

# James R. Simmons, Jr.

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Associate Professor of English, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA 71272-0001 [simmons@latech.edu](mailto:simmons@latech.edu)  
Holder of the George K. Anding Professorship of English

## EDUCATION

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Ph.D. University of South Carolina, May 1997  
Major Area: Nineteenth-Century British Literature  
Concentrations: Victorian Literature, The Nineteenth-Century British Novel  
Minor Area: Renaissance Literature

M.A. University of South Carolina, 1994  
Major Area: Nineteenth-Century British Literature  
Minor Area: Restoration and Eighteenth-Century Literature

B.A. Coastal Carolina University  
Major: English Minor: Business Administration

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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Sept. 2003 - Present	Associate Professor Of English, Louisiana Tech University
Sept. 1997 - Aug. 2003	Assistant Professor Of English, Louisiana Tech University
Sept. 1996 - June 1997	Assistant Director of Freshman Composition, University of South Carolina
Sept. 1994 - June 1997	Teaching Assistant, University of South Carolina

## PROFESSIONAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

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George K. Anding Endowed Professorship, 2006-Present  
F. Jay Taylor Undergraduate Teaching Award, Louisiana Tech University, 2004-2005  
University Senate Award for Teaching, Research, and Service, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-2004  
Delta Gamma Outstanding Faculty Award, Louisiana Tech University, 2002-2003  
Alpha Chi Omega Best Professor Award, Louisiana Tech University, 1998-1999  
Irene D. Elliott Award for Teaching Excellence, The University of South Carolina, 1996-1997

## PUBLICATIONS

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- Book** Editor, *Factory Lives: Four Nineteenth-Century British Working-Class Autobiographies*.  
Forthcoming from Broadview Press, 2007.
- Articles**
- “I have frequently...regretted the manner of her life’: Patrick O’Brian’s Diana Villiers and Jane Austen’s Cousin, Eliza de Feuillide.” *Persuasions: The Jane Austen Journal* 28 (May 2007).
- “Don’t tell me about rears and vices; I have been in the Navy all my life’: Profligacy on the High Seas in Jane Austen and Patrick O’Brian.” *English Language Notes* 43.2 (December 2005).
- “Did Willoughby Join the Navy? Patrick O’Brian’s Thirty-Year Homage to Jane Austen.” *Persuasions: The Jane Austen Journal* 26 (May 2005).
- “Pedagogy and Oppositions: Teaching Non-Canonical British Women Writers at the Technical University.” In *Teaching British Women Writers, 1750-1900*. Eds. Shannon Wooden and Jeanne Moskal. New York: Peter Lang, 2005.
- “Read the name that I have written inside’: Onomastics in Wilkie Collins’ *The Moonstone*.” *English Language Notes* 41.1 (September 2003).
- “No Expectations at All: Women in Dickens’ *Great Expectations*.” *Women in Literature: Evaluating Fiction for Gender Bias*. Eds. Jerilyn Fisher and Ellen Sibley

Westport, CT: Greenwood, 2003.

“Industrialization, the Proletariat, and Commodity Culture: The Victorian Industrial and ‘Condition of England’ Novel.” *The Blackwell Companion to the Victorian Novel*. Eds. Patrick Brantlinger and William B. Thesing. Oxford: Blackwell, 2002.

“*Jane Eyre*'s Symbolic Paintings.” *The Journal of Brontë Studies* 27.3 (November 2002).

“If America goes on breeding men like that’: *Dracula*’s Quincey Morris Problematized.” *Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts* 12.4 (Spring 2002).

“Class, Matriarchy, and Power: Contextualizing the Governess in *Agnes Grey*.” *New Approaches to the Art of Anne Brontë*. Eds. Barbara Suess and Julie Nash. Aldershot, England: Ashgate, 2001.

“Every Discernable Thing in It Was Covered in Dust and Mould’: Radcliffe’s Chateau-le-Blanc and Dickens’s Satis House.” *The Dickensian* 91.1 (Spring 1997).

“In the Rank Sweat of an Enseamed Bed!: Sexual Aberration and the Paradigmatic Screen *Hamlets*.” *Literature/Film Quarterly* 25.2 (April 1997).

“Scrooge, Falstaff, and the Rhetoric of Indigence.” *English Language Notes* 32.3 (March 1995).

