

J. Dillon Brown

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Appointments

- 2014-present Associate Professor of Anglophone Literatures
Department of English, African and African American Studies Program
Washington University in St. Louis
- 2007-2014 Assistant Professor of Anglophone Literatures
Department of English, African and African American Studies Program
Washington University in St. Louis
- 2006-2007 Assistant Professor of Diaspora Studies
English Department
Brooklyn College, City University of New York

Education

- 2006 Ph.D. in English Literature, University of Pennsylvania
1994 B.A. in English Literature, University of California, Berkeley

Fellowships, Grants, Awards

- Summer 2013 Arts and Sciences Research Seed Grant (Washington University)
Spring 2013 Center for the Humanities Faculty Fellowship (Washington University)
2011 Common Ground Course Development Grant (Washington University)
2009 Harry S. Ransom Center British Studies Fellowship
2009 Special Recognition for Excellence in Graduate Student Mentoring
Summer 2007 PSC CUNY Research Award
2006-2007 Brooklyn College New Faculty Fund Award
2006-2007 Leonard & Clare Tow Faculty Travel Fellowship (Brooklyn College)
2004-2005 J. William Fulbright Research Grant (for Barbados and Trinidad & Tobago)

Books

Migrant Modernism: Postwar London and the West Indian Novel

Monograph examining the metropolitan origins of early West Indian novels with an interest in establishing the historical, social, and cultural contexts of their production. Through individual case studies of George Lamming, Roger Mais, Edgar Mittelholzer, V.S. Naipaul, and Samuel Selvon, the book seeks to demonstrate Caribbean fiction's important engagements with the experimental tradition of British modernism and discuss the implications of such engagements in terms of understanding the nature, history, locations, and legacies of both modernist and postcolonial literature. (University of Virginia Press, 2013)

Beyond Windrush: Rethinking Postwar West Indian Literature

Essay collection, co-edited with Leah Rosenberg (University of Florida), consisting of thirteen essays that seek to expand and revise the narrow critical narrative usually told about Anglophone Caribbean literature at mid-century. Avoiding the conventional emphasis on male, Afro-Caribbean nationalism in the novels of the period, the collection focuses on understudied aspects of cultural production at the time – including marginalized authors and genres, the contested role of gender and sexuality in imagining national identities, regional and global circuits of exchange outside of the Caribbean-British axis, and engagements with popular cultural forms – in order to offer a more comprehensive, variegated account of the early foundations of West Indian literature. (in press, publication scheduled for April 2015, University Press of Mississippi)

Essays and Book Chapters

“Geographies of Migration: The Caribbean Novel.” *The Oxford History of the Novel in English, Volume 11: The Novel in Africa and the Atlantic World*. ed. Simon Gikandi. (forthcoming).

“Tradition and the Individual Talent of Edgar Mittelholzer.” *In the Eye of the Storm: Edgar Mittelholzer 1909-2009 Critical Perspectives*. ed. Juanita Cox (forthcoming).

“Escaping the Tropics in New York: Eric Walrond and Claude McKay in the American Grain.” *The Global South* 7.2 (Spring 2014), 37-61.

“Instituting Anglophone Caribbean Literature.” *Le « postcolonial » comparé: anglophonie, francophonie*. ed. Claire Joubert and Emilienne Baneth (Paris: Presses Universitaires de Vincennes, 2014).

“A State of Interdependence: Caryl Phillips and the Postwar World Order.” *ARIEL* 44.2-3 (2013), 85-111.

“Modernism and Anglophone Caribbean Literature.” *The Routledge Companion to Anglophone Caribbean Literature*. ed. Michael Bucknor and Alison Donnell. (London: Routledge, 2011).

Introduction to *While Gods Were Falling* by Earl Lovelace. (Leeds: Peepal Tree Press, 2011).

“Textual Entanglement: Jean Rhys’s Critical Discourse.” *Modern Fiction Studies* 56.3 (Fall 2010).

“Nostalgia for the Future: The Novels of Earl Lovelace.” *Caribbean Literature After Independence: The Case of Earl Lovelace*, ed. Bill Schwarz (London: Institute for the Study of the Americas, 2008).

“Changing the Subject: The Aesthetics and Politics of Reading in the Novels of George Lamming.” *The Locations of George Lamming*, ed. Bill Schwarz (London: Warwick University Caribbean Studies/Macmillan, 2007).

“Exile and Cunning: The Tactical Difficulty of George Lamming.” *Contemporary Literature*. 47: 4 (Winter 2006). Article reprinted in *Immigrant Fictions: Contemporary Literature in an Age of Globalization*, ed. Rebecca L. Walkowitz (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2007).

