

Michael J. Beilfuss

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. English, Texas A&M University	2012
M.A. English, SUNY New Paltz	2005
B.A. Secondary Ed/English, SUNY New Paltz	
Minors: Journalism, Religious Studies	2001

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Teaching:

Visiting Assistant Professor, Oklahoma State University: 2013 – Present
Lecturer, Oklahoma State University: 2012-2013
Graduate Assistant Teacher, Texas A&M University: 2006 – 2012
Teaching Assistant, SUNY New Paltz: 2002 – 2005
Professional Tutor, SUNY New Paltz, Educational Opportunity Program: 2004 – 2006

Courses Taught

American Ethnic Literature	Freshman Composition I
American Literature	Freshman Composition II
Composition and Rhetoric	Introduction to Literature
Eco-composition	Technical Writing

Writing and Publishing:

Editor & Writer, *OK Sierran*, Sierra Club Newsletter, Oklahoma Chapter. 2015
Editor, “Forgive Us, Wolves: A German Soldier at the Russian Front,” memoir manuscript by Klaus J. Kronenberg, 2008.
Acquisitions Intern, Texas A&M University Press, College Station, TX. 2007 - 2008.
Contributing Writer, Ulster Publishing, Woodstock, N.Y., 2001 – 2002

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

American Literature	Rhetoric & Composition
Environmental studies/ecocriticism	Professional & technical writing
Southern & regional literature	Multi-Ethnic literature

BOOK PROJECT

Owning and Belonging: Eco-poetics and Environmental Justice in the South

My current book project engages a number of the currents in environmental criticism and Southern studies in an analysis of the poetry, fiction, and non-fiction of the southeastern United States. I argue that the concerns of eco-poetics and environmental justice—two major threads in environmental literary scholarship—neatly join in the literature of the South. The intersection of individual and social relationships with history and nature in Southern literature provides new models for thinking

about human relationships with the environment and how those values are communicated. I argue that these expressions of environmental ownership and belonging suggest methods through which individuals and groups can better understand their distance from, and proximity to, their environments. This provides new valuations of personal and social interactions with the environment, particularly as articulated in Southern literature and culture.

PUBLICATIONS

Articles:

- “Rootedness and Mobility: Southern Sacrifice Zones in Ron Rash’s *Serena*.” *Mississippi Quarterly* (Special Issue on 21st Century Southern Novel). Under review.
- “Ironic Pastorals and Beautiful Swamps: W.E.B. Du Bois and the Troubled Landscapes of the American South.” *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment (ISLE)*. 22.3 (2015): 485-506. Print.
- “Roberts in the Environment.” *The Elizabeth Madox Roberts Society Newsletter*. 16 (2015): 4. Print.
- “Kentucky Memories.” *The Elizabeth Madox Roberts Society Newsletter*. 12 (2011): 11. Print.
- “Exploring the Self, Exploring the Other: Inscapes and Instresses in *The Great Meadow*.” *Elizabeth Madox Roberts: Essays of Reassessment & Reclamation*. H.R. Stoneback, Steven Florczyk, eds. Nicholasville, KY: Wind Publications, 2008. Print.
- “Discovering the Sacred Light of Secular Conditions: Coleridge’s Light of the Imagination in Warren’s Criticism and Poetry.” *Shawangunk Review* 17 (2006): 38-43. Print.
- “The Marriage of Elf and Man: Unifying Immortal and Mortal in Tolkien’s Mythology” *Shawangunk Review* 16 (2005): 27-31. Print.

Reviews:

- Delta Fragments: The Recollections of a Sharecropper’s Son*, by John O. Hodges. *Journal of American Culture*. 37.3 (2014): 354-55. Print.
- Learning the Valley: Excursions into the Shenandoah Valley*, by John Leland. *ISLE*. 18.3 (2011): 686-88. Print.
- Clear Cutting Eden*, by Christopher Rieger. *Arkansas Literary Review* 1.1 (2011): 73-77. Web. 1 July 2011.

Encyclopedia Entries:

- Encyclopedia of the Environment in American Literature*. Eds. Geoff Hamilton and Brian Jones. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 2013. Print
- Jack Kerouac, *The Dharma Bums*
- Leo Marx, *The Machine in the Garden*
- Elizabeth Madox Roberts, *The Great Meadow* and “Life and Works”
- Jean Toomer, *Cane*
- Robert Penn Warren, “Life and Works”

Other:

- “Ecocriticism and Southern Studies Bibliography.” Society for the Study of Southern Literature, Emerging Scholars Organization. Web 2015.

