

Curriculum Vitae
James H. Watkins

Berry College
Department of English, Rhetoric, and Writing
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EDUCATION

- 1990-1995 Ph.D. in English
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611-7310
Dissertation: "Locating the Self: Southern Identity, White Masculinity, and the
Autobiographical 'I'" (Directed by Anne Goodwyn Jones)
- 1988-1990 M.A., English, University of Florida
- 1982-1986 B.A., English, University of Tennessee-Knoxville

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2005-2008 Chair, Department of English, Rhetoric, and Writing
- 2002-present Associate Professor of English, Rhetoric, and Writing
- 1995-2002 Assistant Professor of English
Berry College
Box 350, Mt. Berry, GA, 30149

- Courses Taught:
- ENG/RHW 101: Freshman Comp. I
 - ENG/RHW 102: Freshman Comp. II
 - ENG 201: Themes in Literature: Writing the U.S. South
 - ENG 220: American Literature I: Colonial to Civil War
 - ENG 221: American Literature II: Civil War to Present
 - ENG 240: Literary Criticism and Research
 - ENG 333: 19th-Century American Literature
 - ENG 335: 20th-Century American Literature
 - ENG/FLM 418: The American West in Film and Literature
 - ENG 426: Studies in Genre: Autobiography
 - ENG 428: Special Topics in Literature: African American Literature
 - ENG 432: Studies in Southern Literature
 - ENG 450: Senior Thesis Project
 - HON 201: Honors Colloquium: Selfhood and Literature
 - HUM 200: E Pluribus Unum: Moments in American Democracy
 - BCC 100: Freshman Seminar

- Guest Lecturer:
- HON 202: Honors Colloquium
 - HIS 349: African American History

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE, continued

1988-1995 Graduate Teaching Assistant
Department of English
University of Florida

Courses Taught: ENG 2023: Survey of American Literature I, from Crane to Present
ENG 1145: Special Topics in Writing: Writing About the South
ENG 1102: Writing About Literature
ENG 1101: Expository and Argumentative Writing

TEACHING INTERESTS

Southern Literature	American South in Film
Autobiography Studies	African American Literature
Native American Literature	Literature and the Environment
American Literature (general)	Composition

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Editor and Introduction, *Southern Selves: From Mark Twain and Eudora Welty to Maya Angelou and Kaye Gibbons: A Collection of Autobiographical Writing*. New York: Vintage, 1998.

Journal Articles (refereed)

- “The Double-Weave of Self and Other: Ethnographic Acts and Autobiographical Occasions in Marilou Awiakta’s *Selu: Seeking the Corn-Mother’s Wisdom*.” *American Indian Culture and Research Journal* 30.1 (2006): 5-16.
- “Sword Holes in the Sofa: Documenting the Autobiographical in Ross McElwee’s *Sherman’s March*.” *North Carolina Literary Review* 11 (2002): 99-111.
- “Self-Location and the Racial Other: Reading *Cross Creek* as Southern Autobiography.” *Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Journal of Florida Literature* 11 (2002): 15-43.
- “‘The Use of I, Lovely and Terrifying Word’: Autobiographical Authority and the Representation of ‘Redneck’ Masculinity in [Harry Crews’s] *A Childhood*.” *The Southern Quarterly: A Journal of the Arts in the South* 37.1 (Fall 1998): 15-26.

Book Chapters

- “Larry Brown.” *American Writers Supplement XXI*. General Editor, Jay Parini. Farmington Hills, MI: Gale Publishers, 2011. 35-49.
- “Drinking Poisoned Waters: Traumatized Masculinity and Southern Regional Identity in Contemporary Memoir.” *White Manhood in the Recent South*. Ed. Trent Watts. Louisiana State University Press, 2008. 220-33.
- “Aquiñeros de espada en el sofá: Documentando lo autobiográfico en *Sherman’s March* de Ross McElwee/“Sword Holes in the Sofa: Documenting the Autobiographical in Ross McElwee’s *Sherman’s March*.” *Landscapes of the Self: The Cinema of Ross McElwee / Paisajes del yo: El cine de Ross McElwee*. Eds. Efrén Cuevas and Alberto N. García. Ediciones Universidad de Navarra, S.A. 2008. (Reprint in bilingual collection of essays on U.S. filmmaker Ross McElwee, published in Spain.) 153-79.

