

CURRICULUM VITAE

DAVID SCOTT CUNNINGHAM

Address: Hope College, P.O. Box 9000, Holland, MI 49422-9000 USA
Telephone 616-395-7121 Fax 616-395-7490 cunningham@hope.edu

Home: 367 Wildwood Drive, Holland, MI 49423-6922 Telephone 616-393-6081

Major Fields: Constructive systematic theology in its secular and ecclesiastical contexts, with a focus on the doctrines of God, revelation, and creation; Christian ethics; literature, drama, and theology; hermeneutics; theological method.

Other fields: Vocational reflection and discernment in theory and practice; political, liberation, and feminist theologies; New Testament; early and Reformation church history; continental philosophy; classical rhetoric.

EDUCATION

PH.D.: DUKE UNIVERSITY, DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA: May, 1990

Major Field: Christian Theology (Doctrinal, Moral, and Philosophical).

Honors: Jacob Javits Fellow (full tuition plus stipend), 1986–1990.

Dissertation: “Faithful Persuasion: Prolegomena to a Rhetoric of Christian Theology” (Director, Professor Geoffrey Wainwright).

B.A./M.A.: THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE, CAMBRIDGE, ENGLAND: June, 1985

Major Field: Theology and Religious Studies (Part II of the Cambridge Tripos).

Honors: B.A. awarded “First Class with distinction,” June, 1985. (M.A. taken in March 1989, as is customary for Oxbridge degrees.)

Thesis: “Gadamer’s Critique of the Enlightenment: Implications for Biblical Interpretation” (Director, Revd. Dr. Rowan Williams).

B.S.: NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY, EVANSTON, ILLINOIS: June, 1983

Major Field: Communication Studies (rhetoric, history, philosophy, politics).

Minor Field: Religion (working primarily in Christianity).

Honors: Presidential Scholar, 1979; National Merit Scholar, 1979–83; Newton Minow Scholar, 1982–83; Degree *summa cum laude*, 1983.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS HELD

2003– Professor of Religion and Director, The CrossRoads Project, Hope College (also Director of the Klooster Center for Excellence in Writing, since 2011)

1997–2003 Professor of Theology and Ethics, Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL (Associate Professor until 2000)

1990–1997 Associate Professor of Theology, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minnesota (Assistant Professor until 1996)

1989–1990 Visiting Instructor in Religion, Austin College, Sherman, Texas.

SCHOLARLY ACHIEVEMENT

- Books: *Theater to the World: The Drama of Divine Revelation* (under contract with William B. Eerdmans)
- The Christian Doctrine of God*, Basic Guides to Theology Series (under contract with Westminster/John Knox Press)
- Christian Ethics: The End of the Law* (London and New York: Routledge, 2008)
- Friday, Saturday, Sunday: Literary Meditations on Suffering, Death, and New Life* (Louisville, Ky.: Westminster/John Knox Press, 2007)
- Reading is Believing: The Christian Faith through Literature and Film* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Brazos Press, 2002).
- These Three are One: The Practice of Trinitarian Theology*, in the series *Challenges in Contemporary Theology* (Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1998).
- Faithful Persuasion: In Aid of a Rhetoric of Christian Theology* (Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 1991).
- Books Edited: Editor of *At This Time and In This Place: Vocation and Higher Education* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2015).
- Editor of *To Teach, To Delight, and to Move: Theological Education in a Post-Christian World* (Eugene, Ore.: Cascade Books, 2004).
- Lead editor of *Ecumenical Theology in Worship, Doctrine, and Life: Essays Presented to Geoffrey Wainwright on his Sixtieth Birthday* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999).
- Refereed Articles: "Orators, Actors, and Saints: Divine Revelation as Rhetoric and Drama," *Anglican Theological Review* 85, no. 2 (Spring 2003): 343–62.
- "Participation as a Trinitarian Virtue: Challenging the Current 'Relational' Consensus," *Toronto Journal of Theology* 14, no. 1 (Spring 1998): 7–25
- "Developing Alternative Trinitarian Formulas," *Anglican Theological Review* 80, no. 1 (Winter 1998): 8–29.
- "On Translating the Divine Name," *Theological Studies* 56, no. 3 (September 1995): 415–440.
- "Coercion or Persuasion? In Search of the Authority of Dogma," *Pro Ecclesia: A Journal of Catholic and Evangelical Theology* 3, no. 3 (Summer 1994): 329–345.
- "Theology as Rhetoric," *Theological Studies* 52, no. 3 (September 1991): 407–430.
- "A Hermeneutic of Shrew-Taming," *Word and World* 10, no. 3 (Summer 1990): 285–294.

