

Anna Svendsen, PhD

Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

PhD, English (2019)

The University of York, Heslington, York, U.K.

Thesis: *The Shape of Sacrifice in David Jones' Landscape of War*

(Supervised by Hugh Haughton and Matthew Campbell)

Master of Arts (Distinction), Modern and Contemporary Literature and Culture (2014)

The University of York, Heslington, York, U.K.

Dissertation: "The Mystical Rhythm of *Meditatio* in T.S. Eliot's 'Four Quartets' and Julian of Norwich's *Revelations of Divine Love*." (Supervised by Hugh Haughton)

Master of Arts, English Language and Literature (2012)

The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

Bachelor of Arts (*Magna cum Laude*), English Language and Literature (2008)

Christendom College, Front Royal, Virginia

Thesis: "Art and the Experience of the Divine in Isak Dinesen's 'Babette's Feast'."

UNIVERSITY TEACHING POSITIONS

Assistant Professor of English and Core Fellow (dually appointed), University of St. Thomas, Houston (August 2025–Present). Courses taught:

LS 1301 Foundations of Liberal Learning (Core)

ENGLC 1302, Medieval and Renaissance Literature (Core)

ENGLC 2301, Modern World and American Expressions (Core)

ENGL/MLA 6393-B, Modern British Literature and the Technocratic Age (Upper Division — developed for English department)

Thesis directions (MFA): Mary Patterson Wallace, "Walking Trees" (Fall 2025)

Thesis directions (English): Leianna Clymer, "The Imagist and the Musician: Understanding the Role of Music in Jane Austen's *Emma*", (Spring 2026)

Visiting Assistant Professor of English, Franciscan University of Steubenville — Austria Campus, Gaming, Austria (January–June 2025). Courses taught:

ENG 210, Epic and the Person (Core)

ENG 211, Lyric and Dramatic Voices (Core)

ENG 436 Lyrics of Love — Poetry and Prayer (Course developed for English Department with Katarzyna Dudek and Fr. Jonathan St. Andre)

HON 202, Seminar IV: The Medieval Period

Adjunct Instructor, Department of English, Franciscan University of Steubenville — Main Campus, Steubenville, OH (2019–2024). Courses taught:

ENG 210, (online and in-person), Epic and the Person (Core)

ENG 211, Lyric and Dramatic Voices (Core)

ENG 326, English Literature of the Medieval Period

ENG 331, Studies in Chaucer

ENG 375, Women Writers

ENG 415, The American Novel

ENG 422, Special Topics in British Literature: "Christianity and Literary Modernism"

(course developed for English department)

ENG 465-DS, Directed Study on “The Imagination in 19th and 20th c. Philosophy and Literature”

HON 402, Seminar VIII: The 20th Century

Adjunct Instructor, Department of English, Franciscan University of Steubenville — Austria Campus, Gaming, Austria (Fall 2015)

ENG 210, Epic and the Person (Core)

ENG 211, Lyric and Dramatic Voices (Core)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Research Fellow in Religion and Literature, School of Divinity, New College, University of Edinburgh, UK, and University of Bergen, Norway (May–June 2022)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Advisory Board Member, David Jones Research Center, Washington Adventist University, Takoma Park, MD (2024–Present)

Co-Director, David Jones Digital Archive, a project of the David Jones Research Center, Takoma Park, MD (2018–Present) — see “Current Academic Projects”

Associate Director, David Jones Research Center, Washington Adventist University, Takoma Park, MD (2018–2024) — see: <https://www.davidjonesresearch.org/>

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

“Afterword: The ‘Archival Turn’ and the *David Jones Digital Archive*” (with Thomas Berenato, Yasmin Faghihi, and Huw Jones). In *David Jones After Modernism: Empire, Environment and Religion in The Grail Mass and Beyond*. Edited by Jamie Callison, Kathleen Staudt, and Jasmine Hunter Evans. Clemson UP (forthcoming)

Volume co-editor with Erik Tonning, Jamie Callison, and Matthew Feldman, *The Bloomsbury Handbook of Modernist Archives* (London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2024)

“Procession of Peace: David Jones’s *Vexilla Regis*,” *Art and Christianity* 110 (Summer 2022)

Volume co-editor with Erik Tonning and Matthew Feldman, *Historicizing Modernists: Approaches to ‘Archivalism’* (London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2021)

“C.C. Martindale, *The Goddess of Ghosts*, and the Theological Imagination of David Jones,” *Journal of Jesuit Studies* 8(4), 565-584. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1163/22141332-08040003> (2021)

“Unfolding the ‘Implied Theology’ of *In Parenthesis* in Several Biblical and Liturgical Allusions to the Passion of Christ.” In *David Jones: A Christian Modernist?* Studies in Religion and the Arts Series 12. Boston: Brill, 2018.

