

William Hunting Howell

Curriculum Vitae

Department of English, Boston University
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Associate Professor, Department of English, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, 2016-present

Assistant Professor, Department of English, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, 2009-2016

Postdoctoral Fellow and Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of English and Center for Material Culture Studies, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware, 2008-2009

Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 2006-2008

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of English, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, 2005-2006

EDUCATION

Ph.D. (English) Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, 2005

A.B. (English) Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, 1998. *Summa cum laude* and with distinction in all subjects

MONOGRAPH

Against Self-Reliance: The Arts of Dependence in the Early United States. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2015

- Reviewed in *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Journal of American History*, *Modern Philology*, *Choice*, *Eighteenth-Century Fiction*, *Early American Literature*, *Journal of the Early Republic*, *American Literary History*

EDITION

With Megan E. Walsh, co-editor. Frank J. Webb, *The Garies and Their Friends* (1857). Peterborough, Ontario: Broadview Press, 2016

EDITED VOLUME

With Greta LaFleur, co-editor. *Nineteenth-Century American Literature in Transition, Volume I: 1770-1826*. Under Contract, Cambridge University Press, 2021.

REFEREED ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

“In the Realms of Sensibility” (Review Essay). *American Literary History* 25.2 (Summer 2013): 406-417

“‘Starving Memory’: Anti-Narrating the American Revolution.” *Remembering the Revolution: Memory, History, and Nation-Making from Independence to the Civil War*, edited by Michael McDonnell, Claire Courbould, Frances Clarke, and W. Fitzhugh Brundage, 93-109. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 2013

“Entering the Lists: The Politics of Ephemera in Eastern Massachusetts, 1774.” *Early American Studies* 9.1 (Winter 2011): 187-217

“Read, Pause, and Reflect!!” *Journal of the Early Republic* 30.2 (Summer 2010): 293-300

“Spirits of Emulation: Readers, Samplers, and the Republican Girl, 1787-1810.” *American Literature* 81.3 (September 2009): 497-526

“A More Perfect Copy: David Rittenhouse and the Reproduction of Republican Virtue.” *The William & Mary Quarterly*, 3d Series, Vol. LXIV, No. 4 (October 2007): 757-790

INVITED CONTRIBUTIONS

“Constantia (1751)” *Cambridge Guide to the Eighteenth-Century Novel, 1660-1820* edited by April London. Forthcoming, Cambridge University Press

“Ephemera.” *Oxford History of Popular Print Culture, Volume 5: U. S. Popular Print Culture to 1860*, edited by Ronald Zboray and Mary Zboray. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019

“The Pennsylvania Committee of Correspondence and the War at Home.” *Uncommon Sense*, “Doing History” series (26 September 2017). Full text available at <https://blog.oieahc.wm.edu/committee-correspondence-war-home/>

“Still a Prologue?: The Stamp Act Crisis at 250.” *Common-place* 16.1 (Fall 2015). Full text available at <http://common-place.org/book/still-a-prologue-the-stamp-act-protests-at-250/>

“David Rittenhouse.” *Encyclopedia of the American Enlightenment*, edited by Mark G. Spencer. New York and London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2014

“Deep Background: *The Walking Dead*.” *Avidly / Los Angeles Review of Books* (29 October 2013). Full text available at <http://www.avidly.org/2013/10/29/deep-background-the-walking-dead/>

“Starving Memory: Joseph Plumb Martin Un-tells the Story of the American Revolution.” *Common-place* 10.2 (Winter 2010). Full text available at <http://www.common-place.org/vol-10/no-02/howell/>

BOOK REVIEWS

Christopher Apap, *The Genius of Place* and Gerald Kennedy, *Strange Nation*. Forthcoming, *Journal of the Early Republic*

Colin Wells, *Poetry Wars: Verse and Politics in the American Revolution and Early Republic*. *Modern Language Review* 114.3 (July 2019), 553-554.

Patrick Spero and Michael Zuckerman, eds., *The American Revolution Reborn*. *Journal of American History* 104:4 (March 2018), 1005-1006.

