds provided by the College of Arts and Sciences to enable travel to the first annual meeting of the Society for Ricoeur Studies in Chicago, November, 2007.

University of Oklahoma

Funds granted from College of Arts and Sciences, Office of the Vice President for Research, and department of Classics and Letters (Rader Fund) for assistance paying subvention fee to Peter Lang Publishing, Fall 2008

Junior Faculty Research Grant; money granted to pay for trip to Seattle, WA, to interview poet and novelist Sherman Alexie, Summer 2009

University Service Positions:

Committee Work:

Faculty shared leave committee (2020-2023)

Teaching Scholars Initiative (2020-2023)

Conflict of Interest committee (2020-2022)

Summer 2020 fast-track pandemic grant committee

Departmental library liaison, Fall 2018 to present

Presidential professorship review committee Jan. 2020 to Jan. 2022

Fred Jones Jr., Museum of Art, Faculty Advisory Board, Fall 2019 to Spring 2020

University of Oklahoma Research Council, 2017 to Spring 2020

College of Arts and Science Academic Appeals Committee, Fall 2015 to Fall 2018

Research Liaison for department, 2013-2019

Classics and Letters Curriculum Committee, 2014 to present

College of Arts and Sciences Scholarship Committee, Spring 2014, Spring 2015

College of Arts & Sciences Course and Curriculum Committee, Fall 2011-Spring 2013

Faculty Sponsor, Letters Student Group, Fall 2010 to Spring 2013

Dean Advisory Committee on Women's Issues, co-chair, Fall 2010 to Spring 2013

Interviewer, OU Study Abroad Program (March, 2008)

Selection committee for outstanding freshman, Alpha Lambda Delta (Spring 2008)

Member of Humanities Initiative Committee, K20 Center, University of Oklahoma (2007 to 2008)

University College Retreat Committee (2006-2007)

Lecturer, Student Success Series Seminars (2006, 2007, 2008)

Southwest Commission on Religious Studies

President, March 2018 – March 2019

President Elect, March 2017 – March 2018

Vice-President, March 2016 – March 2017

Philosophy of Religion and Theology section head, American Academy of Religion, SW region, 2011 to present

Member at Large, Board of Directors, American Academy of Religion, SW region 2011-2013

American Academy of Religion

Panel reviewer, Ricoeur group, Spring 2020

Society for Ricoeur Studies

Program Committee, Fall 2007, Fall 2008, Fall 2009, Fall 2010

Other Service

Academic Advisor, Department of Classics and Letters, Fall 2014 to present

Presentations for Students:

Contributor, "Books that Inspire" exhibit at Bizzell Library, OU Campus

"Faculty Chat"; presentation for OU Classics and Letters majors regarding ongoing research,
November 30, 2011

"Things You Should Know about Graduate School"; presentation for OU Classics and Letters
majors, October 11, 2011

"Faculty Chat"; presentation for OU Classics and Letters majors regarding ongoing research,
February 8, 2010

"Things You Should Know about Graduate School"; presentation for OU Classics and Letters
majors, October 22, 2009

"Eat Like of Roman"; presentation for the OU community, sponsored by OU Housing and Food
Services, September 23, 2009

"What is Enlightenment?"; a lecture for OU Letters majors, March 25, 2009

Public lectures:

Lecture for the Wabunaki Society on the poetry of Sherman Alexie, March 2011

Community Outreach

Book discussion leader, Madeline Miller's *Circe*, St. Stephen's United Methodist Church, August,
2020

"The Big Read," Pioneer Library System, discussion facilitator for Atul Gawande's *Being Mortal*,
February, 2017