

RANDALL FULLER

CURRICULUM VITAE

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Washington University, St. Louis, 1999.
M.A. Washington University, St. Louis, 1995.
B.A. University of Missouri, Columbia, 1986.

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Herman Melville Distinguished Professor of Nineteenth-Century American Literature,
University of Kansas, August 2017-present.
Chapman Professor of English, The University of Tulsa, August 2012-2017.
Chair of English Department, August 2014-2017.
Professor, Drury University, May 2011-May 2012.
Chair, Humanities Division, 2011-2013
Director, University Honors Program, 2006–present.
Associate Professor, Drury University, May 2005-2011.
Assistant Professor, Drury University, August 1999-2005.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Bright Circle: Five Remarkable Women in the Age of Transcendentalism, Oxford UP,
October 2024. Reviewed in *The New Yorker*, *New York Times*, *Boston Globe*,
Wall Street Journal, *Open Letters Review*, *Foreword*, *American Scholar*,
CHOICE.

*The Book That Changed America: How Darwin's Theory of Evolution Ignited a
Nation*, Viking Press, January 2017.
Reviewed in *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, *Boston
Globe*, *Dallas Morning News*, *Science*, *Nature*; received starred reviews from
Kirkus, and *Publishers Weekly*

From Battlefields Rising: How the Civil War Transformed American Literature, Oxford
University Press, 2011.

Reviewed in *American Literary History*, *Journal of American Studies*,
Nineteenth-Century Literature, *Journal of American History*, *New England
Quarterly*, *Nineteenth-Century Contexts*, *Civil War History*, *Social History*, *The
Boston Globe*, *Christianity & Literature*, *Library Journal*, *The Weekly Standard*,

and others.

The Business of Reflection: Hawthorne in His Notebooks, co-edited with Robert Milder, Ohio State University Press, 2009.

Reviewed in *Nineteenth-Century Literature*, NBOL-19.

Emerson's Ghosts: Literature, Politics, and the Making of Americanists, Oxford University Press, 2007; paperback, 2010.

Reviewed in *New England Quarterly*, *Studies in the Novel*.

ESSAYS, CHAPTERS, EDITORIALS

"Lydia Emerson," *Oxford Handbook of Emerson* June 2024.

"The Second Act of Louis Bromfield," *Humanities*, Spring 2021, vol. 42, issue 2.

Reviving Zenobia: The Last Days and Forgotten Life of Martha E. Hunt, Transcendentalist," *The New England Quarterly* 93 (2), 161-187, 2020.

"The Poetics of Civil War Sacrifice," *Sacrifice and Modern War Literature*, ed. Alex Houen and Jan-Melissa Shramm, Oxford University Press, 2018.

"The 'American Renaissance' After the Civil War," *Cambridge History of American Civil War Literature*, ed. Coleman Hutchison, Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2015.

"Critics: 1945-2012," in *Emerson in Context*, ed. Wesley T. Mott, Cambridge University Press, December 2013.

"Reading *Uncle Tom's Cabin*," *Humanities*, March/April 2013, pp. 13-18

"The Image of a Writer," *Humanities*, November/December 2012, pp. 14-18.

"Paralysis in Athens," *New York Times*, A27, June 6, 2012.

"We Bled in the Corn," Disunion column, *New York Times*, August 10, 2011.

"We Shall See What Stuff You Are Made," Disunion column, *New York Times*, June 6, 2011.

"Daybreak Gray and Dim," *Humanities*, January/February 2011, pp. 14-21.

"Hawthorne and War," *New England Quarterly*, December 2007.

"Politics, Aesthetics, Homosexuality: F. O. Matthiessen and the Tragedy of the American Scholar," June 2007, *American Literature*.

“Errand into the Wilderness: Perry Miller as American Scholar,” *American Literary History* 18 (Spring 2006), pp.102-128.

“Teaching Don DeLillo’s *White Noise*,” in *MLA’s Approaches to Teaching Don DeLillo White Noise*, ed. by Tim Engles and John N. Duvall (New York: MLA, 2006), pp 19-26.

