

William Casey Caldwell

Carthage College
Department of English
Lentz Hall
Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140

wcaldwell@carthage.edu · w.casey.caldwell@gmail.com

CURRENT POSITION: Adjunct Assistant Professor of English, Carthage College (2021-Present)

RESEARCH AND TEACHING FIELDS: Early modern literature, especially drama; Shakespeare; Medieval literature; citizenship studies; economic theory; history of sexuality; history of philosophy; theater history and practice; British literature; horror fiction; Cervantes; rhetoric and composition

EDUCATION

Ph.D. (2019) Northwestern University, English Literature

Dissertation: “Imaginary Currency: Monetary Imaginaries in Early Modern Theater”

Committee: Professors Wendy Wall (chair), Jeffrey Masten, Susan Phillips, William West

Cornell Summer Critical Theory Program (2017) Seminar: Posthumanism
Summer Institute in Cologne (2015) Seminar: Early Modern Poetics of the Image

M.F.A. in Directing (2011) Mary Baldwin University and the American Shakespeare Center
Directing Thesis Production: Thomas Dekker’s *The Shoemaker’s Holiday*

Master of Letters (2010) Mary Baldwin University and the American Shakespeare Center
Thesis: “Friendship, Laughter, and Civics: Traversing the 5th Wall”

M.A. (2007) University of Auckland, New Zealand, Philosophy, Honors

B.A. (2003) University of Texas at Austin, Philosophy with Special Honors, Mathematics minor

PUBLICATIONS

Urban Citizens in Early Modern Drama: City, Nation, and Commerce. Arden/Bloomsbury Press (forthcoming)

Dramatic Democracy in Early Modern Drama (second book project in progress)

“James Loehlin, Shakespeare at Winedale, and Learning through Performance,” *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* (forthcoming, 2026)

“Brexit, Shylock, and Urban Citizenship.” In *None a Stranger There: England and/in Europe on the Early Modern Stage*, edited by Scott Oldenburg and Matteo Pangallo. University of Alabama Press, 2024.

“‘Ye Pay All Alike:’ The Vice of Collecting Money in *Mankind*.” In *Money and Magic in Early Modern Drama*, edited by David Hawkes. Arden/Bloomsbury Press, 2022.

“Shakespeare’s *Henry V* and the Ciphers of History,” *SEL: Studies in English Literature*, Spring 2021.

“The Comic Structure of the Globe: History, Direct Address, and the Representation of Laughter in a Reconstructed Playhouse,” *Shakespeare Bulletin* 31 (2013), 375–403.

“The Reconstructed Dramaturg” (with Amy Kenny), *Theatre Topics* 24.1 (Mar. 2014), 11-23.

EDITORIAL WORK

Editor (2018–2024): *The Hare: A Journal of Untimely Reviews in Early Modern Theater*

INVITED TALKS

“Queer Procreation and Urban Belonging in *The Merchant of Venice*”
Visiting Speaker Series, Carthage College, 2023

“*As You Like It* and the Politics of Isolation”
The McElroy Shakespeare Celebration, Loyola University, 2021

“Between Economics and Early Modern Literary Studies”
Employing Interdisciplinarity Conference, Notre Dame University, 2019

“Money, Justice, and Freedom in *The Handmaid’s Tale*”
Stateville Correctional Center / One Book One Northwestern, 2018

CONFERENCE PANELS AND PRESENTATIONS

“Denizenship and City Comedy”
Renaissance Society of America Conference, Boston, MA 2025

“‘A Mutinous Company of Citizens’: Citizenship, Mobs, and Food precarity in *Coriolanus*”
Shakespeare Association of American Conference, Boston, MA, 2025

“Economies of Toleration in *Englishmen for My Money*”
Strangers and Neighbors Conference, Notre Dame Global Hub, London, England, 2022

“‘Ye pay all alike’: Money, Labor, and Performance in *Mankind*”
Blackfriars Conference, American Shakespeare Center, Staunton, VA, 2019

“A Barren Breed: Corporeal Usury and the Price of Affect in *The Merchant of Venice*”
Shakespeare Association of America, Los Angeles, CA, 2018

