

James R. Simmons, Jr.

Associate Professor of English, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA 71272-0001 simmons@latech.edu
Holder of the George K. Anding Endowed Professorship of English

EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of South Carolina, May 1997
Major Area: Nineteenth-Century British Literature
Concentrations: Victorian Literature, The Nineteenth-Century British Novel
Minor Area: Renaissance Literature

M.A. University of South Carolina, 1994
Major Area: Nineteenth-Century British Literature
Minor Area: Restoration and Eighteenth-Century Literature

B.A. Coastal Carolina University
Major: English Minor: Business Administration

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

June 2008 - Present	Director of the Center for Educational Excellence, Louisiana Tech University
Sept. 2003 - Present	Associate Professor Of English, Louisiana Tech University
Sept. 1997 - Aug. 2003	Assistant Professor Of English, Louisiana Tech University
Sept. 1996 - June 1997	Assistant Director of Freshman Composition, University of South Carolina
Sept. 1994 - June 1997	Teaching Assistant, University of South Carolina

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

George K. Anding Endowed Professorship, 2006-Present
Sigma Kappa Professor of the Quarter, Fall 2005
F. Jay Taylor Undergraduate Teaching Award, Louisiana Tech University, 2004-2005
University Senate Award for Teaching, Research, and Service, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-2004
Delta Gamma Outstanding Faculty Award, Louisiana Tech University, 2002-2003
Alpha Chi Omega Best Professor Award, Louisiana Tech University, 1998-1999
Irene D. Elliott Award for Teaching Excellence, The University of South Carolina, 1996-1997

PUBLICATIONS

- Book** Editor, *Factory Lives: Four Nineteenth-Century British Working-Class Autobiographies*. Toronto: Broadview Press, 2007.
- Articles**
- “Teaching 19th-Century Working-Class Autobiographies as Condition-of-England Texts in the Victorian Survey.” In *Teaching Laboring-Class British Literature of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries*. Eds. Kevin Binfield and Tim Burke. New York: MLA. Forthcoming 2009.
- “Anne Brontë’s *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*: The Most Important Brontë Novel?” *The Brontë Messenger*. Forthcoming 2008.
- “‘I have frequently...regretted the manner of her life’: Patrick O’Brian’s Diana Villiers and Jane Austen’s Cousin, Eliza de Feuillide.” *Persuasions: The Jane Austen Journal* 28 (May 2007).
- “‘Don’t tell me about rears and vices; I have been in the Navy all my life’: Profligacy on the High Seas in Jane Austen and Patrick O’Brian.” *English Language Notes* 43.2 (December 2005).
- “Did Willoughby Join the Navy? Patrick O’Brian’s Thirty-Year Homage to Jane Austen.” *Persuasions: The Jane Austen Journal* 26 (May 2005).
- “Pedagogy and Oppositions: Teaching Non-Canonical British Women Writers at the Technical University.” In *Teaching British Women Writers, 1750-1900*. Eds. Shannon Wooden and Jeanne Moskal. New York: Peter Lang, 2005.

- “‘Read the name that I have written inside’: Onomastics in Wilkie Collins’ *The Moonstone*.” *English Language Notes* 41.1 (September 2003).
- “No Expectations at All: Women in Dickens’ *Great Expectations*.” *Women in Literature: Evaluating Fiction for Gender Bias*. Eds. Jerilyn Fisher and Ellen Sibler Westport, CT: Greenwood, 2003.
- “Industrialization, the Proletariat, and Commodity Culture: The Victorian Industrial and ‘Condition of England’ Novel.” *The Blackwell Companion to the Victorian Novel*. Eds. Patrick Brantlinger and William B. Thesing. Oxford: Blackwell, 2002.
- “*Jane Eyre*’s Symbolic Paintings.” *The Journal of Brontë Studies* 27.3 (November 2002).
- “‘If America goes on breeding men like that’: *Dracula*’s Quincey Morris Problematized.” *Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts* 12.4 (Spring 2002).
- “Class, Matriarchy, and Power: Contextualizing the Governess in *Agnes Grey*.” *New Approaches to the Art of Anne Brontë*. Eds. Barbara Suess and Julie Nash. Aldershot, England: Ashgate, 2001.
- “‘Every Discernable Thing in It Was Covered in Dust and Mould’: Radcliffe’s Chateau-le-Blanc and Dickens’s Satis House.” *The Dickensian* 91.1 (Spring 1997).
- “‘In the Rank Sweat of an Enseamed Bed’: Sexual Aberration and the Paradigmatic Screen *Hamlets*.” *Literature/Film Quarterly* 25.2 (April 1997).
- “Scrooge, Falstaff, and the Rhetoric of Indigence.” *English Language Notes* 32.3 (March 1995).
- “A *Curiosity Shop* for the 1990s: A Kinder, Gentler Quilp.” *The Dickensian* No. 436 Vol. 91 (Summer 1995).
- “‘Small, Prim, and Quaker-Like’: Reinventing Joanna Baillie as *Jane Eyre*.” *Brontë Society Transactions* 21.4 (Winter 1994).