“Emerson in the Gilded Age,” *ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance*, 45:2 (1999), pp. 97-129.

“Theaters of the American Revolution: The Valley Forge *Cato* and the Meschianza in Their Transcultural Contexts,” *Early American Literature*, 34:2 (1999), pp.126-46.

ACADEMIC BOOK REVIEWS

“Ayad Rahmani, *Frank Lloyd Wright and Ralph Waldo Emerson: Transforming the American Mind*,” *American Literary History*, xvolume 37, Issue 2, Summer 2025, pp. 554-557.

“*The California Days of Ralph Waldo Emerson*, by Brian C. Wilson, *New England Quarterly* (2024) 97 (1): 111-113.

“*Bloody Engagements*,” by John R. Kelso, *Common-place*, vol. 18, no. 1 (Winter 2018).

“*The Oxford Handbook of Nineteenth Century American Literature*,” ed. by Russ Castronovo, *Review 19* (www.nbol-19.org), July 31, 2012.

“*Devils and Rebels: The Making of Hawthorne’s Damned Politics*, by Larry J. Reynolds, *New England Quarterly* 82: 4 (2009), pp. 714-716.

“*Men of Letters in the Early Republic: Cultivating Forms of Citizenship*, by Catherine O’Donnell Kaplan,” *New England Quarterly* 81: 4 (2008), pp. 724-726.

“*Ecopoiesis*,” *Journal of Modern Literature*, 29:4 (2006), pp. 201-06.

NEWSPAPER REVIEWS

“‘A Man on Fire’ Review: Thomas Higginson’s Battle,” *Wall Street Journal*, January 31, 2025.

“‘American Bloods’ Review: All in the Family,” *Wall Street Journal*, May 10, 2024.

“On Great Fields: Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain, Professor and Hero,” *Wall Street Journal*, November 10, 2023.

“‘The Odyssey of Phillis Wheatley’ Review: A Poet’s Emancipation,” *Wall Street Journal*, April 7, 2023

“‘Winslow Homer’ Review: The Brush of Nature,” *Wall Street Journal*, April 8, 2022.

“‘The Transcendentalists and their World’ Review: Concord’s Second Revolution,” *Wall Street Journal*, Nov. 5, 2021.

“‘The Failed Promise’ Review: The Mad King and the Lost Cause,” *Wall Street Journal*, August 21, 2021.

“‘The Saddest Words’ Review: Faulkner in Black and White,” *Wall Street Journal*, 28 August 2020.

“‘Death at the Edges of Empire: Learning to Honor the Dead,’” *Wall Street Journal*, 22 March 2020.

“‘Spying on the South’: The Forever Cotton Kingdom,” *Wall Street Journal*, 21 May 2019.

“Rigging the Market,” *Wall Street Journal*, 19 July 2018.

“Five Best,” *Wall Street Journal*, 1 June 2018.

“Rage Against the Machine,” *Wall Street Journal*, 28 June 2017.

“Thoreau at 200,” *Wall Street Journal*, 14 June 2017.

“American Philosophy Can Change Your Life,” *Wall Street Journal*, 8 October 2016.

“The Lesson of the Masters,” *Wall Street Journal*, 25 March 2016.

“Custer Agonistes,” *Wall Street Journal*, 22 November 2015.

“When Billy and Johnny Got Back,” *Wall Street Journal*, 10 April 2015.

“Nevermore Into the Breach,” *Wall Street Journal*, 26, December 2014.

“Life During Wartime,” lead book review, *Wall Street Journal*, 26 April 2014.

“Randall Fuller: Five Best Books Inspired by the Civil War,” *Wall Street Journal*, 8 March 2014.

INTERVIEWS

“An Interview with Richard Powers,” *The Missouri Review*, 26: 1 (2003), pp. 97-113.

“An Interview with Diane Johnson,” *The Missouri Review*, XXV: 2 (2002), pp. 109-23.

“An Interview with Rick Moody,” *The Missouri Review*, XXIV: 3 (2001), pp. 79-94.

