

FACULTY PROFILE



Gretchen Buggeln

**Phyllis and Richard Duesenberg
Chair in Christianity and the Arts,
Associate Professor of Art History
and Humanities**

Mueller Hall Room 132219-464-
5152 Gretchen.Buggeln@valpo.edu

Biography

Gretchen Buggeln holds the Phyllis and Richard Duesenberg Chair in Christianity and the Arts. She earned a BA in history from Dartmouth College and a PhD in American Studies from Yale University. Buggeln writes and teaches about the intersection of Christian belief and the material world. Her primary research interest is American sacred spaces, and she is currently at work on a book about the ubiquitous, modern-style, suburban church of the postwar era. She has published numerous essays on the religious landscape. Her book, *Temples of Grace: The Material Transformation of Connecticut's Churches, 1790-1840* (2003) won national book awards from the Vernacular Architecture Forum and the Society of Historians of the Early American Republic. Before coming to Valparaiso in 2004, she worked at the H.F. du Pont Winterthur Museum in Delaware, and she continues to be active in the museum field by reviewing exhibitions and writing about how museums interpret religious artifacts and belief. Buggeln teaches "Word and Image" and upper-level seminars such as "Museum History and Culture," "The American Home," and "American Consumer Culture."