

# Joshua J. Masters

Associate Professor of English  
Director of Graduate Studies  
University of West Georgia  
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## Education

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Ph.D. in English, University of Connecticut 2004  
M.A. in English, University of Connecticut 1995  
B.A. in English, *cum laude*, Pomona College 1991

## Dissertation

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*The Symbol of the Book and the Adventure of Representation in the American West, 1803-1893*

## Professional History

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Associate Professor, 2009-present

Director of Graduate Studies in English, University of West Georgia, 2007-present

Assistant Professor of English, University of West Georgia, 2005-09

Visiting Assistant Professor of English, University of West Georgia, 2004-05

Instructor of English, University of Connecticut, 1993-2004

## Publications

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“Preface: ‘Metalinguistic Discourse in the Contemporary Apocalyptic Novel.’” *Special Issue: Representations of the Apocalypse in Literature and Film. LIT: Literature, Interpretation, Theory*. Guest Editor. 23.2 (2012): 113-18.

“Preface: ‘The Production and Consumption of Racial Performance.’” *Special Issue: Minstrelsy, Passing, and the Location of American Racial Identity. Lit: Literature Interpretation Theory*. Guest Editor. 18.2 (2007): 89-93.

“‘Smothered in Bookish Knowledge’: Literacy and Epistemology in James Fenimore Cooper’s *Leatherstocking* Novels.” *Arizona Quarterly*. 61.4 (Winter 2005): 1-30.

“Reading the Book of Nature, Inscribing the Savage Mind: George Catlin and the Textualization of the American West.” *American Studies*. 46.2 (Summer 2005): 63-89.

“Race and the Infernal City in Tom Wolfe’s *Bonfire of the Vanities*.” *Journal of Narrative Theory*. 29.2 (Spring 1999): 208-227. Reprinted in *Tom Wolfe: Modern Critical Views*. Ed. Harold Bloom. Philadelphia: Chelsea House, 2001. 179-92.

“‘Witness to the Uttermost Edge of the World’: Judge Holden’s Textual Enterprise in Cormac McCarthy’s *Blood Meridian*.” *Critique: Studies in Contemporary Fiction*. 40.1 (Fall 1998): 25-37.

“Milkman’s Quest for Authenticity: Transgression and Transcendence in Toni Morrison’s *Song of Solomon*.” *MWA Review*. 10.1 (June 1995): 13-18.

## Conferences

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### Presentations

“‘The old world is gone’: Flannery O’Connor’s Violent Narrative of Desegregation in ‘Everything That Rises Must Converge.’” International Conference on Narrative at MIT. March, 2014.

“Buffalo Bill and Ted Roosevelt’s Excellent Adventure: The Origins of the Wild West as a Global Metaphor in American Imperial Discourse.” American Studies Association. October, 2012.

“The Holocaust and the American Cultural Imaginary in ‘The Displaced Person.’” American Literary Association’s Symposium on 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Fiction. September, 2011.

“Segregation and the ‘Operation of Grace’ in Flannery O’Connor’s ‘The Artificial Nigger.’” American Literary Association’s Symposium on 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Fiction. September, 2010.

“Traumatized Bodies and the Language of Pain in Cormac McCarthy and Toni Morrison.” Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture since 1900. February, 2009.

“The Iowa Indians Meet Tom Thumb in London: George Catlin’s European Exhibitions.” American Studies Association. October, 2007.

“The Symbol of the Book in the Narration of Exploration.” Narrative Conference (sponsored by the Society for the Study of Narrative Literature). April, 2006.

"Towards a Theory of Typographic Consciousness in Cormac McCarthy's *Blood Meridian*." Northeast Modern Language Association Convention. March, 2005.

“‘I Never Read a Book in My Life!’: Illiteracy as Epistemology in Cooper’s Leatherstocking Novels.” NEMLA Convention. March, 2003.

“Gendering the Nineteenth-Century American West: Feminized Landscapes and Phallic Intrusions.” Third Annual Travel Writing Conference, U of Pennsylvania. June, 1999.

“The Wilderness as Indian Theme Park: George Catlin and the Politics of Collection.” Origins, Ethnicity, Identity, SUNY Binghamton. December, 1998.

“New Visions of ‘White’ Identity in Contemporary American Fiction and Film.” Central New York Conference on Language and Literature, Cortland, NY. October, 1997.

“Race and the Infernal City in Tom Wolfe's *Bonfire of the Vanities*.” Interdisciplinary Studies Conference, University of Connecticut. May, 1997.

#### Panels Chaired

“Representations of Indian Identity, 1850-1900.” Northeast Modern Language Association Convention. March, 2003.

#### Public Lectures

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"Pushing Sisyphus's Boulder: Experiences of a First Year Assistant Professor." With Margaret Mitchell at The University of Connecticut. English Graduate Student Alliance's Professional Development Lecture Series. March, 2005.

#### Awards and Honors

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Robert Reynolds Excellence in Teaching Award, University of West Georgia, 2012  
Donald Wagner Honors College Teacher of the Year, University of West Georgia, 2011  
Research Foundation Grant, University of West Georgia, 2006.  
First Place, Aetna Graduate Writing Prize, University of Connecticut, 2002.  
First Place, Aetna Teaching Award, University of Connecticut, 2000.  
Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, University of Connecticut, 1998.  
First Place, McPeck Graduate Essay Contest, 1996.

#### Teaching Experience

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## University of West Georgia

English 6120: Representations of Race in the Post-bellum American Novel (Grad)  
English 4384: Senior Seminar, Representations of the Apocalypse  
English 4384: Senior Seminar, Madness and the Asylum in Film and Literature  
English 4165/5165: Contemporary American and British Literature  
English 4160/5160: Twentieth-Century American Literature  
English 4140/5140: Seminar in American Romanticism  
English 4109: African American Cinema  
English 3300: Studies in American Culture  
English 2300: Practical Criticism  
English 2180: Survey of African American Literature  
English 2130: Survey of American Literature  
English 2130H: Survey of American Literature, Honors  
English 2110: World Literature  
English 1102: Composition II  
English 1102: Composition II, Super-section  
English 1101: Composition I

## University of Connecticut

English 277W: African American Writers II  
English 271W: American Fiction Since 1880  
English 127: Masterworks of British and American Literature  
English 109: Literature and Composition  
English 105: College Composition  
English 104: Basic Writing

## Service

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## University of West Georgia

Committee on Graduate Studies (English Representative), 2007-present  
Graduate Program Committee (Facilitator), 2007-present  
Co-Sponsor of Sigma Tau Delta (The International English Honor Society), 2005-2010  
Faculty Advisory Committee to the Dean, 2007-08  
Co-Sponsor of the Faculty Works in Progress Series, 2006-present  
Advisory Committee (Chair), 2005-06, 2007-08  
First Year Writing Committee, 2004-05

## University of Connecticut

Aetna Awards Committee, Graduate Student Representative, 1997.  
PhD Exam Committee, Graduate Student Representative, 1999.

## Teaching and Research Interests

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American Cultural Studies; Colonial and Nineteenth-Century American Literature and Culture; Twentieth-Century American Literature; African American Literature; Travel Literature; Post-Colonial and World Literature; Native American Literature.

## References

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email: [rhendric@westga.edu](mailto:rhendric@westga.edu)

Jerry Phillips  
Home: 860-423-3670  
email: [jerryrp@cs.com](mailto:jerryrp@cs.com)

David Newton  
Work: 678-839-4877  
email: [dnewton@westga.edu](mailto:dnewton@westga.edu)