

## JAMES KUZNER

Department of English  
Brown University  
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### Employment:

2022-present	Professor, Brown University.
2017-2022	Associate Professor, Brown University.
2015-2017	Joukowsky Family Assistant Professor, Brown University.
2013-2015	Assistant Professor, Brown University.
2008-2013	Assistant Professor, Case Western Reserve University.
2007-2008	Visiting Assistant Professor, Pomona College.

### Education:

2002-2008	Johns Hopkins University. PhD in English, May 2008. M.A. in English, May 2005. Advisors: Jonathan Goldberg and Richard Halpern.
1996-2000	University of Maryland, College Park. B.A., May 2000, magna cum laude, with honors in English. Majors: English and Philosophy.

### Publications:

#### Books:

in progress	<i>King Lear and the Irony of Disability</i>
2021	<i>The Form of Love: Poetry's Quarrel with Philosophy</i> (Fordham UP). 240 pp.
2016	<i>Shakespeare as a Way of Life: Skeptical Practice and the Politics of Weakness</i> (Fordham UP). 232 pp.
2011	<i>Open Subjects: English Renaissance Republicans, Modern Selfhoods, and the Virtue of Vulnerability</i> (Edinburgh UP, Edinburgh Critical Studies in Renaissance Culture, ed. Lorna Hutson). 232 pp. Paperback edition October 2012.

### Essays in Journals:

- forthcoming "King Lear and the Irony of Care," accepted for publication in *ELH: English Literary History* (12,000 words).
- 2024 "King Lear and the Irony of Capacity," forthcoming in *Modern Language Quarterly: A Journal of Literary History* 85.2.
- 2023 "King Lear and the Irony of Blindness," *Modern Philology* 121.2: 145-168.
- 2021 "George Herbert's 'The Flower' and the Problem of Praise," *Modern Language Quarterly* 82.1: 27-53.
- 2020 "Loving Rhyme: Reading Richard Crashaw's 'The Flaming Heart'," *Modern Philology* 118.1: 1-22.
- 2018 "Friendship, Sovereignty, and Sexuality in Katherine Philips's Poetry," *SEL: Studies in English Literature, 1500-1900* 58.1: 103-124.
- 2017 "All's Well and the Art of Love," *Shakespeare Quarterly* 68.3: 215-240.
- 2014 "Donne's *Biathanatos* and the Public Sphere's Vexing Freedom," *ELH* 81.1: 61-81.
- 2013 "Metaphysical Freedom," *Modern Language Quarterly* 74.4: 465-492.
- 2012 "The Winter's Tale: Faith in Law and the Law of Faith," *Exemplaria: A Journal of Theory in Medieval & Renaissance Studies* 24.3: 260-281.
- 2009 "Habermas Goes to Hell: Pleasure, Public Reason, and the Republicanism of *Paradise Lost*," *Criticism: A Quarterly for Literature and the Arts* 51.1: 105-145.
- 2007 "Unbuilding the City: *Coriolanus* and the Birth of Republican Rome," *Shakespeare Quarterly* 58.2: 174-199.

### Essays in Edited Collections:

- 2024 “Katherine Philips,” in *The Routledge Handbook to Renaissance Literature*, ed. Catherine Bates (forthcoming, 9,000 words).
- 2023 “Skepticism,” in *Shakespeare and Virtue*, ed. Julia R. Lupton and Donovan Sherman (Cambridge University Press) 81-87.
- 2020 “Way of Life,” in *Entertaining the Idea: Shakespeare, Performance, and Philosophy*, ed. Lowell Gallagher, James Kearney, and Julia R. Lupton (University of Toronto Press), 102-114.
- 2016 “*As You Like It* and the Theater of Hospitality,” in *Shakespeare and Hospitality: Ethics, Politics, and Exchange*, ed. David Goldstein and Julia R. Lupton (Routledge), 157-173.
- 2016 “*Hamlet* and the Truth About Friendship,” in *This Distracted Globe: Worldmaking in Early Modern Literature*, eds. Marcie Frank, Jonathan Goldberg, and Karen Newman (Fordham UP), 100-120.
- 2014 “Milton, Habermas, and the Dynamics of Debate,” in *The Return of Theory in Early Modern English Studies*, vol. II, eds. Paul Cefalu, Gary Kuchar, and Bryan Reynolds (Palgrave Macmillan), 237-256.
- 2011 “‘And here’s thy hand’: *Titus Andronicus* in a Time of Terror,” in *Shakespeare Yearbook 20* (“Shakespeare after 9/11” special issue, ed. Matthew Biberian and Julia R. Lupton), 191-201.
- 2010 “*Timon of Athens*: Skepticism, Sovereignty, Sodomy,” in *ShakesQueer*, ed. Madhavi Menon (Duke UP), 361-8.

