

Curriculum Vitae
AMANDA ANDERSON

Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Humanities and English
Brown University

Department of English and
Cogut Institute for the Humanities
Brown University
Providence, RI 02912
amanda_anderson@brown.edu

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Brown University, 2012-present
Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Humanities and English, 2012-present
Johns Hopkins University, 1999-2012
Caroline Donovan Professor of English Literature, 2002-2012
Professor, Department of English, 1999-2012
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1989-1999
Associate Professor, Department of English, Women's Studies Program,
and the Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, 1995-1999
Assistant Professor, Department of English, Women's Studies Program,
and the Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, 1989-1995

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Director, Cogut Institute for the Humanities, Brown University, 2015-2026
Director, Cogut Institute Doctoral Certificate in Collaborative Humanities, 2017-present

Director, The School of Criticism and Theory, Cornell University, 2008-2014
An international summer institute admitting 80-100 doctoral candidates and early career faculty
for a six-week intensive session with influential scholars in the humanities and social sciences.

Johns Hopkins University, Department of English, 1999-2012
Department Chair, 2003-2009
Director of Graduate Studies, 2001-2002
Acting Department Chair, Spring 2011
Acting Director of Undergraduate Studies, Spring 2007

EDUCATION

Cornell University, 1984-1989
Ph.D. English 1989
M.A. English 1988
Dartmouth College, 1977-1981
B.A. English, magna cum laude, with high distinction in major

ACADEMIC HONORS and AWARDS

International Advisory Board, School of English, Hong Kong University, 2025-2027
 External Advisory Board for the Humanities, Krieger School of Arts and Sciences,
 Johns Hopkins University, 2024-2025
 The Presidential Award Lecture, Brown University, Fall 2022
 The Berlin Prize, American Academy in Berlin, 2019-2020
 John B. Birkelund Fellow in the Humanities, American Academy in Berlin, Spring 2020
 Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes, Advisory Board, 2017-present
 The Clarendon Lectures, Oxford University, November 2015
 School of Criticism and Theory, Honorary Senior Fellow, 2014-present
 Distinguished Visitor, University of Alberta, April 8-12, 2014
 Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, 2009-2010
 The Ward Phillips Lectures, Notre Dame, March 2008
 Magnet Scholar, Human Rights Institute, University of Connecticut, 2006-2007
 School of Criticism and Theory, Senior Fellow, 2006-2014
 School of Criticism and Theory, Faculty, Summer 2006
 Fellow, Center for the Critical Analysis of Contemporary Culture, Rutgers University, 2002-3
 University of Illinois Research Board Grant, Spring 1998
 William and Flora Hewlett Summer International Research Grant, 1997
 University of Illinois Research Board Grant, Fall 1994
 Vice Chancellor's Teaching Scholar, University of Illinois, 1991-92
 Faculty Fellow, Program for the Study of Cultural Values and Ethics, UIUC Fall 1990
 Jacob K. Javits Graduate Fellowship, 1986-1989
 Cornell University Graduate Fellowship, 1984-1985
 Phi Beta Kappa, 1981

GRANTS

Collaborative Humanities - July 1, 2017-June 30, 2023

P.I. and Grant Proposal Developer. For innovative cross-disciplinary and international collaboration. Supports new graduate curriculum, international exchange, and graduate fellowships. NCE's from 2020-2023 supported new 21st-century PhD programs. The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. **\$1,300,000**

Mellon Graduate Workshops at Brown University - Sept 1, 2008 -August 31, 2019

P.I. for continuing grant housed at the Cogut Institute for the Humanities. For graduate student led workshops on cross-disciplinary interests.
 The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. **\$613,308**

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowships - July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2020

P.I. for continuing grant housed at the Cogut Institute for the Humanities.
 The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. **\$1,828,270** (now fully endowed through a successful challenge grant)

American Council of Learned Societies -- Postdoctoral Partnership Initiative. July 1, 2016-June 30, 2018

P.I. and Grant Proposal Co-Developer. **\$79,458**

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Rumination in Life and Literature: A Vindication. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, forthcoming 2027.

Humanities Theory. Co-authored with Simon During. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2025. Literature and Politics Series.

On Character: Three Inquiries in Literary Study. With Rita Felski and Toril Moi. University of Chicago Press, 2019. TRIOS series.

Psyche and Ethos: Moral Life After Psychology (Clarendon Lectures in English Literature). Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018.

Bleak Liberalism. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2016.

A Companion to George Eliot. London: Blackwell, 2013. Co-edited with Harry Shaw. Includes 34 commissioned essays.

The Way We Argue Now: A Study in the Cultures of Theory. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2006.

Disciplinarity at the Fin de Siècle. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2002. Co-edited with Joseph Valente.

The Powers of Distance: Cosmopolitanism and the Cultivation of Detachment. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001.

Tainted Souls and Painted Faces: The Rhetoric of Fallenness in Victorian Culture. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1993; released as open access digital book in 2018).

