

## **John T. Matthews**

English Department  
236 Bay State Road  
Boston, MA 02215  
617-358-2555  
[jtmattws@bu.edu](mailto:jtmattws@bu.edu)

### ***Curriculum Vitae***

January, 2015

#### ***Education***

B.A., English Literature, University of Pennsylvania, 1971  
M.A., English and American Literature, The Johns Hopkins University, 1974  
Ph.D., English and American Literature, The Johns Hopkins University, 1976

#### ***Employment***

Instructor, Department of English, Boston University, 1975-76  
Assistant Professor, Department of English, Boston University, 1976-84  
Associate Professor, Department of English, Boston University, 1984-93  
Professor, Department of English, Boston University, 1993-

#### ***Grants and Professional Honors***

##### *Research:*

Seed Grant Award, Graduate School of the College of Arts and Sciences,  
Boston University, 1982  
National Endowment for the Humanities, Senior Fellowship for Independent  
Research, 1984-85  
National Endowment for the Humanities, Senior Fellowship for Independent  
Research, 1995-96  
College of Arts and Sciences, Humanities Foundation, Boston University,  
Society of Fellows Senior Fellow, 2002-03, 2004-05  
College of Arts and Sciences, Humanities Foundation, Jeffrey Henderson  
Senior Research Fellowship, 2006-07  
College of Arts and Sciences, Humanities Foundation, Jeffrey Henderson  
Senior Research Fellowship, 2014-15

##### *Teaching:*

College of Arts and Sciences, Boston University, Dean's Council Award for  
Teaching, 2001  
College of Arts and Sciences Honors Program, Boston University  
Teacher of the Year, 2004  
Metcalf Award for Excellence in Teaching, Boston University, 2006

- J. William Fulbright Lectureship in American Studies. The Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic, Department of Anglophone Literatures and Cultures, 2010-11
- Nominee, 2016 Robert Foster Cherry Award for Great Teaching (national award sponsored by Baylor University)
- Nominee, 2016 Geoffrey Marshall Graduate Mentoring Award, Northeastern Association of Graduate Schools

### **Professional Service**

- Founding Co-Editor, *The Faulkner Journal*, 1984-89; Editor, 1989-1994; Associate Advisory Editor, 1994-
- Editorial Advisory Boards: *Arizona Quarterly*, *Modern Fiction Studies*, *Etudes Faulknériennes*, *Mississippi Quarterly*, *Ostrava Journal of English Philology* (Czech Republic)
- Co-Chair, American Literature Seminar, Harvard University Center for Literary and Cultural Studies  
1989-1990 (with Sacvan Bercovitch)  
1990-1991 (with Lawrence Buell)
- The Faulkner Society, Vice President (2003-2006); President (2006-2009)  
Society for the Study of Southern Literature, Executive Council (2011-2014); President (2014-2016)

### **Publications**

#### Books

- The Play of Faulkner's Language*. Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Press, 1982.
- The Sound and the Fury: Faulkner and the Lost Cause*. Boston: G.K. Hall, 1991.
- William Faulkner: Seeing Through the South*. London: Wiley-Blackwell, 2009.
- The Blackwell Companion to the Modern American Novel, 1900-1950* (Editor). London: Wiley-Blackwell, 2009.
- William Faulkner in Context* (Editor). New York: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2015.
- The New Cambridge Companion to William Faulkner* (Editor). New York: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2015.

#### Articles and Chapters

- "The Marriage of Speaking and Hearing in *Absalom, Absalom!*," *ELH* 47 (Fall 1980): 575-594.
- "The Word as Scandal: Updike's *A Month of Sundays*," *Arizona Quarterly* 39 (Winter 1983): 351-380.

