

**Sean R. Burt**

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**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

- 2022– North Dakota State University, Chair, Department of English  
2020– North Dakota State University, Associate Professor, Department of History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies and Department of English  
2014–20 North Dakota State University, Assistant Professor, Department of History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies and Department of English  
2012–13 North Dakota State University, Lecturer, Department of English and Department of History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies  
2011–12 Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn., Adjunct instructor, Department of Religion  
2010–12 North Dakota State University, Adjunct lecturer, Department of English and Department of History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies  
2007–09 University of Arizona, Adjunct lecturer, Department of Judaic Studies

**EDUCATION**

- 2009 Ph.D., Duke University Graduate School  
2002 M.T.S., Duke University Divinity School  
1999 B.A., Yale University

**PUBLICATIONS**Monograph

*The Courtier and the Governor: Transformations of Genre in the Nehemiah Memoir.* Journal of Ancient Judaism Supplement series, 17. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2014.

Articles

- “Alicia Suskin Ostriker's Feminist Poetics: Biblical Poetry as Counter-Theology.” *Prooftexts: A Journal of Jewish Literary History* (forthcoming, accepted for publication)  
“Poetry in the Hebrew Bible,” *Oxford Research Encyclopedia*. (forthcoming, accepted for publication)  
“What Kind of Likeness?: The Aesthetic Impulse in Biblical Poetry.” *Prooftexts: A Journal of Jewish Literary History* 38.1 (2020): 1–33. Co-authored with Elaine James.  
“Your Torah is My Delight’: Repetition and the Poetics of Immanence in Psalm 119.” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 137.3 (2018): 685–700.

“Essays on Isaiah 24-27, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi,” in “Covenant in the Persian Period,” edited by Steven Schweitzer. *Journal of Hebrew Scriptures* 18.6 (2018).

#### Book chapters

“The Snake, The Poet: Art and Duplicity in Margaret Atwood’s Poetry and the Hebrew Prophets,” in *Who Knows What We’d Ever Make of It, If We Ever Got Our Hands on It?: The Bible and Margaret Atwood*, edited by Rhiannon Graybill and Peter Sabo, Gorgias Press, 2020.

“‘This Is a Lamentation—It Has Become a Lamentation’: Subverting Genre in Ezekiel 19.” *Chapter for Biblical Poetry and Art of Close Reading*, edited by Elaine James and Blake Couey, Cambridge University Press, 2018.

“Exile and Return: From the Babylonian Destruction to the Beginnings of Hellenism,” for the 3rd revised and expanded edition of *Ancient Israel: A Short History from Abraham to the Roman Period*, edited by Hershel Shanks. Prentice Hall, 2010. (Written with Eric M. Meyers).

“The Impossible Utopias in Hail to the Thief,” in *Radiohead and Philosophy: Fitter, Happier, More Deductive*, edited by Brandon W. Forbes and George A. Reisch. Peru, Ill.: Open Court Publishing, 2009.

#### Short reference articles

“The Book of Chronicles,” “The Book of Jonah,” “Ezra/Nehemiah,” “Jacob,” “Moses,” “Phoenicians,” and “Solomon,” for the *Cambridge Dictionary of Judaism and Jewish Culture*, edited by Judith Baskin. Cambridge University Press, 2011.

#### Book reviews

Book review of Kenneth A. Ristau, *Reconstructing Jerusalem: Persian Period Prophetic Perspectives* (Eisenbrauns, 2016). *Review of Biblical Literature*, published January 25, 2018.

Book review of Steven J. Schweitzer and Frauke Uhlenbruch, eds., *Worlds That Could Not Be: Utopia in Chronicles, Ezra and Nehemiah* (Bloomsbury, 2016). *Review of Biblical Literature*, published December 12, 2016.

Book review of Jens Bruun Kofoed’s *Text and History: Historiography and the Study of the Biblical Text*, in *Bible and Critical Theory*, 3/3, October 2007.

Book review of Rolf A. Jacobson’s *‘Many Are Saying’: The Function of Direct Discourse in the Hebrew Psalter*, in *Bible and Critical Theory* 1/3, August 2005.

