

WILLIAM DAVID SCOTT
Associate Professor

University of Pittsburgh
Department of English, CL 526
4200 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
Tel: (412) 624-6506
Fax: (412) 624-6639
E-mail: wdscott@pitt.edu



EDUCATION:

- 2003: Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University, Humanities Center (Comparative Literature).**
Dissertation: "Writing from the Left: Race, Gender, and the Critique of Representation in the Great Depression."
1997: M.A., Johns Hopkins University, Department of German.
1994: B.A., State University of New York at Buffalo, Department of English / Department of Philosophy, with Honors in both English and Philosophy.

TEACHING POSITIONS:

- September 2011 – Present: Associate Professor, Department of English, University of Pittsburgh.
August 2005 – May 2011: Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of Pittsburgh.
August 2003 – May 2005: Assistant Professor, Department of English, New Mexico State University (Las Cruces).
September 1995 – December 2002: Instructor, Humanities Center; Departments of German and English, Johns Hopkins University.

AFFILIATED POSITIONS:

- Winter 2023 – Present: Affiliated Faculty, Department of Linguistics, University of Pittsburgh.
Fall 2016 – Present: Affiliated Faculty, Program in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies (GSWS), University of Pittsburgh.
Spring 2016 – Present: Affiliated Faculty, Center for African American Poetry & Poetics (CAAPP), University of Pittsburgh.

LANGUAGES: German and French (fluency); Spanish (conversational); Italian, Latin (reading).

BOOKS:

- Decorum: John Cheever and the Moral Imagination* (in progress)
Braided Language: Syntax and The Poetry of Evie Shockley (forthcoming spring/summer)

2027, University of New Mexico Press, “Recencies Series: Research and Recovery in Twentieth-Century American Poetics”). A study of the various modes of articulation—including the innovative forms of linguistic experimentation that attend these—in the poetry of Evie Shockley, covering her four major collections and two chapbooks, all published between 2000 and 2023.

Troublemakers: Power, Representation, and the Fiction of the Mass Worker. Rutgers University Press (2012).

ARTICLES IN REFEREED JOURNALS:

- “The ‘Other’ Poem of Lucille Clifton’s *Mercy*,” *POETICA* (forthcoming summer 2026).
- “Reading the Genotext in Harryette Mullen’s *Muse & Drudge*: ‘Sapphire’s lyre styles...’,” *Journal of French and Francophone Philosophy/Revue de La Philosophie Française et de Langue Française*, vol. 26 no. 2 (2018): 32-42.
- “Introduction,” *Critical Quarterly*, vol. 54 no. 2 (Summer 2012): iii-vi.
- “Modernism in Translation,” *ADFL Bulletin*, Association of Departments of Foreign Languages, MLA, vol. 41 no. 2 (Winter 2009): 42-47.
- “Belonging to History: Margaret Walker’s *For My People*,” *MLN*, Comparative Literature Issue, vol. 121 no. 5 (December 2006): 1083-1106.
- “Material Resistance and the Agency of the Body in Ann Petry’s *The Street*,” *American Literature*, vol. 78 no. 1 (March 2006): 89-116.
- “Motivos of Translation: Nicolás Guillén and Langston Hughes,” *CR: The New Centennial Review*, vol. 5 no. 2 (Fall 2005): 35-71.
- “‘To Make up the Hedge and Stand in the Gap’: Arna Bontemps’s *Black Thunder*,” *Callaloo*, vol. 27 no. 2 (Spring 2004): 522-541.

BOOK CHAPTER:

- “Revolutionary Acts of Translation: Language and Freedom in Guy Endore’s *Babouk*,” in *Echoes of the Haitian Revolution 1804-2004*, edited by Martin Munro and Elizabeth Walcott-Hackshaw (Kingston, Jamaica: University of the West Indies Press, 2008), 111-121.

EDITED COLLECTION:

- Critical Quarterly*, vol. 54 no. 2 (Summer 2012). Guest Editor for special issue on the Occupy Wall Street movement.

REVIEWS:

- “Solzhenitsyn and the Spirituality of Self-Limitation,” review essay of Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, *We Have Ceased to See the Purpose: Essential Speeches of Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn*, in *The University Bookman*, February 8, 2026. https://kirkcenter.org/reviews/solzhenitsyn-and-the-spirituality-of-self-limitation/?mc_cid=4635ac93cd
- “Capturing the Present: Performativity and Pop Literature in Germany,” review essay of Eckhard Schumacher, *Gerade Eben Jetzt: Schreibweisen der Gegenwart*, in *The German Quarterly*, vol. 78 no. 1 (Winter 2005): 124-128.
- “Eugene W. Holland, *Deleuze and Guattari’s Anti-Oedipus: Introduction to*

Schizoanalysis,” in *MLN*, Comparative Literature Issue, vol. 116 no. 5 (December 2001): 1102-1105.