- "The Elliptical Nature of *Sanctuary*," *Novel* 17 (Spring 1984): 246-265.
- "Framing in *Wuthering Heights*," *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* 27 (Spring 1985): 25-61.
- "Intertextuality and Originality: Hawthorne, Faulkner, and Updike," *Faulkner and Intertextuality*. Eds. Noel Polk and Michel Gresset. Jackson, MS: University of Mississippi Press, 1985: 144-157.
- "Faulkner and the Reproduction of History," *Faulkner and History*. Eds. Michel Gresset and Javier Coy. Salamanca, Spain: University of Salamanca Press, 1986: 63-76.
- "Intertextual Frameworks: The Ideology of Parody in John Barth," *Essays on Intertextuality and Contemporary American Literature*. Eds. Robert Con Davis and Patrick O'Donnell. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1989: 35-57.
- "The Rhetoric of Containment in Faulkner," *Faulkner's Discourse*. Ed. Lothar Honnighausen. Tübingen: Neimeyer, 1989: 55-67.
- "Faulkner's Narrative Frames," *Faulkner and the Craft of Fiction*. Eds. Doreen Fowler and Ann Abadie. Jackson, MS: University of Mississippi Press, 1989: 71-91.
- "The Autograph of Violence in *Pylon*," *Southern Literature and Literary Theory*. Ed. Jefferson Humphries. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 1990: 247-269.
- "As I Lay Dying in the Machine Age," *boundary 2*. 19 (Spring 1992): 69-94.
- "Shortened Stories: Faulkner and the Market." *Faulkner and the Short Story*. Eds. Doreen Fowler and Ann Abadie. Jackson, MS: University of Mississippi Press, 1992: 3-37.
- "Gentlemen Defer Blondes: Faulkner, Anita Loos, and Mass Culture." *Faulkner and His Contemporaries, and His Posterity*. Ed. W. Zacharasiewicz. Tübingen: Neimeyer, 1993: 207-221.
- "The Sacrifice of History in the New Criticism of Cleanth Brooks." *Rewriting the South: History and Fiction*. Eds. Lothar Honnighausen and Valeria Gennaro Lerda. Tübingen and Basel: Francke Verlag, 1993: 210-18.
- "Faulkner and the Culture Industry." *A Companion to William Faulkner*. Ed. Philip Weinstein. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1995: 51-74.
- "Teaching *The Sound and the Fury* after Post-Structuralism: Text and Contexts." *PMLA Guide to Teaching The Sound and the Fury*. Eds. Arthur Kinney and Stephen Hahn. New York: Modern Language Association, 1996: 122-27.
- "Touching Race in *Go Down, Moses*." *New Essays on Go Down, Moses*. Ed. Linda Wagner-Martin. New York: Cambridge University Press,

1996: 21-48.

- "Faulkner and Proletarian Literature." *Faulkner in Cultural Context*. Eds. Donald M. Kartiganer and Ann J. Abadie. Jackson, MS: University Press of Mississippi, 1997: 166-190.
- "The Scene of Faulkner's Birth into Fiction." *Études Faulknériennes II: Naissances de Faulkner*. Presses Universitaires de Rennes, 2000: 23-27.
- "Whose America? Faulkner, Modernism, and National Identity." *Faulkner at 100*. Eds. Donald M. Kartiganer and Ann J. Abadie. Jackson, MS: University Press of Mississippi, 2000: 70-92.
- "Dialect and Modernism in *The Sound and the Fury*." *William Faulkner in Venice*. Eds. Rosella Mamoli Zorzi and Pia Masiero Marcolin. Marsilio Editori, 2000: 129-140.
- "This Race Which is Not One: The 'More Inextricable Compositeness' of Faulkner's South." In *Look Away! The U.S. South in New World Studies*. Eds. Jon Smith and Deborah Cohn. Duke UP, 2004: 201-226.
- "Recalling the West Indies: From Yoknapatawpha to Haiti and Back." *American Literary History*, 16.2 (Summer 2004): 238-262.
- "Faulkner and Post-colonial Studies." *Journal of Sichuan International Studies University*, 20.5 (September, 2004): 8-12. (In Chinese)
- "American Writing of the Great War." In *Cambridge Companion to Writing of the Great War*. Ed. Vincent P. Sherry. New York, 2005: 217-242.
- "Trashing Modernism: Erskine Caldwell on the Southern Poor." In *Reading Southern Poverty Between the Wars: 1918-1939*. Eds. Richard Godden and Martin Crawford. U Georgia P, 2006.
- "Globalizing the U.S. South: Modernity and Modernism." *American Literature*. Special Issue. *Global Contexts, Local Literatures: The New Southern Studies*. December, 2006: 719-722.
- "Many Mansions: Faulkner's Cold War Conflicts." In *Global Faulkner: Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha 2006*. Eds. Donald Kartiganer and Annette Treftzter. U Mississippi Press, 2009: 3-23.
- "What Was High About Modernism?" In *The Blackwell Companion to The Modern American Novel, 1900-1950*. Ed. John T. Matthews. Blackwell Publishing, 2009: 282-305.
- "Modern Southern Fiction." Co-Author, with Lisa Hinrichsen. In *Twentieth Century American Fiction*. Ed. Patrick O'Donnell. Wiley-Blackwell, 2010.
- "As I Lay Dying: Approaching the Post-Colonial." In *MLA Approaches to Teaching As I Lay Dying*. Eds. Patrick O'Donnell and Linda Zwyrger. Modern Language Association Press, 2011: 158-171.
- "Southern Literary Studies." In *A Companion to American Literary Studies*.