“Introduction” (with Jasmine Hunter Evans) to *David Jones: Towards a Theology of History*, David Jones Special Issue, Guest Edited by Anna Svendsen and Jasmine Hunter Evans, *Religion and Literature* 49.1 (Spring 2017), pp. 2–8.

Volume co-editor with Jasmine Hunter-Evans, *David Jones: Towards a Theology of History*, David Jones Special Issue, *Religion and Literature* 49.1 (Spring 2017)

SELECTED ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

- Invited speaker: "The Habitable Spaces of Jane Austen and Sigrid Undset," High School seminar, University of St Thomas, Houston for Catholic Home Educators Collective Houston (CHECH), Houston, TX (March 2026)
- "The Long Conversation of David Jones and Martin D'Arcy, SJ," New Directions in David Jones Research, Washington Adventist University, Takoma Park, MD (July 2025)
- "David Jones and the 'Paraliturgical' Art of Good Friday," Society for Catholic Liturgy Conference, St. Mary Seminary, Houston, TX (26 September 2024)
- Invited speaker: "'Into the Woods': David Jones and Frazer's 'Dying God'," Scottish Network of Religion and Literature lecture series, School of Divinity at New College, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK (8 June 2022)
- "David Jones on liturgy and the limitations of form in the modern *saecula*," Inventing the Secular Conference, University of Edinburgh, UK (18 April 2022)
- Invited speaker (with Thomas Berenato): "Digitising David Jones' Letters to Jim Ede at Kettle's Yard," Graduate Research Form, Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK (18 June 2021)
- Invited speaker: "What is a 'Catholic Artist'? The Case of David Jones (1895-1974)," Assisi Arts Community, Pittsburgh, PA (8 April 2021)
- Invited speaker: "'Poet of Christ's Passion': The Medieval *Vexilla Regis* and the Art of David Jones (1895-1974)," St. John Cantius Parish, Chicago, IL (14 March 2020),
See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZGCikVz1gUY&t=2871s>
- "Jacques Maritain and the Thomism of David Jones's (1895-1974) Theology of Art," American Maritain Association Conference, Pittsburgh, PA (6 March 2020)
- "Editing the Interpolational Imagination: *The Book of Balaam's Ass* and the David Jones Digital Archive," (Co-presenter with Thomas Berenato)
Panel 64: "Out of Bounds: Modernist Afterlives in the Digital Archive," MLA Annual Conference. Seattle, WA (9 January 2020)
- Invited speaker: "David Jones: Modernity, Art, Beauty, Utility," Graduate Seminar, Pittsburgh Christian Studies Center (Beatrice Institute), Pittsburgh, PA (31 October 2019)
- "David Jones and 'Artistic Activity'," David Jones: Theory of Art; Theory of Culture Seminar, Georgetown University Library, Washington, DC (7 March 2019)
- Invited participant: "Modernist Secularism and its Discontents," Roundtable organized by Thomas Berenato. "Graphic Modernisms": MSA Annual Conference. Columbus, OH (8-11 November 2018)
- "C.C. Martindale and David Jones' Theological Thinking," New Directions in David Jones Research Seminar, David Jones Research Center, Washington Adventist University, Washington, DC (June 2018)
- "Problems and Possibilities of the Frontispiece to *In Parenthesis* as a 'Crucifixion' Image," Catholicism, Literature and the Arts from 1850 to the Present Conference, University of Durham, UK (July 2017)
- "David Jones and *The Dream of the Rood*," David Jones: Dialogues With the Past Conference, University of York, UK (July 2016)
- "The Physical Circumstances of the Learning Environment in a Liberal Arts Education," The Liberal Arts: Education and Society Seminar, Benedictus College in conjunction with Blackfriars College, University of Oxford, UK (June 2016)
- "Word-knots: The Mystical Process of *Lectio* in the Poetry of T.S. Eliot and Julian of Norwich," T.S. Eliot Annual Society Meeting, Rapallo, Italy (June 2016)

CURRENT ACADEMIC PROJECTS

Book in formation: *David Jones and the Jesuits: The Formation of a Theological Imagination, 1919-1974*

Drawing on the research of my PhD thesis, I will trace the specific influence of several Jesuit scholars and artists on David Jones's work and worldview throughout his 50-year artistic career. The study will serve not only to provide insight into the mind of David Jones but also will provide an indirect lens into the shifting face of the Jesuit order in the 20th century. Individual figures will include: C.C. Martindale, G.M. Hopkins, Maurice de la Taille, Martin D'Arcy, Eric Burrows, Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, William Noon, Jean Mambrino, and Peter Levi.

