

CURRICULUM VITAE

May 18, 2019

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Naomi Morgenstern
417 Hillside Avenue East
Toronto, Ontario M4S 1T9
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Department of English
170 St. George Street
Toronto, ON M5R 2M8
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Degrees

PhD 1996 Cornell University
Dissertation: *Gothic Rehearsals: Traumatic Origins and Spectral Returns in Twentieth-Century American Fiction*
Supervisors: Mark Seltzer, Cynthia Chase, Mary Jacobus, Shirley Samuels

MA 1992 Cornell University
BA 1987 Haverford College

Employment

English Department,
University of Toronto
Associate Professor, 2004-present
Tenure Granted: August 2004
Appointment to Graduate School: 2000
Assistant Professor, 1998-2004
Lecturer, 1996-98

Honours

2019 American Psychoanalytic Association Book Prize (for *Wild Child*)
1987 Mellon Fellowship for Graduate Study in the Humanities
1987-89 Keasbey Fellow, New College, University of Oxford

Research Areas

American Literature (Fiction and Non-Fiction) 19th–21st Centuries
Posthumanism, Poststructuralism, Gender Studies, Psychoanalysis

SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL WORK

Books

Wild Child: Intensive Parenting and Posthumanist Ethics (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2018)

Maternal Sovereignty: Decision and Reproduction in the Contemporary State of Nature (monograph study of contemporary fictional and non-fictional accounts of maternal decision making in states of social, economic and environmental crisis – in progress.)

Articles and Chapters

“Maternal Sovereignty: Destruction and Survival in Jesmyn Ward’s *Salvage the Bones*,” forthcoming in *Contemporary African American and Black British Women Writers: Narrative, Race, Ethics*, ed. Sheldon George and Jean Wyatt (New York: Routledge, 2019).

“‘Life After Life’: Survival in the (Late) Fiction of Alice Munro” in *Ethics and Affects in the Fiction of Alice Munro*, eds. Amelia De Falco and Lorraine York (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2018).

“Post-Apocalyptic Responsibility: Patriarchy at the End of the World in Cormac McCarthy’s *The Road*.” *differences: a Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies* 25.2 (Summer 2014): 33-61.

“Maternal Love/Maternal Violence: Inventing Ethics in Toni Morrison’s *A Mercy*.” *MELUS: Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States* 39.1 (Spring 2014): 7-29.

“The University in Crisis: Teaching, Tenure and Transference in David Mamet’s *Oleanna*.” *Cultural Critique* 82 (Fall 2012): 1-33.

“Seduction and Subjectivity: Psychoanalysis and the Fiction of Alice Munro” in Charles May ed., *Critical Insights: Alice Munro* (Ipswich, Mass.: Salem Press, 2012): 68-86.

“The Remains of Friendship and the Ethics of Misreading: Emerson, Thoreau, Melville” *ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance* 57.3 (2011): 241-73.

“Literature Reads Theory: Remarks on Teaching with Toni Morrison,” *University of Toronto Quarterly* 74.3 (Summer 2005): 816-28.

“The Afterlife of Coverture: Contract and Gift in *The Ballad of the Sad Café*,” *differences: A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies* 16:1 (2005): 103-25. Reprinted in Harold Bloom ed., *Carson McCullers*. (New York: Chelsea House, 2009): 127-48.

“Marriage and Contract in the Early United States: Charles Brockden Brown's *Alcuin and Ormond*,” in Shirley Samuels, ed., *A Companion to American Fiction, 1780-1865*. Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2004. 108-18.

“The Oedipus Complex Made Simple,” *University of Toronto Quarterly*, 72.4 (October 2003): 777-88.

“The Baby or the Violin? Ethics and Femininity in the Fiction of Alice Munro,” *Literature, Interpretation, Theory* 14.2 (2003): 69-97. Reprinted in Julie Rivkin and Michael Ryan eds. *Literary Theory: An Anthology* 3rd edition (Wiley-Blackwell, 2017): 422-42.

“The Primal Scene in the Public Domain: E.L. Doctorow's *The Book of Daniel*,” *Studies in the Novel* 35.1 (Spring 2003): 68-88.

“‘There is nothing else like this’: Sex and Citation in Pornogothic Feminism,” *Genders* 25 (1997): 39-67.

