

## Curriculum Vitae

Michael W. Jennings

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### CURRENT POSITION

Class of 1900 Professor of Modern Languages in the Department of German; Associated Professor in the Department of Art and Archaeology and the School of Architecture (Assistant Professor of German, Princeton, 1981-87; Associate Professor of German, Princeton, 1987-1997; Professor of German, Princeton, 1997-2009)

### AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Twentieth-century Literature, Cultural Theory, Photography

### EDUCATION

A.B. in Comparative Literature, Dartmouth College	1972
M.A. in Religion, Yale University Divinity School	1976
M.A. in German Literature, University of Virginia	1979
Ph.D. in German Literature, University of Virginia	1981

### PUBLICATIONS

#### BOOKS

*Dialectical Images: Walter Benjamin's Theory of Literary Criticism*, Cornell University Press, 1987, 233 pp.

*Walter Benjamin: A Critical Life*, with Howard Eiland, Harvard University Press, 2014, 768 pp. Reviewed or featured in: *Publishers Weekly* 11/11/13; *Literary Review* (UK); 12/1/14; *Times Higher Education*, (UK) 1/23/14; *NRC Handelsblad*, (Netherlands) 1/31/14; *Sydney Morning Herald*, (Australia) 2/8/14; *The New Republic*, 2/14/14; *Le Monde*, (France) 2/15/14; *The American Reader*, 2/14; *The Wall Street Journal*, 3/15/14; *The Chronicle of Higher Education* 3/17/14; *Books and Ideas* 3/20/14; *Sydney Review of Books* (Australia) 3/25/14; *Mosaic* 4/3/14; *The New Inquiry* 4/17/14; *Los Angeles Review of Books* 5/14; *New York Review of Books* 7/10/14; *Times Literary Supplement* (UK) 7/13/14; *Radical Philosophy* 186, July / August 2014; *Svenska Dagbladet* (Sweden) 8/4/14; *The Guardian* (UK) 8/7/14; *The Arts Fuse* 8/20/14; *City Journal* Summer 14; *Informationsmittel* 9/7/14; *The New Yorker* 9/15/14.

*Bertolt Brecht: A Critical Biography*, forthcoming from Harvard University Press, 2016.

#### EDITIONS

General Editor, Walter Benjamin, *Selected Writings*, Harvard University Press, 1996ff.:

*Volume I: Metaphysics of Youth, Writings 1912-1926*, Michael Jennings and Marcus Bullock, eds., 1996, 520 pp.; paperback edition 2004

*Volume II: Crisis and Criticism, Writings 1926-1934*, Michael Jennings, Howard Eiland, and Gary Smith, eds, 1999, 870 pp.; paperback edition in 2 volumes, 2005

*Volume III: Paris, Capital of the Nineteenth Century, Writings 1935-1938*, Michael Jennings and Howard Eiland, eds., 2002, 462 pp.; paperback edition 2006

*Volume IV: On the Concept of History, Writings 1938-1940*, Michael Jennings and Howard Eiland, eds., 2003, 478 pp.; paperback edition 2006

Walter Benjamin, *The Writer of Modern Life: Essays on Charles Baudelaire*, Michael Jennings, ed., Harvard University Press, 2006, 320 pp.

Walter Benjamin, *The Work of Art in the Age of its Technological Reproducibility: Writings on Media*, Michael Jennings, Brigid Doherty, and Thomas Levin, eds., Harvard University Press, 2008, 448 pp.

*G: Materials for elemental Form-Creation*, Michael Jennings and Detlef Mertins, eds., Getty Research Press, 2010, 280 pp. A facsimile translation with critical essays and a scholarly apparatus of a key German avantgarde journal from the early 1920's

Walter Benjamin, *One Way Street*, Michael Jennings, ed., Harvard University Press, forthcoming, 2015

Walter Benjamin, *Origin of German Trauerspiel*, Howard Eiland and Michael Jennings, ed. and trans., Harvard University Press, forthcoming 2015

#### SPECIAL ISSUES OF JOURNALS

*Walter Benjamin's Media Tactics: Optics, Perception, and the Work of Art*, *Grey Room* 39, Spring 2010, Michael Jennings and Tobias Wilke, eds.

*Kafka's Late Style*, *Monatshefte* Fall 2011, Stanley Corngold and Michael Jennings, eds.

