

CHERYL LESTER
Curriculum Vitae
September 21, 2014

Personal Information

Associate Professor
American Studies
The University of Kansas
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Lawrence, KS 66045-7594

Email Address: chlester@ku.edu
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Education

Ph.D., English and Comparative Literature, 1987
State University of New York at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY
Dissertation/Thesis: "'Topoi' in Faulkner: The Place of Literature"

M.A., Comparative Literature, 1981
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA
Exam: Literary Theory, Modern and Postmodern Poetry, Surrealism

B.A., History and English with Honors, 1974
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Employment History

Academic

University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS
Associate Professor of American Studies, Department of American Studies, 1994 - Present
Associate Professor of English, Department of English, 1993 - Present
Assistant Professor of English, Department of English, 1987 - 1993

Administrative Assignments

University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS
Chair of American Studies, Department of American Studies, 2006 - 2011
Acting Director of Jewish Studies, 2007 - 2008

Teaching Key Words

20th-century American Literature and Culture; Literary and Cultural Theory; William Faulkner:
Aging in Literature and Culture

Research Key Words

20th-century American Literature and Culture; Literary and Cultural Theory; William Faulkner

Research/Scholarly Work

Publications

Book Chapters

Lester, Cheryl. "Modernist Narration and Everyday Life in *The Sound and the Fury*." *Critical Insights: The Sound and the Fury*. Ed. Taylor Hagood. Ipswich, MA: Salem Press, May 2014. 115-128. Critical Insights. ISBN: 978-1-61925-391-9. Date Submitted: January 2014 (Peer-reviewed)

Lester, Cheryl B. "'What the Future Will Now Bring Forth': Reminiscing for Posterity in *The Reivers*." *Fifty Years after Faulkner: Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha, 2012*. Ed. Jay Watson and Ann J. Abadie. Jackson, MS: University of Mississippi Press. Forthcoming. Date Submitted: January 2013 (Peer-reviewed)

Lester, Cheryl B. "The Past Is Never Dead: Reading *As I Lay Dying* for Our Time." *Approaches to Teaching As I Lay Dying*. Ed. Patrick O'Donnell and Linda Zwinger. New York, NY: Modern Language Association of America, 2011. 33-47. Approaches to Teaching World Literature. (Peer-reviewed)

Lester, Cheryl B. "From Place to Place in *The Sound and the Fury*: The Syntax of Interrogation." *Faulkner and His Critics*. Ed. John N. Duvall. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010. 358-374. (Peer-reviewed)
Modern Fiction Studies 34.2 (1988): 141-156. Reprint.

Journals, Special Issues

Lester, Cheryl B. "'Same as a Nigger on an Excursion': Memphis, Black Migration, and White Flight in *Sanctuary*." Ed. Peter Lurie. Spec. issue of *The Faulkner Journal* 26.1 (Spring 2012): 37-56. (Peer-reviewed)
Special Issue on Faulkner and the Metropolis

Web Publishing (article, blog, wiki, other)

Mentoring Graduate Students in the Teaching of Introductory Courses. Apr.-May 2013.
<<http://www.cte.ku.edu/portfolios/lester-graduate-mentoring>>.

Web/Online Materials and Products

Towner, Theresa, Ph.D., comp., Lester, Cheryl, and James B. Carothers et al., Ph.D., eds., Railton, Stephen, Ph.D., ser. ed. "Adaptation of William Faulkner's "Light in August"." *The Digital Yoknapatawpha Project: a born-digital critical database, network visualization, interactive map, and timeline*. Under review. (Peer-reviewed)
Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the University of Virginia.

Lester, Cheryl, Julie Napolin, Ph.D., and Steven E. Knepper, Ph.D., eds., Railton, Stephen, Ph.D., ser. ed. "Adaptation of William Faulkner's "That Evening Sun"." *The Digital Yoknapatawpha Project: a born-digital critical database, network visualization, interactive map, and*

timeline. Forthcoming. Date Submitted: September 2013 (Peer-reviewed)
Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the University of Virginia.

Invited Presentations/Lectures

Lester, Cheryl B., "Digitizing "That Evening Sun": Challenges for Datasets and Prospects for Visualization," Digital Yoknapatawpha Project Symposium, Charlottesville, VA. (July 2013).