Ellen Gruber Garvey, *Writing With Scissors: American Scrapbooks From the Civil War to the Harlem Renaissance*. *Resources for American Literary Study* 37 (December 2014): 327-331

Christopher Lukasik, *Discerning Characters: The Culture of Appearance in Early America*. *Winterthur Portfolio* 46.4 (Winter 2012): 302-303

Konstantin Dierks, *In My Power: Letter Writing and Communications in Early America*. *Common-place* 11.3.5 (June 2011). Full text available at <http://www.common-place.org/interim/reviews/howell.shtml>

Trish Loughran, *The Republic in Print: Print Culture in the Age of U.S. Nation Building, 1770-1870*. *Journal of the Early Republic* 28.3 (Fall 2008): 497-500

Bryan Waterman, *Republic of Intellect: The Friendly Club of New York City and the Making of American Literature*. *The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* 105.3 (Summer 2007): 484-486

ACADEMIC HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Junior Faculty Fellowship, Boston University Center for the Humanities, 2013-2014

NeMLA Research Fellowship (joint with Megan E. Walsh, St. Bonaventure University),
American Antiquarian Society, 2013

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Department of English and Center for Material Culture Studies,
University of Delaware, 2008-2009

Research Associate, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of
Pennsylvania, 2008

Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship, McNeil Center for Early American Studies,
University of Pennsylvania, 2006-2008

Jean H. Hagstrum Prize for Best Doctoral Dissertation, Department of English,
Northwestern University, 2006

Josephine De Kármán Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, 2004-2005

Winterthur Fellowship, Winterthur Museum, Garden, and Library, 2004

John C. Slater Resident Research Fellowship, American Philosophical Society, 2004

Dissertation Year Fellowship, Northwestern University, 2004-2005 (declined)

Graduate Research Fellowship, Northwestern University, 2003-2004

Teacher-Mentor Award, Department of English, Northwestern University, 2003

TriQuarterly Fellowship, Department of English, Northwestern University, 2002-2003

Karin Strand Prize for Best Graduate Student Essay, Department of English,
Northwestern University, 2001

Moses Coit Tyler Prize for Best Essay in American Literature, History, or Folklore,
Cornell University, 1998

INVITED TALKS

Roundtable: "Celebrating Daniel K. Richter," Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston,
Massachusetts, 12 May 2020

Roundtable, "Provost Mentor Fellows Program," Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, 8 October 2019

"Confessions of Reader B: Academic Publishing from the Other Side," Department of History, University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire, 19 April 2019

Roundtable: "Global Citizenship/Individual in Community." Boston University Hub and Pub Series, Boston, Massachusetts, 1 November 2018

Roundtable: "Teaching in the Era of Trump." Boston University English Graduate Student Colloquium, Boston, Massachusetts, 15 February 2018

"The Example of Anthony Burns: Poetic Form and the Abolitionist Cause, Summer 1854." St. Bonaventure University, Olean, New York, 18 October 2017

"The Occasion of Anthony Burns." American Literature and Culture Seminar, Mahindra Center for the Humanities, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 23 March 2016

"Roundtable: Digital Humanities @ Work." Digital Humanities @ Boston University Symposium, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, 2 October 2015

"Unconventional Approaches." New England American Studies Association Pedagogy Colloquium, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, 26 September 2015

"The Wheatley-Dartmouth Correspondence and the Problem of Revolutionary Boston." Guest Lecture for American Studies 202 (Professor Daniel Bluestone), Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, 16 March 2015 and 16 March 2016

"The Cultivated Riot." Tertulia/Social Sciences Junior Faculty Colloquium, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, 8 October 2014

"A Sense of Occasion." Fellows Seminar, Boston University Center for the Humanities, Boston, Massachusetts, 3 April 2014

"Editing *The Garies and Their Friends*." With Megan E. Walsh, Fellows Seminar, American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Massachusetts, 19 August 2013

Response to Elizabeth Maddock Dillon. Mahindra Humanities Center Seminar on American Literature and Culture, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 6 February 2013

"Remembering the Ladies: Phillis Wheatley, Abigail Adams, and Literary Boston." Boston University Women's Council lecture series, Boston, Massachusetts, 20 March 2012

“The Astronomic Wheatley.” Tertulia Junior Faculty Colloquium, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, 5 May 2011

“Domestic Politics: At Home with Harriet Beecher Stowe.” “House and Home in American Culture” series, American and New England Studies Program, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, 4 November 2010

“The Audacity of Form: Phillis Wheatley Scans the Heavens.” Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, 9 January 2009

“Ephemeral Loyalties: Broadside and the Politics of Subscription in Massachusetts, 1774.” Institute seminar, Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia, 26 February 2008

“The Writing on the Wall: Terror and Consensus in the American Revolution.” Ursinus College, Colledgeville, Pennsylvania, 13 November 2007

“Entering the Lists: Print and Patriotism in Revolutionary Massachusetts.” Center seminar, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 8 December 2006

“Charles Brockden Brown and the Contagion of Example.” University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont, 3 February 2006

“Celebrating the Purloined Whale.” Northwestern University English Department Annual Collation, Evanston, Illinois, 3 October 2002