Reviews and Encyclopedia Entries

Review of *The Purloined Islands: Caribbean-U.S. Crosscurrents in Literature and Culture 1880-1959* by Jeff Karem. *Journal of West Indian Literature* 22.1 (November 2013).

“Windrush.” *The Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism*. ed. Stephen Ross (forthcoming).

Review of *Legba’s Crossing: Narratology in the African Atlantic* by Heather Russell. *African American Review* 44: 1-2 (Spring/Summer 2011).

Review of *New World Modernisms* by Charles W. Pollard. *Journal of West Indian Literature*. 15: 1 (November, 2006).

Papers Presented

“On the Shores of an American Lake: Mapping the Literary-Political Imaginary of C.L.R. James.” 33rd Annual West Indian Literature Conference (UWI, Cave Hill, Barbados; 2014)

“Literary Logics of Development: The Anglophone Bildungsroman.” Caribbean Studies Association Annual Conference (Grand Anse, Grenada; 2013)

“Rum and Coca-Cola-ization? Ralph de Boissiere and the Revision of America.” 31st Annual West Indian Literature Conference (University of Miami; 2012)

“Founding Fathers: Reframing the Origin Myth of Anglophone Caribbean Literature.” Roundtable organizer and presenter: “Who ‘Belongs’ to Postwar West Indian Literature?”. Caribbean Studies Association Annual Conference (Le Gosier, Guadeloupe; 2012)

“Eric Walrond and Claude McKay: Cultural and National Citizenship in the American Grain.” Panel organizer and presenter: “Variations on Citizenship and Belonging in Anglophone Caribbean Literature.” Caribbean Studies Association Annual Conference (Le Gosier, Guadeloupe; 2012)

“Tradition and the Individual Talent of Edgar Mittelholzer: The Emergence of the West Indian Novel.” Robert Penn Warren Center, Emerging Modernisms Seminar (Vanderbilt University; 2011 – invited)

“Instituting Anglophone Caribbean Literature.” Journée d’étude Caraïbes/Le « postcolonial » comparé: anglophonie, francophonie (Université Paris 8, France; 2011 – invited)

“De-centering the Postcolonial: Anglophone Caribbean Literature in an American Vein.” New Geographies of Postcoloniality and Globalization Conference (UWI, St. Augustine, Trinidad; 2011)

“Shades of Difference: The Mobility of Race and the Caribbean Novel.” Race Across the Atlantic Symposium (St. Louis, MO; 2011)

“Windrush, Continued? Black British Literature in the Present Tense.” 38th Annual Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture since 1900 (Louisville, KY; 2010)

“Cold War Currents: Caribbean Literature in America’s Backyard.” University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Seminar Series in Theory and Criticism (Cave Hill, Barbados; 2010 – invited)

“Enslaved by the Yankee Dollar: *Rum and Coca-Cola* and the Perils of Postwar Power.” Caribbean Studies Association Annual Conference (Kingston, Jamaica; 2009)

“Double Jeopardy: Nationalism and West Indian Literature in the Old American Century.” Department of English Faculty Colloquium (St. Louis, MO; 2009)

“Consecrating Caribbean Literature: The Rise and Fall of *Caribbean Voices*.” Panel organizer and presenter: “Postwar Technologies of Canonization: Querying the High/Low Divide.” Modern Language Association Annual Conference (San Francisco, CA; 2008)

“A Commoner Cosmopolitanism: Samuel Selvon’s Experimental Forms.” Panel organizer and presenter: “The Global Afterlife of Modernism.” 10th Annual Modernist Studies Association Conference (Nashville, TN; 2008)

“Sambo in a Strange Land: Travels and Travails of an Exemplary Literary Figure.” Little Black Sambo: Children’s Literature, Race, and a Century of Controversy (St. Louis, MO; 2008 – invited panelist)

“Samuel Selvon, Caribbeanness, and the Universality of the Local.” Tulane University, Cuban and Caribbean Studies Conference: Virtual Caribbeans (New Orleans, LA; 2008)

“A Contrary Tradition: Edgar Mittelholzer’s West Indian Modernism.” 9th Annual Modernist Studies Association Conference (Long Beach, CA; 2007)

“George Lamming: In Praise of Difficulty.” Association for the Study of the Worldwide African

