

306 Clemens Hall
Department of English
University at Buffalo, SUNY
Buffalo, NY 14260
Email: wsolomon@buffalo.edu

William Daniel Solomon

Employment:

University at Buffalo, State University of New York

Core Faculty Member, Center for the Study of Psychoanalysis and Culture, 2015- present
Professor, Department of English, 2017-present
Associate Professor, Department of English, 2007-2017

Gettysburg College

Associate Professor, Department of English, 2004-2007
Assistant Professor, Department of English, 2002-2004

Stanford University

Assistant Professor, Modern Thought and Literature Program, 1998-2002
Assistant Professor, Department of English Department, 1993-2002
Assistant Professor, American Studies Program, 1993-2002

Higher Education:

State University of New York, Stony Brook

Ph.D. Department of English, September 1993. Dissertation Director: Michael Sprinker
University of California at Irvine, Junior Specialist, 1991-1992

University of Washington

B.A. cum laude in English, December 1986

Awards and Honors:

Excellence in Graduate Mentoring, 2019-2020
SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, SUNY-Buffalo, 2014
Annenberg Fellow, Stanford University, 1996-98
President's Dissertation Award, SUNY-Stony Brook, 1993

Publications:

Books:

Slapstick Modernism: Chaplin to Kerouac to Iggy Pop (University of Illinois Press, June 2016).
Paperback Edition, August 2018.

Literature, Amusement and Technology in the Great Depression (Cambridge University Press, 2002). Paperback Edition, 2009.

Edited Collections:

The Cambridge Companion to American Literature of the 1930s (Cambridge University Press, September, 2018)

Articles:

“Ethics and Estrangement in Shklovsky and Chaplin.” *Interdisciplinary Literary Studies: A Journal of Criticism and Theory* 22: 4 (2020): 454-475.

“Crime, Comedy, and Late Modernism.” *Studies in American Humor* 5: 2 (2019): 309-329.

“Cut-Ups: Jacobs, Chytilova, and the Politics of Slapstick Modernism” *Textual Practice* 32:10 (2018): 1701-1719.

“On Shock Therapy: Modernist Aesthetics and Underground Film.” *Screen Bodies* 2: 1 (2017): 74-93.

“On Comic Modernism: Impersonality in Eliot and Keaton.” *Mosaic: A Journal for the Interdisciplinary Study of Literature* 50: 2 (2017): 205-222.

“The Rhetoric of the Freak Show in Eudora Welty’s *A Curtain of Green*.” *Mississippi Quarterly*. 68: 1-2 (Winter-Spring 2015): 167-187.

“The Schizoid Ethics of American Black Humor: Southern, Farina, and Pynchon. *Critique; Studies in Contemporary Fiction* 54:3 (2013): 254-275.

“The Ethics and Aesthetics of Formalism: Shklovsky and Agee.” *Literature, Interpretation, and Theory*. 23: 1 (2012): 89-112.

“The Novel in Distress.” *Novel: A Forum on Fiction* 43: 1 (Spring 2010): 124-131.

“Slapstick Modernism: Charley Bowers and Industrial Modernity.” *Modernist Cultures* 2:2 (e-journal; Winter 2006): 170-188.

“Second Technologies: American Modernism and Silent Comedy.” *Interdisciplinary Studies: A Journal of Criticism and Theory* (Spring 2005): 66-91.

“Secret Integrations: Black Humor and the Critique of Whiteness” *Modern Fiction Studies* 49: 3 (Fall 2003): 469-495.

“Wound Culture and James Agee.” *Arizona Quarterly* 58: 4 (Winter 2002): 81-105.
Reprinted in *Twentieth Century Literature Criticism Volume 180*, ed. Tom Schoenberg (Fall 2006).

“Burlesque Dreams: American Amusement, Autobiography, and Henry Miller” *Style* 35:4 (Winter 2001): 681-702.

“Disinterring Edward Dahlberg.” *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* 43:4 (Winter 2001): 389-417. Reprinted in *Twentieth Century Literature Criticism* 208 (September 2008).

“Politics and Rhetoric in the Novel in the 1930s.” *American Literature* 68:4 (December 1996): 799-818.

Book Chapters:

“Fitzgerald in Hollywood” (with Chip Rhodes). *The Cambridge Companion to F. Scott Fitzgerald*. Cambridge University Press.