GRANTS AND PRIZES

- 2020-21 National Endowment for the Humanities Public Scholar Fellowship
- 2020-21 Robert B. Silvers Grant for Works in Progress
- 2014-2015 Guggenheim Fellow
- 2014 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend
- 2011 Christian Gauss Book Award, Phi Beta Kappa.
- Director, NEH Summer Institute for Teachers (Wilson’s Creek Battlefield), June 2010.
- Research Fellow, NEH, 2007-08.
- Summer Fellow, National Humanities Center Summer Literary Seminar on Dickinson, 2008. Directed by Sharon Cameron, Johns Hopkins University.
- Summer Fellow, National Humanities Center Summer Literary Seminar on Melville, 2006. Directed by Andrew Delbanco, Columbia University.
- Faculty Scholarship Award, Drury University, 2007
- Faculty Leadership Award, Drury University, Fall 2004.
- Richard Beale Davis Award for Best Article Published in 1999 by *Early American Literature* (presented by the MLA Division of American Literature before 1800).

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

“Woody Guthrie at the Crossroads of America,” The University of Tulsa and the Woody Guthrie Center, April 30, 2016.

“What’s English Good For?” A symposium to discuss the present and future of English studies, with talks given by Coleman Hutchison (University of Texas-Austin), Margaret W. Ferguson (President, MLA), and James English (University of Pennsylvania). University of Tulsa, March 28, 2014.

OTHER TEACHING

- Director, NEH Summer Institute for Teachers (Wilson's Creek Battlefield), Summer 2010.
- Faculty, Dartmouth Institute of American Studies, Summer 2008.

INVITED WORKSHOP

"Expanding Circles: Transcendentalism's Past and Future," Center for the Study of World Religions at the Harvard Divinity School, October 3-4, 2025.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

"Margaret Fuller: An Extraordinary Transcendentalist Woman," Smithsonian Institute Associates (virtual) November 25, 2025.

"Bright Circle," Smithsonian Institute Associates (virtual), March 25, 2025.

Book talk, Harvard Bookstore, January 31, 2025.

"Emerson, Darwin, Idealism, Extinction," 2023 Annual Thoreau Gathering, July 13, 2023.

"The American Civil War in Literature, Art, and Culture, Houston, Texas Humanities, February 2, 2023.

Interim program chair for the Emerson Society, ALA, 2023.

"Teaching the Speeches of Abraham Lincoln," Texas Humanities (virtual), November 9, 2022.

"War and Literature," Texas Humanities *Veterans' Voices* program (virtual), February 3, 2022

Inaugural Distinguished Professor Lecture, "The Last Days and Forgotten Life of Martha E. Hunt, Transcendentalist," virtual, March 29, 2021.

"Transcendentalist, Interrupted: Martha Hunt and Henry David Thoreau," 2021 (Virtual) Thoreau Society Annual Gathering," July 10, 2021.

"Meet KU's Authors," Hall Center and Lawrence Public Library, May 14, 2020.

MLA International Symposium, Lisbon, Portugal, "Mary Moody Emerson: America's First Romantic," July 26, 2019.

Falmouth Museum-on-the-Green, "The Book that Changed America," June 13, 2019.

American Literature Association, "Martha Hunt's New England," Boston, May 24, 2019.

American Literature Association, "Phantom Limbs: Amputation and Religion in Silas Weir Mitchell's 'The Case of George Dedlow,'" San Francisco, May 24, 2018.

Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University, Director's Lecture Series, "Thoreau and Darwin," April 30, 2018.

Invited talk and workshop, "American literature and the Archive," University of Fribourg, Switzerland, April 13, 2018.

Invited lecture, Drury University, November 1, 2017.

Keynote address, Skidmore College, September 11, 2017.

Invited lectures, Edith Wharton House, July 31 and August 1, 2017.

Invited lecture, "Walt Whitman and the Civil War," Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, NY, October 9, 2016.

Keynote, "The American Literary Tradition," Texas Humanities, Austin, TX, June 6, 2016.

MLA, respondent, "'After the Eruption': Melville and the Cultural Memory of the American Civil War," program arranged by the Melville Society, January 10, 2015.

