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Education:

NEH Summer Seminar: "Culture and Society in England, 1840-1914," Summer, 1982.
School of Criticism and Theory, Summer, 1981.
Cornell University, 1972-1977: M.A. awarded June, 1975; Ph.D. awarded January, 1977.
Major subject: Nineteenth-century British literature.
Minor subjects: Prose Fiction, British History, 1780-1914.
Brown University, 1968-1972: A.B. awarded June, 1972, magna cum laude, honors in English.

Academic Honors and Grants:

Fellowship to Rutgers Center for the Critical Analysis of Contemporary Culture, 2002-03
University Senate Research Award, 2002
ACLS Fellowship, 1995-1996.
College of Arts and Sciences, American University award for achievement in Scholarship, 1991.
Co-Director, NEH Summer Institute, "From Romantics to Victorians: The Cultural Transition," 1990.
Participant in AU NEH Colloquium on Teaching General Education Courses, 1988.
American University Summer Grant, 1987
Mellon Grant for Faculty Support, 1985
NEH Summer Stipend, 1984.
Fellowship to NEH Summer Seminar, 1982.
Fellowship to School of Criticism and Theory, 1981.
Cornell Summer Fellowships, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976.
Elected to Phi Kappa Phi, 1976
Cornell Graduate Fellowship, 1972-3.
Elected to Phi Beta Kappa, 1971 (junior year).

Publications:

Books:

A Return to Aesthetics: Autonomy, Indifference and Postmodernism. Stanford University Press, 2005.

Aestheticism and Deconstruction: Pater, Derrida and de Man, Princeton University Press,

1991.

Fictions of Consciousness: Mill, Newman and the Reading of Victorian Prose, Rutgers University Press, 1986.

Articles:

“Browning Believing: ‘A Death in the Desert’ and the Status of Belief” accepted by Victorian Literature and Culture.

Entry on “Aestheticism” accepted by Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics.

“Darwin, Natural Theology, and Slavery: A Justification of Browning’s ‘Caliban,’” ELH, 75 (Winter, 2008), 871-897.

“Kant, Hume, Darwin and Design: Why Intelligent Design Wasn’t Science Before Darwin and Still Isn’t,” The Philosophical Forum, 38 (Summer, 2007), 95-123..

“The Afterlife of Victorian Sexuality: Foucault and NeoVictorian Historical Fiction,” Clio: a Journal of Literature, History and the Philosophy of History, 36 (Summer, 2007), 361-389.

“Foucault and the Hedgerow History of Homosexuality” forthcoming in Romantic Praxis, Special Issue on How to Do the History of Sexuality in the Romantic Period, January, 2006.

“A Fountain, a Spontaneous Combustion and the Mona Lisa: Duchamp’s Symbolism in Dickens and Pater.” Studies in the Literary Imagination, 35 (Fall, 2002), 53-77.

“Ruskin and Pater: Aesthetics and the State,” Edinburgh Encyclopedia of Modern Criticism and Theory, ed. Julian Wolfreys. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, (2002), 650-657.

“Fin de Siecle Scholarship on Fin de Siecle Aestheticism,” Victorian Literature and Culture, (2001), 521-34.

“Aesthetics, Ethics and Unreadable Acts in George Eliot” in Knowing the Victorians, ed. Suzy Anger. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2001, 121-147.

“Bourdieu E Sociologia da Estetica” in Politica & Trabalho 16 (Setembro de 2000), 213-235. This is a translation of “Bourdieu and the Sociology of Aesthetics,” listed below.

“Cultural Studies, Victorian Studies and Formalism” Victorian Studies and Cultural Studies, (1999), 539-546.

"Materialism and Aesthetics: Paul de Man's Aesthetic Ideology," Diacritics, 27, (Winter, 1998), 87-108.

"Dickensian Deformed Children and the Hegelian Sublime," Victorian Studies 40, (Summer, 1997), 625-654.

"Bourdieu's Derrida's Kant: the Aesthetics of Refusing Aesthetics," MLQ, 58 (December, 1997), 417-436.

"Moving Beyond the Deconstructive Impasse in the Criticism of Autobiography," Prose Studies, 20 (April, 1997), 119-138.

"Recent Studies in the Nineteenth Century," SEL, 34 (Fall, 1994), 877-919.

"From Victorian Consciousness to an Ethics of Reading The Criticism of J. Hillis Miller," Victorian Studies 37 (Autumn, 1993): 98-121.

"Bourdieu and the Sociology of Aesthetics," ELH 60 (1993): 813-836.

NEH report on integrating humanities into general education curriculum, July, 1991.

"Deconstruction, Feminist Criticism and Canon Deformation," Paragraph 14 (1991), 240-256.

"Untheoretical Practices; Theoretical Consequences," Prose Studies 13 (September, 1990), 278-292.

"Deconstruction, Historicism and Overdetermination: The Dislocations of the Marriage Plots in Robert Elsmere and Dombey and Son," Victorian Studies, Spring, 1990, 441-64.

"The Ideology of Narrative Form in Sensation Fiction," Representations 13 (Winter, 1986), 115-138.

"Intentionalism, Reader-Response and the Place of Deconstruction," Reader (Spring, 1985), 21-38.

"Narratives of Authority: Cortes, Gomara, Diaz," Prose Studies, 6 (1983), 239-263.

"Allegory and Narrative in Clarissa," in NOVEL (Fall, 1981), 39-59.

"Autobiography as Genre, Act of Consciousness, Text," in Prose Studies, 4 (1981), 169-85.

"Self-Consciousness and Mediation in Victorian Autobiography," in University of Toronto Quarterly (Winter, 1981), 199-220.

