

RICHARD S. SLOTKIN

OLIN PROFESSOR OF AMERICAN STUDIES, EMERITUS

708 Ridge Road
Middletown, Connecticut 06457

Phone: (860) 346-7207
email: rslotkin@wesleyan.edu

Education:

B.A., Brooklyn College, *cum laude*, 1963
Ph. D. in American Civilization, Brown University, 1967

Teaching:

Instructor, Peace Corps Trainee Program, Brown University, Summer 1965
Assistant Professor of English, Wesleyan University, 1966-73
Associate Professor, Wesleyan University, 1973-76
Visiting Associate Professor, Yale University, 1974
Professor, Wesleyan University, 1976-82; Olin Professor of American Studies, 1982 – 2009
Olin Professor Emeritus, 2009-

Publications:

SCHOLARLY BOOKS:

Regeneration Through Violence: The Mythology of the American Frontier, 1600-1860.

Middletown: Wesleyan University Press, 1973. Paper, 1975, 1987; N.Y.: Harper Perennial, 1996. 2nd ed., Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2000. ALBERT J. BEVERIDGE AWARD, AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, 1973. FINALIST FOR NATIONAL BOOK AWARD, 1974. TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF THE YEAR.

The Fatal Environment: The Myth of the Frontier in the Age of Industrialization, 1800-1890.

N.Y.: Atheneum, 1985. Paper, with "Preface," Middletown: Wesleyan U. Press, 1987; N.Y.: Harper Perennial, 1994; 2nd ed., Norman: U. of Oklahoma Press, 1998. LITTLE BIG HORN ASSOCIATES LITERARY AWARD, 1985. TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF THE YEAR.

Gunfighter Nation: The Myth of the Frontier in Twentieth Century America. N.Y.: Atheneum, 1992.

Paper, N.Y.: Harper Perennial, 1994; 2nd ed., Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1998. FINALIST FOR NATIONAL BOOK AWARD, 1993. TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF THE YEAR.

Lost Battalions: The Great War and the Crisis of American Nationality. A John Macrae Book. N.Y.:

Henry Holt and Co., Inc., 2005. Paper, 2006. MILITARY BOOK CLUB, 2005.

No Quarter: The Battle of the Crater, 1864. N.Y.: Random House, forthcoming July 2009.

FICTION:

The Crater. N.Y.: Atheneum, 1980. 2nd printing, 1981. Paper, Foreword by James M. McPherson. N.Y.: Henry Holt & Co., 1996. HISTORY BOOK CLUB, 1980-81. TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF THE YEAR.

The Return of Henry Starr. N.Y.: Atheneum, 1988.

Abe: A Novel of the Young Lincoln. A John Macrae Book. N.Y.: Henry Holt & Co., Inc., 2000. Paperback, Owl Books, 2001. SALON.COM BEST BOOK, 2001; MICHAEL SHAARA AWARD FOR CIVIL WAR FICTION, 2001; TIMES NOTABLE BOOK OF THE YEAR.

SCHOLARLY EDITIONS:

So Dreadfull a Judgment: Puritan Responses to King Philip's War, 1675-1677, with James K. Folsom. Middletown: Wesleyan University Press, 1978. 2nd printing, 1988. 3rd printing, 1999.

James Fenimore Cooper, *The Last of the Mohicans*. Notes & introduction. N.Y.: Penguin Books, 1986.

ARTICLES:

"The Contextual Symbol: Karl Shapiro's Image of 'The Jew'," *American Quarterly* 18:1 (1966), 20-26.

"Dreams and Genocide: The American Myth of Regeneration Through Violence," *Journal of Popular Culture* 5:1 (1971), 38-59.

"Narratives of Negro Crime in New England, 1675-1800," *American Quarterly* 25:1 (1973), 3-31.

"... and Then the Mare Will Go!": A Black Hills Scheme by Custer, Buford and Holladay," *Journal of the West* 15:3 (1976), 60-108.

"Massacre," Special Issue on Culture and Violence, *Berkshire Review* 14 (1979), 112-32.

"The 'Wild West,'" *Buffalo Bill and the Wild West*. Pittsburgh: Brooklyn Museum and University of Pittsburgh (1981), 27-44.

"Nostalgia and Progress: Theodore Roosevelt's Myth of the Frontier," *American Quarterly* 33:5 (1981), 608-37. *DON D. WALKER PRIZE, WESTERN AMERICAN LITERATURE*.

