

Chris R. Vials
Assistant Professor, Department of English
University of Connecticut, Storrs

Date of first appointment: 2009

Revised: April 2017

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. 2006 University of Massachusetts-Amherst. English with American Studies concentration
M.A. 1997 Ohio State University-Columbus. English.
B.A. 1993 University of Texas-Austin. English and History.

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Associate Professor, University of Connecticut-Storrs, August 2014 to present
Assistant Professor, University of Connecticut-Storrs, August 2010 to August 2014
Assistant Professor, SUNY Buffalo State College, 2008-2009
Visiting Assistant Professor, Hampshire College, 2006-2007

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Late nineteenth to twenty-first century American literature and American Studies, political economy, ethnic American literature, popular culture, cultural studies, working class literature, empire studies, Asian American literature, visual culture, social class and racial formation

PUBLICATIONS

Books (Monographs)

Haunted by Hitler: Liberals, the Left, and the Fight Against Fascism in the United States
(University of Massachusetts Press, 2014)

Reviews: *American Quarterly* 69.1 (2017); *Journal of American History* 103.1 (2016); *American Literary History*, Online Review Series, III; *Science and Society* 80.3 (2016); *Zeitschrift für Geschichtswissenschaft (ZfG)*, 64.6 (2016); *Arbeit, Bewegung, Geschichte: Zeitschrift für Historische Studien*, September 2016; *Against the Current* 180 (January-February 2016); *The Volunteer* (journal of the veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade), December 8, 2015; *Choice: Current Reviews for American Libraries* 52.10 (2015)

Realism for the Masses: Aesthetics, Popular Front Pluralism, and U.S. Culture, 1935-1947
(University Press of Mississippi, 2009)

Reviews: *American Literature* 82.1 (March 2010)

Books (edited collections)

American Literature in Transition, 1940-1950. Sole editor. (forthcoming, Cambridge University Press)

Articles / Book Chapters

“Why We Fight: Contending Narratives of the Second World War,” *American Literature in Transition, 1940-1950*, Cambridge University Press, ed. Chris Vials (forthcoming)

“Antifascism as Political Grammar and Cultural Force,” *American Literature in Transition*, Cambridge University Press, ed. Chris Vials (forthcoming)

“The AAUP and the Contradictions of Academic Freedom,” *Journal of Asian American Studies* 19.1 (2016)

“Margaret Atwood’s Dystopic Imagination and Contradictions of the Neoliberal State,” forthcoming, *Textual Practice* 29.2 (2015): 235-254

“Red Feminists and Methodist Missionaries: Dorothy McConnell and the Afterlife of the Popular Front,” *Lineages of the Literary Left: Essays in Honor of Alan M. Wald*, Ed. Paula Rabinowitz (Ann Arbor, MI: Maize Books, 2015)

“Broken Frames: The World War II Novel and the Dwindling Legibility of Class in the US Historical Imagination,” *Created Unequal: Class and the Making of American Literature*, Ed. Andrew Larson (London: Routledge, 2014)

“What’s His Suit Got to Do with It? Alan Wald’s Method of Collective Biography and the Phenomenological Turn in Postwar Marxism.” *Science and Society* 78.3 (2014): 343-350

“Can We Still Use the ‘F’ Word? The Invisibility of Fascism in the Postwar United States,” *Against the Current*, January/February 2014

“What Can Happen Here? Philip Roth, Sinclair Lewis, and Fascism in the Left-Liberal Imagination.” *Philip Roth Studies*. 7.1 (2011), 9-26

“The Origin of the Zombie in US Radio and Film: B-Horror, U.S Empire, and the Politics of Disavowal,” *Generation Zombie: Essays on the Living Dead in Modern Culture*. Ed. Stephanie Boluk and Wylie Lenz (Jefferson, NC: McFarland Press, 2011)

“Fight Against War and Fascism and the Origins of Antifascism in US Culture,” *Cultural Logic*. 2010 Special Issue: Culture and the Crisis

“Whose Dixie? Erskine Caldwell’s Challenge to *Gone With the Wind* and Dialectical Realism.” *Criticism* 48.1 (2007)

“The Popular Front in the American Century: *Life* Magazine, Margaret Bourke-White, and Consumer Realism, 1936-1941.” *American Periodicals: a Journal of History, Criticism, and Bibliography* 16.1 (2006)

“The Despotism of the Popular: Anarchy and Leon Czolgosz at the Turn of the Century.” *Americana: the Journal of American Popular Culture* (1900-present) 3.2 (2004)

“How the Proletarian Novel became Mass Culture; *God’s Little Acre* and the Realist Aesthetics of the 1930s Left.” *The Thirties Now*, University of Dundee, U.K. (on-line)

MEDIA APPEARANCES

Interview, “American Fascism: It Can’t Happen Here?” *Ideas*. With Paul Kennedy. CBC Radio, 17 Jan. 2017

Interview, “American Fascism: From the 1920s to Trump.” *Where We Live*. With John Dankosky. WNPR, Hartford, CT. 24 Mar. 2016.

