

Curriculum Vitae

ROBERT MILDER

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Education:

Ph. D. Harvard University, 1972, Woodrow Wilson Fellowship 1967-68, Harvard
 Graduate Prize Fellowship 1968-72
 A.M. Harvard University, 1968
 A.B. Union College (Schenectady, NY), 1967, Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa

Employment:

Professor of English, Washington University, 1990-
 Associate Professor of English, Washington University, 1978-90
 Assistant Professor of English, Washington University, 1972-78

Publications – Books (Authored, Edited, Co-edited)

Emerson and the Fortunes of Godless Religion (in progress)

“Real Life”: John Updike and Alice Munro (in progress)

Hawthorne's Habitations: A Literary Life (New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 2013)

The Business of Reflection: Hawthorne in His Notebooks, ed. with Randall Fuller
 (Columbus: Ohio State Univ. Press, 2009)

Exiled Royalties: Melville and the Life We Imagine (New York: Oxford Univ. Press,
 2006; pb 2008)

Melville's Evermoving Dawn: Centennial Essays, ed. with John Bryant (Kent, Ohio: Kent
 State Univ. Press, 1997)

"Billy Budd, Sailor" and Selected Tales, by Herman Melville, ed. with an Introduction
 and Explanatory Notes (Oxford, Eng.: Oxford Univ. Press, 1997)

Reimagining Thoreau (Cambridge, Eng.: Cambridge Univ. Press, 1995; pb 2008)

Critical Essays on Melville's "Billy Budd, Sailor," ed. with an Introduction (Boston: G.
 K. Hall, 1989)

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Publications – Articles, Essays, Review-Essays, Book Chapters

“Six Characters in Search of a Prophet: Emerson’s Representative Men” (in progress)

“Differently: Alice Munro and the North American 1960s” (submitted)

“John Updike: ‘Museums and Women,’ Women as Museums,” Arizona Quarterly, 77 (Winter 2021): 31-60.

“Transactions with Disorder: American Pastoral and To the Lighthouse,” Studies in the Novel, 53 (Summer 2021): 141-164.

“Home to Oneself: John Updike and Alice Munro,” The John Updike Review, 8 (Fall 2020): 43-67.

“Apologies to His Father (and Others),” The John Updike Review, 7 (Summer 2019): 63-81.

“Crimes and Punishments: Hawthorne and Dostoyevsky,” Arizona Quarterly, 72 (Fall 2016): 99-131.

Introduction, The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne (New York: Penguin Books, 2015), xi-xxxii.

“Emerson and the Fortunes of Godless Religion,” New England Quarterly, 87 (2014): 573-624. Selected for inclusion in Emerson and Thoreau: A Batch from The New England Quarterly (MIT Press Batches) [Kindle Edition], April 2015.

“The Scarlet Letter—Again?” Nathaniel Hawthorne Review (Spring 2014): 105-22.

“Hawthorne,” Cambridge Companion to American Novelists, ed. Timothy Parrish (Cambridge, Eng.: Cambridge Univ. Press, 2013), 11-21.

“In the Belly of the Beast: Hawthorne in England,” New England Quarterly, 84 (2011): 60-103.

“Hawthorne and the Problem of New England,” American Literary History, 21 (2009): 464-91.

“The Other Hawthorne,” New England Quarterly, 81 (2008): 559-595.

Commentary on Lawrence Buell, “The Unkillable Dream of the Great American Novel,” American Literary History, 20 (2008): 186-89.

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"Beautiful Illusions: Hawthorne and the Site of Moral Law," Nathaniel Hawthorne Review, 33 (Fall 2007): 1-23.

"From Emerson to Edwards," New England Quarterly, 80 (2007): 96-133.

"Emerson's 'Experience,'" in American History Through Literature, 1820-1870, ed. Robert Sattelmeyer and Janet Gabler-Hover (New York: Scribner's, 2005), Vol I, 386-89.

"Herman Melville 1819-1891: A Brief Biography," A Historical Guide to Herman Melville, ed. Giles Gunn (New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 2005), 17-58.

"A Literature for the Times," ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance, 49 (2003 [published 2005]): 193-207.

"On Creating an Unusable Past," American Literary History, 15 (2003): 575-91.

