



# Charleston Southern University

## Dr. Carissa Turner Smith

**Dr. Carissa Turner Smith** is Charleston Southern University's 2022 SCICU Excellence In Teaching award winner. A member of the Charleston Southern faculty since 2008, Dr. Smith is professor of English and serves as the director of the Writing Center. She holds multiple degrees in English - a Ph.D. and an M.A., both conferred by Pennsylvania State University, and a bachelor's degree from Wheaton College.

Dr. Smith's course load features a variety of American literature courses, including Survey of American Literature, Major American Writers to 1865, and Diversity in American Literature. She has also taught the English Capstone course and special topics courses in religion and literature. Dr. Smith has served as Writing Center Director since 2017 and has worked to offer writing tutoring in flexible formats to undergraduate and graduate students.

American literature and Young Adult literature have significant emphasis in Dr. Smith's scholarly publishing. Her book *Cyborg Saints: Religion and Posthumanism in Middle Grade and Young Adult Fiction*, was published by Routledge in 2020. Dr. Smith is the editor of *The Science Fiction of Connie Willis: Doomsday Every Day* (forthcoming from Routledge). She serves as associate editor for Arts and Humanities for the *Christian Scholar's Review* and is vice president of the Conference on Christianity and Literature.

"Students at Charleston Southern University recognize Dr. Carissa Smith's dedication to providing them with world-class learning opportunities," said Dr. Jacqueline Fish, Charleston Southern vice president for Academic Affairs. "Her lectures are inspiring, her publications are highly distinguished, and she is an extremely approachable mentor and champion for student mastery in her courses. Her talent and love for teaching are evident throughout her interactions across campus."