Articles and Chapters:

“Foreseeable Futures for the Humanities,” forthcoming in a special issue on the humanities, eds. Michael Bérubé and Robert Marzac, *Modern Fiction Studies*, 2027.

“Moral Ideation in the Nineteenth-Century British Novel: Rethinking Character-Character Dialogue,” in Rachel Potter and Matthew Taunton, eds., *The British Novel of Ideas: George Eliot to Zadie Smith*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2024. 29-45.

“The Politics and Psychology of the Literary Field: Revisiting John Guillory’s *Cultural Capital*,” *Genre: Forms of Discourse and Culture* 56: 1 (2023): 33-48.

“The Moral and Political Challenges of Hartmut Rosa’s Theory of Resonance,” *The Journal of Chinese Sociology* 10:6 (2023). [Open access](#).

- “Styles of Argumentation in US Literary Debate,” *Zeitschrift für Deutsche Philologie* 4 (2021): 315-322.
- “Situating the Method Debates,” *PMLA* 135:5 (2020): 1002-1008.
- “Therapeutic Criticism,” *Novel: A Forum on Fiction* 50:3 (2017): 321-328.
- “Postwar Aesthetics: The Case of Adorno and Trilling,” *Critical Inquiry* 40:4 (2014): 418-438.
- “Living Theory: Personality and Doctrine in Eliot,” in Amanda Anderson and Harry Shaw, eds., *A Companion to George Eliot*. London: Blackwell, 2013. 442-456.
- Introduction, *A Companion to George Eliot*, in Amanda Anderson and Harry Shaw, eds., London: Blackwell, 2013. With Harry Shaw. 3-21.
- “Dickens, the Brontës, Gaskell: Politics and Its Limits,” in Robert Caserio and Clement Hawes, eds., *The Cambridge History of the English Novel*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012.
- “Character and Ideology: The Case of Cold War Liberalism,” *NLH* 42:2 (2011): 209-229.
- “The Liberal Aesthetic,” in Derek Attredge and Jane Elliott, eds., *Theory after “Theory.”* New York: Routledge, 2011.
- “The Way We Talk About the Way We Teach Now,” *Profession* 2009: 19-27.
- “Epistemological Liberalism,” *Victorian Studies* 50:4 (2008): 658-665. Review essay of Lorraine Daston and Peter Galison, *Objectivity* (New York: Zone Books, 2008).
- “Trollope’s Modernity,” *ELH* 74 (2007): 509-34.
- “John Stuart Mill,” *The Oxford Encyclopedia of British Literature*, ed. David Scott Kastan (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006). 5,000-word entry.
- “Victorian Studies and the Two Modernities,” *Victorian Studies* 47:2 (2005): 195-203.
- “Argument and Ethos,” in Jane Gallop, ed., *Polemic: Critical or Uncritical* (Essays from the English Institute). New York: Routledge, 2004. 103-134.
- “Pragmatism and Character,” *Critical Inquiry* 29:2 (2003): 282-301.
- “Discipline and Freedom,” Introduction to Anderson and Valente, eds., *Disciplinarity at the Fin de Siècle*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2002. With Joseph Valente. 1-15.
- “The Temptations of Aggrandized Agency: Feminist Histories and the Horizon of Modernity,” *Victorian Studies* 43:1 (2000): 43-65.

"Universalism, Realism, and the Science of the Human," *Diacritics* 29:2 (1999): 3-17. (Article-length review essay of Satya P. Mohanty's, *Literary Theory and the Claims of History* and Martha Nussbaum's *Cultivating Humanity*)

"Cosmopolitanism, Universalism, and the Divided Legacies of Modernity," in Pheng Cheah and Bruce Robbins, eds., *Cosmopolitics: Thinking and Feeling Beyond the Nation*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1998. 265-89.

"Debatable Performances: Restaging Contentious Feminisms," *Social Text* 54 (1998): 1-24.

"George Eliot and the Jewish Question," *The Yale Journal of Criticism* 10 (1997): 39-61.

"Cryptonormativism and Double Gestures: The Politics of Post-structuralism." *Cultural Critique* 21 (1992): 63-95.

"Prostitution's Artful Guise." *Diacritics* 21: 2-3 (1991): 102-122. (Special double-issue on feminism). Article-length review essay of Charles Bernheimer, *Figures of Ill-Repute*.

"D.G. Rossetti's 'Jenny': Intersubjectivity, Agency, and the Prostitute," *Genders* 4 (1989):103-21.

Essays and Reviews:

"Authenticity and Its Others," forum on Authenticity and Criticism, forthcoming in *New Literary History*.

"When Viewpoint Diversity Means Conformity," [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#), October 7, 2025.

"Stuck Inside: Rumination in the Time of Coronavirus," *The Berlin Journal*, Spring 2020.

"Theory and the Changing Forms of Institutional Prestige," *Symplokē* 27: 1-2 (2019).

"Theory and Criticism: 22 Theses," *Politics/Letters Live*. Posted January 2019.