“The Radical Novel Reconsidered. Alfred Maund, *The Big Boxcar*; Abraham Polonsky, *The World Above*,” in *MLN*, Comparative Literature Issue, vol. 114 no. 5 (December 1999): 1146-1150.

“Martin Heidegger (Joan Stambaugh [trans.]), *Being and Time, a Translation of Sein und Zeit*,” in *MLN*, German Issue, vol. 113 no. 3 (April 1998): 692-695.

ARTICLES IN OTHER VENUES (MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPERS, NEWSBULLETINS):

“Marginal Music: Wagner’s Philosophical Notes,” *EUCE/ESC Newsletter*, University of Pittsburgh’s European Union Center of Excellence/European Studies Center (March 2012): 1, 6-8.

“The People’s Library Lives,” *The Nation*, vol. 293 no. 24 (December 12, 2011): 5-6. Reprinted as “A Library in the Public Square,” *PSC CUNY Clarion* (December 2011).

TRANSLATION:

English translation of German letters and speeches on the occasion of the conferral of the degree of Honorary Doctor (Political Economics) to W. E. B. Du Bois, on behalf of the Faculty of Political Economics, Humboldt University (Berlin, 1958). These translations were added to the archive of the W. E. B. Du Bois Papers, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, in November 2004.

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE:

Reviewer for the University of North Carolina Press.

Reviewer for *African American Review*.

Reviewer for *Clio: A Journal of Literature, History, and the Philosophy of History* (Summer 2004).

Assistant Editor, *MLN*, Comparative Literature Issue, vol. 116 no. 5 (December 2001).

PAPERS PRESENTED:

“‘Im Quell deiner Augen . . .’: Anapests, Agency, and V2 Syntax in Paul Celan’s *Lob der Ferne*,” for the panel I organized and chaired, “Poetry of Grammar and Grammar of Poetry,” Modern Language Association National Convention, Philadelphia, January 7, 2024.

“Evie Shockley and the Syntax of the Lyric Subject,” for the panel I organized and chaired, “Forms of the Lyric Subject: Poetics, Syntax, and Autobiography,” Modern Language Association National Convention, San Francisco, January 8, 2023.

“Braided Language: Syntax and The Poetry of Evie Shockley,” for panel on “Poetic Form and Social Relations: Bishop, Shockley, Hunt,” 49th Annual Louisville Conference on Literature & Culture, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, February 25, 2022.

“Reading the Genotext in Harryette Mullen’s *Muse & Drudge*: “Sapphire’s lyre styles...”, for panel on “Poetry,” The Kristeva Circle Conference, University of Pittsburgh, October 27, 2017.

- “Erotic Combat and Masculine Trauma,” Colloquium on Masculinity and Affect, for panel on “War, Terror, Trauma, Danger,” University of Pittsburgh, Program in Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies, April 6, 2017.
- “Zero Signs and ‘Empty’ Signifiers in the Poetry of Terrance Hayes,” Semiotic Society of America, 40th Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA, October 2, 2015. Panelist and organizer for the panel “Poetic Exchanges and Phatic Currencies: Expanding Jakobson’s Speech Event,” with University of Pittsburgh Professors Laura Brown (Anthropology) and Scott Kiesling (Linguistics).
- “Improvisation, Agency, and Specta(c)tors: Student Plays and Organic Theater in the Working-Class Studies Classroom,” for panel “‘Organic Theater’ as a Tool for Working-Class Pedagogy, Activism, and Organizing: Lessons from the Romero Theater Troupe,” Working Class Studies Association Conference, SUNY Stonybrook, Stonybrook, NY, June 4-7, 2014.
- “Occupying Language for the 99%: The Poetry of Occupy Wall Street,” for panel “‘Occupy’ Session II: Movements and Cultures of Solidarity,” Working Class Studies Association Conference (theme: “Fighting Forward”), Madison College Downtown Campus, Madison, WI, June 12-15, 2013.
- “Idealization and Violence in Gwendolyn Brooks’s *Annie Allen*,” 41st Annual Louisville Conference on Literature & Culture, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, February 21-23, 2013.
- “Unspeakable Songs: History and Sexuality in Richard Wagner’s *Tannhäuser*,” for the panel on “Wagner and Eroticism” at the conference, “Wagner Worldwide: America,” University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, January 31-February 2, 2013.
- “Interrupting Narratives at Occupy Wall Street,” for panel on “Narrative” at the conference “Winning the Crisis: Alternatives, Possibilities and Organizing for the Future.” Department of Social & Cultural Analysis, New York University, March 21-22, 2012.
- “Power at the Point of Production: Robert Cantwell’s *The Land of Plenty* (1934),” for panel “Working-Class Literature: The 1930s in the U.S.” Working Class Studies Association Conference (theme: “Working-Class Organization and Power”), University of Illinois-Chicago, Chicago, IL, June 22-24, 2011.
- “Keeping It Real: Barack Obama and the Tradition of Pragmatic Idealism,” 39th Annual Louisville Conference on Literature & Culture since 1900, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, February 24-26, 2011. Panelist and organizer for the panel “The Literary Obama.”
- “‘A Perfect Picture of the Future’: The Representation of Things That Think in Dalton Trumbo’s *Johnny Got His Gun*,” 33rd Annual Conference of the International Society of Phenomenology and Literature (theme: “Destiny: The Inward Quest, Temporality, and Doom”), Radcliffe Gymnasium, Cambridge, MA, May 12-13, 2009.
- “Lucille Clifton’s ‘The River Between Us’,” 37th Annual Louisville Conference on Literature & Culture since 1900, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, February 19-21, 2009. Panelist and organizer for the panel “Beyond ‘de mule uh de world’: Representations of Black Women’s Labor in Literature and Film.”
- “Modernism in Translation,” for panel “Literary Translation and the Undergraduate

