

## MATTHEW P. BROWN

Center for the Book/English Department 308 EPB, University of Iowa Iowa City, IA 52242  
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### EDUCATION:

1996 Ph.D., University of Virginia, English and American Literature.  
1986 B.A., Oberlin College, English. Magna Cum Laude.

### PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC POSITIONS:

Associate Professor, English Department/Center for the Book, University of Iowa, 2007-present. Assistant Professor, 2001-2007.  
Director, UI Center for the Book, 2006- 2012, 2020-2022.  
Assistant Professor, English Department, Northern Illinois University, 1999-2001.  
Visiting Assistant Professor, Coe College, 1996-97, 1998-99.  
Distinguished Post-Doctoral Fellow and Instructor, Louisiana State University, 1997-98.

### SELECTED ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS:

Global Book Cultures and the Student Laboratory, Co-PI with Elizabeth Yale, National Endowment for the Humanities. Three-year grant, \$150,000. 2022-2025.  
Gerber Teaching Award, English Department, University of Iowa, 2011.  
Mellon Seminar Leader, "Early American Literature and Material Texts," Philadelphia, July 12-July 16, 2010.  
National Endowment for the Humanities Research Fellow, Library Company of Philadelphia, January-June 2009.  
Mellon Seminar Leader, "Early American Literature and Material Texts," Philadelphia, July 20-July 24, 2009.  
Member, American Antiquarian Society. Elected April 2009.

### PUBLICATIONS:

#### Book

*The Pilgrim and the Bee: Reading Rituals and Book Culture in Early New England* (University of Pennsylvania Press, June 2007). Award: MLA Prize for Best First Book, Honorable Mention, December 2008.

*The Novel and the Blank: Thinking with the Print Shop in British America* (work in progress).

#### Selected Articles

"Pace, Scale, Touch: On Artists' Books as Learning Environments." Co-authored with Katharine DeLamater and Andrew King. *Objects of Study: Teaching Critical Bibliography and Material Texts*. Eds. Barbara Heritage and Donna Sy. Forthcoming.  
"The Mood of the Room." *Material Religion* 17.2 (May 2021): 271-72.  
"Ritual." *New Histories of Puritan American Literature*. Ed. Kristina Bross and Abram Van Engen. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2020. 147-166.  
"Document." Special issue: "Keywords in Early American Literature and Material Texts." *Early American Studies* 16.4 (Fall 2018): 643-47.  
"Blanks: Data, Method, and the British American Print Shop." *American Literary History* (Spring 2017): 228-247.  
"Shelf Life," *Early American Literature* 47.2 (2012): 421-431.  
"Hand Piety; or, Operating a Book in Early New England." *Cultural Narratives*. Ed. Sandra Gustafson. Notre Dame: U of Notre Dame P, 2010. 14-33.

- “The Tiger’s Leap and the Dog’s Paw.” Review-essay of *The Republic in Print and Learning to Read and Write in Colonial America*. Early American Literature 44.3 (2009): 657-675.
- “The Thick Style: Steady Sellers, Textual Aesthetics, and Early Modern Devotional Reading.” PMLA 121:1 (January 2006): 67-86.
- “Book History, Sexy Knowledge, and the Challenge of the New Boredom.” American Literary History 16:4 (Winter 2004): 688-706.
- “‘BOSTON/SOB NOT’: Elegiac Performance in Early New England and Materialist Studies of the Book,” American Quarterly 50:2 (1998): 306-39.
- “Basketball, Rodney King, Simi Valley.” *Whiteness: A Critical Reader*. Ed. Mike Hill, New York: New York UP, 1997. 102-116.,
- “Funk Music as Genre: Black Aesthetics, Apocalyptic Thinking and Urban Protest in Post-1965 African-American Pop,” Cultural Studies 8:3 (1994): 484-508.

### Online publications

- “Audio Companions.” *Public Books*. May 8, 2017.
- “Undisciplined Reading.” *Common-place*. Fall 2007.
- “Two Cheers for Jeff Tweedy.” *Pop Matters*. October 8, 2002.

