

CURRICULUM VITAE

James Wright

Houston Community College
Department of English
5601 West Loop South
Houston, Texas 77081
713.718.2058
Email: James.Wright@hccs.edu

EDUCATION

PhD **University of Houston**, English and American Literature, 2007
MA **Texas State University**, English and American Literature, 1999
BA **University of Texas at El Paso**, English and American Literature, 1997

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“So On We Go: Playing Ourselves in the Composition Classroom.” Two Year College English Association, Southwest. League City, Texas. October 2011.

“Is Just Showing Up Enough? Negotiating Expectations in the Composition Classroom.” Two Year College English Association, Southwest. Little Rock, Arkansas. October 2009.

“Playing with Our Situated Selves: Multiculturalism, Rhetoric, and Citizenship.” Conference on College Composition and Communication Convention. San Francisco, California. March 2009.

Chair. “Freighted Borders in Texas Literature.” South Central Modern Language Association Conference. San Antonio, Texas. November 2008.

“Patina of Home: The Phenomenological Border of Ray Gonzalez.” South Central Modern Language Association Conference. San Antonio, Texas. November 2008.

“Something Fish-y: Pedagogical Ethics in Dealing with Social/Political Issues.” Two Year College English Association, Southwest. San Antonio, Texas. October 2007.

“(Sorta) Framed: Encountering Working-Class Identities Through Visual Rhetorics.” Conference on College Composition and Communication Convention. New York, New York. March 2007.

Chair. “No Refuge: Performing Home in the Domestic Imaginary.” South Central Modern Language Association Conference. Dallas, Texas. October 2006.

“Domesticate This: Home (as an Elsewhere) in the Work of Raymond Carver and Dagoberto Gilb.” South Central Modern Language Association Conference. Dallas, Texas. October 2006.

Chair. “Shifting Centers: Is This a Private Fight or Can Anyone Join?” Conference on College Composition and Communication Convention. Chicago, Illinois. March 2006.

“Who Ya Callin’ Metatextual: Class Politics and Class Rhetorics.” Conference on College Composition and Communication Convention. Chicago, Illinois. March 2006.

“El Paso as *Topos*: Dagoberto Gilb’s Working-Class Vision.” South Central Modern Language Association Conference. Houston, Texas. October 2005.

Chair. “You, Me, Them: Risking Difference and Accessing Academia.” Conference on College Composition and Communication Convention. San Francisco, California. March 2005.

“(Working-Class) Work: Using the Composition Classroom to Suppose Other Subjects.” Conference on College Composition and Communication Convention. San Francisco, California. March 2005.

Chair. “Relocating the Composition Classroom: Demythologizing Notions of the Thirteenth Grade.” Conference on College Composition and Communication Convention. San Antonio, Texas. March 2004.

“Narratives of Resistance: Charging the Depoliticized Classroom.” Conference on College Composition and Communication Convention. San Antonio, Texas. March 2004.

“Fight the Power: Reading the Urban Poet-Rapper against *The Prince* and Franklin’s *Autobiography*.” Conference on College Composition and Communication Convention. Chicago, Illinois. March 2002.

REVIEWS

“That Time Kate Upton Helped Houston Get Over Harvey.” Review of Brian T. Smith’s *Liftoff! The Tank, the Storm, and the Astros’ Improbable Ascent to Baseball Immortality*. *Texas Books in Review*. Fall 2018.

“Lights, A Question Of.” Review of Michael Hurd’s *Thursday Night Lights: The Story of Black High School Football in Texas*. *Texas Books in Review*. Spring 2018.

“For the Love of Texas Football.” Review of Mac Engel’s *Pigskin Rapture: Four Days in the Life of Texas Football*. *Texas Books in Review*. Spring 2017.

“The Original ‘H-Town Takeover.’” Review of Robert D. Jacobus’ *Houston Cougars in the 1960s: Death Threats, the Veer Offense, and the Game of the Century*. *Texas Books in Review*. Fall 2016.

“Gassed Up in Houston.” Review of J.R. Richard and Lew Freedman’s *Still Throwing Heat: Strikeouts, the Streets, and a Second Chance*. *Texas Books in Review*. Fall 2015.

Review of Michael Berry’s *Frontera*. *Southwestern American Literature*. Spring 2015.

“The Judge’ and the Dome.” Review of James Gast’s *The Astrodome: Building an American Spectacle*. *Texas Books in Review*. Spring/Summer 2015.

“Out of Hill Country Stone.” Review of *Lake|Flato Houses: Embracing the Landscape*. *Texas Books in Review*. Fall/Winter 2014.

Review of Douglas Brode's *Dream West: Politics and Religion in Cowboy Movies*. *Southwestern American Literature*. Fall 2014.