- Curriculum,” Modern Language Association National Convention, San Francisco, December 28, 2008.
- “One Big Union—Without Unions,” 36th Annual Louisville Conference on Literature & Culture since 1900, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, February 21-23, 2008. Panelist and organizer for the panel “Integration and Disintegration in Modern U.S. Fiction.”
- “Revolutionary Acts of Translation: Language and Freedom in Guy Endore’s *Babouk* (1934),” 40th Anniversary African American Literature and Culture Society Symposium of the American Literature Association, “Traditions and Revisions: New Directions in African American Literature and Scholarship,” Saint Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri, October 25-27, 2007. Also presented at The University of the West Indies, Trinidad & Tobago Haitian Independence Bicentenary Conference, “Re-interpreting the Haitian Revolution and its Cultural Aftershocks, 1804-2004,” June 15-18, 2004.
- “Body Logics and Formal Breaks in the Poetry of Terrance Hayes,” 35th Annual Louisville Conference on Literature & Culture since 1900, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, February 22-24, 2007.
- “Allegories of Eating in Upton Sinclair’s *The Jungle*,” Critical Exchange, University of Pittsburgh, Department of English, April 28, 2006.
- “Disrupting Power, Disforming the Novel: The Representation of Labor Unrest in Nanni Balestrini’s *Vogliamo tutto* (*We Want It All*, 1971),” 34th Annual Louisville Conference on Literature & Culture since 1900, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, February 23-25, 2006.
- “Hearing Around Corners: Jazz Maps, Urban Spaces, and Subjectivity in *Invisible Man*,” 33rd Annual Twentieth-Century Literature and Culture Conference, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, February 24-26, 2005.
- “The Illegible Subject: Blues Women in the Novels of Gayl Jones and Ann Petry,” University of Pittsburgh, Department of English, February 1, 2005. Also delivered at the University of Montreal (Canada), Department of English, February 14, 2005.
- “Utopia and Global Despair: Agnes Smedley’s *Portraits of Chinese Women in Revolution*,” for panel “(Not) All We Do is Talk, Talk: Communication, (Post)coloniality and Transnational Feminist Consciousness,” American Comparative Literature Association’s Annual Conference, “Global Ethnic Networks—Old and New,” University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, April 15-18, 2004.
- “The Blue Law: ‘Outlaw’ Women and the *lex animata* of Blues Performance,” 32nd Annual Twentieth-Century Literature and Culture Conference, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, February 26-28, 2004.
- “Belonging to History: Margaret Walker’s *For My People*,” New Mexico State University, Department of English, Las Cruces, NM, January, 2003.
- “Translation, Capitalism, and the Artifice of History: Dipesh Chakrabarty’s *Provincializing Europe*,” for panel “Postcolonial Responses to Eurocentric Notions of Universalism,” Modern Language Association National Convention, New York City, December 2002.
- “‘To Make up the Hedge and Stand in the Gap’: Arna Bontemps’s *Black Thunder*,”

- University of Washington, Department of English, Seattle, WA, February 7, 2002.
- “Nicolás Guillén and Langston Hughes: The Revolutionary ‘Motivos’ of Translation,” North American and Cuban Philosophers and Social Scientists 13th Annual Conference, Havana, Cuba, June 2001. Also delivered at the Langston Hughes Centennial Conference, Missouri State Southern College (Joplin), February 2002, and in the Doctoral Seminar Series, Johns Hopkins University, Program for Comparative American Cultures, November 7, 2002.
- “Consumption and *Verzehrung*: Agnes Smedley’s *Portraits of Chinese Women in Revolution*,” Marxist Reading Group Conference, University of Florida (Gainesville), April 2001.
- “The Revolution in Twelve Steps: Alcoholism and Radical Fiction in the Great Depression,” for panel “Discipline, Desire, and Capitalism: New Temperance Readings,” Modern Language Association National Convention, Washington D.C., December 2000.
- “Revising the Left: The Fate of U.S. Proletarian Literature from the 1930s,” Conference on “Revisions,” CUNY Graduate School, Department of English, March 2000.
- “Revolutionary Blessings: Phillip Bonosky’s *Burning Valley*,” Conference on “Theology and Criticism, Literature and the Sacred,” Johns Hopkins University, Department of German, March 1999.
- “Literature at Work: The Proletarian Manifestos of 1935,” 27th Annual Twentieth-Century Literature Conference, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, February 25-27, 1999.
- “Hölderlin’s Poetics of Religion,” Conference on “Myth,” Columbia University, Department of German, April 1995.
- “Husserl’s ‘Idea of a Grammar of Pure Logic,’” Mid-South Philosophy Conference, University of Memphis, February 1995.