“A *Curiosity Shop* for the 1990s: A Kinder, Gentler Quilp.” *The Dickensian* No. 436 Vol. 91 (Summer 1995).

“Small, Prim, and Quaker-Like’: Reinventing Joanna Baillie as *Jane Eyre*.” *Brontë Society Transactions* 21.4 (Winter 1994).

## Reviews

“How the Other Half Lived: *The Grove Diaries*.” Review Essay on Desmond Hawkins’s *The Grove Diaries: The Rise and Fall of an English Family, 1809 -1925*. *Documentary Editing* 19.4 (December 1997).

Review of Clinton Machann’s *The Genre of Autobiography in Victorian Literature*. *Nineteenth - Century Prose* 23.2 (Fall 1996).

“*High Life* Resurrected: The Reclamation of the Lost Brontë Saga.” Review Essay on Christine Alexander’s *Charlotte Brontë’s High Life in Verdopolis: A Story From the Glass Town Saga*. *Documentary Editing* 18.4 (December 1996).

Review of Muriel Spark’s *The Essence of the Brontës*. *Victorian Studies* 38.2 (Winter 1995).

## Contributions to Books

“Teaching *Hamlet*, Film, and Psychological Criticism.” *Instructor’s Manual for Reading, Writing, and Literature, An Introduction*. Ed. Steven Lynn. New York: Harper Collins, 1999.

“The Year in Literary Biography.” *The Dictionary of Literary Biography Yearbook, 1998*. (Detroit: Gale, 1999).

“Anne Brontë.” *Victorian Women Poets*. Ed. William B. Thesing. (Detroit: Gale, 1998) Volume 199 of *The Dictionary of Literary Biography*.

“George Henry Calvert.” *American National Biography*. (Oxford University Press, 1998).

“Ellen Johnston.” *Victorian Women Poets*. Ed. William B. Thesing. (Detroit: Gale, 1998). Volume 199 of *The Dictionary of Literary Biography*.

“Robert Clark.” *American National Biography* (Oxford University Press, 1998).

- “G.K. Chesterton.” *Encyclopedia of the Essay* (London: Fitzroy Dearborn, 1997).
- “Harriet Martineau.” *Feminist Writers* (Detroit: St. James, 1996).
- “Stanley J. Weyman.” *British Short Story Writers, 1880-1914: The Romantic Tradition*. Ed. William F. Naufftus. (Detroit: Gale, 1995). Vol. 156 of *The Dictionary of Literary Biography*.
- “Amelia Opie.” *British Writers of Short Fiction and Tales, 1790 - 1880*. Ed. John Greenfield. (Detroit, Gale, 1995). Vol. 159 of *The Dictionary of Literary Biography*.
- “*The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas*.” *The Reference Guide to American Literature* (Detroit: St. James, 1995).
- “Barbara W. Tuchman.” *The Reference Guide to American Literature* (St. James, 1995).

### **PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS**

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- Book** *The Regency Worlds of Jane Austen and Patrick O'Brian*. Monograph, expected date of completion 2007.
- Article** “Résumés and Cover Letters: How Our Technical Writing Textbooks Are Getting It All Wrong.” Expected date of completion 2007.

### **CONFERENCE PAPERS AND CHAIRED PANELS**

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- “Living with Post-Tenure Review.” 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Louisiana Colleges and Universities, March 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2004; The University of New Orleans. Panel Chair.
- “‘A reddish face, a large mouth & many teeth gone’: Altered Portraits, Suppressed Photographs, and the Visual Beautification of the Brontës.” Ninth Annual Conference on 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-Century British Women Writers, March 15 - 17, 2001; The University of Kansas.
- “‘To Live in Idleness and in All Sorts of Vice, Upon the Produce of Infant Labour’: Richard Carlile’s Radical *Lion* and the Factory Question.” Research Society for Victorian Periodicals. September 24-26, 1999; Yale University.
- “‘I returned to my former evil practices, as the dog to his vomit’: Working-Class Autobiographies by Women and the Parameters of Sexuality.” Eighth Annual Conference on 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-Century British Women Writers, September 18-20, 1999; The University of New Mexico.
- “‘It Was the Best of Times, It Was the Worst of Times’: Fictional Modes of Violence in Dickens’ Novels and the Era of the Silent Film.” Twenty-Fourth Annual Conference on Literature and Film. January 28-30, 1999; Florida State University.
- “Pedagogy and Oppositions: Noncanonical British Women Writers Versus Biochemistry, Engineering, and Aviation Technology.” Seventh Annual Conference on 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-Century British Women Writers, March 26-28, 1998; The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
- “‘They Shall Want No Good Thing That A Mother's Care Can Give’: The Exegesis of Motherhood in Anne Brontë’s *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*.” Fifth Annual Conference on 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-Century British Women Writers, March 21-23, 1996; The University of South Carolina.
- “‘In All Their Wretchedness, In All the Squalid Misery of Their Lives’: Working-Class Autobiography and Gender Dicotomized Methodology.” Twentieth Annual Meeting of the Philological Association of the Carolinas, March 1996; Winthrop University.