“Fiction: The 1960s to the 1980s.” *American Literary Scholarship*. Duke University Press. (forthcoming September 2021)

“A Walk on the Weill Side: Musical Theatre and Rock in the 1960s.” *Sounds: Avant-Garde, Modernism, and Fascism* (SUNY Press). Eds. Laura Chiesa and David Castillo. (2021)

“Allegories of Proletarian Literature: Boyden, Bontemps, and Halper in the Depression Era.” *Routledge Literature and Class Companion* (forthcoming June 2021).

“Fiction: The 1960s to the 1980s.” *American Literary Scholarship* 2018. Duke University Press. (September 2020). 267-295.

“Politics, Rhetoric, and Death in Katherine Anne Porter.” *Resistance and Reform: Modernist Women and American Social Engagement*. Ed. Jody Cardinal. Lexington Press. (May 2019), 199-220.

“Hollywood and Depression-Era American Fiction.” Ed. Ichiro Takayoshi. *American Literature in Transition: The 1930s*. Cambridge University Press. (November 2018), 382-402.

“Fiction and the Culture Industry” (with Jennifer Haytock). Ed. William Solomon. *The Cambridge Companion to American Literature of the 1930s*. Cambridge University Press. (September, 2018), 199-217.

“Performance and Politics.” Ed. William Solomon. *The Cambridge Companion to American Literature of the 1930s*. (September, 2018), 218-233.

“Cummings’ Erotic Humor.” *Humor in 20th Century American Poetry*. Ed. Rachel Trousdale. Bloomsbury Press, 2017, 39-58.

“Fascism and Fragmentation in Nathanael West.” *Short Story Criticism Volume 116* (2008). Reprint of chapter from *Literature, Amusement, and Technology in the Great Depression*.

Book Manuscript In Progress

“Black Humor and the Unmaking of the Counterculture: Race, Madness, and American Literature in the 1960s”

Book Reviews and Encyclopedia Entries:

Donal Harris, *On Company Time: American Modernism in the Big Magazines* (Columbia 2016) and Bartholomew Brinkman, *Poetic Modernism: In the Culture of Mass Print* (Johns Hopkins 2017). *American Literature* 92: 1 (March 2020): 166-169.

Adam Frank, *Transferential Poetics, From Poe to Warhol* (Fordham UP). *The ALH Online Review* (October 2016). Series VIII.

Jonathan Greenberg. *Modernism, Satire, and the Novel* (Cambridge UP). *James Joyce Literary Supplement* 28: 1 (Spring 2014): 18-19.

Edward Dahlberg. *Encyclopedia of Twentieth Century American Fiction*. (Wiley-Blackwell, 2011), 508.

“Jameson’s Enabling Shadow.” *Novel: A Forum on Fiction* 41 2/3 (Spring Summer 2008): 382-387. Review of Nicholas Brown. *Utopian Generations: The Political Horizon of Twentieth-Century Literature* (Princeton: Princeton UP, 2005); and Juan Suarez, *Pop Modernism: Noise the Reinvention of the Everyday* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2007).

Intellectuals: Politics, Aesthetics and Academics, ed. Bruce Robbins (University of Minnesota Press, 1990). *Minnesota Review* (Fall 1991).

Presentations and Lectures:

Conference Presentations and Invited Lectures:

“Sounds: Avant-Garde, Modernism, and Fascism:” A One-Day Symposium. University at Buffalo. 2019.

“Politics, Poetics, and Race in the 1930s.” American Literature Association. San Francisco, CA. 2018 (Panel Organizer and Chair)

“The Economics and Ethics of Crime Fiction.” American Literature Association. Boston, MA. 2017

“Cumings’ Erotic Humor.” Modern Language Association Convention. Vancouver, BC. 2015

“Some Questions Concerning Second Technology: Literary Modernism, Silent Comedy, and Mimetic Play.” *At Play in the Space Between: Literature and Culture, 1914-1945*. DePaul University, June 20-22, 2013

“Towards a Slapstick Modernism: Shklovsky, Eliot, and Chaplin.” T.S. Eliot’s Plays: Poetic Drama, Performance, Performativity. 24th Annual American Literature Association. Boston, MA May 23-26, 2013

