SAMUEL COHEN
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APPOINTMENTS

Associate Chair, Department of English, University of Missouri, 2023-
Tarkow Teaching Fellow, Honors College, University of Missouri, 2024-2026
Honors College Affiliated Faculty, University of Missouri, 2022-
Director, Minor in Missouri Studies, MU, 2018-
Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of English, University of Missouri, 2017-2019
Faculty Fellow, Office of Graduate Studies, University of Missouri, 2015-16
Director of Graduate Studies, Department of English, University of Missouri, 2010-2014
Associate Professor, Department of English, University of Missouri, 2010-
Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of Missouri, 2004-2010
Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of English, Lehman College, CUNY, 2003-04
Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of English, Baruch College, CUNY, 2003

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English, Graduate Center, The City University of New York (GC, CUNY), 2003
M.A. in English (Creative Writing), Binghamton University, SUNY, 1995
B.A. with Honors, Swarthmore College, English and Sociology/Anthropology, 1989

AWARDS AND HONORS

Provost Great Books Program, MU, 2024
Arts & Science Writing Fellows Program, MU, 2023
Davidson Faculty Fellowship, Department of English, MU, 2019-2020
Director of Graduate Studies Outstanding Contribution Award, MU, 2013
Gold Chalk Award, Graduate Professional Council, MU, 2011
Graduate Student Association Outstanding Graduate Faculty Award, MU, 2011
English Graduate Student Association Outstanding Graduate Faculty Award, 2011
Choice Outstanding Academic Title 2010 for *After the End of History*
Provost's Outstanding Junior Faculty Teaching Award, MU, 2008
Writing Fellowship, CUNY Writing Across the Curriculum Initiative, 2001-03
Alumni and Doctoral Faculty Dissertation Fellowship, GC, CUNY, 1999-2000
University Fellowship, GC, CUNY, 1995-97
S. I. Newhouse Award in Fiction, Binghamton University, SUNY, 1993
University Fellow, Binghamton University, SUNY, 1993-94

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Banning Books in America: Not a How-To, New York: Bloomsbury Academic, 2026 in hardcover, e-book, and audiobook. Reviewed in *American Libraries Magazine*, *Publisher's Weekly, Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Kirkus Reviews*, *Washington Examiner*. Excerpted in *Literary Hub*.

The Clash Takes on the World: Transnational Perspectives on The Only Band That Matters, co-edited with James Peacock. London: Bloomsbury, 2017, paperback 2018

The Legacy of David Foster Wallace, co-edited with Lee Konstantinou. Iowa City: U of Iowa P, 2012. Reviewed in *American Book Review*, *Bookforum* ("Brief Conversation"); *Choice*; *Fiction Advocate, ForeWord*; *Kirkus Reviews*; *Journal of the Midwest Modern Language Association*; *Modern Language Review*; *Library Journal; Review of Contemporary Fiction*, *Studies in the Novel*; *TLS*

After the End of History: American Fiction in the 1990s. Iowa City: U of Iowa P, 2009. Reviewed in *American Literary History*, *American Literary Scholarship: 2009* 344; *American Literature*; *Booklist Online*; *Choice* (awarded Outstanding Academic Title 2010*)*; *Contemporary Literature*; *Twentieth-Century Literature*

Articles, Book Chapters, Essays, Prefaces

"The War and Higher Learning," *The Dial: A Journal of the Ralph Waldo Emerson Society* Vol. 2.1 (Summer 2025), 54-61

"Life During Wartime: Domestic Surrealism in Jonathan Lethem's *Chronic City*," *Twentieth-Century Literature* December 2024, Vol.70.4 (Winter 2024), 399-418

"The 2016 Project," *In These Times* 6.1, *Modernism/Modernity* Print Plus, 26 May 2021

"Scholarly Publishing's Last Stand," *The Chronicle Review* 22 May 2018 <https://www.chronicle.com/article/Scholarly-Publishing-s-Last/243187>

"Introduction: The Transnational Clash," for *The Clash Takes on the World: Transnational Perspectives on The Only Band That Matters*, ed. Samuel Cohen, James Peacock, London: Bloomsbury, 2017

"Washington Bullets: The Clash and Vietnam," for *The Clash Takes on the World: Transnational Perspectives on The Only Band That Matters*, ed. Samuel Cohen, James Peacock, London: Bloomsbury, 2017

"The Whiteness of David Foster Wallace," solicited chapter for *Postmodern Literature and Race*, eds. Len Platt and Sara Upstone (Cambridge University Press, 2015), 228-43

"Introduction," "Art & Artifice," Special Issue, *The Journal of the Midwest Modern Language Association* 47.2 (2014), 7-11

"'How helpless a person can be': Sex, Art, and Politics in DeLillo's "Baader-Meinhof," invited submission, *Voices in Italian Americana* 23.2 (2013), 13-19; reprinted in "Anniversary Issue," *Voices in Italian Americana* 26.1 (2015)

"Fables of American Collectivity Circa 2005: Chris Bachelder's *U.S.!*, Lydia Millet's *Oh Pure and Radiant Heart*, and George Saunders's *Brief and Frightening Reign of Phil*," invited submission, special issue, *Amerikastudien/American Studies* 57.2 (2013), 207-20

"'To Wish to Try to Sing to the Next Generation': *Infinite Jest*'s History," *The Legacy of David Foster Wallace*. Ed. Samuel Cohen and Lee Konstantinou (University of Iowa Press 2012), 59-79

"Introduction: Zoologists, Elephants, and Editors," with Lee Konstantinou, *The Legacy of David Foster Wallace*. Ed. Samuel Cohen and Lee Konstantinou (University of Iowa Press 2012), xi-xxv

"The Novel in a Time of Terror: *Middlesex*, History, and Contemporary American Fiction," "After Postmodernism," Special Issue, *Twentieth-Century Literature* 53.3 (Fall 2007), 371-93

"Triumph and Trauma: *In the Lake of the Woods* and History," *Clio: Journal of Literature, History, and the Philosophy of History* 36.2 (Spring 2007), 219-36

"*Mason & Dixon* & The Ampersand," *Twentieth-Century Literature* 48.3 (Fall 2002), 264-91

