

SCOTT M. REZNICK

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. (May 2018), English, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts

Dissertation: “‘The Vision of Principles’: Liberal Democracy and the Roots of Moral Experience in Antebellum American Literature” (winner of the Donald and Hélène White Prize for Outstanding Dissertation in the Field of Humanities)

M.A. with honors (2012), English, Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut

B.S., Mathematics, Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

State University of New York at Plattsburgh, Assistant Professor of English, 2020-

Boston College, Visiting Assistant Professor in American Literature, 2019-2020

University of Massachusetts Boston, Associate Lecturer, 2018-2019

Boston College, Instructor and Pre-Major Academic Advisor, 2018-2019

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Nineteenth-Century U.S. literature; Literature of the Early Republic; Romanticism; Literature of Slavery and Abolition; Oratory; Political and Moral Philosophy; Liberalism; Intellectual History

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

“Hawthorne, History, and Politics: A Reassessment,” *Arizona Quarterly: A Journal of American Literature, Culture, and Theory*, 78.1 (Spring 2022), pp. 105-132.

“‘The Sense of Liberty’: Rethinking Liberalism and Sentimentality in Harriet Beecher Stowe’s Antislavery Novels,” *ESQ: A Journal of Nineteenth-Century American Literature and Culture* 65.4 (2019), pp. 602-641

“‘Government and Manners’: Cosmopolitanism and the ‘Spirit’ of Liberal Democracy in *The Federalist* and Charles Brockden Brown’s *Ormond*,” *Early American Literature* 54.1 (2019), pp. 135-161

“On Liberty and Union: Moral Imagination and Its Limits in Daniel Webster’s Seventh of March Speech,” *American Political Thought* 6.3 (Summer 2017), pp. 371–395

INVITED ESSAYS

“Literature, Politics, and Reality: Revisiting the Dark and Bloody Crossroads,” *Forma de Vida* No. 21 (Summer 2021)

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of *Poetry Wars: Verse and Politics in the American Revolution and Early Republic*, by Colin Wells, in *Early American Literature* 53.3 (2018), pp. 999-1004

Review of *The Divine Magnet: Herman Melville’s Letters to Nathaniel Hawthorne*, Ed. Mark Niemeyer, in *Religion and the Arts* 21.1-2 (2017), pp. 280–283

PUBLIC WRITING

“Apart of a Community—Or a Part of It: How Poetry Might Help a Divided People Reconnect,” *The Hedgehog Review Online (THR Blogs)*, 12 April 2021

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“‘The Vision of Principles’: Political Liberalism and the Rise of the American Literary Romantic Tradition” (book project; under review)

“Going Visiting: Thoreau’s Political and Ecological Thought” (article, in preparation)

“Like God’s Judging Angel”: Theodicy, Justice, and Equality in Rebecca Harding Davis’ *Life in the Iron Mills*” (article, in preparation)

CURATED EXHIBITIONS

Associate Curator, *Frederick Douglass & Nathaniel Hawthorne: Texts and Contexts*, John J. Burns Library, Boston College, October 15, 2015 – January 24, 2016.

HONORS & AWARDS

Donald and Hélène White Prize for Outstanding Dissertation in the Field of Humanities, Boston College, 2018

Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Boston College Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, 2017-2018

Andrew Von Hendy Prize for Graduate Student Writing, Boston College, 2013, 2014, and 2016

Donald J. White Teaching Excellence Award, Boston College, 2015

Graduate Fellow, Clough Center for the Study of Constitutional Democracy, Boston College, 2014-2018

Summer Research Stipend (\$5,000), Clough Center for the Study of Constitutional Democracy, Boston College, 2014-2017 (4 separate awards)

Presidential Fellowship, Boston College, 2012-2017

Paul Smith Distinguished Master’s Thesis Award, Trinity College, 2012

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Lectures and Talks

“Frederick Douglass and Political Life,” Regis College, Weston, Mass., 10 October 2017

“Frederick Douglass’s America,” Newton Free Library, Newton, Mass., 23 February 2017

Introduction to “The July Fourth Address of Frederick Douglass: A Public Reading,” Historic Newton and Mass Humanities, Newton Centre, Mass., 24 June 2016.

