

# Curriculum Vitae

## **Kristen Sipper**

Assistant Professor, Children's Literature  
Department of English  
Azusa Pacific University  
Rose Garden 2, 626-815-6000 x3322  
ksipper@apu.edu

## **EDUCATION**

---

### **PhD (2001 – 2008): University of Nottingham**

“Children's Didactic Tract Novels of the Late Nineteenth Century”

### **MA (2000 – 2001): University of Nottingham**

English Studies with an emphasis on Victorian novels, poetry, and theatre.

### **BA (1997 – 2000): Cal Poly, Pomona**

English with an emphasis on education

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

---

**2010-  
present**

### **Azusa Pacific**

I currently work as an assistant professor of children's literature at APU. My typical course load comprises two sections of general education and two of children's literature, one per year of which is through the Center for Adult and Professional Studies.

**2009**

### **Azusa Pacific University / Biola**

For both semesters of 2009, I worked as an adjunct faculty member at APU and Biola, where I have taught both Freshman Writing, Introduction to Literature, and children's lit. My Freshman Writing class focuses on finding effective ways to improve drafts, while my Intro to Literature classes employs a multi-faceted approach to literature meant to engage students from across varying disciplines.

**2002-2008: University of Nottingham, UK**

Over the course of this time during my doctoral work, I taught at the University of Nottingham in both the School of English and the School of History. In the School of English (2002-2007), I taught Reading Modern Literature, which is a year-long survey course of literature from Shakespeare to Modernism. The course covers both prose and poetry. For the School of History, I taught a nineteenth-century world history course, focusing on British cultural and social history.

**2001-2002: Loughborough University, UK**

I taught an Introduction to the Short Story course, which focused on Chekhov, Gordimer, and a range of American authors. I also taught an Introduction to Poetry course, which covered a range of poets, genres of poetry, and poetic techniques.

In individual and small group sessions, I taught basic rhetoric and composition skills to non-native speakers of English and native speakers who were enrolled in sub-100-level courses.

## **SUMMARY OF RESEARCH**

---

My current research interests relate to best practice and pedagogy for children's and adolescent literature in the university classroom. Along these lines, I am currently working on research regarding connections students make between their service-learning experiences and the integrated faith learning within the course content.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

---

Book Reviewer for *Catholic Library World*: 2012-present.

"Illustrated Limericks: A Service-Learning Project." *The Whale Road Review*. Issue 9: Winter 2017. (Web)

"Service Learning in the University Classroom." *Teaching College Literature*. Autumn, 2012. (Web)

Books Reviews for *The Dragon Lode*, Sept 2012.

"Literary Fads and Fashions: Conference Proceedings" in *Working With English*, Guest Editor. Autumn: 2006.

## **FELLOWSHIPS**

---

For the academic years of 2016/17 and 2017/18, I served as a Faculty Fellow through the Office of Academic Service Learning. The two-year project looked at ways to improve students' service-learning experiences, mostly through improvement in reflection and scaffolding.

In the Spring of 2009, I received a library fellowship from the de Grummond Collection at Southern Mississippi State University. My research explored the transatlantic adaptations of English "waifs and strays" novels, specifically London Religious Tract Society texts that were republished by the American Tract Society.

I organized a book history study day with the Book History Research Network in May 2008. The event was attended by academics from throughout the country, and was a successful forum for an interdisciplinary sharing of ideas.

In 2004, several post-graduate colleagues and I organized the Literary Fads and Fashions conference, for which we secured £3,000 of funding. The conference hosted delegates from the United States, Canada, Germany, Ireland, as well as several UK universities. The proceedings were published in 2006, edited by those of us who organized the conference.

## RECENT CONFERENCE PAPERS

---

“Literature Circles: Guidance and Thoughts in Using Lit Circles In Upper-Elementary and Middle School.” Charlotte Huck Children’s Literature Festival, University of Redlands, March 2018.

“Millennial Responses to the Harry Potter Controversy.” Christianity and Literature Conference, Pt Loma University, May 2017.

“Making the Most of your Students’ Service Learning Experience.” Christianity and Literature Conference, California Baptist University, May 2016.

“Read, Laugh, Live: Humor in Children’s Picture Books.” Charlotte Huck Children’s Literature Festival, University of Redlands, Feb 2015.

“Towards a Christian Dystopia: Veronica Roth’s Divergent Fiction.” Christianity and Literature Conference, Westmont University, May 2014.

“Fascinating Facts and Connections in Recent Non-Fiction Picture Books.” Charlotte Huck Children’s Literature Festival, University of Redlands, Jan 2014.