- “Autobiography and Memoir (1960-Present).” Ed. Carolyn Perry and Mary Louise Weeks. *The History of Southern Women’s Literature*. Baton Rouge, LA: Louisiana State University Press, 2002. 447-54.
- “‘The Use of *I*, Lovely and Terrifying Word’: Autobiographical Authority and the Representation of ‘Redneck’ Masculinity in *A Childhood*.” Ed. Erik Bledsoe. *Perspectives on Harry Crews*. Jackson, MS: University Press of Mississippi, 2001. 15-28.

Reference Book Entries

- “Autobiography.” *The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture. (Literature)* Ed. Thomas Inge. U Presses of Mississippi, 2008.
- “William Alexander Percy.” *The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture. (Literature)* Ed. Thomas Inge. U Presses of Mississippi, 2008.
- “Class.” *The Companion to Southern Literature: Themes, Genres, Places, People, Movements, Motifs*. ed. Joe E. Flora and Lucinda Mackethan. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2001.
- “Federal Writers Project.” Flora and Mackethan.
- “Horses/Horse Racing.” Flora and Mackethan.
- “Law, 1900-Present.” Flora and Mackethan.
- “Men’s Diaries and Journals.” Flora and Mackethan.
- “Old South.” Flora and Mackethan.
- “Yoknapatawpha.” Flora and Mackethan.

Book Reviews

- Review of *Keeping the Faith: Ordinary People, Extraordinary Lives, A Memoir*. Tuscaloosa: U of Alabama P, 2011. Forthcoming in the *Southern Humanities Review*, 46.4 (Fall 2012).
- Review of *Just Below South: Intercultural Performance in the Caribbean and U.S. South*, ed. Jessica Adams, Michael Bibler, and Cécile Accilen (U of Virginia P, 2007), for H-Southern-Lit, H-Net Reviews, December 2009.
- Review essay. *Flannery O’Connor’s Radical Reality*, ed. Jan Nordby Gretlund and Karl -Heinz Westarp (Columbia, SC: U of South Carolina P, 2006) and *Madison Jones’ Garden of Innocence*, ed. Jan Nordby Gretlund (Odense, Denmark: U P of Southern Denmark, 2005), in *The Flannery O’Connor Review*, Volume 5 (2007): 173-75.
- Review of *Literary Savannah*, ed. Patrick Allen. *Georgia Historical Quarterly* 83.2 (Summer 1999): 354-55.
- Review of *Act Like You Know: African American Autobiography and White Identity*, by Crispin Sartwell. *South Atlantic Review* 64.2 (Winter 1999): 176-79.
- Review of *Being a Boy Again: Autobiography and the American Boy Book*, by Marcia Jacobsen. *South Atlantic Review*, 61:1 (Winter 1996): 169-71.

PRESENTATIONS

- “Self-Fashioning in Paradise: Performing the Outsider Artist in Howard Finster’s Paradise Garden,” presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for the Study of Southern Literature, George Mason University-Arlington, Arlington, VA, March 28, 2014.
- “ ‘One Must Love What is His’: Reverse Migration and the Performance of Black Masculinity in James Meredith’s *Three Years in Mississippi*,” presented at the

biennial meeting of the Society for the Study of Southern Literature, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, 3/31/12.