Conference Papers

“‘The Calm Full Fraught’: Bleak Liberalism and the Poetics of Gesture in Melville’s Postbellum Work,” International Herman Melville Society Conference, Paris, France, June 2022 (accepted)

“Toleration and the State of Nature: James Fenimore Cooper’s Romantic Vision,” Northeast Modern Language Association Convention, Philadelphia, Penn. (Virtual), March 2021

“Politics, Ecology, and Judgment in Thoreau,” American Literature Association Annual Conference, Boston, Mass., May 2019

“Born Free and Everywhere in Chains: Moral Freedom and the Social Contract in Frederick Douglass’s Autobiographical Project,” Frederick Douglass across and against Times, Places, and Disciplines, Paris, France, October 2018

“‘An Infinite Variety of Fragments’: Democracy, Liberalism, and Moral Value in Robert Montgomery Bird’s *Sheppard Lee*,” American Literature Association Annual Conference, Boston, Mass., May 2017

“‘Living in Other Lives’: Surveillance and Privacy Amidst Hawthorne’s Knot of Dreamers,” American Literature Association Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., May 2014

“‘The American Practice of Democracy’: W.D. Howells’s Enlightenment Conception of Social Class in *Annie Kilburn*,” American Literature Association Annual Conference, Boston, Mass., May 2013

Other Conference Participation

Panel Organized, “Democracy and Liberalism in U.S. Literature and Politics,” co-organized with Matthew Scully, Tufts University, American Literature Association, Boston, Mass., May 2017

Moderator, “The Territory of a People: Questioning Community,” Boston College Philosophy Graduate Conference, March 2017

Discussant, English Graduate Colloquium, “Negotiating Domesticity,” Fall 2014, Boston College

Campus and Departmental Talks

- “Democracy and Disagreement in the Nineteenth-Century American Novel,” SUNY Plattsburgh’s Writers and Their Craft Series, 15 April 2021
- “‘The Sense of Liberty’: Democracy, Consensus, and Liberal Sentimentality in Harriet Beecher Stowe’s Political Fiction,” Boston College, Clough Center, Sept 2017
- “‘Government and Manners’: Federalism, Individualism, and the Gothic in *The Federalist* and Charles Brockden Brown’s *Ormond*,” Boston College, Clough Center, Nov 2017
- “On Liberty and Union: The Moral Imagination of Daniel Webster,” Boston College, Clough Center, Sept 2015

Media

- “North Country Scholar Uses American Literature to Understand Political Division” (radio interview), *North Country Public Radio*, WXLU Plattsburgh, 3 May 2021

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

State University of New York at Plattsburgh

- “American Literature and Social Unrest” (Topics in Literary Expression) (Fall 2021)
- “American Literature to the Civil War” (Spring 2021 and 2022)
- “American Literature - Civil War to World War I” (Fall 2020 and 2021)
- “English Romantic Poetry” (Spring 2022)
- “The Pleasures of the Text: Literary Interpretation: (Fall 2020 and 2021, Spring 2021 and 2022)
- “Visions of America” (Spring 2021)

Boston College

- “Slavery, Politics, and American Literature” (Graduate Seminar, Spring 2020)
- “Introduction to American Studies” (Spring 2020)
- “Literature and Politics from *Julius Caesar* to *Game of Thrones*” (Spring 2019, Fall 2019)
- “American Literary History II” (Fall 2019)
- “The Courage to Know” (Fall 2018, Spring 2019)
- “Studies in Narrative” (Spring 2016)
- “19th-Century American Literature and the National Imagination” (Fall 2015)
- “Literature Core: Politics and/vs. Literature” (Spring 2015)
- “First-Year Writing Seminar” (Fall 2014)
- Teaching Assistant, “Boston: History, Literature, and Culture I” (Fall 2013), with Professors Paul Lewis and Owen Stanwood, Boston College.

University of Massachusetts Boston

- “Experiencing Boston” (Fall 2018-Spring 2019)
- “Composition” (Fall 2018)

SERVICE

Search Committee, Dean of Arts and Sciences, SUNY Plattsburgh, Fall 2021
Recruitment and Retention Committee, SUNY Plattsburgh, 2021-
Writing Arts Committee, SUNY Plattsburgh, 2021-
Literature Committee, SUNY Plattsburgh, 2020-
Administrative Coordinator, Teaching-about-Boston Area Colloquium, 2018-2019
Graduate Student Coordinator, Clough Center for the Study of Constitutional Democracy, 2017-
2018
Search Committee (Graduate Lead), African American Literature and Culture, tenure-track
position, Boston College, Spring 2017
Search Committee, English (Journalism specialist), tenure-track position, Boston College, Fall
2016
Co-Director, English Graduate Conference, Boston College, April 2017
Student Representative, Graduate School Academic Integrity Committee, Boston College, 2015-
16 Academic Year
Search Committee, Victorianist, tenure-track position, Boston College, Spring 2015
Co-Assistant Director, English Graduate Conference, "Literary Exteriors," Spring 2015, Boston
College
Submissions Committee, Graduate Colloquium, "Fictions of the Popular," Spring 2014 Boston
College.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Actuarial Student/Health Actuary, Aetna, 2003–2008
Health Actuary, Cigna, 2008–2010

LANGUAGES

Reading proficiency: Spanish (by exam, 2013), French (by exam, 2015)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

MLA; Society of Early Americanists; C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists;
The James Fenimore Cooper Society