

David Haven Blake

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Academic Employment

Professor of English, The College of New Jersey, July 2009 - present
Associate Professor of English, The College of New Jersey, July 2004 – June 2009
Assistant Professor of English, The College of New Jersey, August 1999-July 2004
Assistant Professor of English, U.S. Air Force Academy, August 1995-July 1999
English Teacher, Deerfield Academy, Deerfield, MA, 1985-1988

Education

1994 Ph.D. English and American Literature, Washington University in St. Louis
1989 M.A. English and American Literature, Washington University in St. Louis
1986 Bread Loaf School of English, Middlebury College
1985 B.A. in English and History (Honors), Colgate University

Scholarly Publications

A. Books

Liking Ike: Eisenhower, Advertising, and the Rise of Celebrity Politics
(Oxford University Press, 2016)

>Winner, 2017 PROSE award for Media & Cultural Studies,
Association of American Publishers

Walt Whitman and the Culture of American Celebrity (Yale University Press, 2006)

Walt Whitman, Where the Future Becomes Present, Co-editor with Michael Robertson,
(University of Iowa Press, 2008). Contributors: Benjamin Barber, Wai Chee
Dimock, Ed Folsom, Kirsten Silva Gruesz, David Lehman, James Longenbach,
Meredith L. McGill, Angela Miller, Kenneth M. Price, and Michael Warner.

B. Articles and Book Chapters

"Walt Whitman, In and Out of the American Renaissance," *Cambridge Companion to the Literature of the American Renaissance*, ed. Christopher Phillips (New York: Cambridge UP, 2018): 175-188.

- “Walt Whitman, Performance and Celebrity,” *Walt Whitman in Context*, ed. Edward Whitley and Joanna Levin, (New York: Cambridge UP, 2018): 117-126.
- “Among the English Worthies: Longfellow and the Campaign for Poets’ Corner,” *Critical Survey* (UK), Winter 2015: 82-104.
- “When Readers Become Fans: Nineteenth-Century American Poetry as a Fan Activity,” *American Studies*, Spring 2012: 99-122.
- “Whitman’s Ecclesiastes: The 1860 ‘Leaves of Grass’ Cluster,” *Huntington Library Quarterly*, December 2010: 613-627.
- “Los Angeles, 1960: John F. Kennedy and Whitman’s Ship of Democracy,” *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review*, 28 (2010), 60-64.
- “Reading Whitman, Growing Up Rock ‘n’ Roll,” *Virginia Quarterly Review*, Spring 2005: 260-273. Reprinted in *Democracy in the Poetry of Walt Whitman*, ed. Thomas Riggs, (Greenhaven Press, 2012)
- "Hollywood, Impersonation, and Presidential Celebrity in the 1990s" in *Hollywood’s White House: The American Presidency in Film and History*. Eds. Peter C. Rollins and John E. O’Connor. (Lexington: UP of Kentucky, 2003): 320-332.
- “‘The Man That Was Used Up’: Edgar Allan Poe and the Ends of Captivity” *Nineteenth-Century Literature*, December 2002: 323-349.
- “Campbell McGrath and the Spectacle Society,” *Michigan Quarterly Review*, Spring 2002: 249-272.
- “Public Dreams: Berryman, Confession, and the Culture of Celebrity,” *American Literary History*, Winter 2001: 716-736.
- “Exile and the Republic: Thomas McGrath and the Legacy of Jefferson’s America,” *Prospects: An Annual Journal of American Cultural Studies*, 1998: 23-38.
- “Richard Wilbur and the Poetry of World War II.” *War, Literature, and the Arts: An International Journal of the Humanities*, Spring/Summer 1998: 1-5.
- "Redeeming Captivity: The Negative Revolution of Blake's *Visions of the Daughters of Albion*," co-written with Elliott Gruner. *Symbiosis: A Journal of Anglo-American Literary Relations*, Spring 1997: 21-34.
- "'Posterity Must Judge': Private and Public Discourse in the *Adams-Jefferson Letters*," *Arizona Quarterly*, Winter 1995: 1-30. Reprinted in *Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism*, ed. Larry Trudeau (Gale Press, 2003).
- "The Politics of Commercial Language in Dryden's *Annus Mirabilis*," *Criticism: A Quarterly Journal of Literature and the Arts*, Summer 1992: 327-348.

Commentary and Creative Writing

- “Addicted to Fame: From the Greeks to Lady Gaga,” *Humanities: The Magazine of the National Endowment for the Humanities*, Fall 2017: 28-31.
- “Herman Melville’s April Fool, *The Confidence-Man*,” *The Huffington Post*, April 1, 2017.
- “The Carnival Campaign: How a 1968 Short Story Foresaw 2016,” *The Chronicle Review*, November 4, 2016
- “This Presidential Birthday Party Was Worth ‘Dozens of Speeches,’” *Time* magazine, online, October 12, 2016
- “Phyllis Schlafly and the Kingmakers,” *The Huffington Post*, September 11, 2016

