

CURRICULUM VITAE

Geoffrey Galt Harpham

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National Humanities Center
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Also Visiting Research Professor of English at Duke University and at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

EDUCATION

B.A., Northwestern University, 1968; Ph.D., UCLA, 1974

PREVIOUS POSITIONS HELD

Pierce Butler Professor of English Literature, Tulane University, 2002-03

Professor, Department of English, Tulane University, 1988-2002

Life Member, Clare Hall, Cambridge University, 1989-

Associate Professor, Department of English, Tulane University, 1986-88

Andrew Mellon Scholar, Department of English and American Literature, Brandeis University, 1983-86

Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of Pennsylvania, 1976-83

PUBLICATIONS

Books

On the Grotesque: Strategies of Contradiction in Art and Literature (Princeton University Press, 1982; paperback, 1986). 2nd ed. with new preface (Davies Publishing, 2006). This work was the primary inspiration for “Domus Aurea,” a composition by Edmund Campion for piano and vibraphone, which premiered at the Centre Pompidou, Paris, November 4, 2000. Korean translation forthcoming

The Ascetic Imperative in Culture and Criticism (University of Chicago Press, 1987; paperback, 1992).

Getting It Right: Language, Literature, and Ethics (University of Chicago Press, 1992). Partially translated into Croatian as “Pripovjedni Imperative,” in *Politika i etika pripovijedanja*, ed. Vladimir Biti (Zagreb: Hrvatska sveučilišna naklada, 2003), 129-56.

One of Us: The Mastery of Joseph Conrad (University of Chicago Press, 1996).

Shadows of Ethics: Criticism and the Just Society (Duke University Press, 1999).

Language Alone: The Critical Fetish of Modernity (Routledge Press, 2002). Polish translation, forthcoming.

A Glossary of Literary Terms, 8th ed., coauthored with M. H. Abrams (Wadsworth, 2005); 9th ed. (Wadsworth, 2008). Translated into Persian, Turkish, Chinese, Korean, Greek. Indian edition, 2009; 10th edition, 2011.

The Character of Criticism (Routledge Press, 2006).

The Humanities and the Dream of America (University of Chicago Press), 2011.

Edited Volume

On Being Human, special issue of *Daedalus*, 138.3 (Summer 2009), consulting editor. This issue grew out of the “Autonomy, Singularity, Creativity: The Human and the Humanities” initiative sponsored by the National Humanities Center, 2006-09.

Articles, Review-Essays, etc.

“The Incompleteness of Beardsley’s *Venus and Tannhäuser*,” *English Literature in Transition* 18.1 (1975): 24-32.

“Jack London and the Tradition of Superman Socialism,” *American Studies* 16.1 (1975): 23-33.

“The Grotesque: First Principles,” *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 34.4 (1976): 461-78.

“Time Running Out: The Edwardian Sense of Cultural Degeneration,” *Clio* 5.3 (1976): 283-301.

“Minority Report: *Tono-Bungay* and the Shape of Wells’s Career,” *Modern Language Quarterly* 39.1 (1978): 50-62.

“Survival in and of *The Painted Bird*,” *Georgia Review* 35.1 (1981): 142-57.

“The Grotesque and the Limits of Representation,” *Annals of Scholarship* 2.3 (1982): 33-48.

“E. L. Doctorow and the Technology of Narrative,” *PMLA* 100.1 (1985): 81-95; reprinted in *E. L. Doctorow: Modern Critical Views*, ed. Harold Bloom (Chelsea House, 2002), 27-50.

“The Language of Longing,” review-essay of Susan Stewart, *On Longing: Narratives of the Miniature, the Gigantic, the Souvenir, the Collection* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1984), *Raritan* 4.4 (1985): 107-14.

“The Fertile Word: Augustine and Hermeneutics,” *Criticism* 38.3 (1986): 237-54.

“Short Stack: The Stories of Breece Pancake,” *Studies in Short Fiction* 23.3 (1986): 265-74.

“Language, History, and Ethics,” review-essay of Bernard Williams, *Ethics and the Limits of Philosophy* (Harvard University Press, 1985), and J. Hillis Miller, *The Ethics of Reading* (Columbia University Press, 1986), *Raritan* 7.1 (1987): 128-46.

“Rhetoric and the Madness of Philosophy in Plato and Pirsig,” *Contemporary Literature* 29.1 (1988): 64-88.

