

Matthew A. Shipe

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Employment History

Lecturer/ Director of Advanced Writing, English Department, Washington University,
St. Louis, August 2013-Present.

Lecturer, English Department and American Culture Studies, Washington University, St.
Louis, July 2010- Present.

Mellon Fellow, Center for the Humanities, Washington University, St. Louis, July 2009-
July 2010.

Post-doctoral Fellow, Washington University, St. Louis, July 2007-June 2009.

Education

Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri 2007
Ph.D. in English and American Literature

Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri 2001
M.A. in English and American Literature

Rhodes College, Memphis, Tennessee 2000
B.A. in English and Religious Studies, *cum laude*
Special honors distinction in English

Dissertation

On Being Updike Forever: Narcissism as National Epic in John Updike's Short Fiction

My dissertation traces the development of Updike's short fiction and considers how his evolving understanding of his own life has shaped his conception of the political and social life of the United States. By focusing on the short fiction, my work both amends the way in which Updike's fictive project has been traditionally viewed and explores the potential of the short story to render

history, a task that critics of post-1945 fiction have characteristically associated with the experimental novels of the era.

Committee: Robert Milder (chair), Daniel Grausam, Wolfram Schmidgen

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships

Annual Emerging Writers Prize, *The John Updike Review*, 2015
Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2009-2010
Postdoctoral Fellowship, Washington University, 2007-2009
Chair's Award for Teaching Excellence in Writing 1, 2005
Graduate School of Arts & Sciences Dissertation Fellowship, 2005-2006

Scholarly Publications

Articles & Book Chapters

- "After the Fall: The Terror of History in Philip Roth's *Indignation*." Under review at *Philip Roth Studies*.
- "War as Haiku: The Politics of Don DeLillo's Late Style." *Orbit: Writing Around Pynchon*. *Orbit: Writing around Pynchon*, 4(2): 5.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.16995/orbit.102>.
- "Roth at Century's End: The Problem of Progress in *The Dying Animal*." *The Political Companion to Philip Roth*, Ed. Lee Trepanier and Claudia Franziska Bruehwiler. Lexington: University of Kentucky Press (Forthcoming, Spring 2017).
- "*The Long Goodbye*: Assessing John Updike's Late Short Fiction." *The John Updike Review*. 3.1 (Winter 2015): 59-81. Winner of the Review's Emerging Writer's Prize.
- "Middle-Age Crazy: Men Behaving Badly in the Fiction of Raymond Carver and John Updike." *Critical Insights: Raymond Carver*, Ed. Jim Plath. Pasadena: Salem Press, 2013.
- "*Twilight of the Superheroes*: Philip Roth, Celebrity, and the End of Print Culture." *Roth and Celebrity*, Ed. Aimee Pozorski. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2013.
- "*Exit Ghost* and the Politics of Late Style." *Philip Roth Studies*. 5.2 (Fall 2009): 43-58.
- "Accountability, Community, and Redemption in *Hey Jack!* and *Boomerang*." *Perspectives on Barry Hannah*, Ed. Martyn Bone. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2007: 102-119.

Book Reviews

Review of *Philip Roth: Fiction and Power*, by Patrick Hayes. *The Review of English*

Studies 66.275 (June 2015): 599-600.

“Updike at Bay: Rethinking John Updike’s Late Work.” Rev. of *John Updike: A Critical Biography*, by Bob Batchelor. *The John Updike Review*. 3.1 (Winter 2015): 145-9.

“Rethinking those Deacon Blues, or Why I Love Joe Namath’s Fur Coat.” Rev. of *Rising Tide: Bear Bryant, Joe Namath & Dixie’s Last Quarter*, by Randy Roberts and Ed Krzemienski. *The Modern Spectator*, April 5, 2014.

“For Jerry—with Love and Squalor.” Rev. of *J.D. Salinger: A Life*, by Kenneth Slawenski. *The Belle Lettres: A Literary Review*, Washington University, Fall 2011.

“Thoughts on the Great American Novel: Reading Jonathan Franzen’s *Freedom*.” *The Belle Lettres: A Literary Review*, Washington University, Spring 2011.

“Andre DuBus,” “Barry Hannah,” “Annie Proulx,” “Richard Russo.” *The Encyclopedia of American Literature, Volume IV: 1946-2005*, Ed. Marshall Boswell. Columbia, SC: Brucoli Clark Layman, Inc, 2008.