"Prologue to a Study of Movie Genres," *Prospects* 9 (1985), 407-32.

"Myth and the Production of History," in Sacvan Bercovitch and Myra Jehlen, eds., *Ideology and Classic American Literature*. N.Y.: Cambridge University Press (1986), 70-90.

"The Hard-Boiled Detective: From the Open Range to the Mean Streets," in Barbara Rader, ed., *The Sleuth and the Scholar*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press (1988), 91-100.

"Violence," in Ed Buscombe, ed., *BFI Companion to the Western*. London: Andre Deutsch (1988), 232-6.

"The Continuity of Forms: Myth, Genre and Ideology in Warner Bros. *The Charge of the Light Brigade* (1936)," *Representations* 29 (1990), 1-24.

"Apotheosis of the Lynching: Political Uses of Symbolic Violence," *Western Legal History* 6:1 (1993), 1-16.

"Buffalo Bill's Wild West and the Mythologization of American Empire," in Amy Kaplan and Donald Pease, eds., *Cultures of United States Imperialism*. Durham: Duke University Press (1994), 164-84.

"John Ford's *Stagecoach* (1939) and the Mythic Space of the Western Movie," in Len Engel, ed. *The Big Empty: Essays on the Land as Narrative*. Santa Fe: University of New Mexico Press, 1994, ch. 14.

"Signifying on the Little Big Horn," in C. E. Rankin, ed., *Legacy: New Perspectives on the Battle of the Little Bighorn*. Helena: Montana Historical Society Press (1996), 287-306.

"The Movie Western," in Thomas Lyon, Christine Bold, et. al., eds., *Updating the Literary West*. Fort Worth: TCU Press (1997), 873-83.

"Unit Pride: Ethnic Platoons and the Myths of American Nationality," *American Literary History*, 13:3 (2001), 469-98.

"Visual Narrative and American Myth from Thomas Cole to John Ford," in T. J. Jackson Lears, ed., *American Victorians and Virgin Nature*. Boston: Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum (2002), 91-112.

ARTICLES, continued:

“Equalizers: The Cult of the Colt in American Culture,” in Bernard Harcourt, ed., *Guns, Crime, and Punishment*. New York: NYU Press (2003), ch. 3.

“Fiction for the Purposes of History,” *Rethinking History* 9: 2/3 (June/September, 2005), 221-36.

“Mythogenesis” and “Popular Culture Icons: Myth of the Frontier,” in George Ritzer, ed., *Blackwell’s Encyclopedia of Sociology*. London: Blackwells Publishing, 2006, pp. 3137-40 and 3511-5.

REVIEW ARTICLES:

“Literary Criticism and Cultural History: Theodore Gross’ *The Heroic Ideal in American Literature*,” *College English* 33:8 (1972), pp. 941-7.

“‘What Shall Men Remember?’: Recent Work on the Civil War,” *American Literary History* 3:1 (Spring, 1991), pp. 120-35.

“The Fall Into Guns,” *The Atlantic Monthly* (October, 2000), pp. 114-18.

REVIEWS:

“*The New Land: A Social History of the American Frontier*, by Richard A. Bartlett,” *New York Times Book Review (NYTBR)* (Nov. 17, 1974), 40.

“The Science of Mythography,” *American Scholar* 44:2 (1975), 330-2.

“*Lost Tribes and Promised Lands*, by Ronald Sanders,” *Saturday Review* (May 6, 1978), 25-28.

“*Masculine Visions: The Great American Adventure*, by Martin Green,” *NYTBR* (Oct. 14, 1984), 32.

“There Was No Indian Side,” *NYTBR*, (May 15, 1988), 20.

Shorter reviews: *American Quarterly*, *American Historical Review*, *Newsday*, *Western Historical Quarterly*, *William and Mary Quarterly*, *Charlotte News-Observer*, *Civil War Book Review*, *Film Quarterly*.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS:

“Gunsmoke and Mirrors,” Special Issue: The Wild West Yesterday & Today, *Life* (April 5, 1993), pp. 60-8.

“The Charge of the Light Brigade,” in Mark Carnes, et. al., eds., *Past Imperfect: History According to the Movies*. N.Y.: Henry Holt and Co., 1995, pp. 120-23.

“Fiction for the Purposes of History,” *Common-Place: The Interactive Journal of Early American Life*, 1:1 (2000), www.commonplace.com.

“*Abe: A Novel of the Young Lincoln*,” lecture/ reading, *Fathom*. N.Y.: Columbia University (2000), www.fathom.com.

