



LINCOLN SHLENSKY, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of English
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EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia.
July 2006-present.

Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of South Alabama, Mobile, Alabama.
August 2003-July 2006.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Comparative Literature (English, French, Hebrew) University of California, Berkeley	2003
M.A., Comparative Literature (English, French) University of California, Berkeley	1991
B.A., <i>magna cum laude</i> , Semiotics (Honors), Brown University	1987

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Published and Forthcoming:

“Splitting the Difference: Hybridity and Subalternity in Caribbean Postcolonialism,” *The Routledge Companion to Caribbean Literatures in English*, ed. Alison Donnell and Michael Bucknor. Forthcoming in 2010.

“Not (Yet) Speaking to Each Other: The Politics of Speech in Jamaica Kincaid’s Postcolonialism,” *Proceedings of the 15th Triennial Conference of the Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies*. ACLALS, forthcoming in 2010.

“Tumbling Monoliths: Édouard Glissant’s Césaire and Paris,” *La Habana Elegante*, no. 47, Spring-Summer 2010. Special issue: “Islands: Insular Literature,” ed. Hernán Díaz, SUNY Albany. Online: http://www.habanaelegante.com/Spring_Summer_2010/Dossier_Shlenky.html.

“Otherwise Occupied: The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict in the Francophone Cinema,” *The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict in the Francophone World*. Nathalie Dubrauwere-Miller, ed. (Routledge, December 2009).

“‘To Rivet and Record:’ Conversion and Collective Memory in Equiano’s *Interesting Narrative*,” *Slavery and the Cultures of Abolition: Essays Marking the Bicentennial of the British Abolition Act of 1807* (Essays and Studies in Romanticism Series). Peter J. Kitson and Brychan Carey, eds. (Woodbridge: Boydell and Brewer, 2007): 110-29.

“Lost and Found: Aharon Appelfeld’s Hebrew Literary Affiliations and the Quest for a Home in Israeli Letters,” *Prooftexts* 26:3 (Winter 2006): 405-448.

“*Mandrakes from the Holy Land* by Aharon Megged” (book review), *Shofar* 25:1 (Fall 2006).

“*Finitude’s Score* by Avital Ronell” (book review), *Poetics Today* 18:1 (Spring 1997): 132-4.

“Preside at Their Pleasures: Rousseau, Diderot, Kafka and the Ambivalence of Representation,” *Qui Parle* 6:1 (Fall/Winter 1992): 52-92.

In Preparation:

Islands of Memory: Postcolonialism, the Holocaust, and Literary Politics. This book examines the construction of post-catastrophe cultural memory in Hebrew and Caribbean literatures. I discuss Caribbean-born authors Jamaica Kincaid, Wilson Harris, and Édouard Glissant, and Israeli writers Aharon Appelfeld and Orly Castel-Bloom in terms of their shared aesthetic and political concerns in the aftermath of colonialism, slavery, and the Shoah. I argue that the use of repetition as a thematic and formal device in their works reveals comparable historical philosophies in which each author negates teleologies of the present and imagines or reclaims critical marginal formations of a disjunctive past.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

“Glissant’s Middle Ground,” paper presented at the Caribbean Studies Association annual conference, Kingston, Jamaica, June 2009.

“Belated Arrivals: Edouard Glissant, Césaire, and Paris,” paper presented at the American Comparative Literature Association annual conference, Long Beach, Calif., April 2008.

“History Lessons: Jamaica Kincaid’s Quarrel with Modernity,” paper presented at the Association of Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies triennial conference, Vancouver, Canada, August 22, 2007.

“No Way Out: the Anti-Redemptive Narrative in Kincaid’s *Autobiography of My Mother*,” paper presented at the American Comparative Literature Association annual conference, Puebla, Mexico, April 21, 2007.

