

Robert Hughes

e-mail: hughes.1021@osu.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Comparative Literature. Emory University; Atlanta, Georgia, 2003
Contemporary continental aesthetics, nineteenth-century American literature, psychoanalysis
M.A. English and American Literature. University of Missouri, Columbia, 1993
B.A. (cum laude) English major. University of Tulsa; Tulsa, Oklahoma, 1990

FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

2011—present. The Ohio State University. Associate Professor of English (with tenure)
2016—present. The Ohio State University – Newark. Coordinator of the English Area
2013—present. The Ohio State University. Department of Comparative Studies (affiliated faculty)
2005-2011. The Ohio State University. Assistant Professor of English (tenure-track)
2002-2005. Augusta State University, Georgia. Assistant Professor of English (tenure-track)
2001-2002. Georgia College, Milledgeville. Visiting Assistant Professor of English
2000-2001. Tartu University, Estonia. Visiting Lecturer in English

PUBLISHED BOOKS

Ethics, Aesthetics, and the Beyond of Language. Albany, New York: State University of New York Press, 2010. This monograph examines three works of early American fiction—Charles Brockden Brown's *Wieland*, Washington Irving's "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," and Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Marble Faun*—as they bring the resources of literary writing to bear on the fundamental difficulties of thinking about ethics. Each narrative, as is shown, dramatizes an ethical imperative to bear witness, an obligation to put an overwhelming or enigmatic event properly into language. Through these literary readings, and through readings of the theoretical work of Jacques Lacan, Martin Heidegger, Emmanuel Levinas, and Alain Badiou, this project shows how literature works from the incomprehensible, the unknown, or the unconscious to open up a part of ethics that has resisted traditional philosophy.

After Lacan: Clinical Practice and the Subject of the Unconscious. By Willy Apollon, Danielle Bergeron, and Lucie Cantin. Edited and introduced by Robert Hughes and Kareen Ror Malone. Albany, New York: State University of New York Press, 2002. *The Journal for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society* called this "an important book that must interest anyone concerned with the practical import of Lacan's work, but also anyone drawn to Lacanian theory." The Division of Psychoanalysis of the American Psychological Association writes "If *After Lacan* had simply explicated Lacanian concepts and animated them with clinical vignettes, it would have accomplished a great deal. But clearly this volume is more than that. It reshapes the psychoanalytic landscape..."

WORK IN PROGRESS

Rip Unsettled: Reflecting on the Uncanny with Heidegger, Lacan, Nancy, and Van Winkle. This book takes Washington Irving's classic tale, "Rip Van Winkle," as an occasion to meditate on theories of the uncanny, from Sigmund Freud to Martin Heidegger to Jacques Lacan to Jean-Luc Nancy. The book develops its philosophical sources to describe an uncanny disconcertion of the subject as a fundamental feature of the event of art more generally, but it keeps Irving's tale at the heart of its exposition, also making occasional excursions through other nineteenth-century appearances of Rip Van Winkle in Joseph Jefferson's theatrical script, in John Quidor's paintings, and in Herman Melville's ruminative poem "Rip Van Winkle's Lilac."

Badiou and the Event of Art. This book proposes to examine the philosophy of art and aesthetics proposed by the contemporary French thinker, Alain Badiou. It claims importance as a contribution to the new aesthetic turn in theory and criticism and, within the narrow field of Badiou studies, as an argument for more precisely locating the event of art not with the object, but within the aesthetic subject, which is to say, the body as host for the work of art, language, and the real.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