#### JOURNAL ARTICLES

"Benjamin as a Reader of Hölderlin: The Origin of Benjamin's Theory of Literary Criticism," *The German Quarterly*, 56, No. 4 (1983), 544-562

"Mystical Selfhood and Self-Delusion: Narrative and Ethical Experimentation in Musil's 'Grigia,'" *Modern Austrian Literature*, 17, No. 1 (1984), 59-77

"Benjamin-Scholem Briefwechsel," (with Stanley Corngold), *Interpretation*, 12, Nos. 2/3 (1984), 357-366

"'Vergessen von aller Welt.' Literatur, Politik und Identität in Klingers Dramen des Sturm und Drang," *Zeitschrift für deutsche Philologie*, 104, no. 4 (1985), 494-506

"Walter Benjamin in Recent Critical Perspective" (with Stanley Corngold), *Modern Language Studies*, 16, no. 3 (1986), 367-73

"Robert Musil and the Currents of Literary Modernism," in *Major Figures of Modern Austrian Literature*, ed. Donald G. Daviau, (Riverside: Ariadne Press, 1988), 315-340

"Reply to Richard Sieburth, 'Benjamin the Scrivener,'" *Assemblage* 7 (1988), 118-121

"Robert Musil," *Dictionary of Literary Biography: Twentieth Century German and Austrian Prose Fiction to 1945*, ed. James Hardin (Columbia, S.C.: Brucoli-Clark, 1989), pp. 1-26

"Between Allegory and Aura: Walter Benjamin's 1938 Reading of Franz Kafka," *Journal of the Kafka Society of America* (1989), nos. 1-2, 42-50

"Eine gewaltige Erschütterung des Tradierten: Walter Benjamin's Political Recuperation of Franz Kafka," in Stephen Taubeneck, ed., *Fictions of Culture: Essays in Honor of Walter Sokel* (Las Vegas: Peter Lang, 1991), pp. 199-214

"Absolute Fragmentation: Walter Benjamin and Romantic Art Criticism," *Journal of Literary Criticism*, vol. VI, no. 1 (1993), pp. 1-18

- "Walter Benjamin and the Theory of Art History" in Uwe Steiner, ed., *Walter Benjamin* (Berlin: Europäischer Verlag der Wissenschaften, 1992), pp. 77-102
- "Against Expressionism: Wilhelm Worringer's Theory of Art and Society," in Neil Donahue, ed., *Invisible Cathedrals: The German Expressionist Art History of Wilhelm Worringer* (Penn State Press, 1994), pp. 87-104
- "Chronology, 1892-1926" (with Marcus Bullock), in Walter Benjamin, *Selected Writings, Volume One*, (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1996), pp. 490-515
- "Of Weimar's First and Last Things: Montage, Revolution, and Fascism in Alfred Döblin's Berlin Alexanderplatz and November 1918," in Beth Bjorklund and Mark Cory, eds, *Politics in German Literature*, (Columbia, S.C.: Camden House, 1998), 132-152
- "Das Trugbild der Stabilität. Politik und Montagetheorie in Walter Benjamins Einbahnstraße" in Klaus Garber, ed., *global benjamin*. Internationaler Walter Benjamin Kongreß 1992 (Munich: Wilhelm Fink Verlag, 1999), 517-528
- "Chronology, 1927-1934" (with Howard Eiland), in Walter Benjamin, *Selected Writings, Volume Two*, (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1999), pp. 823-56
- "Agriculture, Industry, and the Birth of the Photo Essay in the Late Weimar Republic," *October* 93, Summer 2000, 23-56.
- "On the Banks of a New Lethe: Commodification and Experience in Walter Benjamin's Late Work," *Boundary 2*, vol. 30, no. 4 (2003), pp. 89-104
- "Chronology, 1935-1938" (with Howard Eiland), in Walter Benjamin, *Selected Writings, Volume Three*, (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2002), pp. 417-47
- "Chronology, 1938-1940," in Walter Benjamin, *Selected Writings, Volume Four* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2003), pp. 427-47
- "Not Fade Away: The Face of German History in Michael Schmidt's Ein-Heit" *October* 106 (Fall 2003), pp. 137-150
- "Walter Benjamin and the European Avant-Garde," lead essay in *The Cambridge Companion to Walter Benjamin*, David Ferris, editor (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004), pp. 18-34; Spanish translation (lead article) in *Walter Benjamin: Culturas de la imagen*, Alejandra Uslenghi, ed., Silvia Villegas and Alejandra Uslenghi, trans. (Bueno Aires, Eterna Cadencia Editora, 2010)
- "Introduction: Walter Benjamin reads Charles Baudelaire," in Jennings, ed., Walter Benjamin, *The Writer of Modern Life: Essays on Charles Baudelaire* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2006), pp. 1-25; 213-216.
- "Introduction," pp. 1-8; "The Production, Reproduction, and Reception of the Work of Art," pp. 9-18; "Script / Image / Script-image" (with Brigid Doherty), pp. 167-70; "Photography," pp. 263-69; and "Modern Media" (with Thomas Levin), pp. 343-352, in Jennings, Doherty, and Levin, eds., Walter Benjamin *The Work of Art in the Age of its Technological Reproducibility: Writings on Media* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2008)
- "The Object of Culture: Cultural Studies and the Demise of American Germanistik" in *The Meaning of Culture: German Studies in the 21st Century*, Martin Kagel and Laura Tate Kagel, eds., (Hannover, Wehrhahn Verlag, 2009), pp. 33-41.
- "Moholy-Nagy: Photogram" in Barry Bergdoll and Leah Dickerman, eds., *Bauhaus 1919-1933: Workshops for Modernity*, (New York: Museum of Modern Art, 2009), pp. 216-225.
- "The Mausoleum of Youth: Between Experience and Nihilism in Benjamin's Berlin Childhood," *Paragraph*, 32:3 (2009), pp. 313-330.