"Old Man Melville: The Rose and the Cross," in New Essays on "Billy Budd, Sailor", ed. Donald Yannella (Cambridge, Eng.: Cambridge Univ. Press, 2002), 83-113.

"The Connecting Link of Centuries': Melville, Rome, and the Mediterranean, 1856-57," in Roman Holidays: Hawthorne, James, and Others in Italy, ed. Robert K. Martin and Leland S. Person (Iowa City: Univ. of Iowa Press, 2002), 206-25. [adapted version of "An Arch Between Two Lives"]

"The Ugly Socrates': Melville, Hawthorne, and Homoeroticism," ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance, 46 (2000 [pub'd 2002]): 1-49. [reprinted in revised form in Hawthorne and Melville: Writing a Relationship, ed. Jana L. Argersinger and Leland S. Person (Athens: Univ. of Georgia Press, 2008)

"In Behalf of 'Dearth,'" Leviathan: A Journal of Melville Studies, I (1999): 63-69.

"An Arch Between Two Lives: Melville in the Mediterranean, 1856-57," Arizona Quarterly, 55 (1999): 21-47.

"Hawthorne's Winter Dreams," Nineteenth-Century Literature, 54 (1999): 165-201.

"The Radical Emerson?" in The Cambridge Companion to Emerson, ed. Joel Porte and Sandra Morris (Cambridge, Eng.: Cambridge Univ. Press, 1999), 49-75.

"Melville and the Avenging Dream," in The Cambridge Companion to Melville, ed. Robert S. Levine (Cambridge, Eng.: Cambridge Univ. Press, 1998), 250-78.

"Circling Melville," Nineteenth-Century Literature, 52 (1998): 529-43.

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"Editing Melville's Afterlife," Text: The Journal of the American Society of Textual Editors (1997): 389-407.

"The Scarlet Letter and Its Discontents," Nathaniel Hawthorne Review, 22 (1996): 9-25.

"An 'Errand to Mankind': Thoreau's Problem of Vocation." ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance, 37 (1991): 91-139.

"The American Scholar' as Cultural Event," Prospects: An Annual of American Cultural Studies, 16 (1991): 119-47.

"The Rhetoric of Melville's Battle-Pieces," Nineteenth-Century Literature, 44 (1989): 173-200.

"Herman Melville," The Columbia Literary History of the United States, ed. Emory Elliott et al. (New York: Columbia Univ. Press, 1988): 429-47.

"The Reader Of/In Melville's Battle-Pieces," Melville Society Extracts, No. 72 (1988): 12-15.

"Emerson's Two Conversions," ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance, 33 (1987): 20-35.

"Melville's Late Poetry and Billy Budd: From Nostalgia to Transcendence," Philological Quarterly, 66 (1987): 493-507. [reprinted in Critical Essays on Melville's "Billy Budd, Sailor]

"Moby-Dick: The Rationale of Narrative Form" in Approaches to Teaching Melville's "Moby-Dick," ed. Martin Bickman (New York: MLA, 1985), 35-49

"Melville," American Literary Scholarship/1983, ed. Warren French (Durham, N.C.: Duke Univ. Press, 1985), 61-78.

"Melville," American Literary Scholarship/1982, ed. J. Albert Robbins (Durham, N.C.: Duke Univ. Press, 1984), 55-79.

"Melville in the South Seas Again," ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance, 29 (1983): 99-111.

"Melville," American Literary Scholarship/1981, ed. James Woodress (Durham, N.C.: Duke Univ. Press, 1983), 53-74.

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"Nemo Contra Deum': Melville and Goethe's Demonic," in Ruined Eden of the Present, ed. G.R. Thompson and Virgil L. Lokke (West Lafayette, Ind.: Purdue Univ. Press, 1981), 205-44.

Commentary on "Two Discoveries Concerning Herman Melville," in The Endless Winding Way, ed. Donald Yannella and Hershel Parker (Glassboro, N.J.: The Melville Society, 1981), 41-46

"Melville Criticism in the 1970s; or, Who's Afraid of Wellek and Warren?," Melville Society Extracts, No. 43 (1980): 4-7.