Presentations, continued

- “Written on the Lam: Sensationalism, Social Criticism, and Testimonial Power in *I am a Fugitive from a Georgia Chain Gang!*” Presented at the biennial Society for the Study of Southern Literature Conference in New Orleans, LA, April 4, 2010.
- “ ‘Clodhoppers of the World Unite!’: The International Roots of Don West’s Southern Agrarian-Proletariat Poetry.” Presented at the biennial Society for the Study of Southern Literature Conference at Williamsburg, VA, April 9, 2008.
- “‘So Little Margin for Error’: Labor, Paternity, and Mortality in Harry Crews’ *A Childhood.*” Presented at the Society for the Study of Southern Literature Conference at Birmingham, AL, April 1, 2006.
- “A Compass for Our Journey: Ethnographic Acts and Autobiographical Occasions in Marilou Awiakta’s *Selu: Seeking the Corn-Mother’s Wisdom.*” Presented at the Society for the Study of Southern Literature Conference at Chapel Hill, NC, March 27, 2004.
- “‘Big Enough and Then Some’: Mary Hood’s Little Victoria and *How Far She Went.*” Invited lecture at the *Reading Today’s Southern Writers* International Symposium, the University of South Carolina-Beaufort.” January 16, 2004.
- “Telling Lives: Reframing the South in Southern Women’s Autobiography.” Invited lecture at “Many Voices, Many Forms” Symposium on Contemporary Southern Literature, University of Alabama-Huntsville, April 5, 2002.
- “Homing in on White Masculinity: The Contemporary Southern Family Memoir as Trauma Recovery Narrative.” Presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for the Study of Southern Literature in Lafayette, LA, March 16, 2001.
- “Redefining ‘the South’ in Contemporary African American Women’s Autobiographies: Charlayne Hunter-Gault’s *In My Place* and Deborah McDowell’s *Leaving Pipe Shop.*” Presented at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association annual meeting in Atlanta, November 9, 2001.
- “Historical Trauma, Regional Identity, and the Location of White Southern Masculinity in Ross McElwee’s *Sherman’s March.*” Presented at the “Autobiography and Changing Identities” Conference, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, July 30, 2000.
- “Representing the Good Old Boy in the Postmodern South: Discursive Strategies in the Autobiographical Works of Harry Crews, Larry Brown, and Tim McLaurin.” presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for the Study of Southern Literature, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL, April 8, 2000.
- “Defended Borders and Guarded Thresholds: Public Honor, Private Selfhood, and Personal Reticence in Autobiographies of Southern White Men.” Presented at the Twenty -Third Annual Colloquium on Literature and Film, Morgantown, West Virginia, October 16, 1998.
- “Autobiographical Writing and the Southernness of the Southern Writer.” Invited lecture presented at the Tenth Annual Southern Festival of Books, Nashville, TN, October 9, 1998. (My lecture was broadcast on C-SPAN 2’s *Book-TV* several times during the weekend of Oct. 9-11, 1998).

Presentations, continued

- “‘The Rotten Spot at the Center of My Life’: The Image of the Broken Father in the

- ‘Redneck’ Autobiography.” Presented at the Fourteenth Annual Southern Writers Symposium, ayetteville, NC, September 17, 1998.
- “Self-Representation of the Poor White and the Continued Perception of Southern Difference.” Presented at the Popular Culture Association in the South/American Cultural Association in the South Convention, Savannah, GA, October 16, 1996.
- “What is a Southern Autobiography? Representations of the Self and the South in Rawlings’s *Cross Creek*.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Society, Tallahassee, FL, March 1995.
- “History and the Problem of Representation: Ethical and Practical Challenges to Teaching the Slave Narrative.” Presented at the Florida College English Association Conference, St. Petersburg, FL, February 1995.
- “Laying Claim to the South: Southern Autobiography, White Masculinity, and the Representation of Regional Identity.” Presented at the “Textual Regions and Regional Texts” Conference, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, November 1994.