Isobel Armstrong, *Novel Politics* (Oxford University Press, 2016), *Textual Practice* 32:7 (2018). Part of forum including four response and a reply from the author.

Ted Underwood, *Why Literary Periods Mattered: Historical Contrast and the Prestige of English Studies* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2013), *Victorian Studies* 59:1 (2016): 134-137.

Zarena Aslami, *The Dream Life of Citizens: Late Victorian Novels and the Fantasy of the State* (New York: Fordham, 2012), *Novel* 47:2 (2014): 316-318.

Daniel Kahneman, *Thinking Fast and Slow* (Farrar, Strauss, and Giroux, 2011), *Common Knowledge* 20:1 (2014), 139-40.

Regenia Gagnier, *Individualism, Decadence, and Globalization: On the Relationship of Part to Whole, 1859-1920* (London: Palgrave, 2010). *Victorian Studies* 54.3 (2012): 517-19.

“Reply to My Critic(s),” *Criticism* 48:2 (2006):281-290. A forum on *The Way We Argue Now*.

Anthony Appiah, *The Ethics of Identity* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2005), *Victorian Studies* 48:2 (2006): 321-323.

Michiel Heyns, *Cultural Exclusion: The Scapegoat in the Nineteenth-Century Novel* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1994), *Victorian Studies* 39:4 (1996): 545-47.

Elizabeth Langland, *Nobody's Angels: Middle-Class Women and Domestic Ideology in Victorian Culture* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1995), *Victorian Studies* 39:2 (1996): 251-5.

Elsie B. Michie, *Outside the Pale: Cultural Exclusion, Gender Difference, and the Victorian Woman Writer* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1993), *JEGP* 95:2 (1996): 261-63.

Judith R. Walkowitz, *City of Dreadful Delight: Narratives of Sexual Danger in Late-Victorian London* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1992). *Victorian Studies* 36: 4 (1993): 474-75.

Dorothy Mermin, *Elizabeth Barrett Browning: The Origins of a New Poetry* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1989) and Helen Cooper, *Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Woman and Artist* (Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press, 1988). *JEGP* 90:4 (1991): 577-581. Harvard University Press, 1991). *The Journal of American History* 77 (1990): 311.

Interviews/Media/Press

[“Humanities Theory.”](#) New Books Network Podcast. Interview of Amanda Anderson and Simon During by Hajidazeh Morteza. Aprils 17, 2026.

[Meeting Street Podcast](#): Conversations in the Humanities. Host and Producer. Episodes:

1. Disability Studies and the Pandemic (Oct 2020)
2. The Humanities in the Time of Covid-19 (Oct 2020)
3. The History and Science of Virtual Reality (Dec 2020)
4. Uncovering the Humanities in Data Science (January 2021)
5. Why We Need the Environmental Humanities (March 2021)
6. Feminist Criticism after Trump (April 2021)
7. Historical Racism and the Politics of Loss (May 2021)
8. On Catastrophe and Planetary Realism (October 2021)
9. Black Aliveness (November 2021)
10. Happiness in Psychology and Philosophy (December 2021)
11. Christopher Newfield on Building a More Democratic University (March 2022)
12. Mental Health in History: Psychiatry and Anti-Psychiatry (Oct 2022)
13. Disability Narratives and Research-Creation (Apr 2023)
14. AI and the Humanities (December 2023)

“What is Happiness? A Psychologist and a Philosopher Discuss Meaning, Politics, and the Pleasures of Disagreement,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, January 7, 2022. Published transcript of Meeting Street Podcast, “Happiness in Psychology and Philosophy.”

“The Coronavirus Humanities: Two Leading Scholars Discuss the Virus, the Future of Knowledge, and the State of Humanistic Inquiry (with Jonathan Kramnick), *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, October 29, 2020. Published Transcript of Meeting Street Podcast, “The Humanities in the Time of Covid-19.”

[“Bleak Liberalism,”](#) Thinking Aloud Radio Interview, BYU Radio, January 24, 2018.

[“Practicing the Humanities,”](#) Life, Learning, and Liberal Education, TEDx Brown, October 20, 2012.

The Minnesota Review. Interview. 71-72 (2009): 87-100.

The Diane Rehm Show, June 2007. Book Discussion on Charlotte Bronte’s *Villette*.

Interviewed for and featured in Michiko Kakutani, “Debate? Dissent? Oh, Don’t Go There!”, *The New York Times*, March 23, 2003.