PANEL ORGANIZER

(With Megan E. Walsh, St. Bonaventure University) “Roundtable: Marginalized Texts and Modern Editions,” Northeast Modern Language Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, Ontario, 30 April 2015

(With Catherine E. Kelly, University of Oklahoma) “Sensual Histories of Early America,” Society of Early Americanists Biennial Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 3 March 2011

“Roundtable: The Digital Early Republic,” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic Annual Meeting, Rochester, New York, 22 July 2010

“Fables of the Early American Belly,” International Conference on Narrative, University of Texas, Austin, Texas, 3 May 2008

“Natural Philosophy and the Early American Novel,” Society of Early Americanists and Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture Joint Meeting, College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia, 7 June 2007

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Panel Chair, “Dissenting Museums.” C19 (Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists) Annual Conference, Coral Gables, Florida, 3 April 2020

“Roundtable: Individual and Community.” Boston University Center for Teaching and Learning Eighth Annual Teaching Innovation Conference, Boston, Massachusetts, 3 May 2018

Panel Chair, “Fake News I: Hoaxes, Rumors, and Sovereignty in Colonial Spaces,” American Literature Association Annual Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts, 23 May 2017

Panel Chair and Respondent, “Early American Humor.” Society of Early Americanists and Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture Joint Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, 20 June 2015

“*The Garies* and the Canon.” For “Roundtable: Marginalized Texts and Modern Editions,” Northeast Modern Language Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, Ontario, 30 April 2015

“The Insatiable Brass Throat: Gothic Urbanity in *The Garies and Their Friends*.” American Literature Association Symposium on “Fear and Form: Aspects of the Gothic in American Culture,” Savannah, Georgia, 21 February 2013

“Thinking Digital, Thinking Analog.” For “Roundtable: The Digital Early Republic,” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic Annual Meeting, Rochester, New York, 22 July 2010

Comment. “Archetypes in Print: Constructing Categories in the Early Republic,” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic Annual Meeting, Springfield, Illinois, 17 July 2009

“‘Starving Memory’: Narrative Privation and the Relics of the American Revolution.” International Conference on Narrative, University of Texas, Austin, Texas, 3 May 2008

“American Federalism and Vernacular Rights.” (Co-written with Matthew Garrett, Stanford University.) *Theorizing English Vernacular Discourse: Imperial Beginnings to Global English*, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, 18-19 April 2008

“Embroidery, Imitation, and Republican Girlhood.” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic Annual Meeting, Worcester, Massachusetts, 21 July 2007

“The Anonymous Instructor: Compilation, Authority, and the Republican Subject.” Society of Early Americanists/Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture Joint Meeting, College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia, 8 June 2007

“‘By this exemplar I am taught’: Embroidery, Mimesis, and ‘Improvement’ in British North America.” Faces and Places in Early America Conference, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 3 December 2005

“Imitation, Handwriting, and the American Character 1800-1835.” Originality Imitation Plagiarism, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 24 September 2005

“Reproducing David Rittenhouse.” Society of Early Americanists Biennial Meeting, Alexandria, Virginia, 1 April 2005

“Shorthand and Performance in the Sermons of Henry Smith.” Midwest Modern Language Association Annual Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri 7 November 2004

“‘New England is My Nation, Portsmouth is My Dwelling Place’: Needlework and Feminine Citizenship in Nineteenth-Century New Hampshire.” American Literature Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, California, 31 May 2004

“Splicing Moby Dick: Copying, Copyright, and the Democratic Imaginary.” Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing (SHARP) Annual Meeting, Scripps College, Claremont, California, 11 July 2003

“New Pleasant Instructions: Susanna Rowson and the Grammars of the Sympathetic Republic.” New Frontiers in Early American Literature, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia, 10 August 2002

“In the Bowels of the Continent: John Winthrop, Roger Williams, and Bodies Politic in Massachusetts Bay.” Futures of American Studies Institute/Outside American Studies, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, 13 June 2001

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department of English and American and New England Studies Program, Boston University (2009-Present)

100-Level:

- “Representing Boston,” Fall 2010; Fall 2011; Fall 2012; Fall 2014; Fall 2015; Fall 2016; Fall 2018; Fall 2020

200-Level:

- “Seminar in Literature: The Rules of Evidence,” Spring 2010; Spring 2011; Spring 2012; Spring 2013; Spring 2016
- “Introduction to American Studies: Radicalism and Reform in the Nineteenth-Century United States,” Spring 2016
- “Introduction to American Studies: *Moby-Dick* and Nineteenth-Century America,” Spring 2018; Spring 2019; Spring 2020

300-Level:

- “American Literature to 1855,” Fall 2016; Spring 2018; Spring 2019; Spring 2020

