

Christopher M. Petter
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. The Catholic University of America. Department of English. 2021.
Dissertation: "Richard Wilbur's Second Nature: Poetic Conventions and the Organic"
Director: Ernest Suarez
M.A.L.A. St. John's College, Sante Fe. 2012.
B.A. (honors) The University of Dallas. Department of English. 2010.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Chair of the Department of English. University of St Thomas. Fall 2025 to present.
Assistant Professor of English and Core Fellow. University of St. Thomas. Fall 2024 to present.
Visiting Assistant Professor. University of St. Thomas. Spring 2024.
Lecturer. Howard University, Fall 2023.
Adjunct Lecturer. Howard University, 2021-2023.
Adjunct Lecturer. The Catholic University of America, Fall 2022.
Instructor of English. Yeshiva of Greater Washington, 2020-2022.
Director of the Writing Center. Yeshiva of Greater Washington, 2021-2022.
Assistant Director of the Writing Program. Department of English, The Catholic University of America. 2019-2020.
Teaching Fellow. Department of English, The Catholic University of America. 2013-2020.
Writing Center Instructor. Department of English, The Catholic University of America. 2018-2020.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Teach Online Award to Spur Transformation (TOAST) Award. University of St. Thomas. 2025.
Capstone Teaching Award. Department of English, The Catholic University of America. 2020.
Marguerite Eyer Wilbur Residential Fellowship. Russell Kirk Center for Cultural Renewal. 2012-2013.

PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Richard Wilbur's Figures of Poetic Creation." *Christianity and Literature*. Volume 73, Issue 4, December 2024.

"Richard Wilbur and a Return to 'Due Regard.'" Workshop for *A Body of Knowledge: Articulating the Soul of Liberal Education*, hosted by The Institute of Human Ecology. Washington, D.C. November 2023.

“Lyric Icons of Attention.” Association of Core Texts and Courses Conference. Dallas, TX. April 2023.

“Reading Together: Gerard Manley Hopkins’ Nature Poems.” Invited panelist. The Catholic University of America. February 2023.

“Creation in the Poet’s Response to Alienation from Nature.” The de Nicola Center of Ethics and Culture Fall Conference. South Bend, IN. November 2022.

“Attention in the Essay: Approaching the Literary Elements of the Essay Form.” Association of Literary Scholars, Critics, and Writers Annual Conference. New Haven, CT. October 2022.

“‘I shall say it again. Shall I say it again?’: Rereading the Difficult Paradoxes of T.S. Eliot’s ‘East Coker,’ III.” Invited lecture. Christendom College. March 2022.

“Reading Together: ‘East Coker.’” Invited panelist. The Catholic University of America. November 2021.

“Recollecting Creation in Richard Wilbur’s Poems.” Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment Annual Conference. August 2021.

“Richard Wilbur’s Response to the Poet’s Alienation from Nature.” Braniff Conference in the Liberal Arts. The University of Dallas. Irving, TX. November 2019.

“Review of *Let us Watch Richard Wilbur: A Biographical Sketch*.” *Literary Matters* 10.2, 2018.

“Harlem among the Traditions.” Guest lecture for ENG 236: American Literature II. The Catholic University of America. Spring 2018.

“Anacoluthon and Cultural Continuity in Cather’s *Shadows on the Rock*.” Willa Cather Spring Conference. Red Cloud, NE. June 2016.

“T.S. Eliot, Metaphysical Poetry, and Ontological Mysticism.” Invited lecture. Texas A&M – Central Texas. Killeen, TX. March 2013.

“Ontological Mysticism and *Four Quartets*.” Southwest Commission on Religious Studies Conference. Irving, TX. January 2013.

“Augustine’s *Confessions* in T.S. Eliot’s *Four Quartets*.” Kirk Center Spring Symposium. The Russell Kirk Center for Cultural Renewal. Mecosta, MI. Spring 2013.

“The Southern Critics: Myth as Political Foundation?” Kirk Center Fall Symposium. The Russell Kirk Center for Cultural Renewal. Mecosta, MI. Fall 2012.

COURSES TAUGHT

The Classical Tradition. University of St. Thomas
Medieval and Renaissance Literature. University of St. Thomas
American Literature II. University of St. Thomas
Introduction to Liberal Learning. University of St. Thomas
The Art of the Essay Genre. Howard University.
Expository Writing and Literacy. Howard University.
Advanced Rhetoric and Argumentative Writing. Catholic University.
Imitating Your Way to Better Writing. Catholic University.
Writing for Social Work. Catholic University.
Creative Writing: Short Fiction. Catholic University.
Writing and Rhetoric. Catholic University.
American Literature II: Nineteenth Century to Present. Teaching Assistant. Catholic University.
African American Literature. Teaching Assistant. Catholic University
Intensive English: Reading and Writing. Catholic University.
AP Literature and Composition 11. Yeshiva of Greater Washington.
Literature and Composition 11. Yeshiva of Greater Washington.
Literature and Composition 12, Honors. Yeshiva of Greater Washington.

PUBLIC LECTURES, ACADEMIC SERVICE, AND SERVICE PRESENTATIONS

“Poetry and the Experience of Creation.” Invited public lecture. Christopolis, an apostolate of The Dominican Friars of the Province of St. Joseph. January 2022.

“Poetry and Creation.” Panel moderator and participant. The Angelico Project. Cincinnati, OH. October 2020.

Organizer of CUA English Dept. Modern/Contemporary Research Colloquium. 2016-2019.

“The Pedagogy of Prompt Writing.” ENG 700: Practicum in the Teaching of Composition. Department of English, The Catholic University of America. Spring 2019.

“Social Work Writing for Writing Tutors.” Instructor Training. The Writing Center, The Catholic University of America. Spring 2019.

“Academic Integrity for International Students.” School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America. Fall 2019.

“Introduction to Sociological Research and Writing.” Department of Sociology, The Catholic University of America. Fall 2019.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association of Literary Scholars, Critics, and Writers. 2016-present.
The New Vienna Circle. 2021-2023.

NON-ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Associate Editor. *Dappled Things: A Quarterly of Art, Ideas, and Faith*. 2012-2023.