"Tinkering toward WAC Utopia," *Journal of Basic Writing* 21.2 (Fall 2002), 56-72 (entries in *The Bedford Bibliography for Teachers of Basic Writing*, ed. Linda Adler-Kassner and Gregory R. Glau, and *The WAC Clearinghouse Bibliography*, ed. Andrea Wenker and Tracy Pearce)

"Composition and Construction: Belief, Identity, and the Teaching of Writing," *Dialogue: A Journal for Writing Specialists* 6.1 (Fall 1999), 30-36

Reviews

Review of *Writing Backwards: Historical Fiction and the Reshaping of the American Canon*, by

Alexander Manshel. Forthcoming in *Modern Fiction Studies* 71.4 (Winter 2025)
Review of *Telling America's Story to the World: Literature, Internationalism, Cultural Diplomacy*, by Harilaos Stecopolous. *Genre*, Vol. 57, No. 3 (December 2024), 289-93
"University Control or, Conditions and Tendencies," review of Julia Schleck, *Dirty Knowledge: Academic Freedom in the Age of Neoliberalism,* in *Provocations* 6 (October 2022) https://www.provocationsbooks.com/2022/10/11/university-control-or-conditions-and-tendencies/
"The Prestige of Trauma," review of Sally Bachner, *The Prestige of Violence: American Fiction 1962-2007* and Aimee Pozorski, *Roth and Trauma: The Problem of History in the Later Works (1995-2010)*, *Twentieth-Century Literature* 61.1 (March 2015), 128-37
"The Cloud of Unknowing," review of John McClure's *Partial Faiths: Postsecular Fiction in the Age of Pynchon and Morrison*, *Novel: A Forum on Fiction* 43.2 (Summer 2010), 357-60
"It's the End of the World as We Know It," review of Walter Benn Michaels, *The Shape of the Signifier: 1967 to the End of History*, *Twentieth-Century Literature* 51.1 (Spring 2005), 98-104 (excerpted in *Chronicle of Higher Education*, 22 September 2006, Volume 53, Number 5, Research & Publishing, A14)

Textbooks (Latest Editions)
50 Essays: A Portable Anthology, 7th ed. (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2022)
Literature: The Human Experience, 13th ed., ed. Richard Abcarian, Marvin Klotz, Samuel Cohen (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2018)
Literature: The Human Experience, Shorter 12th ed., ed. Richard Abcarian, Marvin Klotz, Samuel Cohen (Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2018)

Other Publications (Selected)
Blog, May 2018-present, samuelscohen.com
"Conflicted and Uneasy Over How My Family Was Uprooted: Mixed Emotions of an American Jew over Russia's Invasion of Ukraine," Op Ed, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* 6 March 2022, p. A19
"Op-Ed: We hide an ugly truth when we call Sept. 11 'Patriot Day'," *Los Angeles Times* 9 September 2021, p. A11
"How to (Build Solidarity with University Presses So They Exist to) Publish Your Book: A Roundtable," with Armato, Doug, Rebecca Colesworthy, Jennifer Crewe, and Gianna Mosser, "Feeding the Elephant," *The H-Net Book Channel*, 31 March 2021
"Sideline Poetry," The Sporting Scene (ten poems), *The New Yorker* online, 29 May 2015
"English Literature: U.S." *2015 Britannica Book of the Year*, pp. 268-70
"English Literature: U.S." *2014 Britannica Book of the Year*, pp. 270-71
"Teaching Fiction" blog on *Lit Bits: Ideas for Teaching Literature and Creative Writing* (Bedford/St. Martin's)
"An Interview with D. T. Max." *The Believer Logger* 11 September 2012
"Future Tense," *Cedars, An Online Literary Journal* 2 (Spring 2012).
Guest Commentary on tenth anniversary of 9/11, *The Columbia Missourian* 11 September 2011

Work in Progress
"Learning By the Book: A History of the American University Press," under contract with Princeton University Press
50 Essays: A Portable Anthology, 8th ed., under contract with Bedford/St. Martin's
"Critic Jamming: Camden Joy vs. The Advertocracy," article manuscript
"What Comes Next: Generation X Fiction and The Future," book manuscript

Editorial Work

"The New American Canon: The Iowa Series in Contemporary Literature and Culture" book series, U of Iowa P, Founder and Series Editor; thirty-five books published
Member, Readers Board, *Amerikastudien/American Studies*, 2020-26
Member, Editorial Board, *Twentieth-Century Literature*, 2014-
Member, Editorial Advisory Board, *ASAP/Journal*, 2014-
Member, Advisory Committee, *PMLA*, 2014-2017
Co-editor, *Journal of the Midwest Modern Language Association*, 2013-2016
Editorial Board, *The Journal of the Midwest Modern Language Association*, 2010-13

Interviews/Stories (Selected)

"Unbound Conversations: Author and editor Samuel Cohen rejects efforts to ban books in America," KBIA (NPR Affiliate), Columbia, MO, 17 Apr 2026
"Get lost in the stories of Unbound's featured authors," *Vox Magazine*, 26 Mar 2026
Radio interview on banned books course, "Columbia Today with Ted Farnen," KFRU, Columbia, Missouri, 17 Sep 2023
"From 'Huck Finn' to 'Fun Home,' MU Class Studies Frequently Challenged and Banned Books," *Columbia Tribune* 10 September 2023
"These 12 Novels Set in Missouri Belong on Your Reading List," *Columbia Tribune* 1 August 2021
"Library Talk Discusses Missouri's Mark on Writers," *Fulton Sun* 25 February 2021
"Show-Me Knowledge: MU Program Takes Closer Look at State," *Columbia Tribune* 25 August 2019
"'Bring back the blackboard': MU English's boards are a window into the classroom," *Columbia Missourian* 27 November 2018
"Under Pressure: 'Scholarly Publishing's Last Stand,'" Chris Plattsmier, *ACLS Humanities E-Book Newsletter* 14 May 2018
"Show Me Missouri: MU to Offer New Minor in Missouri Studies," Jordan Yount, College of Arts & Science News, 12 Mar 2018
"The Only Book That Matters," *Columbia Daily Tribune*, Columbia, MO, 11 June 2017
"The Genius of *Infinite Jest,*" Scott Timberg, *Salon* 1 Feb 2016
"How to Do Everything Better: How to Read a Novel," *Mizzou Magazine*, Fall 2015.
"Sam Cohen," *Columbia Daily Tribune*, Columbia, MO, 14 June 2015
"Inside Tracks with Sam Cohen," Ian Servantes, *Vox Magazine*, 2 May 2013.
"Celebrate Thomas Pynchon's Birthday with Pynchon in Public Day," Carolyn Kellogg, *Los Angeles Times Jacket Copy* 8 May 2013.
"The Afterlife of David Foster Wallace," Jennifer Howard, *The Chronicle Review*, Section B of *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, 14 January 2011, Volume 57, Number 19, B6-9
"Bewitched again by John Updike," Scott Timberg, *Los Angeles Times* 20 September 2009
"Why Death Doesn't End the Debate on Updike," Scott Timberg, *Los Angeles Times* 17 Feb 2009
Radio Interview on David Foster Wallace, "Off the Clock," KBIA (NPR Affiliate), Columbia, Missouri, September 19, 2008
"Loved His New Novel, and What a Bibliography," Julie Bosman, *New York Times* 5 December 2006, E1
Radio Interview on T. C. Boyle, "Thinking Out Loud," KBIA (NPR Affiliate), Columbia, Missouri, June 13, 2006