"The Last of the Mohicans and the New World Fall," American Literature, 52 (1980): 407-29.

"Knowing' Melville," ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance, 24 (1978): 96-117.

"The Composition of Moby-Dick: A Review and a Prospect," ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance, 23 (1977): 203-16.

"Melville and His Biographers," ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance, 22 (1976): 169-82.

"The Protestantism of Flannery O'Connor," The Southern Review, 11 (1975): 802-19. [Reprinted in Contemporary Literary Criticism, Vol. 13; and in The Critical Response to Flannery O'Connor, ed. Douglas Robillard (Greenwood, 2004)]

"Melville's 'Intentions' in Pierre," Studies in the Novel, 6 (1974): 186-99.

Reviews

Rev. of Visionary of the Word: Melville and Religion, ed. Jonathan A. Cook and Brian Yothers, New England Quarterly, 90, 4 (December 2017): 625-28.

Rev. of Julian Hawthorne: The Life of a Prodigal Son, by Gary Scharnhorst, American Literary History Online Review (Series 5, January 2016): 4pp.

"Transcendentalism Redivivus," rev. of American Transcendentalism: A History, by Philip F. Gura, Reviews in American History, 36 (2008): 365-73.

"Transcendentalism Lite," rev. of American Bloomsbury, by Susan Cheever, and The Concord Quartet, by Samuel A. Schreiner, Jr., belles lettres: A Literary Review, VII, 2 (2007): 21-23.

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"Very Like a Whale: Parker's Melville," belles lettres: A Literary Review II, (September/October 2002): 5-6.

"On Sacred Ground," rev. of American Palestine, by Hilton Obenzinger, and Divine Expectations, by Barbara Kreiger with Shalom Goldman, Nineteenth-Century Literature, 57 (2002): 558-65.

Review of The Civil War World of Herman Melville, by Stanton Garner, American Literature, 68 (1996): 239-40.

Review of Reading "Billy Budd", by Hershel Parker, American Literature, 64 (1992): 375-76.

Review of A Companion to Melville Studies, ed. John Bryant, Resources for American Literary Study, XVI (1986-89): 99-105.

Review of Melville's Short Fiction by William B. Dillingham, Nineteenth-Century Literature, 34 (1979): 244-47.

Conference Papers and Presentations

"*The Scarlet Letter*—Again?" 92nd St Y, New York City, January 27, 2013

"Emerson and Copernican Religion," Modern Language Association Convention, Boston, January 2013

"'The Dimmest of all Shadows': A Counter-Reading of Hawthorne's Old Manse Period," Nathaniel Hawthorne Society Conference, Concord MA, June 2010

"Undoing it All: Hester Prynne as Emersonian Heroine," Modern Language Association Convention, San Francisco, December 2008

"Exorcising Salem," Nathaniel Hawthorne Society Conference, Brunswick, Maine, June 2008

"Reading Backward/Reading Forward: Hawthorne's The Blithedale Romance and James's The Bostonians," American Literature Association Convention, Boston, May 2007

"Hawthorne's Dark Heroines Revisited; or, What to Do about Zenobia?" Modern Language Association Convention, Philadelphia, December 2006

"Melville and Polynesia: Eros, Civilization and the Horror of History," Conference on Melville and the Pacific, Lahaina, Maui, June 2003

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"The Theory and Practice of Democratic Tragedy," Moby-Dick Sesquicentennial Conference, Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY, October 2001

"Victorian Melville" (Introductory Remarks of Session Chair), American Literature Association Convention, Cambridge, MA., May 2001

"'The Life We Imagine': Melville and Byronism," Modern Language Association Convention, Washington, D.C., December 2000

"The 'Ugly Socrates': Melville, Hawthorne, and Homoeroticism," American Literature Association Convention, Long Beach, CA, May 2000

"Old Man Melville: The Rose and the Cross," American Literature Association Convention, Baltimore, May 1999

"An Arch Between Two Lives: Melville in the Mediterranean, 1856-57," Hawthorne Society International Conference, Rome, June 1998

"Hawthorne's Winter Dreams," Modern Language Association Convention, Toronto, December 1997

"Melville: The Historicity of Blackness," American Studies Association Convention, Washington, D.C., November 1997