- “Foucault and the ‘Ethics’ of Power,” in *Ethics/Aesthetics: Postmodern Positions*, ed. Robert Merrill (Maisonneuve Press, 1988), 71-82.
- “Conversion and the Language of Autobiography,” in *Studies in Autobiography*, ed. James Olney (Oxford University Press, 1988), 42-51.
- “Valuemanía,” review-essay of Barbara Herrnstein Smith, *Contingencies of Value: Alternative Perspectives for Critical Theory* (Harvard University Press, 1988), *Raritan* 9.1 (1989): 134-50.
- “Fish on Blind Submission,” *PMLA* 104.2 (1989): 215-16.
- “Ethics and the Double Standard of Criticism,” *Southern Humanities Review* 23.4 (1989): 343-58. (Theodore Christian Hoepfner Award)
- “Response to Barbara Herrnstein Smith,” *Raritan* 9.4 (1990): 146-50.
- “Derrida and the Ethics of Criticism,” *Textual Practice* 5.3 (1991): 382-98.
- “Foucault and the New Historicism,” review-essay of H. Aram Veenser, ed., *The New Historicism* (Routledge, 1989), and Jonathan Arac, ed., *After Foucault* (Rutgers University Press, 1988), *American Literary History* 3.2 (1991): 361-75.
- “The Future and Literary Theory,” review-essay of Jonathan Culler, *Framing the Sign* (Oklahoma University Press, 1988), Ellen Rooney, *Seductive Reasoning* (Cornell University Press, 1989), and Ralph Cohen, ed., *The Future of Literary Theory* (Routledge, 1989), *Modern Philology* 89.1 (1991): 8-24.
- “Abroad Only by a Fiction: Creation, Irony, and Necessity in Conrad’s *The Secret Agent*,” *Representations* 37 (Winter 1992): 79-103.
- “Old Water in New Bottles: The Contemporary Prospects for the Study of Asceticism,” *Semeia* 58 (1992): 135-48.
- “Aesthetics and the Fundamentals of Modernity,” in *Aesthetics and Ideology*, ed. George Levine (Rutgers University Press, 1994), 124-49.
- “So . . . What *Is* Enlightenment? An Inquisition into Modernity,” *Critical Inquiry* 20.3 (1994): 524-56.
- “Asceticism and the Compensations of Art,” in *Asceticism*, ed. Vincent Wimbush and Richard Valantasis (Oxford University Press, 1995), 357-68.
- “Ethics,” in *Critical Terms for Literary Study*, 2nd ed., ed. Frank Lentricchia and Thomas McLaughlin (University of Chicago Press, 1995), 387-405.
- “Of Rats and Men; or, Reason in Our Time,” *Raritan* 14.4 (1995): 88-114.
- “Late Jameson,” *Salmagundi* 111 (Summer 1996): 213-32.
- “The Business of Mourning,” *Southern Review* 32.3 (1996): 537-55; reprinted in *Naming the Father: Legacies, Genealogies, and Explorations of Fatherhood in Modern and Contemporary Literature*, ed. Eva Paulino Beuno, Terry Caesar, and William Hummel (Lexington Books, 2000), 13-28.

- “Freedom and Submission,” on Michel Foucault, in *Ethics: Subjectivity and Truth*, vol. 1 of *The Essential Works of Michel Foucault, 1954-1984*, ed. Paul Rabinow (New Press, 1997), *Boston Book Review* 4.6 (1997): 6.
- “The Order of Things,” on Michel Foucault, in *Aesthetics, Method, and Epistemology*, vol. 2 of *The Essential Works of Michel Foucault, 1954-84*, ed. James Faubion (New Press, 1997), *Boston Book Review* 5.3 (1998): 26-27.
- “Once Again: Geoffrey Hartman on Culture,” *Raritan* 18.2 (1998): 146-66.
- “On ‘Consequences,’ ” in *The Stanley Fish Reader*, ed. H. Aram Veesser (Blackwell, 1998), 86-87.
- “Chomsky and the Rest of Us,” *Salmagundi* 121-122 (Winter-Spring 1999): 211-37.
- “Imagining the Centre,” in *Critical Ethics: Text, Theory and Responsibility*, ed. Dominic Rainsford and Tim Woods (Macmillan, 1999), 37-52.
- “Ascetics, Aesthetics, and the Management of Desire,” in *Religion and Cultural Studies*, ed. Susan Mizruchi (Princeton University Press, 2001), 95-109.
- “The End of Theory, the Rise of the Profession: A Rant,” in *Professions: Conversations on the Future of Literary and Cultural Studies*, ed. Donald Hall (University of Illinois Press, 2001), 186-201. Reprinted in *Theory’s Empire*, ed. Will Corral and Daphne Patai (Columbia University Press, 2005).
- “Elaine Scarry and the Dream of Pain,” *Salmagundi* 130-131 (Spring-Summer 2001): 202-34.
- “Ethics and Literary Criticism,” in *The Cambridge History of Literary Criticism*, vol. 9, ed. Christa Knellwolf and Christopher Norris (Cambridge University Press, 2001), 371-85.
- “Conrad’s Global Homeland,” *Raritan* 21.1 (2001): 20-33.
- “Symbolic Terror,” *Critical Inquiry* 28.2 (2002): 573-80.
- “Symbolic Terror,” *Literary Research / Recherches Littéraire* 18.36 (2001): 262-68 (same as above).
- “The Hunger of Martha Nussbaum,” *Representations* 77 (Winter 2002): 52-81.
- “Questions Still Hover over Declarations of War,” *New Orleans Times-Picayune*, October 7, 2002, sec. B, p. 4.
- “Doing the Impossible: Slavoj Zizek and the End of Knowledge,” *Critical Inquiry* 29.3 (2003): 453-85.
- “Response to Slavoj Zizek,” *Critical Inquiry* 29.3 (2003): 504-7.
- “Pripovjedni Imperative,” in *Politika i etika pripovijedanja*, ed. Vladimir Biti (Zagreb: Hrvatska sveučilišna naklada, 2003), 129-56. Croatian translation of pp. 157-83 of *Getting It Right*.
- “From Revolution to Canon: On *The Norton Anthology of Theory and Criticism*,” *Kenyon Review* 25.2 (2003): 169-77.
- “Inadmissible Evidence: Terror, Torture, and the World Today,” *Chronicle of Higher Education*, October 15, 2004, sec. B, pp. 12-13.