“Dreyer’s *The Passion of Joan of Arc* and the Alterity of Early Cinema,” invited lecture, Odyssey Continuing Education Program, University of South Alabama, April 7, 2006

“The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict in the Aftermath of 9/11,” invited lecture, Department of International Relations, University of South Alabama, April 1, 2006

“Jamaica Kincaid and the Threshold of Being,” paper presented at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association annual conference, Atlanta, November 6, 2005

“Decolonizing Memory: Aharon Appelfeld and Israeli National Discourse,” paper presented at the Interventions 2005 postcolonialism conference, Nottingham, UK, May 26, 2005

“Becoming Barbarian: Memory, Christianity, and the Primitive in Equiano’s *Interesting Narrative*,” paper presented for the Humanities and Social Sciences Colloquium, University of South Alabama, Mobile, April 26, 2005

“Traumatic Modernism: Aharon Appelfeld’s Literary Politics,” paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies, Chicago, December 19, 2004

“Traumas of Remembrance and Repetition,” paper presented at the Northeast Modern Language Association Annual Conference, Philadelphia, March 6, 2004

“Modernist Minimalism and the Early Israeli Statehood Years,” paper presented at the Mississippi Philological Society Annual Conference, Columbia, MS, January 30, 2004

“Narrative Thresholds: Repetition in Édouard Glissant,” paper presented at the Annual Conference of the American Comparative Literature Association, San Diego, April 5, 2003

“Modernity’s Apparitions: Édouard Glissant and the Creolization of Memory,” invited lecture, University of South Alabama, Mobile, January 31, 2003

“Collective Memory and Holocaust Testimony: David Grossman, Lawrence Langer, and Jonathan David Harris,” paper presented at the Academic Consortium, colloquium on David Grossman’s *See Under: Love*, San Francisco, March 7, 2000

“Trauma as National Narrative: Collective Memory in Aharon Appelfeld’s *Mikvat Ha-or*,” paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Modern Language Association, Chicago, December 29, 1999

RECENT COURSES (syllabi available at www.practa.com)

Studies in Commonwealth and Postcolonial Literatures (English 581): “Diasporic Poetics, Creolization Politics: The Postcolonial Caribbean in Literature, Film, and Theory,” University of Victoria, Spring 2009.

American and International Cinema 1900-1945 (English 414A): Survey of international film history from the Lumières to the present, with emphasis on the avant garde: “Memory, Spectacle, and Nation in Cinema: Tracking the Rise and Fall of the People,” University of Victoria, Spring 2009

Cultural Studies (English 466): “High Tension/Low Fidelity: Cultural Studies and Its Discordancies,” University of Victoria, Fall 2008.

African Literatures and Film (439B): “Terrors and Experts: African Postcolonialism and Performances of Peoplehood,” University of Victoria, Fall 2008.

Survey of Victorian/Edwardian Literature (English 200C): “The Anxiety of Uncertainty,” University of Victoria, Fall 2008.

Contemporary Literature/Special Topic (English 449): “Defining the Human: A Literary and Philosophical Inquiry,” University of Victoria, Spring 2008.

Special Topics in Postcolonial Literature and Theory (English 438): “Listening to Others: Postcolonial Memory in the Caribbean,” University of Victoria, Fall 2007.

Undergraduate Honors Special Topics (English 390): Race, Ethnicity, and Sexuality in the United States: “Displacements of Identity in Contemporary African-American, Asian-American, Chicano/a, and Jewish-American Literature, Film, and Theory.” University of South Alabama, Fall 2005

Undergraduate World Literature Survey II (English 236): “Other Spaces: the Home, the World, and Passages Between,” University of South Alabama, Fall 2005

English Composition II (English 102): University of South Alabama, Spring 2005

PH.D. DISSERTATION

“Resituations: Repetition, Nationalism, and the Traumas of Modernity in the Writing of Aharon Appelfeld and Édouard Glissant,” 398 pp, University of California, Berkeley, December 2003.