400-Level:

- “Critical Studies in Literature and Society: The American Enlightenment,” Fall 2011

500-Level:

- “Reading Boston: Conversations about the Real and Imagined City,” (co-taught with Keith N. Morgan, History of Art and Architecture; cross-listed with American and New England Studies) Fall 2014
- “Nineteenth-Century American Novel,” Spring 2011; Spring 2013
- “American Poetry to 1860,” Fall 2012
- “Senior Seminar: The American Revolution and its Afterlives,” Spring 2010
- “American Literature: Beginnings to 1855,” Fall 2009; Fall 2010

700-Level (Graduate Seminar):

- “American Popular Writing, 1776-1900,” Fall 2015, Fall 2018; Fall 2020
- “The American Enlightenment,” Spring 2012

Department of English, University of Delaware (2008-2009)

100-Level (Writing Seminar):

- “‘Regulating the Circulation’: Influence, Authorship and Melville’s *Moby-Dick*,” Spring 2009

200-Level:

- “Literature of America,” Spring 2009
- “Texts and Contexts: The Rules of Evidence,” Fall 2008

300-Level:

- “American Literature through the Civil War,” Fall 2008

Department of English, University of Pennsylvania (2007-2008)

200-Level:

- “Topics in American Literature: The Enlightenment and its Discontents,” Spring 2008
- “Topics in American Studies: The American Revolution and its Afterlives,” Fall 2007

300-Level:

- “Topics in the Nineteenth-Century Novel: The Sentimental Novel in America, 1785-1860,” Spring 2007

Department of English, Northwestern University (2005-2006)

100-Level (Writing Seminar):

- “Early America, Then and Now,” Winter 2006

200-Level:

- “Evidentiary Proceedings,” Fall 2005, Spring 2006

300-Level:

- “Studies in American Literature: The Sentimental Novel in America, 1785-1860,” Fall 2005
- “Studies in American Literature: Writing the American Revolution,” Winter 2006
- “Studies in American Literature: The American Puritans,” Spring 2006

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

English Department, Boston University

MA Program Advisor, 2015-2019

Graduate Committee, 2015-2017

Job Placement Co-Coordinator, 2010-2014; 2020

Graduate Admissions Committee, 2010-

Director of Writing Seminars, 2011-2013

Search Committee, American Literature to 1900, 2010

American and New England Studies Program, Boston University

Director of Graduate Studies, American and New England Studies Program, 2015-2017;
2018-

Director of Undergraduate Studies, American and New England Studies Program, 2014

American and New England Studies Program Committee, 2013-

Faculty Search Committee, American Material Culture, American and New England
Studies Program, 2011

Graduate Admissions Committee, American and New England Studies Program, 2010-
2012; 2016; 2018-

Boston University

Boston University Hub Council, 2019-

Provost's Working Group on Graduate Assessment, 2018-2019

Humanities Without Walls Fellowship Committee, 2018

Graduate Academic Affairs Committee, 2016-2017

Computational Humanities Steering Committee, 2013-2014

Beyond Boston University

Editorial Board, *Journal of the Early Republic*, 2015-2018

Graduate Student C.V. Clinic Mentor, Northeast MLA, 2015

Peer Referee, *Journal of the Early Republic* (2007-present); *The Explicator* (2009-2013;
2017-present); *Common-place* (2011-2018); *History of the Present* (2012); Broadview
Press (2012); *The William & Mary Quarterly* (2013); *American Art* (2014; 2016); *Early
American Studies* (2015); *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature* (2016-present);
University of Illinois Press (2018); *American Quarterly* (2018); University of
Pennsylvania Press (2020)

Reviewer, *The Bedford Anthology of American Literature, Volume I: Beginnings to 1865*, 2nd Edition (Boston: Bedford St. Martin's, 2010)

Editorial Board and Column Editor, *Common-place* (www.common-place.org), 2009-2018

- *Common-place* is the American Antiquarian Society's digital journal of early American studies; it provides an environment for exploring and exchanging ideas about American history and culture before 1900

Coordinator, Center for Material Culture Studies Seminar, University of Delaware, 2008-2009

Early American Literature and Material Texts Summer Workshop, McNeil Center for Early American Studies and Library Company of Philadelphia, 2009

Barra Postdoctoral Fellowship search committee, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, 2006; 2017

Assistant Editor, *TriQuarterly*, 2003-2005

Co-founder and co-director, American Cultures Colloquium at Northwestern, 2001-2004

Teaching Mentor, Department of English, Northwestern University, 2003-2004

Editorial Assistant, *TriQuarterly*, 2002-2003