

Michael J. Flynn

Associate Professor, Department of English, The University of North Dakota

Department of English
The University of North Dakota
Merrifield Hall, Room 200K
276 Centennial Drive, Stop 7209
Grand Forks, ND 58202-7209
(701) 777-3987
michael.flynn@und.edu

Educational Background

Ph. D., Department of English and American Literature, Washington University in St. Louis, 2006

Dissertation: “The Books of Snobs: Thackeray, Dickens, and the Class Polemics of Victorian Fiction”

Major field: nineteenth-century British literature

Graduate Certificate in the Teaching of College Writing, Department of English and American Literature, Washington University in St. Louis, 2006

M. A., Department of English and American Literature, Washington University in St. Louis, 1997

B. A., *summa cum laude* with honors, Departments of English and History, Knox College, 1996

Professional Experience

Associate Professor, Department of English, The University of North Dakota, 2013-present

Assistant Professor, Department of English, The University of North Dakota, 2007-2013

Post-Doctoral Lecturer, Department of English and American Literature, Washington University in St. Louis, 2006-07

Visiting Instructor, Department of English, Knox College, 2003

Graduate Instructor, Department of English and American Literature, Washington University in St. Louis, 1997-2005

Publications

“Inattentive Detection: Teaching Victorians How to Read Sensation Fiction.” *Sensation Fiction and Education*, edited by Andrew Green and Jessica Cox, Routledge, forthcoming 2027.

- “Liking *David Copperfield*.” *My Victorian Novel: Critical Essays in the Personal Voice*, edited by Annette R. Federico, U of Missouri P, 2020, pp. 213-229.
- “E. S. Dallas, Mid-Victorian Individualism, and the Form of the Book Review.” *Nineteenth-Century Prose*, vol. 43, no. 1/2, 2016, pp. 49-64.
- “E. S. Dallas and Trollope’s *Vicar of Bullhampton*.” *Notes and Queries*, vol. 261, no. 2, 2016, pp. 258-61. *Oxford Journals*, doi: 10.1093/notesj/gjw069.
- “Dickens, Rosina Bulwer Lytton, and the ‘Guilt’ of Literature and Art.” *Dickens Quarterly*, vol. 29, no. 1, 2012, pp. 68-80.
- “*Pendennis*, *Copperfield*, and the Debate on the ‘Dignity of Literature.’” *Dickens Studies Annual*, vol. 41, 2010, pp. 151-89.
- “Parodies for the Rail: *Dombey and Son*, *Vanity Fair*, and the Class-Coding of Victorian Realism.” *Double Vision: Literary Palimpsests of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries*, edited by Darby Lewes, Lexington Books, 2008, pp. 173-203. (Reprinted in *Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism*, edited by Lawrence J. Trudeau, vol. 307, Gale, 2015, pp. 135-52.)
- “Novels by Literary Snobs: The Contentious Class-Coding of Thackerayan Parody.” *Dickens Studies Annual*, vol. 36, 2005, pp. 199-228.
- “The Transatlantic Grudges of William Makepeace Thackeray and G. P. R. James.” *Notes and Queries*, vol. 250, no. 4, 2005, pp. 476-78.

Courses Taught

The University of North Dakota, 2007-present:

- Ph. D. Dissertation Committees (7; topics include medieval literature, latino/a literature, graphic literature, fiction writing, poetry writing, creative writing pedagogy, rhetoric)
- Ph. D. Comprehensive Examination Committees (15, 7 as chair; topics include medieval literature, Romantic literature, Victorian literature, modernist literature, American Romanticism, realist fiction, historical fiction, serial fiction, contemporary lyric poetry, nature writing, graphic literature, feminist theory, pedagogy)
- M. A. Thesis Committees (2; topics include fiction writing)
- M. A. Portfolio Committees (29, 6 as chair; topics vary widely even within portfolios, but span literary criticism, creative writing, composition/rhetoric)
- Graduate advisees other than those listed above (22)

