

Christopher Todd Vaccaro, Ph.D.

302 Old Mill,
94 University Place,
University of Vermont,
Burlington, VT 05405

Education

City University of New York, Graduate School, May 2003

Ph.D., English

Specialization: Anglo-Saxon literature, language, and culture

Secondary Areas: Middle English language and literature, sex/gender studies, Latin and Old English hagiography

Dissertation: Crux Christi/Cristes Rod: Interpreting the Anglo-Saxon Cross

Director, E. Gordon Whatley

Dissertation Committee, Steven Kruger, and Pamela Sheingorn

Oral Exam Subjects: Anglo-Saxon literature and language, Chaucer, queer theory

Binghamton University, May 1994

M.A., English

Specialization: Anglo-Saxon literature and culture, Chaucer, cultural studies, gender studies

Hartwick College, June 1991

B.A., English, magna cum laude

Emphasis: Anglo-Saxon literature and culture, Chaucer, Arthuriana

Current Employment

University of Vermont (Burlington, VT), Department of English, Senior Lecturer

Academic Experience

University of Vermont, Burlington, VT, September 1999–Present

Burlington College, Burlington, VT, September 1999–May 2000

Baruch College, New York, NY, February 1996–December 1999

Binghamton University (SUNY), Binghamton, NY, September 1993–May 1995

Award

Kroepsch-Maurice Excellence in Teaching Award (2010) Nomination

Teaching

Old English

ENGS 134 Introduction to Old English (Fall 2006, Fall 2007, Fall 2008, Fall 2009, Fall 2013 IS, Spring 2015)

ENGS 134 Reading Beowulf (Spring 2008, Spring 2009, Spring 2014, Fall 2015)

Linguistics/History of the English Language

ENGS 102 History of the English Language (Spring 2008, Spring 2010, Spring 2011, Fall 2014)

British Literature Surveys

ENGS 21 British Literature Survey I [750-1750] (Fall 1999, Fall 2000, Fall 2001, Fall 2002, Fall 2004, Fall 2008 Fall 2009, Fall 2011, Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Fall 2015, Fall 2016)

ENGS 22 British Literature Survey II [1750-Present] (Spring 2000, Spring 2001, Spring 2002, Spring 2005, Spring 2006, Spring 2007, Spring 2009, Spring 2010, Spring 2012, Fall 2012, Spring 2015)

ENGS 140 Survey of British Literature to 1700 (Fall 2009)

Tolkien Studies

ENGS 40 Fantasy Before Tolkien (Spring 2006, Fall 2006, Fall 2007, Fall 2008, Spring 2010, Spring 2011, Fall 2011, Fall 2012, Fall 2013, Fall 2014)

Curriculum Vitae

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Teaching, Cont'd.

ENGS 95 Tolkien's *The Hobbit* Online (Winter 2006, Winter 2007, Winter 2008, Winter 2009, Winter 2010, Winter 2011, Winter 2012, Summer 2012, Summer 2013, Winter 2014, Summer 2014, Winter 2015, Summer 2015, Winter 2016, Summer 2016)

ENGS 95/40 Tolkien's Middle-earth (Spring 2006, Spring 2007, Spring 2008, Spring 2009, Spring 2010, Spring 2012, Spring 2013, Spring 2014, Spring 2016)

ENGS 95/40 Tolkien's Middle-earth Online (Summer 2005, Summer 2006, Summer 2007, Summer 2008, Summer 2009, Summer 2010, Summer 2011, Summer 2012, Summer 2013, Summer 2014, Summer 2015, Summer 2016)

ENGS 95 Tolkien's Cosmos (Spring 2004, Fall 2004, Spring 2005)

Sex and Gender Identity Studies

ENGS 110 Masculinities in Text / On Screen (Summer 2015)

ENGS 110 Contemporary Queer Literature (Fall 2012)

GSWS 75 Introduction to Sex and Gender Identity Studies (Fall 2005, Fall 2006, Spring 2007, Fall 2007, Fall 2008)