EDITORIAL SERVICE

Journals

Editorial Advisory Board, *NOVEL*, 2013-present

Editorial Board, *South Atlantic Review*, 2012-2015

Advisory Editor, *New Literary History*, 2010-present

Editorial Board, *Victorian Studies*, 2002-2017

Editorial Board, *ELH*, 1999-2012; Advisory Editor, 2012-present

Editorial Consultant, *Feminist Studies*, 1992-2000

University Press Reviews

Cornell University Press, University of Chicago Press, Duke University Press, Princeton

University Press, Columbia University Press, University Press of Virginia, University of

Massachusetts Press, Fordham University Press, Oxford University Press

EXTERNAL REVIEW COMMITTEES

University of Chicago, Department of English, Committee Chair, 2022

Society for the Humanities, Cornell University, Committee Chair, 2019

CUNY Graduate Center, English Department, Committee Chair, 2018

University of Texas-Austin, School of Arts and Sciences, 2018

John Hope Franklin Humanities Institute, Duke University, 2017

Brown University, Department of English, 2010

INVITED LECTURES and COLLOQUIA

- “Theory’s Histories and Present Configurations,” Keynote conversation with Heather Love, SCT@50, School of Criticism and Theory, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, June 16, 2026.
- “Foreseeable Futures for the Humanities,” Keynote Lecture, “Building the Present We Want,” Annual Meeting of the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes, The Banff Center for Creativity and the Arts, Banff, Alberta, Canada, June 4, 2026.
- “English among the Disciplines,” Literature in Limbo: The State of English as an Academic Discipline, American Enterprise Institute, Washington DC, September 30, 2025.
- “Rumination and Literary Form,” 2024 BU Symposium on Philosophy, Literature, and Aesthetics, November 8, 2024.
- “Political Psychology and the Literary Field,” School of Criticism and Theory Opening Lecture, Cornell University, June 12, 2023.
- “Dialogue,” Political Concepts Conference: The Literary Edition, Brown University, March 4, 2023.
- “Political Psychology, Literary Studies, and the Question of Method,” The Lionel Trilling Seminar, Columbia University, October 20, 2022.
- “Injury, Dignity, and the Literature of Rumination,” The Presidential Award Lecture, Brown University, October 3, 2022.
- “The Politics of Literary Studies,” Symposium on Literature and Political Thought, Oxford University, July 7, 2022.
- “Toward a Literary History of Rumination,” C19 Colloquium, Columbia University English Department, April 21, 2022
- “Injury, Dignity, and the Literary History of Rumination,” Una’s Lecture, Townsend Center for the Humanities, University of California-Berkeley, October 20, 2021.
- “Styles of Argumentation in US Literary Debate,” Colloquium, Townsend Center for the Humanities, University of California-Berkeley, October 19, 2021.
- “Moral Thought and Rumination in the Age of Psychology,” The American Academy in Berlin, February 4, 2020.
- “The Psychology and Politics of Resonance,” at “Resonance: A Workshop with Hartmut Rosa, Center for Global Culture and Communication, Northwestern University, November 13, 2019.

“The Stream of Thought: Rumination in the Realist and Modernist Novel,” Modernism Seminar, Mahindra Center for the Humanities, Harvard University, November 11, 2019.

“Moral Thought in the Age of Psychology,” Inaugural Sister Sophie International Lecture, Queens University, October 29, 2019.

“Moral Thought in the Age of Psychology,” Visiting Whitney J. Oakes Fellow in the Humanities, Princeton University, September 25, 2019.

“Rumination and Moral Time,” Oakley Center for the Humanities and Social Sciences, Williams College, April 11, 2019.

“Rumination and Moral Time,” School of Criticism and Theory Conference, NYU, April 2018.

“Thinking with Characters: Rumination and the Concept of Moral Time,” Princeton University. English Department 19th-Century Colloquium. March 29, 2018.

“Thinking with Characters,” Duke University, March 23, 2018. PALS Workshop: “Character: Identification, Ontology, Ethics.” Lecture and Follow-up seminar.

“Good Enough Belonging,” Rutgers University, November 17, 2017.

“Bleak Liberalism,” Chicago Humanities Festival, November 5, 2017.

“Therapeutic Criticism,” Tufts University, October 12, 2017.

“Bleak Liberalism,” Colloquium, Brigham Young University, October 6, 2017.

“Therapeutic Criticism,” Brigham Young University, October 6, 2017.

“Political Psychology: Theory and Doxa,” School of Criticism and Theory, July 17, 2017.

“The Tragic and the Ordinary: The Case of Eliot and Winnicott,” Yale University, April 17, 2017.

“Bleak Liberalism and the Case of Therapeutic Criticism,” University of Virginia, March 28, 2017.

“Bleak Liberalism,” Colloquium, University of California at Berkeley, March 10, 2017.

“The Tragic and the Ordinary: The Case of Eliot and Winnicott,” The Annual Ian Watt Lecture, Stanford University, March 9, 2017

“Literary Studies in the Age of Neuroscience,” Annual SCT Conference, Harvard University, April 29, 2016.

“Bleak Liberalism: The Case of Nineteenth-Century Realism,” University of Connecticut, April 18, 2016.