GUEST LECTURES (INCLUDING CONFERENCES, PANELS, AND WORKSHOPS):

- “Syntax and the Poetry of Evie Shockley: ‘because there should be love,’ for “Dante Society: Lyric Poetry Study Group,” Beatrice Institute, Pittsburgh, April 23, 2025.
- “The Sonnet: George Meredith’s ‘Lucifer in Starlight,’ for “Dante Society: Lyric Poetry Study Group,” Beatrice Institute, Pittsburgh, April 9, 2025.
- “Generative Syntax and Grammatical Parallelism in Two Poems by Evie Shockley,” Works-In-Progress Colloquium Series, University of Pittsburgh, Department of English, March 16, 2023.
- “Linguistics and Poetics: A New Look at Stylistics,” with Professor Alan Juffs (Department of Linguistics). Humanities Center Fellowship colloquium, with Professors Piotr Gwiazda (English) and Kun Qian (Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures) as respondents, University of Pittsburgh, Humanities Center, February 16, 2023.
- “Linguistics and Poetics,” Humanities Center Workshop, with Professor Alan Juffs (Department of Linguistics), University of Pittsburgh, Humanities Center, February 14, 2023.
- “Linguistics and the Analysis of Verbal Art in the Poetry of Evie Shockley,” Linguistics Colloquium Series, Department of Linguistics, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, January 20, 2023.

- “Four Evenings,” moderator and respondent for “Ta-Nehisi Coates: Pitt Pre-lecture book discussion of *The Water Dancer*,” sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh’s Global Studies Center in collaboration with the Pittsburgh Arts & Lectures Series, Pittsburgh, December 3, 2020.
- “Masculinity and Violence,” guest moderator for panel discussion for Undergraduate Symposium on “Masculinities,” Program in Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies, University of Pittsburgh, April 21, 2017.
- “Masculinity and Violence in Contemporary US Culture,” guest lecture for conference, “Gender and Violence: Connecting Interdisciplinary Scholarship and the Community,” Chatham University Women’s Institute, Pittsburgh, November 12, 2016.
- “The Invisible War,” moderator and panelist for documentary film screening, University of Pittsburgh, October 20, 2016.
- “Trigger Warnings, Title IX, and my Syllabus,” panelist and discussant, University of Pittsburgh, Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies Program, September 23, 2016.
- “Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Gender and Violence: Crossing Boundaries and Bridging Divides,” conference respondent for panel “Gender Transformation in Violence Prevention (Bridging Theory and Practice),” University of Pittsburgh, March 17-18, 2016.
- “Sexual Harassment and Assault in Graduate School,” panelist and discussant, University of Pittsburgh, February 25, 2016.
- “The Poetic Function and Thomas Sayers Ellis’s *Skin, Inc.: Identity Repair Poems*,” Humanities Center Fellowship colloquium, with Charles Legere and Dawn Lundy Martin as respondents, University of Pittsburgh, Humanities Center, January 22, 2015.
- “Jacques Derrida’s *Of Grammatology*,” Guest lecture for workshop series “Key Works Wednesday,” University of Pittsburgh, Department of English, December 3, 2014.
- “The Drama of Vernacular Theology: The Bible, Literature and the Genealogies of Modernity” (Colloquium). Guest respondent to Ryan McDermott (University of Pittsburgh, English). University of Pittsburgh, Humanities Center, February 27, 2014.
- “Creative Writers and Daydreaming,” guest lecture for course “Literature and Psychoanalysis” (EngLit 1028), University of Pittsburgh, Department of English, February 18, 2014.
- “Organic Theater in the Undergraduate Classroom,” for panel “Pedagogies of Production: Students Composing across Programs,” University of Pittsburgh, Department of English, Pedagogy Committee, November 15, 2013.
- “Diversity, Access, and the Curriculum,” guest lecture for course “Seminar in Pedagogy” (EngLit 2500), University of Pittsburgh, Department of English, November 6, 2013.
- “Pursuing Graduate Studies in English,” for panel “Keep Calm and Plan Your Future,” University of Pittsburgh, Department of English, October 29, 2013.
- “Out of Place. Displacement, Modernism, and Prehistory in 19th Century Germany” (Colloquium). Guest respondent to Eric S. Downing (UNC-Chapel Hill) and John B. Lyon (University of Pittsburgh, German). Humanities Center, University of