- “The Not-So Glamorous Origins of American Celebrity Politics,” Oxford UP Blog, August 25, 2016
- Historians on Donald Trump (Facebook video), July 2016
- “The Broadway Song That Nominated a President,” Oxford UP Blog, June 2016
- “On Writing and Rearing,” *Papa, PhD: Essays on Fatherhood by Men in the Academy*, ed. Mary Ruth Marrotte, Paige M. Reynolds, and Ralph Savarese, (New Brunswick: Rutgers UP, 2010)
- “In the Father’s House: Honor and Identity in the Candidates’ Memoirs,” *The Chronicle Review*, September 19, 2008.
- “McCain and My Captive Cadets,” *The Huffington Post*, September 10, 2008.
- “Bronze, Granite, Grief,” *Secondary Communities*, ed. John Reardon (New York: Project Project, 2010)
- “A Prophetic Face in the Crowd,” *TomPaine.com*, November 1, 2007 – reproduced by over 100 websites, including History News Network (George Mason University), and Libertas (University of Birmingham, UK) as featured Weekly Analysis for November 19-26, 2007.
- “A Tell-Tale Heart,” *Epoch* (50:1), July 2001: 111-125.
- “11 Games for the End of the 20th Century,” *Fiction International* (31), Spring 1999: 71-73.

Selected Talks, Lectures, Book Events (*invited)

- “‘Pirates of the Sphere’: Geo-Politics and Environmental Violence in *Moby-Dick*,” International Herman Melville Conference, New York University, June 18, 2019.
- “Melville, Trump, and the Politics of Aggrievement,” American Literature Association Conference, San Francisco, CA, May 26, 2018.
- “The Classical Genealogy of Pop Culture Celebrity,” PCA-ACA Conference, San Diego, CA, April 15, 2017
- ”Homing the Eisenhowers: How Mad Men Sold Presidential Domesticity in the 1950s,” American Studies Association Conference, Denver, CO, November 17, 2016
- *”Liking Ike: Eisenhower, Advertising, and the Rise of Celebrity Politics,” National Museum of American History, The Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, October 25, 2016; Rutgers University, October 24, 2017; Colgate University, November 13, 2017.
- “Robert Coover and the Transformative Power of Spectacle,” American Political Science Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA, September 2, 2016
- *“Eisenhower, The Glamour Candidate.” Seminar Presentation, Department of American and Canadian Studies, University of Nottingham, England, July 7, 2014.
- *“Among the English Worthies: Longfellow and the Campaign for Poets’ Corner,” Keynote Address, Celebrity Encounters: Transatlantic Fame in Nineteenth-Century Britain and America, University of Portsmouth, England, July 4-5, 2014.
- ”Teaching *Moby-Dick* after 9/11,” International Herman Melville Society, George Washington University, Washington, DC, June 5, 2013.
- *”Walt Whitman: An American Icon,” Panel Discussion, Samuel L. Paley Library, Temple University, Philadelphia, April 18, 2013.
- *”Demagogues in Denim: Elia Kazan, Celebrity Politics, and *A Face in the Crowd* (1957)”, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, English Department, Washington University in St. Louis, March 29, 2013.

- *"Politics, Celebrity, and Mad Men in the Age of Eisenhower," Sterling Library, Yale University, March 26, 2013.
- *"Walt Whitman's New York," Panel Discussion, The Tenement Museum, New York, April 26, 2012.
- "Understanding Ike Day: From the Archives of Politics and Celebrity," On Archives! Wisconsin Center for Film and Theater Research, July 7, 2010.
- *"Obama, King, and Separation as our Political Sin," Obama's First One Hundred Days Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, New Jersey State Capitol, Trenton, January 17, 2009.
- *"Autobiography and the 2008 Presidential Campaign," The Lawrenceville School, October 23, 2008.
- "Dan Rice and the Rise of Political Celebrity," Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference, Miami, April 1-4, 2008
- "Fan Culture and 19th-Century American Poetry," American Studies Association, Philadelphia, October 11-14, 2007
- "Total Recall: Narrative and Legibility in Schwarzenegger's Gubernatorial Campaigns," Modern Language Association, Philadelphia, December 29, 2006
- *"Whitman, New York and the Rise of American Celebrity," Book Talk and Signing, South Street Seaport Museum (November 16, 2006); The Raconteur Bookstore (Metuchen, NJ), (May 12, 2007)
- *"Whitman, Publicity, and the Culture of American Celebrity," Hunter College-CUNY (October 16, 2007); Colgate University (February 6, 2007); SUNY-Albany (November 2, 2006)
- "Chromatic Tempests of Applause: What Walt Whitman Learned from Edwin Forrest," Edwin Forrest's New York: A Bicentennial Conference, College of Mount Saint Vincent, November 4, 2006
- *"Longfellow, Whitman, and the Character of Fame," The Longfellow Lecture, Maine Historical Society, Portland, October 26, 2006
- "Whitman and Celebrity," Celebrating Walt Whitman, Université de Paris VII, July 4, 2005