Conference Papers and Presentations

“After the Thrill Is Gone: Updike after the Cold War.” Annual Conference of the American Literature Association (San Francisco, CA), May 2016.

“Public Space, Private Histories in Teju Cole’s *Every Day is for the Thief*.” The Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present (Greenville, SC), September, 2015. Couldn’t attend due to illness, but paper read in my absence.

Solipsism and the American Self: Rethinking David Foster Wallace’s Reading of John Updike.” Annual Conference of the American Literature Association (Boston, MA), May 2015.

“Life After Sex?: Memory and the Diminished Present in John Updike’s Late Short Fiction.” Annual Conference of the American Literature Association (Washington D.C.), May, 2014.

“Roth and Literary Culture: Revisiting *Letting Go*.” Roth@80 Conference (Newark, NJ), March, 2013.

“Dream a Little Dream: Music as Counternarrative in Philip Roth’s Late Fiction.” Modern Language Association Conference (Boston, MA), January 2013.

“The Politics of a Marriage: Revisiting John Updike’s Maple Stories.” The Second Biennial John Updike Society Conference (Boston, MA), June 2012.

“*The Long Goodbye*: Memorializing Pennsylvania in John Updike’s Late Fiction.” The First Biennial John Updike Society Conference (Reading, PA), October 2010.

- “Returning to the Catacombs: Revisiting John Updike’s “Adulterous Society.” 21st Annual Conference of the American Literature Association (San Francisco, California), May 2010.
- “Sexual Liberation in Philip Roth’s *Indignation*.” Twentieth Century Literature Conference (Louisville, Kentucky), February 2010.
- “*Exit Ghost* and the Politics of Late Style.” 20th Annual Conference of the American Literature Association (Boston, Massachusetts), May 2009.
- “John Updike and the Burden of Not Being a Dove.” Twentieth Century Literature Conference (Louisville, Kentucky), February 2009.
- “The Politics and Poetics of Divorce in John Updike’s “Gesturing.” American Literature Association Symposium on American Fiction (Savannah, Georgia), October 2008.
- “Reconsidering the National Pastime: Philip Roth, Baseball, and the Problem of the Sixties.” Twentieth Century Literature Conference (Louisville, Kentucky), February 2008.
- “A Kiss is Still a Kiss: The Significance of Incest in Philip Roth’s *American Pastoral*.” American Literature Association Symposium on American Fiction (San Diego, California), September 2006.
- “Accountability, Community, and Redemption in *Hey Jack!* and *Boomerang*.” Society for the Study of Southern Literature (Birmingham, Alabama), March 30-April 2, 2006.
- “Personality Crisis: The Reconstruction of Identity in the ‘Philip Roth’ Tetralogy.” Twentieth Century Literature Conference (Louisville, Kentucky), February 2005.
- “Rabbits, Hawks, and Doves: Chaos and Faith in John Updike’s America” Washington University Graduate Student Symposium (Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri), April 2003

Teaching Positions and Courses Taught (Washington University)

Instructor

English 256

Art of the Novel (Fall 2013; Spring 2014; Fall 2014; Spring, 2015;) Introductory literature class designed for students considering the major. Readings include Jane Austen, *Persuasion*; Teju Cole, *Open City*; Joan Didion, *Play It As It Lays*; Jennifer Egan, *A Visit from the Goon Squad*; William Faulkner, *Absalom, Absalom!*; Milan Kundera, *The Unbearable*

Lightness of Being; James Wood, *How Fiction Works*; Virginia Woolf, *To the Lighthouse*.

Humanities 336/American Culture Studies 236

The Cultural History of the American Teenager (Spring 2012; Spring 2013; Fall 2014; Fall 2015)

Topics course designed for undergraduate students.

Readings include Judy Blume, *Forever*; Jennifer Egan, *The Invisible Circus*; Leerom Medovoi, *Rebels: Youth and the Cold War Origins of Culture*; Grace Palladino, *Teenagers: An American History*; J.D. Salinger, *The Catcher in the Rye*, John Updike, *The Centaur*; Colson Whitehead, *Sag Harbor*.

American Culture Studies 3015

End of the Century: American Culture during the 1990s (Spring 2014)

Topics course designed for undergraduate students.

