

## D. BERTON EMERSON

---

### PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2016-Present **Whitworth University**, Department of English  
Visiting Assistant Professor
- 2015-2016 **Pomona College**, Department of English  
Lecturer
- 2013-2015 **California State Polytechnic University Pomona**, English Department  
Visiting Assistant Professor
- 

### EDUCATION

- 2011 **Claremont Graduate University**, Ph.D. in English
- 2005 **California State University Long Beach**, M.A. in English
- 1998 **University of the South: Sewanee**, B.A. in English
- 

### BOOK PROJECT

- Local Rules: Antebellum Misfit Literature and Its Alternative Democracies, 1828-1861*  
Currently revising
- 

### REFEREED ARTICLES

- 2015 “George Lippard’s *The Quaker City*: Disjointed Text, Dismembered Bodies, Regenerated Democracy.” *Nineteenth-Century Literature*, June 2015 (70.1): 102-131.
- “‘This is a strange book’: Re-membering Local Democratic Agency in Bird’s *Sheppard Lee*.” *ESQ: A Journal of Nineteenth-Century American Literature and Culture*, June 2015 (61.2): 222-261.
- 2013 “‘It’s Good to be Shifty’: The Local Democracies of Old Southwestern Humor.” *American Literature*, June 2013 (85.2): 273-301.
- 

### EDITED PUBLICATIONS

- 2017 “Democracy: Archives, Methods, and Imaginings.” Forum co-edited and Introduction co-written with Gregory Laski. *J19: The Journal of Nineteenth-Century Americanists*. Forthcoming in 5.2.
- 

### ESSAYS IN COLLECTED EDITIONS

- 2017 “Print Culture and Media.” In *Handbooks of English and American Studies – Text and Theory: The Nineteenth-Century American Novel*. Ed. Christine Gerhardt. (DeGruyter: Berlin and New York). Forthcoming.

- 2012 “‘Little Jackie Made it Stick, All Right’: The Implicating Narrative of Jack Burden.” *Robert Penn Warren’s All the King’s Men. Dialogue Series #15*. Eds. Michael J. Meyer & Hugh Ingrasci (Rodopi Press, 2012), 201-220.

---

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

### *web essays*

- 2016 “Imitatio Americana”: A Review of *Against Self-Reliance: The Arts of Dependence in the Early United States*. William Hunting Howell. University of Pennsylvania Press, 2015. *Los Angeles Review of Books*. 17 March 2016.
- 2014 “She Really Wants to Dance.” Teaching Review of *The Factory Girl* (1814) at “Just Teach One.” *Common-Place.org* (American Antiquarian Society), August 2014.
- 2013 “Free Speech: Or, Movement of a Kind.” *Avidly.org* (a channel of the *Los Angeles Review of Books*), 2 July 2013.

### *book reviews*

- 2017 *The Moral Economies of American Authorship: Reputation, Scandal, and the Nineteenth-Century Literary Marketplace*. Susan M. Ryan. Oxford University Press, 2016. Forthcoming.
- 2009 *Stir It Up: Home Economics in American Culture*. Megan J. Elias. University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008. *Women Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, Jan/Feb 2009 (38.1): 112-15.
- 2007 *Framed: Women in Law and Film*. Orit Kamir. Durham: Duke University Press, 2006. *Women’s Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, June 2007 (36:4): 297-99.

### *reference works*

- 2014 “Congress,” “Democracy,” “Manifest Destiny,” and “Mexican-American War.” *All Things Emily Dickinson: An Encyclopedia of Emily Dickinson’s World*. Volumes 1 and 2. Ed. Wendy Martin. (Greenwood Press, 2014).

