

NICHOLAS T RINEHART

Curriculum vitae, September 2017

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EDUCATION

Harvard University

- Ph.D. Candidate in English, Secondary Field in African and African American Studies
[degree expected May 2019]
- 2015 M.A. in English

Harvard College

- 2014 B.A. in Comparative Literature, Secondary Field in History
Senior Honors Thesis: "Finding Francophone Equiano (in All the Wrong Places)"

RESEARCH & INTERESTS

Dissertation: "Narrative Events: Slavery, Testimony, and Temporality in the Afro-Atlantic World"

Committee: David Alworth, Vincent Brown, Glenda Carpio (chair), Alejandro de la Fuente

Abstract: This account of New World slave testimony challenges scholarly preoccupation with the American slave narrative tradition and its attendant critical conventions. How have various genres of slave testimony produced in the Americas, Europe, and Africa in the seventeenth through twentieth centuries remained largely illegible to literary criticism and thus marginal to African diasporic literary history? By focusing renewed attention on forms of slave testimony often considered either generically unconventional, extremely scarce, or altogether nonexistent, we glean new understandings of the temporalities of enslavement specifically and the relationship between history and narrative most broadly.

Research Fields: African American, Afro-Caribbean, and Afro-Latin American literature; American multi-ethnic literatures; comparative literature and world literature; race and ethnicity; history of Atlantic slavery

PUBLICATIONS

Edited Volumes

- 2017 *American Literature in the World: An Anthology from Anne Bradstreet to Octavia Butler*. Ed. Wai Chee Dimock, with Jordan Brower, Edgar Garcia, Kyle Hutzler, *Nicholas Rinehart. New York: Columbia UP.

Reviewed in *TLS: The Times Literary Supplement* (July 26, 2017).

Refereed Articles

- 2017 "Native Sons; or, How 'Bigger' Was Born Again." *Journal of American Studies*. [published online, forthcoming in print]
- 2016 "The Man That Was a Thing: Reconsidering Human Commodification in Slavery." *Journal of Social History: Societies & Cultures* 50(1): 28-50.
- "I Talk More of the French': Creole Folklore and the Federal Writers' Project." *Callaloo: A Journal of African Diaspora Arts and Letters* 39(2): 439-56.

Book Chapters

- 2018 "Richard Wright's Globalism." *The Cambridge Companion to Richard Wright*. Ed. Glenda Carpio. Cambridge UP, under contract.

Non-refereed Articles

- 2015 "On Élie and Eric." *Transition: The Magazine of Africa and the Diaspora* 117: 13. [contribution to "I Can't Breathe" forum]
- 2013 "Black Beethoven and the Racial Politics of Music History." *Transition: An International Review* 112: 117-130.

Reference Works

- "David Dabydeen." *Dictionary of Caribbean and Afro-Latin American Biography*. Eds. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Franklin W. Knight. Oxford UP, under contract. [online edition]
- "Edgar Austin Mittelhölzer." *Dictionary of Caribbean and Afro-Latin American Biography*. Eds. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Franklin W. Knight. Oxford UP, under contract. [online edition]

Book Reviews

- *Reaping Something New: African American Transformations of Victorian Literature* by Daniel Hack (Princeton: Princeton UP, 2016). *MLQ: A Journal of Literary History*, forthcoming.

Manuscripts in Submission

- In rev. "Writing, Speaking, and Embodied Consciousness in *The Marrow of Tradition*." *MELUS: Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States*, accepted.

Manuscripts in Preparation

- "Nabokov's Interracial Imagination" (to be submitted to *PMLA*)
- "'These Illegitimate Children of My Thought': The Dramatic Work and Criticism of W.E.B. Du Bois" (to be submitted to *Modern Drama*)

AWARDS & HONORS

External Awards

- 2016 Du Bois Library Fellowship, Department of Special Collections and University Archives, UMass Amherst Libraries (\$2,500)
To support research residency at the W.E.B. Du Bois collection

Internal Awards

- 2017 Dexter Summer Fellowship, English Department, Harvard University (\$2,500)
To support summer travel necessary for dissertation research
- 2016 Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, Harvard University
Recipients achieve an overall rating of 4.50 or above on 5-point scale, based on student evaluations
- Provostial Fund for the Arts and Humanities, Harvard University (\$4,000)
To support creative, innovative initiatives in the arts and humanities
- Summer Travel Grant, Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History, Harvard University (\$3,000)
To support summer travel necessary for dissertation research
- 2015 Bowdoin Prize for Graduate Essays in English, Harvard University (\$10,000)
For essay of high literary merit in any field
- 2014 Bowdoin Prize for Undergraduate Essays in English, Harvard University (\$10,000)
For essay of high literary merit in any field
- Thomas Temple Hoopes Prize, Harvard College (\$4,000)
For outstanding scholarly work or research
- Kwame Anthony Appiah Prize, Harvard College (\$500)
For most outstanding thesis relating to the African diaspora
- George B. Sohler Prize, Harvard College (\$250)
For best thesis in English or in modern literature
- James Buell Munn Prize, Harvard College
For outstanding academic record and strong literary talents
- 2013 Franklin Ford Award, Harvard College
For strong intellectual ability and dry wit
- 2012 Maurice Pechet Fellowship, Harvard College (\$1,200)
For student opera production with Lowell House Opera

