

OWEN CANTRELL 600 GARSON DR NE APT 2102 ATLANTA, GA 30324
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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, American Literature, 1828-1900; Critical Theory
Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA (May 2011-December 2015)

Master of Arts, Literary Studies
Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA (August 2009-May 2011)

Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy
Miami University, Oxford, OH (August 2003-May 2007)

POSITIONS HELD

Assistant Professor, Perimeter College at Georgia State University (August 2017-present)

Coordinator, Georgia State University Prison Education Project (August 2019-present)

Site Director, Phillips State Prison, Common Good Atlanta (January-December 2019)

Associate Director of the Phillips State Prison Writing Studio, Common Good Atlanta (January 2017-August 2019)

Marion L. Brittain Postdoctoral Fellow, Georgia Institute of Technology (August 2016-July 2017)

TEACHING

Teaching Experience

Assistant Professor, Perimeter College at Georgia State University, August 2017-present

Courses Taught:

- Composition I: *The Power of Truthiness: Thinking and Writing Empirically in a Post-Fact World* (Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Summer 2018, Fall 2018)
- Honors Composition I: *The Power of Truthiness: Thinking and Writing Empirically in a Post-Fact World* (Fall 2018, Fall 2019)
- Honors Composition I: *The Four Minds (Reactive, Empirical, Dialectical, Enlightened)* (Fall 2020)
- Composition II: *“We Understand Then, Do We Not?”: Narrative and Empathy in Fictional Form(s)* (Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018)
- Honors Composition II: *“We Understand Then, Do We Not?”: Narrative and Empathy in Fictional Form(s)* (Spring 2019, Spring 2020)
- American Literature: *Documents of Civilization and Barbarism: American Literature, 1620-present* (Fall 2017)
- Honors World Literature: *What is World Literature?* (Spring 2018)
- World Literature: *“Not Untrue, But Incomplete” In Search of World Literature* (Spring 2019)
- Perspectives: *Imaginary Resolutions to Real Contradictions: American Popular Culture, 1828-present* (Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2020)
- Honors Perspectives: *Just Because You’re Paranoid Doesn’t Mean They’re Not After You: Pop Culture and Paranoia* (Spring 2019, Spring 2020)
- Perspectives: *Re-becoming the Greatness We Never Weren’t: The Cultural Politics of Nostalgia* (Fall 2020)
- Perspectives: *Project Lab: Georgia State University Prison Education Project* (Fall 2020)

Writing Tutor and Teacher, Phillips State Prison, Buford, GA, October 2012-present

Courses Taught:

- Composition II: *“We Understand Then, Do We Not?”: Narrative and Empathy in Fictional Form(s)* (Spring 2019)
- Special Topics in American Literature: *The Shorter Works of Herman Melville* (Summer 2014)

Writing Tutor and Teacher, Metro Transitional Center, August 2018

Classes Taught:

- Guest Lecture: “On Parables and Epistemology” (August 13, 2018)

Marion L. Britain Fellow, Georgia Institute of Technology, August 2016-May 2017

Courses Taught:

- Composition I: *The Power of ‘Truthiness’: Thinking and Writing Empirically in a Post-Fact World* (Fall 2016)
- Composition II: *“We Understand Then, Do We Not?”: Narrative and Empathy in Fictional Form(s)* (Spring 2017)

Selected Pedagogical Presentations

“Teaching News Literacy: A Faculty Panel Discussion,” With Mary Ann Cullen, Tamra Ortgies-Young, Kari Miller, and Amy Stalker, Faculty Development Day, Georgia State University, Clarkston (October 19, 2018)

“Teaching That Which Is Not Your Own: Cultural Competency and Instruction,” Faculty Development Day, Georgia State University, Clarkston (October 19, 2018)

“Troubleshooting Videos in the English 1102 Classroom,” Faculty Development Day, Perimeter College at Georgia State University (February 23, 2018)

“Teaching in the Age of Truthiness: Critical Thinking in a Post-Fact World,” Celebrating Teaching Day, Georgia Institute of Technology (March 14, 2017)

SCHOLARSHIP

Research Interests

Nineteenth-century American literature and non-fiction

Critical theory

Popular culture studies

Pedagogy and affect

Midwestern regionalism

American folk and popular music

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

“It’s Not Polite to Talk About Yourself?: Regional Identity and Erasure in the Midwest from F. Scott Fitzgerald to *Mad Men*.” *MidAmerica*, volume 41, 2014, pp. 39-61.