Readings include Allan Bloom, *The Closing of the American Mind*; Jeff Chang, *Can't Stop, Won't Stop: A History of the Hip-Hop Generation*; Joan Didion, *Political Fictions*; Jonathan Franzen, *The Corrections*; Philip Roth, *The Human Stain*; John Updike, *Rabbit at Rest*; David Foster Wallace, *A Supposedly Fun Thing That I Will Never Do Again*; Philip Wegner, *Life Between Two Deaths, 1989-2001: U.S. Culture in the Long Nineties*; Elizabeth Wurtzel, *Prozac Nation*.

American Culture Studies 375

From Hiroshima to Disney: Containment and American Culture during the Cold War (Fall 2013)

Junior Seminar designed for American Culture Studies majors who are preparing for their capstone projects.

Readings include Steve Belletto and Daniel Grausam, *American Literature and Culture in an Age of Cold War*; Joan Didion, *Democracy*; Joseph Heller, *Catch-22*; John Hersey, *Hiroshima*; Alan Nadel, *Containment Culture: American Narratives, Postmodernism, and the Atomic Age*; J.D. Salinger, *Catcher in the Rye*; John Updike, *The Coup*; Alice Walker, *Meridian*.

Humanities 102

The Clash of Cultures: The Humanities in an Age of Science (Fall 2011; Fall 2012)

Seminar course designed for first year students.

Readings include Rachel Carsons, *Silent Spring*, Angela Davis, *An Autobiography*, Norman Juster, *The Phantom Tollbooth*, Richard Powers, *Generosity*, Richard Rodriguez, *The Hunger for Memory*, Oliver Sacks, *The Man who Mistook his Wife for a Hat*, and CP Snow, *The Two Cultures*.

English 351

The American Novel in the Age of Terrorism (Spring 2011)

Topics course designed for undergraduate students.

Readings include Don DeLillo, *Mao II*, Jonathan Safran Foer, *Extremely*

Loud & Incredibly Close, Toni Morrison, *A Mercy*, Jonathan Franzen, *Freedom*, Lorrie Moore *A Gate at the Stairs*.

English 314

Children's Literature since WWII, from E. B. White to J. K. Rowling (Spring 2012)

Topics course designed for undergraduates.

Readings include E. B. White, *Stuart Little*; Lorenz Graham, *South Town*; Madeline L'Engle, *A Wrinkle in Time*; E. L. Konigsburg, *From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*; Virginia Hamilton, *The Planet of Junior Brown*; S. E. Hinton, *That was Then, This is Now*; O. T. Nelson, *The Girl Who Owned a City*; Philip Pullman, *The Ruby in the Smoke*; Roald Dahl, *Matilda*; J. K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*; Jacqueline Woodson, *Locomotion*

English Writing 311

Exposition (Fall 2012; Fall 2013; Spring 2014)

Advanced writing course designed to fulfill students' writing intensive credit.

Readings include Thomas Kane, *The New Oxford Guide to Writing*; David Foster Wallace, *Consider the Lobster*; Joan Didion, *Slouching Towards Bethlehem*; Colson Whitehead, *The Colossus of New York*.

English Writing 312

Argumentation (Twelve sections taught—starting in Fall 2008)

Advanced writing course designed to fulfill students' writing intensive credit.

American Culture Studies 150

Rattle and Hum: Reading Music in Literature (Spring 2010)

Topics course designed for undergraduate students.

Readings include Leo Tolstoy, *The Kreutzer Sonata*, Anita O'Day, *High Time Hard Times*, John A. Williams, *Clifford's Blues*, Don DeLillo, *Great Jones Street*.

English 334

The Golden Age of Children's Literature, 1865-1915 (Fall 2009; Spring 2013)

Topics course designed for upper-level undergraduate students.

Readings include Lewis Carroll, *Alice in Wonderland*, Louisa May Alcott, *Little Women*, Robert Louis Stevenson, *Treasure Island*, Kenneth Graham, *The Wind in the Willows*, Frances Hodgson Burnett, *The Secret Garden*.

English 316

A History of the Boy's Book (Fall 2008)

Topics course designed for upper-level undergraduate students.

Readings include R.M Ballantyne, *The Coral Island*, Horatio Alger, Jr., *Ragged Dick*, Mark Twain, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, Esther

Forbes, *Johnny Tremain*, J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*.

American Culture Studies 316

Memories of the Ford Administration: The 1970s Reconsidered (Spring 2008)

Topics course designed for upper-level undergraduate students.