- “Beyond Mastery: The Future of Conrad’s Beginnings,” in *Conrad in the Twenty-First Century: Contemporary Approaches and Perspectives*, ed. Carola Kaplan, Peter Mallios, and Andrea White (Routledge, 2005), 17-39.
- “Beyond and Beneath the ‘Crisis in the Humanities,’ ” in “Essays on the Humanities,” special issue, *New Literary History* 36.1 (2005): 21-36. This issue of the journal was constructed around this essay.
- “Response,” *New Literary History* 36.1 (2005): 105-10.
- “Politics, Professionalism, and the Pleasure of Reading,” *Daedalus* 134.3 (2005): 68-75.
- “Derrida, Said, and Infinity,” *Journal for Cultural and Religious Theory* 6.3 (2005), <http://www.jcrt.org/archives/06.3/harpham.pdf>.
- “Things and Theory,” review-essay of Bill Brown, *A Sense of Things: The Object Matter of American Literature* (University of Chicago Press, 2003), *Raritan* (Fall 2005): 134-45.
- “Language and Prehistory,” in *Language and History: Integrationist Perspectives*, ed. Nigel Love (Routledge, 2006), 188-99.
- “Between Humanity and the Homeland: The Evolution of an Institutional Concept,” *American Literary History* 18.2 (2006): 245-61, <http://alh.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/rapidpdf/ajj013?ijkey=aJ3kV61TDxS3Biz&keytype=ref>.
- “Returning to Philology: The Past and Future of Literary Study,” in *New Prospects in Literary Research*, ed. Koen Hilberdink (Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, 2006), http://www.knaw.nl/Content/Internet_KNAW/publicaties/pdf/20051060.pdf.
- “Science and the Theft of Humanity,” *American Scientist* (July-August 2006): 296-98.
- “Criticism, Character and Tenure,” online interview with Scott McLemee, *Inside Higher Ed*, December 27, 2006, <http://insidehighered.com/views/2006/12/27/mclemee>.
- “Genre and the Institution of Research: Three American Instances,” *PMLA* 122.5 (2007): 1635-43. Translated into Polish, 2008.
- “Cultural Critics and Modernist Avant-Garde: A Debate,” interview in *The Humanities Today: International Exchange of Scholarly Ideas in the Humanities between Nepal and the United States*, ed. Yubraj Aryal (Philosophical Society of Nepal, 2008), 93-97. Republished in *The Humanities at Work: International Exchange of Ideas in Aesthetics, Philosophy, and Literature*, ed. Yubraj Aryal (Kathmandu: Sunlight Publication, 2008), 100-106.
- “Trading Pain for Knowledge; Or, How the West Was Won,” *Social Research* 75.2 (Summer 2008): 485-510.
- “Disciplinary Fitness: On Evolutionary Literary Studies,” *Style* 42.2-3 (2008): 197-201.
- “The Human and the Humanities,” *Wake County Physician* 14.4 (October 2008): 26, 35.
- “The Depths of the Heights: Reading Conrad with America’s Soldiers,” *Profession* (2008): 74-82; also in *War, Literature, and the Arts* 20.1-2 (2009): 35-44.
- “The Humanities’ Value,” *The Chronicle Review*, March 20, 2009, B6-7.