“Abraham Lincoln’s Republic of Rules,” *Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association* (under review)

Book Chapters

“Fragility and Empathy in the Literature Classroom,” *The Affects of Pedagogy in Literary Studies*, eds. Christopher Lloyd and Hilary Emmett, Routledge, 2021 (projected)

“Poverty Porn?: CBS’s *The Briefcase* and the Deserving Poor in Reality Television,” *Representing the Other Half: Essays on Poverty in American Popular Culture*, edited by Wylie Lenz, McFarland Press, 2021 (projected).

“Ya Got Trouble’: River City, Main Street U.S.A., and Nostalgia in the Imagined Midwest,” *The Midwestern Moment: Pieces of the Heartland: Representing Early Twentieth-Century Midwestern Places*, edited by Andy Oler, Hastings College Press, pp. 53-68, 2018.

“To Stand Shoulder to Shoulder and Heart to Heart’: Politics, Authenticity, Community, and Folk Music in the Recent Work of Bruce Springsteen,” *Bruce Springsteen and Popular Music: Rhetoric, Memorial, and Contemporary Culture*, edited by William I. Wolff, Routledge, pp. 147-161, 2017.

Book Reviews

Review of *Surveyors of Customs: American Literature as Cultural Analysis* by Joel Pfister, *South Atlantic Review*, volume 84, no. 4, Winter 2019, pp. 148-150.

Review of *Echoes of Emerson: Rethinking Realism in Twain, James, Wharton, and Cather* by Diana Hope Polley, *South Atlantic Review*, volume 84, no. 1, Spring 2019, pp. 178-180

Review of *Essays: A Fully Annotated Edition* by Henry David Thoreau, edited by Jeffrey S. Cramer. *Journal of American Culture*, volume 37, no. 3, 2014, pp. 350-351.

Review of *Benjamin Franklin’s Intellectual World*, edited by Paul E. Kerry and Matthew S. Holland. *Journal of American Culture*, volume 37, no. 3, 2014, pp. 336-337.

Review of *Utopian Movements and Ideas of the Great Depression: Dreamers, Believers, and Madmen* by Donald Whisenhunt. *Journal of American Culture*, volume 37, no. 2, 2014, pp. 265-267.

Review of *Bodies and Books: Reading and the Fantasy of Communion in Nineteenth-Century America* by Gillian Silverman. *Journal of American Culture*, volume 36, no. 4, 2013, pp. 367-368.

Selected Conference Presentations

“Fragilities: Empathy in the Literature and Composition Classroom,” American Comparative Literature Association, [Online Presentation] (March 21, 2020)

“Sentimental Oppression: Social Totality in Melville's Diptych Tales,” Pacific American Modern Language Association, San Diego, CA (November 17, 2019)

“Ghosts: The White Body in Black Surrealism,” Southern American Studies Association, Atlanta, GA (March 15, 2019)

“How Did *These* Get Made: Towards a Theory of Comedy Podcast Consumption,” Humor in America, American Humor Studies Association and The Mark Twain Circle, Chicago, IL (July 13, 2018)

“The ‘Truthiness’ of It: Questioning the Validity of Our Own Minds,” Northeastern Modern Language Association, Pittsburgh, PA (April 13, 2018)

“The Writing Center as Prison, The Prison as Writing Center: Discipline and Punishment,” Southeastern Modern Language Association, Atlanta, GA (November 4, 2017)

“Empathy and Community Engagement in the Composition Classroom,” Two Year College Association of Georgia, Clarkston, GA (October 13, 2017)

“Only Hegel is fit for America’: Dialectic and Parataxis during the Market Revolution,” American Literature and the Philosophical, Paris, France (March 23, 2017)

“Whitman, Lincoln, Hegel, Marx,” South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Atlanta, GA (November 8, 2013)

“Composing Community and Professionalization for the ‘Next-Gen’ tutor,” With Jennifer Forsthoefel, Marcia Bost, and Kelly Elmore, Southeastern Writing Center Association, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY (February 17, 2012)

SERVICE

College

Faculty Senator, Perimeter College (English), Georgia State University, 2019-present

Cultural Diversity Committee, 2019-present

Faculty Affairs Committee, 2019-present

Committee Member, English Executive Committee, 2019-present

Committee Member, Literature Committee, 2019-present

Committee Member, Grade Appeals, English B, Perimeter College, 2018-present

Co-Chair, Perspectives Committee, English, 2019-2020

Committee Member, Georgia State University Prison Education Program, 2017- 2019

Representative, Alpharetta Campus, American Literature Committee, Perimeter College, 2017-2019