#### **Reviews and Review Essays:**

- 2021 Review of Hillary Eklund and Wendy Beth Hyman (eds.), *Teaching Social Justice Through Shakespeare: Why Renaissance Literature Matters Now*, in *Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies* 20.4: 115-120.
- 2019 Review of Colleen Rosenfeld’s *Indecorous Thinking: Figures of Speech in Early Modern Poetics*, in *Early Modern Culture* 14: 218-219.

- 2018 Review of Henry Turner's *The Corporate Commonwealth: Pluralism and Political Fictions in England, 1516-1651*, *Modern Philology* 116.3.
- 2015 Review of Brooke Conti's *Confessions of Faith in Early Modern England*, *Modern Philology* 112.4: 301-2.
- 2015 Review of Daniel Juan Gil's *Shakespeare's Anti-Politics: Sovereign Power and the Life of the Flesh*, *Shakespeare Quarterly* 66.1: 97-99.
- 2013 Review of James Helgeson's *The Lying Mirror: The First-Person Stance and Sixteenth-Century Writing*, *Renaissance Quarterly* 66.3: 1106-1107.
- 2012 Review of Julia R. Lupton's *Thinking With Shakespeare: Essays on Politics and Life*, *Modern Language Quarterly* 73.4: 603-5.
- 2012 "Early Modern Ideas of Freedom," review essay on Peter Holbrook's *Shakespeare's Individualism*, Patrick Cheney's *Marlowe's Republican Authorship*, and Nigel Smith's *Is Milton Better than Shakespeare?*, *Modern Philology* 110.1: 140-151.
- 2010 Review of Vitaliy Eyber's "Upon Appleton House": *An Analytic Commentary*, in *Renaissance Quarterly* 63.1: 1023-4.
- 2010 "Nonrepresentational Politics," review essay on Oliver Arnold's *The Third Citizen: Shakespeare's Theater and the Early Modern House of Commons*, in *Criticism: A Quarterly for Literature and the Arts* 51.3: 483-488.
- 2008 Review of Ian Munro's *The Figure of the Crowd in Early Modern London: The City and Its Double*, *Shakespeare Quarterly* 59.1: 106-108.
- 2006 Review of Arthur Marotti's *Religious Ideology and Cultural Fantasy*, *Modern Language Quarterly* 67.4: 534-536.

**Awards:**

- 2012 Carl F. Wittke Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching (nominee).
- 2011 Carl F. Wittke Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching (nominee).
- 2010 W.P. Jones Faculty Development Grant.
- 2009 Fellow, "Making Publics," summer seminar at McGill University.

2005-2006	Johns Hopkins dissertation fellowship.
2002-2003	Johns Hopkins fellowship for doctoral study.
2000	Joyce Tayloe Horrell award for most distinguished English major.

**Invited Lectures:**

April 2022	“Katherine Philips and the Masochistic Couplet,” at Yale University.
July 2020	“The Form of Love: Poetry’s Quarrel with Philosophy,” St. Anne’s College, Oxford.
November 2019	“ <i>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</i> and the Art of Love,” at University of California, Irvine.
October 2019	“Loving Rhyme: Reading Crashaw’s ‘The Flaming Heart,’” at Pomona College.
March 2017	“Textual Masochism,” invited lecture for “The Way We Do Theory Now,” at the University of Texas at Austin.
November 2016	“ <i>All’s Well</i> and the Art of Love,” invited lecture for the Harvard Shakespearean studies seminar.
October 2016	“Shakespeare as a Way of Life,” invited lecture for “Entertaining the Idea: Shakespeare, Philosophy, Performance,” at the University of California, Los Angeles.
April 2015	“‘It Stops Me Here’: Love and Self-Control in <i>Othello</i> ,” invited lecture at University of Auckland, English Department.
May 2013	“ <i>Hamlet</i> and the Truth about Friendship,” invited lecture at University of Auckland, English Department.
December 2012	“Looking Two Ways at Once in <i>Timon of Athens</i> ,” invited lecture at King’s College, London.
March 2012	“Masculinity and Monism in Shakespeare’s <i>Lucrece</i> ,” invited lecture for the Early Modern Masculinities Symposium, the University at Buffalo.
May 2010	“Open Subjects,” invited lecture at the University of York.
January 2010	“Looking Two Ways a Once in <i>Timon of Athens</i> ,” invited lecture at Pomona College.