ENGL 599 – Special Topic: Serial Storytelling (2 sections)

ENGL 599 – Special Topic: Metafiction and Metafilm

ENGL 598 – Portfolio Workshop (3 sections)

ENGL 590 – Readings: Baseball Literature and Race

ENGL 520 – Studies in English Literature: South Asia in British Literature / Britain in South Asian Literature

ENGL 520 – Studies in English Literature: The Late Victorian Novel

ENGL 520 – Studies in English Literature: The Mid-Victorian Novel

ENGL 520 – Studies in English Literature: The Romantic Novel

ENGL 520 – Studies in English Literature: The Neo-Victorian Novel

ENGL 520 – Studies in English Literature: The Sensation Novel
ENGL 520 – Studies in English Literature: Darwin and the Shape of Stories
ENGL 500 – Introduction to Graduate Studies (4 sections)

Honors Thesis Committees (3, all as chair; topics include Jane Austen, fictional depictions of the French Revolution, fiction writing)

ENGL 415 – Seminar in Literature: The Sensational Wilkie Collins
ENGL 415 – Seminar in Literature: The Brontës
ENGL 415 – Seminar in Literature: The Importance of Oscar Wilde
ENGL 415 – Seminar in Literature: Conrad and the Sources of Stories
ENGL 415 – Seminar in Literature: Survey of the English Novel II (4 sections)
ENGL 415 – Seminar in Literature: Survey of the English Novel I (4 sections)
ENGL 406 – Studies in Nineteenth-Century Literature: Dickens and the Art of Serial Fiction
ENGL 406 – Studies in Nineteenth-Century Literature: Thackeray as Satirist and Snob
ENGL 406 – Studies in Nineteenth-Century Literature: Dickens as Great Novelist and Petty Union Boss
ENGL 331 – Studies in English Poetry / ENGL 398 – Independent Study: The Strength and Sensuality of Victorian Verse (2 sections)
ENGL 331 – Studies in English Poetry: The Rise and Fall of the Romantics (2 sections)
ENGL 330 – Studies in English Fiction / ENGL 415 – Seminar in Literature: Victorian Fantastic Fiction (2 sections)
ENGL 302 – Survey of English Literature II (16 sections)
ENGL 272 – Introduction to Literary Criticism (4 sections)
ENGL 271 – Reading and Writing About Texts (6 sections)
ENGL 227 – Introduction to Literature and Culture: Parody and Pastiche
ENGL 225 – Introduction to Film (6 sections)
ENGL 130 – Composition II: Writing for Public Audiences

Undergraduate Advisees (117)

Knox College, 2003:

ENG 253 – Modern British, Irish, and American Literature
ENG 120 – Introduction to Literature (2 sections)
ENG 101 – College Writing I

Washington University in St. Louis, 1997-2007:

L13-312 – Argumentation (3 sections)
L13-200 – Composition Tutorial (3 sections)
L13-199 – Advanced Expository Writing (3 sections)
L13-100 – Writing 1
L13-100 – Expository Writing (12 sections)

Knox College, 1995 (as Student Co-Leader):

PREC 300 – Advanced Participation in First-Year Preceptorial

Institutional Service

The University of North Dakota:

University:

Graduate Committee, 2024-25

Student Academic Standards Committee, 2013-15

Academic Advising Committee, 2012-14

College:

Arts & Sciences Curriculum Committee, 2008-11, chair 2009-11

Department:

Associate Chair, 2011-12, 2013-15, 2021-24

Executive Committee, 2009-12, 2013-15, 2021-24

Faculty Search Committees (4, 1 as chair) 2011, 2021-24

Faculty Evaluation Committee, all faculty, 2021-22, 2023-24

Faculty Evaluation Committee, individual faculty (10, 2 as chair), 2008-12, 2013-15, 2016-17, 2024-26