Works in Progress

Pegleg: The Prosthetic Arts of *Moby-Dick* – book manuscript

Book Reviews and Media Appearances

Liking Ike: National Memo (July 30, 2016), *Time* (October 13, 2016), *The American Conservative* (November 8, 2016), *Choice*, *Reviews in History* (May 18, 2017), C-SPAN Book TV/ Cities Tour (May 20, 2017), *VogelinView* (June 14, 2017), *American Historical Review* (October 3, 2017), *History: The Journal of the Historical Association* (October 27, 2017), *Journal of American History* (December 1, 2017), *Reviews in American History* (December 2017), *English Historical Review* (December 20, 2017), *Presidential Studies Quarterly* (January 24, 2018), *Bloomberg Opinion* (May 8, 2018), *Advertising & Society*, "Author

- Meets Critics” roundtable discussion (June 30, 2018), “Story of Cool,” two episodes, MSNBC documentary (July 1, 2018 and July 8, 2018).
- Walt Whitman and the Culture of American Celebrity: Chronicle of Higher Education* (October 26, 2006), *Library Journal* (November 1, 2006), *Publishers Weekly* (November 6, 2006), *Newsday* (November 12, 2006), *Choice* (June 2007), *The Oscholars.com* (May 2007), *Walt Whitman Quarterly Review* (Summer 2007), *American Studies* (Summer 2007), *American Literature* (September 2008), “Exposure” (25-minute radio discussion produced by US Embassy, Mexico, November 13, 2008), *Journal of American History* (May 2009)
- Walt Whitman: “Radio Times,” WHYY, May 31, 2019; “Walt Whitman: Song of Myself,” (public radio documentary produced by Curtis Fox). Premiered on WNYC in November 2006 and distributed to NPR stations nationwide.
- Politics and Celebrity: *CQ Roll Call* (June 23, 2012), *Congressional Quarterly Researcher* (May 11, 2012), *Congressional Quarterly Researcher* (March 18, 2005), WNET/Channel 13 television program “New York Voices” (Oct 29, 2004), *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* (Sept 28, 2004), Scripps Howard news service (May-June 2004), *Baltimore Sun* (April 2, 2007), *Forbes.com* (June 26, 2007), *Philadelphia Inquirer* (February 24, 2009)
- “Reading Whitman, Growing Up Rock ‘n’ Roll”: *Chronicle of Higher Education* (April 26, 2005), *Washington Post* (April 12, 2005) article reprinted in *Chicago Tribune* and *Los Angeles Times* (April 20, 2005)
- Student Discovery of Whitman Interview: *Chronicle of Higher Education* (May 20, 2005), *USA Today*, *Newsday*, *Boston Globe*, *ABC News*, AP wire story picked up by 100+ national and international press outlets (all May 6-9, 2005)
- The College of New Jersey: *New York Times* (June 5, 2005), *USA Today* (March 1, 2010)
- Walt Whitman Symposium: *The Trenton Times* (June 5, 2005), *Chronicle of Higher Education* (May 20, 2005)

Selected Academic Honors and Awards

- National Endowment of the Humanities “Enduring Questions” -- \$21,900 grant to develop course on the meaning of fame from Antiquity to the Enlightenment, July 2015-December 2016
- New Jersey Council for the Humanities
Primary Investigator for \$10,000 grant in support of *Walt Whitman’s* Leaves of Grass: *The Sesquicentennial Symposium*, September 22-24, 2005
- The College of New Jersey
SOSA release time, 2000-2017 academic years
- U.S. Air Force Academy
Winner, Outstanding Academy Educator Award, 1997-1998

Selected Institutional Service

- Interim Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Planning, July 2018-June 2019
- Member, Committee on Strategic Planning and Priorities, September 2015-May 2017
- Faculty Representative, Board of Trustees, July 2013-July 2015
- Chair, English Department, July 2010-June 2013
- Member, Provost Search Committee, September 2011-December 2012

Coordinator, Programming Events for TCNJ's Interdisciplinary Exploration of "The Family," Fall 2009-Spring 2010

Chair, President's Task Force on the Teacher-Scholar, Fall 2005-Spring 2006

Co-Director, Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass*: The Sesquicentennial Symposium, Fall 2003 – Fall 2005 (see <http://www.tcnj.edu/~whitman/>)

Professional Service

Seminar Leader, Gilder Lehrman Institute Seminar on The Vietnam War, Randolph School District, Randolph, NJ, March 2017

Seminar Leader, Gilder Lehrman Institute Seminar on The Cold War, Dover School District, Dover, NJ, February 2017

Book Reviews, *Nineteenth-Century Literature*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Journal of American Studies*, *War, Literature, and the Arts*

Referee, University of North Carolina Press, University of Pennsylvania Press, Yale University Press, University of Iowa Press, Broadview Press, *PMLA*, *English* (U.K.), *Review of Politics*

Seminar Leader, Teachers as Scholars Seminar, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, The College of New Jersey, "American Political Films," Spring 2011; "The Whitman Tradition," Spring 2007; "*Moby-Dick*: Before and After 9/11," Spring 2006, Spring 2015

Seminar Leader, "Literature and Leadership," Executive MBA program, George Washington University, August 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2008