- "Brinkmann's *Passio: Rom, Blicke* and Conceptual Art," in *Passionen. Objekte - Schauplätze - Denkstile*, Corina Caduff, Anne-Kathrin Reulecke, Ulrike Vedder, eds. (Munich: Wilhelm Fink, 2010), pp. 191-199.
- "Introduction: The G-Group and Avantgarde Culture in the Weimar Republic" (with Detlef Mertins), in Jennings and Mertins, eds., *G: Elements for elemental Design*, Getty Research Press, 2010, pp. 3-20.
- "Introduction: Walter Benjamin's Media Tactics" (with Tobias Wilke), in *Walter Benjamin's Media Tactics: Optics, Perception, and the Work of Art*, Grey Room 39, Spring 2010, Michael Jennings and Tobias Wilke, eds., pp. 6-9.
- "Double Take: Palimpsestic Writing and Image-Character in Benjamin's Late Prose" *Benjamin Studien 2*, Daniel Weidner and Sigrid Weigel, eds., 2011, pp. 33-45.
- "Walter Benjamin, Theology, Politics, ca. 1922," in Leonard Kaplan and Rudy Koshar, eds., *The Weimar Moment: Liberalism, Political Theology and Law* (Bethlehem: Lehigh University Press, 2011), pp. 109-122.
- "Towards Eschatology: The Development of Benjamin's Theological Politics in the early 1920's," lead essay in Carolin Duttinger, Ben Morgan, and Anthony Phelan, eds., *Walter Benjamins Anthropologisches Denken* (Freiburg: Rombach Verlag, 2012), pp. 41-58.
- "I'm not there: New York as Displaced Psychogeography in Uwe Johnson's *Jahrestage*" in *Escape to Life: German Intellectuals in New York*, Eckard Goebel and Sigrid Weigel, eds. (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2012), pp. 208-220.
- "Walter Benjamin, Siegfried Kracauer, and Weimar Criticism," in *Weimar Thought: A Contested Legacy*, Peter Gordon and John McCormick, eds., (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2013), pp. 203-19.
- "Nie blaknij. Oblicze niemieckiej historii w Ein-heit Michaela Schmidta," Krzysztof Pijarski, trans., *Teksty Drugie*, April 2013, pp.146-158 (Polish Translation of "Not Fade Away: The Face of German History in Michael Schmidt's *Ein-Heit*).
- "Doble Exposición. Escritura Palimpséstica y Textura de Imagen en la Prosa Tardia de Benjamin," *Boletín de Estética* no. 25, Spring 2013, pp. 25-59. (Spanish translation of "Double Take: Palimpsestic Writing and Image-Character in Benjamin's Late Prose).
- "Rewriting und Selbstzitate in Benjamins Spätprosa" in *Schwellen. Ansätze für eine neue Theorie des Raums*, Sigrid Bovitz and Mauro Ponzi, eds., Düsseldorf University Press, 2014, pp. 193-204.
- "Introduction," Walter Benjamin, *One Way Street*, Michael Jennings, ed., Harvard University Press, forthcoming, 2015.
- "Zum apokatastatischen Willen. Patristik und esoterische Judaistik in Benjamins Spätwerk," in *Aura und Experiment. Walter Benjamins Epistemologie zwischen Geistes- und Naturwissenschaft*, Kyung-Ho Cha, ed. Turia Kant, forthcoming 2015.
- "Benjamin After the Avant-Garde" in *After Benjamin*, Gerhard Richter, ed., Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2015.
- "Die Geheimnisse der dunklen Kammer. Michael Schmidts *Berlin nach 45* als Trauerspiel" in *Schwellenraum Fotobuch*, Georgiana Banita und Jörn Glasenapp, eds., Wilhelm Fink Verlag, forthcoming 2015.

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- "On Distraction," roundtable with Thomas Y. Levin and Michael Wood, in *Attention*, issue no. 1, [www.attentionjournal.com](http://www.attentionjournal.com).