- “Psyche and Ethos,” Literary Theory Seminar, Columbia University, April 14, 2016.
- “Psyche and Ethos,” Northeastern University, March 21, 2016.
- “The Tragic and the Ordinary,” The Provost’s Lecture Series, Brown University, March 9, 2016.
- “The Tragic and the Ordinary: The Case of Eliot and Winnicott,” Cornell University, Feb 29, 2016.
- “The Tragic and the Ordinary: The Case of Eliot and Winnicott,” CUNY Graduate Center, February 19, 2016.
- “Psyche and Ethos,” Center for Historical Enquiry and the Social Sciences Colloquium, Yale University, January 22, 2016.
- “Psyche and Ethos,” the Clarendon Lectures in English Literature, Oxford University, November 10, 12, 17, and 19, 2015.
- “Valuing the Humanities” and “Cold War Liberalism,” lecture and colloquium given as Conarroe Guest Scholar, Lafayette College, September 9-10.
- “Character,” Political Concepts Conference, Brown University, April 10-11, 2015.
- “Bleak Liberalism: The Case of Nineteenth-Century Realism,” Yale University, March 2, 2015.
- “Bleak Liberalism and the Realism/Modernism Debate,” School of Criticism and Theory, July 2014.
- Distinguished Visitor, University of Alberta: “The Liberal Aesthetic in the Post-War Period,” April 11, 2014. “Method and Value in the Humanities,” April 10, 2014; “Bleak Liberalism: The Case of Nineteenth-Century Realism,” April 8, 2014.
- “Bleak Liberalism and the Realism/Modernism Debate: The Case of *The Golden Notebook*,” Post45 Conference, University of Chicago, November 16, 2013.
- “Method and Value in the Humanities,” School of Criticism and Theory, 2013.
- Work-in-Progress Series, King’s College, University of Cambridge, April 29-May 1, 2013: “Cold War Aesthetics: The Case of Trilling and Adorno,” “The Political Novel,” “The Literary Futures Market: Method and Value in the Humanities.”
- “Bleak Liberalism,” King’s College, London, April 26, 2013.
- “Method and Value in the Humanities,” Stanford University, March 8, 2013.
- “The Liberal Imagination and the Early Cold War,” UC-Davis, March 7, 2013.
- “The Liberal Imagination and the Early Cold War,” Keynote Address, “Around 1948” (Sawyer Seminar), University of Chicago, October 25, 2012.

- Workshop on Granville Hicks's "Attitudes and Ideas" (*Partisan Review*, 1947), "Around 1948" (Sawyer Seminar), University of Chicago, October 25, 2012.
- "Practicing the Humanities," Life, Learning, and Liberal Education, TEDx Brown, October 20, 2012.
- "Formation, Genealogy, Network: The Case of Liberalism," Keynote Address, NAVSA 2012, University of Wisconsin-Madison, September 29, 2012.
- "The Literary Futures Market," School of Criticism and Theory, June 19, 2012.
- "Literary Liberalism," Symposium in Honor of Frances Ferguson, Johns Hopkins University, April 20, 2012.
- "The Literary Futures Market," Plenary Address, Center for Cultural Analysis, Rutgers University, November 19, 2011.
- "The Political Novel of Ideas," Brown University, October 23, 2011.
- "Revisiting the Political Novel," School of Criticism and Theory, June 21, 2011.
- "Ethics, Politics, and the Liberal Imagination," Plenary Address, Conference on "Ethics and the Text," University of Tennessee, March 4, 2011.
- "The Liberal Aesthetic," Dartmouth College, January 20, 2011.
- "Ideology and Theory," MLA 2011, Los Angeles California, January 9, 2011.
- "*Prostitution and Victorian Society: A Retrospective*," NACBS 2010, Baltimore MD, November 12, 2010
- "The Liberal Aesthetic," The Lahey Lecture, Concordia University, Montreal, November 5, 2010.
- "Cold War Liberalism and the Fate of Theory," School of Criticism and Theory, June 29, 2010.
- "Liberalism and the Shadow of the Negative," Annual SCT Conference, Yale University, March 26, 2010.
- "Explaining the Humanities," at "Humanities at a Time of Crisis" Conference, University of Pittsburgh, November 14, 2009.
- "Explaining the Humanities," Hierth Lecture, Texas A&M University, September 24, 2009.
- "Politics and the Nineteenth-Century British Novel," Gilbert Lecture, Southern Methodist University, September 22, 2009.
- "Bleak Liberalism," School of Criticism and Theory, June 19, 2009.

“The Novel and the Liberal Aesthetic,” Annual Kane Lecture, Department of English, Ohio State University, May 8, 2009.

“Bleak Liberalism,” Keynote Lecture, “Matters of State” Conference at Leuven University, Belgium, April 24, 2009.

“Global Trollope,” invited workshop participant, The Trollope Workshops, “Matters of State” Conference, Leuven University, Belgium, April 25, 2009.

“The Novel and the Liberal Aesthetic,” Conference on the Novel and Politics, The Center for the Study of the Novel, Stanford University, April 10, 2009.

“Explaining What We Do,” SCT Conference, Princeton University, March 2009.

“The Way We Talk About the Way We Teach Now,” Presidential Forum, MLA, December 28, 2008, San Francisco, CA.

“The Liberal Aesthetic,” invited lecture, American University, English Department, November 2008.

“The Liberal Aesthetic” and “The Skeptical George Eliot”; The University of Utah, English Department, October 2008.

