

David Wilson-Okamura

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Education

University of Chicago

Doctor of Philosophy. English Language and Literature. December 1998.

Master of Arts. English. June 1994.

Stanford University

Bachelor of Arts. English. Phi Beta Kappa, with honors and distinction. June 1992.

Teaching

East Carolina University (Greenville, North Carolina)

Professor, 2014–present. Associate Professor, 2008–2014. Assistant Professor, 2002–2008.

Shakespeare; Classical, Medieval, and Renaissance poetry; Bible as Literature; composition.

Macalester College (St. Paul, Minnesota)

Visiting Assistant Professor, 1999–2002. Medieval and Renaissance surveys; Chaucer; Shakespeare;

Milton; introductory courses on composition, poetry, the novel.

Books

Spenser's International Style

Cambridge University Press, 2013; paperback 2015. Awarded the International Spenser Society's Isabel McCaffrey Medal for the best Spenser book of 2013 and 2014.

Virgil in the Renaissance

Cambridge University Press, 2010; paperback 2015. Awarded the Vergilian Society's

Alexander G. McKay Prize for the best Virgil book of 2010 and 2011.

Articles

"A Decade of Style,"

Spenser Review 53.1 (2023): <https://spenser.tardis.janeway.systems/spenser/article/id/8/>

"Spenser's Youth"

Modern Language Quarterly 82 (2021): 1–26.

"Spenser's Horizon"

Spenser Review 51.1.2 (Winter 2021): www.english.cam.ac.uk/spenseronline/review/item/51.1.2

"Spenser's Drone"

In *On Rhyme*, ed. David Caplan (Liège: Presses Universitaires de Liège, 2017), 193–206.

"Virgil"

In *Spenser in Context*, ed. Andrew Escobedo (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2017), 217–24.

"Music in Spenser"

In *Spenser in the Moment*, ed. J. B. Lethbridge and Paul Hecht (Madison: Fairleigh Dickinson UP, 2015), 103–36.

"Problems in the Virgilian Career"

Spenser Studies 26 (2011): 1–30.

"The Formalist Tradition"

In *The Oxford Handbook of Edmund Spenser*, ed. Richard McCabe (Oxford UP, 2011), 718–32.

"Belphoebe and Gloriana"

English Literary Renaissance 39 (2009): 47–73.

"Errors about Ovid and Romance"

Spenser Studies 23 (2008): 215–34.

"When Did Spenser Read Tasso?"

Spenser Studies 23 (2008): 277–82.

Translation of *The Life of Virgil* by Aelius Donatus

In *The Virgilian Tradition: The First Fifteen Hundred Years*, ed. Jan Ziolkowski and Michael C. J. Putnam (Yale UP, 2008), 179–99.

“The French Aesthetic of Spenser’s Feminine Rhyme”

Modern Language Quarterly 68 (2007): 345–62. Rept. in *Edmund Spenser’s Poetry*, 4th edn., ed. Anne Lake Prescott and Andrew Hadfield (New York: Norton, 2013), pp. 764–68.

“Virgilian Models of Colonization in Shakespeare’s *Tempest*”

ELH 70 (2003): 709–37. Rept. in *Shakespearean Criticism* 143 (Detroit: Gale, 2012).

“Republicanism, Nostalgia, and the Crowd”

Spenser Studies 17 (2003): 253–73.

“Lavinia and Beatrice: The Second Half of the *Aeneid* in the Middle Ages”

Dante Studies 119 (2001): 103–24.

“Spenser and the Two Queens”

English Literary Renaissance 32 (2002): 62–84.

“Adultery and the Fall of Logres in the Old French *Suite du Merlin*”

Arthuriana 7.4 (1997): 16–46.

**Fellowships,
Awards**

Board of Governor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching

April 2019, the highest teaching award in the University of North Carolina system

International Spenser Society’s Isabel McCaffrey Medal

January 2015, for the best Spenser book of 2013 and 2014

The Vergilian Society’s Alexander G. McKay Prize

January 2013, for the best Virgil book of 2010 and 2011

English Department Research Award, East Carolina University

August 2011, for 2010–2011

Faculty Senate Research Award, East Carolina University

Salary grant (summer 2007)

College Research Award, East Carolina University

Semester of research leave from Thomas Harriott College of Arts and Sciences (spring 2005)

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, University of Chicago

Dissertation-Year Fellowship (1997–1998)

University of Chicago

Century Fellowship (for graduate studies, 1994–1997)

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

Fellowship in Humanistic Studies (for graduate studies, 1993–1994)

Robert M. Golden Medal for Excellence in Humanities

Stanford University (1992). Senior honors thesis on transient vision in Wordsworth and Coleridge.