“Secret Origins: Postmodernism and the Figure of the Superhero.” Comics and Literary History, Modern and Postmodern. 23rd Annual American Literature Association. San Francisco, CA May 24-27, 2012

“William Burroughs as Slapstick Modernist.” The Beats and Modernism. Structures of Innovation: MSA 13. Buffalo, New York Oct-6-9 2011

“Inhabiting Modernity: From Prufrock to Punk Rock.” Modernity Unbound. Inaugural Literatures of Modernity Symposium. Ryerson University, March 29, 2010

“The Origins of Slapstick Modernism.” New Faculty Seminar Series. Humanities Institute, University at Buffalo, April 25, 2008

“The Novel in Distress.” *Theories of the Novel Now*. Providence, Rhode Island, Brown University, November 9-10, 2007

“Slapstick Modernism and the Beats.” *Humor and Laughter in Literature and Film* Binghamton University (State University of New York), March 23-24, 2007

“Modernist Slapstick: Charley Bowers and Urban Modernity.” UPenn Modernist Studies Group, Feb. 22, 2007

“Psychotechnologies: Eliot, Munsterberg, and Keaton.” *Material Modernisms*. University of British Columbia, Vancouver, July 26-28 2001

“James Agee’s Documentary Grotesque.” *Real Culture, Reproduction(s), and Rip-Offs*, 8th Annual Cultural Studies Symposium. Manhattan, Kansas March 11-3, 1999

“Narratives of Resistance: Depression-era Fictions.” The California Symposium on American Literature. Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, March 13-16, 1997.

“American Modernism and the Small-Press Phenomenon in Post-War Paris.” The California Symposium on American Literature. Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, February 1-4, 1996.

Chair and Respondent. “Identities in Migration.” American Studies Association Annual Conference: Global Migration, American Cultures, and the State, Kansas City, MO, October 31–November 3, 1996

“Poetics and Politics in Melville’s *The Confidence Man*.” Theory and American Literature. American Literature Association Annual Conference. Baltimore, MD, May 28, 1995.

“Politics and Rhetoric in Dos Passos and Dahlberg.” Between the Acts: British and American Literature in the 1920s and 1930s. A Symposium of Work-in-Progress, Department of English. Stanford University, May 12, 1995.

Department Appointments and Professional Service

Departmental and University:

University at Buffalo (SUNY)

- 2020-2021 Director MA Program
Graduate Review Committee, member
Faculty, Tenure, Promotions, and Privileges (UB)
Academic Policies and Grading Committee (UB)
- 2019-2020 Director MA Program
Graduate Review Committee, member
Faculty, Tenure, Promotions, and Privileges (UB)
Academic Policies and Grading Committee (UB)
- 2018-2019 Director MA Program
Graduate Review Committee, member
Faculty, Tenure, Promotions, and Privileges (UB)
- 2017-2018 Director, MA Program
Graduate Review Committee, member
Opler-Doubrava Selection Committee
Ad Hoc Writing Program Review Committee
Faculty, Tenure, Promotions, and Privileges (UB)
HI Graduate Fellowship Selection Committee (English)
- 2016-2017 Department Executive Committee
Chair, hiring committee (spousal appointment)
Director, MA Program
Faculty Tenure, Promotions, and Privileges (UB)
Internal Evaluation, Promotion to Full Professor Case
- 2015-2016: Department Executive Committee
Graduate Excellence in Teaching Selection Committee (UB)
- 2014-2015: Graduate Fellowship Selection Committee
Graduate Excellence in Teaching Selection Committee (UB)
- 2013-2014: Undergraduate Studies Committee
Chair, African American Literature Search Committee (double search)
- 2010-2011: Graduate Admissions Committee
English Department Website Committee
Undergraduate Studies Committee
- 2009-2010: Associate Chair
- 2008-2009: Associate Chair
Internal Evaluator, Assistant Professor Contract Renewal
Internal Evaluator, Assistant Professor Contract Renewal
Internal Evaluator, Tenure Case
Victorian Search Committee

2007-2008: Poetics Search Committee
Poetics Search Reading Committee
Department Executive Committee
Graduate Admissions Committee

Additional Departmental Activities:

--riverrun Global Film Series, faculty liaison (2015-2017)
--undergraduate writing contest, judge
--Juxtapositions Lecture Series, coordinator (2008-2010)
--Department Newsletter, editor (2008-2010)

1993-1994: Graduate Admissions Committee

Other Professional Activity:

Editorial Board Member, *Critique: Studies in Contemporary Fiction*, 2019-

Reader, *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Literature*

Book MS. reader for the University of Iowa Press, Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Routledge Press

Article reader for *PMLA; Literature, Interpretation, and Theory; Modernism/modernity; Neohelicon; J19; Studies in American Humor; Southern Quarterly; American Literary History; Critique*

Tenure Review, Hunter College, University of Alabama, University of California, Davis

Doctoral Dissertation Committees

University at Buffalo (SUNY)

Completed (37):

Kinga Winnicki. "Imagined Cityscapes: New Perspectives on Future Urbanization in Contemporary SF. (2021)

Charles Pawluk. "Laughing Upward: Comic Violence in Eighteenth-Century British Literature." (2020)

Andrew Dorkin. "'The Mind Sneezing': Modernist Poetry and the Para-Mediation of Humor." (2020)

*Hiroshi Aiki. "Spectatorship and Modernity in American Literature." (2020)

*Martin Goffeney. "In Case of Emergency: Science Fiction and Survival in the Age of Climate Change." (2020)

Jake Nabsny. "Two-Dimensional Eugenics: Subjectivity, Technology and the Body in the Twentieth Century." (2019)

Todd Miller. "Heteronomies of the Senses: The Empirical in Late American Modernism." (2019)

*Hannah Ryan. "A Paradise Within." Spiritual Responses to Four Novels of the Global South." (2019)

Hye Jin Lee. (2019)

Kellie Sharp: "Experimental Intimacies: 20th and 21st Century Women's Writing and Feminist Politics of Bodily (Ex)change." (2019)

Sun Jae Jun. "Crossing Borders and Shadow Tag in William Faulkner and Louise Erdrich." (2019)

Min Young Kim. "Globalizing Emerson: The Emersonian Event in Literature, Philosophy, and Translation." (2019)

Seth Arico. "Feeling American Literature, Reading American Literature: Object Biopolitics in the Traumatized Nation-State" (2018) (Transnational Studies)

Shayani Bhattacharya. "Memory in Absentia: The (Im)possibility of Representing Memory in Post-1945 Anglophone Fiction" (2017)

*Jesse Miller. "The Birth of the Literary Clinic: Modernism, Bibliotherapy, and the Aesthetics of Health, 1916-1944." (2017)

Kristina Darling. "'An Imagist Turned Philosopher': Formal Innovation, Conscious Experience, and the Self in Modernist Women's Poetry." (2016)

*Nicholas Mugavero. "Romantic Topographies: Conceptual Writing and the Platform in Post-Digital Poetic Production." (2016)

Brad Romans. "Manufacturing Utopia: American Labor, Industry, and Invention, 1880-1935." (2016)

Tina Zigon. "Language out of Bounds. Gender, Language, and Violence in kari edwards' *A Day in the Live of P.* and Joan of Arc Project." (2016)

Jung Suk Wang. "American Innocence. Maintaining the Myth and Reproducing the Other in Contemporary American Literature." (2016)

Shosuke Kinugawa. "Mark Twain's Secret Writings." (2016)

Jana Schmidt. "A Basis in the Abyss: Aesthetics After the End of Community, 1945-1970" (comparative literature 2015)

Jung Min Kim. "Paradise Collapsed: Re-Imagining the American Past and Utopia of the Historical Romances of Hawthorne, Faulkner, and Morrison." (2015)

Sean Reynolds. "The Compulsion to Translate: Dead language and the post-translator in postwar America" (2014)

Justin Parks. "Extending the Document: American Poetry and the Cultural Politics of Depression Documentary" (2014)

Guy Witzel. "From Nostalgia to Catastrophe: Genre, Retro-Culture, and the British and American Fictions of Neoliberalism" (2014)

Maria Almanza. "Auxiliary Organs: Modernity and the Prosthetic Relation" (2014)

*Jeremiah Crotser. "Voice(s) of the People: The Aesthetics and Politics of Voice in American Literature of the 1930s." (2014)

Courtney Pfahl. "Start Reading Here: Interactivity and Textual Power in Postmodern Literature" (2014)

