

**Dr. Faye Halpern**  
**Associate Professor, English**

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**Education**

Ph.D. Brown University, English Department, 2002

*Marie J. Langlois Dissertation Prize for Outstanding Dissertation in an Area of Feminist Studies*

M.A. Brown University, English Department, 1995

B.A. Harvard University, English and American Language and Literature Department, 1992 *Magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa*

**Major Professional Appointments**

Associate Professor of English, University of Calgary, 2012-

Assistant Professor of English, University of Calgary, 2006-2012

Acting Director of the Writing Program, Director of the Writing Center, and Assistant Professor of Rhetoric and Composition, Haverford College, 2005-2006

Associate Director of the Writing Program, Director of the Writing Center, and Assistant Professor of Rhetoric and Composition, Haverford College, 2004-2005

Preceptor, Expository Writing Program, Harvard University, 2000-2004

**Other Appointments**

Co-Editor, *Theory and Interpretation of Narrative* (book series), Ohio State University Press, 2019-present

Co-Editor of *ARIEL: A Review of International English Literature*, 2011-present

Visiting Associate Professor of English and English Language Learning Specialist, Brandeis University, Fall 2014

Research Associate for the Harvard Study on Undergraduate Writing, a longitudinal study on the role of academic writing in undergraduate education, 2001-2004

**Book**

*Sentimental Readers: The Rise, Fall, and Revival of a Disparaged Rhetoric*. Iowa City: U of Iowa P, 2013. 215 pp.

By exploring how sentimental authors solved a rhetorical problem that beset professional male orators and rhetoricians, *Sentimental Readers* explains why sentimental rhetoric was so compelling to readers in the antebellum era, why its popularity waned in the latter part of the nineteenth century, and why today it is generally characterized as overly emotional and manipulative. *Sentimental Readers* uses literary critical methods to illuminate sentimentality; but it also uses

sentimental rhetoric and the discomfort it causes contemporary scholars to illuminate some of the unconscious practices and dispositions that characterize contemporary writing teachers and literary critics.

“Charles Chesnutt, Rhetorical Passing, and the Flesh-and-Blood Author: A Case for Considering Authorial Intention.” Forthcoming in *Narrative*, Jan ’22.

“Beyond Contempt: Ways of Reading *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*.” *PMLA*, vol. 133, no. 3, 2018, pp. 633-639.

With Peter Rabinowitz. Introduction to “Reading Over Time.” *PMLA*, vol. 133, no.3, 2018, pp. 631-632.

“Closeness Through Unreliability: Sympathy, Empathy, and Ethics in Narrative Communication.” *Narrative*, vol. 26, no. 2, 2018, pp. 125-145.

“Searching for Sentimentality in Henry James’s *The Bostonians*.” *Henry James Review*, vol. 39, no. 1, 2018, pp. 62-80.

“Word Become Flesh: Literacy, Anti-Literacy, and Illiteracy in *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*,” *Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers*, vol. 34, no. 2, 2017, pp. 253-77.

“Strategic Disingenuousness: The WPA, the ‘Scribbling Women,’ and the Problem of Expertise.” *CCC: College Composition and Communication*, vol. 66, no. 4, 2015, pp. 643-667.

“Reply to Andrea Scott.” *WPA: Writing Program Administration*, vol. 37, no. 1, 2013, pp. 220-22. [A reply to a response to “The Preceptor Problem.”]

“The Preceptor Problem: The Effect of ‘Undisciplined Writing’ on Disciplined Instructors.” *WPA: Writing Program Administration*, vol. 36, no. 2, 2013, pp. 10-26.

“The American Woman Movement Meets the Disingenuous Orator: Harriet Beecher Stowe’s *Pink and White Tyranny*.” In *Beyond Uncle Tom’s Cabin: Essays on the Writing of Harriet Beecher Stowe*, edited by Monika Mueller and Sylvia Mayer. Rowman & Littlefield, 2011, pp. 17-34.

“Unmasking Criticism: The Problem with Being a Good Reader of Sentimental Rhetoric.” *Narrative*, vol. 19, no. 1, 2011, pp. 51-71.