**Conference
Papers,
Presentations**

“A Decade of Style”

International Congress of Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, 12 May 2023.

“Guyon’s Youth”

International Congress of Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, 8 May 2015.

“Spenser’s Drone”

International Spenser Society Conference, Dublin, 19 May 2015.

“Gold and the Virgilian Underworld”

Neo-Latin and the Humanities Conference, East Carolina University, 25 February 2011.

“Virgil’s *Georgics*: Genre or Style?”

Renaissance Comparative Prose Conference, Purdue University, 5 November 2009.

“Epic and Romance”

Renaissance Society of America Conference, Miami, 22 March 2007.

“Lyric Style in *The Faerie Queene*”

International Spenser Society Conference, Toronto, 19 May 2006.

“Interpreting Feminine Rhyme”

Renaissance Society of America Conference, San Francisco, 23 March 2006

“Triumph of the Middle Style”

Invited lecture, Wake Forest University, 10 November 2005.

“Spenser’s Public Style”

Sixteenth-Century Studies Conference, Pittsburgh, 1 November 2003.

“Gloriana’s Grey Eminence”

118th MLA Annual Convention, New York City, 28 December 2002.

“Belphoebe’s Virgin Majesty”

37th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, 4 May 2002.

“Spenser’s Epic Style”

117th MLA Annual Convention, New Orleans, 27 December 2001.

“Spenser and the Crowd: Republicanism and Nostalgia”

International Spenser Society Conference, Pembroke College, Cambridge University, 7 July 2001.

“The *Physician’s Tale* and Chaucer’s Retraction”

36th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, 4 May 2001.

“Virgilian Models of Colonization in Shakespeare’s *Tempest*”

35th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, 7 May 2000. Versions also presented at University of Chicago (7 June 1999) and Macalester College (11 April 2000).

“Merlin, Marcellus, and the Politics of Classical Allusion”

34th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, 9 May 1999.

“Dante and the Second Half of the *Aeneid* in the Middle Ages”

33rd International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, 7 May 1998.

**Service,
Professional
Activities**

Spenser Studies

2012–present. Advisory board member.

Spenser at Kalamazoo Selection Committee

Chair, 2003–present. Member, 2000–present. Review abstracts, select speakers for the annual Spenser sessions at the International Congress of Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo, Michigan).

English Department Executive Committee, East Carolina University

2021–. Elected by Literature area.

General Education and Instructional Effectiveness Committee, East Carolina University

2023–.

Faculty Governance Committee, East Carolina University

2017–2023. Secretary (2018–2021), Chair (2021–2023).

English Department Undergraduate Committee, East Carolina University

2017–present

Explorations in Renaissance Culture

2012–2018. Advisory board member.

English Department Personnel Committee, East Carolina University

Chair, 2015–2016. Member, 2014–2016, 2009–2013.

English Department BA Working Group, East Carolina University

2017–2019. Chair.

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, East Carolina University

2016–2017. (Appointed by faculty chair.)

English Department Composition Committee, East Carolina University

2013–2017

English Dept. Research and Creative Activity Awards Committee, East Carolina University

2011–2014

University Calendar Committee, East Carolina University

2013–2016

University Libraries Committee, East Carolina University

2009-2013

English Department Library Committee, East Carolina University

2004-2010

Classical Studies Committee, East Carolina University

2002-present.

Raleigh and the Atlantic World: An Interdisciplinary Symposium

2008 conference organized with Thomas Herron and Marianne Montgomery

Virgil.org

1996–present. Edit the Virgil.org web site, which publishes bibliography, texts, and translations, for the study of Virgil and his reception.

International *Eclogues* Study

Summer 2000. Five-week study over the internet. Sixty participants from five different countries.