Lester, Cheryl B., "Faulkner's Memphis in the Civil Rights Era: Reminiscence and Resistance in *The Reivers* (1962)," 39th Annual Faulkner & Yoknapatawpha Conference, "Fifty Years after Faulkner", Oxford, MS. (July 2012). (Peer-reviewed)

Presentations/Lectures

Lester, Cheryl B., "Faulkner and the Tropics of Black Migration," 40th Annual Faulkner & Yoknapatawpha Conference, "Faulkner and the Black Literatures of the Americas", Oxford, MS. (July 22, 2013). (Peer-reviewed)

Lester, Cheryl B., "Assessing Learning through Student-Centered Pedagogies in Higher Education," Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (TLHE), Singapore. (December 8, 2011). (Peer-reviewed)

Research Funding/Fellowships

University of Kansas

General Research Fund

Not Funded

Lester, Cheryl B. "Mobile Subjects: Faulkner and the Great Migration." University of Kansas (Spring 2013).

Lester, Cheryl B. "Mobile Subjects: Faulkner and the Great Migration." University of Kansas (Spring 2012).

Internal Award

Funded

Lester, Cheryl B. "Haines Faculty Research Fellowship in English." University of Kansas (Spring 2013).

Lester, Cheryl B. "Sabbatical Leave: Mobile Subjects: Faulkner and the Great Migration." University of Kansas (Fall 2012).
(Refereed)

Lester, Cheryl B. "Assessing Learning through Student-Centered Pedagogies in Higher Education." Center for Teaching Excellence Teaching-Related Education and Travel Funding Award, Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (TLHE), Singapore, \$500 (2011).
Refereed

Lester, Cheryl B. "Assessing Learning through Student-Centered Pedagogies in Higher Education." CLAS Faculty Travel Award, , Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (TLHE), Singapore, \$1,200 (2011).
Refereed

Lester, Cheryl B. "Assessing Learning through Student-Centered Pedagogies in Higher Education." International Studies, Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (TLHE), Singapore, \$800 (2011).
Refereed

Lester, Cheryl B. "American Studies Course Redesign Project." Instructional Design Services, \$500 (2010).
Refereed

Lester, Cheryl B. "American Studies Learning Outcomes and GTA Mentoring Project." Center for Teaching Excellence, Peer Teaching Commentary Pilot Group, \$1,000 (2010).
Refereed

Not Funded

Lester, Cheryl B. "Big XII Faculty Fellowship." University of Kansas (Spring 2012).
Archival research at the Henry Ransom Center, University of Texas

Honors/Awards/Honor Societies

Individual Honors/Awards

K. Barbara Schowen Undergraduate Research Award, Honorable Mention, University of Kansas.
(Spring 2013)

Excellence in Community-Based Teaching and Scholarship Award, Kansas Campus Contact.
(2011)

Dissertation/Thesis Supervision

University of Kansas

Dissertation Committee Chair

Frank Hong Cai, American Studies, "The 'Dear Diane' Letters and the Encounter of Chinese Young Women in Contemporary America" Status: completed 2012

Co-chair with David Katzman; Current position: on the job market in Beijing

Sang Jo Kim, American Studies, "The Role of Korean Military Brides in Korean American Immigrant Communities in Kansas" Status: completed 2012

Current position: Visiting Professor at Seoul National University of Science and Technology and Teaching Professor at Hanyang University

Ruben Afagla, American Studies, "Reading Cook-Lynn: Anti-Imperialism, Colonial Resistance, and Native Empowerment" Status: completed 2011

Current position: Instructor, University of Lome, Togo. Co-chair with Stacy Leeds (Law)

Michael Sweeney, American Studies, "Ancestors, Avotaynu, Roots: An Inquiry into American Genealogy Discourse" Status: completed 2011

Current position: Collection Librarian for the Black Archives of Mid-America, Missouri Valley Special Collections at the Kansas City Public Library
Hilary Lowe, American Studies, "Literary Destinations: Mark Twain's Many Homes and Literary Tourism in the U.S" Status: completed 2010
Current position: Assistant Professor, Intellectual Heritage Program, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA
Thomas Thirlkel, American Studies, "The Forgotten Children: African American Children and Child Welfare Reform in St. Louis, 1890-1930" Status: completed 2010
Co-chair with Ray Hiner (History). Current position: Social Worker, Overland Park, Kansas

Dissertation Committee Co-Chair

John Shreve, PhD in AMS, "Transformation and Resilience at Shuri-jo: Lessons from Ryudai" Status: in progress Summer 2014 - Present
Co-chair with Dennis Domer.
Defended prospectus in June 2014
John Shreve, PhD in AMS, "Transformation and Resilience at Shuri-jo: Lessons from Ryudai" Status: proposal Fall 2013 - Summer 2014
Co-chair with Dennis Domer.
Defending prospectus in June 2014

