

Robert Zandstra

Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

University of Oregon

Ph.D. English, 2017

Structured Emphasis in Literature and Environment

Dissertation: "The Nature of the Secular: Religious Orientations and Environmental Thought in Nineteenth-Century American Literature" (William Rossi, director)

Advanced Certification, Graduate Teaching Initiative, 2017

M.A. English, 2012

Calvin College

B.A. English & History of Religion (with Honors), 2009

Minors: Environmental Studies & Asian Studies

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Hope College

Adjunct Instructor of Environmental Studies, 2024-2025

Visiting Assistant Professor of English, 2021-2024

Bushnell University (formerly Northwest Christian University)

Adjunct Instructor of English, 2014-2016, 2020-2021

University of Oregon

Instructor of English, 2018-2020

Pro Tempore Instructor of English, 2017-2018

Graduate Teaching Fellow/ Graduate Employee, 2010-2017

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed

"Stevie Wonder's Radically Environmentalist Pop-Music Songwriting." *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.1093/isle/isae072>

Other

"Earth Day and Weapons of Slow Violence." *The Post Calvin: Selected Essays 2013-2016*. Ed. Joshua deLacy, Will Monteï, Debra Rienstra, and Abby Zwart. Joshua deLacy, 2016. 235-240.

Sustainability: A Casebook for Writers. Ed. Robert Zandstra. University of Oregon Composition Program, 2014.

"The Sabbath Pastoral: Resolving the Temporal Paradoxes of the Pastoral Ideal." *The Ecotone* (Spring 2012): 17-20.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

National & International Conferences

"Poetic Reflections on Miscarriage and Racial Awareness." Conference on Christianity and Literature (Midwestern). Wheaton College. October 2023.

"The Form and Ethics of Indigenous Land Acknowledgements." Association for the Study of Literature and Environment. Portland, Oregon. July 2023.

"Literary Form and the Ethics of Indigenous Land Acknowledgements." Conference on Christianity and Literature (Western). Biola University. April 2022.

"Antiracist Writing Assessment With/out the Secular." Conference on Christianity and Literature (Midwestern). Wheaton College. June 2021.

"The Secular Roots of Our Climate Crisis: 'Secular' Fiction and Post-Secular Environmental Hope." Association for the Study of Literature and Environment. University of California, Davis. June 2019.

"The Benefits of Contract Grading for Assessing Writing: Comparing Student and Instructor Perceptions." Consortium on Useful Assessment in Languages and Humanities Education. University of Oregon. October 2018.

"Literary Criticism With/out the Secular." Conference on Christianity and Literature (Western). George Fox University. April 2018.

"Secular and Non-secular Religious Orientations in American Environmental Literature." Association for the Study of Literature and Environment. Wayne State University. June 2017.

"Integrating the Aspects of Sustainable Ecocomposition in the Writing Classroom." Conference on College Composition and Communication Annual Convention. Portland, Oregon. March 2017.

"Natural Sabbath: Thoreau and the Secularization of Environmental Thought." Association for the Study of Literature and Environment. University of Idaho. June 2015.

"(Post-)Secular Theory and Representing the Transcendent in Film: Paul Schrader and Dreyer's *Ordet*." Religion in Literature and Film in an Interdisciplinary Age. Conference on Christianity and Literature (Western). Seattle University. May 2015.

"Thoreau's Natural Sabbath: Secularization and the Structure of Religious Orientations." The Religious Turn: Secular and Sacred Engagements in Literature and Theory. Conference on Christianity and Literature (Western). Westmont College. May 2014.

“Herman Dooyeweerd’s Philosophy as a Framework for Understanding Ecocriticism.” Ecocriticism and Christianity in Literature. Conference on Christianity and Literature (Northeast). Regis College (Massachusetts). October 2011.

“Stevie Wonder’s Journey into Environmental Ethics.” Association for the Study of Literature and Environment. Indiana University. June 2011.

