

BETHANY DAHLSTROM, PHD

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PROFILE

Recently awarded PhD from Lancaster University, with proven skills in research, problem-solving, project management and organisation, self-management, communication, and problem-solving. Seeking an opportunity to expand on my skill set and contribute to the higher education sector. Proven Right to Work in the UK under a spousal visa.

EDUCATION

University of Lancaster, Lancaster, United Kingdom

PhD in English

awarded 2025

Title: 'The Feathered Gaze: Birds, Female Identity, and Entrapment in Victorian Literature'

University of Lancaster, Lancaster, United Kingdom

M.A. (Pathway: Romantic and Victorian Studies)

2013 – 2014

Thesis: "Then faith is vanity": An examination of the role of religion in Victorian Vashti texts

Eastern University, St. Davids, PA, USA

B.A. (English, Concentration: Literature; Specialization: Victorian Studies)

Awards:

Presidential Scholarship for Academic Excellence

2009 – 2013

Dean's List*

2009 – 2013

Merit List**

Spring 2010, Spring 2012, Fall

2012

Fall 2010, Spring 2011, Fall 2011

**Earned GPA of 3.75 or better for the semester*

***Earned GPA between 3.5 and 3.74 for the semester*

Oxford University, United Kingdom

Associate Student, New College

Hilary Term, 2012

WORK EXPERIENCE

Freelance Proofreader

Pemberton Proofreading (September 2009 – present)

Provided comprehensive and high-quality proofreading services for academic theses, dissertations, and articles across various disciplines. Ensured clarity, coherence, and adherence to specific style guides (e.g., MLA, Chicago, APA, MHRA). Identified and corrected grammatical, punctuation, and typographical errors while enhancing overall readability of projects. Collaborated with authors to clarify ambiguous language and improve argument structure. Managed multiple projects simultaneously, delivering high-quality work within tight deadlines, particularly around September submission deadlines.

Freelance Marketing and Communications Administrator

Academic Audio Transcription (June 2025 – October 2025)

Created and managed social media campaigns, newsletters, and promotional content for Academic Audio Transcription. Skilled in digital strategy, branding, and accessibility, with a focus on boosting engagement and online visibility. Assisted in the creation of online courses and webinars for the company.

Freelance Audio Transcriber

Academic Audio Transcription (October 2024 – June 2025)

Accurately transcribed academic audio recordings into written documents, ensuring clarity and attention to detail. Utilised transcription software to enhance efficiency and maintain high-quality standards. Reviewed and edited transcripts for grammatical accuracy (usually the job of the editorial team). Managed multiple projects while adhering to tight deadlines.

International Student Coordinator

University of Cumbria (July 2023 – September 2023)

Worked on creating and amending a three-day Induction and Registration event for over one hundred new international students, including coordinating transportation, welcome packs, and food packs for their stay. Held a procurement card and completed training on how to use Agresso for procurement purposes. Attended weekly international engagement meetings to monitor student activity and

subsequently actioned wellbeing checks on students who were not meeting academic standards. Also attended international planning meetings to facilitate the overseeing of new initiatives for international student engagement.

Graduate College Buddy Programme Coordinator

Graduate College, Lancaster University (August 2019-April 2023)

Created and led social events for Graduate College's Buddy Programme, focused around cultural events in order to expose incoming international students to British culture. Led events at minimum once a month, often more frequently, and tailored events based on student feedback. Arranged creative content for online programme participation during Covid-19 pandemic. Attended management meetings once a week in order to report on progress and help shape the direction of Graduate College. Please note that as of September 2021, this job expanded to coverage of Grizedale College, and in September 2022, this job expanded to coverage of Cartmel College.

Part-time College Administrator

Graduate College, Lancaster University (September 2016 – January 2017)

Created a social events schedule for members of Graduate College, scheduling events that ran once or twice a week throughout term, while also focusing on a year-long event plan. Pioneered an International Buddy Programme, sometimes in collaboration with Cartmel College administrators, to create a place where international students could meet new people. This role included training Lancaster students in a buddy scheme, scheduling bi-weekly events, coordinating a buddy matching system, planning trips for the buddies, and answering any and all questions regarding the programme. Attended monthly staff meetings at the College and gave input on stream-lining various processes related to many aspects of Graduate College management.

Communications Administrator

Eduspire, Devon, PA (May 2013 – September 2015)

Worked with a professional development company that offers graduate-level classes for grade school teachers in educational technology. Provided quick customer communication for resolving technical issues and course set-up. Activated each course offered and contacted every participant to provide them with information on beginning their course, as well as assisted with any matters arising during the course. Used time management skills to complete work in a self-directed manner, including special project management and email collection for the company database.

College of Arts & Science Dean's Office Assistant

Eastern University, St. Davids, PA (January 2013 – May 2013)

Created spreadsheets, updated documents, handled incoming/outgoing mail, assisted other faculty/staff as needed, and served as the receptionist at the McInnis Information Desk/Academic Advising Center, managed faculty schedules, and assisted with any other tasks requested.

Tutor

Cushing Center for Counseling and Academic Support at Eastern University, St. Davids, PA (January 2010 – Spring 2013)

Assisted students in basic study skills to ensure college success, reviewed lecture material and textbook notes with students in Old Testament, New Testament, and Modern Western Civilization, and mentored several students in a new special needs program.

Private Academic Coach

Dantzler Family, St. Davids, PA (August 2012 – December 2012)

Mentored a first-year student one-on-one in several subject areas, reviewing all lecture materials and homework assignments and assisting student with organization skills, while providing time management techniques. Partnered with the university's accommodations advisor to ensure that student was receiving all possible assistance for success.