Dissertation Committee Member

Kristin Lockridge, PhD, English, Status: in progress Fall 2013 - Present
Jana Tigchelaar, PhD, English, "Consuming Communities: U.S. Women's Regionalism and Consumer Culture, 1870-1930" Status: completed Fall 2012 - Spring 2014
Aaron Gilbreath, Geography, "From Made in America to Hecho en Sinaloa: A Historical Geography of North American Methamphetamine Networks" Status: completed 2012
Current position: Assistant Professor of Political Science and Global Affairs at College of Staten Island, CUNY
Kelly Winfrey, Communications, Status: completed 2012
Current position: Instructor and Assistant Director of Debate, Department of Communication Studies, Kansas State University
Lara Kuykendall, Art History, Status: completed 2011
Current position: Assistant Professor of Art History at Ball State University
Gregory Brister, English, Status: completed 2010

Dissertation Committee Outside Member

Emily Kessler, PhD, Psychology, "Evaluating Quality Improvement Projects in Pediatric Patient Care: Framework and Evaluation
of a Project to Improve Immunization Pain Prevention in a Pediatric Primary Care Clinic"
Status: completed Summer 2013

Master's Thesis Committee Chair

Amanda Hemmingsen, MA in English, Status: in progress Spring 2014 - Present
Nitzan Meltzer, English, "Tropics of Post-Zionism in Contemporary Israeli Writing" Status: completed Fall 2012 - Spring 2013
Thanh Hai Le Cao, American Studies, "Stories of past and present: An analysis of life narratives by authors of the 1.5 generation of Vietnamese Americans" Status: completed 2010

Master's Thesis Committee Member

Dana Badley III, MA in English, "Anxious Origins: Zora Neale Hurston and the Global South, 1927-1942" Status: completed Fall 2013 - Spring 2014

Ph.D. Comprehensive Exam Committee Chair

Will Bishop, American Studies, Status: completed 2010

Sango Kim, American Studies, Status: completed 2010

Ph.D. Comprehensive Exam Committee Co-Chair

John Shreve, Ph.D. American Studies, Comprehensive Exams, Status: completed Fall 2012 - Fall 2013

Senior Theses and Public Service Projects Chair

Charles Goldberg, Jewish Studies, "Responding to Sexual Abuse in Orthodox Jewish Communities" Status: completed 2010

Undergraduate Honors Theses Chair

Jenny Curatola, BA in English, "One Wild and Precious Life" Status: completed Fall 2012 - Spring 2014

Dan Bourneuf, English, "Nobody Ever Told Me': The Financial Woes of the Aging and Elderly" Status: completed Fall 2012 - Spring 2013

Bridget Lamb, English—with Susan Harris, "The Editorial Relationships of William Dean Howells with Abraham Cahan, Paul Dunbar, and Henry James" Status: completed 2012
Current position: Client Marketer - Publishing at Allen Press, Inc.

Hannah Vick, English, "Humanities in the Field: Enhancing Learning through Community Service" Status: completed 2011

Current position: Part of the Solution, Inc. Community Organization, Bronx, New York
Alexandria Murnan, American Studies, "The Future of Undocumented Students: An Examination of Undocumented Residents' Individual Rights in the United States" Status: completed 2010

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Chair

Sean Weston, BA in AMS, "Christianity vs. Churchianity: Protestants and Poverty in Pittsburg, Kansas, 1890-1900" Status: completed Fall 2013 - Spring 2014

Activity Currently in Progress

Lester, C. B., Towner, T. M., Ph.D., Carothers, et al., J. B., Ph.D., "Adaptation of William Faulkner's Light in August," (August 2013 - Present).

Collaboration Editor for The Digital Yoknapatawpha Project: a born-digital critical database, network visualization, and timeline. Associate Editor Theresa Towner is leading the group of collaborative editors adapting this text for the Project.

Status: On-Going

Potential Grant/Funding Organizations: NEH

Lester, C. B., "Mobile Subjects: Faulkner and the Great Migration, 1929-32," (August 2011 - Present).

Monograph on modernist representation, structural transformation, mobility, and racial identity during a significant phase in the literary career of William Faulkner

Status: On-Going

Lester, C. B., Eicholz, A., Ph.D., Kerr, K., MSN, MA, CNS, "Family History Database Project,"

(August 2010 - Present).

With two collaborators, I am working with a group of independent helping professionals with credentials in Bowen family systems theory to aggregate coded multigenerational family history data. When these professionals complete the coding process, we will run pilot searches of the dataset to see whether it contains sufficient data to test the validity of basic theoretical principles in Bowen family systems theory. We have IRB approval from KU for this ongoing project.