“‘Love is home-sickness’: Nostalgia and Lesbian Desire in *Sapphira and the Slave Girl*,” *Novel* 29.2 (Winter 1996): 184-205.

“Mother's Milk and Sister's Blood: Trauma and the Neoslave Narrative,” *differences: A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies* 8.2 (Summer 1996): 101-126.

Reviews

Jean Wyatt, *Love and Narrative Form in Toni Morrison's Late Fiction* (University of Georgia Press, 2017). *MELUS: Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States* 43.1 (2018): 222-24.

Todd Dufresne. *Killing Freud: Twentieth Century Culture and the Death of Psychoanalysis* (New York: Continuum, 2003). *UTQ* 75.1 (Winter 2006): 317-19.

Andrew Brink, *The Creative Matrix: Anxiety and the Origins of Creativity* (New York: Peter Lang, 2000). *UTQ* 70.1 (Winter 2000-01): 162-64.

Robert K. Martin and Eric Savoy, eds., *American Gothic: New Interventions in a National Narrative* (Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 1998). *UTQ* 69.1 (Winter 1999-2000): 252-53.

Catherine A. Lundie ed., *Restless Spirits: Ghost Stories by American Women, 1872-1926* (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1996). *UTQ* 67.1 (Winter 1997-8): 260-62.

Presentations and Conference Participation

“‘Come back to me’: Temporality, Decision, and Maternal Ethics in Denis Villeneuve’s *Arrival*,” *Embodiment in Science Fiction and Fantasy*, McMaster University May 18-19, 2018.

“Parenting at the Social Limit: Ethics, Reproduction, and Contemporary Narrative,” *American Comparative Literature Association*, Washington DC, March 7-9th 2019.

Organizer of panel, “The Child, the Parent: Ethics, Politics, Race,” *American Comparative Literature Association Annual Convention*, Washington DC, March 7-9th 2019.

Organizer, symposium on *The Child at the Social Limit* (featuring invited speakers, Rachel Bowlby, David Eng, Lisa Guenther), University of Toronto, April 30, 2018.

“Posthumanism, Transnational Surrogacy and Garth Davis’s *Lion*,” *International Conference on Narrative*, McGill University, Montreal, April 20-22, 2018.

“Maternity, Destruction and Survival in Jesmyn Ward’s *Salvage the Bones*,” *American Comparative Literature Association Annual Convention*, UCLA Los Angeles, March 29-31, 2018.

“Posthumanist Reproduction,” *American Comparative Literature Association Convention*, Utrecht, Netherlands, July 5-8, 2017.

"The Post-Kantian Child in Contemporary American Fiction," *American Literature and the Philosophical*, Paris, France, Mar. 23-25, 2017.

"Monstrous Decision: Destruction and Relation in Lionel Shriver’s *We Need to Talk About Kevin* " *Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture, Post-1900*. Louisville, Kentucky, Feb 23-25, 2017.

"‘I know you are scared and I know you want to go home’: Protecting Children in Denis Villeneuve’s *Prisoners*," *Canadian Association of American Studies Annual Convention*, New Brunswick, CA, October 21-23, 2016.

“Is There A Space for Maternal Ethics: The Wild Child in Emma Donoghue’s *Room*,” Graduate English Association, University of Toronto, April 1, 2016.

“The ‘Wild Child’ in Contemporary Fiction.” *American Literature Association Annual Conference*. San Francisco, May 26-29, 2016.

“Priceless! Determinism and Excess in the Fiction of George Saunders,” Annual Convention of the *Canadian Association for American Studies*, Kitchener-Waterloo, October 24-27, 2013.

“Post Apocalyptic Responsibility: Patriarchy at the End of the World in Cormac McCarthy’s *The Road*.” Annual Convention of the *Canadian Association for American Studies*, Toronto, October 25-28, 2012.

“Is There a Maternal Ethics? Reading Emma Donoghue’s *Room*.” Annual Convention of the *American Comparative Literature Association*, Toronto, April 4-7, 2013.

“Getting Lost: Contemporary Fantasies of Isolation, Withdrawal and Disconnection.” Seminar Organizer (three panels, nine papers). Annual Convention of the *American Comparative Literature Association*, Toronto, April 4-7, 2013.

“David Mamet,” Invited Lecture, Canadian Stage Company, Toronto, April 2013.