"Of Grief, Guilt, and Growth." Review of David Berg's *Run, Brother, Run: A Memoir of a Murder in My Family*." *Texas Books in Review*. Spring 2014.

"Existential El Paso." Review of Benjamin Alire Sáenz's *Everything Begins and Ends at The Kentucky Club*. *Texas Books in Review*. Fall 2013.

"Supermarket Socialization." Review of Javier Huerta's *American Copia: An Immigrant Epic*. *Texas Books in Review*. Spring 2013.

"Posthumous Projections." Review of Øyvind Vågnes' *Zaprudered: The Kennedy Assassination Film in Visual Culture*. *Texas Books in Review*. Summer 2012.

"Resourceful Design." Review of Fredrick Steiner's *Design for a Vulnerable Planet*. *Texas Books in Review*. Spring 2012.

"Using Modern Art to Reconcile Modernity." Review of Pamela G. Smart's *Sacred Modern: Faith, Activism, and Aesthetics at the Menil Collection*. *Texas Books in Review*. Fall 2011.

Review of Monica Perales' *Smelertown: Making and Remembering a Southwest Border Community*. *Southwestern American Literature*. Spring 2011

Review of Jaime Javier Rodriguez' *The Literatures of the U.S.-Mexican War: Narrative, Time, and Identity*. *Southwestern American Literature*. Spring 2011.

Review of Andy Bradley's and Roger Wood's *House of Hits: The Story of Houston's Goldstar/SugarHill Recording Studios*. *Journal of Texas Music History*. Fall 2010

"Houston Undone." Review of Steven R. Strom's *Houston Lost and Unbuilt*. *Texas Books in Review*. Spring 2010.

"A Heuristic for Shadows." Review of Nick Flynn's *The Ticking is the Bomb*. *Texas Books in Review*. Spring 2010.

"Out of the Shadows." Review of Tracy Daugherty's *Hiding Man: A Biography of Donald Barthelme*. *Texas Books in Review*. Fall/Winter 2009.

Review of Ray Gonzalez's *Renaming the Earth: Personal Essays*. *Southwestern American Literature*. Fall 2009.

"Sidewalk Theater." Review of Nick Flynn's *Alice Invents a Little Game and Alice Always Wins, A Play*. *Texas Books in Review*. Spring/Summer 2009.

Review of Kathleen Staudt's *Violence and Activism at the Border: Gender, Fear, and Everyday Life in Ciudad Juárez*. *Southwestern American Literature*. Spring 2009.

“Class Consciousness Revisted.” Review of Dagoberto Gilb’s *The Flowers*. *Texas Books in Review*. Spring/Summer 2008.

“The Citizen Photographer.” Review of Alan Pogue’s *Witness for Justice: The Documentary Photographs of Alan Pogue*. *Texas Books in Review*. Spring/Summer 2008.

“Pater Familias.” Review of Donald Barthelme’s *Flying to America: 45 More Stories*. *Texas Books in Review*. Winter 2007/2008.

“Community Vision.” Review of O. Rufus Lovett’s *Weeping Mary*. *Texas Books in Review*. Fall 2007.

Review of Rudolfo Anaya’s *The Man Who Could Fly and Other Stories*. *Southwestern American Literature*. Fall 2006.

Review of David Dorado Romo’s *Ringside Seat to a Revolution: An Underground Cultural History of El Paso and Juárez, 1893-1923*. *Southwestern American Literature*. Fall 2006.

“Revisiting Hybridity.” Review of Pablo Vila’s *Border Identifications: Narratives of Religion, Gender, and Class on the U.S.-Mexico Border*. *Texas Books in Review*. Spring 2006.

Review of *Río Grande*. *Southwestern American Literature*. Fall 2005.

“Shepherding Ephemera.” Review of Ray Gonzalez’ *The Religion of Hands*. *Texas Books in Review*. Spring/Summer 2005.

Review of *Westward: A Fictional History of the American West*. *Southwestern American Literature*. Spring 2005.

“The Unhoming of a Son.” Review of Nick Flynn’s *Another Bullshit Night in Suck City*. *Texas Books in Review*. Fall/Winter 2004.

Review of Mark Cameron Edberg’s “*El Narcotraficante: Narcocorridos and the Construction of a Cultural Persona on the US-Mexico Border*.” *Southwestern American Literature*. Fall 2004.

Review of Gilbert G. González’s “*Culture of Empire: American Writers, Mexico, and Mexican Immigrants, 1880-1930*.” *Southwestern American Literature*. Fall 2004.

Review of Lisa Magaña’s “*Straddling the Border: Immigration Policy and the INS*.” *Southwestern American Literature*. Fall 2004.

