

Nick Valvo

Department of Communications
Harry S Truman College

nvalvo@ccc.edu
nvalvo@gmail.com
(415) 425-9090 (mobile)
<http://nvalvo.name/>

Department of English, Reading & Speech
Richard J Daley College
City Colleges of Chicago

Curriculum Vitae

Positions

Adjunct Faculty, Harry S Truman College and Richard J Daley College, City Colleges of Chicago, 2017-
Adjunct Instructor, Concordia University Chicago, 2017-2018
Lecturer, Northwestern University, 2015-2017
Lecturer, Bates College, 2013-15.

Education

2014. Ph.D. in English, University of California, Davis. Field in eighteenth-century British literature.
2004. B.A. with high honors in English, Oberlin College.

Dissertation

Penurious Payments: Debt, Dependence and Communal Form in Eighteenth-century Britain
Committee: David Simpson (chair), Alessa Johns, and Gregory Clark (economics).
Examiners: Timothy Morton and Christopher Loar.

My dissertation traces the cultural origins of political liberalism to the eighteenth-century repudiation of the Anglican parish. The parish was a social space in which several modes of social relations — spiritual, economic, political, affective — dissolved into one another. I argue in readings of literary and religious texts that anti-parochial cultural politics associated with both the enthusiastic religious revivals of the 1730s and 1740s and the mid-century sentimental turn transformed British understandings of how the arts, religion, politics, and economic life should fit together, in ways that tended to firm up or in some cases establish their boundaries. Through this reorganization, “the economic” emerged as a distinct realm of self-interested activity separate from the forms of humane and religious sociability with which it had been confounded in parochial life. This concept of social action yielded new categories and distinctions which still structure our understanding to this day — such as the fine arts, the secular, and the boundary between the humanities and the social sciences — the etiologies of which my research makes visible.

Research Fields

Restoration, eighteenth-century, and Romantic literary history; the relationships between and among religion, culture, and economics; economic criticism; historicism; church history and secularization; the cultural history of political liberalism; race and slavery; labor history of the Atlantic world.

Honors, Grants, and Awards

2017-18, Scholar in Residence, The Newberry Library, Chicago.

2016-17, Fellow, Lewis Walpole Library, Yale University, Roger W. Eddy Fellowship.

2014-15, Fellow, Clark Library and UCLA Center for 17th and 18th Century Studies ASECS Fellowship.

2012-13, Fellow, Mellon/ ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship.

2012-13, Fellow, Clark Library and UCLA Center for 17th and 18th Century Studies Dissertation Fellowship (declined).

2011, University of California, Davis, English Department Competitive Summer Fellowship for dissertation writing.

2008-09, University of California President's Predoctoral Fellowship.

2008, University of California, Davis, English Department Competitive Summer Fellowship for research travel.

2006, University of California, Davis, English Department Competitive Summer Fellowship for language study.

2005-06, University of California President's Predoctoral Fellowship.

Book Projects

The Parish of Parnassus: Literature, Economics, and Religion in Eighteenth-century Britain. A substantial revision and reframing of my dissertation, under advanced contract with the University of Virginia Press; complete MS expected by October 2018.

Jubilee: Race and Liberalism, 1619-1860. Preliminary work underway. *Jubilee* uses 250 years of anglophone scriptural reception as an archive to trace the history of the relationship between the categories of debtors and slaves in the early modern Atlantic World.

Articles

"Sentimental Disinterest," *The Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation* 57, no. 4 (Winter 2016)

"Costuming the Historical Figure: Hegel, Realism, and Fancy Dress," *Interdisciplinary Literary Studies* 18, no. 4 (Winter 2016)

"Scale, Sentiment, Sociability" in *The Workshop: Proceedings of the Indiana Center for Eighteenth-Century Studies* no. 5 (2017), forthcoming.

"Joseph Cradock, *Village Memoirs: In a Series of Letters Between a Clergyman and His Family in the Country, and His Son in Town*" in April London, ed., *The Cambridge Guide to the Eighteenth-Century Novel, 1660-1820*, forthcoming.

"Elizabeth Bennett, *Faith and Fiction, Or Shining Lights in a Dark Generation*" in April London, ed., *The Cambridge Guide to the Eighteenth-Century Novel, 1660-1820*, forthcoming.

"Pseudo-Tillotson's *Sentiments of Popery: A Book History of Toleration*," under revision for resubmission to *Huntington Library Quarterly*.

"Beauties and Deformities: Anti-formalism in Sentimental Literary Anthologies," in preparation.