RECENT & SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

(invited panelist) "faculty Book Panel," Ellis Library, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, 20 Oct. 2026
(invited moderator) "Who Gets to Decide? A Conversation About Books, Bans, and the Freedom

to Read," Book/Shop, Jefferson City, MO 8 Oct 2026
(invited speaker) "Book Bans in America: Reading and Teaching in Censored Times," sponsored by ASU Humanities Institute, Arizona State University, and the Central Arizona Writing Project, Changing Hands Bookstore, Tempe, 7 Oct 2026
(invited speaker) "What's Happening in the Classroom: Part 3: Banned Books," ASU Humanities Institute, Arizona State University, Tempe, 7 Oct 2026
(invited lecture) "Banning Books in America: Not a How-to," D'Amour Center for Faculty Teaching Excellence, Elms College, Chicopee, MA 1 Oct 2026
(invited panelist) "Community Silences," Unbound Book Festival, Columbia, MO, 18 Apr 2026
(invited panelist) "Why We Need the Lessons of Banned Books Now More Than Ever," webinar, Modern Language Association, 2026 (participant)
"Recommendations for Supporting Editors: Recognizing the Contributions of Scholarly Journals," Council of Editors of Learned Journals Presidential panel at the annual meeting of the Modern Language Association (MLA), Toronto, 2026 (participant)
"Academic Novels at the End of the University," at the annual meeting of the Modern Language Association (MLA), Toronto, 2026 (organizer, chair)
(invited lecture) "Banning Books in America: Not a How-to," Ellis Library, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, 2025
(invited panelist) Panel on Banned Books, Banned Book Week, Daniel Boone Regional Library, Columbia, MO, 2025
(invited lecture) "Banning Books in America," Menard Center for the Study of Institutions and Innovation, University of Wisconsin-Stout, 2025
(invited lecture) "Banning Books in America: Not a How-To," Southwest Harbor Public Library, Southwest Harbor, Maine
"The Cost of Reading" roundtable at the annual meeting of the Modern Language Association (MLA), New Orleans, LA, 2025 (participant)
"Saving Literary History," roundtable sponsored by the Association of Departments of English (ADE) at the annual meeting of the MLA, New Orleans, LA, 2025 (organizer, chair)
(invited lecture) "Missouri Writers and the State of the State," for the Missouri State Museum, Jefferson City, MO, 2024
(invited lecture) "Disciplines & Departments: Defending Academic Freedom," for "Featured Plenary: Academic Freedom and Program Leadership," ADE/Association of Language Departments (ALD) Summer Seminar, 2024, Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN
"Banned Books," roundtable at the annual meeting of the Modern Language Association, Philadelphia, 2024 (organizer, chair, and participant)
"The State in/of State Universities: The View from WVU and Beyond," panel at the annual Meeting of the MLA, Philadelphia, PA, 2024 (participant)
(*invited lecture*) "To Diffuse it Far and Wide: A University Press History," Colloquium Series, Department of English, University of Missouri, 2023, Columbia, MO
(*invited presentation*) A Talk with Lydia Millet, Unbound Book Festival, 2023, Columbia, MO
"Just in Time: Working Under Siege, or A Hill to Die on," roundtable at the annual meeting of the MLA, San Francisco, 2023 (organizer and chair)
"What Can Faculty Governance Do for You?" roundtable at the annual meeting of the MLA, San Francisco, 2023 (participant)
(*invited plenary lecture*) "Toward a More Humane Humanities," in conversation with Paula M. Krebs, Executive Director, MLA, for "A Moment of Reinvention: Building Just Programs and Initiatives," Association of Departments of English (ADE) Summer Seminar Midwest, 2022, Kansas City, MO
(*invited lecture*) "The State of the State: Missouri Writers on Missouri," for Lenoir Woods Senior Retirement Community (supported by the Missouri Humanities Council/State Historical Society Show Me Missouri Speakers Bureau), 2022, Columbia, MO

(*invited lecture*) "The Missouri Crisis," lecture for the Field House Museum (supported by the Missouri Humanities Council/State Historical Society Show Me Missouri Speakers Bureau), St. Louis, MO, 2021

(*invited lecture*) "The State of the State: Missouri Writers on Missouri," Zoom lecture for the "State of Stories: Missouri Bicentennial "program, The Story Center, Mid-Continent Public Library (supported by the Missouri Humanities Council/State Historical Society Show Me Missouri Speakers Bureau), 2021, Kansas City, MO

(*invited lecture*) "The State of the State: Missouri Writers on Missouri," Zoom lecture for Daniel Boone Regional Library (supported by the Missouri Humanities Council/State Historical Society Show Me Missouri Speakers Bureau), 2021, Columbia, MO

"How to [Build Solidarity with University Presses So They Exist to] Publish Your Book," panel at the annual meeting of the MLA, Toronto, 2021 (organizer and presider)