- Diaspora Conference (Barbados; 2007 – invited plenary panelist)
- “Sovereign or Subject? Interrogating Freedom in the Novels of Earl Lovelace and Caryl Phillips.”
Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora Conference (Barbados; 2007)
- “On the Limits of Counterdiscursivity: Samuel Selvon’s Critical Struggles.” 14th Triennial Association for
Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies Conference (Vancouver; 2007)
- “Narrative and Nostalgia in the Novels of Earl Lovelace.” Caribbean Literature After Independence: The
Case of Earl Lovelace (London; 2006 – invited)
- “The Politics of Caribbean Experimentalism in Postwar London.” 24th Annual Conference on West
Indian Literature (San Juan, Puerto Rico; 2005)
- “Changing the Subject: George Lamming and Modernist Reading.” 23rd Annual Conference
on West Indian Literature (Grenada; 2004)
- “The Difficulties of George Lamming.” Penn Modernism and Twentieth-Century Studies Group
Seminar (Philadelphia, PA; 2004)
- “Writing on the Wall: Cinema within *Finnegans Wake*.” Extreme Joyce/Reading on the Edge
(Berkeley, CA; 2001)

Teaching

At Washington University in St. Louis:

- Fall 2012: English Literature 2152: Literature in English: Modern Texts & Contexts
English Literature 3520: Introduction to Postcolonial Literature and Theory
- Spring 2012: English Literature 215: Introduction to Literary Study
Comparative Literature 411: The Empire Writes Back
- Fall 2011: English Literature 151: Freshman Seminar: Immigrants and Exiles
English Literature 3071: Caribbean Literature in English
- Spring 2011: English Literature 524: Nation, State, Literature
English Literature 215: Introduction to Literary Study
- Fall 2010: English Literature 3520: Introduction to Postcolonial Literature and Theory
English Literature 151: Freshman Seminar: Immigrants and Exiles
- Spring 2009: English Literature 3071: Caribbean Literature in English
English Literature 461: Seminar in Postcolonial Studies: The Novel and Globalization
- Fall 2008: English Literature 215: Introduction to Literary Study
English Literature 3520: Introduction to Postcolonial Literature and Theory
- Spring 2008: English Literature 461: Seminar in Postcolonial Studies: Anglophone Caribbean
Literature
- Fall 2007: English Literature 3520: Introduction to Postcolonial Literature and Theory
- Summer 2006: English Literature 215: Introduction to Literary Study: Literature and Empire
- Spring 2006: Writing 1: Writing Culture From the Margins
- Fall 2005: English Literature 312: The Sun Also Sets: The Emergence of the Postcolonial Novel

At Brooklyn College, CUNY:

- Spring 2007: English 50.13: Introduction to Postcolonial Literature and Theory
English 2: Research Writing: The Immigrant
Core Curriculum 10.01: Literature, Ethnicity, and Post-World War II Immigration
- Fall 2006: English 79.7: Introduction to Diaspora Literature
Core Curriculum 10.01: Literature, Ethnicity, and Post-World War II Immigration

Service

- 2013-2013- Director of Undergraduate Studies, English Department, Washington University
English Department Curriculum Committee, Chair, Washington University

2014	Judge, Dean James E. McCleod Freshman Writing Prize, Washington University
2014	Judge, Dramatics Club Prize, English Department, Washington University
2013-14	English Department Executive Committee, Washington University
2012-13	Office of the Provost's Work-Life Balance Committee, Washington University
2012-13	20 th -Century British and Anglophone Literature Search Committee, Washington University
2011-12	English Department Executive Committee, Washington University
2011-12	English Department Graduate Committee, Washington University
2011-12	English Department Committee for Assessment of Student Learning, Washington University
2011	Judge, Leanna Boysko Prize, English Department, Washington University
2010-13	Faculty Sponsor, Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society
2010-12	Chair, Undergraduate English Majors' Social Committee, Washington University
2010-12	Discussion Leader, Freshman Reading Program
2010-11	English Department Graduate Placement Committee, Washington University
2007-2009	English Department Curriculum Committee, Washington University
2007-2009	English Department Graduate Placement Committee, Washington University
2007-2009	Faculty Sponsor, Graduate Major Field Workshop, Washington University
2009	Judge, Dramatic Club Prize, English Department, Washington University
2008	Judge, F. Ward Denys Prize, English Department, Washington University
2006-2007	English Department Examinations Committee, Brooklyn College

Teaching and Research Interests

Anglophone Caribbean literature, postcolonial literature and theory, British modernism, post-1945 British literature and culture, history of the novel, transatlanticism, globalization, Black British literature, sociology of literature

Academic & Professional Affiliations

Caribbean Studies Association
 Modernist Studies Association
 Modern Language Association