PRESENTATIONS & PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Conference Presentations

- 2018 “‘Wild Speech’ in the Archives of Slavery,” Annual MLA Convention, New York, NY, January 4.
- 2017 “Between Timely and Timeless; or, Emily Dickinson and the Civil War Poet She Never Became,” Annual ALA Conference, Boston, MA, May 27.
- “‘My Complaint Book’: Enslaved Testimony and Legal Inquest in British Guiana, 1819-1832,” Biennial SEA Conference, Tulsa, OK, March 3.
- “Richard Wright’s Globalism: Before and Beyond Bandung,” Annual MLA Convention, Philadelphia, PA, January 6.

- 2016 “Theatrical Space in the Novel; or, Chesnutt’s Narrative Stage,” New Work in Novel Studies Symposium, Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University, December 7.
- “The Contemporary Novel of Slavery in the Shadow of Toni Morrison,” International Conference on Narrative, Amsterdam, NH, June 17.
- “Jerry and Hamlet, Chesnutt and Shakespeare,” ACLA Annual Meeting, Cambridge, MA, March 19.
- “Native Sons: Richard Wright and Genetic Criticism,” Annual NeMLA Convention, Hartford, CT, March 18.
- “Toussaint Louverture, Frederick Douglass, and Enslaved Testimony in the French Atlantic,” Biennial C19 Conference, State College, PA, March 17.
- “William Dunbar, Beast Fables, and Premodern Black-ness,” Annual ACMRS Conference, Phoenix, AZ, February 6.
- 2015 “‘Far-Flung Kinships’: The Global Richard Wright,” Tufts Graduate Humanities Conference, October 16.
- “Thackeray’s Sambo and Transatlantic Blackface,” NAVSA Annual Conference, Honolulu, HI, July 11.
- “‘He died with all his words in his heart’: Legal Inquest and Enslaved Testimony in Martinique, 1847,” the Futures of American Studies Institute, Dartmouth College, June 23.
- “‘And render Hell/More tolerable’: Slaves’ Internal Economies and the Limits of Resistance,” OIEAHC-SEA Joint Conference, Chicago, IL, June 19.
- “Talking Book: Chesnutt’s Soliloquies and the Melodrama of Race Conflict,” ALA Annual Conference, Boston, MA, May 22.
- “The Rhetoric of Diaspora: Diaz, Cole, Mengestu,” Annual NeMLA Convention, Toronto, ON, May 2.
- “Enslaved Testimony and Religious Institutions in Colonial Latin America,” Locating and Connecting Latin America and the African Diaspora, UNC-Charlotte, April 30.
- “Nabokov and African American History,” Annual AATSEEL Conference, Vancouver, BC, January 10.
- 2014 “Close Reading ‘Unwritten Literature’: Slave Narratives of the Federal Writers’ Project, 1936-38,” Harvard English Department Graduate Symposium, November 21.
- “Melville’s Prophecy: War, Emancipation, and ‘Bartleby,’” Annual PAMLA Conference, Riverside, CA, November 2.
- “Enslaved Testimony in the Publications of Victor Schoelcher,” Annual RMMLA Convention, Boise, ID, October 11.
- “Creole Folklore, the Federal Writers’ Project, and the Quest for the Francophone Equiano,” American Literature in the World Conference, Yale University, April 11.

“Ralph Ellison and Russian Authors,” Annual MELUS Conference, Oklahoma City University, March 8.

Conferences/Symposia Organized

- 2017 Research Practicum, Harvard English Graduate Symposium, November 17.
- 2017 Graduate Prospectus Conference and Teaching Workshop, Harvard English Department, May 5.
- 2016 “How To Do Things with Disciplines,” Harvard English Graduate Symposium, November 10-11.

Conference Panels Organized

- 2018 “The Work of the Anthology in American Literature,” Annual MLA Convention, New York, NY, January 4-7.
- 2017 “Afro-Asian Americana: Food, Fiction, Film,” Annual MLA Convention, Philadelphia, PA, January 5-8.
- 2016 “Unsettling the Slave Narrative,” Biennial C19 Conference, State College, PA, March 18-21.
- 2015 “Legal History and Slave Resistance,” OIEAHC-SEA Joint Conference, Chicago, IL, June 18-21.
- “World Literature/Immigrant Literature,” Annual NeMLA Convention, Toronto, ON, April 30-May 1.
- 2014 “Black and White and Red All Over: Literary Allegiances and Lineages between African America and Russia,” Annual MELUS Conference/Ralph Ellison Centennial Symposium, Oklahoma City, OK, March 6-9.

