

CALEB SMITH

Assistant Professor of English and American Studies
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EDUCATION

Duke University, Durham, NC
PhD, English, 2005

University of California, Berkeley
BA, English, 1999, Highest Honors and Phi Beta Kappa

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Yale University
Assistant Professor of English, 2005-present
Courtesy Appointment in American Studies, 2007-present

Duke University
Instructor, English Department and University Writing Program, 2002-05

RESEARCH and PUBLICATIONS

Book

The Prison and the American Imagination. New Haven: Yale Univ. Press, 2009 (forthcoming).

Peer-Reviewed Articles

“Emerson and Incarceration.” *American Literature* 78:2 (June 2006) 207-234.
Honorable Mention from the Foerster Prize Committee of the Division on American Literature, presented at MLA, December 2006.

“Bodies Electric: Gender, Technology, and the Limits of the Human, Circa 1900.” *Mosaic: A Journal for the Interdisciplinary Study of Literature* 41:2 (June 2008) 111-126.

“Detention without Subjects: Prisons and the Poetics of Living Death.” In *Detention*, Special Issue of *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* (September 2008).

Publications (continued): Chapters, Essays, Interviews and Reviews

“American Undead: Teaching the Cultural Life of Civil Death.” In A. Sarat, M. Anderson, and C. Frank, eds. *Approaches to Teaching Literature and Law*. MLA Press (forthcoming).

“New Egos: The Vortex as Mediated Collectivity.” In Dominic Williams and Fabio Durao, eds. *Modernist Group Dynamics*. Cambridge Scholars Press (forthcoming).

“Williams’ ‘Pastoral (When I Was Younger).’” *Explicator* 64:3 (Spring 2006) 153-156.

“Solitude and Freedom.” *Postmodern Culture* 14:3 (July 2004).

“The Collaborator and the Multitude: An Interview with Michael Hardt” (with Enrico Minardi). *Minnesota Review* 61 (Spring 2004) 63-77.

“Reynolds Price.” *Bomb Magazine* 80 (Summer 2002) 60-67.

Review: *Forced Passages* by Dylan Rodriguez and *Fitting Sentences* by Jason Haslam. *American Literature* (March 2007).

Review: *Surrealism and the Exotic* by Louise Tythacott. *American Anthropologist* 107:1 (March 2005) 169-70.

Review: *Edison and the Electric Chair* by Mark Essig. *Bomb Magazine* 85 (Fall 2003) 18.

Selected Lectures and Conference Papers

* “The American Curse: Law, Language, and the ‘Confessions of Nat Turner’ (1831).” Plenary lecture, Dartmouth Summer Institute for American Studies, June 2008

* “The ‘Mongrel’ Atlantic: Herman Melville’s Afterlives.” Guest lecture, Nkrumah Centre, University of Ghana. November 2007.

* “New Egos: Modernism and the Media.” Invited lecture, Communication Theory Group, University of Louisiana, March 2007.

* “Detention without Subjects.” *Detention and/as U.S. Literature*. Panel sponsored by the Division on American Literature, MLA, Philadelphia, 2006.

* “Modernity Shocks.” *The Human in Posthuman Technology*. ACLA., Princeton, March 2006.

* “Vorticist Agency.” *Modernism’s Minds*, MLA, Philadelphia, 2004.

* “Arresting Motion: Race, Discipline, and the Voice of *Absalom, Absalom!*” *Faulkner and Material Culture: Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha 2004*. Univ. of Mississippi, July 2004.

* “Solitude, Reflection, and the Architecture of the Criminal Mind.” *Guilt: A Conference on Law and Humanities*. University of New England, Portland, ME, June 10, 2003.

* “The True Resemblance of His Mind’: The Appearance of Criminal Consciousness, 1770-1840.” *Seeing Things: Vision, Knowledge, Power*. Univ. of Western Ontario, May 2003.

* “Rufus’s Body, Baldwin’s Form, and the Burden of Memory in *Another Country*.” *James Baldwin at Millennium*, Howard University, Feb. 11, 2000.

