

# Tommy Pfannkoch

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## Education

### PhD in English Literature (ABD)

Texas A&M University | Expected Defense Date: February 2019

Dissertation: "Faith and Forgiveness: On the Interpretation of Books and Souls in Early Modern England"

Committee: Nandra Perry (chair), Nancy Bradley Warren, Margaret J. M. Ezell, and Hilaire Kallendorf

My dissertation explores representations of forgiveness in Tudor texts, specifically in light of the changes in confessional practice and ritual due to the Protestant Reformation. My study begins with the work of William Tyndale, moves through Anglican liturgical texts, surveys Protestant martyrology, and concludes with Philip Sidney's *Old Arcadia*. Ultimately, I argue that forgiveness in post-Reformation England is theorized as a mode of interpretation, one that has the power to transform the signifier (whether a person or text) into the signified that the hermeneut chooses to apply to the signifier. In other words, sinners become forgiven because someone chooses to see them as forgiven.

### MA in English

Texas A&M University | May 2014

### BA in English; minors in Spanish and Communications

Dallas Baptist University | May 2011

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## Areas of Interest

- Renaissance literature
  - English Reformations
  - Book history and media theory
  - Religious studies
  - Women's and gender studies
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## Conference Presentations

- “‘A Violating of Nature’: Violent Forgiveness in the Work of John Donne,” MLA 2019, January 2019 (*upcoming*)
  - “Who is ‘You’?: Addressing the Writer vs. the Writing,” South Central Writing Centers Association, February 2018
  - “William Tyndale as Media Theorist: Collaboration and Authority in Sixteenth Century England,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2017
  - “Affectionate Judgment: Gender and Forgiveness in Philip Sidney’s *Old Arcadia*,” International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 2016
  - “Contributions Welcome: Tyndale’s Polyvocal Hermeneutic,” 9th International Tyndale Conference, October 2015
  - “Tyndale’s Protestant Passion: Bodies that Matter in *The Obedience of a Christian Man*,” International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 2015
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## Honors and Awards

- Fall Semester Dissertation Fellowship, Department of English, Texas A&M, Fall 2018
  - Summertime for Advancement in Research Grant, Department of English, Texas A&M, Summer 2018
  - The Creswell Teaching Award, Department of English, Texas A&M, Spring 2018
  - Kelsey Fellowship, Texas A&M, 2015  
As the Kelsey Fellow, I worked in Cushing Memorial Library and Archives with Dr. Todd Samuelson, Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts. I helped prepare the exhibit *Within the Book and Volume: Early Modern English Literature at Texas A&M* and served as instructional faculty during the Book History Workshop, a week-long seminar on book production during the handpress period.
  - Dr. William Barzak Memorial Scholarship, Texas A&M, 2015
  - Dr. Stanley L. Archer Award, Texas A&M, 2015
  - Cushing Book History Workshop Scholarship, Texas A&M, 2014
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## Teaching Experience

### Texas A&M University

#### Instructor of Record

- *The Bible as Literature*: Spring 2018
- *Technical Writing* (in-person course): Spring 2017
- *Technical Writing* (online course): Summer 2016, Summer 2017

- *Writing about Literature*: Spring 2016, Fall 2017
- *Composition and Rhetoric*: Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Fall 2016

#### Teaching Assistant

- *Adolescent Literature*: Spring 2013
- *Technical Writing* (online course): Summer 2013, Spring 2014
- *Shakespeare*: Fall 2013
- *Introduction to Film Analysis*: Fall 2012

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### Other Professional Experience

- Consultant at the University Writing Center (CRLA Level 3 certified tutor): Fall 2015 – Spring 2018
- Team leader at the University Writing Center: Spring 2017 – Spring 2018

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### Service

- Co-President for the English Graduate Student Association, 2017 – 2018
- Contributor to GAT training for English 104, Department of English, Texas A&M, August 2016
- Educational and Community Outreach Fellow, *First Folio! The Book that Gave Us Shakespeare*, Texas A&M, 2016
- English Graduate Student Association representative on the Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2015 – 2016
- Research assistant for *Early Modern Studies and the Digital Turn: New Tools for New Research Questions*, edited by Laura Estill, Diane Jakacki, and Michael Ullyot, June 2015 – August 2015