- Articles, continued “Clodovis Boff on the Discipline of Theology,” *Modern Theology* 6, no. 2 (January 1990): 137–58.
- Invited Essays: “Time and Place: Why Vocation is Crucial to Undergraduate Education Today” (Introduction) and “‘Who’s There?’ The Dramatic Role of the ‘Caller’ in Vocational Discernment,” chapter 6 of *At This Time and In This Place: Vocation and Higher Education* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2015).
- “Revelation, Community, and Culture: A Dramatic Inquiry,” chapter 19 of *Revisioning, Renewing, Rediscovering the Triune Center: Essays in Honor of Stanley J. Grenz*. Ed. Derek J. Tidball, Brian S. Harris, and Jason S. Sexton (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2014), 382–403.
- “‘And That’s True, Too’: Drama, Revelation, and the Shape of Christian Ethics,” chapter 9 of *Theatrical Theology: Explorations in Performing the Faith*, ed. Wesley Vander Lugt and Trevor Hart (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2014). 178–202.
- “Tragedy Without Evasion: Attending [to] Performances,” in *Christian Theology and Tragedy*, ed. Kevin Taylor and Giles Waller (Farnham: Ashgate Press, 2011)
- “Addressing Male Participation Through the Academic Program: The Hope College Experience,” chapter 3 of *Engaging College Men: Discovering What Works and Why*, ed. Gar Kellom and Miles Groth (Harriman, TN: Men’s Studies Press, 2010), 39–60.
- “The Way of All Flesh: Rethinking the *Imago Dei*,” in *Creaturely Theology: God, Humans and Other Animals*, ed. Celia Deane-Drummond and David Clough (London: SCM, 2009)
- “Who is God? The Triune God,” chapter in *Essentials of Christian Theology*, ed. William C. Placher (Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 2003): 76–92.
- “Explicating Those ‘Troublesome’ Texts of the Creeds: The Promise of Realistic Fiction,” *Dialog: A Journal of Theology* 42, no. 2 (Summer 2003): 111–119.
- “The Trinity,” chapter 11 in *The Cambridge Companion to Postmodern Theology*, ed. Kevin J. Vanhoozer (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003), 186–202.
- “God as Trinity,” in *God in the Twenty-First Century*, a special issue of *Quarterly Review* 22, no. 2 (Summer 2002): 125–137.
- “*The Brothers Karamazov* as Trinitarian Theology,” chapter 7 in *Dostoevsky and the Christian Tradition*, ed. George Pattison and Diane Thompson (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001), 134–155.

Invited Essays, continued: “Interpretation: Toward a Rehabilitation of the *Vestigia* Tradition,” chapter 7 of *Knowing the Triune God: The Work of the Spirit in the Practices of the Church*, ed. Jim Buckley and David Yeago (Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans, 2001), 177–200.

“Trinitarian Rhetoric in Murdoch, Morrison, and Dostoevsky,” in *Literature and Theology at Century’s End*, ed. Gregory Salyer and Robert Detweiler (Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1995), 189–213.