Department Assistant

Eastern University, St. Davids, PA (August 2011 – December 2011)

Assisted professors in the History department with projects, including retrieving articles for research projects, making copies as needed, typing up hand-written notes, updating headshots, and doing any other tasks requested, such as creating a department bulletin board.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Part I Tutor

Department of English and Creative Writing, Lancaster University (October 2018 – February 2019)

Led tutorial sessions for ENGL100, focusing on offering comprehensive and more focused overviews and studies of the literature discussed in the ENGL100 lectures. Created lesson material for students based on the course curriculum. Conducted weekly office hours in order to provide students with extra support.

MA Mentor

Department of English and Creative Writing, Lancaster University (October 2016 – December 2016)

Worked with a small group of Masters students in the English Department in their research methodology course, led small-group discussion, and spoke about my own experiences as a Masters student and the transition into PhD work. Advised students briefly on different assignments that they were working on and answered any questions they had about MA life.

Teaching Assistant

Eastern University, St. Davids, PA (Spring 2010 – Spring 2013)

Dr. John Marshall in "Heritage of Western Thought and Civilization – Modern" (INST161), Dr. John Marshall in "Nature and Meaning of the Old Testament" (BIB101), Dr. John Marshall in "Nature and Meaning of the New Testament" (BIB102)

Collaborated on curriculum and exam development, graded all exams (including a written portion on the final exam), recorded and tracked attendance, and managed all online (Blackboard) communications.

PUBLICATIONS

- Dahlstrom, Bethany, "Removing the mask: A study of male dominance in Bronte's Jane Eyre." August 2013. *The Victorian*. 1.1.
- Dahlstrom, Bethany, "Review of Barry G Gale's Belle Vue." November 2013. *The Victorian*. 1.2.
- Dahlstrom, Bethany, "The forging and forgery of identity in G.K. Chesterton's The Club of Queer Trades and Charlotte Bronte's Villetta," March 2014. *The Victorian*. 2.1.
- Dahlstrom, Bethany, "Review of Kevin A. Morrison's *The Provincial Fiction of Mitford, Gaskell and Eliot*." Spring 2025. *Victorian Popular Fictions Journal*. 7.1.
- Dahlstrom, Bethany, "Mediated Terror and the Colonial Mirror: A Review of imitating the dog's *War of the Worlds*." Spring 2026. *The Incredible Nineteenth Century*. 4.1.
- Dahlstrom, Bethany, "Review of Edwin Patrick Powell's *Elementary Education in English Periodicals, 1833-1880*." *Victorian Periodical Review*, forthcoming.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

- "The universal glass mirror: A study in the personification of evil in Oscar Wilde's Picture of Dorian Gray," Interdisciplinary.Net's Conference on Perspectives on Evil and Human Wickedness, Prague, March 2014.
- "Judith and Jael: A Voice for the Voiceless," Women's Studies Group 1558 – 1837, London, June 2016.
- "Evil women: Contrasting faith and necessity in Victorian literature," Interdisciplinary.Net's Conference on Evil Women, Oxford, September 2016.
- "Victorian Female Activism as Self-Preservation: Caterina as a Caged Bird in George Eliot's 'Mr Gilfil's Love-Story'," Literary Birds Conference, Durham, October 2018.
- "Dressing as The Other: Feather Fashion in *Punch* Magazine," Victorian Popular Fiction Association, Lincoln, July 2023.
- "A Woman's Place: Uncaging the Victorian Woman in George Eliot's 'Mr Gilfil's Love-Story'," Victorian Popular Fiction Association, Canterbury, July 2024.
- "Women and Birds in Edward Linley Sambourne's *Punch* Cartoons," British Association of Victorian Studies, Gladstone's Library, September 2024.
- "'Bird of Prey': Fighting for Birds' Rights Through Victorian Periodicals," Research Society for Victorian Periodicals, Chicago, July 2025.
- "[E]ndless holocausts of small fowl!': Mr Punch's *Designs After Nature*," Pictorial *Punch* -- Treasures from the Archive, British Library, November 2025.
- "A Future Without Feathers: Exploring Victorian Society's Fight for Bird Preservation," North American Victorian Studies Association Annual Conference, Washington D.C., November 2025.
- "After-Dinner Science: Parlour Microscopy and Victorian Bird Preservation," The British Society for Literature and Science Annual Conference, Glasgow, April 2026.
- "Translating the Law of the Land: Watkins, Marchant, and the Democratisation of Avian Protection," Victorian Popular Fiction Association Annual Conference, Liverpool, July 2026.
- "Silent Skies: Bird Migration, Urban Expansion, and the Victorian Press," Research Society for Victorian Periodicals Annual Conference, Dublin, July 2026.
- "From Port City to Protection Movement: Audubon, Liverpool, and the Making of Modern Bird Conservation," British Association of Victorian Studies Annual Conference, Liverpool, July 2026.

PUBLIC LECTURES

- "When the Birdsong Ceased: Exploring Early Transatlantic Bird Preservation," The Audubon Society at the John James Audubon Center, Pennsylvania, November 2025.
- "Dead as the Dodo? Why We're Still Making Victorian Mistakes," Glasgow Skeptics, Glasgow, September 2026.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

Editor for Interdisciplinary.Net book from Perspectives on Evil and Human Wickedness Conference, 2014.

Student Assistant for Translating Pain Symposium, Lancaster University, 2018.

Co-Reviews Editor for Victorian Popular Fiction Journal, 2024 – present.

Network and Development Officer for Victorian Popular Fiction Association, 2025 – present.