

Curriculum Vitae of
LARAIN R. FERGENSON

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AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Literature of the English Romantic period; Literature of the American Romantic period; Composition (Freshman, advanced, and developmental), Ethics in Language; Writing Across the Curriculum

EDUCATION

PH.D.	COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, 1971 Dissertation: "Wordsworth and Thoreau: A Study of the Relationship Between Man and Nature,"
M.A.	COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, 1967
A.B.	SMITH COLLEGE, 1966

ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS HELD

Committeewoman for Bergen County Democratic Organization
Secretary, Tenafly Democratic Municipal Committee
Coordinator of the Writing Program, Bronx Community College
Co-Coordinator of the Writing Across the Curriculum Program
Co-Director of the Honors Program

HONORS AND AWARDS (selected)

Phi Beta Kappa; Magna cum Laude at graduation; Smith College Prize in English Literature; Smith College Fellowship (hon.)
Columbia University and NDEA Fellowships
National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar Fellowship
Mellon Fellowships; PSC-CUNY Research Awards
Special Service Award from Student Government Association., BCC, CUNY

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Summer 1970	COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, School of General Studies Course taught: Advanced Composition
Summer 1988	IONA COLLEGE SESSION IN IRELAND, at NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION (UNIVERSITY COLLEGE), LIMERICK Course taught: English and Irish Literature of the 19th and 20th Centuries
1970 - 2005	BRONX COMMUNITY COLLEGE, CUNY <u>Undergraduate courses taught:</u> Composition--Advanced, Freshman, and Developmental, Poetry, Poetry of the British Romantic Period, Prose Fiction, Science Fiction <u>Graduate course taught</u> (sponsored by the CUNY Graduate Center): A Practicum in College Teaching <u>Faculty development courses taught</u> Essentials of Word Processing, Enhancing the Teaching of Writing through Word Processing (Sponsored by Title III grants) Faculty Workshops on Writing Across the Curriculum Adjunct Professor of English at University of Connecticut, Stamford Course taught: Survey of English Literature
2007	

OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Founder of the Poetry Circle of Tenafly, Tenafly Public Library
Founding Member, Modern Language Association Committee on Diversity and Tolerance
Member of Modern Language Association Delegate Assembly

Contributing Editor, Heath Anthology of American Literature (Reconstructing American Literature Project). Manuscript perfecter, Princeton University Press edition of The Writings of Henry D. Thoreau. Coordinator of Job Exchange and Counseling Service for the North-East Modern Language Association Consultant reviewer for Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, Macmillan Publishing Company, Longman Publishers. Chair, English Department *ad hoc* Committee to Study Computer-Aided Instruction and Basic Writing Skills.

ORGANIZATIONS

Anti- Defamation League, Friends of the Wordsworth Trust, Margaret Fuller Society, Modern Language Association, National Resources Defense Council, *Phi Beta Kappa*, Sierra Club, The Tenafly Poetry Circle (Founder), The Tenafly Nature Center, The Thoreau Society, United Jewish Appeal Federation of Bergen County and Northern NJ (member of the Business and Professional Group of the Women's Division and the Jewish Community Relations Council)

OTHER INTERESTS AND VOLUNTEER WORK

Creative writing, photography, drama (leading role at Bell and Barter Theatre, Rockaway, N.J.). Parent representative to Extended Learner Committee, Rockaway Township Board of Education. Volunteer with Jewish Family Service (helped to create Web Site and fill-in driver for Kosher Meals on Wheels)

REFERENCES

Available from Division of Academic Placement, Columbia University, New York, New York 10027
Other references will be supplied upon request.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

TEXTBOOKS

ALL IN ONE: BASIC WRITING TEXT, WORKBOOK, AND READER (with Marie-Louise Nickerson). Prentice-Hall, 1980; 2nd ed. 1985; 3rd ed. 1992; 4th ed. 1999.

WRITING WITH STYLE: RHETORIC, READER, HANDBOOK. Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1989.

ARTICLES, BOOK CHAPTERS, and REVIEWS

“Using Collaborative Learning to Teach the Themes of Education, Ignorance, and Dispossession in Wuthering Heights.” Chapter in Approaches to Teaching Emily Bronte's Wuthering Heights, Eds. Sue Lonoff and Terri A. Hasseler. Modern Language Association of America, 2006: 167-174.

“George Orwell's Animal Farm: A Twentieth-Century Beast Fable.” Chapter in Modern Critical Interpretations: George Orwell's Animal Farm. Ed. Harold Bloom. Philadelphia: Chelsea House, 1999.

“Teaching The Diary of Anne Frank.” Martyrdom and Resistance [Publication of the International Society for Yad Vashem]; Spring 1999; rpt. in Midstream [Publication of the Theodore Herzl Foundation]; Dec. 1999: 11-15.

