

# Alan S. Ambrisco

## Education

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| Indiana University | Ph.D. (1999) | <i>Field:</i> English Literature<br>Dissertation: <i>Medieval Man-Eaters: Cannibalism and Community in Middle English Literature</i> |
| Indiana University | M.A. (1995)  | <i>Fields:</i> English Literature<br>Medieval Studies Certificate awarded 1993   |
| SUNY Buffalo       | B.A. (1991)  | <i>Major:</i> English Literature; <i>Minors:</i> Latin, Philosophy (summa cum laude)   |

## Administrative Positions

*Jan 2006-May 2008 Assistant Chair, Department of English, The University of Akron*

Duties: all undergraduate advising; process student forms, including degree clearance forms; meet with incoming students and advise on transfer credits; serve as liaison for academic advising; assist chair whenever necessary.

*May 2003-Jan 2006 Graduate Studies Coordinator, Department of English, The University of Akron*

Duties: recruit new graduate students and process applications to graduate program; process advancement to candidacy forms; advise graduate students on course selection and career goals; chair graduate assistants committee; chair graduate program committee; coordinate hiring of departmental teaching assistants; coordinate Graduate Certificate in Literature Program.

## Teaching Positions

*Fall 99- present Associate Professor, Department of English, The University of Akron*

Graduate Courses: Anglo Saxon, Chaucer, Chaucer's Courtly Poems, Medieval Romance, Middle English Literature, Women in the Middle Ages, Modern Irish Drama

Undergraduate Courses: Anglo Saxon, Chaucer, Classic and Contemporary Literature, English Composition I, English Composition II, English Literature I, Fiction Appreciation, Re-writing the Middle Ages, Middle English Literature, Critical Reading and Writing, Modern Irish Drama, World Literatures, Senior Seminar

- Spring 99*                      *Visiting Professor of Business Communications*  
Kelley School of Business, Indiana University  
Courses Taught: Business Communications
- Fall 97-98*                      *Part-time Faculty Instructor, Department of English, Indiana University*  
Courses Taught: Advanced Expository Writing, Writing and  
Culture, Literary Interpretation, Introduction to Fiction
- Fall 95-Fall 97*                      *Tutor, Part-Time Instructor, International Programs, Indiana University*  
Designed and taught review courses for GRE, TOEFL, SAT, and GED  
tests; provided general tutoring sessions for ESL students.
- Fall 92-Spring 97*                      *Associate Instructor, Department of English, Indiana University*  
Courses Taught: Introduction to Composition, Projects in Reading and  
Writing (“Changing Conceptions of the Hero”), Writing Across the  
Curriculum, Introduction to Writing and the Study of Literature,  
Professional Writing

### **Publications in Refereed Journals**

- “ ‘The Coin of Our Realm’: Blood and Images in *Dracula 2000*” (with Lance Svehla). *Journal of Dracula Studies* 8 (2006): 20-29.
- “ ‘It lyth nat in my tongue’ ”: Occupatio and Otherness in Chaucer’s *Squire’s Tale*.” *The Chaucer Review* 38.3 (2004): 205-228.
- “Teaching the *Squire’s Tale* as an Exercise in Literary History.” *Studies in Medieval and Renaissance Teaching* 10.1 (2003): 5-18.
- “Cannibalism and Cultural Encounters in *Richard Coeur De Lion*.” *The Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies* 29.3 (1999): 499-528.
- “Succession and Sovereignty in Lydgate’s Prologue to *The Troy Book*,” with Paul Strohm. *The Chaucer Review* 30 (1995): 40-57.

### **Creative Writing**

- “Floodgates I,” “Floodgates II,” and “Greyhound Terminal, Indianapolis.” *The Red Rock Review* 21 (2007): 37-39.
- “First House.” *Whiskey Island Magazine* 52 (2007): 61.
- “Signs” and “Snapshot.” *Heartlands* 4 (2006): 23.
- “The Beaten Road.” *Plainsongs* 27.1 (2006): 29.

“The Elusive Ball.” *Elysian Fields Quarterly* 21 (2004): 96.

“Teaching *Beowulf*: A Poem of Lament.” *Ohio Teachers Write* 8 (2003): 58-59

---. Reprinted in *Ohio Journal of English Language Arts* 44.1 (2004): 41.

### **Invited Talks**

“Job Market Musings.” Delivered as part of a workshop (*The Job Market through IU Eyes*) for English Department graduate students. September 2000, Indiana University.

“Cannibalism and Nationalism in *Richard Coeur de Lion*.” Kent Medieval Colloquium. April 2000, Kent State University.

### **Conference Presentations**

“Race and Religious Conversion in the King of Tars.” 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Medieval and Renaissance Forum. Plymouth State University. Plymouth, New Hampshire. May 2009.

“Crusade Ideology and Conversionary Fears in *The Siege of Milan*.” 43<sup>rd</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies. Kalamazoo, Michigan. May 2008.

“Identity, Crusade Ideology, and Community in *The Siege of Milan*.” 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Medieval and Renaissance Forum. Plymouth State University. April 2007.

Presider, *Gender Vice and Religion*. Session sponsored by *Chaucer Review*. 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress on Medieval Studies. Kalamazoo, Michigan. May 2005.

“‘The Coin of Our Realm’: Blood and Images in *Dracula 2000*,” with Lance Svehla. Midwest Modern Language Association Conference. November, 2001. Cleveland, Ohio.

“Cannibalism and the Legacy of Cain in Early Modern Editions of *Mandeville’s Travels*.” 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of The Rocky Mountain Medieval and Renaissance Association. May, 2001. Fort Collins, Colorado.

Participant in “Cultural Geography” roundtable and e-seminar. The Twelfth Biennial Congress of the New Chaucer Society. July, 2000. London, England.