- "Rancière's Winckelmann: The Mutilated Statue, the Place of History, and the Logic of Betweenitude." [9900-word article complete and accepted by collection editors; collection under review by press.]
- "Bernard Stiegler, Philosophical Amateur, or, Individuation from Éros to Philía." *Diacritics: A Review of Contemporary Criticism* 42.1 (Nov 2014): 46-67.
- "An Introduction to the Aesthetics of Jean-Luc Nancy (with Reflections on Estonian Landscape Images)." *Kunstiteaduslikke Uurimusi / Studies on Art and Architecture* 22.1-2 (June 2013): 183-197.
- "Riven: Badiou's Ethical Subject and the Event of Art as Trauma." *Postmodern Culture* 17.3 (May 2007). On-line. <http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/postmodern_culture/toc/pmc17.3.html>
Response by Arkady Plotnitsky: "Badiou's Equations—and Inequalities: A Response to Robert Hughes's 'Riven.'" *Postmodern Culture* 17.3 (May 2007).
<http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/postmodern_culture/toc/pmc17.3.html>
- "Sleepy Hollow: Fearful Pleasures and the Nightmare of History." *Arizona Quarterly* 61.3 (Fall 2005): 1-26.
Reprinted in *Short Story Criticism*. Ed. Jelena Krstović. Vol 104. Detroit: Thomson Gale, 2008. 351-363.
Reprinted in *Nineteenth-Century Literature Criticism*. Ed. Kathy Darrow. Vol. 242. Detroit: Thomson Gale, 2011.
Reprinted in *Washington Irving* (ebook). Ed. Harold Bloom. New York: Chelsea House, 2014.
- "Teooria kui jumal: Viis küsimust kirjandusteooria tähendusest." [The Gods of Theory: Five Questions on the Use and Misuse of Literary Theory.] Trans. Marika Liivamägi. *Keel ja kirjandus* 45.10 (October 2002): 717-720.

TRANSLATIONS

- "The Goatherd." Trans. of "Der Ziegenhirt." by Otmar [Johann Karl Christoph Nachtigal]. [translation of "Rip Van Winkle" source tale, 1100 words; intended as appendix to my monograph *Rip Unsettled*]
- "On Alain Badiou's *Being and Event*." Trans. of "Jacques Rancière [Sur l'ouvrage d'Alain Badiou *L'être et l'événement*]" by Jacques Rancière. *Parrhesia: A Journal of Critical Philosophy* (forthcoming, presumably 2017).
- "The Quarrel of the Amateurs." Trans. of "La Querelle des amateurs" by Bernard Stiegler. *Boundary 2: an international journal of literature and culture* 44.1 (Feb. 2017): 35-52. [scholarly essay, 7000 words]
- "Vocabulary – English version." Trans. of "Vocabulaire" by Bernard Stiegler. *Ars Industrialis*. Association internationale pour une politique industrielle des technologies de l'esprit. <<http://www.arsindustrialis.org/vocabulary-english-version>>. Posted 2015 [4400 words altogether]:
"Pharmakon, pharmacology," "Prostheticity," "Technics of the Self,"
"Technologies of the Mind and Spirit," "Relational Technologies," "Technoscience,"
"Organology," "Hypomnemata," "Subsist, Exist, Consist," "Anamnesis, hypomnesis"
- "Programs of the Improbable, Short Circuits of the Unheard-of." Trans. of "Programmes de l'improbable, court-circuits de l'inouï" by Bernard Stiegler. *Diacritics: A Review of Contemporary Criticism* 42.1 (Nov 2014): 70-109. [scholarly essay, 19000 words]
- "Amateur." Trans. of "Amateur" by Bernard Stiegler. *Ars Industrialis*. Association internationale pour une politique industrielle des technologies de l'esprit. <<http://www.arsindustrialis.org/amateur-english-version>>. Posted 2013. [dictionary entry, 700 words]
- Brave Toomas, Hero of Old Tallinn*, by Tiia Mets. Trans. by Robert Hughes & Uku Hughes. Tallinn, Estonia: Päike ja Pilv, 2012. [Estonian children's tale, 56 pages, illustrated]

BOOK CHAPTERS, REVIEWS, INTERVIEWS, AND MINOR ARTICLES

- Rev. of *Writing beyond Prophecy: Emerson, Hawthorne, and Melville after the American Renaissance*, by Martin Kevorkian. *Resources for American Literary Study* 37 (Dec 2014): 305-309.