Reviews

- “How the Other Half Lived: *The Grove Diaries*.” Review Essay on Desmond Hawkins’s *The Grove Diaries: The Rise and Fall of an English Family, 1809 -1925*. *Documentary Editing* 19.4 (December 1997).
- Review of Clinton Machann’s *The Genre of Autobiography in Victorian Literature*. *Nineteenth -Century Prose* 23.2 (Fall 1996).
- “*High Life* Resurrected: The Reclamation of the Lost Brontë Saga.” Review Essay on Christine Alexander’s *Charlotte Brontë’s High Life in Verdopolis: A Story From the Glass Town Saga*. *Documentary Editing* 18.4 (December 1996).
- Review of Muriel Spark’s *The Essence of the Brontës*. *Victorian Studies* 38.2 (Winter 1995).

Contributions to Books

- “Teaching *Hamlet*, Film, and Psychological Criticism.” *Instructor’s Manual for Reading, Writing, and Literature, An Introduction*. Ed. Steven Lynn. New York: Harper Collins, 1999.
- “The Year in Literary Biography.” *The Dictionary of Literary Biography Yearbook, 1998*. (Detroit: Gale, 1999).
- “Anne Brontë.” *Victorian Women Poets*. Ed. William B. Thesing. (Detroit: Gale, 1998) Volume 199 of *The Dictionary of Literary Biography*.
- “George Henry Calvert.” *American National Biography*. (Oxford University Press, 1998).
- “Ellen Johnston.” *Victorian Women Poets*. Ed. William B. Thesing. (Detroit: Gale, 1998). Volume 199 of *The Dictionary of Literary Biography*.
- “Robert Clark.” *American National Biography* (Oxford University Press, 1998).

"G.K. Chesterton." *Encyclopedia of the Essay* (London: Fitzroy Dearborn, 1997).

"Harriet Martineau." *Feminist Writers* (Detroit: St. James, 1996).

"Stanley J. Weyman." *British Short Story Writers, 1880-1914: The Romantic Tradition*. Ed. William F. Naufftus. (Detroit: Gale, 1995). Vol. 156 of *The Dictionary of Literary Biography*.

"Amelia Opie." *British Writers of Short Fiction and Tales, 1790 - 1880*. Ed. John Greenfield. (Detroit, Gale, 1995). Vol. 159 of *The Dictionary of Literary Biography*.

"*The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas*." *The Reference Guide to American Literature* (Detroit: St. James, 1995).

"Barbara W. Tuchman." *The Reference Guide to American Literature* (St. James, 1995).

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND CHAIRED PANELS

"Living with Post-Tenure Review." 66th Annual Conference of Louisiana Colleges and Universities, March 18th and 19th, 2004; The University of New Orleans. Panel Chair.

"'A reddish face, a large mouth & many teeth gone': Altered Portraits, Suppressed Photographs, and the Visual Beautification of the Brontës." Ninth Annual Conference on 18th- and 19th-Century British Women Writers, March 15 - 17, 2001; The University of Kansas.

"'To Live in Idleness and in All Sorts of Vice, Upon the Produce of Infant Labour': Richard Carlile's Radical *Lion* and the Factory Question." Research Society for Victorian Periodicals. September 24-26, 1999; Yale University.

"'I returned to my former evil practices, as the dog to his vomit': Working-Class Autobiographies by Women and the Parameters of Sexuality." Eighth Annual Conference on 18th- and 19th-Century British Women Writers, September 18-20, 1999; The University of New Mexico.

"'It Was the Best of Times, It Was the Worst of Times': Fictional Modes of Violence in Dickens' Novels and the Era of the Silent Film." Twenty-Fourth Annual Conference on Literature and Film. January 28-30, 1999; Florida State University.