“Our Myths of Choice,” *Chronicle Review, Chronicle of Higher Education* (Sept. 28, 2001), p. B 11.

“Foreword,” Eric Greene, *Planet of the Apes as American Myth: Race: Politics, and Popular Culture*. Middletown: Wesleyan University Press, 1998, pp. vi-viii.

“Foreword,” Eric Lichtenfeld, *Action Speaks Louder: Violence, Spectacle, and the American Action Movie*. NY: Praeger, 2004, pp. ix-xi.

WORK FORTHCOMING AND IN PROGRESS:

Antietam, contracted with W. W. Norton, scheduled for 2010.

REPRINTS AND TRANSLATIONS:

- “Dreams and Genocide” in Richard Kostelantez, ed., *Younger Critics of North America* and Jack Nachbar et al., eds., *The Popular Culture Reader*. Bowling Green: Popular Culture Press, 1976.
- "Myth and Literature in a New World," from *Fatal Environment*, in Gretchen M. Bataille and Charles L. P. Silet, *The Pretend Indians: Images of Native Americans in the Movies*. Ames: Iowa State U.Press (1980), 5-8.
- “Centennial Frontier,” from *Fatal Environment*, *Wesleyan Library Notes* 18 (1984), 16-28.
- Excerpts from *Regeneration through Violence*, in Laurie Lanzen Harris and Emily B. Tennyson, eds., *Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism*, Volume 8 (1985), 152-3.
- “Nostalgia and Progress: Theodore Roosevelt's Myth of the Frontier,” trans. by Shaozhong Ma, *American Studies* (People's Republic of China), 6:1 (1984), 61-74.
- “Theodore Roosevelt's Frontier Hypothesis,” in Rob Kroes, ed., *The American West as Seen by Europeans and Americans*. Amsterdam: Free University Press (1989), 44-71.
- "Mark Twain's Frontier, Hank Morgan's Last Stand," from *Fatal Environment*, in Eric J. Sundquist, ed., *Mark Twain: A Collection of Critical Essays*. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall (1994), 113-28.
- “Witchcraft: The Captivity to Spectres,” from *Regeneration Through Violence*, in Elaine Breslaw, ed., *Witches of the Atlantic World: An Historical Reader and Primary Sourcebook*. NYU Press, (2000), 277-82.
- “Introduction to Filson’s Boone Narrative,” from *Regeneration Through Violence*, in Eva M. Thury and Margaret K. Devinney, *Introduction to Mythology: Contemporary Approaches to Classical and World Myths*. NY: Oxford U. Press (2005), pp. 605-13.
- “FROM *Abe: A Novel of the Young Lincoln*,” in Harold Holzer, ed., *The Lincoln Anthology: Great Writers on His Life and Legacy*. N.Y.: Library of America (2009), pp. 875-95.

Awards, Honors, Prizes, Fellowships:

- HONORARY DEGREE: M.A., *ad eundum gradum*, Wesleyan University, 1976
- UNDERGRADUATE: Honors in English; American Civilization Scholarship Prize, 1962; Dean's List, 1959-63; Honors Program, 1959-63; NY State Regents’ Scholarship, 1959-63.
- GRADUATE: University Fellowship, Brown, 1963-66; Honorable Mention, Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, 1963.
- POST-GRADUATE:
- Fellow, Wesleyan Center for the Humanities, 1969-70; 1975-76; 1980-81; 1986-87
 - NEH Younger Humanist Fellowship, 1973-74
 - Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship, 1977-78
 - Guggenheim Fellowship, 1977-8 (declined)
 - Albert J. Beveridge Award, AHA, *Regeneration Through Violence*, 1973
 - National Book Award Finalist, *Regeneration Through Violence*, 1973
 - NEH Summer Stipend, 1981
 - Don. D. Walker Prize for "Nostalgia and Progress," 1982
 - Little Big Horn Associates Literary Award, *Fatal Environment*, 1985
 - Fellow, Society of American Historians, 1986
 - Citation for Distinguished Achievement, The Graduate School, Brown University, 1987

POST-GRADUATE, continued:

National Book Award Finalist, *Gunfighter Nation*, 1993

Mary C. Turpie Prize, American Studies Association, 1995 (Teaching, Program Development)

Regents' Lecturer, University of California at Davis, May 1996

Binswanger Prize for Excellence in Teaching, Wesleyan University, 1997 and 2007

Salon.com Best Book Award for *Abe*, 2000

The Michael Shaara Award for Civil War Fiction, United States Civil War Center (2001)

Winchester Award for Teaching, Psi-Upsilon at Wesleyan, 2002-03.