"There's No Such Thing as a Free Library: Access to Research Resources and Academic Freedom," roundtable sponsored by MLA Committee on Academic Freedom and Professional Rights and Responsibilities, at the annual meeting of the MLA, Toronto, 2021 (organizer and presider)

(*invited lecture*) "The Missouri Crises," Zoom lecture for the Missouri Humanities Council/State Historical Society Speakers Bureau, "Show Me Missouri: Conversations About Missouri's Past, Present, and Future," 2020

"Just in Time: The University Press and the University," panel at the annual meeting of the MLA, Seattle, 2020 (organizer and presider)

"The Uses of the University Press," panel at the annual meeting of the MLA, Seattle, 2020 (organizer and presider)

"John Williams, Midwestern Writer?" for Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature panel, at the annual meeting of the Midwest Modern Language Association (MMLA), Chicago, IL, 2019 (participant)

"Getting It Published": Figuring Out How and Where to Place Scholarly Work" panel, at the annual meeting of the MMLA, Chicago, IL, 2019 (participant)

(*invited lecture*) "The State of the State: Missouri Writers on Missouri," for Vandalia Area Historical Society (supported by the Missouri Humanities Council/State Historical Society Speakers Bureau, "Show Me Missouri: Conversations About Missouri's Past, Present, and Future"), 2019, Vandalia, MO

(*invited lecture*) "Who We Believe We Are," for "American Creed: Community Conversations" (supported by Missouri Humanities Council/American Library Association), St. Louis County Library Headquarters, 2019, St. Louis, MO

(*invited lecture*) "Missouri Crises" for the Henry County Museum Summer Speaker Series (supported by the Missouri Humanities Council/State Historical Society Speakers Bureau, "Show Me Missouri: Conversations About Missouri's Past, Present, and Future"), 2019, Clinton, MO

(*invited lecture*) "Revolution Rock," 2019 Missouri Summer Teachers Academy, "Revolutions," Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy, MU, June, Columbia, MO

"Manuscripts, Mysteries, & Mulattoes: *Clotel*, *Puddn'head Wilson*, and the Exclusion Clause of 1820," at the University of Missouri's Kinder Institute on Constitutional Democracy conference "A Fire Bell in the Past: The Missouri Crisis at 200," Columbia, MO, 2019 (participant)

"The Present & Future of Scholarly Publishing: The Faculty Editor's View," roundtable at the annual meeting of the MLA, Chicago, 2019 (co-organizer and speaker)

"The Uses and Misuses of Academic Freedom," Roundtable sponsored by MLA Committee on Academic Freedom and Professional Rights and Responsibilities, at the annual meeting of the MLA, Chicago, January (organizer and presider)

"The Higher Learning & The Bottom Line: The Changing Fortunes of Universities and Their

Presses" for seminar, "The Uses of the University Today" at the Annual Meeting of The American Comparative Literature Association, UCLA, 2018

"'Building New History': Mike Meginnis's *Fat Man and Little Boy* and Contemporary U.S. Historical Fiction," for panel, "The Historical Novel After Postmodernism," at the annual Meeting of the MLA, New York, NY, 2018 (participant)

"State Universities of Insecurity," roundtable at the annual Meeting of the MLA, New York, NY, 2018, selected for Presidential Theme (organizer and presider)

"Bullying in Academia: Responding to Personal and Institutional Threats to Academic Freedom," roundtable sponsored by MLA Committee on Academic Freedom and Professional Rights and Responsibilities, at the annual meeting of the MLA, Philadelphia, 2017 (participant)

"Revising Academic Writing," roundtable at the annual Meeting of the MLA, Philadelphia, PA, 2017 (participant)

"Culture Interviews" roundtable, at the Modernist Society of America's annual meeting, Pasadena, CA, 2016 (organizer and chair)

"Generation Gone Down: Contemporary Plots of Decline," for panel, "Security, the Public, and the Twenty-first century US Novel," at the annual meeting of the MLA, Austin, TX, 2016 (participant)

(*invited lecture*) "Generation vs. Period" at "After Postmodernism? Contemporary American Culture and the Problem of Periodization," Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany, 2015

(*invited lecture*) "The Whiteness of David Foster Wallace," at "David Foster Wallace and the Ethics of Writing" public symposium, New York University, 2015

"Lydia Millet: A Roundtable," the annual meeting of the MLA, Vancouver, BC, 2015 (participant and organizer)

"Majesty of Impulse: On the Great Lost Works of Camden Joy," for panel, "Writing Rock," at the annual meeting of the MLA, Vancouver, BC, 2015 (panel co-organizer)

"Pynchon at the Bleeding Edge: A Discussion of Thomas Pynchon's New Novel," roundtable participant, at the annual meeting of the MLA, Chicago, IL, 2014

"Solve for X: The Generational Equation in American Fiction," for panel, "Generations of Contemporary American Fiction" at the annual meeting of the MLA, Chicago, IL, 2014 (panel organizer)

"Both Heat and Light: The David Foster Wallace Industry," for panel, "David Foster Wallace Unbound: Fact, Fiction, and Beyond" at the annual meeting of the American Literature Association (ALA), Boston, 2013

"'How Helpless a Person Can Be': Sex, Art, and Politics in DeLillo's Stories," for panel, "Saccos and Vanzettis: Revisiting Italian American Radicalism," organized by the Discussion Group on Italian American Literature, at the annual meeting of the MLA, Boston, MA, 2013

(*Invited Lecture*) "Life During Wartime," at "The Contemporary Historical Novel about New York City: An International Workshop Symposium," organized by GUST (Ghent Urban Studies Team) and University of Antwerp, Antwerp, Belgium, November

(*Invited Lecture*) "Literary History Is What Hurts: David Foster Wallace and Influence," Literary and Cultural Studies Colloquium, Department of English, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, 2011

(*Invited Lecture*) "Fables of American Collectivity Circa 2005: Chris Bachelder's *U.S.!*, Lydia Millet's *Oh Pure and Radiant Heart*, and George Saunders's *Brief and Frightening Reign of Phil*," at "Conceptions of Collectivity in Contemporary American Literature," Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany, 2011

(*Invited Lecture*) "How to End a True Cold War Story," at "Into Sunlight: The Impact of War on the Social Body from the Vietnam Era to the Present," Hofstra University, Hempstead,