“Exclusionary Tactics: Gender, Incest, and Ethnography in Chaucer’s Squire’s Tale.” International Medieval Congress. July, 2000. University of Leeds, England.

“Writing Taboo: Cannibalism and Proto-Nationalism in *Richard Coeur de Lion*.” International Medieval Congress. July 1998, University of Leeds, England.

“Spenser and the Economy of Cannibalism.” Annual Conference of the Group for Early Modern Cultural Studies. December 1997, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

“Kingship and Uncommon Prophets in Gower’s *Confessio Amantis*,” with Stephen Yandell. Thirteenth Annual Conference of the Medieval Association of the Midwest. September 1997, University of Iowa, Iowa City.

“Lionizing de Lion: Barbarity and Cannibalism in *Richard Coeur de Lion*.” The Annual Medieval Studies Symposium. March 1997, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana.

“The Plagiarist, the King, and the Cannibals.” Annual Conference of the Center for Medieval and Early Renaissance Studies. October 1996, SUNY Binghamton, Binghamton, NY.

“Moral Gower and the Cannibalism Trope.” Twelfth Annual Conference of the Medieval Association of the Midwest. October, 1996, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana.

“Unraveling the Marvelous: Rhetoric and Rhetorical Reduction in *The Squire’s Tale*.” The Annual Conference of the Rocky Mountain Medieval and Renaissance Association. May 1996, Park City, Utah.

“If You Can’t Eat Them, Join Them: Eastern and Western Cannibalism in *Mandeville’s Travels*.” English Department Conference. March 1996, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana.

### **Honors and Awards**

Honorable Mention, New Words 2008 Poetry Contest (entry entitled “Jim Morrison’s Cub Scout Uniform”)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winner, New Words 2005 Poetry Contest (entry entitled “Nebraska Sky”)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winner, University of Akron Women’s History Month Poetry Contest (2005)

Recipient, 2003 Chairs’ Award for Outstanding Achievement, Professional and Community Service. The Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences, The University of Akron.

Nominee, 2003 Outstanding Teacher Award, University of Akron Alumni Association.

Recipient, Summer 2004 Faculty Summer Research Fellowship, The University of Akron. Project entitled “The Limits of Crusade Rhetoric in the *Siege of Melayne*.”

Recipient, Summer 2002 Faculty Summer Research Fellowship, The University of Akron. Project entitled “Poetry, Politics, and the English Language in Chaucer’s *Squire’s Tale*.”

Recipient, Summer 2000 Faculty Summer Research Fellowship, The University of Akron. Project entitled "Pagan Cannibalism, the Eucharist, and the Question of Religious Tolerance in *Mandeville's Travels*."

## Service

### *Service to Department*

- Interim Assistant Chair (Jan 2006-present)
- Coordinator of Graduate Studies (May 2003-Jan 2006)
- Coordinator, Graduate Literature Certificate (Fall 2004-Jan 2006)
- Chair, Graduate Program Committee (Fall 2004-present)
- Chair, Graduate Assistants Committee (Fall 2003-present)
- English Department Honors Advisor, University Honors Program (Fall 2002-present)
- Advisor, The Literary Guild (Fall 2002-Spring 2003)
- Member, Bauer Scholarship Committee, Department of English, The University of Akron (Spring 2000, Spring 2004)
- Member, Selection Committee for *Donald A. and Laura Jane Keister Memorial Essay Prize* (Spring 2002, Spring 2003)
- Member, Shakespeare Job Search Committee (2001-02)
- Member, Undergraduate Program Committee (2001-02)
- Member, Advisory Committee, Department of English, The University of Akron (2000-02)
- Member, Library Committee, Department of English, The University of Akron (2000-02)
- Member, Selection Committee for *The Sam Ella Dukes Memorial Poetry Prize* (Spring 2001)
- Member, Graduate Assistants Committee, Department of English, The University of Akron (2000-01)
- Member, Grievance Committee, Department of English, The University of Akron (2000-01)
- Member, Committee for Evaluation of the Graduate Coordinator, Department of English, The University of Akron (Spring 2000)
- Member, M.A. in Literature Committee (ad hoc), Department of English, The University of Akron (1999-2001)
- Member, Graduate Program Committee, Department of English, The University of Akron (1999-2000)

### *Service to College and University*

- English Department Honors Advisor, University Honors Program (Fall 2002-present)
- Helped University Honors Program Organize Tim O'Brien Reading (Oct. 19, 2004)
- Volunteer, Majors Mosaic (Fall 2000, 2002)
- Volunteer, Olin Hall Round-up (Fall 2000)
- Volunteer, College of Arts & Sciences Round-up (Fall 2002, Fall 2005)
- Participant, Academic Publication Workshop, Univ. of Akron, Nov. 12, 2002
- Volunteer, Scholarship Saturday (Spring 2001, Spring 2003, Spring 2004, Spring 2006)

*Service to Community*

- Guest reviewer on *Beowulf*, The University of Akron's Faculty Women's Club Reading Circle
- Judge, Silver Lake Poet Laureate Competition (summer 2005)

*Service to Profession*

- Manuscript reviewer, *Mediterranean Studies* (2002)
- Manuscript reviewer, *College Literature* (2003-present)
- Manuscript reviewer, *The Chaucer Review*

**Scholarly Organizations**

Phi Eta Sigma (inducted 10/27/88)  
Phi Beta Kappa (inducted 5/19/89)  
The Medieval Association of the Midwest  
The Medieval Academy of America  
The New Chaucer Society

**References**

Professor Diana Reep, The University of Akron (330) 972-6873  
Professor Thomas Dukes, The University of Akron (330) 972-6810