Editors Caroline F. Levander and Robert Levine. Wiley-Blackwell, 2011: 294-309.

"Willa Cather and the Burden of Southern History." *Philological Quarterly* Spring & Summer 2011 (90:2-3): 137-165. [published 2012]

"The Southern renaissance and the Faulknerian South," in *The Cambridge Companion to the Literature of the US South*. Ed. Sharon Monteith. Cambridge University Press, 2013: 116-131.

"Fetish." In *Critical Terms for Southern Studies*. Eds. Scott Romine and Jennifer Greeson. University of Georgia Press, forthcoming 2015.

"The Cage of Gender." In *William Faulkner in Context*. Ed. John T. Matthews. Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2015.

"Replay: William Faulkner and the Civil War." In *The Cambridge History of Civil War Literature*. Ed. Coleman Hutchison. Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2015.

#### Reprints

"The Discovery of Loss [in *The Sound and the Fury*]." The Norton Critical Edition of *The Sound and the Fury*. Ed. David Minter. New York: Norton, 1987; second edition, 1994: 370-393. Rpt. of portions of *The Play of Faulkner's Language*.

"Modernisation et modernisme: Faulkner et l'ère de la machine." Trans. N. Moulinoux and A. Bleikasten. *Europe*. Nos. 753-754 (January-February 1992): 57-68.

"As I Lay Dying in the Machine Age," in *National Identities and Post-Americanist Narratives*. Ed. Donald A. Pease. Duke University Press, 1994: 69-94.

"Framing in *Wuthering Heights*." *Wuthering Heights: A Casebook*. Ed. Patsy Stoneman. London: Macmillan, 1993: 54-73.

#### Works in Progress

*Hidden in Plain Sight: The Problem of the South in the American Imagination*

#### Reviews

Reviews for *American Literature*, *Novel*, *Modern Fiction Studies*, other journals.

#### Selected Papers and Presentations

"Writing as Reading: The Constructions of a Scarlet Letter," Semiotic Society of America. Vanderbilt University. Nashville, 1981.

"Intertextuality and Originality: Hawthorne, Faulkner, and Updike." International Faulkner Colloquium. Paris, 1982.