- "Autor õõvaorus." Interview with Anneleen Maschelein. Trans. Jaak Tomberg. *Eesti Ekspress: Sõitumatu Nädalaleht* 29.1180 (19 July 2012): 33. Online: <<http://www.ekspress.ee/news/areen/uudised/autor-oovaorus.d?id=64690188>>.
- Rev. of *Idylls of the Wanderer: Outside in Literature and Theory*, by Henry Sussman. *Modern Fiction Studies*. 56.3 (Fall 2010): 657-659.
- "Brom Bones." *Student's Encyclopedia of American Literary Characters*. Ed. Matthew J. Bruccoli and Judith S. Braughman. Volume II: G-L. New York, NY: Facts on File, 2008. 619-620.
- "Ichabod Crane." *Student's Encyclopedia of American Literary Characters*. Ed. Matthew J. Bruccoli and Judith S. Braughman. Volume II: G-L. New York, NY: Facts on File, 2008. 620-622.
- "Rip Van Winkle." *Student's Encyclopedia of American Literary Characters*. Ed. Matthew J. Bruccoli and Judith S. Braughman. Volume II: G-L. New York, NY: Facts on File, 2008. 622-623.
- "Unistades Tegelikusest." [Dreaming of Reality.] Trans. Tiina Randviir. *Keel ja kirjandus* 48.08 (August 2005). Review of *At the End of the World: Text, Motif, Culture*. Ed. Rein Undusk. Tallinn, Estonia: The Under and Tuglas Literature Centre, 2005. 66
- "Reversals of the Postmodern and the Late Soviet Simulacrum." Co-authored with Epp Annus, in *A Comparative History of the Literary Cultures of East Central Europe: Junctures and Disjunctures in the 19th and 20th Centuries*. Ed. Marcel Cornis-Pope and John Neubauer. Amsterdam and Philadelphia: John Benjamins Press, 2004. 54-65.
- "Brockden Brown, the Poetic Voice, and the Anguish of Literary Truth." *Points of Convergence: Selected Papers of the 5th International Tartu Conference on North-American Studies*. Ed. Raili Põldsaar and Krista Vogelberg. Tartu, Estonia: Tartu University Press, 2003. 57-63.
- "Introduction: The Dialectic of Theory and Clinic." Co-authored with Kareen Malone in *After Lacan: Clinical Practice and the Subject of the Unconscious*. By Willy Apollon, Danielle Bergeron, and Lucie Cantin. Edited and introduced by Robert Hughes and Kareen Malone. Albany, New York: State University of New York Press, 2002. 1-33.
- "Dream and the Structure of Perversion in Bataille's *Ma mère*." *Correspondances, courrier de l'École freudienne du Québec*. 1.3 (March 1999): 5-11.

RECENT PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- "Irigaray and the Problem of the Return Home." *International Philosophical Seminar*. Kastelruth, Alto Adige, Italy, July 2016.
- "Irigaray and the Opening to the Other." *Liinakuru kevadkool*. Visela Võrumaa, Estonia, June 2016.
- "Concerning the To-whom of Appearing in Badiou's World, Event, and Body." *Annual Conference of the American Comparative Literature Association*, Harvard University, Cambridge Massachusetts, March 2016.
- "The Body of Work and the Body of the Subject: What Badiou Really Means by the Subject of Art." *International Philosophical Seminar*. Kastelruth, Alto Adige, Italy, July 2015.
- Invited Lecture: "(There Are No) Sexual Relations." Comparative Studies 8791: Seminar in Interdisciplinary Theory: Theorizing Social Relations. Ohio State University, November 2015
- "A Badiouian Perspective on Wagner and the Art-work of the Future." *Annual Conference of the American Comparative Literature Association*, University of Washington, Seattle, March 2015
- "Rancière's Winckelmann: The Mutilated Statue, the Place of History, and the Logic of Betweenitude." *International Philosophical Seminar*. Kastelruth, Alto Adige, Italy, July 2014.
- "Rancière's Complaint: Badiou and Modernism." *Annual Conference of the American Comparative Literature Association*, New York University, New York, March 2014
- "Seminar on Stiegler's 'Quarrel of the Amateurs'" Estonian Literary Museum, Tallinn, Estonia, December 2013
- "Cixous' Stranger: On Identity and the Jouissance of Seeing." *International Philosophical Seminar*. Kastelruth, Alto Adige, Italy, July 2013.
- "On Alain Badiou's Reading of Jean-Luc Nancy." *Annual Conference of the American Comparative Literature Association*, University of Toronto, Canada, April 2013
- "Stiegler and the Future of Love." *International Philosophical Seminar*. Kastelruth, Alto Adige, Italy, July 2012.
- "On the Political Uncanny." *Annual Conference of the International Association for Philosophy and Literature*, Tallinn University, Estonia, May 2012