“Maternal Love/Maternal Violence in Toni Morrison's *A Mercy*” *Association for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society (APCS) Annual Conference* Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, November 4, 2011.

“Toni Morrison and the Maternal Gift of Death” *MELUS and USACLALS Joint Annual Conference* Santa Clara University, CA, April 19-22, 2012.

“Teaching, Tenure, Transference,” Keynote Lecture, *Playing Doctor: Performance, Trauma and the Ethics of Psychoanalysis*, Graduate English Conference, University of Toronto, May 2010.

“The University in Crisis: Mamet’s *Oleanna*,” *Canadian Association of American Studies Conference*, University of Western Ontario, November 2009

Emotional Life and the Life of the Emotions, Interdisciplinary Symposium, University of Toronto, March 2009 (Panel Chair).

“The Savage Bride: Edith Wharton and the Anthropologists,” *MLA Annual Convention*, Philadelphia, December 2004.

“The Afterlife of Coverture,” *Conversations in Feminist Theory*, Department of English and Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, Cornell University, April 19, 2003.

Hearts and Minds: Sexuality and Education, Annual Conference of the Sexual Diversity Studies Programme, University of Toronto, March 2003 (Panel Chair and Moderator).

“The Oedipus Complex Made Simple,” *Oedipus Rex: Plague and Politics*, University of Toronto, October 2002.

“Literature Reads Theory: Remarks on Teaching with Toni Morrison,” *ACCUTE Annual Conference*, Toronto, May 2002.

“Contracting a Marriage: Consent and Love After the Revolution in Charles Brockden Brown's *Ormond*,” *American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies*, New Orleans, April 2001.

“The Baby or the Violin: Traumatic Loss and Female Subjectivity in ‘My Mother's Dream,’” *Twentieth Century Literature Conference*, Louisville, Kentucky, February 2001.

“Psychoanalytic Theory, Psychoanalytic Fictions: Freud's Case Histories,” *Literary Evenings: Genre in a Changing World*, University of Toronto, February 2001.

“Race and the Subject of Marriage in Late-Nineteenth and Early Twentieth-Century America” (panel organizer and respondent), *Modern Language Association Annual Convention*, Washington D.C., December 2000.

“The Politics of Gay Marriage,” Sexual Diversity Studies Program, University of Toronto, November, 2000.

“Whose Sadness?: Queer Marriage and the Melancholy Economy of *The Ballad of the Sad Café*,” Trinity College, Psychoanalytic Thought Programme Lecture Series, October 2000.

“‘Dark Doubled Shapes’: Impossible Mourning in the Fiction of Carson McCullers,” *Annual Convention of the Association for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society*, Washington D.C., November 1996.

“Pornogothic Feminism: Sex and Citation in Andrea Dworkin's *Mercy* and Catharine MacKinnon's *Only Words*,” *American Gothic: New Interventions in a National Narrative*, Université de Montréal, October 1994.

“Mother's Milk and Sister's Blood: Trauma and the Neoslave Narrative,” *Annual Convention of the National Association of African American Studies*, Virginia State University, Spring 1994.

“Taking No For An Answer: Psychoanalysis and the Violation of the Subject,” *The Institution of the Self*, Princeton University, October 1990.

TEACHING

Undergraduate courses taught

ENG 434/5H Posthumanism and Contemporary Fiction
ENG 365H Contemporary American Fiction
ENG 434H Wild Child: Parenting at the Social Limit in Contemporary American Fiction
ENG 424H Alice Munro and the Problem of Other Minds
ENG 384Y Literature and Psychoanalysis
ENG 415F Literature and Ethics
ENG 363Y Nineteenth Century American Literature
ENG 434H Hawthorne and Morrison
ENG 382Y Contemporary Literary Theory
ENG 383S Critical Methods: Psychoanalysis and Literature
ENG 383F Critical Methods: On Deconstruction
ENG 468H On Deconstruction: Acts, Bodies, Texts
ENG 421H Studies in an Individual Writer: Edith Wharton
ENG 366Y Contemporary Literary Theory
ENG 250Y American Literature-Major Authors
ENG 290Y Literature and Psychoanalysis
ENG 233Y Major Women Writers

ENG 359Y American Literature, 1880-1960
ENG 358Y American Literature Before 1880
ENG 361H Contemporary American Fiction