- April 2009 “‘Without Respect of Utility’: Precarious Life and the Politics of Spenser’s *Legend of Friendship*,” invited lecture for the Harvard English Department’s Renaissance Colloquium.
- January 2009 “*Titus Andronicus* in a time of Terror,” invited lecture at Vanderbilt University.
- January 2008 “‘That Transubstantial Solacisme’: Andrew Marvell, Linguistic Vulnerability, and the Space of the Subject,” invited lecture at Wayne State University.
- January 2008 “‘That Transubstantial Solacisme’: Andrew Marvell, Linguistic Vulnerability, and the Space of the Subject,” invited lecture at University of Alabama-Tuscaloosa.

**Panels, Conference Papers and Seminars:**

- January 2024 “*King Lear* and the Irony of Blindness,” for “Care in Early Modern Literature: Practices and Possibilities,” at the annual meeting of the Modern Language Association.
- January 2024 “Irony as a Way of Life in Donne’s Holy Sonnets,” for “Death and Devotion in John Donne’s Religious Imagination,” at MLA.
- March 2023 “Metaphysical Masochism,” for “Metaphysical Poetry: Genre, Canon, Anthology,” at the annual meeting of the Renaissance Society of America.
- April 2021 Chair for “Shakespeare and Intellectual History,” at the annual meeting of the Shakespeare Association of America.
- January 2021 “Donne: Philosophy, Poetry, Ecstasy,” for “John Donne’s Early Modern Receptions,” at MLA.
- March 2019 “*A Midsummer Night’s Dream* and the Art of Love,” paper contributed to “Theatrical Skepticism,” at SAA.
- February 2019 “Donne: Philosophy, Poetry, Ecstasy,” given at the annual meeting of the John Donne Society.
- April 2016 “The Life of Death in Holy Sonnet 6,” for “Forms of Early Modern Awareness,” at RSA.
- March 2016 “Love and Self-Control in *Othello*,” paper contributed to “Shakespeare and Cavell,” at SAA.

January 2016 “Caliban’s Dream,” for “After Sovereignty,” at MLA.

January 2016 “Death as a Way of Life in Donne,” for “Philosophy and Performance in Seventeenth Century Literature,” at MLA.

December 2015 “Bondage,” given as part of “Political Concepts at Brown,” a working group at Brown University.

March 2014 “*Biathanatos* and the Public Sphere’s Vexing Freedom,” for “Liberty, Bondage, Necessity,” at RSA.

January 2013 “Metaphysical Freedom,” for “Was there a Metaphysical poetry?,” at MLA.

January 2013 “Cognitive Science and the Mind-Body Problem in Shakespeare’s *Lucrece*,” for “Skepticism in the Seventeenth Century,” at MLA.

April 2012 Invited Scholar for “Literature and Theater as Skeptical Labs,” at SAA.

April 2011 “*The Winter’s Tale*: Faith in Law and the Law of Faith,” paper contributed to “Shakespeare and Paul,” at SAA.

April 2010 “Marvell and the Space of the Republican Subject,” for the Princeton Renaissance Studies program at RSA.

December 2009 “Shakespeare’s Sovereign Skeptic,” for “Shakespeare and Sovereignty: Then and Now,” at MLA.

April 2009 Invited Scholar for “Shakespeare and Custom,” at SAA.

March 2009 “Timon’s Non-humanism,” given as part of “Shakespearean Misanthropology,” at RSA.

September 2008 “Why Want?,” for “ShakesQueer,” Cornell University.

March 2008 “Titus and Sacrifice,” paper contributed as an Invited Scholar for “Shakespeare and Sacrifice,” at SAA.

December 2007 “‘Without Respect of Utility’,” for “Spenser’s Useless Loves,” at MLA.

March 2007 “The Enlightenments of *Paradise Lost*,” at the annual Northeast MLA conference.

- February 2007 “Pleasing Sorcery: Milton and the Early Modern Public Sphere,” at the annual meeting of the Group for Early Modern Cultural Studies.
- December 2006 “Unbuilding the City: *Coriolanus* and the Birth of Republican Rome,” for the Johns Hopkins University Journal Club Series.

## Teaching Experience:

### Brown University:

#### Graduate:

- “ENGL 2360V: Literature of Disability,” fall 2023 (enrollment: 14).  
 “ENGL 2360Z: Shakespeare: A Politics of Love,” spring 2021 (13), fall 2016 (5).  
 “ENGL 2901A: Freedom Without Freedoms,” graduate fall 2015 (7).