Status: On-Going

KU Courses Taught

Spring 2014

AMS 553-56855, Honors in American Studies

AMS 900-61046, Teaching Seminar

AMS 999-50191, Dissertation

ENGL 205-66010, Freshman-Sophmr Honors Prosem: Aging in Film and TV

Fall 2013

AMS 344-25837, Case Study in American Studies: Aging and Film

AMS 553-16629, Honors in American Studies

AMS 896-10185, Examination Preparation

ENGL 205-30646, Freshman-Sophmr Honors Prosem: Film and Aging

ENGL 390-29066, Studies in: Aging and Film

Spring 2013

AMS 344-65495, Case Study in American Studies: Aging and Film

AMS 997-50201, Directed Readings

ENGL 390-69334, Studies in: Aging and Film

ENGL 899-52271, M.A./M.F.A. Thesis

Fall 2012

ENGL 899-12358, M.A./M.F.A. Thesis

Spring 2012

AMS 344-69564, Case Study in American Studies: Aging and Film

AMS 999-50241, Dissertation

ENGL 598-68256, Honors Proseminar: Literature and the Life Course

Fall 2011

AMS 999-10255, Dissertation

Summary List of Courses Taught

University of Kansas (Fall 2006 - Spring 2013)

AMS 344 Aging and Film (Cross-listed with ENGL 390), Spring 2013

ENGL 598 Literature and the Life Course (Honors), Spring 2012

AMS 344 Aging and Film, Spring 2012

ENGL 598 Literature and the Life Course (Honors), Spring 2012

AMS 344 Aging and Film, Spring 2012

ENGL 336 Jewish American Literature and Culture, Spring 2011

A Service Learning Course
Cross-listed with AMS 344 and JWSH 300
AMS 900 Teaching American Studies, Spring 2011
AMS 808 New Cities: Interdisciplinary Research Methods, Spring 2011
AMS 694 American Studies & Political Culture, Fall 2010
Directed Reading
ENGL 575 Literature of the Segregated South, Fall 2010
Cross-listed with AMS 696
AMS 900 Teaching American Studies, Fall 2010
ENGL 336 Jewish American Literature and Culture, Spring 2010
A Service Learning Course
Cross-listed with AMS 344 and JWSH 300
AMS 900 Teaching American Studies, Spring 2010
AMS 694/ENGL 998 U.S. Jewish Immigration Literature, Spring 2009
Directed Reading
ENGL 205 Family Ghost Stories, Fall 2007
AMS 550: Research in American Studies, Spring 2007
ENGL 336/AMS344 Jewish American Literature and Culture, Fall 2006
A Service Learning Course
Cross-listed with AMS 344 and JWSH 300

Achievements of Distinction of Current/Former Students

Jenny Curatola, English, Theatre, Global Studies
FLAS Scholarship to study Arabic in Jordan

Public service internship with Coro Kansas City at Park University's Hauptmann School for Public Affairs

KU Nominee for the Rhodes/Marshall scholarships

Selected for Rhodes Scholarship Interview

Presented "One Wild and Precious Life," UGRA Symposium at KU (Spring 2013 - Spring 2014)

Sean Weston, AMS

Accepted to graduate program at Union Theological Seminary

Presented "Christianity vs. Churchianity:
Protestants and Poverty in Pittsburg, Kansas, 1890-1900" at UGRA Symposium, Spring 2014

UGRA Award for Honors thesis

Presenting thesis at Kansas Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol (Fall 2013 - Spring 2014)

University Service

University of Kansas

Board member
KU Hillel. (2003 - 2010)

Chair
Goal Six Satellite Committee, KU Core Curriculum Development. (Fall 2011)

Faculty Advisor
Jewish Greek Leadership Society. (2010 - 2012)

Marshall
PhD Hooding Ceremony, Office of Graduate Research. May 2008, May 2009, May 2010.
(May 2008 - May 2010)

Participant
New Cities: Ageing and the Built Environment Think Tank. (Fall 2010 - Spring 2014)

College Service

University of Kansas

Member
Jewish Studies Executive Committee. (2013 - 2015)
Search Committee for 2014-15 Schusterman Visiting Israel Professor. (December 2013 -
February 2014)
Sias Fellowship Selection Committee, Hall Center for the Humanities. Vet graduate
applications for 2013-14 Sias Fellowships and rank and select candidates. (Spring 2013)
Jewish Studies Steering Committee. (2000 - 2012)

Department Service

University of Kansas

American Studies

Chair
Search Committee for Chair of American Studies Department. (2010 - 2011)

Member
Promotion and Tenure Committee. (2011 - Present)

Presenter
Graduate Student Orientation, American Studies Graduate Student Association. August,
2001-2004, 2006-2011. (August 2001 - 2011)

