

CURRICULUM VITAE

David Norton Need
400 Anita St. Durham, NC 27701
Telephone: (919) 683-1375
Email: dneed@duke.edu

EDUCATION:

1993-2004: University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA: Ph.D., History of Religions; Primary Concentration: Indo-Tibetan Buddhist Studies; Secondary Concentration: Hinduism; Tertiary Concentration: Hermeneutics. Dissertation: "Rendering the Body: Etherealization and Sense in Vedic and Early Buddhist Religiosity".

1989-1993: University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA: M.A. in Religious Studies—May, 1993. Thesis: "The Guru's Mandala: Interpretation, Authority, and Culture".

1978-1989: University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA: BA in Buddhist Studies.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

TEACHING IN UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS:

Aug 06-present: Instructor in the Department of Religion at Duke University; teaching undergraduate seminars on Hinduism, Buddhism, Asian and South Asian Religions, and Religion and Poetry.

Aug 99-present: Visiting Instructor in the Departments of Religion and Slavic and Eurasian Studies, the International Comparative Studies Program at Duke University, and the Focus program at Duke teaching undergraduate seminars on Hinduism, Buddhism, Asian and South Asian Religions, comparative courses on American and Soviet literature and film, Central Asian Religion and Literature, Religion and Poetry, Islam and Christianity in Central Asia, and Comparative Approaches to Global Issues

Aug 97-May 03: Part-time and Full-time Instructor in the Philosophy and Religion Department at North Carolina State University teaching courses in World Religion, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Religion and Film.

Jan 94-May 94: Lecturer in Religious Studies at James Madison University.

Sept. 1991-May 1992: Instructor for 2nd Year Tibetan Language Course, UVA

Sept. 1989-May 1992: TA for the Religious Studies Department, UVA

COURSES TAUGHT:

Courses taught at Duke University and NCSU include: Religious Traditions of the World, Asian Religious Traditions, Indian Religions, Hinduism, Buddhism, Tibetan Buddhism, Buddhist Ethics, Indian Buddhist Literature, Imagining the Slumbering Lands: Central Asian and Siberian Literature and Culture, Religion and Film, The Beat Generation and the Russian New Wave, and Art and Dissidence: The Films of Tarkovsky and Kubrick, Religion and the Body in India, Islam and Orthodoxy, and Poetry, Desire and Religion.

OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Oct. 1998 & Jan 1999: "The films of the Soviet filmmaker Andrei Tarkovski" at Duke Continuing Education, Duke University

Oct. 1997, Mar 1998, Oct. 1998, April 1999, Feb 2000: "Who Would hear My Cry From Among the Ranks of Angels: The Poetry of Rainer Maria Rilke" at Duke Continuing Education (7 week class), Duke University

Feb 1997: "Religious Poetry" (5 week class), through Duke Continuing Education, Duke University.

Sept 1996-Jan 1999: Literary Arts Coordinator at the Carver Hill Day Treatment Center within the Durham Public Schools Hospital School system. I was hired as a visiting artist by the Durham Arts Council and taught 20 hours a week during the school year, teaching creative writing to 36-50 middle and high school students classified as behaviorally and emotionally handicapped.

CURRENT RESEARCH AND WRITING

Current projects focus on intersections between aesthetics and religion, primarily through the lens of poetry. These include work on Jack Kerouac's Buddhism, the poetry of Rainer Maria Rilke and Paul Celan, including a translation and essay on Rilke's late French poetry, and translation work on early Vedic poetry and religiosity.