"The Scarlet Letter and Its Discontents," American Literature Association Convention, Baltimore, May 1995

"Walden and the Rhetoric of Ascent," Northeast Modern Language Association Convention, Toronto, April 1990

The Reader Of/In Melville's Battle-Pieces," Modern Language Association Convention, San Francisco, December 1987

"Emerson's Two Conversions," Modern Language Association Convention, New York, December 1986

"From Nostalgia to Transcendence: Melville's John Marr, Timoleon, Billy Budd," Modern Language Association Convention, Chicago, December 1985

"Melville: The Criticism of Politics, the Politics of Criticism," Modern Language Association Convention, Washington, D.C., December 1984

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"Melville Criticism in the 1970s; or, Who's Afraid of Wellek and Warren?" Melville Society Conference, New Bedford, MA, May 1980

Honors and Awards

Graduate Student Senate Award for Excellence in Mentoring, 2001
 Newberry Library Fellowship 1978 (declined)
 National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, 1976

Professional Activities

Honorary President, The Melville Society (2009)
 Member, Advisory Board, Nathaniel Hawthorne Society (2008-12)
 Member, Editorial board ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance (1982- 2009) and Leviathan (1999-)
 Outside Referee for cases of Tenure and/or Promotion: University of Texas—Austin, Carleton College, Bowling Green State Univ., University of Miami, University of Colorado, George Mason University, University of Denver, University of Toronto-Scarborough
 Evaluator of Proposals for Oxford Univ. Press, Cambridge Univ. Press
 Evaluator of Post-Doctoral Fellowship Candidates, American Council of Learned Societies
 Manuscript Reader for American Literary History, The New England Quarterly, PMLA, Modern Intellectual History, Mosaic, Leviathan, ESQ
 Member, MLA, American Literature Association, Melville Society, Hawthorne Society

Departmental and University Service:

Director of Graduate Studies, English Department
 Director of Undergraduate Studies, English Department
 Departmental Executive Committee
 Departmental Curriculum Committee
 Member, Departmental Search Committees
 Freshman Advisor, English Major Adviser, Graduate Student Adviser
 Elected Member, University Personnel Advisory Committee
 Elected Member, University Review Committee on Personnel Procedures

Recent Courses

Making it New: Emerson and the American Renaissance
 The Art of the Novel
 History and the 20th Century American Novel
 The Art of Memory (autobiography and autobiographical fiction)
 Melville: Selected Fiction
 Becoming Modern: Virginia Woolf and Her Circle

Romanticism, Post-Romanticism, and the Problem of Belief (British/American)
Nineteenth Century Literary Realism
American Fiction Between the Wars
Reading Henry James
The Hawthorne Tradition in 19th Century American Literature
The New England Tradition in American Literature
American Literature to 1865

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American Literature 1885-1930: Realism, Romanticism, Naturalism
 Worlds of the Modern American Short Story
 John Updike's America

Dissertations Directed:

Kenyon Gradert 2017 (Gospel Writ in Steel: Puritan Genealogies in the Abolitionist Imagination)
 Ryan Lowe 2012 (The Moral Flaneur in Hawthorne and Henry James)
 Matthew McClelland 2011 (Emerson and the Child)
 Birgit Noll 2010 (Melville and Jean Paul)
 Matthew Shipe 2007 (John Updike)
 Douglas Harrison 2006 (Edwards, Emerson, William James)
 Charles Sweetman 2003 (F. Scott Fitzgerald)
 Matthew W. DeVoll 2002 (Emerson and the Demonic)
 Janet Duckham 2002 (Melville and the (M)other)
 Paul Abeln 2001 (William Dean Howells)
 Regina Young 2001 (Emerson and Victor Hugo)
 Randall Fuller 1999 (Constructions of Emerson)
 S. Lynn Murray (The Idea of Ruin in Southern Literature)
 Burton Pu (Whitman and John Dos Passos)
 David Blake (Whitman)
 Ingrid Fry (Goethe in Emerson, Thoreau, and Margaret Fuller)
 David Sanjek (William Dean Howells)
 Philip Atteberry (Ellen Glasgow)
 Gerard Shepard (Melville)