

**William Deresiewicz**  
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### **Professional Employment**

Associate Professor of English Language and Literature, Yale University, 2004-present;  
Assistant Professor, 1998-2004.

### **Education**

Ph.D., English Literature, Columbia University (with distinction), 1998;  
M.Phil., English Literature, Columbia University (orals passed with distinction), 1993;  
M.A., English Literature, Columbia University, 1990;  
M.S., Journalism, Columbia University (with honors), 1987;  
B.A., Columbia University (cum laude), major: biology-psychology, 1985.

### **Books**

*Friendship: A Cultural History from Jane Austen to Jennifer Aniston*, in preparation; publication interest solicited by Harvard UP and U California P.  
*Jane Austen and the Romantic Poets* (New York: Columbia UP, 2004).  
Reviewed in *The New York Review of Books*, *TLS*, and elsewhere.

### **Articles and Reviews**

"Thomas Hardy and the Culture of Friendship," invited submission forthcoming in *Wordsworth Circle* 37 (Winter 2006);  
"Politics and the Novel in *South of Nowhere* and *The Inquisitors' Manual*," invited submission forthcoming in *Portuguese Literary & Cultural Studies* 12 (Winter 2006);  
"Conrad's Impasse: *The Nigger of the 'Narcissus'* and the Invention of Marlow," invited submission forthcoming in *Conradiana* 38 (Fall 2006);  
"Conrad's *Lord Jim* and the Transformation of Community," *Raritan* 20 (Fall 2000);  
"Heroism and Humanity in the Case of Lydgate," *SEL* 38 (Autumn 1998);  
"Community and Cognition in *Pride and Prejudice*," *ELH* 64 (Summer 1997). Cited in the Norton Critical edition bibliography.

Review of Paul B. Armstrong, *Play and the Politics of Reading: The Social Uses of Modernist Form*, forthcoming in *Conradiana* 39 (2007);

Review of Michael Greaney, *Conrad, Language, and Narrative*, forthcoming in *Conradiana* 38 (Winter 2006).

### **Dissertation**

*The Novel of Community from Austen to Modernism*, Columbia University, 1998.  
*Pride and Prejudice, Middlemarch, The Nigger of the "Narcissus," Lord Jim.*

## Book and Arts Criticism and Other Public Writing

### Affiliations

Member, PEN American Center (invited membership).

### Essays

Essay on images of academics in popular culture, forthcoming in *American Scholar*, Spring 2007;

"The Dispossessed" (on the invisibility of the American working class), *American Scholar*, Winter 2006;

"The Salome Factor: How the Sexualization of Contemporary Choreography Ended

a Golden Age," *American Scholar*, Spring 2005;

"You Talkin' to Me?" (on English), *New York Times Book Review*, Jan. 9, 2005;

"Letter from India," *Yale Review* 92 (April 2004).

### Book criticism

#### *The Nation*:

Review of Michael Chabon, *The Yiddish Policeman's Union*, forthcoming Winter 2007;

Review of Richard Powers, *The Echo Maker*, forthcoming October 2006;

Review of Franco Moretti ed., *The Novel*: vol. 1, *History, Geography and Culture*, and vol. 2, *Forms and Themes*, forthcoming September 2006;

"Dead Man" (Philip Roth, *Everyman*), May 29, 2006;

"On Everything" (Zadie Smith, *On Beauty*), Oct. 3, 2005;

"It's a Man's, Man's World" (Cormac McCarthy, *No Country for Old Men*), Sept. 12, 2005;

"The Literary World System" (Pascale Casanova, *The World Republic of Letters*), Jan. 3, 2005;

"The Business of Theory" (Terry Eagleton, *After Theory and Figures of Dissent*), Feb. 16, 2004.

#### *The New York Times Book Review*:

"King for 3,000 Years" (Robert Pinsky, *The Life of David*), Oct. 23, 2005;

"The Interpreter" (Gregory Rabassa, *If This Be Treason: Translation and its Dyscontents*), May 15, 2005;

"Sex and the Shtetl" (Isaac Bashevis Singer, *Collected Stories and Isaac Bashevis Singer, An Album* [ed. Ilan Stavans]), Sept. 12, 2004;

"To Tell the Truth" (C.K. Williams, *The Singing*), Feb. 15, 2004;

"Waking Each Other Up" (Christopher Benfey, *The Great Wave: Gilded Age Misfits, Japanese Eccentrics, and the Opening of Old Japan*), July 20, 2003;

"The Tyranny of the Past" (António Lobo Antunes, *The Inquisitors' Manual*), March 2, 2003;

"Third-Person Singular" (J.M. Coetzee, *Youth*), July 7, 2002;

"Seeing India, Business Class" (Amit Chaudhuri, *Real Time*), April 21, 2002;