## BOOK REVIEWS

- Friedrich Nietzsche, *Human, All Too Human*, Stephen Lehmann and Marion Faber, trans., *The New York Times Book Review*, Dec. 23, 1984, 17
- Jonathan Arac, Wlad Godzich, and Wallace Martin, eds., *The Yale Critics: Deconstruction in America*, *The German Quarterly*, 58, No. 1 (1985), 97-100
- Michael Beddow, *The Fiction of Humanity: Studies in the Bildungsroman from Wieland to Thomas Mann*, *The German Quarterly*, 57, No. 3 (1984), 495-6
- Thomas Degering, *Das Elend der Entsagung: Goethes "Wilhelm Meisters Wanderjahre" and Hans Rudolf Veget, Goethe: Der Mann von 60 Jahren*, *The German Quarterly*, 57, No. 3 (1984), 476-77
- Ronald M. Paulson, *Robert Musil and the Ineffable: Hieroglyph, Myth, Fairy Tale and Sign*, *Modern Austrian Literature*, 18, no. 1 (1985), 104
- Gudrun Brokoph-Mauch, ed., *Beiträge zur Musil-Kritik*, *Modern Austrian Literature*, 19, no. 1 (1986), 120-21
- Rainer Hoffmann, *Figuren des Scheins: Studien zum Spachbild und zur Denkform Theodor Adornos*, *The German Quarterly*, 59, No. 3 (1986), 466-67
- Jochen Schmidt, *Die Geschichte des Genie-Gedankens 1750-1945*, *The Yearbook of the Goethe Society of North America*, 4 (1988), 367-70
- Burkhardt Lindner, ed., *Walter Benjamin im Kontext*, *The Germanic Review*, 63, No. 3 (1988), 149-50
- Roland Kany, *Mnemosyne als Programm: Geschichte, Erinnerung, und die Andacht zum Unbedeutenden im Werk von Usener, Warburg, und Benjamin*, *The German Quarterly*, 62, No. 2 (1989), 286-87
- Avital Ronell, *Dictations: On Haunted Writing*, *The Yearbook of the Goethe Society of North America* 5 (1989), 342-5
- Heinrich Kaulen, *Rettung und Destruktion: Untersuchungen zur Hermeneutik Walter Benjamins*, *The German Quarterly*, 63, No. 2 (1990), 289-90
- Dagmar Barnouw, *Weimar Intellectuals and the Threat of Modernity*, *The German Quarterly*, 63, No. 2 (1990), 305-307
- Ulrich Fries, *Uwe Johnsons Jahrestage*, *The German Quarterly* 65, Nos. 3-4 (1992), 491-93
- Ward Blanton and Hent de Vries, eds., *Paul and the Philosophers*, *Los Angeles Review of Books*, forthcoming

## TRANSLATIONS

- Ernst Bloch, "Recollections of Walter Benjamin," in Gary Smith, ed., *Critical Essays on Walter Benjamin*, (Cambridge: M.I.T. Press, 1988), pp. 339-345
- Walter Benjamin, "News about Flowers," in Walter Benjamin, *Selected Writings, volume II*, pp. 155-57
- Walter Benjamin, "Doctrine of the Similar," in Walter Benjamin, *Selected Writings, volume II* pp. 694-698
- Walter Benjamin, "Antinomies of Allegorical Exegesis," "The Ruin," and "The Dismemberment of Language" from *Ursprung des deutschen Trauerspiels*, in Jennings, Doherty, and Levin, eds., *Walter Benjamin, The Work of Art in the Age of its Technological Reproducibility: Writings on Media*
- Walter Benjamin, "The Work of Art in the Age of its Technological Reproducibility" (First Version) in *Grey Room* 39, Spring 2010, pp. 11-37

## WORK IN PROGRESS

*The Time between the Pictures: German History in the Twentieth-Century Photo Book* (chapters on August Sander, Albert Renger-Patzsch, Laszlo Moholy-Nagy, Chargesheimert, Bernd and Hilla Becher, Michael Schmidt, Thomas Demand, and Beate Gütschow)

*Calendricity: Political Temporality and the Everyday in Germany, 1962-1977* (chapters on Capitalist Realism, German Situationism, Alexander Kluge, Uwe Johnson, Peter Weiss, Bernd and Hilla Becher, and Rolf Dieter Brinkmann)

## Public Lectures & Talks

"Illusion and the Structure of Literary Reference in Klinger's Dramas," MLA Convention, Los Angeles, 1982

"Under the Sign of Schlegel: Benjamin's Uses of Romantic Irony," MLA Convention, New York, 1983

"Blitzartige Erkenntnis: Notes on Lenz's Drama Theory," MLA Convention, New York, 1983

"Benjamin's Passagen-Werk and Literary Theory," Public Lecture, Harvard University, November 1984

"Hamann and Hölderlin in Benjamin's Passagen-Werk," MLA Convention, Washington, 1984

"Natural History, Natural Language: The Trauerspiel Book in the Context of Benjamin's Theory of Language," MLA Convention, Washington, 1984