Invited Papers: “NetVUE Scholarly Resources: What We Are Learning,” presented at the Biennial conference of the Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education, St. Louis, 2015

“Dostoevsky and Nietzsche: The Hazards of Writing Oneself Into (or Out of) Faith,” presented at “Dostoevsky Beyond Dostoevsky,” a symposium at Brown University, 2014

“Vocabularies of Vocation: Exploring the Grammar of Call,” presented at the Biennial conference of the Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education, Indianapolis, 2013

“God’s Spies: The Church (and the Audience) in a Dramatic Doctrine of Revelation,” presented at the AAR Annual Meeting, Atlanta, 2010

“Is Scripture a Script? The Textual Body of Christ,” presented at the University of Exeter, 2010

“‘This Insubstantial Pageant Faded’: The Character of ‘Truth’ in a Dramatic Doctrine of Revelation,” presented at the University of Leeds, 2003

“‘Your Thoughts Must Deck Our Kings’: The Role of the Audience in the Doctrine of Revelation,” presented at Christ Church University College, Canterbury, 2003

Respondent to Kevin J. Vanhoozer at the *Ex Auditu* conference on the Theological Interpretation of Scripture, North Park University, Chicago, 2000

Respondent to Stephen E. Fowl’s *Engaging Scripture* at the AAR/SBL Annual Meeting, Boston, 1999.

“Is Postmodernism Inherently Violent? A Rhetorical and Theological Response,” presented at the Annual Meeting of the Speech Communication Association, New Orleans, November 1994.

“Kenneth Burke as Theological Marginalist,” presented at the Seventh Conference on Literature and Theology, Glasgow, Scotland, 1994.

Respondent at a panel discussion of *Faithful Persuasion* at the AAR Regional Meeting, St. Paul, 1994.

Encyclopedia articles: “Rhetoric,” in *The Oxford Companion to Christian Thought*, ed. Adrian Hastings (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001), 625–26.

“Rhetoric,” in *A Handbook of Postmodern Biblical Interpretation*, ed. A. K. M. Adam, (St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2000), 220–226.

- Columns & Comment: “Do Not Presume’: The Fate of the Other Thief,” in *The Christian Century* (23 March 2010): 30–32.
- “Getting Saved,” in review of the film *Saved!*, in *The Christian Century* 121, no. 15 (27 July 2004): 42.
- “The Way of Wisdom: The Practical Theology of David Ford,” in *The Christian Century* 120, no. 9 (3 May 2003): 30–37.
- “Striking Out: Death, Resurrection, and Baseball,” in *The Christian Century* 119, no. 12 (5–12 June 2002), 22–27.
- “Living the Questions: The Converging Worlds of Rowan Williams,” in *The Christian Century* 119, no. 9 (24 April–1 May 2002), 18–29.
- “Love Doesn’t End,” in review of the film *The End of the Affair*, in *The Christian Century* 117, no. 4 (2–9 February 2000), 156–58.
- “Theological Themes” for the first four Sundays in Eastertide, in *Lectionary Homiletics* 7, no. 5 (April 1996): 4, 13, 22, and 31.
- “This Must Be a Trap,” in review of the film *A Pure Formality*, in *Sojourners* 25, no. 1 (January–February 1996): 62–64.
- “Christian Feminism in the United States,” *Reviews in Religion and Theology* 1995, no. 4 (November): 84–87.
- “The Transfiguration of Time: Flannery O’Connor’s Disorienting Fiction,” *Sojourners* (December 1994): 40–44.
- Review Essays: “A Response to Ephraim Radner’s *The End of the Church: A Pneumatology of Christian Division in the West*,” *Anglican Theological Review* 83, no. 1 (Winter, 2001): 89–100.
- “A Decade of Books on the Doctrine of Revelation,” *Pro Ecclesia: A Journal of Catholic and Evangelical Theology* 10, No. 2 (Spring 2001): 227–233.
- “What’s [Not] New in Trinitarian Theology” and “Trinitarian Theology Since 1990,” *Reviews in Religion and Theology* 1997, no. 1 (February): 14–20 and 1995, no. 4 (November): 8–16.
- “Liberation Theology, At Home and Abroad,” *Theology Today* 51, no. 3 (October 1994): 421–429.
- Reviews: Over seventy book reviews published, most recently, of William Cavanaugh, *The Myth of Religious Violence*, for *Studies in Christian Ethics*; of Janet Martin Soskice, *The Kindness of God*, for *Theological Studies*; and of Craig Hovey, *Nietzsche and Theology*, for *The International Journal of Systematic Theology*
- Languages: German (*Zertifikat Deutsch als Fremdsprache*, 1988; *Mittelstufe II*, 1996; *Deutsche Mittelstufe Prüfung*, 2002; *Oberstufe*, 2009); French; New Testament Greek