Review Essays

"Economic Criticism," in Christina Lupton, ed. *The Year's Work in Critical and Cultural Theory* 26, forthcoming.

Invited Talks and Workshops

"Scale, Sentiment, Sociability." Contribution to the 2017 Bloomington Eighteenth-Century Studies Workshop at Indiana University, on the theme "Numbers, Measure, Scale."

"Sentimental Disinterest." Southern California Eighteenth-Century Group, University of California, Los Angeles. Los Angeles, CA, February 19, 2015.

"Strangers." University of Michigan Eighteenth-Century Studies Group. Ann Arbor, MI, March 7, 2012.

Conference Activities

- 2017** "An Anglican Liberalism?" at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies 2017 Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, March 30-April 2, 2017. Presentation for the roundtable "Political Theology, Political Anthropology" convened by Tony C. Brown.
- "Contrasts: Anglo-Catholic Historicism and the Invention of Traditional Society" at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies 2017 Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, March 30-April 2, 2017. Talk for the panel "Catholicism, Medievalism, and the Gothic" convened by Jeremy Carnes.
- 2016** "Methodological Challenges in Mapping Early Modern Debt Sanctuaries," with John Levin, at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies 2016 Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA, March 31-April 3, 2016. Talk for the panel "Mapping the Eighteenth-century City" convened by Hannah Williams.
- "Digital Humanities without Digital Humanists?" at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies 2016 Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA, March 31-April 3. Presentation for the roundtable "Small-Scale Digital Humanities" convened by Stephen Gregg.
- "Literary and Cultural Reception of the Bible," at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies 2016 Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA, March 31-April 3. Panel co-organized with Sarah Stein.
- 2015** "Economic Life in the British Past and How its History Can Help Us Rethink Modern British History," at the Rethinking Modern British Studies conference. Roundtable with Desmond Fitz-Gibbon, Penelope Ismay, and James Vernon, Birmingham, UK, July 1-3, 2015.
- "Thinking Ancient Slavery from Henry Ainsworth to John Locke" at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies 2015 Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA, March 19-21, 2015. Talk for the panel "Slaves and Slavery in the Global Eighteenth Century" convened by Karen Stolley.
- 2014** "Who thinks abstractly?: Eighteenth-century Economic Sociability" at the Northeast Conference on British Studies 2014 meeting in Lewiston, ME, October 18, 2014. Presentation for the roundtable "When was market society?: Narrating the cultural history of economic life in Britain, c. 1700-1900" with Desmond Fitz-Gibbon and Penelope Ismay.
- 2013** "The Butcher Scene: Economic Locality in *Roxana*" at the Defoe Society 2013 Biannual Meeting in Normal, IL, August 10, 2013. Talk for the panel "Defoe's Social Networks."
- "Against Trust: Reading Eighteenth-Century Credit Discourse Against the Grain" at the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies 2013 Annual Meeting, Cleveland, OH, April 4-7, 2013. Talk for the panel "Crediting Bankrupts, Bankrupting Credit, and Economic Circulation in Eighteenth Century Europe," convened by Mary Lindemann.
- 2012** "Jubilee and Nationalist Time" at the Midwest Modern Language Association Annual Meeting, Cincinnati, OH, November 11, 2012. Talk for the panel "Debts to the Past," convened by Andrew Williams.

- "Economic Locality and Estrangement in Defoe's *Roxana*" at Transporting Bodies: 18th and 19th Century Travel, a graduate student conference given by the University of Michigan Eighteenth-Century Studies Group and Nineteenth-Century Forum, Ann Arbor, MI, September 15, 2012.
- "Secularization and the Limits of Tolerance: John Tillotson's 'Sentiments of Popery.'" The American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies 2012 Annual Meeting, March 22-25, 2012, San Antonio, TX. Talk for the panel "New Secularism," convened by David Alvarez.
- 2011** "Performing Non-knowledge: Wesley, Witnessing and the Assurance Debate." Northeast Modern Language Association Annual Meeting, April 7-10, 2011, New Brunswick, NJ. Talk for the panel "Performing Knowledge," convened by Sean Barry.
- "Liberty in the Book of Genesis." A Liberty Fund colloquium, February 3-6, 2011, Asheville, NC. Invited participant.
- 2010** "The Sanctuary of Conscience: Tillotson and the Theology of Debt." The American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies 2010 Annual Meeting, March 20, 2010, Albuquerque, NM. Talk for the panel "Eighteenth-century Ectopias."
- 2009** "Costuming the Historical Figure." Projections: Speculating on Presence, Absence, and Nonsense, conference given by the CUNY Graduate Center, March 6, 2009, New York, NY. Talk for the panel "Projections of the Self."
- 2008** "Welcome to the Social." The UC Davis English Graduate Student Association Scholar Symposium. March 14, 2008, Davis, CA. Talk for the panel "Spaces of Annotation."