---

## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2016-2017 Botein Fellowship, American Antiquarian Society (Worcester, MA)
- 2014-2015 William S. Reese Fellowship, The Huntington Library (San Marino, CA)  
President’s Travel Award, Cal Poly Pomona
- 2012-2013 William S. Reese Fellowship in American Bibliography and the History of the Book, The Bancroft Library (UC Berkeley)  
Mellon Foundation Fellowship, Library Company of Philadelphia
- 2010-2011 CGU Humanities Dissertation Award, Claremont Graduate University
- 2010 Albert G. Friedman Research Grant, Claremont Graduate University

---

**INVITED TALKS**

- 2015 “The Legend of Joaquin Murieta, Celebrated California Bandit” – Huntington U – The Huntington Library, San Marino, CA. October 2015.
- 2014 “The Democratic Revitalization Projects of Antebellum Philadelphia” – UCLA Americanist Research Colloquium, Westwood, CA. February 2014.
- 2013 “A New Literary History of Lippard’s *Quaker City*” – Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA. October 2013.
- 2012 “Local Rules and Alternative Democracies in Mid-19th-Century U.S. Print Culture” – Library Company of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA. June 2012.
- 

**CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION**

- 2017 Organizer and Chair, “Reviving Robert Montgomery Bird.” Modern Language Association Annual Convention. Philadelphia, PA.
- 2016 “Fictions of the Desert.” Modernist Studies Association, Annual Meeting. Pasadena, CA.
- “The Flabby Temporalities of Local Misfits.” American Literature Association Annual Conference. San Francisco, CA.
- Chair, “Idioms Before Poetry.” C19 Americanists Conference. Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA.
- Co-Organizer and Roundtable Participant, “Making Our Way in the World Today: Early Career Scholars, Community, Publicity.” Modern Language Association Annual Convention. Austin, TX. (<http://scag2.commons.mla.org/>)  
\* selected for inclusion in Presidential Theme: “Literature and Its Publics”
- 2015 Co-Organizer and Roundtable Participant, “Democracy in American Literary and Cultural Studies: Past, Present and Future.” Modern Language Association Annual Convention. Vancouver, BC. (<http://democracy2015.commons.mla.org/>)
- 2014 Organizer and Chair, “The Pleasures and Pains of Books.” (SHARP-sponsored panel). American Studies Association Annual Meeting. Los Angeles, CA.
- “The Politics of the Antebellum Picaresque: Transgressing the Margins of Democracy.” American Literature Association Annual Conference. Washington DC.
- Chair and Respondent, “Memory and Genealogy.” C19 Americanists Conference. University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
- “*The Quaker City*: Disjointed Text, Dismembered Bodies, Regenerated Democracy.” Modern Language Association Annual Convention. Chicago, IL.
- 2013 “Whose Bottom Line? *Sheppard Lee*, *Quaker City*, and Publishers of the Early Industrial Book.” American Studies Association Annual Meeting. Washington, DC.
- Chair, American Literature Before 1865 Panel. Pacific Ancient and Modern Literature Association Conference. San Diego, CA.

- “Lewis and Clark and Indur: Material and Imaginative Transports of Early American Imperialism.” Society of Early Americanists Biennial Conference, Savannah, GA.
- 2012 “The Disjointed Democratic Temporalities of Robert Montgomery Bird’s *Sheppard Lee*.” C19 Americanists Conference, University of California, Berkeley.  
“Materializing National Space and Sovereignty: Ridge, Harte, and *Deadwood*” Cultural Studies Association Annual Conference, UC San Diego.
- 2011 “Recalibrating National Space in Ridge’s *Joaquín Murieta*.” Pacific Ancient and Modern Literature Association Conference. Claremont, CA.  
“Local Representations: The Alternative Democracies of Antebellum Philadelphia Fictions.” Modern Language Association Annual Convention. Los Angeles, CA.
- 2010 “Less Region, More Local: Reconsidering Nineteenth Century U.S. Locality” American Studies Association Annual Meeting. San Antonio, TX.  
“‘It’s Good to Be Shifty in a New Country’: Nationalizing Imperatives vs. Old Southwest Humor’s Alternative Democratic Socialities.” C19 Americanists Conference, Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA.  
“Carnivalizing the Durnd Fool: Sut Lovingood, Bakhtin, and Democratic Sociality.” Society for the Study of Southern Literature Biennial Conference. New Orleans, LA.
- 2008 “Honor, Violence, and Pain in the Cass Mastern Episode of *All the King’s Men*.” Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association Conference. Claremont, CA.
- 2007 “The Naturalist Activism of Twain’s *Connecticut Yankee*.” American Literature Association Symposium on Naturalism. Newport Beach, CA.  
“Challenging the Quentin Thesis: Lawrence McIvor in Andrew Lytle’s *The Long Night*.” Southern Writers, Southern Writing Graduate Student Conference. University of Mississippi. (\*Awarded Kullman Prize for Outstanding Submission)  
“Redefining an Entrenched Identity in William Faulkner’s *The Unvanquished*.” Agendas and Identities: CGU Cultural Studies Student Conference

---

## INSTITUTES AND SEMINARS

- 2010 Futures of American Studies Institute  
Dartmouth University, Hanover, NH.  
Summer Seminar: “The Global American South and Early American Print Culture” American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA.
- 2008 The School of Criticism and Theory, 32nd Session  
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.