"Double Image: the Uncanny Body." *Annual Conference of the American Comparative Literature Association*, Brown University, Rhode Island, March 2012

"Rip Van Winkle's Uncanny Landscapes." Faculty Lecture Series. Ohio State University - Newark. February 2012

COURSES TAUGHT, Ohio State University. Standard teaching load: six courses per year

Upper division seminars. Teaching two per year. Typical class size: 15-25 students, mostly English majors
American Literature 1785-1830: Narratives. Equiano, Tyler, Foster, Brown, Irving, Cooper, Sedgwick
American Literature 1830-1865: Transcendentalism. Kant, Schiller, Coleridge, Carlyle, Emerson, Melville, Hawthorne, Longfellow
American Literature 1830-1865: the 1850s. Emerson-Schopenhauer, Hawthorne-Flaubert, Melville-Wagner, Whitman-Baudelaire
Major Author in American Literature to 1900: Nathaniel Hawthorne. The Scarlet Letter, The House of Seven Gables, The Blithedale Romance, The Marble Faun, selected tales
Contemporary American Fiction and Poetry. Toole, Pynchon, Morrison, Robinson, Auster, McCarthy, DeLillo, Chabon; Wilbur, Bishop, Ashbery, Hass, Glück, Graham, Ammons, Simic, Dove
Science Fiction Studies. Burroughs, Asimov, Lem, Strugatsky Bros, Herbert, Stephenson, Vinge
Special Topics in World Literature in English. Coetzee, Murakami, Pelevin, Pullman, Pamuk, Houellebecq, Bolaño, Satrapi
Special Topics in Literary Themes: The Moral Life of the Passions. Kant, Sade, Brown, Kleist, Schiller, Irving, Stendhal, Hegel, Hawthorne, Kierkegaard, Lermontov, Emerson, Dostoevsky, Nietzsche
Selected Topics in Literature and Literary Interpretation (Honors). Žižek, Badiou, Rancière, Agamben, Nancy, Stiegler, Cixous/Derrida
The History of Critical Theory: From Plato to Aestheticism. Plato, Aristotle, Lessing, Rousseau, Herder, Kant, Schiller, Hegel, Nietzsche, Pater
Issues in Critical Theory: Ethics and Aesthetics in Continental Thought. Benjamin, Heidegger, Merleau-Ponty, Lacan, Žižek, Blanchot, Levinas, Derrida, Foucault, Badiou
Issues in Critical Theory: Deconstruction, Literature, and Ethics. Heidegger, Blanchot, Levinas, Derrida, Lyotard, Nancy

Lower division lectures. Teaching two per year. Typical class size: 30-35 students, mostly non-majors
American Literature to 1865. Rowson, Brown, Irving, Poe, Séjour, Hawthorne, Melville, Whitman, Alcott
American Literature after 1865. Twain, Fitzgerald, Faulkner, Nabokov, Pynchon, McCarthy, DiCamilo
Thematic Approaches to Literature. Diderot, Schiller, Goethe, Balzac, Brontë, Dostoevsky, Flaubert