Papers, Invited Lectures, Panels:

“American Mythology,” Wesleyan Center for the Humanities (CFH), 1969

“The American Indian as Symbol and Myth,” Brown, 1973

“Mythological Vocabulary of the Western Movie,” Yale, Harvard, 1973

“The Hard-Boiled Detective: From the Open Range to the Mean Streets,” CFH, 1974; Yale, 1975; Boston U., 1976; ASA, Boston, 1977; So. Conn. Library Council, “Art of the Mystery,” 1986

“Black Criminals as Revolutionaries,” ASA Regional, NYU, 1975

“Captivity and Restoration of Patty Hearst,” CFH, 1975

Faculty Seminar, *Regeneration through Violence*, U. of Chicago, 1975

Work in Progress, National Humanities Institute, Yale, 1975

“The Myth of the Frontier in Western Movies,” NEH Conference on the Western, Sun Valley, 1976

“Custer's Last Stand: Origin of a Myth,” U. of Colo., 1976; NEH Symposium on American Heroes, Sun Valley, 1977; UCSB, 1981

“Massacre,” Little Three Symposium on Violence and Culture, 1978

Panel: Theory of Aggression, American Psychoanalytic Assoc., 1980

“Buffalo Bill's Wild West,” U. of Penn., 1980; Connecticut College, 1981; Brooklyn Museum, 1981

“Theodore Roosevelt's Myth of the Frontier,” Berkeley, 1981

“Myth and Ideology: The Case of Increase Mather,” NEMLA, 1981

“The Mexico Western and the Vietnam War,” CFH, 1981

New Metaphors of Literary History, MLA Forum, 1981

“Fiction for the Purposes of History: *The Crater*,” Brown Univ., 1981

“Racism as a Mythology,” Center for Afro-American Studies, Wesleyan Univ., 1983

“Map of a New World: The Frontier as Mythic Space, 1893.” *Inventing the West*, Texas-Austin, 1984

“Subway Vigilante,” AFS Conference on Collective Violence, 1985

“Mythic Landscape of the Western: Ford's Cavalry Trilogy,” ASA, 1985; Cornell, Penn., 1986; Yale, 1989.

Panel Chair: Fiction and Historical Representation, AHA, 1985

“Buffalo Bill's Wild West and the Representation of History,” Williams, Vanderbilt, 1987, Harvard, 1988

“Fiction, Film and History,” CFH, 1987

Commentator, American Literature Faculty Seminar, Harvard, 1987

Three Civil War Battles, Trinity College, 1987

“Reasons Why: Charge(s) of the Light Brigade – 1854, 1936, 1966,” CUNY Graduate Center, 1987

“Continuity of Forms: Myth, Genre & Ideology in *Charge of the Light Brigade*,” UPenn., ASA, 1987

“Gunfighters & Green Berets: Popular Culture & the Myth of Counter-insurgency,” Columbia, 1988;

Drew, Graduate School Colloquium, 1988; Mellon Seminar, War & Nationalism, Princeton, 1989

“De Forest's *Miss Ravenel's Conversion* and the Politics of Virility,” New Haven Hist. Soc., 1988.

USIA Lectures, 1988: "Mythic Space of the Western," Nijmegen; "Gunfighters & Green Berets" and "Theodore Roosevelt's Frontier Hypothesis," Netherlands ASA, Amsterdam; "Buffalo Bill's Wild West," US Embassy, Paris;
Musée de l'Aquitaine, Bordeaux; "Culture & Politics in the Age of Mark Twain," École Normale Supérieure, Paris.

