

Tyler Blake, Ph.D.

Professor of English
English Area Coordinator
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CONTACT

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Studies: American literature and American history 1998
University of Missouri Kansas City

Dissertation: *Sinclair Lewis's Kansas City Laboratory: The Genesis of Elmer Gantry*

Master of Arts in English, literature emphasis 1991
University of Missouri Kansas City

Bachelor of Arts in English and communication 1988
MidAmerica Nazarene University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

English Professor, English Area Coordinator 2013-present
MidAmerica Nazarene University

English Professor 2003-2013
College of the Ozarks

English Professor, English Department Chair 1991-2003
MidAmerica Nazarene University

Graduate Assistant (classroom and writing lab), 1990-1991
University of Missouri Kansas City

TEACHING INTERESTS

Graduate and undergraduate American poetry, short stories, and novels

AWARDS AND HONORS

First Place Winner, 7x7 Challenge, MNU, 2015--a seven minute TED Talk inspired speaking competition among MNU faculty members.

Honorable Mention, Dissertation of the Year, UMKC, 1998—for my dissertation, *Sinclair Lewis's Kansas City Laboratory: The Genesis of Elmer Gantry*.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

English Area Coordinator , MNU	2013-present
Fulbright Foundation Campus Representative , C of O	2008-2013
English Department Chair , MNU	2000-2003
Faculty Athletic Representative , MNU	1999-2003

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS/DUTIES

2016--Area Chair, Arab Culture in the U.S., Southwest Popular/American Culture Convention
2015--Speaker, Kansas City Public Library, "Sinclair Lewis Comes to KC: The Genesis of Elmer Gantry" (Part of the Missouri Valley Sundays series)
2015--Special Guest, "Anything Goes," a radio show on KKFI 90.1 hosted by Charles Ferruzza
2015--Speaker, Humanities Awards Assembly, MNU
2015--Speaker, 7x7 Challenge, "Thoreau Pioneer: The Way of the Ox," MNU
2014--Keynote Speaker, NHS Induction Ceremony, Grandview Christian High School, Grandview, MO
2014--Essay reader, "The Meconnaissance of Genre: Forsaken Verisimilitude in Sinclair Lewis' *Elmer Gantry*," Southwest Popular/American Culture Convention
2014--Speaker, Faculty Assembly, MNU
2008--Panel Chair, Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Convention
2007--Essay Reader, "Evangelical Impulses in the Supernanny," Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Convention
2006--Session Moderator, "Pudd'nhead Wilson's and Huck Finn's Literary Descendants," Faulkner and Twain Conference, Southeast Missouri State University
2006--Panel Chair, Southwest/Texas Popular Cultural Convention
2006--Essay reader, "Stages in the Life of a Genre: Reality TV's Refusal to Die an Early Death," Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Convention
2001--Speaker, Recruiting day for prospective athletes, MNU
2001--Speaker, Chapel Service, MNU
1999--Speaker, Alpha Chi induction ceremony, MNU
1999--Master of Ceremonies, Freshman Banquet, MNU
1998--Speaker, Humanities Division Chapel Service, MNU
1997--Master of Ceremonies, MNU Faculty Retreat.
1997--Visiting Professor, five week summer class, Point Loma Nazarene University
1996--Master of Ceremonies, Faculty Follies, MNU

1995--Speaker, Faculty Chapel, MNU

COURSES TAUGHT

African-American Writers	Faith and Literature
Women Writers	Adolescent Literature
Irish Literature and History	Major Writers: William Faulkner
Film and Literature	World Literature
Writers and Movements	Creative Writing
Nineteenth Century American Literature	Advanced Writing
Twentieth Century American Literature	Introduction to Literature
The American Novel	English Composition I
The Novel in Film	English Composition II
Literary Criticism	Topics in American Literature
Survey of American Literature I and II	The American Novel
Advanced Writing	The City in Literature
Literary Masterpieces (Greek, Roman, etc.)	Survey of British Literature I and II
Jazz Age Writers	

SERVICE TO INSTITUTION

2015--Chair, Committee on the Professoriate
2015--Editor, MNU Self Study Report to the Higher Learning Commission
2015--Panel Member, Games and Learning at MNU
2015--Emcee/Host, President's Dinner for Faculty and Staff
2015--Committee for Games and Learning Initiative and Grant
2015--First Year Student Success Committee
2015--Tenure Sub-committee
2015--Academic Exceptions Committee
2014--Committee on the Professoriate
2013--Faculty Welfare Committee
2013--Faculty Welfare Sub-committee on Faculty Awards
2003-2013--Judge, Laws of Life Essay Contest
2012--Faculty Welfare Committee
2010--Coordinator, Laws of Life Essay Contest
2003-2009--Athletic Committee
2003-2012--Volunteer, NAIA National Tournament
2003-2012--Faculty volunteer, Character Camp
2003--Assessment Committee
1999-2002--Yearbook Advisor
1997-2003--Alpha Chi Faculty Sponsor
1999-2003--Heart of America Athletic Conference Board of Governors
1999-2001--Scholarship Committee
1997-2008--Participant, intramural basketball and softball
1992-1999--Project Thesis Advisor, Innovative Adult Education
1994-95--Faculty representative, Lanpher Dormitory
1993--Freshman Class Sponsor
1992--Writer, small-group curriculum for on-campus student groups.

1992-93--Instructor, Freshman Seminar

COMMUNITY SERVICE

2013-present--French Horn Player, College Church of the Nazarene Orchestra

2013--Volunteer, Big Brothers, Big Sisters

2000-2011--Volunteer Coach, youth football, baseball, softball, basketball

2005--Wrote and directed *Christmas is for Toys*, a musical

1998-2003--Guitar player, Living Hope Church Worship Team

1997--Member, Havencroft Elementary Site Council

ESSAYS/PUBLICATIONS

Blake, Tyler. "The Meconnaissance of Genre: Forsaken Verisimilitude in Sinclair Lewis's *Elmer Gantry*." Read at the Southwest Popular/American Culture Association Conference, 2014.

Blake, Tyler and James Bell. "Evangelical Impulses in the Supernanny." Read at The Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association Conference, 2007.

Blake, Tyler. "Stages in the Life of a Genre: Reality TV's Refusal to Die an Early Death." Read at the Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Conference, 2006.

Blake, Tyler. "The Pendulum and the Gift." *College Faith 2*. Ronald Alan Knott, editor. Andrews UP. Berrien Springs, Michigan, 2004.

Blake, Tyler. *Sinclair Lewis's Kansas City Laboratory: The Genesis of Elmer Gantry*. UMI, 1998.

Additionally, before becoming a professor, I published over 200 articles, book reviews, book jackets, and lesson plans for various publications including *Herald Magazine*, *Total*, *Resource*, *Survival Guide*, and *WordAction*, and others.

REFERENCES

Available upon request.