ENGS 110 Queers of Color (Fall 2005)

ENGS 110 This Queer Class (Spring 2005)

ENGS 110 Gender, Sex and the Body (Summer 2006)

Medieval Literature (with sex and gender emphasis)

ENGS 134 Women in Medieval Literature (Summer 2007)

Science Fiction & Fantasy

ENGS 40 Beyond the Human (Fall 2003, Spring 2004, Spring 2005)

ENGS 40 Fantasy Literature (Fall 2001, Spring 2002)

ENGS 40 Fantasy Online (Summer 2003)

ENGS 40 Fantasy and Medievalism (Spring 2003, Fall 2004)

Composition/Rhetoric

ENGS 001 Written Expression (Fall 2006, Spring/Fall 2016)

Publications

Books

(Ed). *The Body in Tolkien's Legendarium*. McFarland Press (2013).

Creative Projects/Poetry

"Blow Off," "Ode to a Beer-soaked Muscle Cub," "Sauna Sex," "The Zen of Sadism." In *Hibernation: and Other Poems by Bear Bards*. Ed. Ron Suresha. Bear Bones Press. (2014).

Articles

"'Inbryrded Breostsefa': Compunction in line 841a of Cynewulf's *Elene*" *Notes and Queries* (June 2005).

"'And One White Tree': The Cosmological Cross and the *Arbor Vitae* in J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Silmarillion*," *Mallorn: The Journal of the Tolkien Society* 42 (August 2004): 23-28.

Chapters

"Tolkien's Whimsical Mode: Physicalities in *The Hobbit*." In *The Body in Tolkien's Legendarium*. McFarland Press, 2013.

Book Reviews

Teaching Beowulf in the Twenty-first Century. *Speculum* (July 2016)

Curriculum Vitae

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Additional Publications

(Contributor). *The J.R.R. Tolkien Encyclopedia*. Ed. by Michael C. Drout. Routledge, 2007

Current Academic Projects

Ed., *Tolkien and Alterity: Essays in Honor of Jane Chance*. Palgrave, 2017.

“Sodomitic Resonances in *The Lord of the Rings*” in *Tolkien and Alterity*.

“Dyrne Longað”: Secret Longing in *Tolkien’s Beowulf* and his *The Lord of the Rings*” for *Tolkien and Beowulf*. Ed. John Holmes. (forthcoming, 2018)

That Was a Queer Beowulf

A monograph on literary evidence of queer pleasures in Anglo-Saxon England.

Presented Papers

“Secret Longing”: Homo-amory in *Tolkien’s Beowulf* and *The Lord of the Rings*

Leeds, England, International Medieval Congress, July 2016.

“Tolkien’s ‘Freawaru and Ingeld’: A Love Story?”

Kalamazoo, Michigan, 51st International Medieval Studies Conference, May 2016.

“O Mundanae Regionis Regina!”: Alain de Lille’s *De Planctu Naturae* and Tolkien’s *The Lord of the Rings*

Pittsburgh, International Society of Medievalism Conference, October 2015.

“Dyrne Longað”: Secret Longing in *Tolkien’s Beowulf* and his *The Lord of the Rings*”

New York City, Tolkien Society Conference, June 2015

Sado-Masochistic Pleasure in the Medieval Penitentials: Sex and Shame and the Anglo-Saxon Baedling

Kalamazoo, Michigan, 50th International Medieval Studies Conference, May 2015

Manufacturing Queer Pleasure in Anglo-Saxon England: The Penitential of Theodore, Bædlings, and Beowulf

Leeds, England, International Medieval Congress, July 2013.

Following Saruman: Desire, Arousal, and the Unsublimated Anus in Tolkien’s LotR

Kalamazoo, Michigan, 48th International Medieval Congress, May 2013.

Tolkien, Beowulf and the Old English Apollonius of Tyre: Medieval and Modern Constructions of Masculinity

Kalamazoo, Michigan, 47th International Medieval Congress, May 2012.