"History, Art History, Literary History: Walter Benjamin and Alois Riegl," Public Lecture, Northwestern University, April, 1985

"Apocalyptic Leftism: Benjamin and Blanqui," Princeton Conference on Art and Politics in the 1930's, November 1985

"Spleen et Idéal: Walter Benjamin and Modern French Culture," MLA Convention, New York, 1986

"Self-fashioned History and the Literary Text: The New Historicism and Recent Marxisms," German Studies Association Convention, Philadelphia, October, 1988

"History and the German Novel in the Weimar Republic: The Politics of a Form," Andrew W. Mellon Ph.D. Symposium in Architecture, Princeton University, November 1988

"Politics and the Post-War German Novel," MLA Convention, New Orleans, 1988

"Eine gewaltige Erschütterung des Tradierten: Walter Benjamin's Political Recuperation of Franz Kafka," MLA Convention, New Orleans, 1988

"Montierte Politik: Political Uses of Montage in the Weimar Republic," American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, Waltham, MA, March 1989

"Montage and Politics: Hannah Höch's 'Schnitt mit dem Küchenmesser...' and Walter Benjamin's One Way Street," Public Lecture, Bryn Mawr University, April 1989

"Wave's Hollow: Walter Benjamin and Political Temporality in Uwe Johnson's Jahrestage," Public Lecture, Yale University, September 1990

"Paris-New York-Jerichow:" Thinking (Past) the End of Socialism in "Theses on the Philosophy of History" and Uwe Johnson's Anniversaries," Special Session on 'Benjamin's Nows,' MLA Convention, Chicago, 1990

"Wilhelm Worringer on the Theory of Art and Society," symposium on Wilhelm Worringer and Cultural History at Hofstra University, April, 1991

- "Montage Theory and Political Stability in Weimar's Middle Age: Walter Benjamin's One Way Street," Public Lecture, Sarah Lawrence University, April, 1992
- "Zur dialektischen Struktur von Walter Benjamins Charles Baudelaire. Ein Lyriker im Zeitalter des Hochkapitalismus," international symposium on Walter Benjamin, Osnabrück, Germany, June 1992
- "The Figuration of Social Space in Early Weimar," AATG Convention, Baden Baden, Germany, July 1992
- "Friedrich Hölderlin und die Kultur der Jugend um 1914," Public Lecture, Bad Homburg vor der Höhe, Germany, July 1992
- "The Birth of the Cool: Musil, Loos, and the Interior Spaces of Modernity," Annual Meeting of the Pacific Coast Philological Association, Seattle, Washington, September, 1993
- "Everyone his own Football: Political Theory in Berlin Dada Photomontage," Public Lecture, Cornell University, March 1994
- "Picassos Idylle," Galerie Blazsycyk, Bad Homburg, Germany, May 1996
- "Jedermann sein eigener Fußball: Montage und Revolution in Berlin Dada," Public Lecture, Institute for Comparative Literature, Freie Universität Berlin, June 1996
- "The Return of the Regressed: Nature, Technology, and Apocalypse in the late Weimar Photo Essay," Public Lecture, Dartmouth College, November 1997; Wittenberg University, March 1998
- "Spectral Presences: Walter Benjamin and Photography," DAAD Symposium on Walter Benjamin, Toronto, Ontario, October, 1998
- "Public Semiology in the Photo Essays of Walker Evans and Robert Frank," Conference on Photography and Survival, Princeton University, September 2000
- "Is there a Text in this Edition? Benjamin's Arcades Project and Baudelaire Book," Division Meeting on Scholarly Editions, MLA Annual Convention, Washington, D.C., December 2000
- "Embedded in the Nineteenth Century: Baudelaire, Blanqui, and Nietzsche outside the Arcade," invited lecture, Conference on Walter Benjamin's Arcades Project, Brown University, April 2001
- "On the Banks of a New Lethe: Commodification and Experience in Walter Benjamin's Late Work," Public Lecture, University of Georgia, October 2001; University of Chicago, May 2002, Rice University, September 2002
- "Photography and Trauma in Uwe Johnson's Jahrestage," conference on Uwe Johnson, Princeton University, October 2001
- "Mimetic Violence in Berlin Dada Photomontage," Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, National Gallery, Washington, D.C., November 2001
- "The Ethics of Anonymity: Ideology and History in Michael Schmidt's Photo-Essay U-ni-ty," Public Lecture, New York University, December 2001
- "Michael Schmidt: the Photography of History," College Art Association, February, 2003
- "The Myth of Enlightenment: Benjamin reads Kracauer reads Benjamin," Northwestern University, April 2006
- "Youth's Mausoleum: Photography and the Death of Experience in Benjamin's Berlin Childhood," Stanford University, November 2006; University of California, Davis, December, 2006
- "Excavation and Apokatastasis: Conceptual Art and the German Cultural Turn after 1968," Stanford University, November 2006