“Food Justice in 1 Corinthians 8: Love, Knowledge, and Meat Sacrificed to the Idols of Industrial Economy.” Food Justice: Community, Equity, Sustainability. University of Oregon. February 2011.

“Spiritual *Référence* in the Ecological Poetry of Wendell Berry.” Recreate, Replace, Restore: Exploring the Intersections between Meanings and Environments. Ohio Northern University. April 2009.

Local Presentations

“Accessible Syllabus Design.” Panelist. UO Composition Conference. University of Oregon, September 2019.

“Teaching Sustainability in the Introductory Writing Classroom.” Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference. Lane Community College. February 2016.

“Pick a Theme...Using Readings Effectively.” Panelist. UO Composition Conference. University of Oregon. September 2015.

“Teaching English Language Learners.” Panelist. Department of English Pedagogical Training. University of Oregon. May 2014.

“Secularization and Environmental Thought.” Environmental Humanities Roundtable. Engagement: Community Creativity Connections: Graduate Student Research Forum. University of Oregon. March 2014.

“Teaching Writing through the Lens of Sustainability.” Invited participant. UO Composition Conference. University of Oregon. September 2013.

“Ecocriticism as Nonreductive Interdisciplinary Integration.” Environmental Humanities Roundtable. Research Matters: Graduate Student Research Forum. University of Oregon. February 2012.

“The Theological Ecology of the Mad Farmer: Wendell Berry’s Environmental Vision.” Michigan Academy of Sciences, Arts, and Letters. Ferris State University. March 2007.

Conference Panels Chaired/Organized

“Secularization and Form in American Literature.” The Religious Turn: Secular and Sacred Engagements in Literature and Theory. Conference on Christianity and Literature. Westmont College. May 2014.

“Dutch Thought and Ecocriticism.” Ecocriticism and Christianity in Literature. Conference on Christianity and Literature. Regis College (Massachusetts). October 2011.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Hope College

English 110: Faith and Belief in Literature
English 113: Expository Writing
English 230: Environmental Literature
English 248: Introduction to Literary Study
Environmental Studies 101: Introduction to Environmental Studies
Interdisciplinary Studies 172: Cultural Heritage 2

Bushnell University

English 202: Introduction to Film
English 211: Survey of American Literature
English 345: Multiethnic American Literature
Writing 121: Writing and Thinking: Introduction to College Composition
Writing 123: Written Reasoning in the Context of Research

University of Oregon

English 104: Introduction to Fiction
Writing 121: College Composition I
Writing 122: College Composition II
Writing 123: College Composition III

Teaching Assistant / Discussion Section Leader

English 221: Introduction to the English Major: British and American Literature 1500-1789
English 394: Twentieth Century Literature 1900-1945
English 381: Film, Media, and Culture
English 104: Introduction to Fiction

Tutor for the Center for Teaching Writing

Yenwah International Education School -Yantai, Shandong, China
ESL Instructor, July-August 2006

SERVICE

Hope College

Campus Sustainability Committee, 2022-2024

English Department Curriculum Committee 2021-2022

University of Oregon

Program Assessment Working Group, Composition Program, 2017-2019

Mentor to New Teachers, Composition Program (Winter 2013, Fall 2013, Fall 2015, Fall 2016)

Coordinator of Literature & Environment Graduate Reading Group (“Mesa Verde”), 2013-2015

Textbooks Adoption Committee, Composition Program, 2012-2013

Co-organizer, Faculty and Graduate Student Symposium, “Teaching the Environment: Strategies for Educators and Advocates.” University of Oregon. June 2012.

AWARDS

Art Talks Back Ekphrastic Poetry Contest (Michigan statewide), Winner, 2022

Lilly Graduate Fellowship, 2010-2013

REFERENCES

Dr. Ernest Cole, Professor of English, Chair of English department, Hope College,
colee@hope.edu

Dr. Thomas Sura, Associate Professor of English, Director of College Writing, Hope College,
sura@hope.edu

Dr. Steven Bouma-Prediger, Professor of Religion, Director of Environmental Studies, Hope College, boumapred@hope.edu