“The Iconoclasm of Astroturf.” Review of *Ephemeral City: Cite Looks at Houston*. *Texas Books in Review*. Spring 2004.

“Whistling Dixie.” Review of Scott Elliott’s *Coiled in the Heart*. *Texas Books in Review*. Fall 2003/Winter 2004.

Review of Ray Gonzalez's *Circling the Tortilla Dragon*. *Southwestern American Literature*. Fall 2003.

"Still the Working Man." Review of Dagoberto Gilb's *Gritos*. *Texas Books in Review*. Summer 2003.

"Ysleta on My Mind." Review of Richard Yanez's *El Paso Del Norte: Stories on the Border*. *Texas Books in Review*. Summer 2003.

ESSAYS

"Reading and Writing Houston." *Texas Books in Review*. Fall/Winter 2009.

INSTITUTIONAL PRESENTATIONS

"Striving for Strange Permutations: of Composition and the Jeremiad." Houston Community College Annual Humanities and Philosophy Conference. November 2017.

"A Bridge to the 21st Century: The Value of Literature Classes in the College Curriculum." Houston Community College System Annual All Faculty Conference. February 2012.

"Technology in the Composition Classroom." Houston Community College System Annual All Faculty Conference. February 2011.

"You Can Lead an Academic to Water, but You Can't Make (Her/Him/It) Fish." Houston Community College System Annual All Faculty Conference. February 2008.

"Something Fish-y: Pedagogical Ethics in Dealing with Social/Political Issues." Houston Community College System Annual All Faculty Conference. February 2007.

Introduction of Dagoberto Gilb. Helen Orman Reading Series, Houston Community College. November 2006.

"Careers for English Majors." Houston Community-College-Southwest Developmental Studies Annual Conference. October 2006.

"Majoring in English." Houston Community College-Southwest Achieve the Dream Conference. October 2005.

"Memoir and Identity: How to Become a Story." Houston Community College-Southwest Educational Open House. April 2005.

"Narratives and Counternarratives in Rikki Ducornet's *The Jade Cabinet*." Roundtable discussion with Rikki Ducornet at the University of Houston. April 2001.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRESENTATIONS

Breakout session facilitator for Kristine Fleckenstein's "A Polymorphic Pedagogy for a Polymorphic Literacy." Title V Faculty Leadership Program for the Houston Community College System, the University of Houston-Downtown, and the local Independent School Districts. October, 2007.

"Unfolding 'The Great Equalizer': (Re)Theorizing Education with Community College Students." Roundtable leader of a Houston Community College-Southwest English Department open forum for a discussion about engaging students through various mediums and various reading/critical thinking/writing assignments. October, 2006.

"Re-theorizing Education with Community College Students." Title V Faculty Leadership Program (English Composition Workshop with Kathleen Blake Yancey) for the Houston Community College System, the University of Houston-Downtown, and the local Independent School Districts. September, 2005.

"Brief Introduction to Argument and Rhetoric." Educational Open House for Houston Community College-Southwest Dual Credit Instructors and Students. November, 2004.

"Integrating Reading, Writing, and Discussion." Round-robin panel for Teaching Assistant orientation at the University of Houston. August, 2002.

"Integrating Reading, Writing, and Discussion." Round-robin panel for Teaching Assistant orientation at the University of Houston. August, 2000.

COURSES TAUGHT

Houston Community College
English 1301 Composition I
English 1302 Composition II
English 2327 Early American Literature
English 2328 American Literature after 1865
English 2336 Intro to Multicultural Lit (Memoir)
English 2342 Literature and Film

University of Houston
(Teacher's Assistant: Fall 1999-Spring 2000; Teaching Fellow: Fall 2000-Spring 2003)
English 1303 Rhetoric and Argument I
English 1304 Rhetoric and Argument II

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Regional Editor (Houston), *Texas Books in Review*, 2009-Present

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Multidisciplinary Mentorship Program, 2019-2020
English Department Assessment Committee, 2017-
English Department Hiring Committee, 2006; 2008; 2012; 2013; 2018
Faculty Senate Delegate, 2009-2010

Title V Faculty Leadership Program Committee, HCCS, 2007-2009
Literature Subcommittee, HCCS, 2004-2006
Retention Committee, HCC-Southwest, 2004-2005
Dual Credit Committee, HCC-Southwest, 2003-2004
Graduate English Society Executive Council, UH: Co-President, 2002-2003
Graduate Committee (Graduate Student Representative), UH, 2001-2002
Lower-Division Committee (Graduate Student Representative), UH, 2000-2001

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

Two Year College English Association, 2007
South Central Modern Language Association, 2005
National Council of Teachers of English, 2001
Conference on College Composition and Communication, 2001