“In Defense of Reading Badly: The Politics of Identification in ‘Benito Cereno,’ *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, and Our Classrooms.” *College English*, vol. 70, no. 6, 2008), pp. 551-577.

“The Detail vs. the Debate: Literature, Argument, and Freshman Writing,” *Integrating Literature and Writing Instruction in First-Year English*, edited by Judith Anderson and Christine Farris. NY: MLA, 2007, pp. 135-149.

“Why We Should Trust Harriet Beecher Stowe.” *Nineteenth-Century Prose*. Special Issue on Rhetoric, vol. 27, no. 2, 2000, pp. 47-61.

### **Book Reviews**

“The Afterlife of Uncle Tom” [review essay]. *Resources for American Literary Study*, vol. 41, no. 1, 2019, pp. 132-139.

Review of Jean Sutton’s *The House of My Sojourn: Rhetoric, Women, and the Question of Authority*. *Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers*, vol. 29, no. 2, 2012, pp. 343-346.

Review of Wai Chee Dimock's *Through Other Continents: American Literature Across Deep Time*. *ARIEL: A Review of International English Literature*, vol. 38, no. 2-3, 2007, pp. 190-192.

### **Other Publications**

Co-written with James Phelan, "Transforming a Dissertation Chapter into a Published Article." *Inside Higher Ed*, August 27, 2020.

Co-written with James Phelan. "Writing Effective Journal Essay Introductions." *Insider Higher Ed*. May 16, 2018.

Co-written with James Phelan. "Writing an Effective Abstract: An Audience-Based Approach." *Insider Higher Ed*. February 23, 2017.

"10 Tips for Getting Published." *Inside Higher Ed*. April 21, 2016.

With Michael Tavel Clarke and Timothy Clark. "Climate Change, Scale, and Literary Criticism: A Conversation." *ARIEL: A Review of International English Literature* 46.3 (2015): 1-22. *ProQuest*. Web. 7 May 2016.

### **Dissertation**

"The Sentimental Orator: Persuasion in Nineteenth-Century America"  
Advisors: Robert Scholes; Readers: Mari Jo Buhle and Philip Gould

### **Conference Papers and Roundtables**

"The Problem with the Redemption Narrative of Teaching" as part of a panel I organized on "What Can Narrative Theory Teach Us About Teaching?" International Conference on Narrative. Pamplona, May 2021 (virtual).

"Unreliability and Rhetorical Passing in the Works of Charles Chesnut" as part of a panel I organized on "Unreliable Narration, Minoritized Authors, and Authorial Agency." International Conference on Narrative. Pamplona, May 2019.

"Harriet Beecher Stowe, Charles Dickens, and the Problem with Reading." Victorian Studies Association of Western Canada. Calgary, May 2019.

"Unreliability as Political Resistance: The Case of Charles Chesnut's *Conjure Tales*." Canadian Association of American Studies. Calgary, October 2018.

"Beyond Contempt: Ways to Read *Uncle Tom's Cabin*." International Conference on Narrative. Montreal, April 2018.

"Constance Fenimore Woolson's 'Miss Grief' and How to (Re-)Read Realistically" as part of a roundtable on "Scarcity and Abundance: The Ecology of Re-reading in the Nineteenth Century." C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists. Albuquerque, March 2018.

Roundtable on "Getting Published in a Scholarly Journal." MLA, Chicago, January 2019; New York, January 2018; Philadelphia, January 2017; Austin, January 2016; and Vancouver, January 2015. (I organized the roundtable for '15 & '16)

"Stowe, Dickens, and the Transatlantic History of Reading." Society for the Study of American Women Writers. Bordeaux, July 2017.