PUBLICATIONS AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS, ARTICLES, THESES AND REVIEWS

- 2010a: "Guillevic's *The Sea and Other Poems*" in *Talisman* 38/39/40 (Summer 2010), pp. 122-123.
- 2010b: "On Zhang Er's *So Translating Rivers and Cities*" in *Talisman* 38/39/40 (Summer 2010), pp. 117-118.
- 2009: "Golden Handcuffs Review II. 11 (Spring-Summer) 215-225.
- 2007: "A Man Made of Words". *Talisman: A Journal of Contemporary Poetry and Poetics* 35 (Summer/Fall 2007) 105-114.
- 2006a: "Kerouac's Buddhism". *Talisman: A Journal of Contemporary Poetry and Poetics* 32/33 (Summer/Fall 2006), 83-90.
- 2006b: "Singing at Dawn/Weaving the World: Reading the *Rgveda*". *Talisman: A Journal of Contemporary Poetry and Poetics* 32/33 (Summer/Fall 2006), 235-243.
- 2004: Ph.D. Thesis: "Rendering the Body: Etherealization and Sense in Vedic and Early Buddhist Religiosity".
- 1993: MA Thesis: "The Guru's Mandala: Authority, Interpretation, and Culture" (UVA 1993).
- 1993: Book Review of *The Buddha Within*. by S.K. Hookham. in *Philosophy East and West* 43:3 (July 1993): 585-588.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- 2010 Tools of the Sacred, Techniques of the Secular: Awakening, Epiphany, Apocalypse, and Doubt in Contemporary English Language Verse, Brussels, Belgium. "The Measure of the Beat: Spontaneity and Boundary in the Work of Jack Kerouac", and "The Room Next Door: Poetry, Ritual, and the Production of Impossible Space"
- 2009 Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture Since 1900. "The Measure of the Beat: Spontaneous Aesthetics and the Problem of the Open in Kerouac, Olsen, Cage, and Ginsberg".
- 2008 IABS Meeting Presentation: "A Summer on Desolation: What We Learn from Jack Kerouac's Retreat Journals".
- 2007 AAR Annual Meeting Presentation: "Bringing God into Being: Rainer Maria Rilke's Use of Visual Art".

2007 Vedic Studies Meeting Presentation: "Rendering the Body: Body Language in the Vedas and Early Buddhist Suttas".

1999 SECSOR Annual Meeting Presentation: "Having Bodies, Being Human: On the Body as a Source for Comparative Study of Religions".

1999 AAR/SBL Annual Meeting Presentation: "On the Limits of the Self: Notions of Wholeness in Buddhist and Psychological Theories of the Self".

1993 AAR/SBL Annual Meeting Presentation: "In the Absence of the Buddha: The Authority of the Teacher in the Indo-Tibetan Buddhist Traditions"

POETRY

"From 'Offshore St. Mark'" in *Talisman* (Summer 2010) 38/39/40

"Deaths Trials" from "St. John's Rose Slumber" in *Hambone* (Fall 2009).

"Prayers" from "St. John's Rose Slumber" in *qarrtisiluni* (Sept-Dec 2009).

"Olive Stones and Adultrresses" from "St. John's Rose Slumber" in *Effing Magazine* (Spring 2008).

"Places I've Lived" in *Minor American II* (Summer 2008).

"Two Sequences". *Fascicle III* (Winter 2006-7).

"For a World of Dark Rains" *Ocho 8*.

"Be Cause/Imagination" *New College Review I* (2006-7).

"Veils/Quilts" in *Fascicle II* (Winter 05-6).

For "Mipoesias" an on-line journal of poetry:

Distopial (A Monthly Column on Rilke's Poetry") 2006

Memoirs (Four memoir pieces on the late 1970's) 2006

RESEARCH AND NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Sept. 1992-Sept. 1993: Collections Assistant to South Asian Bibliographer, Alderman Library, University of Virginia. Assisting in cataloging new materials and supervising locked special collections room.

May 1990-Sept. 1993: Research Assistant at the Center for South Asian Studies, University of Virginia. Projects included development of a bibliography of materials on Buddhism, editing a translation from Tibetan for the second year Tibetan class, and entering a Tibetan lexicon into a Filemaker document and assisting during Center programs.

REFERENCES

Personal and Professional References:

David Germano, Associate Professor, University of Virginia, Dept. of Religious Studies.
(434) 924-374; dfg9w@virginia.edu.

Tony Stewart, Professor, North Carolina State University, Dept. of Religious Studies. (919)
515-3214; phitks@unity.ncsu.edu.

Larry Bouchard, Associate Professor, University of Virginia, Department of Religious
Studies, (434) 924-3741; ldb4k@cms.mail.virginia.edu.

Edna Andrews, Professor, Duke University, Slavic Department. (919) 660-3140;
eda@duke.edu.

Marcy Litle, Associate Director of International Comparative Studies, Duke University. 133
Franklin Center. (919) 660-4353. marcy.litle@duke.edu.

Teaching References:

Peer evaluations have been done at both North Carolina State University and James Madison
University. Student evaluation of teaching is on record at both Duke University and
NCSU. Please contact me further if interested in a more extensive dossier.