“The Skeptical George Eliot,” The University of Maryland, English Department, October 2008.

“Bleak Liberalism,” The Ward Phillips Lectures (three consecutive lectures), The University of Notre Dame, March 26-28, 2008. Lecture titles: “Framing Liberalism,” “The Liberal Aesthetic,” and “Bleak Liberalism”; the final lecture also doubled as a keynote for a one-day conference at Notre Dame entitled, “Political Theory for Victorian Studies.”

“Self, Imagination, Other,” Keynote Lecture for Undergraduate Conference held at Susquehanna University, February 18, 2007.

“The Liberal Aesthetic,” Keynote Lecture, NEMLA, March 2007, Baltimore, MD

“Proceduralism and the Literary”

- University of Virginia, March 16, 2007
- Penn State University, March 8, 2007
- SUNY-Buffalo, April 18, 2007
- Columbia University, SCT Conference, April 13, 2007

“The Way We Argue about *The Way We Argue Now*,” Colorado College, October 5, 2006.

“Autonomy, Argument, and the Novel,” Center for Twenty-First Century Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, September 30, 2006

“The Skeptical George Eliot”

- Yale University, 18th- and 19th-century Colloquium, February 15, 2007
- SCT Colloquium, Johns Hopkins University, April 14, 2006
- SCT Public Lecture, Cornell University, June 26, 2006
- Colorado College, October 5, 2006

“George Eliot’s Long Argument”

- University of Chicago, Nicholson Center for British Studies, January 25, 2006
- University of California, Berkeley, Center for British Studies, March 16, 2006

“Trollope and the Fate of Sincerity”

- University of Chicago, Nineteenth-Century Workshop, January 24, 2006
- University of California, Berkeley, Nineteenth-Century Reading Group, March 15, 2006
- National Humanities Center, May 15, 2006
- SCT Colloquium, Cornell University, 2006

“Beyond Sincerity and Authenticity: The Ethos of Proceduralism”

- Forms of Empire Conference, University of Notre Dame, May 1, 2005
- Center for the Humanities, Wesleyan University, March 21, 2005

“Issues in Disciplinarity,” Mellon Seminar, University of Virginia, July 19, 2004.

“Beyond Sincerity and Authenticity: The Way We Argue Now,” Keynote lecture, Graduate Student Conference in Linguistic Anthropology, University of Chicago, May 2004.

“Beyond Authenticity: Trilling, Trollope, and the Fate of Sincerity,”

- NAVSA Seminar, Indiana University, October 18, 2004
- University of Irvine, Department of English, March 18, 2004

“Beyond Sincerity and Authenticity,” Princeton University, May 8, 2004.

“The Spirit of Proceduralism,” Conference on Objectivity, Ethics, and the Disciplines, Rutgers University, February 2004.

“Argument and Ethos,” CCACC Colloquium, Rutgers University, October 2002.

“Argument and Ethos,” panel on “Polemic,” The English Institute, Harvard University, September 2002

“The Way We Argue Now,” Cornell University, April 4, 2002.

“The Way We Argue Now: Pragmatism and the Personification of Theory,” Northwestern University, February 21, 2002.

“Pragmatism and Character,” School for Criticism and Theory, Cornell University, July 7, 2000.

“Interdisciplinarity: The Big Lie,” Keynote Panel, Northeastern Victorian Studies Association, April 15, 2000.

“‘Manners Before Morals’: Oscar Wilde and Epigrammatic Detachment”

- Florida State University, October 8, 1999

“Disinterestedness as a Vocation: Matthew Arnold and the Problem of Detachment”

- University of Michigan, April 8, 1999
- SUNY Buffalo, April 12, 1999
- Northwestern University, May 14, 1999

“The Temptations of Aggrandized Agency: Feminist Histories and the Problem of Detachment”

- The Humanities Center, Harvard University, October 25, 1999
- Program in the Comparative Study of Social Transformations (CSST) Colloquium, University of Michigan, March 11, 1999
- Northwestern University, May 15, 1998

“Cosmopolitanism in Different Voices: *Little Dorrit* and the Hermeneutics of Suspicion ”

- Johns Hopkins University, January 29, 1998

“Cosmopolitanism and Victorian Culture”

- UC-Santa Barbara, January 17, 1997
- Emory University, February 3, 1997

“Gender, Cosmopolitanism, and the Victorian Novel”

- Vanderbilt University, January 24, 1997

“Modernity's Divided Histories: Toward a Genealogy of Cosmopolitanism”

- University of Texas at Austin, September 6, 1996

“Cosmopolitanism and Cultural Studies”

- Incorporations Conference, University of Illinois, March 10, 1996

“Debatable Performances: The Staging of Contemporary Feminist Theory”

- Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory Colloquium, University of Illinois, November 6, 1995

“Gender, Judaism, and the Limits of George Eliot's Ethics”

- The Annual Brownstone Lecture, Dartmouth College, May 12, 1994

“Visible Communities: *Daniel Deronda* and the Cultivation of Partiality”

- Indiana University, November 4, 1993

“Feminism, Strategic Essentialism, and the Double Gesture ”

- Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, University of Illinois, November 4, 1991

CONFERENCE PAPERS and PANELS

“Authenticity and Criticism,” January 8, 2026, MLA 2026, Toronto, Canada.