- "G" (with Detlef Mertins), "Little Magazines" Conference, School of Architecture, Princeton University, February 2007
- "History, Garbage, Photography: Benjamin reading Kracauer reading Benjamin," University of Oxford, January 2008; Cambridge University, January 2008
- "The Object of Culture: Cultural Studies and the Death of a Discipline," University of Georgia, March 2008
- "Film will Survive: Alexander Kluge's Cinema," Goethe-Institut, Washington, D.C., September 2008
- "Critique of Violence: Ecumenicism and Politics, ca. 1922," Conference on The Weimar Moment: Liberalism, Political Theology and Law, University of Wisconsin Law School, October, 2008
- "Vanishing Script: Benjamin, Modern Media, and Palimpsestic Writing," Conference on Benjamin's Frontiers, University of California, Davis, November 2008; Conference on Public Culture and Media, Northwestern University School of Communication, July 2010
- "Benjamin's Syncretism: Judaism and Christianity, 1923-1924," Conference on Benjamin's Anthropology, University of Oxford, September 2009; Conference on Benjamin's Truth, University of Antwerp, September 2009
- "G: Avantgarde Journal and Laboratory," Conference of the German Studies Association, Washington, D.C., October 2009
- "Kafka's Creatures, Benjamin's Swamp," University of Oxford, October 2009
- "Wiederschreiben und Bildcharakter in Benjamins Aphorismusbüchern," Conference on Aphoristik und Anthropologie, Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung, Berlin, May 2010; Conference on Soglie / Spazi Intermedi (Thresholds / Intermediate Spaces), Università Roma Tre, October 2010
- "After 1968: Uwe Johnson and the End(s) of Modernism," Conference on Uwe Johnson, Leben und Werk, Universität Rostock, May 2010.
- "Suitable for Classroom Use: Uwe Johnson in New York," Conference on Escape to Life: German Intellectuals in New York, NYU, September 2010.
- "The G-Group and Avantgarde Culture in the Weimar Republic," Public Lecture, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, January 2011.
- "Politics as Propaedeutic to a New Religious Space in the Work of Erich Unger: Esoteric Judaism and Secularization," Conference on "Säkularisierungen: Andere Lesarten und alternative Konzeptionen der Genealogie der Moderne," Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung, Berlin, December 2011
- "The Secrets of the Darkened Chamber: Conflations of World and Apparatus in Michael Schmidt and Henry Fox Talbot," Public Lecture, Leslie Humanities Center, Dartmouth College, February 2012.
- "Siegfried Kracauer and Walter Benjamin Invent the Criticism of Popular Culture, ca. 1925," Public Lecture, Clark University, February 2012.
- "The Will to Apokatastasis: Religion, Politics, and Media in Benjamin's Late Work," Conference on Religion and Media, Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University, April 2012.
- "Judaism, Christianity, and Syncretism in Benjamin's 'Franz Kafka,'" Conference on Religion and Modernity in Kafka, St. John's College, University of Oxford, September 2012.
- "Astral Constellations: Cosmology, Theology, and Media in Benjamin's *Arcades Project*," Conference on Memory, Media, Archive, Cornell University, November 2012; Public Lecture, Willson Center for Humanities and Arts, University of Georgia, April 2013.



- "Michael Schmidt's *Trauerspiel*," Conference on "The Itinerant Languages of Photography," Mexico City, March 2013; Public Lecture, Willson Center for Humanities and Arts, University of Georgia, April 2013; Public Lecture, University of Colorado at Boulder, October 2013.
- "Die Geheimnisse der dunklen Kammer. Michael Schmidt, Henry Fox Talbot und Walter Benjamin," Conference on "Schwellenraum Fotobuch," Bamberg, Germany, November, 2013.
- "The Disciplinary Uses of Biography," Public Lecture, Brown University, April 2014.
- "Toward the Apokatastatic Will: Media, Theology, and Politics in Walter Benjamin's Late Work," Public Lecture, School of Criticism and Theory, Cornell University, July 17, 2014; Public Lecture, Program in Critical Theory, University of California, Berkeley, November 4, 2014.
- "Walter Benjamin: A Life," Public Lecture at "Haunted Reflections: Walter Benjamin in San Francisco," City Lights Bookstore, November 5, 2014.
- "Benjamin's Artwork in San Francisco," panel discussion "Shattered Illuminations: Revisiting The Work of Art in the Age of its Technological Reproduction," San Francisco Art Institute, November 8, 2014.
- "Marxist Crisis Reconsidered: Benjamin's Permanent Catastrophe and Althusser's Encounter," Conference on "Marx and Crisis," Università Roma Uno, November 20-22, 2014.