- “Teaching Writing in Large Classes: Integrity vs. Certain Death.” Campus Alberta Writing Studies. Calgary, April 2017.
- “Sympathy and Unreliability” as part of a panel I organized, “Theorizing Unreliability.” International Conference on Narrative. Lexington, March 2017.
- “Character Types in the Sentimental Novel” as part of a roundtable on “In Defense of Conventions: Rethinking the Conventionality of Nineteenth-Century American Women Writers.” MLA, Philadelphia, January 2017.
- “Turning Words Into People: Anti-Literacy and Proleptic Audience in *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*” as part of a panel I helped organize called “Limning the Limits of Language: Sedgwick, Dickinson, and Stowe Negotiate the Written Word” presented at the Society for the Study of American Women Writers, Philadelphia. November 2015.
- “Literacy, Anti-Literacy, and Illiteracy in *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*.” Reception Society Conference, Fort Wayne. September, 2015.
- “Disciplinary and Transdisciplinary in Freshman Year Composition” as part of a panel I organized on “Living with Vampires: The Discourse of Disciplinary in First-Year Composition,” presented at the Conference on College Composition and Communication, Tampa. March 2015. (I organized this roundtable.)
- “Frederick Douglass, William Garrison, and the Afterlife of Emotion.” American Literature Association. Washington, May 2014.
- Roundtable on “Getting Published in a Scholarly Journal.” American Literature Association, Washington, May 2014. (I organized this roundtable.)
- “Sentimental Rhetoric and the Problem of Embodied Criticism.” American Literature Association. Boston, May 2013.
- “The Art of the Red Herring: The Realists Against the Sentimentalists.” American Literature Association. San Francisco, May 2012.
- “Didacticism and the Future Tense of the Authorial Reader in Harriet Beecher Stowe’s *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*.” International Conference on Narrative. Las Vegas, March 2012.
- “Louisa May Alcott, Henry Ward Beecher, and François Delsarte: The Decline of Sentimentality in Late Nineteenth-Century America.” American Literature Association. Boston, May 2011.
- ““So Let me Seem Until I Shall Be””: The Decline of the Sentimental Orator and the Rise of the Skeptical Reader in Late Nineteenth-Century America. International Conference on Narrative. St. Louis, April 2011.
- “Sentimentality and the Problem of Rhetorical Expertise,” as part of a panel I organized on “Rethinking Expertise: The Place of Humility in Writing Program Administration.” Conference on College Composition and Communication. Louisville, March 2010.
- “Sentiment and the Question of Artistry Versus Hypocrisy” as part of a panel on ““God Wrote It”: Nineteenth-Century Sentimental Women Authors and the Question of Artistry.” Society for the Study of American Women Writers. Philadelphia, October 2009.
- “Uncritical Reading: The Politics of Identification in *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, *Benito Cereno*, and Our Classrooms.” College English Association. St. Louis, March 2008.

- “The Sentimental Debunker: On Only Partly Avoiding the Vortex of Nineteenth-Century American Sentimentality,” as part of a panel I organized on “Critical Implications: Negotiating Sentimentality, Class, and Performance.” American Literature Association. Cambridge, May 2007.
- “Comical White Men and Eloquent Slaves: Harriet Beecher Stowe’s Public Sphere,” as part of a panel I organized on “Belittling Men: Manhood Under Siege in Pre-Civil War United States.” Western Social Sciences Association. Calgary, April 2007.
- “Listening to Stowe’s ‘Rhetoric,’” presented at the Society for the Study of American Women Writers Third International Conference. Philadelphia, November 2006.
- “The Rhetorical Problem of Historical Expertise,” as part of a panel I organized on “Herding Cats: Faculty, The Teaching of Writing, and the Problem of Rhet/Comp Expertise,” Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, March 2006.
- “Deception as a Pedagogical Tool,” as part of a panel I organized on “Deception in the Classroom,” presented at the Conference on College Composition and Communication. San Antonio, March 2004.
- “Professionalism vs. Sentimentality: Harriet Beecher Stowe and Henry Ward Beecher,” presented at the Society for the Study of American Women Writers Second International Conference. Fort Worth, September 2003.
- “Searching for Sentimentality in *The Bostonians*,” presented at the New England Modern Language Association. Boston, March, 2003.
- “The Sentimental Orator,” presented at the American Literature Association. Cambridge, May 2001.