NY, 2011
"It's Business Time," for roundtable, "The Open Professoriate: Public Intellectuals on the Social Web," at the annual meeting of the MLA, Los Angeles, CA, 2011
(*Invited Lecture*) "*Maus*, Trauma, and Closure," Elms College, Chicopee, MA, 2010
(*Invited Lecture*) "So Beautiful, So Stupid, So American," at "Occasional Music: A Symposium on the Work of Jonathan Lethem," School of Arts, Birkbeck College, University of London, London, United Kingdom, 2010
(*Invited Lecture*) "'Big Winner': Nuclear Fear in the U.S. Before and After 9/11," MU Libraries Faculty Lecture Series, 2010
"The Legacy of David Foster Wallace," roundtable participant, at the annual meeting of the MLA, Philadelphia, PA, 2009
(*Invited Lecture*) "'Big Winner': Nuclear Fear in the U.S. Before and After 9/11," Colloquium Series, Department of Sociology, MU, 2009
(*Invited Lecture*) "DeLillo after the End of History," Graduate Student Welcome Day, Department of English, MU, 2009
(*Invited Lecture*) "Philip Roth's American Pastoral," "Between the Wars," Scholar in Residence lectures, Congregation Sinai, Milwaukee, WI, 2008
"No Alternative: 'The 9/11 Report: A Graphic Adaptation' and the False Promises of Genre" for the meeting of the Division on Nonfiction Prose Studies Excluding Biography and Autobiography, "Alternative Approaches to Telling History," at the annual meeting of the MLA, Chicago, IL, 2007
"Teaching Uncertainty," for the meeting of the Division on the Teaching of Literature, "Why Do We Teach Literature, Anyway?" at the annual meeting of the MLA, Chicago, IL, 2007
"On Minimalism and Literary History," for panel, "Maximum Minimalism," at the International Conference on Narrative, Washington, D.C., 2007
"Diminished Expectations: Minimalism and the Crisis of American Confidence," for panel, "What We Talk About When, Etc.: Historicizing Minimalism," at the annual meeting of the MLA, Philadelphia, PA, 2006 (panel organizer)
"The Novel in a Time of Terror," at "'Beyond Ground Zero': 9/11 and the Futures of Critical Thought," the John Douglas Taylor Conference, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, 2006
(*Invited Lecture*) "The Novel in a Time of Terror: History and Contemporary American Fiction," English Graduate Student Association Faculty Speaker Lecture, MU, 2006
"History is What Heals," for panel, "Future Anterior: History, Time, and the Event in Post-World War II United States Fiction," at the annual meeting of the MLA, Washington, D. C., 2005 (panel organizer)
"*In the Lake of the Woods* and History," for panel, "The Trauma of the Present: Historicizing Recent Fiction," at the annual meeting of the MLA, Philadelphia, PA, 2004
"Tinkering toward WAC Utopia," at Sixth National Writing Across the Curriculum Conference, Rice University, Houston, Texas, 2002
"'Fettered by History': Philip Roth's *American Pastoral* and the Ironies of Historical Representation," at the annual meeting of the ALA, Long Beach, California, 2000
"Composition and Construction: Belief, Identity, and the Teaching of Writing," at the annual Conference on College Composition and Communication, Atlanta, Georgia, 1999
"What's the Subject: Identity and the Composition Teacher," 21st Annual Conference of the CUNY Association of Writing Supervisors, New York, New York, 1997

STUDENT COMMITTEES

Undergraduate Honors Theses Committees

"Where Have All the Manic Pixie Dream Girls Gone? The Evolution of a Supplemental Character," Delaney Taylor, Senior Honors Thesis, MU, director, 2025

"The Last Days of Ilasco," Della Rodenbaugh, Senior Honors Thesis, MU; director, 2023
"Writing the Self: Identity Formation in Egan & Spiotta," Evan Hunt, Senior Honors thesis, MU; director, 2019
"'The Traces of Our Lives': Coming of Age Through Coming-of-Age Novels," Jill Paska, Senior Honors thesis, MU; director, 2019
"All Quiet on the Disillusioned Front: The Effects of World War II on American Literature," Rebecca Oliver, Senior Honors thesis, MU; director, 2018
"Ideologies of American Oppression: Tracing Capitalist Discourses in Twentieth Century Protest Literature," Lance Nichols, Senior Honors Thesis, MU; director, 2016; won MU Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research, Humanities Division
"Writing in the Frivolous Now for the Readers of Tomorrow: An Exploration of the Relationship between the Brain, the Novel, and the Internet," Katie Wibbenmeyer, Senior Honors Thesis, MU; director, 2013
"These Little Towns: Land, Family, and Individuality in the Midwest," Monica Zawicki, Senior Honors Thesis, MU; director, 2013
"Terrorism and Spectacle in *White Noise* and *Mao II*," Sam Clark, Senior Honors Thesis, MU; director, 2013
"The Importance of Race in Literature," Nicole Bonney, Senior Honors Thesis, University of Missouri (MU); director, 2012
"'People broken into pieces': *Infinite Jest,* Television, and the Struggle to Communicate," Cameron Reisenberger, Senior Honors Thesis, MU; director, 2010
"The Art of Forgetting: Modes of Memory in American Literature 1981-2001," Carrie Wade, Senior Honors Thesis, MU; director, 2009
"A Splendid Connection: An Exploration of Nonequilibrium Thermodynamics in Don DeLillo's *White Noise*," Stephanie Strinko, Senior Honors Thesis, MU; director, 2009
"'A memory for the boy': Fathers, Sons, and History in Don DeLillo's *Underworld*," Alex Streiff, Senior Honors Thesis, MU; director, 2009
"Superman Kills America's Victory Culture: The Effect of 9/11 and the Iraq War on Superhero Comics," Joshua Bixby, Senior Honors Thesis, MU; director, 2006
"Factors in *The Jungle*'s Success," Jennifer Sandknop, Senior Honors Thesis, MU; director, 2005
"Hemingway and Professionalism: Reading 'Indian Camp' and 'Hills Like White Elephants,'" Jennifer Dills, Senior Honors Thesis, MU; second reader, 2005