A Hobbit Hole of One’s Own: Identity, Gender, and Difference in Tolkien Studies

Kalamazoo, Michigan, 46th International Medieval Congress, May 2011.

Queer Theory and Tolkien’s Middle-earth: A Review of the Scholarship

Burlington, Vermont, 6th Annual Tolkien at UVM Conference, April 2009

The Whimsical Mode of *The Hobbit*: Comedic and Horrific Physicality

Burlington, Vermont, 5th Annual Tolkien at UVM Conference, April 2008

Exposing the Bourgeois Body in Tolkien’s *The Hobbit*

Kalamazoo, Michigan, 41st International Medieval Congress, May 2006

Feminism, Queer Theory, and Medieval Studies

Kalamazoo, Michigan, 40th International Medieval Congress, May 2005

The Apotropaic Cross in the Tiberius A. iii *St. Margaret*

Kalamazoo, Michigan, 38th International Medieval Congress, May 2003

The Cross in Tiberius A. iii

Leeds, England, International Medieval Congress, May 2002

Fecundity and The Anglo-Saxon Cross: Riddles & Remedies

Kalamazoo, Michigan, 37th International Medieval Congress, May 2001

Curriculum Vitae

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The Sexual/Mystical Body in the Old English *Guthlac*

Kalamazoo, Michigan, 36th International Medieval Congress, May 2000

Homo-eroticism in the Old English *Apollonius of Tyre*

Kalamazoo, Michigan, 32nd International Medieval Congress, May 1997

The Love of Saints: Sodomy, Secrets and the Discourse of Homosexuality

Forms of Desire Conference, Center for Lesbian & Gay Studies, NY, NY, April 1997

Christine de Pizan and the Discourse of Cultivation

Binghamton University, Binghamton, NY, Center for Medieval and Early Modern Studies (CEMERS),
October 1996

Living the Life of Angels: The Monastic Body in Antique & Anglo-Saxon Hagiography

Kalamazoo, Michigan, 31st International Medieval Congress, May 1996

Queering the Middle Ages: A Panel Discussion

Binghamton University, Binghamton, NY, Center for Medieval and Early Modern Studies (CEMERS),
October 1995

The Traffic in Virgins: The Hetero-normative Impulse of the *Sponsa Christi Motif* in the Hali Meidhad,

Kalamazoo, Michigan, 29th International Medieval Congress, May 1994

Conference Organizing

Tolkien at UVM, April 2004–Present

Queer Middle Ages Conference, CUNY Graduate School, November 1998

Invited Lectures

From the Scop to the Stage: *Beowulf* and the Transmission of Story

Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, Burlington, VT, March 2004

‘And One White Tree’: The Cosmological Cross and the *Arbor Vitae* in J.R.R. Tolkien’s

The Lord of the Rings and *The Silmarillion*

Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT, January 2004

Is There Such a Thing as a Modern Queer Mysticism?

Unitarian Universalist Society, Burlington, VT, June 2001

University Service

Advisor, Tolkien Club. Fall 2005-Spring 2014

Advisor, Science Fiction, Fantasy Program at Living and Learning. Fall 2005-Fall 2012

Departmental Service

Curriculum Committee, University of Vermont (2002-2011, Fall 2015- Present)

Independent Studies Director (Richard Fahey, Spring 2008; Brendan Anderson, Spring 2015)

Program of Gender, Sexuality, and Woman Studies Steering Committee, University of Vermont (Fall 2012)

Executive Committee, English Department, University of Vermont (Fall 2009, Spring 2016)

Women and Gender Studies Program Committee, University of Vermont (2002–Present)

SAGIS Three-day curriculum workshop (Summer 2007)

Professional Organizations

International Society of Anglo-Saxonists, 2001–Present

MLA, 2003-Present

Creative Writing Projects

High Mimesis, in progress.

White Towels and Stained Sheets: poems of the urban gay culture of Montreal, in progress.