Composition practicums. Teaching two per year. Typical class size: 24 students, mostly non-majors
First Year Composition (Argumentation). Plato, Cicero, Aurelius, Machiavelli, Montaigne
First Year Composition (Interpretation). Homer, Plato, Bédier, Shakespeare, Racine, LaFayette
The American Experience. Atwood, Chabon, Morrison, Díaz, Robinson, Eugenides, Lahiri, Otsuka

Study Abroad:

History and Culture of Québec

Individual Studies and Honors Thesis Supervision. Often one or two per year. English majors

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Professional Training

1996-2001: Yearly Training Seminars in Lacanian Psychoanalysis, l'École freudienne du Québec

1999: Seminar on Critical Race Theory, The School of Criticism and Theory, Cornell University

1993: Goethe Institut, Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany (German language study)

Recent Organizational Service to the Profession

2016: Seminar co-organizer and co-leader (with Frances Restuccia), "Twists of the New Aesthetic Turn: Art and Subject in Contemporary Continental Thought." *Conference of the American Comparative Literature Association*, Harvard University, Cambridge MA, March 2016

2015: Seminar co-organizer and co-leader (with Gabriel Riera), "Twists of the New Aesthetic Turn: Politics and the Event of Art." *Conference of the American Comparative Literature Association*, University of Washington, Seattle, March 2015

- 2014: Seminar co-organizer and co-leader (with Charles Shepherdson), "Twists of the New Aesthetic Turn: Art – Event – Subject." *Conference of the American Comparative Literature Association*, New York University, New York City, March 2014
- 2013: Seminar co-organizer and co-leader (with John Paul Ricco), "Twists of the New Aesthetic Turn: Contemporary Continental Thought and the Sense of Place." *Conference of the American Comparative Literature Association*, University of Toronto, Canada, April 2013
- 2012: Organized Session organizer, "New Perspectives on the Uncanny." *Conference of the International Association for Philosophy and Literature*, Tallinn University, Estonia, May-June 2012
- 2010-2012: Local organizing committee, Annual Conference of the International Association for Philosophy and Literature, Tallinn University (Estonia), May-June 2012
- 2012: Seminar co-organizer and co-leader (with Karyn Ball), "Twists of the New Aesthetic Turn: Rewriting the Disaster." *Conference of the American Comparative Literature Association*, Brown University, Rhode Island, March-April 2012
- 2011: Seminar co-organizer and co-leader (with Gabriel Riera), "Twists of the New Aesthetic Turn: Between Ethics and Aesthetics." *Conference of the American Comparative Literature Association*, Vancouver, Canada, March 2011

Recent Review Service to the Profession

- 2008-present: Editorial board member for the journal, *Methis: Studia Humaniora Estonica*
- 2015: Expert Commission member: Chair in Literary Theory (search), Tartu University, Estonia
- 2015: Book manuscript reviewer (American literature and theory) for the State Univ. of New York Press
- 2014: Book prospectus reviewer (American Literature), Broadview Press
- 2014: Peer reviewer for the journal, *Journal of Baltic Studies*
- 2014: Peer reviewer for the journal, *Theory & Psychology*
- 2013: Peer reviewer for the journal, *PMLA*
- 2013: Peer reviewer for the journal, *Mosaic: a journal for the interdisciplinary study of literature*
- 2013: Peer reviewer for the journal, *Journal of Baltic Studies*
- 2013: Grant reviewer (invited), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
- 2012: Grant reviewer (invited), Calgary Institute for the Humanities, University of Calgary, Canada
- 2012: Grant reviewer (invited), Estonian Research Council
- 2012: Peer reviewer for the journal, *Narrative*
- 2011: Peer reviewer for the journal, *The Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation*
- 2011: Grant reviewer (invited), Israel Science Foundation
- 2011: Grant reviewer (invited), Humanities Research Institute, University of Illinois – Chicago

