

# TOM JESSE

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## EDUCATION

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- Ph.D. **Texas Christian University** Fort Worth, Texas 2015  
Dissertation Title: "Rhetoricizing the Avant-Garde: The Illegible as Argument"  
Committee: Sarah Robbins (Chair), Ann George, David Colón, Brian M. Reed
- M.A. **University of Central Florida** Orlando, Florida 2005  
Secondary English Language Arts Education
- B.A. **University of Miami** Coral Gables, Florida 2003  
English and Philosophy  
General and Departmental Honors

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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- Assistant Professor of English 2015–Present  
*Department of English, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse  
La Crosse, Wisconsin*
- Doctoral Teaching Fellow 2014–2015  
*Department of English, Texas Christian University  
Fort Worth, Texas*
- Graduate Instructor 2011–2014  
*Department of English, Texas Christian University  
Fort Worth, Texas*

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- University of Wisconsin-La Crosse** 2015–Present
- EDS 492: Student Teaching Seminar
  - ENG 405: Teaching and Learning English in the Secondary School
  - ENG 370: Early American Literature
  - ENG 341: Adolescent Literature
  - ENG 210: Literature of Black America  
*(Cross-listed with ENG 200 / ERS 210)*
  - ENG 201: American Literature I
  - ENG 110: College Writing I

**Texas Christian University**

2011–2015

ENGL 30523: American Literature and Popular Culture

*Co-taught with Dr. Sarah Robbins*

ENGL 20833: The #epicfail as Argument

*Intermediate Composition: Sophomore Seminar*

ENGL 20803: Intermediate Composition

*Writing as Argument: "The Politics of the Everyday"*

ENGL 20503: Major American Writers

*Breaking All the Rules: American Innovation and Experimentation*

ENGL 10133: Introduction to Literature

*"Literature as Equipment for Living": Contemporary Amer. Lit*

ENGL 10113: Introduction to Poetry

*"My Vocabulary Did This to Me": Poets of the Modern Experience*

ENGL 10803: Introduction to Composition

**Oviedo High School (Oviedo, Florida)**

2005–2010

Certification: ENGLISH (Grades 6-12)

2005-2015

Advanced Placement (AP) English Language &amp; Composition

American &amp; World Literatures

Creative Writing

Critical Thinking/SAT Preparation

**PUBLICATIONS**


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With Tyler Branson, Sharon Harris, and Joel Overall. Rev. of *Kenneth Burke and Ralph Ellison: At the Roots of the Racial Divide*, by Bryan Crable. *KB Journal: The Journal of the Kenneth Burke Society*. Vol. 9, Issue 1 (Fall 2013).

**CONFERENCE PANELS AND PRESENTATIONS**

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|---|---------------|
| "Voices of Advocacy in Imaginary Worlds: Teaching Speculative Fiction with Critical Literacy, Feminist and Queer Theory Perspectives"<br><i>2016 National Council of Teachers of English Conference (Atlanta, GA)</i> | November 2016 |
| "Curating Capitalism: Walter Benjamin, Kenneth Goldsmith, and the 21st Century Archive"<br><i>2016 PAMLA Conference (Pasadena, CA)</i>  | November 2016 |
| "Pedagogies of Poetry: The Transformational Rhetorics of Lyn Hejinian and Susanne Langer"<br><i>2016 Rhetoric Society of America Conference (Atlanta, GA)</i>   | May 2016      |

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| “Kenneth Burke and the Poetics of Pure Persuasion”<br><i>2014 PAMLA Conference (Riverside, CA)</i>   | November 2014 |
| Reassessing Language Poetry: Thirty Years After <i>The L=A=N=G=U=A=G=E Book</i><br><i>Chair, Special Session / 2014 PAMLA Conference (Riverside, CA)</i>   | November 2014 |
| “Rediscovering Russell Atkins: <i>Heretofore</i> and the Rhetoric of Rebirth”<br><i>2014 American Literature Assn. Poetry Symposium (Savannah, GA)</i>   | October 2014  |
| “Digital Poetics + You = Pure Persuasion”<br><i>The Ninth Conference of the Kenneth Burke Society (St. Louis, Missouri)</i>  | July 2014     |
| “Literature as Equipment for Living: Teaching the Texts of the 2010s”<br><i>The Society for Contemporary Literature Teaching Roundtable<br/>2014 American Literature Assn. Conference (Washington, D.C.)</i> | May 2014      |
| “Reading Without Violence: The Poetics of Deliberate Inscrutability and Erica Hunt’s <i>Local History</i> ”<br><i>2013 PAMLA Conference (San Diego, California)</i>  | November 2013 |
| “Kenneth Burke, Louis Zukofsky, and the Comic Framing of “A-23”<br><i>2012 PAMLA Conference (Seattle, Washington)</i>  | October 2012  |
| “‘Ghosts which have run mad in the subways’: Ashbery, George Oppen, and ‘A Language of New York’”<br><i>2012 NeMLA Conference (Rochester, New York)</i>  | March 2012    |
| “Assembling Reminders: Wittgenstein, Language, and Kenneth Goldsmith’s ‘Uncreative Writing’”<br><i>2012 CCTE Conference (Fort Worth, Texas)</i>  | March 2012    |