"The Radical Imagination" (Susan Sontag, *Where the Stress Falls*), Nov. 4, 2001;

"First Thought, Best Thought" (Allen Ginsberg, *Spontaneous Mind: Selected Interviews, 1958-1996*), April 8, 2001;  
"Great Depression" (Tibor Fischer, *I Like Being Killed*), Oct. 20, 2000;  
"Among the Bad Boys" (Thom Gunn, *Boss Cupid*), Aug. 6, 2000;  
"His Cigar is Just a Cigar" (Fred Kaplan, *Gore Vidal: A Biography*), Nov. 14, 1999;  
"Performance Art" (Richard Poirier, *Trying it Out in America*), Aug. 8, 1999;  
"Dancing with Madness" (*The Diaries of Vaslav Nijinsky*), Feb. 28, 1999.

Other publications:

"No Longer Here" (Julio Llamazares, *The Yellow Rain*), *London Review of Books*, Sept. 25, 2003;  
Review of Bill T. Jones, *Last Night on Earth*, *DanceView*, Winter 1996.

Dance Criticism

New York Dance Correspondent, *The Financial Times* of London, 1996-98 (15 reviews published);  
Contributing writer, *Dance Magazine*, 1987-97 (35 reviews published); New York City Critic, 1990-96; anthologized in 70<sup>th</sup>-anniversary issue, June 1997;  
Contributing dance critic, *The Village Voice*, 1993-95 (5 reviews published);  
Contributing writer, *DanceView*, 1993-96 (6 review-essays published);  
Contributing writer, *Dance Ink*, 1993 (1 essay published);  
Contributor, *World Book Encyclopedia* ("Dance"), 1998.

Architecture Criticism

Co-editor, *Perspecta*, the Yale Architecture Journal, vol. 29 (1998).

**Conference Papers and Colloquium Talks**

"Jude and Sue and Harry and Sally: Thomas Hardy and the Dilemma of Intersex Friendship," PAMLA Convention, November 2006;  
"Friendship Between the Sexes in Hardy and Others," RMMLA Convention, October 2006;  
"*Persuasion*: Jane Austen's Waterloo," Bryn Mawr College, February 2004;  
"Kipling's Museum and Forster's Caves: Representing Indian History in Fiction of the Raj," invited lecture for *Traces of India*, Yale Center for British Art, December 2003;  
"Politics and the Novel in *South of Nowhere* and *The Inquisitors' Manual*," invited lecture at Facts and Fictions of Antonio Lobo Antunes, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, October 2003;  
"*Persuasion*: Jane Austen's History of the Present," Hystorical Fictions: Women, History and Authorship, University of Wales, Swansea, August 2003;  
"Jane Austen's *Emma* and the Invention of Modern Friendship," College English Association National Conference, April 2003;  
"Jane Austen's Major Phase and the Influence of Romanticism," Hildegard Festival of Women in the Arts, California State University, Stanislaus, March 2003;  
"Jane Austen's Major Phase: the Influence of Wordsworth," 18th- and 19th-Century Colloquium, Yale University, January 2003;

"Mansfield Abbey: Wordsworthian Memory and Austenian Desire," International Conference on Romanticism, October 2002;  
"Conrad's Impasse: Two Communities and Three Pronouns in *The Nigger of the 'Narcissus'*," Joseph Conrad Society (U.K.) International Conference, July 2000;  
"The Community in *Middlemarch*," Victorian Studies Conference, New York University, February 1996;  
"A Haze of Obscurity: Melville's South Seas Lecture," Columbus Circle Colloquium, Columbia University, December 1991.

### **Awards and Fellowships**

Departmental nominee, Heyman Prize for best book by a junior faculty member in the humanities, Yale College, 2006;  
Senior Faculty Fellowship, Yale University, 2004-05;  
Frederick W. Hilles Publication Fund Grant, Yale University, 2004;  
Morse Fellowship, Yale University, 2001-02;  
Nominee, Presidential Teaching Award, Columbia University 1997;  
Peter D. Shamonsey Fellowship, Columbia University, 1992-93;  
Teaching Fellowship, Columbia University, 1991-94;  
President's Fellowship, Columbia University, 1990-95.

### **Teaching Experience**

#### Areas and interests

19th-Century British literature  
Modern British literature  
Contemporary South Asian literature  
European epic and dramatic traditions  
Non-fiction writing

#### Courses taught

##### *19<sup>th</sup>-Century British literature*

Jane Austen (junior seminar), Yale, Spring 1999.

##### *Modern British literature*

British Fiction, 1890-1915 (graduate seminar), Yale, Fall 2003 and 2006;

British Fiction in the Age of Conrad (junior seminar), Yale, Fall 1999 and Spring 2003;

Modern British Novel (lecture), Yale, Fall 2000, 2002, and 2006.