Fleur Cowles Flair Symposium, *Cultural Life During Wartime, 1861-1865*, Harry Ransom Center, Austin, TX. "Cowardice at Bull Run," September 19, 2014.

C19, "Nineteenth-Century Natural Knowledge and the Loss of the Commons," Seminar member, March 15, 2014.

M/MLA, "Emerson and American Memory after the Civil War," November 8, 2013.

M/MLA, "The Civil War at 150: Turning Points; Roundtable: Cornering Recollection," November 8, 2013.

Texas A & M's Glasscock Center for the Humanities, April 19, 2013, Roundtable discussion on the History and Literature of the Civil War (with Larry J. Reynolds and Kate Unterman).

Rhodes College, Phi Beta Kappa address, "Walt Whitman's Civil War," April 12, 2013.

Texas Humanities, Austin Texas, Feb 1, 2013, "How the Civil War Transformed American Literature."

"Thoreau and Secularization," January 5, 2013, Modern Language Association, Boston.

"Savage Dickinson," May 25, 2012, American Literature Association, San Francisco.

Abraham Lincoln Library and Memorial Museum, April 10, 2012, "*From Battlefields Rising: A Discussion*."

Texas Humanities, Austin, Texas. Feb 3, 2012, "How the Civil War Transformed American Literature."

"How the Civil War Transformed American Literature," September 24, 2011, Missouri Literary Festival, Springfield, MO.

"Walt Whitman and the Civil War," August 10, 2011, New York Public Library/Bryant Park "Word for Word," sponsored by the New York Public Library, Bryant Park, the New York Historical Society, and Oxford University Press.

"*From Battlefields Rising: A Reading*," March 22, 2011, Georgia Center for the Book, Atlanta.

"F. O. Matthiessen's Emersonian Tragedy," Washington University, April 12, 2009.

"The Civil War and American Studies," June 2008, Dartmouth Institute of American Studies.

"Emerson and the Poetics of War," 2007 MLA, Chicago (with Jeffrey Steele and Sandra Morris).

Invited speaker, "Emerson's Ghosts," Temple University, November 18, 2007

Invited speaker, "Hawthorne and the Civil War," Dartmouth College, February 12, 2007.

Moderator, "9/11: Five Years Later," with W. J. T. Mitchell and Donald E. Pease, Drury University, April 14, 2007.

Moderator, "'Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror' Thirty Years Later: John Ashbery and Contemporary Poetry," 2006 MLA, Philadelphia (with Charles Altieri, Daniel T. O'Hara, John Vincent, Andrew Dubois).

Invited speaker, “Emerson and Truth-Telling,” Temple University, November 15, 2006.

Invited speaker, “American literature and American studies,” Washington University, March 29 and April 5, 2006.

“The American Jeremiad at Ground Zero: American Studies after 9/11,” 2005 MLA, Washington, DC (with Donald E. Pease, Jonathan Arac, Daniel T. O’Hara, and Gina McKenzie).

“Generalism on the Tenure Track,” 2004 Midwest MLA, St. Louis.

JUDGESHIPS AND REFEREE REPORTS

National Endowment for the Humanities “Public Scholars” Selection Committee, 2024.

KU General Research Fund evaluator, 2018, 2019, 2022, 2023.

MacArthur Fellowship consultant (i.e., I was solicited for suggestions for worthy fellows), 2019.

American Council of Learned Societies, Reviewer in Literature, 2017.

Library of Congress Kluge Fellowship committee, November 2016.

American Council of Learned Societies, Reviewer in Literature, 2015-16.

National Endowment for the Humanities “Public Scholars” Selection Committee, 2015.

National Endowment for the Humanities Library of Congress Fellowship Selection Committee, 2012

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship Selection Committee, 2010

Referee: MLA, *American Literary History*, *Leviathan*, *Tulsa Studies in Women’s Literature*, University of Pennsylvania Press, Oxford University Press, Dartmouth Press, University of Virginia Press, Johns Hopkins University Press.