### *Organizer*

- "Kunst und Literatur" section of "Ueber den Begriff der Geschichte:" Biennial Conference of the International Walter Benjamin Society, Frankfurt, Germany, 2013.
- "Schrift: Biennial Conference of the International Walter Benjamin Society," Princeton University, 2011
- "The Rhetorics of Religion in Germany 1900-1940," Princeton University, 2011
- "Walter Benjamin and Media Theory," Princeton University, 2008
- "The Optical Unconscious," section of *Benjamin-Festival Berlin*, 2006
- "The Public Spheres of Alexander Kluge," Princeton University, 2004
- "Surface Tensions: Politics and Aesthetics Revisited," Princeton University, September 2002
- "Uwe Johnson's Jahrestage," Princeton University and Goethe-Institut, New York, October 2001
- "Construction Site: A Colloquium on Walter Benjamin," Princeton University, May, 1994
- "The Margins of the Frankfurt School," Princeton University, January 1997
- "Avant-Garde and Tradition: Politics and Culture in the Weimar Republic," Princeton University, April 29-30, 1988
- "Walter Benjamin's Literary Criticism: The Pre-Marxist Texts," MLA Convention, 1982

## Teaching

### *Department of German*

- Walter Benjamin's Artwork Essay as Cultural History (Graduate Seminar, with Brigid Doherty)
- The Essay as Form: Essays and Photoessays (Graduate Seminar)
- Notation: Art and Literature in the German 1970's (Graduate Seminar, with Brigid Doherty)

Reading Photographic Writing (Graduate Seminar, with Eduardo Cadava)  
Benjamin's Baudelaire: Toward a Theory of Modernity (Graduate Seminar)  
Avantgarde Aesthetics and the Concept of Politics in the Long 1960's (Graduate Seminar)  
Robert Musil's Prose (Graduate Seminar)  
Modernity and Modernism in France and Germany, 1850-1914 (Graduate Seminar)  
Benjamin / Adorno (Graduate Seminar)  
Politics and Culture in the Weimar Republic (Graduate and Undergraduate Seminars with Dorothea Dietrich)  
Frankfurt School Cultural Theory (Graduate and Undergraduate Seminars with Thomas Levin)  
The Historical Avantgarde Movements in Europe  
Origins of Modernism  
Survey of German Literature, 1700-1945  
Genre and Politics in the Sturm und Drang (Graduate Seminar)  
Twentieth Century Novel and Historical Representation (Graduate Seminar)  
Walter Benjamin and Contemporary Cultural Theory (Graduate Seminar)  
Photography and Literature (Graduate Seminar)  
Reading Photographs (Sophomore Workshop)  
Nietzsche and Modern Literature  
The Romantic Quest: Romantic Hero and Modern Anti-Hero  
Language at all levels

*University Literature Courses*

European Short Fiction

*Program in European Cultural Studies*

The Culture of the Weimar Republic

Introduction to Cultural Interpretation

Modernism, Avantgarde, and Popular Culture in France and Germany 1848-1918

*Other Universities*

"Versions of Reproducibility: Benjamin's Artwork Essay and Innervation," Seminar, Public Culture Summer Graduate Institute, School of Communication, Northwestern University, July 2010

## Administrative Experience

### *Department of German*

Chair, 1999-2012

Director of Graduate Studies, 1990-91; 1997-99

Departmental Representative (Director of Undergraduate Studies), 1984-87

### *Princeton University*

Master, John D. Rockefeller 3rd Residential College, 1990-99

University Steering Committee on Accreditation, Co-Chair, 2012-2014

University Task Force on Dining and Social Options, Chair, 2004-2005

University Committee on Appointments and Advancements, 2000-01

University Priorities (Budget) Committee, 1987-88

University Committee on Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences, 1999-2002

University Committee on Admissions and Financial Aid, 1998-2001, 2011

University Committee on International Experience, 1997-2001

University Committee on the Library and Computing, 2008-2010

University Committee on Grading, 2011-14

Firestone Library Renovation Steering Committee, 2008-

University Humanistic Studies Committee, 1984-85

University Committee on Undergraduate Life, 1987-88, 1994-97, 2010

University Committee on Language Teaching and Learning 1986-1990

University Strategic Planning Committee on the Library and Information Technology, 1993-4

University Faculty and Staff Sexual Harassment Panel, 1991-1994

University Working Group on Race Relations, 1993-95

University Campus Center Planning Committee, 1993-5

University Search Committee, Vice President for Facilities, 1998

University Search Committee, Director of Athletics, 1994

University Search Committee, Director, Campus Center, 1999-2000

University Search Committee, Director, Writing Program, 2000-2001

University Search Committee, Dean, School of Architecture, 2001-02

University Search Committee, Vice President for Campus Life, 2009-2010

Executive Committee, Council of the Humanities, 2001-2006

Executive Committee, Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program in the Humanities, 2011-  
East Pyne Humanities Computer Consortium, 1986-91 (Chair, 1986-87, 1989-91)  
Steering Committee, Program in European Cultural Studies 1988-  
Steering Committee, Graduate Program in Media and Modernity, 2001-2010  
Faculty Associate, Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, 2003-  
Faculty Associate, Center for the Study of Religion, 2011-