##### *Broader courses in British or Anglo-American literature*

The Literature of Friendship (junior seminar), Yale, Fall 2005 (Austen, Hardy, Forster, Woolf, Atwood, Cunningham, Lethem, and several films);

Major English Poets (intro seminar), Yale, Spring 2006 (Milton, Pope, Wordsworth, Yeats, Eliot);

British Literature Survey (core course, adult ed. division), Columbia, Fall

1993.

##### *Contemporary South Asian literature*

Contemporary South Asian Fiction (junior seminar), Yale, Spring 2004 and Fall 2005.

##### *European epic and dramatic traditions*

The European Literary Tradition (intro seminar), Yale, 1998-2001 and Spring

2003 and 2007;  
Literature Humanities (core course), Columbia, 1996-98.  
*Composition and non-fiction writing*  
Daily Themes (advanced prose writing), Yale, Spring 2004, 2006, and 2007;  
Modern Prose: Advanced Writing (advanced prose writing), Yale, Fall 1998;  
College Composition II (composition/intro literary study, adult ed. division),  
Columbia, Spring 1994;  
Logic and Rhetoric (composition), Columbia, 1991-93;  
Dance Criticism, guest teacher, Barnard College, April 1992.  
*Independent studies and senior essays*  
Independent study on literary journalism, Spring 2001;  
Independent study on arts criticism, Spring 2007;  
11 senior essays: George Eliot, Hardy, Conrad, Ford, Joyce, Woolf,  
Mulk Raj Anand, Beckett, Naipaul, Bellow, Vonnegut, Roth, Arundhati  
Roy, gangster films.

### **Pedagogical Workshops and Talks**

Bass Writing Program Workshop for graduate Teaching Fellows in Writing-Intensive  
lecture sections, 1999-2001 and 2002-04;  
Bass Writing Program Annual Spring Meeting for teachers of introductory writing  
courses, 2000-01 and 2003-04;  
"How to Write for a General Audience," McDougal Graduate Center Publishing Day,  
April 2006;  
"Finding Yourself in Prose: How Not to Write Like a (Typical) Academic,"  
McDougal  
Graduate Center Writing Week, November 2002;  
"Class Is Short and Novels are Long," departmental forum on teaching the novel,  
October 1999;  
"By Indirections Finding Directions Out: The Class Discussion in Intro Lit Courses,"  
Bass Writing Program Annual Spring Meeting, May 1999.

### **Service**

#### to the profession

Refereed articles for *Studies in the Novel*, *Conradiana*, and *Mosaic*;  
Refereed book proposal for Broadview Press.

#### to Yale University and Yale College

Freshman, sophomore, junior/senior, and first-year graduate student advisor,  
1999-present (62 advisees total);  
Co-director, Bass Writing Program, 1999-2001 and 2002-04;  
Yale College Committee on Expository Writing, 1999-2001, and 2002-04;  
Chair, Spring 2001;  
Ad hoc search committee, Director of Center for Writing Instruction, 2003-04;  
Ad hoc search committee, Saybrook Residential College Writing Tutor, 2006;  
University Committee for the Mitchell Scholarships, 2000-01;  
University Committee on Editorial Internships, 1999-2000 and 2002-03;  
South Asian Studies Council, 2003-07;  
Departmental Representative for Morse Residential College, Spring 2004;  
Advisory Board, Yale Graduate Writing Center, 2000-01 and 2003-04;

Advisory Board, *Palimpsest*, Yale Graduate Literary & Arts Magazine, 2002-06.  
to the Yale Department of English

Course director, English 129: the European Literary Tradition, Spring 2000 and 2000-01;

Committee on Junior Appointments, 2003-04;

Committee on Graduate Admissions, 2002-03 and 2005-06;

Committee on Aims and Procedures (elected), 2000-01 and 2005-06;

Committee on Undergraduate Studies, 2005-06;

Committee on Teaching Fellows, 2002-03;

Committee on Honors and Prizes, 1998-2001 and 2002-04;

Writing Committee, 1998-2001;

Ad hoc working group on the Writing Concentration, 2003-04;

Co-author, Faculty Guide, 2006;

Mentor, English 990: The Teaching of English, Fall 1998, 1999, and 2000;

Dissertation referee for dissertations in 19th-Century fiction and Modernism; oral examiner in the fields of the Novel and Modernism; committee member for dissertation chapter conferences and publication workshops; mock interviewer.

to the Columbia Department of English

Mentor, Office of Composition, 1992-93 and 1993-94;

Co-organizer, 19th-Century Dissertation Seminar, 1993-96.

## **References**

David Bromwich, Yale University;

Karl Kroeber, Columbia University;

Linda Peterson, Yale University;

Ruth Yeazell, Yale University.