#### Articles in public media

“Hebrew Poetry Forms” and “Proverbs 31 as an Acrostic Poem,” for *Bible Odyssey*, 2014.

#### Works in progress

“Ezekiel’s Poetic Images,” essay on poetry in the book of Ezekiel.

Monograph project on aesthetics and biblical poetry.

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

2021	NDSU Foundation Library Endowment Grant, for World Religions Next Steps collection
2019–20	NDSU Honors Faculty Fellow
2015	NDSU College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Dean's Challenge Grant
2007–08	Katherine Stern Dissertation Year Fellowship
2002	Duke Divinity School Excellence in Bible Award

## PRESENTATIONS

- “Robert Bresson’s Unfinished *Genesis*: A Biblical Aesthetics of the Ellipsis.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, November 20, 2021.
- “The Image and Poetry’s Limits in Ezekiel.” European Association for Biblical Studies, August 3, 2021
- “Another Visit to the Oracle’: The Bible and Margaret Atwood’s Poetry.” Upper Midwest Regional Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, April 10, 2021.
- “The Openness of Biblical Poetry: Reading the Poetry of the Bible with Alicia Suskin Ostriker.” Association of Jewish Studies Annual Meeting, December 14, 2020.
- “The Art of Ezekiel’s Poetry.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, December 7, 2020.
- “Your Statutes are My Songs’: On the Ideology of Reading the Torah Psalms as Poetry.” Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, December 2, 2020.
- “Ezekiel’s Poetic Images,” Paper presented at the Twin Cities Hebrew Bible Colloquium, Northfield, Minnesota, October 2019
- Respondent to Ryan Higgins, “Captive Brides and Covetous Kings,” Upper Midwest Regional Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. St. Paul, Minnesota, April 6, 2019.
- “The Snake, the Poet: Poetry and Duplicity in Margaret Atwood’s Poetry and the Hebrew Bible.” Presented in a panel on “Margaret Atwood and the Bible” in the Reading, Theory, and the Bible section of the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature. Denver, Colorado, November 20, 2018.
- “Making Images: The Aesthetic Impulse in Prophetic Poetry.” Co-authored with Elaine T. James. Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Boston, Mass., November 19, 2017.
- “Nehemiah’s Masculinity: Two Trajectories in the Contemporary Reception of Nehemiah.” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Boston, Mass., November 21, 2017.
- “Malleable Masculinity in the Reception of Biblical Literature: The Case of Nehemiah.” Red River Women’s Studies Conference, Fargo, ND, October 20, 2017.
- “Making Images: Creativity in Biblical Hebrew Poetry” Co-authored with Elaine James. Twin Cities Hebrew Bible Colloquium, April 1, 2017.
- “Response to Hibbard, Kessler, Bautch, Assis, and Mitchell.” Presentation as part of a book review panel on *Covenant in the Persian Period*, Gary Knoppers and Richard Bautch, editors (Eisenbrauns, 2015). Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Antonio, Texas, November 21, 2016.
- “Structure and Movement.” Presentation as part of a book review panel on *Reading the Poetry of First Isaiah: The Most Perfect Model of Prophetic Poetry*, by J. Blake Couey. (Oxford University Press, 2015). Upper Midwest Regional Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, St. Paul, Minnesota, April 2, 2016.