Thesis: The works of Aharon Appelfeld and Édouard Glissant present a challenge to collective representational codes that achieved dominance prior to the Second World War within their respective societies, Israel and Martinique. Responding to the Modernist emphasis on ‘return’

that is evident in both the Césairean theme of *retour* and in neo-Romantic Hebrew literature's nostalgia for origins, Glissant and Appelfeld formulated distinctive literary idioms that are unexpectedly comparable in their use of the figure of repetition. The dislocating but potentially transformative figure of repetition signals, in their writings, history's haunting force in the postcolonial and post-*Shoah* conditions.

Committee: Professor Chana Kronfeld (Co-Chair); Professor Michael Lucey (Co-Chair); Professor Daniel Boyarin

Ph.D. Qualifying Examination fields: American (19th and 20th centuries), francophone Caribbean, and Hebrew film and literature.

OTHER PRESENTATIONS

Presenter, "Media Campaigns: the Grassroots Campaign of Jewish Voice for Peace," invited lecture, Department of Communications, University of South Alabama, March 9, 2006

Presenter, "Peace Prospects and Political Strategies: the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict," Santa Barbara Shabbat Group, June 18, 2005.

Panel Chair, "Constructing Jewish American Identity," Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies, Chicago, December 20, 2004.

Presenter and Panelist, "Is Peace Between Israel and the Palestinians Possible?" (with co-panelist Professor Farid Abdel-Nour, moderated by Professor Peter Drier), Occidental College, Los Angeles, October 23, 2002

Presenter and Panelist, "Middle East Peace Process," World Affairs Council of Northern California, Great Decisions Series 2002 (with Hanan Rasheed, moderated by Marsha Vande Berg), February 19, 2002 See: <http://wacsf.vportal.net/?fileid=2631>

Panel Moderator, "Seeking Peace: Israeli Peace Activists Panel" (with Israeli representatives of Peace Now, New Profile, Bereaved Families Forum), San Francisco Jewish Film Festival, July 30, 2001, Wheeler Hall, University of California, Berkeley

Panel Moderator, "Mideast Peace Prospects After Camp David II: Amira Hass (Ha'aretz Newspaper) and Hamdi Faraj (Al Quds Newspaper)," San Francisco Jewish Film Festival, July 31, 2000

ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS

SSHRC Internal Research Grant: a cash grant for commissioning research in Israeli and Martinican libraries and literary archives, Summer 2007.

Nominated by the Department of Comparative Literature, University of California, Berkeley, for the American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) Charles Bernheimer Prize for best dissertation published in 2003.

Nominated for the ACLA's Horst Frennd Prize for best graduate student paper presented at the annual conference, Winter 2002-3.

Comparative Literature Departmental Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley, Spring 1997.

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor, 1998-9. Awarded by the Academic Senate at the University of California, Berkeley.

RESEARCH LANGUAGES

French (speak, read, write)

Hebrew (speak, read, write)

Spanish (speak, read)

Aramaic (read)

DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Graduate Committee, English Department, University of Victoria, 2009-10.

Equity Committee, English Department, University of Victoria, 2008-09.

Department Webmaster, English Department, University of Victoria, 2006-present.

Literature Survey A/B Committee, English Department, University of Victoria, 2006-07.

Postcolonial literature liaison, Library Committee, English Department, University of Victoria, 2006-07.

Faculty, Graduate Programme in Cultural, Social, and Political Thought, University of Victoria, 2006-07.

Coordinator, Undergraduate Education, English Department, University of South Alabama, 2005-6.

Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, English Department, University of South Alabama, 2005-6.

Chair, Technology Committee, English Department, University of South Alabama, 2005-6.

Editor, Annual Departmental Newsletter, English Department, University of South Alabama,

2004-6. See http://www.southalabama.edu/english/Newsletter_Concept-Final.pdf

Academic Search Committee, English Renaissance position, University of South Alabama, 2005-6.

Departmental Webmaster, English Department, University of South Alabama, 2003-6. Co-responsibility for maintaining and updating departmental Web site.

Chair, Scholarships and Awards Committee, English Department, University of South Alabama, 2004-5.

Graduate Curriculum Committee, English Department, University of South Alabama, 2004-5. Participated in drafting and implementing graduate program assessment rubrics and revising graduate education objectives.

Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, English Department, University of South Alabama, 2003-4. Participated in preparing and implementing assessment mechanisms for undergraduate majors and for the Department's literature survey classes.

Faculty Sponsor, English Graduate Student Organization, University of South Alabama, 2003-5. Helped graduate students to organize an active graduate student advocacy and professional development organization.

Graduate Student Representative, Francophone Academic Search Committee, University of California, Berkeley, 1995-6.

Departmental Research Assistant: researched, organized and equipped the first Comparative Literature Multimedia Facility, University of California, Berkeley, 1998-9

FILM AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA EXPERIENCE

Film Juror, Human Rights DocFest, presented by Journalists for Human Rights in partnership with the National Film Board of Canada's (NFB) online initiative Citizenshift and Dab Gallery of Victoria, B.C., June 26, 2009.

Founder and Co-Editor, *Jewish Peace News*, an on-line news clipping and commentary service with seven editors and more than 8300 subscribers, 2000-present.

Videographer, Families USA (non-profit healthcare advocacy organization), nationwide public relations tour for affordable universal health care, Summer 1991.

Director and Producer, *And I Still Remain Here*, (b/w film, 16mm, 80 minutes) documenting the situation of Central American refugees in the United States. Partially funded by a grant from Art Matters, Inc.; selected for exhibition, "Conflicts in the Global Village," the Alternative Museum, NYC, Spring 1988. Screened at Artist's Space, NYC, Summer 1989.

Trained in the use of WebCT, an on-line program for developing interactive course web sites.

Assistant Foreign Guest Coordinator, Jerusalem International Film Festival, Summers 1994-6.

Administrative Intern, "Sexism, Colonialism, Misrepresentation" film conference, curated by Yvonne Rainer & Bérénice Reynaud, Spring 1988.

ORGANIZATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Board Member, Berkeley Hillel Board of Directors, 1997-2002. Executive Committee, 1998-9 and 2001-2, and Personnel Committee Chair, 2001-2. Wrote and implemented executive director review and evaluation procedures.

Representative, Jewish Community Relations Council of San Francisco, 1999-2002. Responsible for representing Berkeley Hillel in the central public affairs arm of the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco.

Co-Founder, Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP), a grassroots peace organization, San Francisco, 1996 (member through the present). Led the organization, 1997-2000. JVP now has three full-time staff members and an annual budget of over \$250,000.

TRAVEL AND RESEARCH:

Delegation member, Mazon: The Jewish Fund for Hunger, Haiti, January 2003. Conducted site visits at micro-economic projects initiated by the Lambi Fund of Haiti in Port au Prince and Gonaïves. Interviewed Haitian novelist and poet Lyonel Trouillot.

Visiting scholar, Tel Aviv University, Porter Institute of Poetics and Semiotics, Ziva Ben-Porat and Hanan Hever advisors, Fall 1994-Summer 1995. Attended intensive Hebrew language courses and conducted archival research in the Israeli national literary archives on the popular reception of Aharon Appelfeld's fiction

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

Modern Language Association (since 1995)

American Comparative Literature Association

Association of Jewish Studies

REFERENCES

Robert Miles, Chair, Department of English, University of Victoria: (250) 721-7234;
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Sue Walker, Chair, Department of English, University of South Alabama: (251) 460-6146;
swalker@jaguar1.usouthal.edu

Chana Kronfeld, Professor, Department of Comparative Literature, UC Berkeley: (510) 642-6177; kronfeld@berkeley.edu

Michael Lucey, Associate Professor, Department of Comparative Literature, UC Berkeley: (510) 642-0277; mlucey@berkeley.edu

Richard Zeikowitz, Assistant Professor, Department of English, John Jay College of Criminal Justice (formerly of the University of South Alabama): (212) 706-6016;
rzeikowitz@jjay.cuny.edu

Jeffrey Skoller, Associate Professor, Department of Film Studies, University of California, Berkeley: (510) 981-0569; jasko@berkeley.edu