"'A Positive Check to the Natural Increase in Population': Dickens, Martineau, and the Problematics of the Malthusian Trap." Twenty-Third Annual Carolinas Symposium on British Studies. October 5-6. 1996; Coastal Carolina University.

"Dickens Through a Cracked Lens: Early Cinematic Versions of *Oliver Twist*." Twentieth Annual Conference on Literature and Film. January 26 - 28, 1995; Florida State University.

"'Miserable Realities': Fictive Biography and Victorian Factory Children." Twenty-Second Annual Carolinas Symposium on British Studies. October 7-8, 1995; Appalachian State University.

"*The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*: Anne Brontë's Indictment of Victorian Society." Third Annual Conference on 18th- and 19th-Century British Women Writers. April 15 - 16, 1994; Michigan State University.

"Anne Brontë and the Problematic of the Feminist Paradigm." Seventh Annual Women's Studies Conference. April 1994; The University of South Carolina.

"Davis, Dickens, Cather, and Fields: The Long, Strange Journey of 'Blind Tom.'" American Women Writers and the Literary Marketplace. December 1994; The University of South Carolina.

#### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE**

President, University Senate, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-2004.  
Vice President, University Senate, Louisiana Tech University, 2002-2003.  
Parliamentarian, University Senate, Louisiana Tech University, 2000-2001, 2001-2002.  
Executive Committee, University Senate, Louisiana Tech University, 2001-2004.  
University Senate, Louisiana Tech University, September 1999-2004, 2006-Present.  
Presidential Investigative Task Force, 2004 -2005.  
University Foundation Professorship Award Committee, 2005.  
NCAA Self-Study Subcommittee for Equity and Student Athlete Welfare, 2004-2005.  
Chair, NCAA Self-Study Subcommittee for Minority Equity, 2004-2005.  
Academic Integrity Committee, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-Present.  
Administrative and Planning Council, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-2004.  
Behavioral Standards Committee, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-Present.  
Committee to Oversee Greek Housing, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-Present.  
Honor Council, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-2004.  
Committee to Review Final Exam Procedures, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-2004  
Parking Committee, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-Present.  
SACS Steering Committee, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-2005.  
SACS Subcommittee Work Group Beta, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-2004.  
Student Self-Assessed Fees Oversight Committee, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-2004.  
University Seminar Oversight Committee, Louisiana Tech University, 2003-Present.  
Contact Person for the Center of Information, Technology, and Distance Learning, School of Language and Literature, 2001-Present.  
Smart/Technology Classroom Steering Committee, 2006-Present.  
Student Organizations Committee, Faculty Senate Representative, 1999-Present.  
Graduate Faculty, Louisiana Tech University, September 1997-Present.  
Chair, Graduate Exam Revision Committee, 2001-2002.  
English Department Curriculum Committee, 2001-2002.  
Technical Writing Committee, 1998-2003, 2005-2006.  
Webmaster, School of Literature and Language and English Department, August 2000-2005.  
Editor, *The Louisiana Tech University Technical Writing Handbook*, 1999-2003.  
Editor, *The English Department Newsletter*, Louisiana Tech University, September 1999 - 2002.  
Louisiana Tech Department of English Job-Search Committee, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2006

University Committee to Select “Who’s Who Among American Universities and Colleges,” 1997-1998; 1999-2000.

Instructor, University 100, Louisiana Tech University. An introductory course for incoming freshmen.