Recent Student Supervision, Ohio State University

- 2016-2017: Senior Thesis supervisor: Emily Hankinson (Passivity and violence in *Hunger Games*)
- 2015-2016: Ph.D. Dissertation committee: Perry Miller (OSU, Comp Studies) (on psychoanalysis and resistance)
- 2015-2016: Senior Thesis supervisor: Cody Maynard (on virtual reality in fiction)
- 2014: Masters Thesis outside reader: Nicola LaVey (Tartu University, Estonia) (on consumerism)
- 2014: Honors thesis reader: Jonathan Gimpel (on the third Golden Age of television)

Recent University Committee Assignments and Selected Activities, Ohio State University

- 2016-2017: Library Committee, chair, Newark campus
- 2016-2017: Search Committee, chair, Assistant Professor of French, Newark campus
- 2007-2016: Mock Interview committees for Ph.D. students in English, Columbus campus
- 2016: Promotion and Tenure service, Newark campus:
Review subcommittee for John Harper
- 2007-2015: Lacan Study Group, Humanities Institute, Ohio State University, coordinator
- 2014-2015: Library Committee, Newark campus
- 2014-2015: Secretary, Faculty Assembly, Newark campus
- 2014-2015: Executive Committee, Newark campus
- 2015: Undergraduate Essay Prize, OSU Newark, jury member
- 2015: Departmental Annual Review: Research review partner for David Ruderman
- 2015: Mentor to visiting scholar Piret Viires, Tallinn University
- 2014: Promotion and Tenure service, Newark campus:

Review subcommittee for Asuman Turkmen
Editor, Promotion & Tenure Deliberating Committee, Newark campus
2014: Peer teaching evaluation for English lecturers (Lauren Herbruck and Paul McCormick)
2012-2013: Secretary, Faculty Assembly, Newark campus
2012-2013: Executive Committee, Newark campus
2013: Teaching Excellence Award Subcommittee, Newark campus
2012: Promotion and Tenure service, Newark campus:
Peer teaching evaluation for Daniel Keller
Summarizer of student evaluations for Kate Ivanova
Review subcommittee for David Ruderman
Editor of P&T Letters
2011-2012: Mentor to visiting scholar Johanna Ross, Tartu University
2010-2012: Cultural Arts & Events Committee, Newark campus (chair)
2010-2011: Academic Affairs Committee, Newark campus

GRANTS and HONORS

2013: Grant: European Social Fund: Doctoral Studies and Internationalisation Programme DoRa 2.2
2013: Grant Award: Faculty Professional Leave, Newark campus
2013: Grant Award: Student Assistantship Grant, Ohio State University, Newark campus
2012: Winner: Teaching Excellence Award (tenured faculty), Ohio State University, Newark campus
2006-2011, 2013: Grant Awards: Student Assistantship Grant, Ohio State University, Newark campus
2010: Grant Award: Scholarly Activities Grant, Newark campus
2009: Grant Award: Scholarly Activities Grant, Newark campus
2008: Special Research Assignment (one-term, two-course teaching reduction), Ohio State University
2006: Nominee: Teaching Excellence Award, Ohio State University, Newark campus
2005: Most Valuable Professor Award, Student Ambassador Board, Augusta State University
2003: Grant Award: Faculty Research and Development Grant, Augusta State University
2001-2002: Grant Award: "Narrative, Time, and the Body," Estonian Foundation of Sciences
1999-2000: Distinguished Teaching Award, Comparative Literature, Emory University
1999: Grant Award, School of Criticism and Theory, Cornell University
1998: Comparative Literature Dissertation Fellowship, Emory University

LANGUAGES

English: Native speaker; home language
Estonian: Reading fluency; home language; published literary translator
French: Reading fluency; published scholarly translator
German: Reading ability

REFERENCES

Professor Cathy Caruth: Department of English, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853 U.S.A. Tel: +1 (607) 255-9308. E-mail: cc694@cornell.edu
Professor Charles Shepherdson: Department of English, State University of New York, Albany, NY 12222 U.S.A. Tel: +1 (518) 442-4056. E-mail: shepherd@albany.edu
Professor Todd McGowan: Department of English, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405 U.S.A. Tel: +1 (802) 656-0352. E-mail: Todd.McGowan@uvm.edu