## CAMPUS PRESENTATIONS

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| “Avant-Rhetoric: Innovation as Argument in Postwar American Poetry”<br><i>William J. and Yvonne Hyde Colloquium Series (UW-L English Dept.)</i>                    | December 2015 |
| “Dissertation Leftovers: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle”<br><i>American Culture Interest Group</i>   | February 2015 |
| “Literature of the Here & Now: Toward a Postmillennial Pedagogy”<br><i>American Culture Interest Group</i>   | April 2014    |
| “Comprehensive Exams as Professional Development: Becoming a Better Teacher During the Most Stressful Time of Your Life”<br><i>American Culture Interest Group</i> | August 2013   |
| Pearson LearningStudio Gradebook Training<br><i>2013 Pre-Semester Workshop for New TCU Graduate Instructors</i>  | August 2013   |
| “Making the Most Out of Your Conference Presentation Experience”<br><i>American Culture Interest Group</i>   | November 2012 |

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| “Navigating the Application Process: Tips from an Old Pro”<br><i>TCU Graduate School Forum, 2012</i>  | October 2012 |
| Pearson LearningStudio Gradebook Training<br><i>2012 Pre-Semester Workshop for New TCU Graduate Instructors</i>                               | August 2012  |
| “So, You Want to Apply for Graduate School...?”<br><i>TCU Graduate School Forum, 2011</i>   | October 2011 |
| “Choosing the Right Graduate Program for You”<br><i>TCU Graduate School Forum, 2010</i>   | October 2010 |
| “The Abolitionist Poetry of John Greenleaf Whittier”<br><i>Dr. Sarah Robbins’s Undergraduate Course in 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Literature</i> | October 2010 |

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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|---|----------------|
| Professional Learning Community (PLC) at Work Training<br><i>UW-La Crosse School of Education</i>           | September 2016 |
| The 35th Annual Wisconsin Reading Research Symposium<br><i>Madison, Wisconsin</i>                           | June 2016      |
| English Language Arts Regional PLC<br><i>UW-La Crosse &amp; La Crescent-Hokah Public Schools</i>            | April 2016     |
| “Rethinking Your Grading Workload”<br><i>UW-La Crosse Center for Advancing Teaching and Learning (CATL)</i> | September 2015 |

## LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

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| “Eagle Apprentices” Undergraduate Research Mentor<br><i>Morgan Gates, English Education</i>      | 2016-2017    |
| Secondary Teacher Education Preparation (STEP) Assessment Committee                              | 2016-Present |
| Secondary Teacher Education Preparation (STEP) Committee   | 2015-Present |
| Composition Committee<br><i>UW-La Crosse English Department</i>                                  | 2015-Present |
| Literature Committee<br><i>UW-La Crosse English Department</i>                                   | 2015-Present |
| English Education Committee<br><i>UW-La Crosse English Department</i>                            | 2015-Present |
| TCU Honors College Program Review<br><i>Session Leader, Branding &amp; Marketing Review</i>      | 2014         |
| Undergraduate Teaching Mentor<br><i>Elizabeth de Gravelle, Secondary English Education (TCU)</i> | 2013         |

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| President, Winifred Bryan Horner Rhetoric Society<br><i>TCU Chapter of the Rhetoric Society of America</i> | 2012–2013 |
| Creative Writing Job Search Committee  | 2012      |
| American Culture Interest Group  | 2011–2015 |

## FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

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|---|-----------|
| TCU Doctoral Teaching Fellowship  | 2014–2015 |
| Graduate Travel Grant<br><i>TCU English Department</i>  | 2013–2014 |
| Graduate Student Research Travel Grant<br><i>TCU Office of Graduate Studies</i>                             | 2013      |
| Graduate Travel Grant<br><i>TCU English Department</i>  | 2012–2013 |
| Ida M. Green Doctoral Fellowship, TCU<br><i>Awarded annually to top incoming student in English Studies</i> | 2010–2011 |
| UCF Graduate Merit Fellowship   | 2003–2005 |

## AWARDS AND HONORS

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|---|-----------|
| Nominee, Faculty Member of the Year<br><i>UW-La Crosse Residence Life (White Hall)</i>  | 2015-2016 |
| Graduate Instructor of the Year<br><i>TCU English Department</i>  | 2014      |
| The Australia Tarver Award for Critical Essay on Race, Post-Colonialism,<br>or Multi-Ethnic Studies<br>"My Colored Contradictions': George C. Wolfe's <i>The Colored Museum</i> as<br>Rhetorical Performance" | 2014      |
| PAMLA Graduate Student Scholarship<br><i>PAMLA 2012 Conference Graduate Student Scholarship Committee</i>   | 2012      |
| Outstanding Graduate Student Award<br><i>First- or Second Year Student in English Studies</i>   | 2012      |
| Betsy Colquitt Graduate Poetry Award<br><i>TCU Creative Writing Awards</i>  | 2012      |
| Outstanding Graduate Student Award<br><i>First- or Second Year Student in English Studies</i>   | 2011      |
| TCU Library Scholar Study Award   | 2010      |
| Seminole County Public Schools, "Rookie Teacher of the Year"<br><i>SCPS High Schools (Grades 9–12)</i>  | 2006      |

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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The Kenneth Burke Society  
Modern Language Association  
National Council of Teachers of English  
Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association  
Phi Beta Kappa  
Rhetoric Society of America

## REFERENCES

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### **Dr. Sarah Robbins**

Lorraine Sherley Professor of Literature  
Interim Dean of the Honors College  
Texas Christian University  
TCU Box 297270  
Fort Worth, Texas  
(817) 257-5146  
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### **Dr. Ann George**

Professor, Rhetoric and Composition  
Texas Christian University  
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### **Dr. David Colón**

Associate Professor, American Literature  
Texas Christian University  
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(817) 257-5667  
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### **Dr. Brian Reed**

Professor, American Literature  
English Department Chair  
University of Washington  
Box 354330  
Seattle, Washington  
(206) 543-2690  
bmreed@u.washington.edu