- “Architecture and Ethics: 16 Points,” in *Inverting the Iceberg: Ethics, Efficacy, and Architecture in the Globalized Economy*, ed. Graham Owen (Routledge, 2009), 33-39.
- “Roots, Races, and the Return to Philology,” *Representations* 106 (Spring 2009): 34-63.
- “How Do We Know What We Are? The Science of Language and Human Self-Understanding,” *Daedalus* 138.3 (Summer 2009): 79-91.
- “How Does Literature Teach Ethics?” *Journal of Philosophy* 4.10 (Fall 2009): 1-14.
- “Afterword: Two Points about Two Cultures,” in *Integrating Science and the Humanities: Interdisciplinary Approaches*, ed. Edward Slingerland and Mark Collard (Oxford University Press, 2010).
- “Distance Learning: How Literature Teaches Ethics,” *Anglia: Zeitschrift für englische Philologie* (2010): 1-16.
- “The Humanities, at America’s Core,” *Raleigh News and Observer*, November 8, 2010, A15.
- “Meta-History’s Dangerous Dream,” *Ciodynamics: The Journal of Theoretical and Mathematical History* 2.1 (2011): 71-81, <http://escholarship.org/uc/item/1d91g56g>.
- “ ‘Greatest Generation’ Gen Ed,” *Inside Higher Ed*, April 4, 2011, http://www.insidehighered.com/views/2011/04/04/harpham_essay_on_the_context_of_american_support_for_the_humanities.

Reviews

- Mark Taylor, *Erring: A Postmodern A/theology* (University of Chicago Press, 1984), *Criticism* 38.1 (1986): 117-20.
- Charles Newman, *The Post-Modern Aura: The Act of Fiction in an Age of Inflation* (Northwestern University Press, 1985), *Georgia Review* 40.4 (1986): 1033-36.
- Leo Bersani and Ulysse Dutoit, *Forms of Violence: Narrative in Assyrian Art and Modern Culture* (Schocken, 1985), *Criticism* 38.2 (1986): 232-36.
- Irving Massey, *Find You the Virtue* (George Mason University Press, 1987), *Philosophy and Literature* (1989).
- “Constraints, Not Consequences,” on Stanley Fish, *Doing What Comes Naturally* (Oxford University Press, 1990), *Times Literary Supplement*, March 9-15, 1990, p. 247.
- “The Triumph of Terminology,” on M. H. Abrams, *Doing Things with Texts* (W. W. Norton, 1989), Thomas Docherty, *After Theory: Post Modernism/Post Marxism* (Routledge, 1990), and Frank Lentricchia and Thomas McLaughlin, eds., *Critical Terms for Literary Study* (University of Chicago Press, 1990), *Times Literary Supplement*, August 17-23, 1990, p. 872.
- “Postmodernism’s Discontents,” on Christopher Norris, *Spinoza and the Origins of Modern Critical Theory* (Blackwell, 1990) and *What’s Wrong with Postmodernism* (Hemel Hempstead, 1990), Bill Readings, *Introducing Lyotard* (Routledge, 1991), and Fredric Jameson, *Postmodernism, or, The Cultural Logic of Late Capitalism* (Verso, 1991), *Times Literary Supplement*, June 28, 1991, pp. 6-7.

“Fascination without the Fascism,” on Donald Davie, *Ezra Pound: Chronicle and Polemic* (Carcanet, 1991), *Poetry Review* 81 (1992): 25-27.

“The Ethical Backlash,” on Richard Freadman and Seumas Miller, eds., *Re-Thinking Theory: A Critique of Contemporary Literary Theory and an Alternative Account* (Cambridge University Press, 1992), David H. Hirsch, *The Deconstruction of Literature: Criticism after Auschwitz* (New England University Press, 1992), and Joseph F. Graham, *Onomatopoeitics: Theory of Language and Literature* (Cambridge University Press, 1992), *Times Literary Supplement*, August 28, 1992, p. 19.

“The Cambridge Guide to Eng. Lit.,” on Nicholas Treadell, ed., *Conversations with Critics* (Carcanet, 1994), *Poetry Review* (UK) 84.4 (1994-95): 68-69.

Rae Beth Gordon, *Ornament, Fantasy, and Desire in Nineteenth-Century French Literature* (Princeton University Press, 1992), *Philosophy and Literature* 19.2 (1995).