Committee Member, Search Committee, Lecturer Position, English B, 2018- 2019

Committee Member, Helen Friese Village Writer’s Group Scholarship Committee, Perimeter College, Spring 2018

Committee Member, English By Laws Committee, Perimeter College, 2018-2019

Discipline & Organizational

Reader (Fiction), *Chattahoochee Review*, 2019-present

Reader, Southern Literary Festival 2020

Host Committee, Common Good Atlanta, Spring 2018

Conference

Panel Chair, *Crossing Borders and Boundaries in Our Nation’s Prisons*, South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Atlanta, GA (November 4, 2017)

Panel Chair & Organizer, *Labor and Social Class in American Utopias/Dystopias*, South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Jacksonville, FL (November 5, 2016)

Panel Chair & Organizer, *Labor, Art, & Politics in American Literature and Culture*, South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Raleigh, NC (November 13, 2015)

Panel Chair & Organizer, *Sustainable Work, Invisible Class, Unpaid Labor, and Forgotten Culture in American Literature*, South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Atlanta, GA (November 8, 2014)

Panel Chair & Organizer, *Class, Labor and Culture in 19th Century American Literature*, South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Atlanta, GA (November 7, 2013)

Panel Chair & Organizer, *Class, Labor and Culture in 20th Century American Literature*, South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Atlanta, GA (November 8, 2013)

Community

Volunteer, Clyde's Kitchen (April 2; April 7; April 9, 2020)

Volunteer, The Arc Georgia (January 21, 2019)

Volunteer, Meals on Wheels (November 22, 2018)

Volunteer, Second Harvest Food Bank of North Central Ohio (December 21, 2018)

Volunteer Researcher, American Civil Liberties Union (January 2017-June 2018)

Volunteer, Easter Dinner, Hosea Feed the Hungry (April 16, 2017; April 1, 2018)

Volunteer, Easter Potluck Luncheon for the Homeless, Norman Spruill House Foundation (March 27, 2016)

Volunteer, Thanksgiving Dinner, Hosea Feed the Hungry (November 24-26, 2015; November 22-24, 2016; November 24, 2017, November 22, 2018; November 22, 2019)

G.E.D. Tutor, North Fulton Community Charities (August 2013-July 2015)

Workshops Given:

“Comprehension Skills,” (June 8, 2015; June 9, 2015)

“Analyzing Texts,” (May 14, 2014; May 15, 2014; August 25, 2014)

“Writing Your Essay,” (September 19, 2013; May 28, 2014; May 29, 2014; August 27, 2014; June 10, 2015; June 11, 2015)

Selected Professional Development & Associations

Meditation Certificate, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, Georgia (May 2020)

Georgia Coalition for Higher Education in Prisons (August 2019-present)

American Comparative Literature Association (December 2019-present)

Pacific American Modern Language Association (July 2019-present)

American Humor Studies Association (March 2018-present)

American Studies Association (January 2017-present)

Modern Language Association (June 2011-present)

South Atlantic Modern Language Association (August 2010-present)

Participant, Reform Alliance Luncheon (September 27, 2019)

Participant, Imagining the Arts and Humanities into the Prison Industrial Complex: From Stories of Us to Stories of Now, Imagining America Conference, Atlanta, Georgia (October 11, 2014)

Participant, Digital Media and Composition Institute, The Ohio State University (June 6-15, 2011)

Awards & Grants

Grantee (Georgia State University Prison Education Project), Experimental Sites Initiative, Second Chance Pell Grants, Department of Education (April 2019)

- Incarcerated students enrolled in college courses at Georgia State now eligible to apply for Pell Grants

Sustainability Grant, Serve-Learn-Sustain, Georgia Institute of Technology (March 2017)

- \$1000 grant for student-related activities in course affiliated with SLS initiatives

Poetry @ Tech Pedagogy Grant, Georgia Institute of Technology (September 2016)

- \$500 grant to incorporate poetry into the classroom

Advanced Teaching Fellowship, Lower Division Studies, Georgia State University (August 2013-July 2015)

- Competitive fellowship awarded to students demonstrating excellent teaching and advanced scholarship

Technology @ Georgia State Grant (May 2013)

- \$26,000 technology grant for The Writing Studio @Georgia State for new iMacs and MacBooks (May 2013)

Bedford/St. Martin's Scholarship, Digital Media and Composition Institute at The Ohio State University (June 2011)

- Competitive scholarship awarded to students demonstrating engagement with digital media in the composition classroom

References

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