HONORS and FELLOWSHIPS

Whitney Humanities Center Fellowship, Yale University, 2008-09
Morse Fellowship, one year research leave, Yale University, 2008-09
Institute Faculty, Summer Institute for American Studies, Dartmouth College, 2008
Hilles Publication Fund grant from the Whitney Humanities Center, 2008
Middlesworth Award for outstanding work using Duke University Special Collections, 2005
Ashbel Brice Dissertation Fellowship in American Literature, Duke University, 2003-04
Steven Horne Teaching Award, Duke English Department, 2003-04
James B. Duke Fellowship in the Graduate School, Duke University, 1999-2005
“Faces of the Multitude.” Essay prize winner in conjunction with Sebastiao Salgado’s
Migrations exhibit, Duke University Center for Documentary Studies, 2004
“The Fantasy of Orality in *Absalom, Absalom!*” Winner of W.W. Norton Scholar’s Prize, 1999
Departmental Citation as the outstanding graduate in the English major, UC Berkeley, 1999

TEACHING INTERESTS and EXPERIENCE

Areas of Specialization

American literature
Law and literature
African-American literature and the blues
Historicism, critical theory, and the critique of power

Assistant Professor, Yale University

English 437: William Faulkner
English 420: The Literature of the Middle Passage. Seminar including a ten-day visit to Ghana.
Co-taught with Prof. Caryl Philips, Fall 2007.
English 270: Early American Literature: Savages, Witches, Prisoners, Slaves, Spring 2007.
English 288: American Literature and the History of Punishment, Fall 2006.
English 285: American Literature in the Electric Age, Fall 2005.
English 127a and 127b: Introduction to American Literature, multiple sections, 2005-2008.

Instructor, Duke University

English 52: Representative American Writers, Spring 2004
English 90AS: Readings in Genre, Fall 2003
English 26S, “Suburbia,” Fall 2002
Writing 20: Writing Across the Disciplines, Spring 2002
English 63S: Introduction to Creative Writing, Summer 200

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS and SERVICE

Memberships

Modern Language Association, American Literature Division
American Studies Association
Modernist Studies Association
American Comparative Literature Association

Service

Manuscript review, *American Quarterly* (Journal of the American Studies Association), 2007
Book manuscript review, *Yale Studies in English* series, Yale University Press, 2007

Symposium organizer and respondent, *From the Plantation to the Prison: Incarceration and US Culture*. Whitney Humanities Center, Spring 2008.

Invited panelist, *Getting Your Paper Published as a Graduate Student in the Humanities*, McDougal Center, Yale University Graduate School, February 2008

Moderator, *The Future of Modernist Studies: A Discussion with Scholars and Editors*, 20th-Century Colloquium, Yale Univ., October 2007

Undergraduate Studies Committee, Yale English Dept., 2007-08

Aims and Procedures Committee (elected), Yale English Dept., 2006-07, '07-08

PTAI (Graduate Student Teaching) Committee, Yale American Studies Dept., 2007-08

Graduate Studies Committee, Yale English Dept., 2006-07

Twentieth Century Colloquium, Yale English Dept., 2006-07, '07-08

Freshman Advisor, Calhoun College, Yale Univ., 2007-08

Honors and Prizes Committee, Yale English Dept., 2005-06, '07-08

Director, Graduate Student Colloquium, Duke English Department, 2001-05

Related Professional Experience

* Editorial Internship, *Bomb Magazine*, New York City, summer 2001

* Reader, *The Paris Review*, New York City, summer 2001

LANGUAGES

Italian: advanced speaking, reading and writing knowledge. Graduated with highest honors, Università per Stranieri, Siena, Italy, Spring 1998.

French: reading and speaking knowledge. Completed five semesters, including upper-division reading and composition, UC Berkeley, 1995-97.

Spanish: basic reading and speaking knowledge. Private instruction, 2007-08.