### INVITED TALKS:

- “A Poetics of Colportage,” History of Material Texts Workshop, University of Pennsylvania. March 2019.
- “Writing Keimer.” Protestantism and the Materiality of Texts. Princeton University. April 2017.
- “A Phenomenology of the Reading Room.” University of Mississippi. April 2016.
- “On ‘Reading.’” The Digital Antiquarian. American Antiquarian Society. May 2015.
- “Robert Bell as Editor: Variants and Early American Literary Publishing.” Loyola University of Chicago. October 12, 2013.
- “‘A Form hereof in short, yet full, is here’: The Blank of American Literary History.” Keynote address for Into the Void, the Craft, Critique, Culture Graduate Student Conference, University of Iowa. March 2013.
- “Competition, Cooperation, and Knowledge Production in Early 18<sup>th</sup>-Century British America: The Case of Franklin,” Early Modern Cities in Comparative Perspective. The Folger Institute, September 2012.
- “Bell’s Liberties.” Rare Book School Lecture Series, University of Virginia, July 4, 2012.
- “Reading, Craft, and Reading Craft in the Age of Facebook.” Keynote address for The Past, Present, and Future of the Book. Associated Colleges of the Midwest conference, Cornell College. February 2, 2012.
- “Using the King James Bible in Colonial and Early National America,” The King James Bible, 1611-2011, Princeton University. October 2011.
- “Early Modern Surfing?: Enlightenment and Devotional Attitudes to Discontinuous Reading,” University of Pennsylvania. February 2009.
- “‘But to Return’: Mary Rowlandson, Ruminative Reading, and the Book Object,” Israel Science Foundation, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Israel. July 2008.
- “Books, Things, Mary Rowlandson, Us,” Book History Seminar, Harvard University. November 2007.
- “On ‘the History of the Book and the Idea of Literature’,” American Cultures Colloquium and Early Modern Colloquium, Northwestern University. March 2006.

### SELECTED SERVICE:

- Panelist, National Endowment for the Humanities. Review of Humanities Collections and Reference Resources. Major institutional awards for preservation and access. November 2021.
- Panelist, American Council of Learned Societies. Review of Dissertation Completion Fellowship Proposals. December 2021.

Panelist, National Endowment for the Humanities. Review of Postdoctoral Fellowship Applications. Library Company of Philadelphia. December 2016.

Panelist, National Endowment for the Humanities. Review of Humanities Collections and Reference Resources Applications. Major institutional awards for preservation and access. October 2015.

Hench Postdoctoral Fellowship Committee 2014-2015, American Antiquarian Society. Oct. 2013 – Jan. 2014.

Editor, *Impressions: Studies in the Art, Culture, and Future of Books*, Univ. of Iowa Press book series, 2012- .

Editorial Boards, *Book History*, 2018-28; *Textual Cultures*, 2018-23; *Early American Literature*, 2007-2015.

## SERVICE TO THE INSTITUTION

### Department

2020 – 2022, 2006-2012	Center for the Book, Director
2014 - Present	Executive Committee, Center for the Book, Member
2014 - Present	Scholarly Inquiry Area Head, Center for the Book
2002 - Present	Academic Advisor, Center for the Book
2021	Scholarships and Awards, English Department, Director
2017 - 2019	Undergraduate Studies, English Department, Director
2015 – 2017, 2021	Executive Committee, English, Member
2015	Graduate Admissions, English Department
2015	Personnel Committee - Promotion and Tenure Case
2015	"Small Data," Faculty Colloquium, English Department, Speaker
2014	Personnel committee, Third-year Review (Assistant Professor), English Department
2013	Personnel committee, Assistant Professor, English Department
2012	English Department Chair Search Committee (as part of Executive Committee)
2009 - 2012	Executive Committee, English Department, Member
2006 - 2012	Director, Center of the Book
2005 - 2012	Brownell Lecture in the History of the Book (annual series), Center for the Book, Or
2005 – 2012, 2020-	Historical and Cultural Area Head, Center for the Book
2004 – 2012, 2020-	Advisory Committee, Center for the Book, Member
2011	Hiring Committee, Laboratory Coordinator, Center for the Book, Member
2010	Hiring Committee, Program Assistant Search, Center for the Book, Member
2002 - 2010	Admissions Committee, Center for the Book, Member
2008	Hiring Committee, Program Assistant Search, Center for the Book, Member
2007 - 2008	Executive Committee, English Department, Member
2008	Worrying the Text for Undergraduates: Poe, Melville, and Early American Online R 19th-Century American and British Magazine Archives Online: Research Workshop
2006 - 2007	Gateway Course Committee, English Department, Member
2007	"Undisciplined Reading." Faculty Colloquium, English Department, Speaker
2007	STS Biennial Conference. Society for Textual Scholarship, Organizer
2003 - 2006	Executive Committee, English Department, Member
2003 - 2004	Job Placement Committee, English Department, Member
2003	Hiring Committee, Program Assistant Search, Center for the Book, Member

### College

2017 - 2019	Writing Certificate Steering Committee, Member
2019	Hiring Committee - CLAS Advising, Member

**University**

2016 - 2017	Next Gen Ph.D - NEH Grant - UI Planning Committee, Member
2014	CLAS Representative: Campus Planning Committee, Member
2013	Collegiate Consulting Group, Promotion and Tenure Review, Graduate College
2013	Visiting Speaker Jessica Pressman (ALCS Fellow and UC San Diego), Organizer
2012	Hiring to tenure-line positions of papermaking specialist and bookbinding specialist, Book
2012	Personnel committee, School of Library and Information Sciences, Assistant Professor
2009 - 2010	Research and Creative Excellence, Member, Provost's Committee
2008 - 2009	First Biennial College Book Art Association Conference, Co-Organizer
2007	Arts and Humanities Initiative, Reviewer, Grant Proposals
2006	Arts and Humanities Initiative, Reviewer, Grant Proposals
2006	Scholarship Selection Committee, Member