

CURRICULUM VITAE

Michael Hill

Department of English
The University of Iowa
308 English-Philosophy Building
Iowa City, IA 52242-1492

- Education Ph.D. in English and American Literature and Language, Harvard University; 2004
M.A. in English and American Literature and Language, Harvard University; 1995
B.A. summa cum laude, Howard University; 1993
Luard Scholar, Edinburgh University, Scotland; 1991-1992
- Dissertation *A Little Child Shall Lead Them: Adolescence in African American Civil Rights Novels*
Directed by Henry Louis Gates, Jr., and Lawrence Buell
- Teaching and Research Interests African American literature; 20th-century American literature; Drama; 19th-century British novel; Popular Culture; Narrative Theory; Nationalism, Gender, and Race
- Honors And Fellowships Old Gold Summer Research Fellowship, 2007
Faculty Appreciation Award, Wake Forest Interfraternity Council, 2004
Archie Grant, Wake Forest University, 2002
Mellon Summer Research Fellowship, 1997
Distinguished Teaching Award, Harvard University, 1996
Graduate Prize Fellowship, Harvard University, 1993-1999
Phi Beta Kappa, Howard University, 1993
- Publications *Ralph Ellison's Invisible Man: A Reference Guide*. Multicultural Authors Series. Greenwood Press, 2008. Co-author with Lena M. Hill.
"You Wanna Go Deep, I Take You Deep: African American and Womanist Consciousness in Imperceptible Mutabilities of the Third Kingdom," *Womanist Theory and Research* 2:1 (Fall/Winter 1996-7): 48-56.
- Professional Presentations "Ralph Ellison and the Stakes of Vanquishing Anonymity," American Literature Association, San Francisco: May 22, 2008
"Looking for a Native Tongue: Racial Identity in Reagan Era African American Culture," NEXUS: Collected and Collective Identities, University of Tennessee-Knoxville: March 28, 2008
"What is Africa to Me?": Cultural Identity in Prizewinning African American Novels of the Reagan Era," New Research in African American Studies, University of Iowa: March 12, 2008

- “Head Work: The Black Male Intellectual in *The Chaneyville Incident*,”
Celebrating the African American Novel: Critical Visions and Revisions
Of Its Past and Present, Penn State-University Park: April 1, 2005
- “Moral Blackness: Adolescence in Civil Rights Novels,” African American
Literature and History Series, Emory University: November 21, 2002
- “Integration as Verdict: Legal Procedure in Nathaniel Hooks’ *Town on Trial*,”
American Studies Association, Houston: November 15, 2002
- “Like You Had Book Learnin’: Mentis Carrere and His Louisiana Fiction,” MLA,
New Orleans: December 29, 2001
- "Moral Crossroads: Cultural Maturity in Novels of the 1950s," The Millenium:
Historicizing the Past, Present, and Future, Morgan State University: April
6-8, 2000
- "Literary Appeals: Courtrooms in African American Novels of the 1950s,"
Cultural Connections in the Diaspora: Africa and the Americas, Florida
A&M University: April 17, 1998
- "Like Elevators: Orality, Literacy, and the Development of Rap Lyricism,"
disChord: A Conference on Contemporary Popular Music, UCLA: May
11, 1997
- "Rap Music: Form and Aesthetics," International Conference on African
American Music and Europe, The Sorbonne : April 27, 1996
- "The Politics of the Modern Griot," Race As a Tool: Exploring the Intersection of
Politics and Culture, Harvard University: April 13, 1996
- "The Hustling Aesthetic: Black Male Identity in *Philadelphia Fire*," National
Black Graduate Student Conference, Mississippi State University: May
20, 1994

Teaching
Experience

- Assistant Professor, The University of Iowa, 2006-Present
Taught the following courses:
“African American Literature II”
“American Literary Classics: The Observer-Hero Narrative”
“American Novel Since 1945: Post-Vietnam African American Novels”
“Literature and Culture of 20th Century America: Black Novels in the
Reagan Era”
“Selected African American Authors: Suzan-Lori Parks and August
Wilson”
“Studies in African American Literature: Post-Vietnam Black Literary
Criticism 1975-1990”
“Topics in African American Literature: Adolescence in African
American Novels”
“Topics in African American Studies: Classic Hip Hop – A Sound of
Blackness?”
Directed senior honors thesis on films about African Americans in film
("Viewing Viet-Kong: Exploring the Misrepresentations of Black Men in
Vietnam War Films.")
- Assistant Professor, Wake Forest University, 2004-2006
Taught the following courses:

“Black Novels in the Reagan Era”

“Introduction to American Literature”

“Post-Vietnam African American Literature”

“Voice in African American Experience”

Directed senior honors thesis on Toni Morrison (“The Use of Color in Toni Morrison’s *Beloved*”)

Directed senior honors thesis on Hip Hop (“Form and Flow: The Role of Analogy in American Hip Hop”)

Reader masters thesis on Chicano Literature (“Gendered Archetypes in Chicano Fiction: Folklore’s Influence on Character Development”)

Instructor, Wake Forest University, 2001-2004

Taught the following courses:

“Adolescence in African American Fiction”

“African American Drama Since 1959”

“African American Drama Since World War II”

“The American Short Story Collection”

“Introduction to American Literature”

“Studies in American Literature”

“Voice in African American Experience”

Directed senior honors thesis on Flannery O’Connor (“The ‘Weak’ Confound the ‘Mighty’: The Redemptive Role of African- Americans in Flannery O’Connor’s Fiction”)

Led an independent study on Adolescence in American Literature

Teaching Fellow, Harvard University, 1995-1997, 1998-1999

Led weekly discussions, composed exams, and graded written assignments for the following courses:

"Modern American Fiction," Professor Jesse A. Matz

"The African American Literary Tradition," Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

"Tragic Drama and Human Conflict," Professor Bennett Simon

"The Novel (and Other Narrative) Since World War II," Professor Robert Kiely

"19th Century British Novel," Professor Elaine Scarry.