- "Ariadne's Tread: Writing Between the Lines." Modern Language Association. Los Angeles, 1982.
- "The Elliptical Nature of *Sanctuary*." Invited lecture at University of California, Irvine (1983), and University of Arizona (1984).
- "Faulkner and the Reproduction of History." Faulkner and History Colloquium. Salamanca, Spain, 1984.
- "J. Hillis Miller, Barbara Johnson, and Narrative Frames." Conference on Contemporary Genre Theory and the Yale School. University of Oklahoma, 1984.
- "The 'Autograph of Violence' in *Pylon*." Modern Language Association. Chicago, 1985.
- "Frames for Parody in John Barth." Modern Language Association. New York, 1985.
- "The Rhetoric of Containment in Faulkner." International Faulkner Colloquium. Bonn, 1987.
- "Faulkner' Narrative Frames." Faulkner and the Craft of Fiction Conference. Oxford, MS, 1987.
- "Up Against Theory: New Historicism and American Literary Studies." Modern Language Association. New Orleans, 1989.
- "Shortened Stories: Faulkner and the Market." Faulkner and the Short Story Conference. Oxford, MS, 1990.
- "Gentlemen Defer Blondes: Faulkner, Anita Loos, and Mass Culture." International Faulkner Symposium. Vienna, 1991.
- "The Sacrifice of History in the New Criticism of Cleanth Brooks." Symposium on Southern Literature and History. Bonn, 1991.
- "Faulkner, Modernism, and the Discourse of Racism in *Intruder in the Dust*." Faulkner and Europe Colloquium. University of Rennes. October, 1994.
- "Faulkner's Short Stories and New Deal Interference." Conference on Faulkner's Short Fiction. Oslo, 1995.
- "Faulkner and Proletarian Literature." Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference. Oxford, MS. August, 1995.
- "The Commerce in Culture: Erskine Caldwell's Short Stories." American Literature Association Symposium. Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. November, 1996.
- "Modernism and Faulkner in Modern Culture." Modern Language Association Annual Conference. Panel: Faulkner at 100. Washington, D.C. December, 1996.

- "Whose America? Faulkner, Modernism, and National Identity." Plenary address at Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Centennial Conference. Oxford, MS. August, 1997.
- "Birth into Fiction: Faulkner and Horace Liveright." Faulkner Centennial Symposium. Rennes and Paris. September, 1997.
- "Faulkner, Dialect, and Modernism." Faulkner Centenary International Conference. Venice. November, 1997.
- "Raising Southern *Cane*: Jean Toomer and the Cultural Reproduction of the Past." Modernist Studies Association Conference. Pennsylvania State University. October, 1999.
- "Surely This is Not the End': Raising the South in *The Souls of Black Folk* and *Cane*." Modern Language Association Annual Conference. Chicago, IL. December, 1999.
- "Faulkner After His Century: Nostalgia for the Future." Society for the Study of Southern Literature Conference. Central Florida State University. Orlando, FL. April, 2000.
- "Trashing Modernism: Erskine Caldwell on the Southern Poor." Conference on "Writing Southern Poverty Between the Wars." David Bruce Centre for American Studies, University of Keele, UK. September, 2000.
- "The 'More Inextricable Compositeness' of Faulkner's South." Modern Language Association Annual Conference. Washington, D.C. December, 2000.
- "Faulkner and Illegitimacy." American Literature Association Conference. Cambridge, MA. May, 2001.
- "Recalling the West Indies: From Yoknapatawpha to Haiti and Back." Plenary address. Joint Conference of the Society for the Study of Southern Literature and the American Literature Association. Puerto Vallarta. December 2002.
- "Faulkner and the Style of Fetish." Modern Language Association Conference. New York. December, 2002.
- "Faulkner's New World Baroque." International American Studies Association, Inaugural Conference. Leyden. May, 2003.
- "Reviving the Plantation." Southern Studies Forum, European American Studies Association. Thessaloniki. October, 2003.
- "The Global South: The Problem of Faulkner." U. S. South in Global Contexts: A Symposium. Oxford MS. February, 2004.
- "Post-Colonial Studies and the U.S. South." Keynote address. Southern Intellectual History Circle. Charleston, SC. March, 2004.
- "Faulkner and the 1930s," Moderator's Response, Special Session

William Faulkner Society Panel, Modern Language Association,  
Philadelphia, PA. December, 2004.