Masters Committees

"History, Culture and Memory in *Recollections of Rifleman Harris* and *Rough Sketches of the Life of an Old Soldier*," Andrew Visscher, M.A. Thesis, MU, 2025
"Beyond the Trauma Hero: The Discourse of American War Fiction from the Global War on Terror," Michael Weiss, M.A. Thesis, MU; director, 2022
"Futures Possible": Reading for Realism in Contemporary Literary Genre Fiction," Dane Spoltore, M.A. Thesis, MU; director, 2022
"Untangling the Knot: The Theory Generation, Irony, and Neoliberalism," Payton Kearns, M.A. Thesis, MU; director, 2022
"The Experimental Origins of NPR," Andrew Leland, M.A. Thesis, School of Journalism, MU; committee member, 2018
"Seeing Constructed Realities: Images and Law in the Contemporary American Novel," Drew Amidei, M.A. Thesis, MU; director, 2017
"'A Deeper Sense of Truth': William T. Vollmann's *Seven Dream* Series and Experiencing History," Devin Day, M.A. Thesis, MU; director, 2014
"*Playboy* Fiction and the Commodification of Selfhood," Alex Luft, M.A. Thesis, MU; director, 2013
"Explicating the Incipits: A Writer's Journey in Italo Calvino's *If on a winter's night a traveler*,"

Nell McCabe, M.A. Thesis, MU; director, 2010
"Trauma and the Fantastic in Twentieth Century War Fiction," Michael Horton, M.A. Thesis, MU; director, 2010
"'It Is a Hell for One': 'Psychotic Depression' and Suicide in David Foster Wallace's *Infinite Jest*," Eric Thomas, M.A. Thesis, MU; director, 2010
"Roth and War: Two Cases," Brian Van Reet, M.A. Thesis, MU; second reader, 2009
"'Swaddled in White String': Breaking Loose from the Ties of Family Memory in *Everything Is Illuminated*," Elizabeth Ansfield, M.A. Thesis, MU; director, 2007
"A Resurgence of the Moral Novel in the Wake of 9/11," Elizabeth Reilly, M.A. Thesis, MU; director, 2007
Amanda Salov, M.F.A. May 2007 (Art, MU)
"'Perverter of Language': Pynchon Revising Eliot and Pound," Andrew Milward, M.A. Thesis, MU; second reader, 2005
"Modernism Revisited in Don DeLillo's Underworld," Christopher Ramos, M.A. Thesis, Lehman College, CUNY; director, 2004

Ph.D. Committees
Hana Smail, Ph.D. Candidate, MU
Ayotunde Afolabi, Ph.D. Candidate, MU
Kathleen Buckley, Ph.D. Candidate, MU
Ayotola Tehingbola, Ph.D. Candidate, MU
Dane Spoltore, Ph.D. Candidate, Director, MU
Blake Estep, Ph.D. Candidate, MU
Chels Fabian, Ph.D., December 2024, MU
Trisha Henderson-Brown, Ph.D. Candidate, MU
Mikey Borgard, Ph.D. May 2024, MU
Tyler Corbridge, Tyler, Ph.D. May 2024, MU
Anna Perrigo, Ph.D. May 2024, MU
Angela Netro, Ph.D., November 2022, MU
Kacy Walz, Ph.D., May 2022, Director, MU
Robert Kilpatrick, December 2021, Ph.D., Carnegie Mellon University
Damon Barta, December 2021, Ph.D., University of British Columbia
Sean Ironman, Ph.D., May 2020, MU
Steven Watts, Ph.D., May 2020, Director, MU
Vedran Husic, May 2020, Ph.D., MU
Devin Day, Ph.D., June 2019, Director, MU
Steve Haynie, Ph.D., May 2018, MU
Janessa Toro, Ph.D., June 2018, Director, MU
Sarah Zurhellen, Ph.D., June 2019, MU
Colin Beineke, Ph.D., June 2017, MU
Nick Kremer, Ed.D. May 2017, MU
Marissa Fugate, Ph. D., May 2016, Director, MU
Rachel Hanson, Ph.D., September 2015, MU
Elizabeth McConaghy, Ph.D., September 2015, MU
Lucas Thompson, Ph.D., External examiner, February 2015, University of Sydney
Meagan Ciesla, Ph.D., May 2014, MU
Alison Rutledge, Ph.D., May 2014, MU
Joseph Aguilar, Ph.D. May 2013, MU
Ramsay Wise, Ph.D. December 2012, MU
Joanna Luloff, Ph.D. May 2012, Director, MU
John Nieves, Ph. D. 2012, MU

Shelley Ingram, Ph.D. May 2011, MU
Todd Richardson, Ph.D. May 2011, MU
Gretchen Henderson, Ph.D. February 2009, MU
Amy Day Wilkinson, Ph.D. May 2009, MU
Cindy Bartels, Ph.D., May 2008, MU
Nathan Oates, Ph.D. 2008, MU
Jeff Pethybridge, Ph.D. 2008, MU
Katie Pierce, Ph.D. May 2007, MU
Nicole Beers, Ph.D. May 2007, MU
Mike Kardos, Ph.D. May 2007, MU
Jason Koo, Ph.D. May 2007, MU

COURSES TAUGHT (MU)
Governing Fictions: Representing Politics in the American Novel, 1900-2020 (graduate)
The University in Fiction and Theory (graduate)
The Future & Contemporary American Fiction (graduate)
Theory & Practice of Teaching in English: Teaching Literature (graduate)
Literary Reportage & the Novel (graduate)
Contemporary American Fiction and the Anxiety of Influence (graduate)
Philip Roth and the History of the Novel (graduate)
Political Fictions (graduate)
Theory of the Novel (graduate)
Contemporary Critical Approaches (graduate)
Introduction to Graduate Study (graduate)
Job Placement Workshop (graduate)
Contemporary American Fiction and the Metafictional Impulse (graduate)
Western Mythology in the Contemporary Graphic Novel (graduate independent study)
The Rock Novel (undergraduate/graduate)
The Reality Effect (undergraduate/graduate)
Experimental Fiction (undergraduate/graduate)
Philip Roth (undergraduate/graduate)
Historical Trauma in Post-1945 American Literature (undergraduate/graduate)
Reading Literature: Banned Books (undergraduate)
Careers in English (undergraduate)
Banned Books (undergraduate)
Honors One-Read (undergraduate tutorial)
Missouri Writers (undergraduate)
Honors Problems (Individual Study): Ethan Anderson (undergraduate)
Honors Seminar: The City in American Literature (undergraduate)
Sports/Writing (undergraduate)
Honors Seminar: The City in American Literature (undergraduate)
Honors Seminar: Self-reflexive Literature (undergraduate)
Honors Seminar: Historicism (undergraduate)
Capstone: Work (undergraduate)
Capstone: Governing Fictions (undergraduate)
Capstone: The Future (undergraduate)
Capstone: History, Trauma, Writing (undergraduate)
Capstone: History and Contemporary Fiction (undergraduate)
Studies in Writing: Criticism (undergraduate)
American Literature II (undergraduate)
Writing About Literature: Self & Other (undergraduate)