“Academic Freedom: What Remains?”, Brown University Democracy Project, October 3, 2025.

“Leon Hilton’s *Counter-Cartographies: Neurodivergence and the Errancies of Performance*,” Book launch, Brown University, September 26, 2025.

“Recent Work by Bruce Robbins.” Invited Commentator for panel on *Criticism and Politics: A Polemical Introduction*, Columbia University, February 23, 2023.

“Urgent Questions: The Relevance of American Literature.” Invited Commentator for panel on Jennifer Fleissner’s *Maladies of the Will: The American Novel and the Modernity Problem*,” Feb 3, 2023.

“Building Public Humanities Networks,” Roundtable Discussion, Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes Annual Meeting, May 7, 2021. (Virtual)

“The Liberal Aesthetic and Postliberal Trends,” MLA Roundtable, January 8, 2021. (Virtual)

“The Humanities in Practice: Impact, Collaboration, Engagement,” Impact of Social Sciences and Humanities on Society, AESIS (Network for Advancing and Evaluating the Societal Impact of Science), Washington DC, October 18, 2019.

“Theory and Criticism: 22 Theses,” MLA 2019 Roundtable Discussion, Chicago, IL, January 5, 2019.

“Interiority: The Case of Ruminantion,” Society for Novel Studies, Cornell University, June 15, 2018.

“Theory and the Changing Forms of Institutional Prestige,” MLA 2018, New York, January 7, 2018.

“The Collaborative Imperative and the Conflict of the Faculties,” English: Shared Futures Conference, Newcastle, UK, July 5, 2017.

“Ethos and Critique,” MLA 2017, Philadelphia, PA, January 8, 2017.

Moderator, “Translating Area Studies for Global Humanities Scholars,” Annual Conference for the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes, University of London, June 30, 2016.

Commentator, Book Adda for Bhargupati Singh, *Poverty and the Quest for Life: Spiritual and Material Striving in Rural India* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2015), Brown-India Initiative, Brown University, April 3, 2015.

“The Legacy of Suspicion: A Response,” MLA 2013, Boston, MA, January 6, 2013.

"Habermas Now: A Response," MLA 2012, Seattle, Washington, January 9, 2012.

Invited Respondent, The Trilling Seminar (main speaker: Walter Benn Michaels), Columbia University, November 16, 2007

Respondent, Literature and Political Theory, MLA conference, Philadelphia, PA, 2008.

Panel Chair, "Imperialism in Question," NAVSA 2005, University of Virginia, October 1, 2005

"Victorian Studies and Its Discontents," NAVSA 2004, University of Toronto, October 28, 2004

"Disinterestedness as a Vocation," MLA conference, Chicago, IL, December 1999.

"Paranoia and Detachment in Dickens's *Little Dorrit*," International Narrative Conference, Northwestern University, April 1998.

Panel Organizer and Chair, "Gender, Sexuality, and the Narratives of Modernity," International Narrative Conference, Gainesville, FL, April 3-6, 1997.

"Femininity and the Narratives of Modernity," International Narrative Conference, Gainesville, FL, April 3-6, 1997.

"The Function of Cosmopolitanism at the Present Time," MLA conference, Washington D.C., December 28, 1996.

Panel chair, "Recognition, Power, and the Subject: The Intersection of Feminism and Critical Theory," Critical Theory Roundtable Meeting, University of Illinois, October 27, 1996.

Respondent to Molly Anne Rothenberg and Joseph Valente, "The Wages of Performativity," Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory Colloquium, October 7, 1996.

"Dialogue and Destiny in George Eliot," Narrative Conference, Columbus, Ohio, April 25, 1996.

Respondent to Hans-Herbert Koegler, "Beyond Habermas and Foucault on Agency," Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, December 5, 1994

"Reproduced in Finer Motions: Fallenness in *Aurora Leigh*," Conference on Eighteenth and Nineteenth-Century Women Writers, University of Washington, May 7-8, 1993.

Respondent to Jeff Nunokawa, "Oscar Wilde, Japan, and the Derealization of the Homosexual," Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, May 3, 1993.

"Family Secrets: Gender, Power, and Social Space," Panel Participant, Feminist Theory Workshop, University of Illinois, February 13, 1993.

"Causality and the Category of Fallenness in Realist Fiction," Colloquium of the International Association of Philosophy and Literature, Université de Montréal, May 16, 1991.

"'Assume a Virtue If You Have It Not': The Ethical Implications of the Rhetoric of Fallenness,"

Program on Cultural Values and Ethics, University of Illinois, February 1, 1991.

"Immunity and Resistance in Riis's Chinatown: Photography and Philanthropy," National Graduate Student Conference on History and Literature, Yale University, April 1986.