- "Modern Southern Fiction and the Post-Colonial South,"  
US South and Global Studies Conference. Chapel Hill, NC.  
April, 2005.
- "Liquid Capital: The Unspeakable Economies of Agrarian Ideology."  
Modern Language Association Conference. December, 2005.
- "Cultural Fetishism and the Problem of the South in American Imagination."  
Invited talk. University of North Carolina at Greensboro.  
February, 2006.
- "Many Mansions: Faulkner's Cold War Conflicts." Plenary paper.  
Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference. Oxford, MS. July, 2006.
- "Southern Discomfort: The Problem of the South in American Literature."  
John D. M. Brown Memorial Lecture, Muhlenberg College. March, 2007.
- Roundtable on the New Southern Studies and the New Modernist Studies.  
Modernist Studies Association. Long Beach, CA.  
November, 2007.
- "Look Away, Look Awry: The Problem of the South in the American  
Imagination." Modernism Seminar: Humanities Center at Harvard.  
February, 2008.
- Roundtable on Heterogeneous Modernisms. Modernist Studies Association.  
Nashville, TN. November, 2008.
- "My Mother is a Fetish: Death, Disavowal, and Segregation in Faulkner's South."  
Modern Language Association Conference. Society for the Study of  
Southern Literature session. Respondent: Hortense Spillers.  
San Francisco, 2008.
- "Look Away, Look Awry: The Problem of the South in the American Imagination."  
Modernist Studies Association, Seminar in Plantation Modernism  
Montreal. November, 2009.
- "Post-Plantation Modernism." Modern Language Association. Special Session on  
American Plantation Fiction in Transatlantic Contexts. December, 2009.
- "An End to Southern Studies?" Society for the Study of Southern Literature  
Conference. New Orleans, LA. April, 2010.
- "The US South and Modern American Fiction." Talk and seminar.  
Department of English, University of Ostrava (CR). October, 2010
- "The Problem of the South in American Literature." Invited talk.  
American Studies Conference of the Czech Republic. Palacky University,  
Olomouc (CR). November, 2010.
- "The Problem of the US South in American Literature."



Invited talks at University of Pardubice, Pardubice (Czech Republic), Department of English (May, 2011); Masaryk University, Brno (CR), Department of English (May, 2011); Charles University, Prague (CR), Department of Anglophone Literatures and Cultures (May, 2011).

"Teaching in the Czech Republic."

Presentations at Czech Republic and Slovakia Fulbright Conference, Trencianske Teplice, Slovakia (January, 2011). European Fulbright Conference, Berlin, Germany (March, 2011).

"The Moveable South: Plantation Memory in Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*." Southern Studies Forum Conference. Santiago de Compostela, Spain. September, 2011.

"Faulkner and the Modern Plantation: Faulkner to Film in the Fifties."

Plenary keynote address. Faulkner in the Media Ecology Conference. Sydney, Australia. November, 2011.

"The Problem of the South in US Literature."

Presentation and seminar on my research for the Centre for Modernism Studies at the University of New South Wales and the University of Sydney. Sydney, Australia. November, 2011.

"Faulkner to Film in the Fifties"

Invited lecture. Co-sponsored by University of British Columbia and Simon Fraser University. Vancouver, British Columbia. January, 2012.

Invited keynote lecture. "Remembering Faulkner at West Point." (50th anniversary celebration of Faulkner's visit). US Military Academy. West Point, NY. April, 2012.

Invited keynote address. The William Faulkner Society of Japan Conference Commemorating the Fiftieth Anniversary of Faulkner's Death. Nagoya City, Japan. October, 2012.

Seminar in American Literature and Culture. Mahindra Center for the Humanities, Harvard University. April, 2013.

Invited lecture. Sewanee, The University of the South. October, 2013.

"A Turn in The Road: Cutting Southern History in Hillcoat's Adaptation of McCarthy"

Society for the Study of Southern Literature Conference. Nashville, TN. March, 2012

"Hollywood Modernism: Faulkner to Film in the Fifties."

