

# John Acker

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*Professional nonfiction editor with strong writing, technical, organizational, and analytical skills. Ten years' experience editing academic & business writing, primarily for ESL/EFL clients in STEM, social science, and the humanities. Able to understand and improve complex and technical documents, to optimize client messaging and outcomes.*

## Professional Skills

- Fluent in MLA & APA styles; working familiarity with AMA, Harvard, & Chicago styles. Able to apply house or journal styles consistently and correctly, including basic document formatting.
- Grasps technical vocabulary quickly and utilizes it strategically, to enhance rhetorical effectiveness and improve audience response.
- Supplements proofreading by improving each document's tone, word choice, clarity, consistency, and argument structure.

## Key Genres

- Personal Statements
- Application Essays
- Resumes & Cover Letters
- Journal Articles & Revision Reports
- Book & Dissertation Chapters
- Grant Proposals
- Professional Emails and Letters
- Memos & Reports
- Print & Online Marketing Materials

## Education

### **M.A., ENGLISH | 2008 | OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

### **PH.D., ENGLISH | 2017 | OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

- Successfully completed graduate seminars in American & British literature, rhetoric, critical theory, cultural studies, composition & literature pedagogy, and history. Overall GPA: 3.95/4.0.
- Produced and defended a 300-page dissertation, entitled "Surrogate Scriptures: American Christian Bestsellers and the Bible, 1850-1900." Passed dissertation defense with no revisions.
- Taught undergraduate courses in composition, business writing, and literature. Maintained consistently high student & peer evaluations, and developed customized curricula for diverse student populations.
- Delivered several professional conference presentations & invited talks, co-organized a conference that attracted 125 global scholars, and published a book review in a peer-reviewed journal.

### **B.A., ENGLISH & COMPARATIVE LITERATURE | 2006 | UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS**

- Double-majored in English and Comparative Literature, with concentrations in American Literature, Postcolonial Studies, and Russian Literature. Maintained a 3.95/4.0 GPA in major courses, and a 3.87/4.0 GPA overall.
- Awarded the Delmar Cooke and Raymond Seng scholarship prizes, totaling approximately \$15,000. Both prizes were based on academic essay competitions among English, Creative Writing, and English Education majors.