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

At Hope College, 2003–present

- 2011– Director, Center for Writing and Research
- 2003– Director, The CrossRoads Project (a Program for the Theological Exploration of Vocation, funded by the Lilly Endowment, Inc.)
- 2003– Campus Advisor for the Rhodes, Marshall, and Fulbright Scholarships

At Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, 1997–2003

- 2000–2001 Chair, Curriculum Committee: undertook full-scale curriculum revision
- 1997–2002 Academic Affairs Committee (Chair, 1999–2002): development and approval of academic program; revising faculty handbooks; adjudicating student petitions

At Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, 1997–2003, continued

- 1997–2002 Coordinator of the Seminary's Foreign Exchange Programs
- 1997–2001 Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees, and to its Academic and Student Affairs Committee and its Trusteeship Committee

At the University of St. Thomas, 1990–1997

- 1992–1996 Faculty Affairs Committee (Chair, 1995–96): faculty/administration liaison; maintenance of Faculty Organizational Plan; elections; grievance processes
- 1995–1996 Departmental Tenure Committee
- 1990–1996 Departmental Hiring Committees (two tenure-track positions yearly)
- 1994–1995 University Calendar Task Force, studying impacts of calendar change
- 1991–1994 Theology Department Curriculum Revision Committee: developing second- and third-level theology courses in a revised curriculum

Administrative Positions In the Wider Academy

- 2012– Director, NetVUE Scholarly Resources Project, Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education, Council of Independent Colleges
- 2005–2013 Program Unit Chair, Christianity and Academia Group (Consultation until 2011), American Academy of Religion
- 2004–2010 Executive Board member, Society for the Study of Christian Ethics
- 2001–2005 Member of the Program Committee, American Academy of Religion
- 1999–2005 Program Unit Chair, Christian Systematic Theology Section (Group until 2004), American Academy of Religion

- 1999–2001 President, Society of Anglican and Lutheran Theologians: chairing the executive committee, planning the annual meeting, overseeing programs
- 1994–2001 Coordinator of a series of conferences and a book project as part of a recent Lilly Foundation Grant on the role of the Bible in Theological Education

COURSES TAUGHT

- Hope College: The Christian Doctrine of Revelation; First Year Seminar (focusing on readings from *The New Yorker* magazine); Senior Seminar (“The Drama of Christianity” – on the relationship between theology and theater, as well as “Friday, Saturday, Sunday,” based on my book of that title); German I and II; The Art of Film; Theology and Ethics: An Illustrated Guide (in Vienna)
- Western Seminary: Introduction to Theology and Worship; Systematic Theology; Christian Ethics; The Doctrine of Revelation; Theological German
- Seabury-Western Seminary: Christian Ethics; The Christian Moral Life; Narrative and the Virtues; Systematic Theology; Trinitarian Theology; Reading is Believing; Atheists and Apologists; Ethics of Intimacy; Karl Marx and Liberation Theology
- University of St. Thomas: The Christian Theological Tradition; Introduction to Theology; Christian Belief Today; The Doctrine of the Trinity; The Church; The Person and Mission of Jesus; Atheists and Apologists; Karl Marx and Liberation Theology

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS RECEIVED

- Personal: Louisville Institute, Christian Faith and Life Grant, 2009–2010
Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship, Freiburg (Germany), 2002–2003
Alan Richardson Fellowship, University of Durham (England), Easter 2000
- Institutional: Sustaining the Theological Exploration of Vocation, a grant from the Lilly Endowment (\$500,000) to extend the work of the CrossRoads Project
The Chicago Collegiate Seminarians Program, a grant from the Lilly Endowment (US\$418,500) to bring college students to seminary for a term

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES AND EDITORIAL WORK

- Editorial Board Member: Brazos Press, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1999–2007
- Board Member: Society for the Study of Christian Ethics, 2004–2010
- Regular membership: Society for the Study of Christian Ethics; Society of Christian Ethics; American Academy of Religion (Program Unit Chair, 1999–2013); Society for the Study of Theology