

College of William and Mary Curriculum Vita

2019

Personal Information

Mary Ann Melfi
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Position

Senior Lecturer, English

Education

1980: Ph.D., English, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
1973: M.A., English, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
1972: B.S., English, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Academic Positions

2014-date: Senior Lecturer, English, College of William and Mary
1987-2014: Visiting Assistant Professor, English, College of William and Mary
1984-87: Instructor, English, College of William and Mary
1975-83: Instructor, English, University of Nebraska
1973-75: Reading, Research, and Teaching Assistant, English, University of Nebraska
Assistant to *AAUP Bulletin* Editor, Larry Poston

Courses/College of William and Mary

English 475: Psychological Motifs in Modern Fiction
English 465: Conversion Experiences in the Novel
English 419: E.M. Forster
English 452 (355): Modern Fiction
English 343: Victorian Novel
English 352: Modern British Literature
English 301 (367): Advanced Writing
English 210 (200): Narcissism in Literature
English 204: Major British Writers II
English 204W: Major British Writers II (Freshman Seminar format)
English 201: Art of Literature
English 150: International Short Story: Emphasis on Great Russians
English 101: Writing

Courses/University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Genre Survey
Introduction to Novel
Introduction to Short Story
Modern British and American Fiction
Novel and Short Story
Novel: 1900-Present
Exposition and Argument
Reading and Composition
Composition and Short Story
Advanced Expository Writing

Fellowships and Grants

1994: NEH Study Grant
1975-76: Louise Pound Fellowship, University of Nebraska Foundation
1973-74: Gretchen Bechtol-Lee Fellowship, University of Nebraska Foundation

Research

a. Refereed Publications

“Chardin’s *Divine Milieu* as Touchstone: Freedom, Creativity, and the Spiritually Centered Life in *Brideshead Revisited*.” Forthcoming in *Religion and the Arts*, vol. 24 (2020).

“The Awful Grace of God: Patterns of Liminality in Greene’s *The Heart of the Matter*.” *Logos: A Journal of Catholic Thought and Culture* 22:2 (Spring 2019): 83-105.

“The Solidity of the Self: Turning and Returning in Forster’s *A Passage to India*.” *Renascence: Essays on Values in Literature* 71:2 (Spring 2019): 113-132.

“D.H. Lawrence: Novelist, Poet, Painter.” *British Literature of the Early Twentieth Century Volume: The Gale Researcher* [3,800 word essay via multi-media research tool]. Thomas Riggs & Company (2017).

“Conrad’s *Lord Jim*: Patusan as Psychological Landscape.” *Conradiana* 47.1 (2015): 43-66.

“The Dark Night of the Soul: Suffering the Cure in Graham Greene’s *A Burnt-Out Case*.” *Renascence: Essays on Values in Literature* 67.3 (Summer 2015): 181-198.

“Catholicism, Creativity, and the Reconciliation of Contrarities: The Power of Love in John McGahern’s *The Barracks*.” *Renascence: Essays on Values in Literature* 64. 2 (Winter 2012): 177-99.

“The Remembrance of Things Past: Going Home in Graham Greene’s *England Made Me*.” *Renascence: Essays on Values in Literature*. 62. 3 (Spring 2010): 219-36.

“The ‘Fascination of the Abomination’: The Always Futile Search for God in John McGahern’s *The Dark*.” *South Atlantic Review* 74: 1 (Winter 2009): 111-123. [Came out in print in April, 2010]

“The Cannibal Mother in Wallace Stegner’s *A Shooting Star*.” *South Atlantic Review* 72: 2 (Spring 2007): 85-98.

“The Landscape of Grief: Graham Greene’s *The Ministry of Fear*.” *South Atlantic Review* 69: 2 (Special Issue 2004): 54-73.

Review of *D.H. Lawrence and the Bible*, by T.R. Wright. *Journal of English and Germanic Philology* 101: 2 (April, 2002): 281-84.

“‘The Shake of the Kaleidoscope’: Memory, Entropy, and Progress in Lawrence’s *The Rainbow*.” *The Journal of English and Germanic Philology* 100, (July, 2001): 355-76.

“Individuation and Consummation in Hardy’s *Jude the Obscure*: The Lure of the Void.” *The Victorian Newsletter* (Fall, 1992): 62-64. Rpt. in *Twentieth Century Literary Criticism*. Ed. Jennifer Garipey. Vol. 72. Detroit: Gale, 1997. 280-82.