- Pittsburgh, September 26, 2013.
- “Living with Labor: Towards a New Understanding of the Working Class.” Guest chair and respondent. English Department and Humanities Center, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, May 8, 2013.
- “Troublemakers, Wildcats, and Sit-Down Strikes in the Era of Mass Production,” American Labor Museum/Botto House National Landmark, Haledon, NJ, October 19, 2012.
- “The People’s Library of Occupy Wall Street,” for roundtable discussion panel, “The Origins of Occupy Wall Street.” Humanities Center, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, September 6, 2012.
- “Banks Got Bailed Out, Books Got Thrown Out! The Ongoing Creation, Destruction, and Recreation of the People’s Library at Occupy Wall Street.” Special Libraries Association (SLA) Pittsburgh Chapter, University of Pittsburgh, March 28, 2012.
- “Teaching with (and against) Theory,” workshop panelist, Committee on Pedagogy, University of Pittsburgh, Department of English, November 5, 2010.
- “Musical and Psychological Leitmotifs in Richard Wagner’s *Der Ring des Nibelungen*,” in conjunction with LA Opera’s 2010 *Ring* production, University of Southern California, June 21, 2010.
- “The Fecal Reality of Propositional Content: Language and Representation in Percival Everett’s *Glyph* and *Erasure*,” Works-In-Progress Colloquium Series, University of Pittsburgh, Department of English, March 30, 2010.
- “Drafting An Application Cover Letter,” workshop leader for Graduate Placement and Professional Development Committee’s “Job Market Boot Camp,” University of Pittsburgh, Department of English, March 7, 2008.
- “American Modernism and the Harlem Renaissance,” guest lecture for course “Lectures in Literature” (EngLit 0505), University of Pittsburgh, Department of English, November 8, 2006, and March 26, 2007.
- “Preaching vs. Teaching: Is It Relevant to Use Historical Texts to Talk About the Political Present?” workshop panelist, Committee on Pedagogy and Difference, University of Pittsburgh, Department of English, November 10, 2006.
- “African Novels and the Politics of Form,” conference respondent, University of Pittsburgh, Department of English, October 26-28, 2006.
- “Introduction” to a reading by the novelist Percival Everett, sponsored by “La Sociedad Para las Artes,” New Mexico State University, March 12, 2004.
- “Why I Am a Feminist,” workshop panelist for a series sponsored by the Program in Women’s Studies, New Mexico State University, February 2004.

ORGANIZATIONAL:

- Organizer for MLA Special Session, “Poetry of Grammar and Grammar of Poetry,” Modern Language Association Convention, Philadelphia, January 7, 2024.
- Organizer for MLA Special Session, “Forms of the Lyric Subject,” Modern Language Association Convention, San Francisco, January 8, 2023.
- Organizer and Chair of “Feminist Theory Reading Group,” University of Pittsburgh, 2013 – 2017.
- Organizer for lecture and workshop by James Walsh (University of Colorado-Denver, Political Science), “Organic Theater as a Tool for Pedagogy, Activism, and

Organizing,” February 28, 2014.

Organizer for lecture and workshop by Stephen Boyer, “Occupy Language: The Story of the ‘Occupy Wall Street’ Poetry Anthology.” Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh, April 15, 2013.

Organizer and coordinator for series “New Directions in African American Literary and Cultural Criticism,” which consisted of three visiting scholars—Adam McKible, Evie Shockley, and Riché Richardson—who gave talks and seminars in the Department of English at the University of Pittsburgh during the months of March and April 2012.

Organizer and panelist for the panel “The Literary Obama,” 39th Annual Louisville Conference on Literature & Culture since 1900, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, February 24-26, 2011.

GRANTS, HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS:

“Co-Teaching Fellow,” to co-teach the course “Linguistics and Poetics” with Professor Alan Juffs (Department of Linguistics, University of Pittsburgh), University of Pittsburgh, Humanities Center, 2022 – 2024.

“Faculty Fellow,” University of Pittsburgh, Program in Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies, 2016 – 2017.

“Internal Fellow,” University of Pittsburgh, Humanities Center, 2014 – 2015.

“Honorable Mention” for *Troublemakers: Power, Representation, and the Fiction of the Mass Worker*. CLR James Award for Published Book for Academic or General Audiences, Working Class Studies Association, April 2013.

University of Pittsburgh, University Center for International Studies (UCIS) Grant for Faculty Research and Teaching in Germany, for Project: “Marginal Music: Wagner’s Reading of Schopenhauer,” Summer 2011.

New Mexico State University Research Grant for Project: “W. E. B. Du Bois, The Negro, and The Germany Academy,” New Mexico State University, Summer 2004.

Doctoral Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University, Program for Comparative American Cultures, 2001 – 2002.

Dean’s Teaching Fellowship. Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, Johns Hopkins University, 2000 – 2001.

Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship in Humanistic Studies, Johns Hopkins University, 1994-1995.

Dean’s Award, “Outstanding Graduating Senior,” SUNY Buffalo, Faculty of Arts & Letters, 1994.

Phi Beta Kappa Shinner Prize for best undergraduate essay, on Ludwig Wittgenstein’s *Tractatus-Logico-Philosophicus*, SUNY Buffalo, 1993.