Director of Graduate Studies, 2024-26

Graduate Program Working Group, 2021-22

Graduate Curriculum Working Group, 2018-19

Graduate Admissions Committee, 2008-14, 2023-26

Advisor to English Graduate Student Association, 2023-26

Coordinator of Essential Studies Revalidation, 2010-12

Coordinator of Undergraduate Advising, 2008-15

Coordinator of English Education, 2016-17

Coordinator of Undergraduate Awards, 2007-10

Coordinator of Library Resources, 2007-13

Reinoehl / Composition Guidebook Funds Committee, 2017-26

Washington University in St. Louis:

Department:

Writing 1 Board, 2006-07

Consultant Activities

External:

Reviewer, tenure file, South Dakota State University, 2018

Reviewer, proposal for Broadview Edition of James Malcolm Rymer's *A Mystery in Scarlet*, 2018
Peer reviewer, entry on William Makepeace Thackeray's *The Rose and the Ring* in *Supernatural Literature*, 2016
Reviewer, *The Norton Anthology of English Literature*, 9th edition, 2014
Peer reviewer, entry on G. P. R. James in *The Encyclopedia of Victorian Literature*, 2013
Reviewer, Instructor's Manual to accompany *The Longman Anthology of British Literature*, 4th edition, 2010
Copyeditor, *Victorian Literature and Culture*, 2007-08

The University of North Dakota:

Participant, panel on affective affinities with nature, ENGL 227 – Literature and the Environment, 2023-24
Leader, seminar on writing teaching statements, English Graduate Student Association, 2023
Participant, panel on exemplary teaching, T&L 539 – College Teaching, 2018
Participant, panel on navigating the tenure process, Alice T. Clark / UND Foundation Scholars Mentoring Program, 2013
Participant, panel on strategizing for a successful career, Alice T. Clark / UND Foundation Scholars Mentoring Program, 2013
Participant, panel on teaching literature to undergraduates, ENGL 501 – Teaching College English, 2011

Washington University in St. Louis:

Research assistant, William R. McKelvy, Department of English, 2004-05
Research assistant, Joe Loewenstein, Department of English, 1997

Knox College:

Research assistant, George F. Steckley, Department of History, 1994

Grants

Office of Instructional Development Summer Mini-Project Grant "Reconfiguring English Literature I and II into a Sequence," \$1000, 2010

Honors / Awards

The University of North Dakota:

UND Foundation / McDermott Faculty Award for Individual Excellence in Teaching, 2018

Nominee, Outstanding Graduate Faculty Mentor Award, 2026
Nominee, UND Foundation / McDermott Faculty Award for Individual Excellence in Teaching, 2010
Presidential Scholar Faculty "Star," 2010, 2011
Nominee, UND Award for Departmental Excellence in Teaching, 2026
UND Award for Departmental Excellence in Service, 2014
Developmental Leave, 2015-16

Washington University in St. Louis:

Dissertation Fellowship, 2003-04
Research stipend, 2002
Research stipend, 2001
Research stipend, 2000
Research stipend, 1999
Merit-based stipend, 1996-97

Knox College:

Phi Beta Kappa (Delta Chapter of Illinois), 1996
The Scripps Prize, 1996
Awarded to the graduating senior receiving the highest grades in English.
Howard A. Wilson Prize, 1996 (second place)
Awarded to the students writing the best pieces of literary criticism during the academic year.
Szold Prize in History, 1996
Awarded for extraordinary merit in the field of History.
Hermann R. Muelder Prize, 1996
Awarded for academic excellence in American Studies.
Nina Marie Edwards Fellowship, 1995
Provides assistance to junior and senior students carrying out independent or honors projects in the field of English and English Writing.
David R. Arnold Award, 1995
Awarded to a student doing an independent research project that supports or enhances the research of a faculty member.
Howard A. Wilson Prize, 1995 (third place)
Awarded to the students writing the best pieces of literary criticism during the academic year.
Dennis Donham Prize in History, 1995
Awarded for the best essay written in a History class.
Ellen Browning Scripps Scholarship, 1992-96
Merit-based scholarship.