“Paralysis and the Circular Nature of Memory in Bronte’s *Villette*.” *The Journal of English and Germanic Philology*, 90 (July, 1991): 342-60. Rpt. in *The Bronte Sisters: Critical Assessments*. Vol. III. Ed. Eleanor McNeese. East Sussex, England: Helm, 1996. 821-837.

“*Jude the Obscure*: Childhood without Closure.” *The Durham University Journal*, 56 (July, 1995): 315-20.

“Individuation and Consummation in Hardy’s *Jude the Obscure*: The Lure of the Void.” *The Victorian Newsletter*, 82 (Fall, 1992): 62-64.

“Paralysis and the Circular Nature of Memory in Bronte’s *Villette*.” *The Journal of English and Germanic Philology*, 90 (July, 1991): 342-60.

“Schopenhauer’s Influence on Hardy’s *Jude the Obscure*,” in *Schopenhauer: New Essays in Honor of His 200th Birthday*. Invited essay for Studies in German Thought and History Series, Vol. 10. Ed. Eric von der Luft. Lewiston: N.Y.: Mellen, 1988. 232-246.

“*Daniel Deronda* and Carlyle’s Clothes Philosophy.” *Journal of English and Germanic Philology*, 86 (October, 1987): 515-30.

“From Nightmare to Reverie: Continuity in Dickens’ *Our Mutual Friend*.” *Durham University Journal*, 79, No. 1 (December, 1986): 45-50.

“The Functions of Wemmick of Little Britain and Wemmick of Walworth in *Great Expectations*.” *Dickens Studies Newsletter*, 14, No. 4 (December, 1983): 145-49.

“Imagination, Fantasy, and Memory in *Little Dorrit*.” *Dickens Studies Newsletter*, 13, No. 2 (June, 1982): 48-50.

“Thomas Hardy’s Reading in Schopenhauer: *Tess of the D’Urbervilles*.” *Colby Library Quarterly*, 18, No. 3 (September, 1982): 183-98.

b. Invited Scholarly Papers, Talks, Reviews

Reader/reviewer for article entitled “‘Kneel, companero’: Monsignor Quixote’s Ignatian Adventure,” for *Renascence: Essays on Values in Literature*, April 2019.

“Writing Across William and Mary.” Interviewed and appeared in this film by Sydney Hamrick for the William and Mary Writing Center (2018).

“D.H. Lawrence: Novelist, Poet, Painter.” *British Literature of the Early Twentieth Century Volume: The Gale Researcher* [3,800 word essay via multi-media research tool]. Thomas Riggs & Company (2017).

Reader/reviewer for article entitled “If I were in a book”: Language and Sacrament in Graham Greene’s *The Heart of the Matter*,” for *Renascence: Essays on Values in Literature*, June 2015.

Review of T.R. Wright’s book *D. H. Lawrence and the Bible* (Cambridge) for *The Journal of English and Germanic Philology*, 2002.

Reader/reviewer for article entitled “Catholic Capital and the Protestant Supernatural: *Villette* and the Work of Mourning,” for *Victorian Studies*, November, 1996.

“Consumption as Metaphor: On the Verge of Life in Bronte’s *Villette*.” Invited paper given at the International Bronte Conference, Baylor University, November 3-5, 1994.

“Schopenhauer’s Influence on Hardy’s *Jude the Obscure*,” in *Schopenhauer: New Essays in Honor of His 200th Birthday*. Invited essay for Studies in German Thought and History Series, Vol. 10. Ed. Eric von der Luft. Lewiston: NY: Mellen, 1988. 232-246.

c. Unrefereed Publications

“Keeping Secrets in Tolstoy’s *Anna Karenina*.” *Journal of Evolutionary Psychology*, 25, No. 1 & 2 (March, 2004), 70-88.

Review of *Facial Attractiveness: Evolutionary, Cognitive, and Social Perspectives*, Eds. Rhodes and Zebrowitz. *Journal of Evolutionary Psychology*, 23: 2&3 (Aug., 2002): 202-203.

“*Affliction*: Memory, Intuition, Interrogation and Reflection or A ‘Radical Accommodation to an Intolerable Reality.’” *The Journal of Evolutionary Psychology*, 21, No. 1 & 2 (March, 2000), 78-84. [Article on Russell Banks’ novel *Affliction*]

“Consumption as Metaphor: On the Verge of Life in Bronte’s *Villette*.” *The Journal of Evolutionary Psychology*, 20, No. 3 & 4 (August, 1999), 110-118.

“Authenticity versus the Lingering Glance Backward: Narcissism in Charles Jackson’s *The Lost Weekend*.” *The Journal of Evolutionary Psychology*, 19, No. 3 & 4 (August, 1998), 154-64.

