

Ryan Topper, PhD

Adjunct Faculty

Email: rtopper@georgefox.edu

I am an English professor and scholar of postcolonial literature. I have a broad range of teaching experience in literature, writing, and African studies at American and British Universities. I was raised in the Pacific Northwest and am happy to read, write, and teach from Oregon.



Academic Background

- PhD, English, University of Leeds
- M.A. English, Idaho State University
- B.S. Theology and Biblical Studies, Multnomah University

Expertise and Interests

I specialize in global Anglophone literature of the 20th-21st centuries, with an emphasis on African literature. My research spans postcolonial studies, trauma and memory studies, posthumanism, the environmental humanities, poetry and poetics, psychoanalysis, and postsecular thought. I am especially interested in theorizing how Indigenous cosmologies reframe the practice of literary and cultural criticism. My first book, [Animist Poetics: Ancestral Trauma and Regeneration in African Literature](#), is available through SUNY Press.

Outside the Classroom

I live in Salem, Oregon with my wife, two kids, and cat. We love to travel, explore the outdoors, and make each other laugh.