

THOMAS W. HOWARD

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Department of English

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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. English and American Literature, Washington University in St. Louis, ABD: Nov. 2020
Diss: “Pragmatic Ambiguities: Aphoristic Thinking in the American Nineteenth Century”
Committee: Steven Meyer (chair), Abram Van Engen, Anca Parvulescu
- M.A. English and American Literature, Washington University in St. Louis, 2019
- M.A. English Literature, Michigan State University, 2015
- B.A. English and Biblical Studies, *summa cum laude*, Welch College, 2012

PUBLICATIONS

- 2021 “Thoreau’s Arboreal Encounters and Aphoristic Forest Thinking,” *Green Letters: Studies in Ecocriticism*. (Invited to Resubmit)

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2020–21 Fulbright Research Grant, Germany (hosted by the John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies, Freie Universität Berlin)
- 2020 Cornelison English Prize, 1st Place, Washington University in St. Louis
- 2019 DAAD University Summer Course Grant, Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (German Academic Exchange Service)
- 2015 Somers Excellence in Teaching Award, Michigan State University
- 2014 Summer Support Fellowship, Michigan State University
- 2012 Best Graduate Essay Award, Michigan College English Association
- 2011 Picirilli-Outlaw Greek Language Award, Welch College

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Panels Organized

2022 “W. E. B. Du Bois’s Reconstruction of Language,” C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists, Coral Gables, FL, March 31–April 2.

Papers Presented

2022 “Thinking Like a Tree: Human Cognition and Speculative Forest Thinking,” European Association for the Study of Literature, Culture and Environment, Granada, Spain (*postponed from 2020 due to COVID-19*).

2022 “‘A Penumbra of Vagueness’: W. E. B. Du Bois’s Aphoristic Reconstructions in *The Souls of Black Folk*,” C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists, Coral Gables, FL, March 31–April 2.

2021 “Thoreau’s Arboreal Encounters: A Transatlantic Re-Vision,” British Association for American Studies, virtual (due to COVID-19), April 7–11.

2021 “Thoreau’s Radicle Empiricism: Arboreal Encounters and the Posthuman Forest,” European Society for Literature, Science & the Arts, Bergen, Norway, March 4–5.

2020 “‘These Brainless, Stationary Trunks Are Protecting Each Other’: Speculative Forest Thinking in the Anthropocene,” European Society for Literature, Science & the Arts, Katowice, Poland, June 17–20.

2019 “‘Experience Is Forever in Motion’: The Divided Brain and Experimental Thinking,” Society for Literature, Science & the Arts, Irvine, CA, November 7–9.

2019 “Crossing the Border between Reason and Intoxication: William James on Nitrous Oxide,” Crossing the Borders of Creation and Critique Conference, Saint Louis, MO, March 1.

2018 “Literature as ‘Out of Mind’ Experience,” Society for Literature, Science & the Arts, Toronto, Canada, November 15–18.

2016 “‘Creatures of Habit’: The Role of Habits in Short Story Character Creation,” American Literature Association Symposium, Savannah, GA, October 20–22.

2015 “‘A Collective Murmur Goes Up from Us’: Vicarious Trauma as Motivation in *The Handmaid’s Tale*,” American Literature Association, Boston, MA, May 20–24.

- 2014 “William James Visits Roderick Usher: Literature as Translation of American Psychology,” Midwest Conference on Christianity and Literature, Wheaton, IL, March 20–21.
- 2013 “Give Me My Leg!': The Point of Tension in O'Connor's 'Good Country People,'" Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture since 1900, Louisville, KY, February 21–23.
- 2012 “The World Will Burn Green': Survival of Morality in *Grendel*,” Michigan College English Association Conference, Grand Rapids, MI, October 26.

Discussant

- 2016 “Supporting Learning on the Inside: Library Services for Jackson College Students in Prison,” National Conference on Higher Education in Prison, Nashville, TN, November 3–6.

DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- WashU Graduate Student Senate
Co-President, 2019–2020
Department Senator, 2018–2019
Legislative Concerns Committee, 2018–2019
- WashU Professional and Graduate Student Coordinating Committee, 2019–2020
- WashU Graduate Professional Council, 2018–2020
- WashU Graduate School of Arts & Science Graduate Council, 2018–2020
- Executive Board Member, MSU College of Arts & Letters Alumni Association, 2014–2016
- MSU Council of Graduate Students
Department Representative, 2014–2015
Committee on Curriculum, 2014–2015
- Chair, University Student Commission, City of East Lansing, 2014–2015
- Executive Board Member, MSU Association of English Graduate Students, 2014–2015

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Freie Universität Berlin, John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies

A Genealogy of the Mind: Tracing Intelligence Discourses from Locke to the Neoliberal Subject (MA Seminar), Winter 2021–22 (co-taught with Dr. Maxi Albrecht)

Washington University in St. Louis, Department of English

Writing 1: Technology & Selfhood (College Writing 118), Fall 2020
Morality and Markets (Freshman Seminar), Spring 2020 (TA)
Making it New: Emerson and the American Renaissance (English 426), Fall 2019 (TA)

St. Louis Community College, Department of English & Communication

College Composition I (English 101), Fall 2019
College Composition II (English 102), Fall 2019, Spring 2020

Jackson College, Prison Education Initiative (all courses taught in state prisons)

Writing Experience I (English 131), Fall 2015, Summer 2016, Fall 2016
Technical and Business Writing (English 232), Summer 2017
Poetry and Drama (English 247), Winter 2016, Winter 2017
World Literature (English 257), Summer 2017
Cultural Connections (Humanities 131), Fall 2016, Winter 2017, Summer 2017

Jackson College, Department of Liberal Arts

Introduction to College Writing (English 091), Winter 2016, Fall 2016
Writing Experience I (English 131), Winter 2016, Fall 2016
Writing Experience II (English 132), Fall 2015, Winter 2016, Summer 2017
Cultural Connections (Humanities 131), Winter 2017

Davenport University, Department of English & Communications

Composition (English 109), Fall 2015, Fall 2016
Advanced Composition (English 110), Fall 2015, Winter 2016, Fall 2016, Winter 2017
Professional Writing (English 311), Summer 2016, Fall 2016

Spring Arbor University, Department of English

College Writing (English 104), Fall 2016

Michigan State University, Integrative Studies in Arts & Humanities

Michigan: The Life and Times of Where You Are (IAH 207), Winter 2015 (TA)
“Race” and “Culture” in U.S. Literature and Film (IAH 207), Fall 2014 (TA)
Popular Culture in Global Perspective (IAH 201), Winter 2014 (TA)
The Literature and Culture of Sports (IAH 207), Fall 2013 (TA)

LANGUAGES

German: advanced (CEFR B2)
Ancient Greek: reading knowledge

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Modern Language Association
William James Society
Society for Literature, Science & the Arts
European Society for Literature, Science & the Arts
C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists
British Association of Nineteenth-Century Americanists