Topics: The Cold War in American Literature and Culture (undergraduate)
Topics: Global History/World Fiction (undergraduate)
Topics: The Problem of Evil (undergraduate)
Writing & Rhetoric (undergraduate)

GRANTS

Research Grant Arts & Humanities Domestic Travel grant, MU, 2025, $1500
Research Grant Arts & Humanities Domestic Travel grant, MU, 2024, $1416
Research Grant Arts & Humanities Domestic Travel grant, MU, 2022, $1000
Research Leave, College of Arts & Science, MU, 2019-20
Research Grant Arts & Humanities Domestic Travel grant, MU, 2018, $1350
Research Grant Arts & Humanities Domestic Travel grant, MU, 2017, $1500
Research Grant, Arts and Humanities Domestic Travel grant, MU, 2015, $1250
Research Grant, Arts and Humanities Domestic Travel grant, MU, 2014, $700
Research Leave, Research Board, University of Missouri System, 2014-15
Research Grant, Center for Arts and Humanities, MU, 2013, $500
Faculty International Travel Grant, Research Council, MU, 2012, $1500
Research Grant, Center for Arts and Humanities, MU, 2011, $500
Faculty International Travel Grant, Research Council, MU, 2010, $1500
National Humanities Center Summer Institute in Literary Study Stipend, 2010, $1500
Research Grant, Center for Arts and Humanities, MU, 2010, $500
Research Grant, Center for Arts and Humanities, MU, 2007, $500
Summer Research Fellowship, MU, 2006, $7000
Research Grant, Center for Arts and Humanities, MU, 2006, $500
Research Grant, Center for Arts and Humanities, MU, 2005, $500
Research Grant, Center for Arts and Humanities, MU, 2004, $500

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Member, Executive Committee, Association of Departments of English, 2024-27
[Moderator, "Responding to External Pressures," Association of Departments of English-Association of Language Departments (ADE-ALD) Summer Seminar, San Jose, CA, 2026]
External reviewer, Bachelor of Arts in English and Communications Program, American University of Armenia, Yerevan, 2026
Mentor, Professional Development Hub, annual meeting of the MLA, 2026, Toronto, Canda
Facilitator, Book Banning, Curriculum, & Pedagogy Pre-Convention Workshop at the annual meeting of the Modern Language Association (MLA), Toronto, 2026
Mentor, Professional Development Hub, annual meeting of the MLA, 2025, New Orleans, LA
Chair, Closing Plenary, ADE-ALD Summer Seminar, New York, NY 2025
Moderator, "Just-in-Time Discussion," ADE-ALD Summer Seminar, New York, NY 2025
Lead External Reviewer, MA/PhD Literature Program, University of Texas – Dallas, 2024, Dallas, TX
Mentor, Professional Development Hub, annual meeting of the MLA, 2024, Philadelphia, PA
Reviewer, National Humanities Center Fellowships Competition, 2021
Chair, Committee on Academic Freedom and Professional Rights and Responsibilities, MLA, 2019-20
Moderator, Pre-Seminar Workshop: Reversing the Decline in English Majors and Enrollments, Association of Departments of English-Association of Departments of Foreign Languages (ADE-ADFL) Summer Seminar, Pittsburgh, PA, 2019
Moderator, Pre-Seminar Workshop: Reversing the Decline in English Majors and Enrollments, ADE-ADFL Summer Seminar, Atlanta, GA, 2018

Member, Committee on Academic Freedom and Professional Rights and Responsibilities, MLA, 2017-20
Discussion Group Moderator, "Bullying on/of Your Campus," ADE Summer Seminar, Providence, RI, 2017
20th- and 21st-Century American Language, Literature, and Culture Forum Representative, MLA Delegate Assembly, 2017-20
Moderator, Pre-Seminar Workshop, Directors of Graduate Study in English, ADE Departments of English Summer Seminar, Scottsdale, AZ, 2016
Moderator, Pre-Seminar Workshop, Directors of Graduate Study in English, ADE Summer Seminar, Kansas City, 2015
Moderator, Pre-Seminar Workshop, Directors of Graduate Study in English, ADE-ADFL Summer Seminar, University of Washington, Seattle, 2014
Referee, Modern Humanities Research Association Conference Grant (UK), 2013
Past President and Treasurer, MMLA, 2013-14
President, MMLA, 2012-13
Executive Committee member, MMLA, 2010-15
Program Committee member, MMLA, 2010-14
Tenure/Promotion reviewer, American University of Iraq, Sulaimani, University of Arizona, Rhode Island College, College of Our Lady of the Elms, University of North Dakota, Providence College, Rockhurst University, SUNY-New Paltz, UCLA, Clemson University, Macalester College, Boise State University
Web module, "A Return to Literature: Rethinking the Place of The Literary for Teaching Basic Writers," for the McGraw-Hill "Teaching Basic Writing" program, http://auth.mhhe.com/socscience/english/tbw/, November 2005
Submission reader for *ADE Bulletin*, *American Literary History*, *Contemporary Literature*, *Journal of the Midwest Modern Language Association, Modern Fiction Studies*, *Modern Language Studies*, *Novel*, *Orbit*, *PMLA, Studies in American Fiction*, *Twentieth-Century Literature*
Book manuscript reader for Bedford/St. Martin's, Bloomsbury Press, Continuum Music, Edinburgh U P., Modern Language Association, Oxford UP, Routledge, Rowman & Littlefield, Rutgers UP, U of Iowa P, U of South Carolina P, W. W. Norton