Papers, etc., continued:

- Panelist, Re-Defining American Studies, UCLA, 1989.
- “Cultural Studies and the Convergence of the Interpretive Disciplines,” Keynote: History & Literature Methodologies Workshop, Harvard, 1989
- Commentator, Comparative Frontiers, ASA, Toronto, 1989
- “Buffalo Bill's Wild West and the Ritualization of History,” Yale, 1990
- Commentator, Locating Political Culture, APSA, 1991
- Chair-Commentator, “Playing Indian,” ASA, 1991.
- “Buffalo Bill's Wild West as Imperial Spectacle,” Cultures of U S Imperialism, Dartmouth, 1991; Yankee Conference, Mystic Seaport, 1997
- Commentator, Reinterpreting the American West: A German & American Dialogue, New-York Hist. Soc. & Nat'l Museum of American Art, 1992
- “Equalizers: The Six-Gun Mystique in American Culture,” Yale-Smithsonian Seminar, 1992
- “History and Film,” University of Hartford, 1992
- “Apotheosis of the Lynching: *The Virginian* and *The Clansman*,” WHA, Yale, Oct., 1992
- Panel: Last Stand at Little Big Horn, Boston MFA, 1992
- “The Military Microcosm,” ASA, Costa Mesa CA, 1992;
- Keynote: “Significance of the Frontier Myth in American History,” *Turner and His Frontiers: Legacies and Opportunities*, U. of Wisc., 1993; Honors Convocation, CCSU, 1994; Hist. & Lit., Harvard, 1994; Wellfleet Conference, 1994; Yale, 1994; Salisbury State & Davis, 1996
- Panelist, The Nation in Time, U. of Texas, Austin, Apr. 29, 1994
- “Signifying on the Little Big Horn,” Keynote: Little Big Horn Legacies, Billings, 1994
- “Unit Cohesion: Ethnic Platoons and the Myth of American Nationality,” USAF Acad.; Davis, 1996.
- “Nationalizing Memory: History, Myth, Fiction & the Creation of an American Past,” OAH 1996.
- “Cult of the Colt: The Frontier Myth and the Legacy of Industrial Empire,” Wadsworth Atheneum, 1996; Arts & Sciences Symposium, James Madison University, 1997
- “Fiction for the Purposes of History,” The Padraic Colum Lecture, Wesleyan Writers' Conference, 1997
- Panelist, A Town Meeting on *High Noon* [opera], Inst. on the Arts and Civic Dialogue, 1998
- “Platoon: Ethnicity & Nationality in American War Stories,” Symposium: Ethnopolitical Violence, Int'l Soc. for Traumatic Stress Studies, 1998; U. of KY, 2000; GA State U. Distinguished Speaker Series, 2000.
- “Visual Narrative and American Myth, from Thomas Cole to John Ford,” Symposium: American Victorians and Virgin Nature, Elizabeth Stewart Gardner Museum, 1999
- “Lecture and Reading from *Abe*,” Charles Warren Ctr., Harvard; Columbia, 2000
- Faculty/Graduate Seminar on Film Studies, Georgia State Univ., 2000.
- “Fiction for the Purposes of History: Theory and Practice,” Harvard, 2001
- Panelist, World Congress of History Producers, Boston, October 20, 2001
- “Unit Pride: The Combat Film as American Myth,” Charles Warren Ctr., Harvard, 2002
- “The Indian Question in American National Mythology,” Paper and Panel, Fulbright Summer Institute, John Jay College of Criminal Justice & The Graduate Center, 2003.
- “The Perfect Enemy,” Wellfleet Conference, 2004.
- “Lost Battalions,” Center for African-American Studies, Wesleyan University, Nov. 29, 2005.
- “Gun Rights and Civil Rights,” Wadsworth Atheneum, Colt Exhibit, Nov. 16, 2006.
- Panel, “Fox Network's '24,’” NYU Center for Law and Security, March 21, 2007
- “Frontier and shaping of national self-consciousness,” US State Dept, Yekaterinburg, Russia 2008

Professional Service:

Board of Directors, National American Studies Faculty, 1975-76
 AAUP Chapter President, 1979-80
 Council on Graduate Education, Brown University, 1989-
 Committee on Cooper Prize (Historical Fiction), Soc. of Amer. Hist., 1991
 Executive Committee, Soc. of American Historians, 2005-
 American Studies Association Exec. Council, 1990-3; Chair, Public Affairs Subcom., 1990-1
 Executive Committee, Society of American Historians, 2004-7
 Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, Library of Congress, 2002-2009
 Referee, UConn Humanities Institute Fellowships, 2005-07

Consultant:

ACADEMIC:

