

## SCOTT M. REZNICK

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### EDUCATION

Ph.D., 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, 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; African American Literature; Political and Moral Philosophy; Liberalism; Intellectual History

### BOOKS

*The Vision of Principles: Political Liberalism and the Rise of the American Literary Romantic Tradition*, under contract with Oxford University Press.

### 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 Calm Full Fraught’: The Poetics of Gesture and the Grounds of Democracy in Herman Melville’s Postbellum Work” (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  
"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

- “Major Authors and Their Craft: Nathaniel Hawthorne” (Spring 2023)
- “American Literature and Social Unrest” (Topics in Literary Expression) (Fall 2021)
- “American Literature to the Civil War” (Spring 2021, 2022, 2023)
- “American Literature - Civil War to World War I” (Fall 2020, 2021, 2023)
- “English Romantic Poetry” (Spring 2022)
- “The Pleasures of the Text: Literary Interpretation: (Fall 2020, 2021, 2022; Spring 2021, 2022, 2023)
- “Visions of America” (Spring 2021, Fall 2022)

### 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)
- “19<sup>th</sup>-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 (Chair), 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.

## **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