Campus Talks

- 2017 “Constituent Elements of Conference Paper and Panel Proposals,” Long 18th Century and Romanticism Colloquium, May 3.
- 2015 “Pushkin, Nabokov, and Intertextual Interracialism,” American Literature Colloquium, Harvard University, April 16.
- 2014 “‘Far-Flung Kinships’: The Global Richard Wright,” African and African American Studies 130x, Harvard College, October 1.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

As Primary Instructor, English Department

- 2017 English 98r: “World Literature and the African Diaspora”

As Teaching Fellow, English Department

- 2018 English 178x: “The American Novel: Dreiser to the Present”
Professor Philip Fisher, Harvard College

2017 English S-177v: “American Literary Expatriates in Europe”
Professor Glenda Carpio, Ca’ Foscari-Harvard Summer School

English 68: “Migrations: American Immigrant Literature”
Professor Glenda Carpio, Harvard College

2016 English 166: “American Modernism”
Professor David Alworth, Harvard College
Guest lecture on “Du Bois, Toomer, and New Negro Modernism”

English S-177v: “American Literary Expatriates in Europe”
Professor Glenda Carpio, Ca’ Foscari-Harvard Summer School

As Undergraduate Tutorial Board Teaching Fellow, Department of Comparative Literature

2017 Comparative Literature 98a: “Tutorial—Junior Year”
Individual directed reading and writing tutorial on contemporary Hip-Hop and European Modernism

Comparative Literature 98a: “Tutorial—Junior Year”
Individual directed reading and writing tutorial on queer of color, disability, and performance studies

2018 Comparative Literature 98b: “Tutorial—Junior Year”

Comparative Literature 98b: “Tutorial—Junior Year”

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

2016-18 LEAD COORDINATOR FOR GRADUATE COLLOQUIA
Oversaw financial and logistical administration of seven graduate colloquia; conceptualized and planned annual departmental graduate symposium, annual graduate student teaching workshop, and annual dissertation prospectus conference; streamlined financial procedures among colloquia; reviewed applications for continued funding; produced content for weekly departmental newsletter.

FOUNDER/COORDINATOR, RACE AND ETHNICITY GRADUATE COLLOQUIUM
Arranged visits for invited speakers, planned graduate student workshops, developed and administered annual budget, and co-sponsored events with other departmental colloquia.

2015-16 CO-CHAIR, COMMITTEE OF GRADUATE STUDENTS (COGS)
Elected to serve as student representative on the Graduate Committee, faculty committee charged with administering the department’s graduate program.

ORGANIZING MEMBER, DIVERSITY WORKING GROUP
With two other students, worked under auspices of COGS to develop initiatives aimed at increasing departmental diversity and inclusion in faculty hiring, graduate admissions, undergraduate recruitment, teaching, and research.

2014-15 COMMITTEE OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
With three other students, worked to draft and circulate letter to English Department faculty requesting more writers of color be added to reading list for Generals Examination, an oral exam required of all first-year students in the graduate program.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2017-18 FRESHMAN PROCTOR AND FRESHMAN ADVISER
 Provided important personal and social counsel to first-year students adjusting to independent life at college; worked with team of undergraduate Peer Advising Fellows (PAFs) to build community through weekly study breaks; served as primary Academic Adviser to several first-year students; trained facilitator for Community Conversations, a required orientation program emphasizing issues of diversity, identity, and inclusion.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2014 RESEARCH ASSISTANT, GLENDA CARPIO, WERNER SOLLORS, AND JEFFREY FERGUSON (AMHERST COLLEGE)
 Worked in support of book project *New Anthology of American Literature* to be published by Harvard University Press.
- 2013 RESEARCH ASSISTANT, WERNER SOLLORS
 Worked in support of book project *The Temptation of Despair: Tales of the 1940s* (Harvard University Press, 2014).
- 2012 RESEARCH ASSISTANT, ROBERT LIEBERMAN (COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY)
 Worked in archives of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund 1960-1975 at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in support of book project on the history of affirmative action in the United States.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- 2015 The Futures of American Studies Institute, Dartmouth College, June 22-28.
- 2013 The Institute for World Literature, Harvard University, June 24-July 19.

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

- French (advanced reading, writing, speaking)
 Spanish (basic reading)

MEMBERSHIPS

- Modern Language Association (MLA)
 American Historical Association (AHA)
 American Studies Association (ASA)
 Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and the Americas (MESEA)
 Society for the Study of Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States (MELUS)
 American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)
 International Comparative Literature Association (ICLA)

REFERENCES

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