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE
Faculty Advisor, Mizzou College Democrats, MU, 2024-26
Member, Faculty Affairs Committee, MU, 2023-25
Elected member, Chair's Advisory Committee, Department of English, MU, 2022-23
Member, Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of English, MU, 2022-23
Promotion Committee, Gabriel Fried, Department of English, MU, 2023
Chair, Preparing Future Faculty/Faculty Diversity Nominating Committee, Department of English, MU, 2022
Faculty Advisor, Students Demand Action Mizzou (campus chapter, Students Demand Action for Gun Sense in America), MU, 2022-25
Chair, Visiting Assistant Professor Hiring Committee, Joshua Brorby, Department of English, MU, 2022
Understanding Academic Freedom One Read panelist, Department of English, MU, 2021
A&S Fellowship Program Committee Member, Department of English, MU, 2021
Promotion Committee, Penny Smith-Parris, Department of English, MU, 2021
"An Open Conversation about Academic Publishing," webinar for Office of Research, MU, 2021
Book publishing talk, Mizzou Early- and Mid- Career Research Fellows Writing Retreat, 2021
McNair Scholar Mentor, Ethan Anderson, MU, 2019-2021
Social Media Czar, Department of English, MU, 2018-

Member, A&S Curriculum, Instruction, and Advising Committee, MU, 2017-19
Member, A&S Academic Rules and Regulations Committee, MU, 2017-19
Chair, Tenure Track Hiring Committee, Rebecca Hayes, Department of English, MU, 2018
Member, Chair's Advisory Committee, Department of English, MU, 2015-17
Chair, Hiring Committee, Rebecca Hayes, Department of English, MU, 2017
Chair, Tenure Committee for Sheri-Marie Harrison, Department of English, MU, 2014-15
"Seasoned DGS Panel," Directors of Graduate Studies Summit, MU, 2014
Allocation of Functions of the Graduate School Task Force, MU, 2014
Chair, Salary Advisory Committee, Department of English, MU, 2014
Graduate School Fellowship Panel, MU, 2011-14
"Seasoned DGS Panel," Directors of Graduate Studies Summit, MU, 2013
Graduate Faculty Senate, Directors of Graduate Study Representative, MU, 2012-2014
Awards Committee, Graduate Faculty Senate, MU, 2013-2014
Academic Affairs Committee, Graduate Faculty Senate, MU, 2012-2013
Chair Election Committee, Department of English, MU, 2011
Graduate Studies Committee, Department of English, MU, 2010-
Curriculum Committee, Department of English, MU, 2010-
Panelist, "Presentations in Graduate Seminars," Food & Thought Series, Department of English, MU, 2011
"The MLA Interview," co-presenter, Job Market Workshop, Department of English, MU, 2010
"How I Write an Article," co-presenter, Professional Writing Seminar, Department of English, MU, 2010
"Graduate Mentoring and Advising," presenter, Celebration of Teaching Excellence, MU, 2010
Steering Committee, Celebration of Teaching Excellence, MU, 2010
Review committee, Provost's Outstanding Junior Faculty Teaching Award, MU, 2009, 2016
Graduate Studies Committee, Department of English, MU, 2004-2009
Composition Committee, Department of English, MU, 2008-2010
Graduate Critique, Painting, Art Department, MU, November 9, 2006
McNair Scholars Personal Statement Workshop, MU, October 9, 2008
"CV Doctors," job application advisement, Professional Development Seminar Series, Preparing Future Faculty Initiative, The Graduate School, MU, 2006, 2008
"Cover Letters and Vitas for Academic Jobs," Professional Development Seminar Series, Preparing Future Faculty Initiative, The Graduate School, MU, October 11, 2006
Graduate Critique, Painting, Art Department, MU, September 28, 2006
Ph.D. Admissions Committee, Department of English, MU, 2006-2007
Center for the Literary Arts Scholar Series Committee, Center for the Literary Arts, MU, 2005-2006
Co-Chair, Colloquium Committee, Department of English, MU, 2005-2007
Presenter, Graduate Student Job Market Workshop, Department of English, MU, 2004
M.A. Exam Committee, Department of English, MU, 2004-2007
Graduate Student Funding Committee, Ph.D. Program in English, The Graduate Center, CUNY (GC-CUNY), 1999-2000
Placement Committee, Ph.D. Program in English, GC-CUNY, 1998-2000
Graduate Council, GC-CUNY, 1998-1999
Elections Committee, Ph.D. Program in English, GC-CUNY, 1996-1998

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

[ADE-ALD Summer Seminar, San Jose, CA 2026]
ADE-ALD Summer Seminar, New York, NY 2025
ADE-ADL Summer Seminar, 2024, Minneapolis-St.Paul, MN
ADE Summer Seminar, Kansas City, MO, 2022

ADE-ADFL Summer Seminar, Pittsburgh, PA, 2019
ADE-ADFL Summer Seminar, Atlanta, GA, 2018
Pre-Seminar Workshop, Directors of Undergraduate Study in English, ADE Summer Seminar, Providence, RI, 2017
ADE Summer Seminar, Providence, RI, 2017
ADE Summer Seminar, Scottsdale, AZ, 2016
ADE Summer Seminar, Kansas City, 2015
ADE-ADFL Summer Seminar, University of Washington, 2014
ADE-ADFL Summer Seminar, Carnegie Mellon University and University of Pittsburgh, 2013
Pre-seminar Workshop, Directors of Graduate Study in English, ADE-ADFL Summer Seminar, Carnegie Mellon University and University of Pittsburgh, 2013
ADE Summer Seminar, University of Colorado, Boulder, 2012
Pre-seminar Workshop, Directors of Graduate Study in English, ADE Summer Seminar, University of Colorado, Boulder, 2012
ADE Summer Seminar, Stanford University, 2011
Pre-seminar Workshop, Directors of Graduate Study in English, ADE Summer Seminar, Stanford University, 2011
ADE Summer Seminar, University of Maryland, College Park, 2010
Pre-seminar Workshop, Directors of Graduate Study in English, ADE Summer Seminar, University of Maryland, College Park, 2010

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS
American Association of University Professors
MLA