## GRANTS, HONORS & AWARDS

Old Dominion Professor in the Council of the Humanities, Princeton University, 2014-2015  
Graduate Mentoring Award, Princeton University, 2011 (for outstanding Ph.D. supervision)  
Princeton University Summer Research Grants: Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, France, 1985; Nationalgalerie, Berlin, 1992; Staatsbibliothek Berlin, 1996, 1997; Museum Folkwang, Essen, 2001  
Apple Computer Courseware Grant, 1990  
Old Dominion Fellow in the Council of the Humanities, Princeton University, 1989-90 (University Fellowship for interdisciplinary teaching)  
DAAD Studienaufenthalt Stipends, Universität des Saarlandes, Arbeitsstelle für Robert-Musil-Forschung, 1986; Staatsbibliothek Berlin, 1996  
Andrew W. Mellon Faculty Fellowship, Department of German, Harvard University, 1983-84  
DAAD Dissertation Research Fellowship, Goethe Universität, Frankfurt am Main, West Germany, 1979-80

## Professional Service and Memberships

Director, Alexander Kluge Research Collection, Princeton University, 2007-  
Co-Director, "Benjaminian Encounters," Oxford-Princeton Research Collaboration, 2006-  
Distinguished Visiting Scholar, Public Culture Summer Institute, School of Communication, Northwestern University, 2010  
Research Fellow, "Reconfigurations of the Human in German and Austrian Modernism," University of London, 2006-  
MLA Standing Committee on Scholarly Editions, 2004-07  
MLA Delegate Assembly, 1991-94  
National Selection Committee, American Academy in Berlin, 2006-2008  
National Selection Committee, DAAD Jahresstipendien, 2005-  
Selection Committee, Harry Levin Book Prize, ACLA, 2013-  
Governing Board, Consortium for Language Teaching and Learning, 1987-1990  
Governing Board, National Center for Electronic Texts in the Humanities, 1992-94

*Scholarly Associations*

Co-Chair, Vorstand (Executive Committee), International Walter Benjamin Society, 2009-

Vorstand (Executive Committee), Uwe Johnson-Gesellschaft, 2009-

*Editorial Boards*

*Transit: A Journal of Travel, Migration and Multiculturalism in the German-speaking World*

*links: Rivista di letteratura e cultura tedesca*

*Cultura: International Journal of Philosophy of Culture*

*Outside Evaluator*

Department of German and Slavic, University of Notre Dame; Department of German, Northwestern University; Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, University of California, Berkeley; Departments of Classics, French, German, and Spanish, Rice University; Division of Cultures, Literatures, and Languages, Stanford University

*Referee*

National Endowment for the Humanities, Canada Council, Woodrow Wilson Foundation Book Prize, American Academy in Berlin, DAAD Studienaufenthalt Stipendien, Israel Science Foundation, European Research Council, American Philosophical Association

*Reader*

*PMLA, Comparative Literature, The German Quarterly, The Germanic Review, Modern Austrian Literature, MLN, Monatshefte, Seminar, New German Critique, Comparative Literature*

*Consultant*

Cornell University Press; Princeton University Press; Harvard University Press; Stanford University Press; Columbia University Press; Johns Hopkins University Press; Wayne State University Press; University of Massachusetts Press; University of Chicago Press; Penn State University Press; University of Nebraska Press; MIT Press; Polity Press; W.W. Norton & Co; Fordham University Press; SUNY Press

*Referee*

Stanford University, Yale University (Art History; German), Harvard University (ad hoc committee), University of Pennsylvania, Cornell University, Dartmouth College, University of Oxford, Northwestern University, University of Georgia, University of Virginia, University of Rochester, University of Illinois / Chicago, Columbia University, University of Colorado, Washington University, New York University, University of Toronto, University of North Carolina, University of California / Davis, Barnard College, College of the Holy Cross, University of Michigan, University of California / Irvine, Vanderbilt University, Johns Hopkins University (Humanities Center)

*Member*

MLA, AATG, GSA, International Walter Benjamin Society, Uwe Johnson Gesellschaft, Kafka Society of America, American Comparative Literature Association, College Art Association

## Public Service

Governing Board, Westminster Foundation, 1995-99

Governing Board, Princeton Youth Fund, 1995-99

Board of Trustees, Princeton-Blairstown Center, 1995-2000

Convener, Robeson Group (interracial working group on public education in Princeton), 1991-1995

Board of Trustees, AlumniCorps, 2014-