Graduate courses taught

ENG5022HS Race, Psychoanalysis, and American Literature
ENG 5030 The Child at the Social Limit
ENG 6999Y Critical Topographies
ENG 6546H Literature and the Resistance to Being
ENG 5588H Free Love? Conjugal Politics and American Literature
ENG 6043H Introduction to Literary Theory
ENG 6545H Psychoanalysis and Queer Theory
ENG 5583H The Traffic in Women: Turn-of-the-Century American Fiction and the Sexual Contract

Ph.D. Committees

2019 Sarah Howland (supervisor)
2018 Carson Hammond
2018 Ira Halpern
2019 Jasleen Singh (supervisor)
2018 Erin Della Mattia (supervisor)
2018 Anna Kosak (supervisor)
2018 Daniel Bergman (supervisor)
2018 Danyse Golick (supervisor)
2018 Devorah Kobluk (supervisor)
2017 Karl Manis (supervisor)
2017 Tim Lem-Smith
2016 Stefan Krecsy
2015 Henry Ivry
2015 Elissa Gurman (defended 2017)
2014 Mitchell Johnston (supervisor)
2013 Jessica Copley
2012 Julia Cooper (defended 2016)
2012 Cristina D'Amico (co-supervisor)
2008 Erin Rosanski (defended 2017)
2007 Geraldine Fogerty (Centre for Study of Religion; defended 2009)
2007 Tony Fong (supervisor; defended June 2013)
2005- Philip Loosemore (defended 2011)
2005- Coby Dowdell (defended 2009)
2005-07 Amelia De Falco (defended 2007)
2005- Alexandra Rahr (defended 2011)
2005- Coby Dowdell (defended)
2003-06 Robert McGill (defended 2006)
2002-06 Nancy Kang (defended 2006)
2001-03 Luke Tromley (defended 2003)

Administrative Positions

- 2018- Associate Chair, Undergraduate Department of English, University of Toronto, St. George campus
- 2018 Field reader, PhD applications in American literature
- 2017 Member, Graduate Program committee
- 2015 Member, Tenure Committee for Prof. Denise Cruz
- 2015 Internal Examiner, PhD Defense for Miriam Novick
- 2015 Internal Examiner, PhD Defense for Alex Eastwood
- 2015 Member, 20th Century American Literature Hiring Committee (UTM)
- 2015-17 Chair, Calendar and Curriculum Committee
- 2014- Departmental representative, UTFA Faculty Council
- 2014 Member, 19th Century American Literature Hiring Committee (UTM)
- 2014 Member, English Dept., Calendar and Curriculum Committee
- 2013-14 Arts and Science Council, Departmental representative
- 2013-14 Faculty-Staff Relations Committee
- 2013 Internal Reader, Tenure Promotion Committee, Prof. M. Ruti
- 2012 Member Departmental PTR Committee
- 2012 Member Woodhouse and Leech Prize Committee
- 2011 Internal Examiner, PhD Defense for Cynthia Quarrie
- 2011 Internal Examiner, PhD Defense Christina Reimer (Dept. of Religion)
- 2009-10 Member, Department Awards Committee
- 2010 Member, Tenure Committee for Professor Sarah Wilson
- 2009 Internal Reviewer of Research for Professor Dana Seitler's Tenure Committee
- 2008 Internal Reviewer of Research for Professor Mari Ruti's Tenure Committee
- 2007-08 Member, Chair's Advisory Committee
- 2007-08 Member, Woodhouse Prize Committee
- 2005-07 Associate Director, Ph.D.
- 2003 Member, Planning Committee, Annual Conference of the Sexual Diversity Studies Programme, University of Toronto, October 2004.
- 2002-03 Member, English Department Curriculum Committee
- 2001 Co-Organizer, Centre for the Study of the United States Distinguished Visitor Programme
- 2001- Member, Institute for Women's Studies and Gender Studies, Univ. of Toronto
- 1999 Member, Secondary Schools Committee, Department of English
- 1998-2000 Coordinator, English Department's Work in Progress reading group.
- 1998-2000 Member, Steering Committee, Psychoanalytic Thought Program, Trinity College, University of Toronto

Professional Affiliations

- Member, Modern Language Association
- Member, The Society for the Study of American Women Writers
- Member, The Society for the Study of Narrative Literature
- Member, Association for Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society
- Member, Canadian Association of American Studies
- Member, MELUS (Multi-Ethnic Literatures of the United States)

