**ADAM RZEPKA**

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**English Department**  **Dickson Hall 309**  **Montclair State University**

**1 Normal Avenue**  **Montclair, NJ 07043**

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. English Language and Literature, University of Chicago, 2011

B.A. English and Philosophy, Harvard University, 1999

**FACULTY APPOINTMENT**

Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ. Associate Professor of English. 2013—present.

**PUBLICATIONS**

“Hashistory: Benjamin’s drug experiments and the wreckage of phenomenological time.” Forthcoming in *The Palgrave Handbook of Philosophy and Psychoactive Drug Use*. Rob Lovering, ed.

“‘Sailing in this salt flood’: The Fluid Dynamics of Affect in Shakespeare’s Public Theaters.” Forthcoming in *Renaissance Drama* (special issue on Affective Ecologies), 2023.

“‘That dim monument’: The Fantasy of the Crypt in *Romeo and Juliet* and *Antigone*.” Forthcoming in *Cool Reason and Seething Brains: New Psychoanalytic Readings of Shakespeare*. James Newlin and James W. Stone, eds. Forthcoming from Routledge, 2023.

Introduction to *Experiential & Experimental Knowledge on the Early Modern Stage*, with Pavneet Aulakh and James Kearney (eds.) Forthcoming from Edinburgh University Press, 2023.

“Sad experience: Jaques, Polonius, Gloucester.” Forthcoming in *Experiential & Experimental Knowledge on the Early Modern Stage*.

Review of *Phantasmatic Shakespeare: Imagination in the Age of Early Modern Science*. *Modern Philology*, 2019.

“‘How like a god’: Shakespeare and Early Modern Apprehension.” *Shakespeare Studies*, 2018.

“The Social Network of Early English Drama: A Lesson Plan.” *The Emerging Learning Design Journal*. Special Issue: Digital Humanities. Summer 2017.

“Chamber, Tomb, and Theater: Life in *Romeo and Juliet*’s Spaces of the Dead.” In Romeo and Juliet*: Critical Insights*. Robert C. Evans, ed. Salem Press, 2017.

“‘How easy is a bush supposed a bear?’: Differentiating Imaginative Production in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*.” *Shakespeare Quarterly*, Fall 2015.

Review of *Shakespearean Sensations: Experiencing Literature in Early Modern England*. *Modern Philology*, Spring 2015

“‘Direct Ideas’: The Quotidian Imagination in John Willis’s 1618 Memory Theater.” In *Knowing Nature in Early Modern Europe*. David Beck, ed. Routledge, 2015.

“Discourse ex nihilo: Lucretius in England to 1605.” In *Dynamic Reading: Studies in the Reception of Epicureanism*. Wilson Shearin and Brooke Holmes, eds. Oxford U P, 2012.

“‘Rich eyes and poor hands’: Theaters of Early Modern Experience.” In *Shakespeare and the Senses*. Lowell Gallagher and Shankar Raman, eds. Palgrave, 2010.

Book project: *Making Experience: Shakespeare and the Art of Immediacy*.

## RECENT PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

“‘Aught but gossamer, feathers, air’: Proprioception and Grace in Shakespeare’s Theaters.” Renaissance Society of America (RSA) annual conference, San Juan, March 2023.

“‘Sailing in this salt flood’: The fluid dynamics of affect in Shakespeare’s public theaters.” Shakespeare Association of American (SAA) annual conference, Jacksonville, Florida, March 2022.

“The Weight of Memory and the Art of Oblivion in Early Modern *Ars memoriae*.” RSA, Dublin, March 2022.

Twentieth Annual Jankofsky Lecture: “Listening in the New Atlantic.” With Toby Rzepka, luthier and archaic instrument specialist. University of Minnesota, March 2022.

“Impossible Knowledge: *Cymbeline* and the Soteriology of Experience.” RSA, online, April 2021.

“John Willis’s *Art of Memory* and the Theater of Everyday Life.” The Total Library: Aspirations for Complete Knowledge in the Middle Ages and Renaissance, Barnard College, December 2020.

Chair, “The Science of an Enchanted World.” Scientiae, Belfast, 2019.

“The Longing for Experience” (invited paper). RSA, Toronto, March 2019.

“Listening in the New Atlantic.” Workshop with Toby Rzepka. Scientiae, Minneapolis, March 2018.

Panel organizer, “Making Early Modern Experience.” American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) annual conference, Los Angeles, March 2018. Paper: “‘From companie exiled’: Dislocating experiential knowledge in *Cymbeline* and *As You Like It*.”

“Virtual Knowledge in *Hamlet*.” Modern Language Association (MLA) annual conference, New York City, January 2018.

“The Social Network of Early English Drama: A Digital Humanities Lesson Plan.” Online Learning Consortium, Montclair State, June 2017.

“Leading Synchronous Discussions Online.” Teaching and Learning Showcase, Research Academy for University Learning, Montclair State, May 2017.

“‘Nursery of arts’: Coming to Know in Padua in *The Taming of the Shrew* and *The Merchant of Venice*. Scientiae, Padua, Italy, April 2017.

“‘That dim monument’: *Romeo and Juliet*’s Memorial Enclosures.” SAA, Atlanta, April 2017

“‘Free…from that tyrannous Loadstone’: The Redemptive Kinetics of Early Modern Space Travel.” RSA, Chicago, 2017.

