

CURRICULUM VITAE

Michael Collins
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Education

Columbia University—M. Phil, 1993; Ph.D, English, 1999
University of Chicago—MA, English, with departmental honors, 1989
Wesleyan University, BA, English, 1981

Teaching Experience

Associate Professor (September 2007 – Present)
Department of English, Texas A & M University
College Station, Texas
[Previously served as Assistant Professor (August 2002 – August 2007)]

Courses taught include American Literature, American Ethnic Literature (at both the graduate and undergraduate levels), African American Literature (at both graduate and undergraduate levels), Music and Literature, 20th Century Literature, Poetry Writing, Poetics, Scientific and Technical Writing; also serve on committees--including English Department First Year Graduate Student Review Committee and Africana Studies Program Review Committee--and serve as a poetry judge for the Texas A & M English department's annual Charles Gordone creative writing contest.

Books

- *Understanding Etheridge Knight* (University of South Carolina Press 2012): described as “a superb venture in literary criticism and intellectual biography” by Stanford University’s Arnold Rampersad.
- *The Traveling Queen* (poetry, forthcoming from Sheep Meadow Press)

Publications in Refereed Journals and Books

1. “‘Ali Even Motivats the Dead’: The Pursuit of Sovereignty in Norman Mailer’s *The Fight*.” *PMLA* 128.2 (March 2013): 322-336
2. “‘If the King of the Universe Were a Friend’: Amity and Communication in Dante and Derrida,” *Modern Philology* (February 2009): 427-464
3. “The Antipanopticon of Etheridge Knight.” *PMLA* 123.3 (May 2008): 580-597
4. “The Consent of the Governed in Ishmael Reed’s *The Freelance Pallbearers*.” *PMLA* 123.2 (March 2008): 422-437
5. “Biggie Envy and the ‘Gangsta’ Sublime” (on rapper The Notorious B.I.G.). *Callaloo* 29.3 (Summer 2006): 911-938.
6. “Altruism, Risk and Sibling Rivalry.” *Altruistic Reveries*. Ed. Basant Kapur, Kim Chong Chong. (Boston/Dordrecht/London: Kluwer Academic Press 2002): 49 – 79

7. "Risk, Envy and Fear in Sterling Brown's Georgics." *Callaloo* 21.4 (1998): 950 – 967

Invited Articles

1. "Group of 77," in *The Wiley-Blackwell Encyclopedia of Globalization*, volume 2 (Wiley-Blackwell 2012): 905-907
2. Review of the book *Dante and Derrida (Modern Philology 2010)*.
3. "Signifying in New Orleans: A Journey into the Imaginal." *Callaloo* 32.2 (Spring 2009): 563-571
4. "The American Way of Peace: The Example of Ralph Bunche," in Zhou Baodi, Ed. *The United States in Times of War and Peace: Conference Proceedings* (Beijing: Foreign Language and Teaching Press 2005): 297-314
5. "Diaspora" in Emmanuel Nelson, editor: *The Encyclopedia of Ethnic American Literature* (Westport: Greenwood Press 2005): vol. II: 581-586
6. "Representing Discrimination." *Journal of Public Management & Social Policy* 10 (Summer 2004): 17 - 32
7. "Between Robin Hood and Ayn Rand: High Capitalism in the 1950s." *Michigan Quarterly Review* (Spring 2003): 324 - 345
8. "Staying Human" (on Yusef Komunyakaa). *Parnassus: Poetry in Review* 18.2 & 19.1 (1994): 126-149, reprinted in *Contemporary Literary Criticism* 94: 241 – 249; also reprinted in *Poetry Criticism* 51, and cited in the *Norton Anthology of Modern and Contemporary Poetry*.
9. "History." *The Oxford Companion to African American Literature*. Eds. William L. Andrews, Frances Smith Foster, and Trudier Harris. New York: Oxford UP, 1997: 359 – 361
10. "The Metamorphoses: Jazz and Poetry." *Parnassus: Poetry in Review*, 19.2 (1994): 49 – 80
11. "The World According to the Group of 77." *The World & I* (October 1994)
12. "On the Track of the Universal: Middle Passage and America" (on Robert Hayden's "Middle Passage"). *Parnassus: Poetry in Review*. 17. 2 & 18. 1 (1993): 334 – 359. Cited in *The Norton Anthology of African American Literature*.

Editing

2. *Callaloo* 31.4: Cutting Down "The Wrath-Bearing Tree": The Politics Issue
(December 2008)

My contributions to this issue include, in addition to soliciting, helping to select from and editing contributions, the following:

- "Politics as the Art of Equivalent Say: Reflections on Derek Walcott and W. Arthur Lewis, China and St. Lucia" (introductory essay)
- interviews with 1. author Jessica Hagedorn; 2. author Bernardine Evaristo; 3. former Washington, D.C. Bar Association President Melvin White; 4. former

Pakistan Permanent Representative to the United Nations Munir Akram; 5. Deputy Antigua and Barbuda Permanent Representative to the United Nations Byron Blake; 6. UN Department of Public Relations officer Timothy Wall.

- A brief introduction to the UN-related interviews.

3. *Callaloo* 28.3: Yusef Komunyakaa special issue (Summer 2005)

My contributions included, in addition to soliciting and editing contributions, writing an introduction, and interviewing Komunyakaa.

Creative Writing:

Poetry published in *The Best American Poetry 2003*, *The American Reader*, *The Michigan Quarterly Review*, *Poetry Kanto*, *Rattapallax*, *Callaloo*, *Parnassus: Poetry in Review*, *32 Poems*, *Salamander*, and elsewhere. Excerpt from novel in progress published in *Callaloo*.

Talks/Lectures

1. “How to get Published in PMLA”—was one of five invited panelists who addressed this issue at the 2011 MLA convention in Los Angeles, California.
2. “Representing Criminal Insanity in the Poetry of Etheridge Knight and the Advocacy of the Lawyer Gabe Kaimowitz,” talk delivered August 3, 2010 at the Institute for the Medical Humanities, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas
3. “The American Way of Peace: The Example of Ralph Bunche,” talk presented June 2, 2005 at a Yunnan University conference on “The United States in Times of War and Peace”
4. “What Canons are Made of: Authority in the works of Dante Alighieri, T. S. Eliot and William S. Burroughs”—invited lecture, delivered at Columbia University on November 17, 2004, to the Colloquium on the History of Legal and Political Thought.
5. “Fake Humans,” delivered in March 2004 at the Symposium on Memory, Displacement and Genocide at Texas Tech University
6. “Representing Discrimination” presented at the University of Costa Rica in June 2003, as part of a “Beyond Our Borders” conference sponsored by the Texas A & M University Race and Ethnic Studies Institute.
7. “Ayn Rand’s Merry Men”—delivered May 30, 2001 at the University of Western Ontario
8. Lectures (eight in all) on the businessman in American culture, delivered July 5 – July 9, 2001 at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
9. “Is Globalization for Real? The Persistence of Nationalism”—presented at the April 2000 at the ANZASA Australian American studies association conference in Sidney, Australia.
10. “Duke Ellington’s ‘In the Beginning God’”—delivered to the Duke Ellington Society on May 18, 1998

a) “Ralph Bunche and Universality” delivered March 28, 1998 at the African Literature Association meeting in Austin, Texas