- “The Ten Commandments in Downtown Fargo.” Presentation of preliminary results of research sponsored by a 2015 AHSS Dean’s Challenge Grant, Fargo, ND, March 4, 2016.
- “The Animal World, Horror, and the Unimaginable in The Book of Job.” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta, Georgia, November 21, 2015.
- “Biblical Horror: The Unimaginable Cosmos in the Book of Job.” Presentation for NDSU English Department’s Cosgrove Seminar, October 31, 2015.
- “Your Torah is My Delight’: The Poetics of Immanence in Psalm 119.” Twin Cities Hebrew Bible/Old Testament Colloquium, March 7, 2015.
- “The ‘Empty Horizon’ of Torah in Psalm 119.” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Baltimore, November 25, 2013.
- “An Immanent Torah: The Poetics of Repetition in Psalm 119.” Upper Midwest Regional Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, St. Paul, Minn., April 2013.
- “Deuteronomic Language and Popular Religion in the Ketef Hinnom Silver Amulets.” NDSU Department of History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies colloquium, May 3, 2013.
- “The Return of Solomon's Paradox in Nehemiah.” Upper Midwest Regional Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, St. Paul, Minn., April 2011.
- “Transformations of Genre in the Nehemiah Memorial.” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Atlanta, November 20, 2010.
- “Nehemiah's Court Tale and the Study of Genre in Biblical Studies and Beyond.” Department of English's Cosgrove Lecture Series, September 21, 2010.
- “Nehemiah in the Court of the Foreign King.” Upper Midwest Regional Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, St. Paul, Minn., March 9, 2010.
- “The Problem of Deuteronomistic Language in the Ketef Hinnom Silver Amulets.” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, Calif., November 17, 2007.
- “The Contradictions of Genre in the Nehemiah Memorial.” Southeastern Regional Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature (SECSOR), Nashville, Tenn., March 2007.
- “The Form-Critical Problem of the Nehemiah Memorial.” Duke University Hebrew Bible/ Old Testament Colloquium, December 2006.
- “The Testimony of History and the Ideology of Testimony in Provan, Long, and Longman’s A Biblical History of Ancient Israel.” Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Philadelphia, Penn., Nov. 21, 2005.

## **TEACHING**

### Professional development

Participant in GATEWAYS-ND Cohort 2 (Dec 2016–Dec 2018), a multi-year workshop and learning community on active learning sponsored by the NSF and the NDSU Office of the Provost.

### Courses taught, listed alphabetically by title

Ancient History  
The Bible as Literature  
Biblical History and Biblical Myth (Writing in the Disciplines, Duke University)  
The Book of Psalms (University of Arizona)  
College Composition, II  
Colloquium in the Humanities: Art, Reality, and Authenticity (NDSU Honors Program)  
Colloquium in the Humanities: Imagining Time and Temporality (NDSU Honors Program)  
Christianity and Religious Diversity (Concordia College)  
Critical Theory (graduate course)  
Graduate Seminar: Affect Theory (graduate course)  
History and Religion of Israel in Ancient Times: The Biblical Period (University of Arizona)  
History of Christianity  
History of Judaism  
Honors Composition, II (NDSU Honors Program)  
Introduction to Biblical Hebrew (Duke Divinity School)  
Introduction to Poetry  
Introduction to Religion  
New Testament  
Old Testament  
World Literature Masterpieces  
World Religions  
Writing in the Humanities and Social Sciences

### Graduate student theses

#### *Committee chair*

Alexandra Froslic, MA, English (2020)

#### *Committee member*

Matthew Warner, PhD, English (2022)

Natalie Basta, MA, Anthropology (2021)

Kathryn Strand, MA, History (2021)

Malcolm Jason, PhD, Communication (2020)

Rio Bergh, MA, English (2019)

Rowshan Chowdhury, MA, English (2019)

Shaibal Dev Roy, MA, English (2019)

Adam Copeland, PhD, English (2018)

## **SERVICE**

### Professional

President, Upper Midwest Regional Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, 2021–2022

Vice President, Upper Midwest Regional Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, 2019–2021

Co-coordinator, Hebrew Bible section of the Upper Midwest Regional Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, 2015–2019

Co-chair of the Chronicles-Ezra-Nehemiah Program Unit of the Society of Biblical Literature, 2015–2018

### University

NDSU Faculty Senator, 2021–

University Library Committee. Member, 2015–2017; Chair, 2017–2019

University Curriculum Committee. Member, 2014–2015

### College and Department (recent)

Department of English Scholarship and Awards Committee. Member, 2016–2020; *de facto* Chair, 2020–2021  
(The department chair [listed in by-laws as committee chair] requested that I serve as committee chair)

AHSS Policy and Planning Committee, 2019–2022