Tutor in junior and senior honors program, Harvard University, 1995-1997, 1998-1999

Directed senior honors theses on David Foster Wallace (“Drugged and Dysfunctional: The Heroic Figure in Infinite Jest”), John Irving (“Constructs of Masculinity in Two Novels by John Irving”), Richard Wright (“Art of the Disinherited: The Ideological Binaries and Evolution of Richard Wright’s *Native Son*”), and African American fiction (“How It Can Be Told: The Jazz Compositional Text”).

Designed, led, and evaluated weekly one-on-one junior tutorials on dysfunctional families in drama, genre and narrative, the macabre in fiction, and music and literary form.

Related

Master of Ceremonies, “Public Forum,” an event at The State of the African

Experience

- American Athletes, Coaches, and Administrators in the 21st Century Conference, The University of Iowa, February 11, 2009.
- Facilitator, "Colorism/Pigmentocracy," an event in the Black Male Forum series sponsored by the Hubbard Group, The University of Iowa, November 20, 2008.
- Keynote Speaker, "Pushing For Change: Economic, Youth, and Educational Development," The 3rd Annual Summit of the Ongoing Covenant with Black Iowa, The University of Iowa, October 30, 2008.
- Chair, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, The University of Iowa – African American Studies, 2008-Present
- Member, The Hubbard Group, a task force sponsored by the Associate Provost for Diversity that strives to increase the overall success of black male faculty, staff, and students, The University of Iowa, Fall 2008-Present.
- Faculty Mentor, "Negro Folklore: Reversing the Curse of Ham," a research project completed by Geoffrey F. Hicks under the auspices of the Iowa Summer Research Opportunities Program, The University of Iowa, Summer 2008.
- Speaker, "Friday After Class," a program sponsored by the Center for Diversity & Enrichment, The University of Iowa, November 9, 2007
- Chair, PhD Placement Committee, The University of Iowa – English Department, 2007-2008
- Graduate Steering Committee, The University of Iowa – English Department, 2007-2008
- Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, The University of Iowa – African American Studies, 2007-Present
- Morning Speaker, "The Consequences of Faking Passion," a program sponsored by the Academy for Scholastic and Personal Success, Cedar Rapids, July 13, 2007
- Panelist, "Decoding the Disciplines: Liberal Arts Majors and Career Skills," a panel sponsored by New Dimensions in Learning, The University of Iowa, March 5, 2007
- Moderator, "The Emergence of Viable Minority Presidential Candidates," an event in the Hot Topics series sponsored by the Black Student Union, The University of Iowa, February 21, 2007
- Master of Ceremonies, University Convocation, The University of Iowa, January 15, 2007
- Research Committee, The University of Iowa – African American Studies, 2006-2007
- Undergraduate Steering Committee, The University of Iowa – English Department, 2006-2007
- Panelist, "Experiences in Academia," a seminar sponsored by Iowa Summer Research Opportunities Program, The University of Iowa, July 18, 2006
- Closing Remarks, "Economic Empowerment with Kwame Jackson," a program sponsored by The Multicultural Male Caucus, Wake Forest University, April 22, 2006
- Discussion Leader, "On the Same Poem: Lunch with Thylia Moss," Forsyth

County Public Library, April 4, 2006
Interviewer, Wake Forest University - Gordon Scholarship, February 25, 2005
Discussion Leader, "On the Same Page: Maya Angelou's *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*," Peace Haven Baptist Church, October 26, 2004
Lower Division Committee, Wake Forest University – English Department, 2004
Discussion Leader, "On the Same Poem: Lunch with Rita Dove," Forsyth County Public Library, April 22, 2004
Facilitator, United Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church High School Book Club, Summer 2004, 2005
Advisor, Wake Forest University Hip Hop Club, 2004-2006
Boy Willie, "Dialogue from August Wilson's *The Piano Lesson*," United Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church Black History Month Celebration, 2004
Freshman Advisor, Wake Forest University, 2003-2005
Panelist, "Freshman Transition Class," Life Skills Series - Wake Forest University Athletic Department, 2003-2005
Majors Committee, Wake Forest University – English Department, 2001-2006
Literary Consultant, *Seven Guitars*, Studio Theatre, 1998
Librettist, *Superb in Love and Logic*, New England Conservatory, 1998
Research Assistant to Professor R. Baxter Miller, University of Georgia, 1993-1996, 1998
Editorial Assistant, *Langston Hughes Review*, 1994-1996
Editorial Assistant, *Recovered Writers/Recovered Texts: Race, Class, and Gender in Black Women's Literature*, 1996
Organizing Committee, "A Contemporary Notion of Citizenship: The Impact of Race, Class, and Gender in American Life," Harvard University, 1995
Editorial Assistant, *The Womanist*, 1994
Research Assistant, *The Riverside Anthology of the African American Literary Tradition*, 1993
Editorial and Features Reporter, *The Champion*, 1991