COURSES OFFERED

Brown University, 2012-present

Suspicion and Its Others (collaborative humanities graduate seminar, with Thomas A. Lewis) (Fall 2020)

Collaborative Humanities Project Development Workshop (graduate seminar, co-taught) (spring 2019; spring 2021; spring 2022; spring 2023; spring 2024; spring 2025; spring 2026)

Politics and Literature (collaborative humanities graduate seminar, with Bonnie Honig) (spring 2018)

Ethics/Politics (graduate seminar, with Leela Gandhi) (fall 2016)

Psyche and Ethos (graduate seminar) (spring 2016)

Nineteenth-Century British Novel (spring 2015)

The Art of Criticism (fall 2014, spring 2017)

The Politics of Precariousness and Resilience (graduate seminar, with Bonnie Honig, fall 2014)

Politics and the Novel (fall 2012)

Liberalism and Aesthetics (graduate seminar) (spring 2013)

Johns Hopkins University, 1999-2012

Liberalism and Aesthetics (graduate seminar)

The Political Topography of the Nineteenth-Century Novel (graduate seminar)

Literary Theory (graduate seminar)

Nineteenth-Century Realism: Theory and Practice (graduate seminar)

George Eliot (graduate seminar)

Gender and Modernity (graduate seminar)

Eliot, Trollope, Wilde (graduate seminar)

Victorian Internationalism (graduate seminar)

Ethos and Argument (graduate seminar)

Victorian Realism (graduate seminar)

How We Argue: The Dynamics of Intellectual Debate (graduate seminar)

Ethics and Aesthetics in Victorian Literature (graduate seminar)

Literary Theory

The Political Novel

George Eliot

Nineteenth-Century British Fiction

Jane Austen and Charlotte Brontë

The Victorian Novel

Victorian Poetry and Nonfiction Prose

The University of Illinois, 1989-99

Victorian Aesthetics and the Problems of Modernity (graduate seminar)
 Theoretical Paradigms in Contemporary Feminism (graduate seminar)
 Gender and Genre in Victorian Literature (graduate seminar)
 Art and Community in Victorian Culture (honors seminar)
 George Eliot and Charlotte Brontë (honors seminar)
 Major Authors: George Eliot
 Nineteenth-Century British Fiction
 The British Novel
 Victorian Poetry and Nonfiction Prose
 Victorian Literature and Culture

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Brown University, 2012-present

A.I. Stakeholders Group (2024)
 Financial Health Committee, Academic Working Group (2024)
 Graduate Education Task Force (2021-2022)
 Ad Hoc Committee on Promoting Financial Health and Sustainability (2021-2022)
 Task Force on the Arts, Fall 2020
 Provost's Chairs and Directors Agenda Committee, 2017-2019
 Provost's Visiting Professor Program, 2016-present
 Governing Board, Center of Excellence, 2015-present
 Curriculum at 50 Steering Committee, 2016-2017
 Governing Board, Cogut Institute for the Humanities, 2015-present (chair)
 Research Advisory Board, 2015-2016
 Search Committee, Dean of the Graduate School, 2016
 Humanities Initiative Committee, 2014-2015
 Job Placement Officer, Department of English, 2014-2015
 Committee on the Events of October 29th, 2013-2014
 Search Committee, Vice-Provost for Research, 2013
 Governing Board, Cogut Center for the Humanities, Member, 2012-2015
 Graduate Committee, Department of English, 2012-2013
 Ad-hoc Hiring Planning Committee, Department of English, 2012-2013

Johns Hopkins University, 1999-2012

Search Committee for Dean of Arts of Sciences, 2005-2006
 Graduate Education Task Force, 2005-2007
 Acting Director of Undergraduate Studies, Spring 2007
 Humanities Task Force, 2006-2007
 WGS Advisory Board, 2000-2001
 JHUP Press Board, 2000-2001
 Numerous ad hoc appointment committees

University of Illinois, 1989-1999

English Department Advisory Committee, 1996-98, 1994-95,
 1991-92
 English Department Victorian Search Committee, 1996-7
 English Department Modern British Search Committee, 1994-5
 English Department Visiting Speakers Committee, chair, 1993-95
 English Department Journals Room Committee, 1996-7, 1994-95, 1993-94
 English Department Master's Area Exam Committee, 1992-93
 English Department Undergraduate Award Committee, 1992-93
 English Department Curriculum Committee, 1991-92
 English Department Grade Review Committee, 1994-5, 1996-7
 English Department Committee on Cultural Diversity, 1991-92
 English Department Honors Award Committee, 1989-90
 Dean's Committee to Review Head, Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, 1991-92
 Dean's Committee to Review Head, Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, 1996-7
 Women's Studies Advisory Committee, 1996-98, 1992-94,
 1991-92, 1990-91
 Women's Studies Curriculum Committee, 1996-7 (chair), 1992-93 (chair),
 1991-92, 1990-91, 1989-90
 Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory Advisory Committee, 1993-95