“Ciphers to this great accompt’: Shakespearean History and the Double-Entry of Absence”
Plenary, Blackfriars Conference, Staunton, VA, 2017

“Deciphering the Dramatic Life of the Early Modern Jetton”
Renaissance Society of America, Chicago, IL, 2017

“The Funny Thing About Syphilis: The Sexual Economy of a Jest in *Twelfth Night*”
Modern Language Association, Austin, TX, 2016

Colloquy Chair, “Theory and Original Practices: Indoor Playhouses Past and Present”
Blackfriars Conference, American Shakespeare Center, Staunton, VA, 2015

“Enduring Vulnerability: *Edward II* and an Ethics of Friendship”
Modern Language Association, Chicago, IL, 2013

“Laughter in Space and Time”
Blackfriars Conference, American Shakespeare Center, Staunton VA, 2011

Master of Letters Thesis Symposium (creator, organizer, moderator), Mary Baldwin University,
Staunton, VA, 2009 – 2010

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Carthage College
Outstanding Teaching Award for an Adjunct, 2024

Northwestern University
Summer Critical Theory Fellowship, Cornell Critical Theory Program, 2017
Franke Graduate Fellow, Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, 2016 – 2017
English Department, Award for Excellence as a Teaching Assistant, 2014 – 2015
Mellon Theater and Performance Cluster Fellowship, 2013

Mary Baldwin University
Andrew Gurr Award for Outstanding Master of Letters Thesis, 2010

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Carthage College, English Department

Adjunct Assistant Professor of English

- “Queer Chaucer: Gender and Sexuality in *The Canterbury Tales*,” (Fall ‘25)
- “Cervantes’s *Don Quixote* and its Legacies,” (Fall ‘23, Fall ‘24)
- “Shakespeare,” (Spring ‘23, Spring ‘24, Spring ‘25)
- “Love and Money from Shakespeare to Crazy Rich Asians,” (Spring ‘23)
- “Literatures of Citizenship” (Spring ‘22, Spring ‘23, Spring ‘25)
- “Ghost Stories in Literature and Film” (Spring ‘22, Fall ‘23, Fall ‘24, Fall ‘25)
- “Risky Business and the American Dream” (Spring, ‘24)
- “Foreign Citizens in Early Modern Drama” (Fall ‘21)
- “Money and Power in Early Modern Drama” (Fall ‘21, Fall ‘22)

Northwestern University, English Department

Visiting Assistant Professor

- “Ghost Stories in Literature and Film” (Summer ‘20)
- “Love and Money from Shakespeare to *Crazy Rich Asians*” (Spring ‘20)
- “Commerce and Power in Early Modern Drama” (Spring ‘20)
- “Sexuality and Science Fiction,” First Year Seminar (Winter ‘19)
- “Risky Business and the American Dream” (Fall ‘19)

Co-instructor with Professor Wendy Wall

- “Shakespeare, Justice, and Politics,” Stateville Correctional Center (Spring ‘18)

Graduate Instructor of Record

- “Debt and Power: From *Hamlet* to *The Big Short*,” (Winter ‘18)

Teaching Assistant

- “Studies in Contemporary Fiction: David Foster Wallace” (Spring ‘16)
- “Shakespeare’s Circuits: Local, Global, Digital” (Winter ‘16)
- “British Literary Traditions I: Chaucer to Samuel Johnson” (Winter ‘15)
- “Introduction to Shakespeare” (Fall ‘14)

Roosevelt University, English Department

Lecturer

- “Composition I: Critical Reading and Writing” (Fall ‘20)
- “Literary Studies: Short Fiction, Poetry, and Drama” (Spring and Summer ‘20)
- “British Literature Survey I: *Beowulf* to 1789” (Fall ‘19)

Mary Baldwin University, Shakespeare and Performance Program

Lecturer

- “Shakespeare and Philosophy,” graduate course (Spring ‘12)
- “Research Methods,” graduate course (Fall ‘11)
- “Introduction to Theatre,” undergraduate course (Fall ‘10)
- “Theory Colloquium: Practical Life of Concepts,” graduate course (Fall ‘10)