Modernist Studies Association Conference. Las Vegas, Nevada. October, 2012.

"Margins of the Cold War: Plantation History in Cormac McCarthy."

American Studies Association Conference. San Juan, Puerto Rico. November, 2012.

"Other Faulkners, Other Souths." Roundtable at the Society for the Study of Southern Literature Conference. Arlington, VA. March, 2014.

"Hidden in Plain Sight: Representing the South in US Literature." Invited lecture.  
University of Richmond. October, 2014.

**Courses**

## Introductory

Freshman and Intermediate Composition  
Literary Types: Fiction  
Readings in Modern Literature  
Special Topics in American Literature

## Advanced Undergraduate

Faulkner  
Frame Narratives  
Proseminar in Literary Study  
Survey of British Literature II  
Modern American Novel 1900-1950  
Literature of the American South  
History and Literature of the U.S. South  
(team-taught with Prof. Nina Silber, History)  
Literature in History/History in Literature  
(team-taught with Prof. Nina Silber, History)  
History of Literary Criticism, Semester II (Contemporary Literary Theory)  
Modernism and Modernity: History and Literature Between the World Wars  
(team-taught with Prof. Nina Silber, History)

## Graduate Seminars

Faulkner  
Faulkner and Modernism  
Faulkner and Southern Literature  
Recent Critical Theory  
Introduction to Literary Theory (team-taught)  
Methods of Teaching Composition  
Framing Fiction  
American Fiction of the 1930s  
Harlem Renaissance/Southern Renaissance  
Proletarian Fiction  
The Harlem Renaissance  
The South in Modern American Literature  
Literature of the South and U.S. Empire  
Faulkner and the Global South  
The US South in Global Context (with Prof. Nina Silber, History)  
The Problem of the South in US Literature  
Modern American Fiction and the US South

**University Service**

## University

University Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2005-06

## College

Acting Director, The Humanities Foundation, 1985-86  
Humanities Curriculum Review Committee, 1985-88; 2003-04  
Search Committees: History, American Studies, Associate Dean  
Appointments, Promotion, and Tenure Committee Chair, 1987-88  
Admissions Committee, American Studies, 1982-83, 1985-86  
American and New England Studies Program, Steering Committee, 1998-99;  
2002-3  
Search Committee for Chairperson of English; Chair, 1988-89  
Graduate School Presidential University Fellowship Committee, 1990-93  
Academic Policy Committee, 2004-2006 (Chair, 2005-06)

## Department

Search Committees: Senior Americanist; Junior Appointments  
Associate Director, Freshman-Sophomore Literature and  
Composition Program, 1981-84; 1985-86  
American Studies Liaison Committee, 1981-93  
Honors Committee, 1980-84  
Undergraduate Studies Committee, 1980-81  
Appointments Committee, 1977-78  
Freshman-Sophomore Literature Committee, 1976-86; 1990-93  
Merit and Equity Advisory Committee, 1987, 1988  
Graduate Studies Committee, 1988-91; 1993-2003; 2004-2006  
Acting Director of Graduate Studies, 2000-2001  
Curriculum Review Committee, 2007-2008 (Chair)  
Associate Chair, 2008-10, 2011-12

**References**

Professor William Carroll  
Department of English  
Boston University  
236 Bay State Road  
Boston, MA 02215

Professor James Winn  
Department of English  
Boston University  
236 Bay State Road  
Boston, MA 02215

Professor Nina Silber  
Department of History  
Boston University  
226 Bay State Road  
Boston, MA 02215

Professor Richard Godden  
Department of English  
University of California at Irvine  
435 Humanities Instructional Building  
Irvine CA 92697-2650

Professor Philip Weinstein  
Department of English Literature  
Lang Performing Arts Center  
Room 202  
Swarthmore College  
500 College Avenue  
Swarthmore, PA 19081-1397

Professor Patrick O'Donnell  
Department of English  
201 Morrill Hall  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, MI 48824