“Teaching Thoreau's ‘Civil Disobedience’ (or Is It ‘Resistance to Civil Government?’) to Composition Students.” Chapter in Approaches to Teaching Thoreau, ed. Richard Schneider. New York: Modern Language Association, 1996. 155-161.

“Group Defamation: From Language to Thought to Action.” Chapter in Group Defamation and Freedom of Speech: The Relationship Between Language and Violence. Eds. Eric and Monroe Freedman. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1995. 71-85.

“The Politics of Fear on a CUNY Campus.” Midstream [Journal published by the Theodor Herzl Foundation] Vol. XXXX, No. 4 (May 1994): 25-28.

“A Danish Appreciation of Thoreau: Jacob Paludan's Foreword to Livet i Skovene [Life in the Woods: Walden].” The Thoreau Society Bulletin 205 (Autumn 1993): 1-3.

Headnote on Susanna Haswell Rowson and intro. to selection from Charlotte, A Tale of Truth in The Heath Anthology of American Literature. Boston: D.C. Heath, 1990. 2nd edition 1993. 1168-1179.

Politics and the English Instructor: Using Political Literature to Teach Composition. ERIC, 1992. ED 359 509.

“A Comment on George Orwell.” College English 54.5 (Sept. 1992): 606-608.

"Margaret Fuller as a Teacher in Providence: The School Journal of Ann Brown." Studies in the American Renaissance 1991: 59-118.

"George Orwell's Animal Farm: A Modern Beast Fable." Bestia 2 (May 1990): 109-118.

"Daniel Berrigan." In Biographical Dictionary of Contemporary Catholic-American Writing. Ed. Daniel Tynan. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1989. 15-17.

"The American Response to British Romanticism." Humanities 8.6 (Nov.-Dec. 1987): 28-30.

"Margaret Fuller in the Classroom: The Providence Period." Studies in the American Renaissance 1987: 131-142.

"A Personality Profile of Henry David Thoreau: A New Method in Psycho-History" (with Everett Fergenson). Chapter in Thoreau's Psychology: Eight Essays. Ed. Raymond Gozzi. University Press of America, 1983. 79-107.

Review of Margaret Fuller's Woman in the Nineteenth Century: A Literary Study of Form and Content of Sources and Influence by Marie Olesen Urbanski. The Concord Saunterer os 16. 2 (Winter 1982): 20-24.

"Thoreau, Daniel Berrigan, and the Problem of Transcendental Politics." Soundings: An Interdisciplinary Journal 65.1 (Spring 1982):103-122.

"Margaret Fuller: Transcendental Feminist." The Concord Saunterer os 15.4 (Winter 1980): 9-23.

"The Double-Correction Method." In CRITICAL ISSUES IN WRITING. Eds. Annette Allen and Richard Donovan (Published by Networks, Bronx Community College, CUNY, 1980): 85-86. (Also published in Teaching English in the Two-Year College 10.3 [Spring 1984]: 235-237).

"Blake's *Eternal Now* : A Prophetic Vision of Post-Newtonian Physics." Science/Technology and the Humanities 3.2 (Spring 1980): 122-132.

"Learning How to Teach; Teaching How to Learn." School and Parent Digest. 1. 4 (April 1980): 1-5.

"Wordsworth and Thoreau: The Relationship Between Man and Nature." Thoreau Journal Quarterly 11. 2 (April 1979): 3-10.

Review of Several More Lives to Live: Thoreau's Political Reputation in America. Thoreau Journal Quarterly 11.1 (January 1979): 33-36.

"Margaret Fuller and *Famous American Belles*." American Notes and Queries 17 (October 1978): 20.

"Teaching Wordsworth in the Open Admissions Classroom." The Wordsworth Circle. 9.4 (Autumn 1978): 334.

Review of Susanna Haswell Rowson: America's First Best-Selling Novelist by Ellen Brandt. Journal of Popular Culture 11.3 (Winter 1977): 620-621.

"The State of the Profession: A Dialogue on the Job Market" (with Cortland Auser). College English Association Forum 8.1 (Oct. 1977): 13-16.

"Wild Nectar: The Language of Thoreau's Poetry." The Concord Saunterer os 12. 1 (Spring 1977): 1-7.

"To Teach or Not To Teach the Research Paper." Journal for the Improvement of Instruction III (Spring 1976): 17-19.

"Was Thoreau Rereading Wordsworth in 1851?" Thoreau Journal Quarterly 5.3 (July 1973): 20-23.

"An Effective Composition Assignment That's Fun." Journal for the Improvement of Instruction I (Spring 1973): 35-36.

POETRY

Published in Critical Perspectives on Accounting, College English Assn. Forum, Ball State University Forum, Grub Street, Garland, and The Thoreau Society Bulletin.