English

Assessor
Assessment of Student Performance in 500-Level Courses. (2010 - 2011)

Evaluator

Peer Teaching Evaluation. (2013)
Peer Teaching Evaluation. (Spring 2013)
Peer Teaching Evaluation. (2011)

Member

Ad Hoc Committee on African-American Literature. (1999 - Present)
Faculty Evaluation Committee. Evaluate and determine merit salary raises for annual review of department faculty and staff. (Fall 2013 - 2016)
Mock Interviews for English Department Graduate Students on the Job Market. (December 2013)
GTAL Committee. (Spring 2013)
Graduate Student Travel Committee. (2011 - Spring 2012)
Study Group on Mentoring for Promotion from Associate to Full Professor. (2011)
Awards Committee. (2010)

Professional Service

Editorial Responsibilities

Editorial Board Member

American Studies, (Appointed). (1997 - 2014)

Other Professional Service

Faculty Advisor

Israel Leadership Mission Abroad, KU Hillel. (2010 - 2012)

Member

Holocaust Education Academic Roundtable (HEART), Midwest Center for Holocaust Education. (2005 - 2012)

Service Presentations

Guest Class Lecture

Lester, Cheryl B., "Uses of Bowen Family Systems Theory in Clinical Practice," Social Work Intern Supervision Group, Counseling and Psychological Services, Watkins Health Center, University of Kansas. (February 29, 2012) (Invited)

Lecture

Lester, Cheryl B., "From Generation to Generation: Teaching Ageing," Boomer Futures Think Tank, University of Kansas. (April 25, 2014)

Lester, Cheryl B., "Lessons from "The Selling of Murder: The Killing Films of the Third Reich" (1991)," Deadly Medicine Speaker Series, Holocaust Education Academic Roundtable, Midwest Center for Holocaust Education and National Archives of Kansas City, National Archives of Kansas City. (April 14, 2010) (Invited)

Oral Presentation

- Lester, Cheryl B., "Population Ageing and Systems Thinking," Postgraduate Seminar, Kansas City Center for Family and Organizational Systems, Kansas City Public Library. (May 15, 2014)
- Lester, Cheryl B., "IRB Approval of the Family History Database Project: A Journey to Expedited Review," Postgraduate Seminar, Kansas City Center for Family and Organizational Systems, Kansas City Public Library. (November 14, 2013)
- Lester, Cheryl B., "'New Ideas, New Realities, and Renewed Purpose: The Future of American Studies?'," Reflecting Forward: 60 Years of American Studies at KU, American Studies Department, University of Kansas. (September 25, 2013)
- Lester, Cheryl B., "Observations on the Family System," Postgraduate Seminar, Kansas City Center for Family and Organizational Systems, Maple Woods Community College, Kansas City, MO. (November 17, 2012)
- Lester, Cheryl B., "Anxious Responses to Change: Overcoming Obstacles to Sustaining Success in Businesses and Organizations," Panelist, Kansas City Center for Family and Organizational Systems, Maple Woods Community College, Kansas City, MO. (June 2012)
- Lester, Cheryl B., "Learning from Family Letters," Postgraduate Seminar, Kansas City Center for Family and Organizational Systems, Maple Woods Community College, Kansas City, MO. (May 31, 2012)
- Lester, Cheryl B., "Narratives and Performance: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Textual and Political Transformations," Respondent, Narratives of Jewish Lives and Jewish Studies, Hall Center for the Humanities, Lawrence, KS. (2011)
- Lester, Cheryl B., "Death, Sibling Groups, and Functional Positions," Postgraduate Seminar, Kansas City Center for Family and Organizational Systems, Maple Woods Community College, Kansas City, MO. (November 19, 2011)
- Lester, Cheryl, "'Beyond the Term Paper'," Graduate Teaching Assistants Training Session, Center for Teaching Excellence, Lawrence, KS. (September 2011)
- Lester, Cheryl, "The Inclusive Classroom," About Teaching: A Conference for New GTAs, Center for Teaching Excellence, University of Kansas, August 2008, August 2010, August 2011, Lawrence, KS. (August 2008 - August 2011)
- Lester, Cheryl, "Selling Nazism: Documentaries, Truth, and Persuasion," Mid-west Center for Holocaust Education, Kansas City, MO. (February 2010)

Other Activity

Language Proficiencies

French: Reading, Excellent; Writing, Fair; Speaking, Good; Aural, Excellent
German: Reading, Fair; Writing, N/A; Speaking, Fair; Aural, Fair
Hebrew: Reading, Fair; Writing, Fair; Speaking, Fair; Aural, Fair