"Pedagogy and Oppositions: Noncanonical British Women Writers Versus Biochemistry, Engineering, and Aviation Technology." Seventh Annual Conference on 18th- and 19th-Century British Women Writers, March 26-28, 1998; The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

"'They Shall Want No Good Thing That A Mother's Care Can Give': The Exegesis of Motherhood in Anne Brontë's *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*." Fifth Annual Conference on 18th- and 19th-Century British Women Writers, March 21-23, 1996; The University of South Carolina.

"'In All Their Wretchedness, In All the Squalid Misery of Their Lives': Working-Class Autobiography and Gender Dicotomized Methodology." Twentieth Annual Meeting of the Philological Association of the Carolinas, March 1996; Winthrop University.

"'A Positive Check to the Natural Increase in Population': Dickens, Martineau, and the Problematics of the Malthusian Trap." Twenty-Third Annual Carolinas Symposium on British Studies. October 5-6, 1996; Coastal Carolina University.

"Dickens Through a Cracked Lens: Early Cinematic Versions of *Oliver Twist*." Twentieth Annual Conference on Literature and Film. January 26 - 28, 1995; Florida State University.

"'Miserable Realities': Fictive Biography and Victorian Factory Children." Twenty-Second Annual Carolinas Symposium on British Studies. October 7-8, 1995; Appalachian State University.

"*The Tenant of Wildfell Hall: Anne Brontë's Indictment of Victorian Society.*" Third Annual Conference on 18th- and 19th-Century British Women Writers. April 15 - 16, 1994; Michigan State University.

"Anne Brontë and the Problematic of the Feminist Paradigm." Seventh Annual Women's Studies Conference. April 1994; The University of South Carolina.

"Davis, Dickens, Cather, and Fields: The Long, Strange Journey of 'Blind Tom.'" American Women Writers and the Literary Marketplace. December 1994; The University of South Carolina.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE

President, University Senate, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-2004.
Vice President, University Senate, Louisiana Tech University, 2002-2003.
Parliamentarian, University Senate, Louisiana Tech University, 2000-2001, 2001-2002.
Executive Committee, University Senate, Louisiana Tech University, 2001-2004.
University Senate, Louisiana Tech University, September 1999-2004, 2006-Present.
Presidential Investigative Task Force, 2004 -2005.
University Foundation Professorship Award Committee, 2005.
NCAA Self-Study Subcommittee for Equity and Student Athlete Welfare, 2004-2005.
Chair, NCAA Self-Study Subcommittee for Minority Equity, 2004-2005.
Academic Integrity Committee, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-Present.
Administrative and Planning Council, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-2004.
Behavioral Standards Committee, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-Present.
Committee to Oversee Greek Housing, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-Present.
Honor Council, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-2004.
Committee to Review Final Exam Procedures, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-2004
Parking Committee, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-Present.
SACS Steering Committee, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-2005.
SACS Subcommittee Work Group Beta, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-2004.
Student Self-Assessed Fees Oversight Committee, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-2004.
University Seminar Oversight Committee, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-Present.
Contact Person for the Center of Information, Technology, and Distance Learning, School of Language and Literature, 2001-Present.
Smart/Technology Classroom Steering Committee, 2006-Present.
Student Organizations Committee, Faculty Senate Representative, 1999-Present.
Graduate Faculty, Louisiana Tech University, September 1997-Present.
Chair, Graduate Exam Revision Committee, 2001-2002.
English Department Curriculum Committee, 2001-2002.
Technical Writing Committee, 1998-2003, 2005-2006.
Webmaster, School of Literature and Language and English Department, August 2000-2005.
Editor, *The Louisiana Tech University Technical Writing Handbook*, 1999-2003.
Editor, *The English Department Newsletter*, Louisiana Tech University, September 1999 - 2002.
Louisiana Tech Department of English Job-Search Committee, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2006
University Committee to Select "Who's Who Among American Universities and Colleges," 1997-1998; 1999-2000.
Instructor, University 100, Louisiana Tech University. An introductory course for incoming freshmen.

GRANTS

Louisiana Tech Grant for Travel to CIEE London, 2007. \$4000
Co-Investigator, Distance Learning Initiative Grant, \$25,153, Louisiana Board of Regents, Fall 2000.
Louisiana Tech Research Council Summer Research Grant, 1998, 1999, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006.
Various amounts from \$250 to \$1000.
Dissertation Research Grant, 1995-1996. University of South Carolina.

INSTRUCTIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- “Preparing Job Application Materials.” American Institute of Chemical Engineers, Louisiana Tech. University, September 2007.
- “Writing Better Résumés.” Institute of Electronic Electrical Engineers, Louisiana Tech University, February 2007.
- “Writing Better Résumés.” American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Louisiana Tech University, 26 September 2006.
- “Job Search Documents.” Institute of Electronic Electrical Engineers, Louisiana Tech University, February 2006.
- “Writing Better Résumés.” The Institute of Industrial Engineers, Louisiana Tech University, 25 October 2005.
- “Interviewing Techniques.” The Institute of Industrial Engineers, Louisiana Tech University, 4 May 2004.
- “Being Prepared for the Interview” Institute of Electronic Electrical Engineers, Louisiana Tech University, 31 March 2004.
- “Best Practices: Practical Applications of the Multimedia Classroom.” Louisiana Tech , 23 April 2002.
- “Smart-Classroom Teaching: Technology as a Complement, Not a Crutch.” Brown-Bag Luncheon Series, Louisiana Tech, 17 January 2002.
- “The Brontës: A Smart-Classroom Demonstration.” Presented for the Louisiana Tech Fee Committee. October 31, 2001.
- “Using Presentation Software to Contextualize Regency and Victorian England.” Panelist on “Innovation and Collaboration: Delivering Distance English Education.” Technology in Higher Education Conference. 10 April 2000; Louisiana State University.

THESES DIRECTED

- “Clipped Wings and Subsumed Identity: Blindness as a Social Control in *Bleak House* and *Jane Eyre*.” Lauren Coleman. To Be Defended May 2009.
- “Capitalist Venom and “the Visible God”: Dickens’s Critique of Human Relationships in *Dombey and Son* and *Little Dorrit*.” April Clark Honnaker. To Be Defended February 2009.
- “The Student-Teacher Relationship as a Foundation for Romantic Attachments in Charlotte Brontë’s *The Professor*, *Shirley*, and *Villette*.” Christine E. Belsom. Successfully Defended May 2008.
- “Friends and Collaborators: Charles Dickens, Wilkie Collins, and the Rise of the Sensation Novel in Victorian England.” Barbara Glenn, Successfully Defended May 2006.
- “Novel to Film Adaptation, Fidelity, and Social Stereotypes about Women and Marriage: A Critical Analysis of Two Film Versions of Charlotte Brontë’s *Jane Eyre*.” Danika Bethea Taylor, Successfully Defended May 2004.
- “A Jane Austen Naif in a Sex and the City World: Bridget Jones as the Re-invention of the Austen Heroine.” Carey Bess Roberson, Successfully Defended February 2003.
- ““And drew in her breath with a hissing sound’: The Emergence of the Female Vampire in Victorian Literature.” Megan Crystal Webb, Successfully Defended May 2003.
- “Role Models and Reversals: Images of Women in Dickens’s *Dombey and Son*.” Jessica Lea Flowers, Successfully Defended May 2002.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Modern Language Association
Mensa International
The Brontë Society

REGULARLY-TAUGHT COURSES

Dickens and His World (English 583)	A graduate seminar on the life and works of Charles Dickens.
Jane Austen (English 583)	A graduate seminar on the life and works of Jane Austen
Victorian Sensation Novels (English 583)	A graduate seminar that examines the sensation novels of the 1860s.
Austen and the Brontës (English 575)	A graduate seminar on the novels of Jane Austen and the Brontës.
19th-Century Gothic and Horror Literature (English 475)	An examination of the genre from its origins through the late 19 th century.
The Brontës (English 475)	A seminar on the novels and poetry of Anne, Emily, and Charlotte Brontë.
Technical and Scientific Presentations (English 463)	The presentation of technical information to technical and non-technical audiences; emphasis on organization, support, and clarity of presentation; effective use of visual materials, and instruction in presentation software.
Capstone (English 450)	A course to assist English majors to prepare for post-graduate opportunities, such as the work force or graduate school.
Victorian Literature (English 414)	A survey of the drama, poetry, and prose of the Victorian period.
The 19th-Century British Novel (English 411)	Traces the development of the British novel during 19 th century. Authors include Austen, Scott, Shelley, Dickens, the Brontës, Eliot, Thackeray, and others.