SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (academic only):

Book

“This book addresses the form and function of prefaces written by Goethe, Jean Paul, and Hegel around the year 1800. Williams (School of Languages and Cultures, Univ. of Sheffield, UK) views these writers as Romantics and takes pains to define why this designation is apt for the period. The author extends the scope of the book by comparing these canonical writers to their predecessors, contemporaries, and successors. In Hegel’s case, a wide-ranging discussion of preface theories of late-20th and 21st-century philosophers is particularly fruitful. In Goethe’s case, the prefaces to Werther are the primary focus, and the author refers to several later ones. At first, Goethe seems unconvinced of the utility of prefaces, but in his mature writings he explores multiple possibilities. Jean Paul ironizes and creates humorous distance with his prefaces, especially the one for *Quintus Fixlein*, whereas Hegel uses the preface to *Phänomenologie des Geistes* as an opportunity to illustrate the paradoxes inherent in the form itself. Indeed, each author discusses multiple instances of paradoxical usages. Including excellent endnotes and an extensive bibliography, this challenging study proves that prefaces are far from perfunctory and challenges readers to reevaluate this neglected form. Summing up: Recommended.”

Refereed Journals – edited issues and collections:


Refereed Journals – peer-reviewed research articles:


**Book chapter:**


**Refereed Journals – peer-reviewed commentaries and interview:**


5. 2020 (accepted). Anniversaries, The Public, and Academia. German Life and Letters. Special Number: Anniversary Capital. 9,000 words. (5,000 words is Williams’s contribution; 4,000 words is edited content comprising colleagues’ contributions as commentaries on impact work.)

**Reviews in, among others:**