*Josh Lam. "Creatures of Habit: Perception, Automation, and American Modernism." (2013)

Kenneth James. "Literature and Logic: The Sentence After Boole" (2013)

Jason Marley. "Global Space, Local Place: Form and Transcultural Tension in the Late Modernist Novel, 1929-1947" (2013)

Steven Rusczycky. "Vulgar Genres: On Pornography, Sexuality, and Law in U.S. Literature After 1966 (2013)

Victoria Brockmeier. "Apostate, Sing This World Forth: Avant-Mythopetic Encounters" (2012)

Richard Garner. "Aesthetics, Slavery, and Sentiment: The Discourses and Practices of Mastery in the American Renaissance" (2012)

Matthew Garite. "Green Futures: A Cultural History of Ecotopia From the Cold War to the Present" (2012)

Moriah Hampton. "Fallen Beauty: Aesthetics and Ethics in Decadent Literature" (comparative literature 2011).

*directed

In Progress (9):

*Jake Sanders

Luke Heister

Matt Connolly

Nate Dickson

Amy Greer
Yuji Otani
Callie Ingram
Jacob Sloan
*Andrew Lindquist

*directing

Examination Committees (43):

2019-2020: Macy McDonald, Andrew Lundquist

2018-2019: Jacob Sloan, Hyoseol Ha, Callie Ingram

2017-2018: Jake Sanders, Charles Pawluk, Kinga Winnicki,
Yuji Otani, Nicole Lowman

2016-2017: Luke Heister

2015-2016: Hannah Ryan

2014-2015: Jennifer Dickson, Nick Lindsey, Martin Goffeney, Erin Grogan

2013-2014: Dae Jung, Min Young Kim, Hiroshi Aiki, Kristina Darling, Juliette Arico

2012: 2013: Ryuichiro Miyanaga, Shosuke Kinugawa, Shayani Bhattacharya, Todd Miller

2011-2012: Tina Zigon, Brad Romans, Jana Schmidt, Jesse Miller

2010-2011: Maria Almanza, Hye Jin Lee, Jason Marley

2009-2010: Steven Ruszczycky, Sara Eddleman, Justin Parks, Courtney Pfahl

2008-2009: Deborah Goodman, Jungmin Kim, Josh Lam, Ayesha Malik

2007-2008: Victoria Brockmeier, Richard Garner, Jeremiah Crotser

Masters Theses Directed (14)

Justin Popp. "Then and There of Queer Theory, Coming Out Narratives and Societal Response (2020).

Aaron Borok. "Animating Without Organs: A Deleuzian Study of Computer Animation and Animated Computers in 1995" (2019).

Chris Hathaway. "Charles Olson and Jack Spicer: A Comparative Poetics of the Outside" (2018)

Wei Ting Hsu. "The Image of Henry Miller in Jack Kerouac's *On the Road*" (2017).

Robert Michienzi. "War and Nothingness in Cormac McCarthy's *Blood Meridian*" (2015)

Rachel McCabe. "Electroshock Therapy and Cold War Literature: Physiological and Narrative Therapies and Their Roles in Exploring Sanity." (2013)

Kevin Scott. "The Devil We Are Possessed By: Flannery O'Connor and Girardian Mimesis." (2012)

Ian Murray. "We the People do Not Know What Kind of World We Should Imagine": Archibald MacLeish and Democracy in the 1930s." (2012)

Lucas Nelson. "Cut the Word Lines": The Evolution of the Cut-Up Method as Revolutionary Weapon in William S. Burroughs's *Nova Trilogy*. (2012)

Sara Blakeley. "Flannery O'Connor and the Irony of Self-Creation." (2012)

Matthew Dunham. "Literary Theory and Pedagogical Praxis: De Man, Barthes, Jameson, and *Let Us Now Praise Famous Men*." (2011)

Christopher Meyers. "Cinema and Modernity in Faulkner's *Sound and the Fury*." (2010)

Kelly Heckinger. "A Wary Silence:" Definitions of Trauma and Negative Space in Jean Rhys's *Good Morning, Midnight*." (2009)

Nicole Zefitel. "Strange and Unfunny Jokes": Folly and Satire in the Works of James Joyce and Nathanael West." (2009)