Mary C. Whitmann Scholarship, SUNY Buffalo, Department of Philosophy, 1993.

PRIMARY AREAS OF TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTEREST:

American and African American Literature

Poetry/Poetics

Classics

Humanism

OTHER TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Shakespeare
 Opera and Music
 Structuralism (Roman Jakobson and Claude Lévi-Strauss)
 German Idealism and aesthetic theory
 Linguistics (generative syntax; universal grammar)
 Psychoanalysis

COURSES TAUGHT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH:**Department of English, University of Pittsburgh (Fall 2005 – Present):****Graduate Seminars**

EngLit 2995: Dissertation Workshop, Fall 2020; Fall 2021; Fall 2022; Fall 2023.
 EngLit 2327: Aesthetics and Politics: Modernism and Mass Production, Spring 2012.
 EngLit 2279: Studies in U.S. Fiction: The Radical Novel in the Great Depression, Spring 2007.
 EngLit 2254: Revolutionary Poetry of the U.S. Left, Spring 2013.
 EngLit 2246: Modernism in African American Poetry, Fall 2010.
 EngLit 2245: Black Literature: Postmodern African American Poetry, Spring 2014.
 EngLit 2245: Black Literature: The Blues Woman: Race and Sexuality in Twentieth-Century African American Women's Fiction, Fall 2009.

Undergraduate Seminars

EngLit 1910: Senior Seminar: The New American Poetry, 1945-1980, Spring 2014.
 EngLit 1910: Senior Seminar: Invisibility in the Twentieth-Century African American Novel, Fall 2006; Spring 2010; Fall 2022.
 EngLit 1901: Independent Study: Literary Theory, Spring 2011.
 EngLit 1900: Junior Seminar: Modernism in American Poetry, Fall 2010.
 EngLit 1716: Topics in Black Literature: Modernism in African American Literature; cross-listed with Department of Africana Studies (AfrCna 1083), Spring 2012.
 EngLit 1716: Topics in Black Literature: Black Arts/Black Power 1960-1975; cross-listed with Department of Africana Studies (AfrCna 1083), Spring 2011.
 EngLit 1325: The Modernist Tradition, Spring 2007; Spring 2009.
 EngLit 1250: 20th Century American Literature: Memoirs and Sexuality, Fall 2005.
 EngLit 1230: 20th Century African American Literature, Spring 2013.
 EngLit 1225: 19th Century African American Literature, Fall 2012; Fall 2018.
 EngLit 1170: Romantic Nature, Spring 2020; Fall 2024.
 GSWS 1140: Special Topics: Masculinity and Violence, Spring 2017.
 EngLit 1110: Linguistics and Poetics (co-taught with Professor Alan Juffs); cross-listed with Department of Linguistics (Ling 1110), Spring 2024.
 EngLit 1028: Literature and Psychoanalysis, Fall 2015.
 EngLit 0644: Myth and Folktale, Fall 2016; Fall 2025; Fall 2026.
 EngLit 0642: Comedy, Fall 2025.
 EngLit 0630: Sexuality and Representation, Fall 2007; Fall 2009; Fall 2012.
 EngLit 0628: Working Class Literature, Spring 2006; Spring 2008; Spring 2009; Spring 2010; Fall 2013; Spring 2021; Fall 2021.
 EngLit 0573: Literature of the Americas, Spring 2011.
 EngLit 0580: Introduction to Shakespeare, Fall 2019; Spring 2026.

EngLit 0570: American Literary Traditions, Fall 2005; American Literature, Fall 2019; Spring 2021; Spring 2022.
 EngLit 0515: Contemporary African American Poetry, Fall 2017; Fall 2018; Fall 2020; Spring 2022; Spring 2023.
 EngLit 0500: Intro to Critical Reading, Fall 2006; Fall 2007; Fall 2014; Summer 2015; Spring 2016; Summer 2016; Summer 2017.
 EngLit 0375: Introduction to Opera, Fall 2017; cross-listed with Departments of Music and Theater Arts.
 EngLit 0365: Literature & The Contemporary, Spring 2008.
 EngLit 0325: The Short Story, Spring 2019.
 EngLit 0315: Reading Poetry, Summer 2014; Fall 2014; Fall 2015; Fall 2016; Summer 2018; Summer 2019; Spring 2020; Summer 2020; Fall 2023; Spring 2024; Fall 2024.
 EngLit 0310: The Dramatic Imagination, Spring 2026; Fall 2026.
 EngCmp 0200: Seminar in Composition, Fall 2013.

Independent Study

EngLit 1914: Senior Honors Thesis, Ryan Willis, Spring 2025.
 Introduction to Critical Theory, for Hot Metal Bridge student, Lucy Mensah, Spring 2011.
 EngLit 3902: Directed Study for Ph.D. Student: Black Arts/Black Power 1960-1975, Spring 2011.