#### Undergraduate:

- “ENGL 0100P: Love Stories,” fall 2023 (99 [capped at 75]), summer 2023 (20), fall 2021 (110 [capped at 100]), summer 2020 (23), fall 2019 (111 [capped at 100]), summer 2019 (8), summer 2018 (12), fall 2017 (233 [capped at 225]), fall 2016 (143), fall 2015 (81).  
 “ENGL 0310A: Shakespeare,” spring 2023 (30), summer 2021 (30), spring 2018 (84), spring 2017 (75), spring 2016 (51), spring 2014 (34).  
 “ENGL 1311G: Shakespeare, Love, and Friendship,” fall 2022 (39 [capped at 30]), spring 2022 (30), spring 2020 (38 [capped at 30]), fall 2013 (20).  
 “ENGL 0150E: Love and Friendship,” fall 2022 (19), spring 2020 (19), spring 2018 (23), spring 2016 (19).  
 “ENGL 1361G: Tolkien and the Renaissance,” fall 2021 (22 [capped at 20]), fall 2019 (26 [capped at 20]), fall 2017 (22 [capped at 20]), spring 2017 (27 [capped at 20]).  
 “ENGL 1361A: Fantasies of Milton,” fall 2020 (20), fall 2013 (15).  
 “ENGL 0300K: Love and Hate: Medieval to Early Modern,” spring 2014 (16).

#### Dissertation Advising, English:

- Steven Swarbrick (2015)  
 Andrew Naughton (2016)  
 Jessica Tabak (2016)  
 John Casey (2017-2020)  
 Christopher Yates (2017-2021)  
 Christopher Lasasso (2018-present)

### Case Western Reserve University:

#### Graduate:

- “ENGL 508: Milton and Modernity” (graduate course, fall 2011).  
 “ENGL 387/487: Literary Theory” (spring 2011).



“ENGL 510: Research Methods” (graduate course, fall 2009).

**Undergraduate:**

"ENGL 324/424: Shakespeare: Tragedies and Romances" (fall 2011, fall 2010, fall 2009, and fall 2008).

“ENGL 325/425: Shakespeare: Comedies and Histories” (spring 2012, spring 2011, spring 2010 and spring 2009).

“SAGES: Love and Friendship,” (as USSY 286-T, FSSY 129, and USSY 286-T: spring 2012, fall 2010, and spring 2010).

“ENGL 300: English Literature to 1800” (fall 2008).

**Pomona College:**

“Shakespeare: Comedies and Histories” (spring 2008).

“Literary Interpretation” (spring 2008).

“Shakespeare: Tragedies and Romances” (fall 2007).

"Renaissance Selves" (fall 2007).

**Johns Hopkins University:**

“Love and Friendship” (fall 2006 and spring 2007).

"Law and the Body" (fall 2004 and spring 2005).

**Professional Service:**

Book Reviews Editor, *Shakespeare Quarterly* (September 2020-August 2022)

Member, Editorial Board, *Exemplaria: Medieval, Early Modern, Theory* (2015-2020)

Member, Long-Term Fellowship Committee, Folger Shakespeare Library (2019)

Referee for Cambridge University Press (2x)

Referee for Fordham University Press

Referee for Northwestern University Press (2x)

Referee for Oxford University Press (2x)

Referee for University of Toronto Press

Referee for *Criticism: A Quarterly for Literature and the Arts* (3x)

Referee for *Early Modern Literary Studies*

Referee for *Exemplaria: Medieval, Early Modern, Theory* (4x)

Referee for *Literature Compass*

Referee for *Modern Language Quarterly*

Referee for *Modern Philology* (4x)

Referee for *PMLA* (2x)

Referee for *Religion and Literature*

Referee for *Renaissance and Reformation*

Referee for *SEL: Studies in English Literature, 1500-1900*

Referee for *Shakespeare Quarterly* (3x)

Referee for *Upstart: A Journal of Renaissance Studies* (2x)

Letter writer for promotion to full professor, Seton Hall University

Letter writer for promotion to full professor, Pomona College

**College, University, and Department Service:**

**Brown:**

College Curriculum Council (2017-2020)  
Information Technology Advisory Board (2016-2020)  
Job Placement Officer, English (2015-2017)  
Graduate Committee, English (2013-2017)  
Graduate Admissions, English (2013-present)  
English DDIAP chair and co-chair (2019-present)  
Undergraduate Adviser, English (2013-2014, 2016-2019)

**Case Western Reserve University:**

Baker-Nord Steering Committee (2010-2012)  
Search Committee Chair, Renaissance Literature (2012-2013)  
Graduate Committee, English (2008-2013)  
Executive Committee, English (2011-2012)  
Undergraduate Curriculum Review Committee, English (2012)  
Search Committee, American Literature, English (2009-2010)  
World Literature Committee, College of Arts and Sciences (2008-2009)

Updated 10/2023