David Jones Digital Archive (June 2018–Present)

Starting primarily with the unpublished letters of David Jones, our project is creating an interlinked, digital repository of Jones's visual art, letters, poetic manuscripts, and essays encoded in TEI (Text Encoding Initiative). We also provide training in TEI/digital editing

See: <https://www.davidjonesresearch.org/david-jones-digital-archive>

See also the current collection on the Cambridge University Digital Library:

<https://cudl.lib.cam.ac.uk/collections/davidjones/1>

DIGITAL HUMANITIES TRAINING AND LEADERSHIP

Co-organizer (alongside Cambridge Digital Humanities), TEI Training Workshop using the Jones-Cleverdon Correspondence, Online, Hosted by the David Jones Research Center (May 2025)

Co-organizer (alongside Cambridge Digital Humanities), TEI Training Workshop using the Jones-Watkins Correspondence, Burns Library, Boston College, (2-4 April 2024)

Student, "Advanced digital editing: modeling the text and making the edition," *NEH Institute for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities*, University of Pittsburgh, (11-22 July 2022)

Co-organizer (alongside Cambridge Digital Humanities), TEI Training Workshop using *The Book of Balaam's Ass* MSS, National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth, Wales (June 2021)

Co-organizer (alongside Cambridge Digital Humanities), TEI Training Workshop using the Jones-Ede Correspondence (using TEI), University of Cambridge (June 2021)

Student, "Digital Editions Start to Finish: Programming for Humanists," 8-week online course taught by Laura Mandell and Diane Jakacki, Texas A&M University (January-March 2020)

Student, "The Digital Mitford Summer School," 5-day course taught by Elisa Beshero-Bondar, University of Pittsburgh, Greensburg, PA (May 2019)

Student, "An Introduction to the Text Encoding Initiative," Digital Humanities at Oxford Summer School, Oxford, UK (July 2018)

AWARDS

N.B. I was part of a collaborative team in the reception of all of these awards (see: <https://www.davidjonesresearch.org/detailed-timeline>)

Open Societal Challenges Grant, Open University (2024) — £23,000/\$31,000

Academic Technology Innovation Grant, Boston College (2023) — \$10,000

Cambridge Humanities Research Grant Scheme, Cambridge University and the David Jones Research Center (2020, deferred to 2021) — \$15,000

SPIRE Grant, University of Bergen, Norway (2020, deferred to 2021) — \$7,500
Private Foundation (2018) — \$20,000
Elsam Award, Private Foundation (2016) — \$3,000

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR ORGANIZATION

Primary organizer, Research Events of the David Jones Research Center, Various Locations (2018–2024), see: <https://www.davidjonesresearch.org/past>
Co-organizer, Historicizing Modernism / Modernist Archives International Conference, Norwegian Study Centre, University of York, U.K. (May 2018)
Co-organizer, “Catholicism and the Arts” Seminar Series, St. Wilfrid’s Church and the University of York, U.K. (November 2017–May 2018)
Co-organizer, “Poetics of Faith” International, Interdisciplinary Conference, University of York, U.K. (January 2018)
Co-organizer of “David Jones: Dialogues With the Past” International, Interdisciplinary Conference (21-23 July 2016), University of York, U.K. (2014–16)
See: <http://www.davidjonesdialogues.com/>

PUBLIC SECTOR POSITIONS

Research Associate, Aetio Capital, LLC, Pittsburgh, PA (2018–Present)

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Singer, Schola of Annunciation Parish, directed by Catherine Schaefer, Houston, TX (February 2026–Present)
Compassionate Companion, No One Dies Alone Ministry, UPMC Mercy Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA (January 2024–Present)
Leader, Literature Discussion Group, Assisi Arts Community — a ministry of the Capuchin Franciscans, Pittsburgh, PA (2021–Present)
(see: <https://www.portpgh.com/aac>)
Volunteer, Bread of Life Food Pantry, Etna, PA (2023–Present)
Singer, *Schola of Most Precious Blood of Jesus*, directed by John Rokosz, Most Precious Blood of Jesus Parish, Pittsburgh, PA (2018–Present)

References available upon request.

Address:

3800 Montrose Blvd.
Houston, TX 77006

Email: svendsen.anna@stthom.edu