Graduate Student Committees

Ph.D.: Victoria Glavin
 Yujin Jang; defended November 2025.
 Jessica Batychenko; defended June 2024.
 Alexis Brown (Department of Linguistics); defended March 2024.
 Yasmine Anderson; defended March 2024.
 Marco Giusto (Department of Music); defended May 2021.
 Elizabeth Oliphant; defended July 2017.
 Matthew Kelly (Chair); defended June 2017.
 Dan Barlow (Chair); defended March 2017.
 Katherine Kidd; defended August 2016.
 Racheal Forlow; defended March 2015.
 Aaron Brooks (Department of Music); defended April 2014.
 Jeremy Woodruff (Department of Music); defended April 2014.
 Shelagh Patterson; defended November 2014.
 Alicia Williamson (Chair); defended April 2013.
 Dan Kubis; defended April 2013.
 Andrea Lapin; defended April 2013.
 Jonathan Hayes; defended April 2013.
 Jeffrey M. Cordell (Department of Theatre and Performance Studies)
 Jonathan Feinberg; defended April 9, 2012.
 Michael J. Mazza; defended April 2009.
 Lopé Lopez de Miguel; defended October 2009.

Michael Schwartz (Department of Theatre and Performance Studies);
defended April 2008.

Ph.D. Project: Victoria Glavin; completed August 2023
Yasmine Anderson; completed February 2022.
Yujin Jang; completed October 2020.
Treviene Harris; completed February 2018.
Tyrica Terry; completed April 2016.
Matthew Kelly (Chair); completed December 2014.
Jess FitzPatrick; completed January 2014.
Dan Barlow (Chair); completed October 2013.
Racheal Forlow; completed December 2011.
Nathaniel Heggins Bryant; completed October 2011.
Katherine Kidd; completed June 2011.
Molly Nichols; completed May 2011.
Alicia Williamson (Chair); completed December 2009.
Dan Kubis; completed January 2009.
Shelagh Patterson; completed November 2008.
Alex Braunstein; completed April 2008.
Jonathan Hayes; completed December 2007.
M.F.A.: Michelle Lin (poetry); defended April 2015.
Rachel Mangini (fiction); defended April 2012.
Soham Suresh Patel (poetry); defended April 2012.
Christopher Lee (fiction); defended April 2011.
Billy Coakley (fiction); defended April 2009.
Kara Hughes (fiction); defended April 2008.
Adam Reger (fiction); defended April 2008.
M.A.: Katherine Kidd (thesis director); completed April 2008.
Advising: Tyrica Terry, Dan Barlow, Alicia Williamson, Ronmel Navas

Hot Metal Bridge Advising:

Hot Metal Bridge Fellow: Lucy Mensah (2010 – 2011). Admitted to Ph.D. program in English at Vanderbilt University, September 2011.

Undergraduate Student Committee:

English Honors Thesis:

Ryan Willis (thesis director; completed August 2025).

Meagan Swaney (second reader; completed April 2020).

Daniel Malinowski (second reader; completed April 2014).

BPhil thesis:

Jenna MTR Simmons (second reader; completed April 2026).

Ryan Willis (second reader; Robert Brandom, chair; completed April 2026).

Brackenridge Fellow: Rebekah Lynn (thesis director; completed September 2010).

COURSES TAUGHT ELSEWHERE:

Visiting Professor, Department of Comparative Literature, Universität Augsburg,

Germany (Summer 2011): Compact Seminar, “Fitzgerald, Gramsci, and ‘die Frage nach

der Technik.””

Assistant Professor, Department of English, New Mexico State University (Fall 2003 – Spring 2005):

English 524: Ralph Ellison’s *Invisible Man* (graduate seminar), Fall 2004.

English 517: Critical Theory: Writing the Body (graduate seminar, cross-listed with Women’s Studies 550), Spring 2004.

English 422: Blues Women and Black Feminism: Race and Sexuality in African American Women’s Writing (cross-listed with Women’s Studies 422/522), Spring 2004.

English 404/505: The Radical Novel in the Great Depression (undergraduate/graduate seminar), Spring 2005.

English 404/504: Modern American Poetry, 1914-1945 (undergraduate/graduate seminar), Fall 2004.

English 404/504: American Writing and the Politics of Difference in the Great Depression (undergraduate/graduate seminar), Fall 2003.

English 302: Introduction to Literary Criticism and Theory, Fall 2003; Spring 2005.

English 252: American Literature II, Fall 2003, Fall 2004.

Instructor, Humanities Center, Johns Hopkins University (Fall 1995 – Fall 2002):

“Contemporary African American Literature,” Lecturer, Fall 2002.

“Black Radical Writers: Hughes, McKay, Bontemps and Wright,” Instructor, Spring 2002.

“Literature, Politics and Spectacle in the Great Depression” (as Dean’s Teaching Fellow), Instructor, Fall 2000.

“The Radical Novel,” Instructor, Spring 2000.

“W. E. B. Du Bois’s *The Souls of Black Folk*,” teaching assistant to Nahum D. Chandler, Fall 1999.