Union College American Studies Program, 1979
 Merrimack College American Studies Program, 1979
 Institute of the West, Sun Valley Idaho, 1976-78
 Internat'l Communications Agency, French Exam., Amer. Studies, 1981
 Harvard University, *ad hoc* comm., African-American Studies professorship, 1982
 Vanderbilt University, American Studies Program, 1987
 Mount Holyoke College American Studies Program, 1987
 ACLS/Carnegie Foundation, "New American Scholar," July 19-20, 1990
 U S Air Force Academy, Am. Studies and English Dept., Mar. 18-19, 1996
 USIS Rangoon (Myanmar), "Westerns," Dec. 7, 1995
 "Sam And Elizabeth: The Legend and Legacy of Colt's Empire," Wadsworth Atheneum
 Exhibition, Sept. 8, 1996-March 9, 1997
 Institute on the Arts and Civic Dialogue, Harvard University, July 29-30, 1998

MEDIA:

NEA/Kentucky ETV, "The Trial of Daniel Boone," 1979-85
Currents (Ch. 13), "Mythology of Political Campaigns," July 14, 1988 (also on-screen)
 Center for Visual History, "Print the Legend: Western Movies" 1990-1 (also on-screen)
 Insignia Films, Lindbergh Project, 1989-90
 Lynx Films, Vietnam/Mexico Project, 1989-90 (also on-screen)
 Midnight Films, "Last Stand at Little Big Horn," 1990-2 (also on-screen)
 IBA, "America in European Eyes," 1990-2 (also on-air)
 Modern Times Cinema, "Outlaws, Renegades & Gunfighters," 1993 (also on-screen)
 Canadian Broadcasting Corp., "Closing the Frontier," Sept. 16, 1993 (also on-air)
 Ctr. for Defense Information, (CDI) "Media & the Image of War," 1993-4 (also on-screen)
 Midnight Films, "Politics in America," 1994-7
 KETV, "Daniel Boone," 1994-
 BBC, "American Visions," April-June, 1994 (also on-screen)
 ABC Turning Point, "Guns," June 21, 1994 (also on-screen)
 A & E History Channel, "Movies in Time," 1994-1999 (also on-screen)
 CDI, "Second Amendment Warriors: Militias and American Society," 1995
 Independent Producers Services, "Who Owns the Past?" 1995
 Discovery Channel, "Gunpower: One Nation Under Fire," 1996 (also on-screen)
 Galen Films, "Big Guns Talk," Western Movies, 4 parts, (TNT), 1996 (also on-screen)

MEDIA, continued:

BBC, "Zane Grey," (also on-air), Sept. 1996
 PBS, "Colt: Legend and Legacy," 1998 (also on-screen)
 Ricker Productions, "Clint Eastwood," 2000 (also on-screen)
 Abraham Lincoln Digitization Project, Northern Illinois University, 2002 (also on-screen)
 Race With History, Documentary Broadcast Series, Alan Lipke, 2002-present
 Le Crédo Américain, Documentary for French TV, Alain Lasfargues, 2005 (also on-screen)
 Board of Directors, Public Intelligence, Atlanta, GA
 Studio 360, "American Icons," 2007-9

Professional Associations:

American Studies Association
 American Historical Association
 Organization of American Historians
 American Association of University Professors
 Fellow, Society of American Historians

Administrative:

Director of American Studies, 1975-81, 1984-93, 1996
 Financial Aid Committee, 1968
 Educational Policy Committee, 1968-69
 Junior Faculty Executive Comm., 1967-9, 1971-3; Chair 1968-9, 1971-2
 Chair, Joint Student-Faculty Committee on University Senate, 1969-70
 Trustees Investment Subcommittee, 1971-2
 English Department Steering Committee, 1968-70, 1971-2, 1974-5
 Rights and Responsibilities, 1972-3
 AAUP, Chair of Negotiating Committee, 1979-80
 Faculty Planning Committee, 1984-7, 1991-3
 American Studies/ Art Joint Search, 1987-8
 Afro-American Studies Advisory Board, 1986-90
 Coordinator, Council of Interdisciplinary Programs, 1991-3
 Institutional Priorities Advisory Committee, 1991-93
 Budget Advisory Committee 1991-2
 Trustees Education Subcommittee, 1991-93
 Faculty Merit Committee, 1999-2000
 Counselor for History Department promotion, 2002-4
 English Dept. Self-review: Subcommittee on Governance, 2005-6
 American Studies / Film Joint Search, 2006-8

Courses:

Nationality and Power: The Combat Film (American Studies Senior Seminar)
 Myth and Ideology at the Movies: The Counterinsurgency Western
 Culture and Politics in the 1850s
 Culture and Violence in the Progressive Era: American Studies Junior Colloquium
 The Western: Myth, History and Genre
 American Literature: Colonial Period to Civil War
 Mark Twain and His Times