“Who’s Who,” on Charles Altieri, *Subjective Agency: A Theory of First-Person Expressivity and Its Social Implications* (Blackwell, 1994), *London Review of Books*, April 20, 1995, pp. 12-13.

“Reply to Charles Altieri,” *London Review of Books*, October 15, 1995, p. 5.

Charles Altieri, *Subjective Agency* (Blackwell, 1994), and Camille Paglia, *Vamps and Tramps* (Vintage, 1994), *Criticism* 37.4 (1995): 645-50.

Eugene Goodheart, *The Reign of Ideology* (Columbia University Press, 1997), *Modern Fiction Studies* 43.4 (1997): 1076-78.

Henry Sussman, *The Aesthetic Contract* (Stanford University Press, 1997), *Modernism / Modernity* 6.3 (1999): 153-55.

Vincent Pecora, *Households of the Soul* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997), *Modern Philology* 97.3 (2000): 496-98.

Elizabeth Grosz, ed., *Becomings* (Cornell University Press, 1999), *Literary Research / Recherche littéraire* 17.34 (2000): 413-18.

Judy Delin, *The Language of Everyday Life* (Sage, 2000), *Language and Communication* 22 (2002): 107-12.

Forthcoming

“Philology and the Future of Scholarship,” a collection of papers from an international conference at Izmir, Turkey (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2011).

“From Eternity to Here: Shrinkage in American Thinking about Higher Education,” *Representations* 116 (Fall 2011).

“Why We Need the 16,772nd Book on Shakespeare,” *Qui Parle* (2011).

“Ethics and Adaptation in Literary Study,” *Soundings: An Interdisciplinary Journal* (2011).

“The Posthuman: Without It, Nothing Else Is Possible,” *Interdisciplinary Science Review* (2012).

“The Humanities,” in *Oxford Encyclopedia of American Culture and Intellectual History* (2012).

AWARDS AND HONORS

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, 1978-79 (spent at Clare Hall, Cambridge University)

ACLS Study Fellowship, 1980-81, to study art history and aesthetic theory with Leo Steinberg, University of Pennsylvania

J. S. Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, 1989 (spent at Clare Hall, Cambridge University)

Theodore Christian Hoepfner Award for best essay to appear in *Southern Humanities Review*, 1989

Faculty Award for Excellence in Research, Tulane University, 1991

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, 1994-95

Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award, Tulane University, 1997

Andrew F. Mellon Professor, Tulane University, 1999

President's Award for Excellence in Research, Tulane University, 2000

UNIVERSITY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Founder and Director, Graduate Program in Literary Theory, Tulane University, 1987-93
(responsibilities included arranging cross-departmental seminars, curriculum development, inviting speakers, organizing conferences)

Chair, Committee for the Renewal of Undergraduate Education, Tulane University, 1990-92
(university-wide committee charged with restructuring undergraduate education as part of Tulane's Strategic Plan for the '90s)

Organizer, conference on "Constructions of Gender and Sexuality," Tulane University, October 1991

Coordinator, nationwide book drive for University of Bucharest, 1990-91

Chair, Promotions and Tenure Committee, Liberal Arts and Sciences, Tulane University, 1995-96

Director, Seminar on Graduate Study in Literature, sponsored by the Mellon Foundation, Tulane University, summer 1996 and 1997

Director of Graduate Studies, Department of English, Tulane University, 1996-97

Chair, Committee for Administrative Review of the Dean of Tulane College, 1996

Chair, Department of English, Tulane University, 1997-2000

Faculty Associate, International School of Theory in the Humanities, Santiago de Compostela, Spain, 1997-2000

Chair, Committee on Faculty Evaluation and Rewards Systems, Tulane University, 1998-2000

Chair, Faculty Grievance Committee, Tulane University, 1998-2000

Chair, SIAS (consortium of institutes for advanced study, including: Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study in the Social Sciences, Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Institute for Advanced Study, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, National Humanities Center, Russell Sage Foundation, Collegium Budapest, Jerusalem Institute for Advanced Study), 2003-04, 2013-14

Member, External Advisory Board, Murphy Institute of Political Economy, Tulane University, 2002-07

Contributing Editor, *Journal of Cultural and Religious Theory*

Editorial Board, *Interdisciplinary Science Reviews*

Editorial Board, *Evolutionary Review*

External Review team, the Cornell University Society for the Humanities, 2005; Townsend Center for the Humanities, University of California at Berkeley, 2007; Institute for Advanced Study, Indiana University, 2011

Reviewer: National Humanities Center; Field Reviewer in Literary Criticism, J. S. Guggenheim Foundation, 1996-2002; Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (Stanford); Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin; Polish Science Foundation; Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study