

Philip J Smallwood
Department of English
Type of address: Postal address.
School of Humanities
11 Woodland Road
Clifton
Bristol
BS8 1TB
Email: Philip.Smallwood@bristol.ac.uk

Research interests

My research interests include the poetry and criticism of John Dryden, Alexander Pope and Samuel Johnson, aesthetics, the history of literary criticism (of all periods) and the philosophy of R.G. Collingwood. I am presently editing a collection of essays entitled *New Directions in Johnson Studies* for Routledge.

Employment

Senior Teaching Associate

Department of English
Faculty of Arts
United Kingdom
1 Sept 2020 → 31 Aug 2026

Philip Smallwood is Emeritus Professor of English at Birmingham City University and Visiting Fellow and Honorary Senior Teaching Associate in the English Department at Bristol University. He has held visiting fellowships at the Universities of London, Oxford, Texas and Yale, and has lectured in Britain, the USA, New Zealand, and China. He is the author or editor of books on (variously) Johnson, Pope, modern criticism, and critical history, together with numerous essays on critical thought, the legacies of classical criticism and the eighteenth century. His collection entitled *Johnson Re-Visioned* appeared in 2001 and his monograph on the pertinence of eighteenth-century criticism, *Reconstructing Criticism*, in 2003, this followed a year later by his prizewinning *Johnson's Critical Presence*. His co-edited *Johnson After 300 Years* (with Greg Clingham) was published in 2009 and his *Critical Occasions: Dryden, Pope, Johnson and the History of Criticism*, appeared in 2011; the hybrid anthology of eighteenth-century critical writing, *Ridiculous Critics*, co-edited with Min Wild (also prize-winning), was published in 2014. He is a contributor both to the original *Cambridge Companion to Samuel Johnson* (1996) and to the *New Cambridge Companion* (2022), while his latest monograph, *The Literary Criticism of Samuel Johnson: Forms of Artistry and Thought*, was published by CUP in 2023 and drew praise from the reviewer for the *London Review of Books* as "expansive, patient, and sympathetic." Smallwood is co-editor for Oxford University Press of *The Philosophy of Enchantment* (2005, 2nd. edn. 2007), a collection of the critical and cultural manuscripts of the philosopher R.G. Collingwood. He is presently editing a collection of essays for a volume entitled *New Directions in Johnson Studies*.