Interview, *Between the Lines: Counterpoint*. With Scott Harris, WPKN, Bridgeport, CT. 20 Mar. 2017

Interview, “Donald Trump is Part of the Dark U.S. Fascist Tradition.” *Between the Lines: Counterpoint*. With Scott Harris. WPKN, Bridgeport, CT. 21 Mar. 2016

Book Reviews and Encyclopedia Entries

Review of *Race and the Totalitarian Century* by Vaughn Rasberry. Forthcoming. *Journal of American History*

“Adorno’s *Authoritarian Personality*.” *Against the Current* 187 (March/April 2017)

“Fast Times in East Germany? The Sexual Revolution in the GDR.” Review of *Love in the Time of Communism: Intimacy and Sexuality in the GDR*. Forthcoming, *English Language Notes*, Special Issue, “Sexing the Left”

Review of *For Home and Country: World War I Propaganda on the Home Front*, by Celia Malone Kingsbury. *Modern Fiction Studies*, 57.4 (2011)

Review of *America’s Asia: Racial Form and American Literature, 1893-1945* by Colleen Lye. *Journal of Asian American Studies*, 8.2 (2005)

Encyclopedia of Multiethnic American Literature, Emmanuel Nelson, ed. Greenwood Press, 2005. Entries for Joseph Freeman, Edward Dahlberg, Edwin Rolfe, and Guy Endore

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Roundtable participant. “Sites of Marxist Practice in the Twenty-First Century,” *American Studies Association*

“International *Faschismustheorien* in the United States of the 1930s,” European Social Science History Conference, Valencia, Spain, April 2, 2016

“The American Association of College Professors (AAUP) and the Discourse of Academic Freedom.” Asian American Studies Association, Evanston, IL, April 2015.

“The Legacies of the 1930s in AIDS Activism and the Waning of the Antifascist Paradigm,” American Studies Association, Los Angeles, CA. November 2014.

“Twenty-first Century Asian War Narratives and the Crisis of Neoliberal Temporality in the United States,” Asian American Studies Association, San Francisco, CA. April 2014.

“Margaret Atwood’s Dystopic Fiction and the Contradictions of Neoliberal Freedom,” American Comparative Literature Association, New York, NY. March 2014.

“Financial Analysis and U.S. Conservative Support for Fascism in the 1930s,” American Studies Association, Washington, DC. November 2013.

“Brownshirts in the Twilight Zone: Rod Serling and Cold War Cultural Critique in the Early 1960s US.” Modern Languages Association annual meeting, Boston, MA. January 2013

“Call of Duty? Neoliberal Development, US Empire, and the Rise of Apocalyptic Popular Culture.” American Studies Association annual meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico, November 2012.

“More than a Witch Hunt: Arthur Miller’s *The Crucible* and the Tenacity of Antifascism in the Cold War.” Annual Conference of the American Literature Association. Boston, MA. May 2011.

“HUAC, Joe McCarthy, and the Discourse of Antifascism in the 1950s.” American Studies Association annual meeting. San Antonio, TX. November 2010.

“Pearl Buck’s *Dragon Seed* and the Contradictory Politics of Exclusion Repeal.” Asian American Studies Association, Austin TX, April 2010

“Un-American Nationalism: The 1930s Left and the Etymology of Fascism in U.S. Culture.” American Studies Association annual conference, Washington D.C., Nov 2009

“Critical Antifascism and Alternative Memory in Irwin Shaw’s *The Young Lions*.” Society for the Study of Multi-Ethnic Literature of the U.S. (MELUS). Columbus, OH, March 2008

“Brownshirts in the Twilight Zone: Internationalist and Exceptionalist Readings of Fascism in Cold War Television.” American Studies Association, Philadelphia, PA, October 2007

“Henry Wallace’s International Republicanism and the ‘Lesson’ of the Second World War.” American Studies Association, Oakland, CA, October 2006

“Usable Pasts and Transnational Affiliations in Turn of the Century, U.S. Productions of Gerhart Hauptmann’s *The Weavers*.” American Literature Association, Boston, MA: May 2005

“Margaret Mitchell and the Politics of Gumption.” American Studies Association, Atlanta, GA: November 2004

SERVICE (selected)

Director of American Studies, term began Fall 2015

Associate Graduate Director, Department of English, Spring 2013- Spring 2015

Executive Committee, American Studies, University of Connecticut, Spring 2011 to present

Executive Committee, American Association of University Professors, April 2012 to present

Chair, Undergraduate Enrichment Committee, 2011-2012

Interim Director of American Studies, University of Connecticut, Spring 2011

President-elect of the Graduate Employee Association (United Auto Workers Local 2322), University of Massachusetts-Amherst, 2003-2004

Steering Committee, Save-UMass, 2002

AWARDS

Faculty Large-Grant, University of Connecticut Research Foundation, 2012

University of Connecticut Humanities Institute, Faculty Residential Fellowship, 2011-2012.

James and Sylvia Thayer Short-Term Research Fellowship. University of California, Los Angeles. June 2010.

Award for Excellence in Teaching as Evaluated by Students, University of Massachusetts Division of Continuing Education, Summer 2001 and Summer 2002

Civil Rights Social Justice Award, United Auto Workers, Region 9A, January 2005. Awarded to the Graduate Employee Organization (GEO) during my term as President

Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition presented by U.S. Congresswoman Rosa L. DeLauro, 3rd district of Connecticut, January 2005. Awarded to GEO during my term as President

International Programs Scholarship for Study in Constance, Germany, Fall 2000

REVIEWER

PMLA, Journal of American History, Journal of Asian American Studies, MELUS, Modern Fiction Studies, American Periodicals, and University of Massachusetts Press

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Studies Association, Modern Language Association, Asian American Studies Association

LANGUAGES

German