Elma Ryan-Bornander Distinguished Chair, WSU Honors College



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WILLIAM HAMLIN

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An internationally renowned Shakespearean expert and scholar of European Renaissance literature, William Hamlin holds additional longstanding research interests in the Bible, Greco-Roman myth, philosophical skepticism, and histories of world religions. During his tenure as the inaugural Elma Ryan-Bornander Distinguished Chair, he has developed WSU Honors College courses on global Shakespearean performance and on spiritual autobiography around the world.

Hamlin joined WSU faculty in 2001 and remains highly regarded by students and colleagues alike for his work inside and outside the classroom. He directed the graduate program in English at WSU for 12 years and has received various high-profile teaching and research awards, among them the University's Sahlin Faculty Excellence Award for Research, Arts, and Scholarship and the College of Arts and Sciences' Distinguished Faculty Award.

He is the author of more than sixty articles and reviews, as well as four books by top publishers, including *Tragedy and Scepticism in Shakespeare's England* (Macmillan, 2005), *Montaigne's English Journey* (Oxford, 2013), and, most recently, *Montaigne: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford, 2020). His current book project is titled *Belief, Doubt, and Spirituality: What, How, and Why People Believe—and Why They Don't*.

Hamlin's array of scholarly projects have been supported by external grants from the J.S. Guggenheim Foundation, the British Academy, the Renaissance Society of America, the Huntington Library, the Lilly Library, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and others.