“Contemporary American Memoir,” teaching assistant to Robert Reid-Pharr, Spring 1999.

“The Novels of James Baldwin,” teaching assistant to Robert Reid-Pharr, Fall 1998.

“Lowell, Plath, and After: Modern American Poetry,” teaching assistant to Michael Fried, Spring 1998.

“Forms of Comedy,” teaching assistant to Richard Macksey, and section leader, Fall 1997.

“German Elements: 101,” Instructor, Fall 1995.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE:

2025 – 2026: Disability and Accessibility Committee

Spring 2025: Research Sabbatical

Fall 2024: Appointment-Stream Mentoring Committee

Mentees:

- Amanda Sevilla, Teaching Associate Professor
- Steven LeMieux, Teaching Assistant Professor

2023 – 2024: Graduate Admissions Committee

Appointment-Stream Mentoring Committee

Mentees:

- Amanda Sevilla, Teaching Associate Professor
- Steven LeMieux, Teaching Assistant Professor

2022 – 2023: Graduate Advising Committee

Appointment-Stream Mentoring Committee

Mentees:

- Justin Bortnick, Teaching Assistant Professor
- Steven LeMieux, Teaching Assistant Professor

2021 – 2022: Graduate Advising Committee

2020 – 2021: Literature Pedagogy Committee

2019 – 2020: Pedagogy Committee

Planning and Budget Committee

2018 – 2019: Pedagogy Committee

Planning and Budget Committee

Spring 2018: Research Sabbatical

Fall 2017: Non-Tenure Stream Faculty Ombudsman

Non-Tenure Stream Faculty Committee

Planning and Budget Committee

2016 – 2017: Non-Tenure Stream Faculty Ombudsman

Non-Tenure Stream Faculty Committee

Planning and Budget Committee

Chair and Coordinator of Feminist Theory Reading Group

2015 – 2016: Non-Tenure Stream Faculty Ombudsman

Non-Tenure Stream Faculty Committee

Chair and Coordinator of Feminist Theory Reading Group

2014 – 2015: Diversity Committee (Chair)

Planning and Budget Committee

Non-Tenure Stream Faculty Committee

Chair and Coordinator of Feminist Theory Reading Group

2013 – 2014: Diversity Committee (Chair)

Literature Curriculum Committee

Chair and Coordinator of Feminist Theory Reading Group

2012 – 2013: Diversity Committee (Chair)

African-Americanist Hiring Committee (Chair)

Committee on Pedagogy

Library Committee

Spring 2012: Committee on Pedagogy

Literature Curriculum Committee

African-Americanist Hiring Ad-Hoc Committee (Chair)

Strategic Planning Committee on “Diversity” as a Strategic Goal (Chair)

Fall 2011: Research Sabbatical

2010 – 2011: Graduate Admissions Committee

Literature Curriculum Committee

Junior/Senior Seminar Assessment Committee

2009 – 2010: Literature Curriculum Committee

Fall 2008: Research Leave

- 2007 – 2008: Planning and Budget Committee
Literature Curriculum Committee
Senior American Literature Search Committee
- 2006 – 2007: Planning and Budget Committee
Literature Curriculum Committee
Senior American Literature Search Committee
- 2005 – 2006: Graduate Placement and Professional Development Committee
Literature Curriculum Committee

DEPARTMENTAL TENURE COMMITTEES:

- 2024 – Diana Khoi Nguyen (tenured, Spring 2025)
- 2020 – Michael Sawyer (tenured, Spring 2021)
- 2019 – Yona Harvey (tenured, Spring 2020)
- 2018 – Elizabeth Rodriguez Fielder (Chair)
- 2012 – 2014: Peter Trachtenberg (tenured, Spring 2015)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE:

- 2022 – 2023: Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences Selection Committee
- 2021 – 2022: Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences Tenure Council
- 2020 – 2021: Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences Tenure Council
- 2019 – 2020: Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences Tenure Council
- 2016 – Present: Dietrich School Tenure Council *ad hoc* Committee for Tenure Review
- 2015 – 2017: Faculty Representative, Sexual Assault Task Force, University of Pittsburgh.
- 2014 – 2017: Humanities Representative, Faculty Assembly, University of Pittsburgh, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences.

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

- 2022 – Present: Volunteer at “The Red Door,” Divine Mercy Parish, 202 Stanwix St., Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2016 – Present: Director of Music for Hispanic Mass, St. Teresa of Kolkata Parish (St. Catherine of Siena Church), Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2015 – 2017: Certified Sexual Assault Counselor and Medical Advocate, Pittsburgh Action Against Rape (PAAR).
- 2015 – 2017: Faculty Representative, Pittsburgh Sexual and Relationship Violence Prevention Coalition.

MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

- 1995 – Present: Modern Language Association (MLA)
- 2022 – 2023: Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA)
- 2020 – 2023: American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)
- 2009 – 2022: Working Class Studies Association (WCSA)