“Changing Perspective: Conrad’s Treatment of Doubt in *The Nigger of the ‘Narcissus*.’” *The Journal of Evolutionary Psychology*, 15, No. 3 & 4 (August, 1994), 204-11.

“Spiritual Growth and the Evolution of Consciousness in Wallace Stegner’s *All the Little Live Things*.” *The Journal of Evolutionary Psychology*, 13, No. 3 & 4 (August, 1993), 260-71.

“The Narrative Emphasis on the Power of the Imagination in *The Mill on the Floss*.” *The George Eliot Fellowship Review*, No. 14 (1983): 86-93.

d. Works in Progress

- “Stopping Time: The Terrors of Narcissism and the Un-integrated Mind in John McGahern’s *Amongst Women*”
- Article on Shelley’s *Frankenstein*
- Article on Stevenson’s *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*
- Short fiction
- Article on Waugh’s *Brideshead Revisited*

Membership

Modern Language Association (Lifetime Member)

Professional Service

University of Nebraska:

Chairman's Advisory Committee, 1982-83

Junior Staff Steering Committee, 1974-75, 1981-83

William and Mary:

Writing 101 Committee, 1984-87

Auxiliary Writing Program, 1983

Concentration Advising, 1993-2000 & 2015-date

Pre-Major Advising, 2014-2017

Honors, M.A., and Independent Study Work:

Director, Virginia Elam, Honors Thesis, Charlotte Bronte, '19

Honors Thesis Committee, Devon Boyers, Victorian Female Bildungsroman, '19

Director, Luc Nguyen, Independent Study, English, Expository Writing, '18

Honors Thesis Committee, Christina Danberg, English, E. Bronte, '18

Honors Thesis Committee, Ben Halkowski, Physics, '18

Advisor, Monroe Project, English, Amy Squire, '17

Director, Clara Kobler, English, Independent Study, E.M. Forster, '17

Honors Thesis Committee, Sophia Farion, Joyce and Wagner, '17

Honors Thesis Committee, Emily Armstrong, Hardy, '17

Director, Diana Floegel, Honors Thesis, English, Wallace Stegner, '15

Honors Thesis Committee, Nora Riesenber, English, H.G. Wells, '14

Independent Study, Sophie Mason, English, Victorian Novel, '13

Honors Thesis Committee, Cory Hitt, English, Hardy '11

Honors Thesis Committee, Heart Hettinger, Theatre and Dance, '11

Honors Thesis Committee, Margaret Hutchison, English, Conrad, '10

Honors Thesis Committee, Charlotte Savino, English, Woolf, '08

Honors Thesis Committee, Chris Seibert, Biology, '07

Honors Thesis Committee, Colleen Schneider, English, Bronte, '07

Honors Thesis Committee, Angela Polidoro, English, Dickens, '06

Reader, Miki Hazard, English, M.A. Thesis on Dickinson and C. Rossetti, '02.

Honors Thesis Committee, Caroline Rogers, English, Bronte, '99.

Honors Thesis Committee, Laura Eldred, English, Milton and Bronte, '98.

Director, Elyce Morris, Honors Thesis, English, Hardy, '98.

Honors Thesis Committee, Allison Boye, Theater, '97.

Reader, Robin Fetherston, English, M.A. Thesis on Dickens' *Our Mutual Friend*, '97.

Honors Thesis Committee, Debbie Kreup, Biology, '97.

Reader, Susan Martin-Joy, English, M.A. Thesis on Conrad's Portrayal of Women in *Lord Jim* and *Chance*, '96.

Honors Thesis Committee, Maria LaMonica, English, Dickens & Bronte, '94.
Reader, Faye Buckalew, English, M.A. Thesis on Christina Rossetti's Poetry, '93.
Honors Thesis Committee, Bonnie Powell, English, Creative Writing, '93.
Honors Thesis Committee, Mary George, English, Clergyman in 18th Century
Novel, '92.
Honors Thesis Committee, John Harper, History, '91.
Reader, John Gazzelle, English, M.A. Thesis on Illness as Metaphor in *Wuthering
Heights*, *Bleak House*, and *Ruth*, '91.
Director, Brendan MacBryde, English, Independent Study on Kafka, '91.
Director, Robert Williams, English, Honors Thesis [Novel], '91.
Honors Thesis Committee, Anna Maria DeSalva, English, Redefining Tradition:
The Female Kunstlerroman, '90.
Reader, Greg Huteson, English, M.A. Thesis on Dickens' *Our Mutual Friend* and
the Poor Law, '90.
Reader, Jan Ishee, English, M.A. Thesis on Swinburne's Image of the Poisonous
Flower, '89.