PRESENTATIONS (selected)

“Writing Across the Curriculum in Two Places: General Education, Community Colleges.” National Writing Across the Curriculum Conference: WAC from an International Perspective. St. Louis, Missouri, May 20, 2004.

Session Chair, “Teaching Tolerance: Combating Bigotry.” National Convention of the Modern Language Association. San Diego, December 30, 2003.

“The Modern Language Association’s Committee on Tolerance and Diversity.” Diversity: Contemporary Issues and Future Challenges: The Twenty Ninth Annual Conference of the Eastern Community College Social Science Association. Essex Campus of the Community College of Baltimore County. March 29, 2003.

Panelist/ speaker on “Promoting Diversity and Tolerance on College Campuses after 9/11/01: Theory and Practice.” National Convention of the Modern Language Association. San Diego, December 27, 2002.

Session Chair, “When Hate Groups Target Campus Newspapers.” National Convention of the Modern Language Association. New Orleans, December 28, 2001.

“Teaching The Diary of Anne Frank to Composition Students.” International Conference on the Holocaust--From Memory to History: Teaching, Researching and Transmitting the Holocaust on the Threshold of the 21st Century.” Hebrew University, Givat Ram Campus, Jerusalem, December 28, 1998 - January 3, 1999.

“Teachers’ Voices and Students’ Choices: The Reading-Writing Connection.” Presented at the Convention of the City Univ. of NY Association of Writing Supervisors. New York, NY, Oct. 1998.

“What We Can Learn from Margaret Fuller’s Students.” Presented at the Margaret Fuller Society meeting at the annual American Literature Conference. San Diego, May 1998.

“The Ethical Concerns of Educators Regarding Hate Speech on College Campuses.” National Conference on Applied Ethics. California State University, Long Beach. February 27, 1997.

“The Eye as Master and Servant in Wordsworth and Thoreau.” Wordsworth Summer Conference at Dove Cottage. Sponsored by the Wordsworth Trust. Grasmere, UK, August 10, 1995.

“The First Amendment and College Campus Hate Speech.” The Jewish Federation of Tulsa, Oklahoma. February 26, 1995.

“Teaching Thoreau’s ‘Civil Disobedience.’” Panelist in the New England Transcendentalism Session at the North-East MLA Convention, Pittsburgh, April, 1994.

Chair of Fiction Reading session at the North-East MLA Convention, Philadelphia, March, 1993.

“Politics and the English Professor.” Annual Convention of the College English Association, Pittsburgh, March 1992.

“The Curry Strategy,” Fiction reading at the North-East MLA Convention, Hartford, Conn., April 1991.

“Writer’s Block.” Annual meeting of the Northern New Jersey Smith College Alumnae Assn. Norwood, NJ (June 1990).

“George Orwell’s Animal Farm: A Modern Beast Fable.” Annual Conference of the Beast Fable Society. Copenhagen, Denmark, August 1989.

"Group Defamation: From Language to Thought to Action." Conference on Group Defamation and Freedom of Speech. Hofstra University, Long Island, April 1988.

Session chair, "New England Transcendentalism." North-East Modern Language Association Convention. Boston, April 1987.

"Forward to the Basics: The Humanities and Developmental Writing." National Convention, Community College Humanities Association. San Francisco, November 1986.

Respondent to panel on "Applying Theories: Dialect Interference, Second Language Acquisition and the Basic Writer." Annual Convention of the Conference on College Composition and Communication. New Orleans, March 1986.

"High-Quality Literature for Basic Writing Students." National Convention, Community College Humanities Association. Philadelphia, November 1985.

"Margaret Fuller in the Classroom: The Providence Period." North-East Modern Language Association Convention. Hartford, Conn., March 1985.

"Teaching Thoreau to Basic Writing Students." Thoreau Society Meeting, Modern Language Association Convention. New York, N.Y., December 1981.

"The Double-Correction Method." Annual Convention of the College English Association. Cherry Hill, N.J., April 1981.

Session Chair, "British Classics." Annual Convention of the New Jersey College English Association. Drew University, Madison, N.J., March 1980.

"Teaching Classic Literature to Non-Traditional Students." Individual presentation at the National Convention of the National Council of Teachers of English. Cincinnati, Ohio, November 1980.

Session Chair, "The Better Basic Writer." Annual Convention of the Conference on College Composition and Communication. Washington, D.C., March 1980.

"Wordsworth and Thoreau." North-East MLA Convention. Hartford, Conn. March 1979.

Session Chair, "Margaret Fuller." MLA Convention. Chicago, Dec. 1977.

"The Eye as Master and Servant: Vision in Wordsworth and Thoreau." English Romantics Group of the CUNY Graduate Center. New York, NY, Nov. 1976.

Respondent to Special Session on "The English Romantics and Science." National MLA Convention. San Francisco, Dec. 1975.