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

- “‘True news of man down here’ The Subatomic, Subaltern, and Subterranean Sublime in Cormac McCarthy’s *Suttree*.” ASLE Eleventh Biennial Conference, Moscow, ID June 2015.
- “Southern Migrations: Wilderness, Pastoral, and Urbanity in Cormac McCarthy’s *Suttree*.” ASLE Tenth Biennial Conference, Lawrence, KS, May 2013.
- “Environmental Justice and Justice for the Environment: The Appeals of History and Ecopoetics in John Graves’s *Goodbye to a River*.” 47th Annual Conference of the Western Literature Association, Lubbock, TX, November 2012.
- “*Brother to Dragons*: Portrait of the Poem as the Maker of the Poet.” Robert Penn Warren Circle Meeting, Bowling Green and Guthrie, KY, April 2011.
- “‘Use It Well’: Progress, Reciprocal Ownership, and the Environment in *Go Down, Moses*.” Modern Language Association Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA, December 2009.
- “Canned Peaches in the Waste Land: The Mystery and Ecology of Cormac McCarthy’s *The Road*.” South Atlantic Modern Language Association 2008 Annual Conference, Louisville, KY November 2008.
- “‘Country you could walk into’: Mystical Enthymemes in Hemingway’s Early Short Stories.” 13th Biennial International Hemingway Society Conference, Kansas City, MO, June 2008.
- “‘Honey of Life in Her Heart’: Ecological Immersion in *The Time of Man*.” American Literature Association 19th Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, May 2008.
- “Inscape, Instress, and Matter: Gerard Manley Hopkins and Bishop Berkeley in the Writings of Elizabeth Madox Roberts.” South Atlantic Modern Language Association 2007 Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA, November 2007.
- “Outside the Circle at 38,000 Feet: Warren’s ‘Pathological Flinch,’ Attraction, Reaction, and Conversation with Emerson.” Robert Penn Warren Circle Meeting, Bowling Green and Guthrie, KY, April 2007.
- “Self, Identity, and Knowledge: Merging the Familiar and the Strange in *The Haunted Mirror*.” 9th Annual Conference, Elizabeth Madox Roberts Society, Harrodsburg and Springfield, KY, April 2007.
- “Sensuality and Religion in Arturo Islas’s *The Rain God*.” Intersecting Identities, Graduate Student Colloquium, College Station, TX, February 2007.
- “Berk’s Story and Place in *The Great Meadow*: The Thinking and Eating Parts.” 8th Annual Conference, Elizabeth Madox Roberts Society, Harrodsburg, KY, April 2006.
- “Yearning as a Way of Life: Moon Imagery in Warren’s Criticism and Poetry.” Warren at 100: The Past and the Future, Bowling Green, KY, April 2005.
- “Collocating Krishna, Buddha, and Christ: The Mystic Vision in T.S. Eliot’s *Four Quartets*.” ‘Fools by Heavenly Compulsion’: Literary Depictions of Belief and Non-Belief, Bronx, NY, February 2005.
- “What’s in the Water?: From Polluted Harbors to Pure Streams in *In Our Time*.” 11th Biennial International Hemingway Society Conference, Key West, FL, June 2004.
- “The Marriage of Elf and Man: Unifying Immortal and Mortal in Tolkien’s Mythology.” 16th Annual SUNY New Paltz Graduate Symposium, New Paltz, NY, May 2004.

AWARDS

- Visiting Assistant Professor Travel Award. Department of English, Oklahoma State University. Spring 2015
- Travel to Conference Grant. The Melburn G. Glasscock Center for Humanities Research, Texas A&M University. Spring 2010.

CERTIFICATES & TRAINING:

Critical Thinking Workshop, Oklahoma State University, Provost's Initiative: Focus on General Education, University Assessment and Testing & Committee for the Assessment of General Education: 2015-2016.

Diversity Workshop, Oklahoma State University, Provost's Initiative: Focus on General Education, University Assessment and Testing & Committee for the Assessment of General Education: 2014-2015

Preparing Online Instructors, Oklahoma State University, Institute for Teaching and Learning Excellence: Fall 2014

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Panel Chair, "Fyodor? Meet Cormac." ASLE Eleventh Biennial Conference, Moscow, ID June 2015.

Peer Review Reader, *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment (ISLE)*, 2015

Introduction to Literature Textbook Committee, Oklahoma State University, 2014-2015

Advisory Board and Peer Review Reader, *Arkansas Literary Review*, 2010 – 2011.

Organizer & Panel Chair, "The Preservation of Place: Regionalism and Ecological Conservation." South Atlantic Modern Language Association 2010 Annual Conference, Atlanta, Ga. November 2010.

Guest Lecturer for Dr. Nicholas Lawrence, American Literature: Colonial to American Renaissance, Texas A&M University, April 2010: "Character and the *Rights of Man* in Herman Melville's *Billy Budd*" and "Poetry and Experience in Walt Whitman's *Song of Myself*."

Department of English Executive Committee, Graduate Student Representative, Texas A&M University 2008 – 2009.

English Graduate Student Association, Co-President, Texas A&M University 2007-2008.

Organizer and Panel Chair, "Elizabeth Madox Roberts: Romanticism, Ecology, and Poetic Realism." American Literature Association 19th Annual Conference, San Francisco, Ca. May 2008.

English Graduate Student Association, Fund Raising Committee, Texas A&M University 2006 – 2007

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Modern Language Association

Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment

Society for the Study of Southern Literature

Robert Penn Warren Circle

Nick Adams Society

Elizabeth Madox Roberts Society

REFERENCES

Dr. M. Jimmie Killingsworth
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