### **INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY PRESENTATIONS**

“Writing Better Résumés.” American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Louisiana Tech University, 26

September 2006.

“Job Search Documents.” Institute of Electronic Electrical Engineers, Louisiana Tech University, February 2006.

“Writing Better Résumés.” The Institute of Industrial Engineers, Louisiana Tech University, 25 October 2005.

“Interviewing Techniques.” The Institute of Industrial Engineers, Louisiana Tech University, 4 May 2004.

“Being Prepared for the Interview” Institute of Electronic Electrical Engineers, Louisiana Tech University, 31 March 2004.

“Best Practices: Practical Applications of the Multimedia Classroom.” Louisiana Tech , 23 April 2002.

“Smart-Classroom Teaching: Technology as a Complement, Not a Crutch.” Brown-Bag Luncheon Series, Louisiana Tech, 17 January 2002.

“The Brontës: A Smart-Classroom Demonstration.” Presented for the Louisiana Tech Fee Committee. October 31, 2001.

“Using Presentation Software to Contextualize Regency and Victorian England.” Panelist on “Innovation and Collaboration: Delivering Distance English Education.” Technology in Higher Education Conference. 10 April 2000; Louisiana State University.

### **GRANTS**

Co-Investigator, Distance Learning Initiative Grant, \$25,153, Louisiana Board of Regents, Fall 2000. Louisiana Tech Research Council Summer Research Grant, 1998, 1999, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006.

Dissertation Research Grant, 1995-1996. University of South Carolina.

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Modern Language Association

Mensa International

### **THESES DIRECTED**

“Friends and Collaborators: Charles Dickens, Wilkie Collins, and the Rise of the Sensation Novel in Victorian England.” Barbara Glenn, Successfully Defended May 2006.

“Novel to Film Adaptation, Fidelity, and Social Stereotypes about Women and Marriage: A Critical Analysis of Two Film Versions of Charlotte Brontë’s *Jane Eyre*.” Danika Bethea Taylor, Successfully Defended May 2004.

“A Jane Austen Naif in a Sex and the City World: Bridget Jones as the Re-invention of the Austen Heroine.” Carey Bess Roberson, Successfully Defended February 2003.

“‘And drew in her breath with a hissing sound’: The Emergence of the Female Vampire in Victorian Literature.” Megan Crystal Webb, Successfully Defended May 2003.

“Role Models and Reversals: Images of Women in Dickens’s *Dombey and Son*.” Jessica Lea Flowers, Successfully Defended May 2002.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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<b>Dickens</b> (English 583)	A graduate seminar on the life and works of Charles Dickens.
<b>Jane Austen</b> (English 583)	A graduate seminar on the life and works of Jane Austen
<b>Victorian Sensation Novels</b> (English 583)	A graduate seminar that examines the sensation novels of the 1860s.
<b>Austen and the Brontës</b> (English 575)	A graduate seminar on the novels of Jane Austen and the Brontës.
<b>19<sup>th</sup>-Century Gothic and Horror Literature</b> (English 475)	An examination of the genre from its origins through the late 19 <sup>th</sup> century.
<b>The Brontës</b> (English 475)	A seminar on the novels and poetry of Anne, Emily, and Charlotte Brontë.
<b>Technical and Scientific Presentations</b> (English 463)	The presentation of technical information to technical and non-technical audiences; emphasis on organization, support, and clarity of presentation; effective use of visual materials, and instruction in presentation software.
<b>Victorian Literature</b> (English 414)	A survey of the drama, poetry, and prose of the Victorian period.
<b>The Romantic Period</b> (English 413)	A survey of the drama, poetry, and prose of the British Romantic period.
<b>The Nineteenth-Century British Novel</b> (English 411)	Traces the development of the British novel during 19 <sup>th</sup> century. Authors include Austen, Scott, Shelley, Dickens, the Brontës, Eliot, Thackeray, and others.
<b>The British Novel</b> (English 410)	A survey of the British novel, from Defoe through the early twentieth century. The novel in its many forms, including the comedy of manners, the historical novel, the gothic novel, the sensation novel, the industrial novel, and others.
<b>Technical Writing</b> (English 303)	Teaches the student to develop technical writing skills and styles; various technical writing assignments, including a technical report.
<b>Survey of British Literature</b> (English 201)	A survey of British literature from <i>Beowulf</i> to the present.