Digital Humanities Projects

"Spaces of Exception." A digital humanities project, in collaboration with John Levin of the University of Southampton, using temporally-aware mapping software to plot attestations of early modern debt sanctuaries in time and space.

Teaching Fields

Themed surveys and seminars in the literary history of the long eighteenth century: the ecocritical eighteenth-century; women and the eighteenth-century novel; comedy and the eighteenth-century sense of humor; poetry and the sacred; Romanticism and spontaneity; religious minorities in eighteenth-century literature and culture; realisms.

Literature courses beyond the eighteenth century: pleasure and the reading experience; labor and literature in the Atlantic world; the global literary history of debt; historicism and historical figuration; secularization and literary history; literatures of the family; history of literary consumption; digital humanities in theory and practice: mapping, TEI, topic modeling, distant reading.

Literary theory: eighteenth-century Anglophone aesthetics; gender and aesthetics; Hegel, Marx, Freud; Heidegger, Lacan, Derrida; ecocriticism; economic criticism; gender studies and queer theory; literary theory since 2000.

Rhetoric and Composition.

Teaching Experience

Instructor of Record

Fall 2018. Truman College. Instructor for two sections of English101, "Composition."

Spring 2018. Truman College. Instructor for a joint/accelerated section of English 100/101, "Composition."

Spring 2018. Daley College. Instructor for one section of English 102, "Composition."

Fall 2017. Concordia University Chicago. Instructor for two sections of English 1100 "English Composition I."

Fall 2017. Daley College. Instructor for two sections of English 102, "Composition."

Winter 2016. Northwestern University. Instructor for "Reading for Pleasure" and "Romanticism and Feeling."

Winter 2015. Northwestern University. Instructor for "Coquettes, Prostitutes and Passionate Women in Eighteenth-century British Fiction" and "Back to the Future: Making Meaning Out of Time."

Fall 2013, Fall 2014. Bates College. Instructor for "Nature and the Natural in Eighteenth-century British Literature."

Fall 2009-Spring 2011. University of California, Davis. Instructor for University Writing Program 1, Expository Writing. Six quarters.

Teaching Assistant or Reader

Summer Session One, 2009. University of California, Davis. Reader for ENL 110B, Introduction to Principles of Criticism. Professor Timothy Morton.

Spring Quarter, 2009. University of California, Davis. Teaching Assistant for ENL 117A, Shakespeare's Early Works. Professor Gina Bloom.

Spring Quarter, 2008. University of California, Davis. Teaching Assistant for ENL 130, British Romantic Literature. Professor Timothy Morton. Gave five lectures, on a guest-lecturing basis, on Thomas Chatterton, Charlotte Smith, Erasmus Darwin, Thomas De Quincey and Immanuel Kant.

Winter Quarter, 2008. University of California, Davis. Teaching Assistant for ENL 110B, Introduction to Principles of Criticism. Professor David Simpson. Guest lecture on G.W.F. Hegel's vignette on the dialectic of master and bondsman and Jacques Lacan's "The Mirror Stage as Formative of the I as Revealed in Psychoanalytic Experience."

Fall Quarter, 2007. University of California, Davis. Teaching Assistant for ENL 44, Introduction to the Study of Fiction. Professor Patricia Moran.

Research and Editorial Assistantships

Research assistant to Prof Giovanna Ceserani of the Stanford University Classics Department, Summer 2010.

Assistant to the Editors, *Eighteenth-Century Studies*, 2006-7 academic year.

Editorial assistant on the manuscript preparation of two books for Digital Design Group, Inc. of Newton, MA.

Languages

Spanish, advanced reading and speaking.

French, research language.

References

Dr. David Simpson, Distinguished Professor of English at the University of California, Davis.
desimpson@ucdavis.edu; (530) 752-1195

Dr. Alessa Johns, Professor of English at the University of California, Davis. amjohns@ucdavis.edu;
(530) 752-1696

Dr. Christina Lupton, Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literary Studies at the University
of Warwick. c.lupton@warwick.ac.uk; +44 (0)24 7652 4928

Dr. Kirk Read, Professor of French and Francophone Studies and Associate Dean of Faculty, Bates
College. kread@bates.edu; (207) 786-6280