OTHER APPEARANCES

- Program moderator, “The Southern Writer in the World: Interior Spaces,” Southern Women Writers Conference, Berry College, Mt. Berry, GA, September 22, 2005.
- Program organizer and moderator, “Life Writing in the South,” annual meeting of the Modern Language Association, Washington, D.D., December 28, 2001.
- Program organizer and Moderator, “Contemporary Southern Women Writers,” annual meeting of the South Atlantic Modern Language Association, November 9, 2000.
- Program moderator, “Film and Autobiography” session, Autobiography and Changing Identities Conference, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada, July 29, 2000.
- Program moderator, “Life Writing and Personal Remembrance,” Southern Women Writers Conference, Berry College, Mt. Berry, GA, April 14, 2000.
- Program moderator, Eleventh Annual Southern Festival of Books, Nashville, TN, October 9, 2000. Introduced featured speaker, author Will D. Campbell, and led Q&A session with author.
- Interview. “Contemporary Southern Writers.” *The Connection*. National Public Radio, August 6, 1998. (*The Connection* is a nationally syndicated, hour-long live radio program based in Boston. I shared the program with novelist Barry Hannah. Taped transcript available upon request.)
- Program moderator, “Contemporary Claims: Redefining Race and Class in the South,” Southern Women Writers Conference, Berry College, Mt. Berry, GA, April 18, 1998.

RECOGNITIONS

- Vulcan Teaching Excellence Award, college-wide award for excellence in teaching, Berry College, April 2010.
- Writing-Across-the-Curriculum Award, Berry College, April 2010. College-wide teaching award for excellence in using writing as a means of critical engagement in Writing-Intensive classes.
- Humanities and Social Science Fellowship, University of Florida, 1993-1994
- University Graduate Student Teaching Award, 1992-1993 (university-wide, one of only nine awarded in that academic year)
- Department Graduate Student Teaching Award, 1991-1992 and 1989-90

SERVICE (selected)

Chair, Environmental Studies Committee, 2012-present
Chair, Department of English, Rhetoric, and Writing, 2005-2008
Executive Council Member, Society for the Study of Southern Literature, 2004-2006 & 2007-2009 terms)
Liaison for Society for the Study of Southern Literature to the Modern Language Association (2004)
Co-Director, 2003, 2009, and 2012 Berry College Southern Women Writers Conference
Advisory Board member, *Southern Women's Review*
Advisory Board Member, Ninebark Press
Advisor, Unitarian-Universalists of Berry College
Reviewer, *Journal of Appalachian Studies*
Reviewer, *Southern Spaces: An Interdisciplinary Journal About the Regions, Places, and Cultures of the American South*
Chair, 2008 C. Hugh Holman Award committee (SSSL's biennial award for best book in southern literary studies)
Academic Council, Evans School representative (2010-12)
Evans School of Humanities Tenure and Promotion Committee (2003-2005)
Chair, Evans Green Committee (2008-2010) Still a member of the committee.
Assistant Director, 2000 Berry College Southern Women Writers Conference
Chair, Berry College Film Minor Committee (Spring 1997-Summer 1999)
Chair, Berry College Continuing Education Committee (Spring 1998-Spring 1999)
Berry College Centennial Speakers Series Committee (2002)
Berry College Planning Council (beginning Fall 2002)
Liaison for Society for the Study of Southern Literature to the Modern Language Association (2001)
Task Force on Sophomore/Junior Retention (2001-2002)
Task Force on First Year Writing Program (2002)
Evans School Common Course Committee (Spring 2000-present)
Evans School Writer/Scholar-in-Residence Committee (2002-present)
Evans School Foreign Languages Across the Curriculum Committee (2002-present)
Admissions Committee of Academic Council (2000-2002)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Society for the Study of Southern Literature

REFERENCES

Anne Goodwyn Jones, Associate Professor of English, University of Florida, Box 117310, Gainesville, FL, 32611 (352) 392-6650 ext. 279, ajones@ufl.edu.
Lucinda Mackethan, Professor of English, North Carolina State University, Box 8105, Raleigh, NC, 27695-8105, (919) 515-4143, macketha@unity.ncsu.edu.
Tom Kennedy, Dean of the Evans School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Berry College, Box 5034, Mt. Berry, GA 30149, (706) 236-2297, tkennedy@berry.edu.