Readings to include Toni Morrison, *Paradise*; Joan Didion, *Democracy*; Jonathan Lethem, *Fortress of Solitude*; Stephen Paul Miller, *The Seventies Now*; Andreas Killen, *1973 Nervous Breakdown*

Writing 1

Law and Society (Fall 2008; Fall 2007; Fall 2006)

First-year writing course; students are concurrently enrolled in the Law and Society seminar designed for first year students interested in pursuing a career in law. Responsible for course planning, teaching, and grading

Writing 1

Writing Culture (Fall 2001-Spring 2013)

First-year writing course required for all first-year students. Responsible for course planning, teaching, and grading.

English 318

The 1960s and the Problem of Reality in American Fiction (Summer 2006)

Literature topics class designed for upper-level undergraduate, non-traditional, and continuing-education students. Readings included Saul Bellow, *Mr. Sammler's Planet*; Joan Didion, *The White Album*; Philip Roth, *American Pastoral*; Norman Mailer, *The Armies of the Night*; John Barth, *Lost in the Funhouse*; Thomas Pynchon, *The Crying of Lot 49*

English 360

The Suburbs in the American Literary Imagination (Summer 2004)

Literature topics class designed for upper-level undergraduates, non-traditional, and continuing-education students. Readings included Jonathan Franzen, *The Corrections*; Don DeLillo, *White Noise*; John Updike, *Rabbit, Run*; Rick Moody, *The Ice Storm*.

Teaching Assistant

Film Studies 360

History of the Film Score (Spring 2004)

Upper-level film course designed for juniors and seniors; responsibilities included grading student work and lecturing for a portion of the semester.

Film Studies 220

Introduction to Film Studies (Fall 2003)

Introductory film class; responsibilities included leading discussion section and grading student work.

Academic Service

University Assessment Committee (2013-present)

Committee is responsible for designing and implementing the assessment mechanisms through which the University measures student learning. In particular, I have been responsible for running the assessment exercise that all seniors enrolled in Advanced Writing courses must complete. As part of this committee, I also helped in the planning for the University's accreditation process.

Non-Tenure Track Representative, English Department (2013-present)

Elected to represent non-tenure track faculty at department meetings.

Writing Assessment Committee (2002-04, 2006-09)

Committee evaluates the writing that was produced in the first-year writing courses and in the senior-level writing intensive courses and makes recommendations for the improvement of the University's writing curriculum.

Research Assessment Committee (2007)

Committee evaluates how first-year writing students approach research projects and makes recommendations to improve the curriculum of the University's first-year writing course, Writing 1.

Facilitator/instructor: OASIS community education project, short-stories seminar.

St. Louis. (Summer 2006-present)

Facilitated weekly discussion for retired adults. Themes have included "The Contemporary Short Story" and "A Century of American Short Stories."

Honors Project/Senior Project Directed

Director

Ben Krause, "The Portrayal of Television in Contemporary American Literature," English Honors Thesis. AY 2014-15

Ryan Foreman, "My History Has Left Me:" Male Domestic Discontent in the Short Fiction Of Raymond Carver, John Updike, Richard Ford and Denis Johnson," English Honors Thesis. AY 2013-14

Avital Mintz-Morgenthau, "Philip Roth and the Feast of Assimilation," AMCS Capstone Project, AY 2013-14

Co-Director

Madeleine Alder, "The Twilight Sleep Movement and the Medical Management of Pregnancy," AMCS Capstone Project, AY 2013-14

Even Linden, "The Hypothetical Presidency: The Social and Political Reflections of *The West Wing* on the Presidencies of Clinton and Bush," AMCS Capstone Project, AY 2013-14

Professional Affiliations

Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present
Modern Language Association
American Studies Association
Modernist Studies Association
Philip Roth Society
John Updike Society
Society for the Study of Southern Literature

Languages

Reading competency in French and Latin.

Research/Teaching Interests

Modern and contemporary American fiction; American culture studies;
Children's literature; 19th century American literature; Southern literature;
religious history & thought; film and media studies; critical theory.

References

Gerald Early
Merle King Professor of Modern Letters
Washington University in St. Louis
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Daniel Grausam
Lecturer
Department of English Studies
University of Durham
daniel.grausam@durham.ac.uk

Robert Milder
Professor of English
Washington University in St. Louis
314 935-4430
rmilder@wustl.edu

Jeff Smith
Professor of Film
University of Wisconsin, Madison
608 263-3132
jpsmith8@wisc.edu

Rafia Zafar
Professor of English and African & Afro-American Studies
Washington University in St. Louis

314 935-6675
zafar@wustl.edu