Teaching Assistant

- “Careers in Theater,” (Fall ‘10)
- “Rhetoric and Composition I:” (Spring ‘10)

The University of Texas at Austin

Visiting Teaching Assistant, Theatre Department

- “Introduction to Acting Shakespeare” (Spring 2011)

Assistant Director, Shakespeare at Winedale, (Summer ‘09, Summer ‘10)

The University of Auckland

Teaching Assistant, Philosophy Department

- “20th Century French Philosophy” (Spring 2007)
- “Introduction to Philosophy,” (Fall 2006)
- “Biomedical Ethics,” (Spring 2006)
- “Walter Benjamin” (Fall 2005)

PUBLIC HUMANITIES EXPERIENCE

Shakespeare's Sanctuary City (Summer 2025): Newberry Library, Adult Education Program

Designed and taught a seminar for continuing education students, focused on connecting concepts of urban citizenship in early modern drama to Chicago's status as a sanctuary city for the Newberry Library, a public, research-oriented, library

Shakespeare's History Plays (Fall 2022): Newberry Library, Teachers' Consortium Seminar

Designed and taught a seminar for high school teachers seeking fresh approaches to Shakespeare's history plays, with special emphasis on themes related to politics, family, and gender and sexuality, for the Newberry Library, a public, research-oriented, library

Preamble Speaker (2017-2021): Chicago Shakespeare Theater

Provided weekly public lectures on current productions, including *Love's Labors Lost* (2017), *Mary Stuart* (2018), *Red Velvet* (2018), *Romeo and Juliet* (2019)

Shakespeare, Justice, and Politics (2018): Stateville Prison, Prison + Neighborhood Arts Project

Assisted in course design, taught class sessions in maximum security prison with Prison + Neighborhood Arts Project, a visual arts and humanities project connecting artists and scholars with incarcerated students at Stateville (IL) Maximum Security Prison

Debt Dialogue Series (2017): Kaplan Humanities Institute, Northwestern University

Organized and moderated Evanston Public Library public dialogue around student debt between Morton Schapiro (President of Northwestern University) and Bruce Carruthers (Director of the Buffett Institute for Global Studies)

City Desk Correspondent (2016): Shakespeare 400 Chicago

Wrote scholarly reviews of productions, including The Q Brother's *Othello: The Remix*, and Shanghai Jingju Theatre's *The Revenge of Prince Zi Dan*

Podcast Host (2012): American Shakespeare Center Renaissance Season, *Richard III* Actor-Scholar Council

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/american-shakespeare-center/id128950460>

Senior Research Assistant (2011): Shakespeare's Globe Theatre

Produced dramaturgical research for productions in rehearsal, organized visiting talks and theater workshops for the public, interviewed actors and directors for scholarly database

Assistant to the Artistic Director, Dramaturg (2011): Austin Shakespeare

Assisted the Artistic Director in the rehearsal, design, and production process for *Man and Superman*, provided dramaturgical research, and guided audience Q&A sessions with actors

Assistant Director (2009, 2010): Shakespeare at Winedale Program, University of Texas

Assisted the Director of the program in every aspect of day-to-day operations of intensive, in-residence summer learning-through-performance program. Lived on site with students for three months. Directed and acted in scenes, aided in costume and prop design, liaised with the program coordinator, liaised with donors, participated in strenuous outdoor activities, sports, and rehearsal exercises.

PROFESSIONAL AND CAMPUS SERVICE

Peer Reviewer, *Renaissance Drama* (2025)

External Reader, Dissertation, “Activating Audiences Today” (2025): University of Colorado

The English Players, Director (2024, 2025): Carthage College

Young Shakespeares, Founding Director (2025): Carthage College

Stratford Theater Festival Trip, Co-Director (2023, 2024, 2025): Carthage College

Early Modern Colloquium Co-Coordinator (2016-2017): Northwestern University

Graduate Assistant (2015): Ad Hoc Faculty Committee for Undergraduate Major Reform, English Department, Northwestern University

Monologue Audition Slam (2011): Mary Baldwin University

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Shakespeare Association of America

Renaissance Society of America