“Student-Created, Network-Driven Editions.” Folger Shakespeare Library, “Beyond Access: Early Modern Digital Texts in the Classroom,” Washington D.C., June 2016.

“‘Within a foot / Of the extreme verge”: Littorals of theatrical imagination in Shakespeare.” RSA, Boston, March 2016.

“‘How like a god’: Apprehensive Shakespeare.” Columbia Shakespeare Seminar, New York, December 2015. Invited lecture.

“‘We loose it like Lightening’: Early Modern Apprehension.” Scientiae, Toronto, May 2015.

“Shakespeare and Performance in the Present.” British Studies Center, Ramapo College, New Jersey, April 2015. Invited talk.

“Feeling Fate: Romeo and Juliet ‘already dead.’” RSA, Berlin, March 2015.

“Staging the Imagination in John Willis’s Art of Memory.” Scientiae, Vienna, May 2014.

“‘As right as a line his heart I have hit’: Trajectories of Affect in *Cambises*.” SAA, St. Louis, 2014.

“A lamentable tragedy mixed ful of pleasant mirth”: Chaotic passions in *Cambises*.” RSA, New York, March 2014.

“Re-placing synchronous classrooms at Stanford’s Online High School.” MLA, Chicago, January 2014.

“Approved…confirmed…and dayly tried”: The Rise of Experience in Sixteenth-century English Instructional Writing. Scientiae, Warwick, April 2013.

“Toward a Lucretian Poetics of Early Modern Performance.” Scientiae, Vancouver, April 2012.

**TEACHING**

*Montclair State University*

Graduate Seminar in Literary Research (ENGL 605)

Theoretical Approaches to Literature (ENGL 514)

Shakespeare: The Tragedies (ENGL 508)

Seminar in English Literature: Text and Image (ENGL 494)

Shakespeare: Tragedies and Romances (ENGL 354)

Shakespeare: Comedies and Histories (ENGL 353)

English Drama: Beginnings to 1642 (ENGL 352)

Renaissance Literature (ENGL 348)

Pursuits of English: Building Readers (ENGL 300)

Shakespeare in Performance (ENGL 250)

Writing in the Major: Utopias and Dystopias (ENWR 220)

Utopias and Dystopias (ENGL 114)

First-Year Writing (ENWR 105)

Great Books and Ideas II (Honors Program 101)

*Princeton University Prison Teaching Initiative* (2020-present)

Introduction to Poetry (ENGL-226)

Academic Writing (ENGL 060)

*Bard Prison Initiative and Bard Microcollege* (2020-present)

Second-Year Writing Intensive: The Poetry of Transformation

*Rhizome Learning Cooperative*

Writing about Literature: An Introduction

Shakespeare: Foundations for Literary Analysis

*Stanford University Online High School and Stanford OHSx* (2010-2013)

Advanced Topics in Literature: Xtopias (Eng. 026)

Textual Analysis and Argumentation: The World in America (Eng. 010)

A.P. English Literature and Language (Eng. 021)

A Cultural History of Monsters (X046)

Literary Salon: How to Read Poetry, and Why

*Prison University Project, San Quentin State Prison* (2010-2013)

Introduction to Critical Writing: Modernist Revolutions (Eng. 101A)

Interdisciplinary Research and Writing (Eng. 204)

Reading, Writing, and Critical Thinking (Eng. 101B)

*University of California*, *Berkeley* (2010-2011)

The Art of Psychoanalysis (Hist. of Art R1B)

Flights Out of Time: Utopias and Dystopias (Comp. Lit. R1B)

Post-Marxist Aesthetics and Politics (Rhet. 103B)

Shakespeare (with Robert Haas; Eng. 117B)

Milton (with Joanna Picciotto); Eng. 118)

*University of Chicago* (2005-2006)

Spenser and Shakespeare: Memory and Imagination in Renaissance England (ENG 162)

Utopia / Dystopia: An Introduction (ENG 229)

**RECENT SERVICE**

*Montclair State University*

Founding Co-convener, Montclair State University Medieval and Early Modern Seminar

Founding Convener, English Research Colloquium

English Graduate Director

English Advisement Coordinator

English Council

English Department Personnel Advisory Committee (Chair)

Visiting Writers Committee

Graduate Curriculum Committee, College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS)

CHSS Research Committee (Chair)

Faculty Advisory Committee, CHSS Center for Digital Humanities

Digital Humanities MA Task Force

University Research Committee

University Academic Information Technology Committee

University Graduate Council

University Graduate Curriculum Committee

University Curriculum Process Project

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Renaissance Society of America

Shakespeare Association of America

Modern Language Association

Academia Scientiae

American Comparative Literature Association

Columbia Shakespeare Seminar (Associate Member)

Folger Shakespeare Library (Reader)

*Shakespeare Quarterly* (Reviewer)

Northwestern Univ. Press (Reviewer)

Online Learning Consortium

## AWARDS AND GRANTS

2021 Innovative Article Award, Shakespeare Association of America

NEH-funded faculty seminar, “Rediscovering American Democracy”

Funded sabbatical leave, 2019-2020

Dean's Recognition Award for Teaching, 2017

NEH funding for Folger Shakespeare Library Seminar: “Beyond Access: Early Modern Digital Texts in the Classroom," 2016

Distinguished Teacher, Harvard Club, 2015

Winner, Annual Paper Competition, Shakespeare Association of America, 2007

Mellon Dissertation Fellowship, 2006-2008

Century Fellowship, U Chicago, 2002-2005