## **Classes Taught**

### **Graduate Courses**

- Unreliable Narrators and Narrative Ethics (University of Calgary)
- Professing English: A Graduate Course in English Pedagogies (University of Calgary)
- The American Slave Narrative: Visions and Revisions (University of Calgary)
- American Women Speaking Out: Rhetorical Theory and the Gendered Nature of Persuasion (University of Calgary)
- American Literary Realism (University of Calgary)
- Nineteenth-Century American Women Writers: A Case Study in American Literary History (University of Calgary)

### **Upper-Level Undergraduate Courses**

- Unreliable Narrators (University of Calgary)
- The American Slave Narrative (University of Calgary)
- Nineteenth-Century American Women Writers (University of Calgary)
- Twentieth-Century Literary Theory (University of Calgary)
- Style and Styles in English Prose (Harvard)

### **Courses That Introduce First-Year Students to the Discipline of English and the Academic Essay**

- Literature and Society: How to Survive the Zombie Apocalypse
- Introduction to Literary Analysis: American Slave Narratives & Introduction to Literary Analysis: The Stories We Tell (University of Calgary)
- Introduction to Literary Practices: Satire & Irony (University of Calgary)
- Satire and Irony (Haverford; Harvard)
- Introduction to Academic Writing (Harvard)

### **First and Second Year Undergraduate Literature Courses**

- American Literature Survey, Parts 1 and 2: early American literature through modernism (University of Calgary)
- Twentieth-Century Literary Theory (University of Calgary)

### **Writing Workshop For Graduate Students**

- Dissertation Writers' Seminar (Harvard)

### **Advising**

Co-Director, Dissertation Committee for Emma Spooner, "Transforming Sentiment: Forming National Identity in Transatlantic Sentimental Novels of the Long 18<sup>th</sup> Century," Fall 2012-

Senior Honours Thesis Advisor for Kaitlin Kiddey. "Fear, Fascination, and Engendered Emotion: The Representation of Women within Nineteenth-Century American Gothic Literature," 2012

### **Grants and Fellowships**

SSHRC (The Canadian Governmental Granting Agency) Insight Grant, "The Afterlife of Sympathy: Reading American Literary in the Wake of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*." 2019.

Development & Innovation Grant from the Taylor Institute of Teaching and Learning (University of Calgary). With Dawn Johnston. "Launching 'Theory and Practice of Teaching and Learning': A New Course for Graduate Students in the Faculty of Arts. Teaching and Learning Grant. 2018.

Seeding SoTL Grant from the Taylor Institute of Teaching and Learning (University of Calgary). Facilitating a reading group for academic staff on Susan Ambrose et al.'s *How Learning Works*, 2018.

Lesson Study Grant from the Taylor Institute of Teaching and Learning (University of Calgary). Co-investigator on "Reframing Close Reading." 2017.

SSHRC Enhancement Grant, University of Calgary, 2012.

The Roland G.D. Richardson Fellowship (Brown University), 1998.

### **Honors**

Letter of Commendation for Distinguished Teaching (Harvard Extension School), 2002-2003, 2003-2004.

Certificate of Distinction in Teaching (Harvard University Faculty of Arts and Sciences), Semesters 1 & 2, 2001-2002; Semester 1, 2002-2003; Semester 1, 2003-2004.

Marie J. Langlois Dissertation Prize for Outstanding Dissertation in an Area of Feminist Studies (Brown University), 2002

Honorable mentions for the Presidential Teaching Award (Brown University), 1997-1998, 1998-1999

Phi Beta Kappa (Harvard University), 1992

### **Administrative Experience and Service**

Member, Faculty of Arts Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, 2020-present

Member, Dept. of English Anti-Racism, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion Committee, 2021-present

Member, Teaching and Learning Committee, 2015-2020

Member, Advisory Board, Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning (University of Calgary), 2016-2018

Consultant for *Legacy*; external reader for *CCC* and *College English*

Faculty Co-Operative Education Advisor. The Co-Operative Education Program is a service-learning program. I assessed the reports written by English majors involved in the program. 2011-2013

Member of the Undergraduate Program Committee, Dept. of English, University of Calgary, 2007-2008, 2016-2017, 2022

Member of the Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board, where I reviewed proposals for projects involving human research, University of Calgary, 2007-2008

### **Professional Development**

Participant, Project Narrative Summer Institute, held at Ohio State University, June 3-14, 2013 & June 25-July 6, 2018.

Participant, Christensen Seminar on Discussion Leading Skills, sponsored by Harvard's Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, 2003.

Sheridan Teaching Certificate (Brown University), 1999