"In Which a Poet is Frightened by a Lion: The Philosophic Context of Mill's Poetic Theory," in Victorian Newsletter (Spring, 1979), 26-31.

"Free Association: Mill's Autobiography as the Fiction of a Philosophy," in Interspace and the Inward Sphere, ed. Norman A. Anderson and Margene Weiss (Macomb, Illinois: 1978), 87-106.

Reviews for Clio, Victorian Studies, Modern Philology, Keats-Shelley Journal, Prose Studies, Aesthetics Newsletter, Ithaca Times, Ithaca Journal and Providence Journal.

Lectures and Presentations:

"Darwin, Natural Theology, and Slavery: A Justification of Browning's 'Caliban,'" invited lecture to CUNY Victorian Graduate Students Conference.

"The Afterlife of Victorian Sexuality in Film and Fiction," Keynote address, Conference on "Intermediality," Chemnitz, Germany, February, 2005

Moderator, Keynote Panel on Sacred and Profane: Intersections. NVSA, April, 2004.

Moderator, Keynote Panel on Technology in the Nineteenth Century, NVSA, April, 2003.

Presentation on Stoppard's Invention of Love for Studio Theater, Washington, DC, April, 2001.

"Hegel's Aesthetic Indifference and Nietzsche's Science Seen From the Perspective of Art," delivered at December, 1999, MLA panel on German Romanticism.

Organized and moderated session on future directions in Victorian criticism at NVSA conference, April, 1999.

Moderator of Session on "Anxious Authors" at NVSA conference, April, 1997.

Moderator of Session on "The Spectacle of the Professions," at NVSA conference, April 1996.

"Dickensian Deformed Children and the Hegelian Sublime" delivered at NVSA, April, 1995.

"Moving Beyond the Deconstructive Impasse in Autobiographical Criticism," delivered at MLA, December, 1993.

"Grandcourt's Drowning and the Unreality of Realism in Daniel Deronda" delivered April, 1993 at NVSA.

"Narrating Science: Variation and Progress in Darwin's and Huxley's Theories of Evolution" delivered April, 1992, at the Society for the Study of Narrative Literature Conference.

"Monologues and Melodrama: The Staging of Victorian Narrative" delivered June, 1991 at International Conference on Narrative.

"Aestheticism and Journalism: Paul de Man's Wartime Writings," delivered at NEMLA, April, 1991.

Chair of Session on "Philosophy and Literature," at NEMLA, April, 1991.

"History of Philosophy, Philosophical History: Derrida, Foucault and de Man," delivered to Comparative Literature Colloquium, SUNY Buffalo, April, 1990.

Chair of Session on "Literary Criticism" at NEMLA, April, 1990.

"An Expense of Structure and a Waste of Theme: The Dislocation of the Marriage Plot in Victorian Fiction," delivered to Brandeis English department, December, 1988; also at SSNL, April 1989.

"Deconstruction, Feminist Criticism and Canon Deformation" delivered at NEMLA, April, 1989; also to Literature department Colloquium Series, October, 1989.

"Aesthetic Theory and Historical Context: Walter Pater's Narrative in The Renaissance," delivered at MLA, December, 1988.

"Pater's Renaissance and the Politics of Deconstruction," delivered at NEMLA, April, 1988.

Chair of Session on "Autobiography and Theory" at NEMLA, April, 1987.

"Untheoretical Practices," delivered at NEMLA, April 1986.

"The Mind of the Text: the Expansions of Arnold's Critical Discourse," delivered at MLA, December 1985.

Discussion of Hume's Inquiry Concerning Human Understanding for AU Faculty Colloquium, May 1985.

Introduction to Mill's "On Liberty," for AU Faculty Colloquium, May, 1984.

Moderator of "Narrative Functions," session at Spring, 1982 International Association for Philosophy and Literature meeting.

"Epistemology and Narrative in Newman's Apologia," delivered at Holy Cross English Colloquium, 1981.

"Perspective and Illusion in Welles' Touch of Evil," delivered at Purdue Film Conference, 1979.

Experience:

Faculty Trustee, American University Board of Trustees, 2006-
Chair, Faculty Senate, 2006-2007
Vice Chair, Faculty Senate, 2005-2006
Chair, University Committee on Faculty Relations, 2005-2006
Chair, Department of Literature, American University 1996-2002, 2007-
Director, University Honors Program, American University, 1992-1995
Professor, American University, 1991-
Deputy Chair, Department of Literature, American University 1990-1992
Director, MA Program in Literature, American University 1984-1986, 1991.
Associate Professor, American University, 1986-1991.
Assistant Professor, American University, 1982-1986.
Assistant Professor, College of the Holy Cross, 1980-1982.
Visiting Assistant Professor, Brandeis University, 1979-1980.
Acting Assistant Professor, Cornell University, 1977-1979.

Professional Activities:

Outside reviewer for Tenure and Promotion to full professor for NYU, Rice University, Purdue University, Rutgers University, Johns Hopkins University, University of Michigan, Bowdoin, Boston University.

President, Northeast Victorian Studies Association, 2000-2005.

Member of board judging the Sonya Rudikoff prize for the best first book in Victorian Studies, 1999-2004, 2006-.

Editorial Board, Prose Studies, 1998-present.

Chair, Program Committee, Northeast Victorian Studies Association, 1996-1997.

Reader, Broadview Press, Cornell University Press, Duke University Press, University of Virginia Press, University of Georgia Press, Columbia University Press, College English, PMLA, Prose Studies, Victorian Studies, Dickens Studies Annual, Texas Studies in Language and Literature.

Advisory Board, Carlyle Annual.

Review Editor, Prose Studies, 1989-1994.