---

## RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Late-18th, 19th, and 20th Century American Literatures; Multi-ethnic American Literatures  
Critical Theory; Poetry and Poetics; Aesthetics; Theories of Democracy; Global Souths  
Material History; History of the Book and Print Culture in the U.S.

---

## TEACHING

Pomona College, English Department

A Literary History of #blacklivesmatters: Race in 19th-Century U.S. Literature (Spring 16)

The Wild and Not-So Wild: Literatures of the American West (Spring 16)

American Literature and the Democratic Imaginary (Fall 15)

Cal Poly Pomona, English and Foreign Language Department

*Graduate*

Democratic Vistas: Seminar in 19th Century American Lit (Fall 13)

*Undergraduate – Composition*

Sign, Sign, Everywhere a Sign: Freshman English II (Fall 15)

Writing How? Advanced Expository Writing (Winter 15)

*Undergraduate – General Education*

Rafts, Coffins, and Lightbulbs: An Introduction to Modern Fiction (Fall 13)

Introduction to Poetry: Histories, Forms, and Sounds (Spring 14; Spring 15)

Materializing Energies: Survey of American Lit I, Pre-1865 (Fall 13; Fall 14)

Ambition and Malaise: Survey of American Lit II, Post-1865 (Fall 14)

The Bible as Literature (Spring 14; Spring 15)

*Undergraduate – Advanced Seminars in Literature*

Transatlantic Imaginings: The Novel in English to 1880 (Winter 15)

Archiving Voices: American Poetic Traditions I (Winter 14; Fall 14)

Coquettes, Picaros, & Libertines: Seminar in Early American Lit (Spring 14; Winter 15)

Literatures Democratic?: Seminar in 19th-Century American Lit (Winter 14; Spring 15)

University of Redlands, English Department

Revolutionaries and Republicans: Seminar in American Literature (Spring 15)

California State University Fullerton, American Studies Department

Franklin, Murieta, Chopin, Ellison: Whose American Character? (Fall 12, Spring 13)

Woodbury University, Institute of Transdisciplinary Studies

Academic Writing I (Spring 08, Fall 12)

Academic Writing II (Fall 10, Spring 12, Spring 13)

Journeys (Fall 11)

College of the Canyons, English Department

Composition (Spring 13)

University of California Riverside, University Writing Program

Applied Intermediate Composition (Spring 09)

Pepperdine University, Graduate School of Education and Psychology

How Students Learn: Educational Psychology (Fall 06)

---

**SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION**

Convener, Southern California Americanist Group II (SCAG II), 2014-Present  
Membership Committee, C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists, 2014-2016  
Assistant Editor, *Women's Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 2007-2009

---

**DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

Pomona College

Writing Workshops Designer, QuestBridge Program, Fall 2015

Cal Poly Pomona

Semester Conversion, Reviser of Field-Related Extended Course Outlines, Fall 2014  
Coordinator, Ted Pugh Poetry Award Competition (open to all students), Spring 2014  
Reader, M.A. Comprehensive Exams, Christy Moskowicz, 2014  
Organizer, Spring Department Speaker Series, 2014

Woodbury University

Part-Time Faculty Evaluation and Peer Review Coordinator, 2012-13  
Educational Policy Committee, Program Review Liaison, 2012-13  
English Placement Program Supervisor, 2012-13  
Writing Consultant for Business Department, 2012-13

Claremont Graduate University

Organizer, CGU English Department Speaker Series, Spring 2008 and Spring 2009  
English Department Fellow, 2007-2008

---

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Studies Association  
Modern Language Association  
C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists  
Society of Early Americanists