

Louis Menand
Department of English
12 Quincy Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138
(617) 495-8780

EMPLOYMENT

2018– Lee Simpkins Family Professor of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University
2004– Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Professor of English, Harvard University
2003–2004 Professor of English, Harvard University
2001–2003 Distinguished Professor of English, The Graduate Center of the City University
of New York
1994–2001 Professor of English, The Graduate Center, CUNY
1993–1994 Associate Professor of English, The Graduate Center, CUNY
1988–1993 Associate Professor of English, Queens College and The Graduate Center, CUNY
1987–1988 Associate Professor of English, Queens College, CUNY
1980–1987 Assistant Professor of English, Princeton University
1977–1979 Preceptor, Columbia University

VISITING LECTURESHIPS AND APPOINTMENTS

Faculty of the Mellon School of Theatre and Performance, Harvard University, June 2018
Chancellor's Distinguished Visitor, University of Missouri, April 18, 2014
Mellon Fellowship of Scholars Visiting Lecturer, Stanford University, March 8–9, 2012.
Fred W. Schuster and Margaret C. Schuster Distinguished Visiting Lectureship, Carleton College,
April 14–15, 2011
Poynter Fellow in Journalism, Yale University, October 26, 2010
Leader, Summer Institute in Literary Studies, National Humanities Center, 2010.
Whitney J. Oates Short-Term Visiting Fellow, Princeton University, Fall 2008
Kritikos Professor, Humanities Center, University of Oregon, Spring 2005
Schaffer Visiting Scholar, Department of English, Carnegie Mellon University, Spring 2005
Visiting Professor of Liberal Studies, Graduate Faculty, New School University, Fall 2001, Fall 2002
Visiting Professor of Law, University of Virginia School of Law, Spring 1998
Adjunct Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University Graduate
School of Arts and Sciences, Fall 1989, Spring 1990

EDUCATION

Columbia University, M.A., with high honors, 1975; Ph.D., with distinction, in English and Comparative
Literature, 1980
Pomona College, B.A., *magna cum laude*, in English with an emphasis on creative writing, 1973

HONORS AND AWARDS

National Humanities Medal, 2016
Harvard College Professor, 2015–
Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 2011–
Fellow of the Massachusetts Historical Society, 2009–

Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation Fellow, The Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers, New York Public Library, 2007–2008
 Finalist, National Magazine Awards for Reviews and Criticism, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2008
 Finalist, National Magazine Award for Essays, 2004
 Literary Light, Boston Public Library, 2004
 A.M., *honoris causa*, Harvard University, 2003
 Litt.D., *honoris causa*, Pomona College, 2003
 Dean's Award for Distinguished Achievement, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University, 2003
 Scholar of the Year, New York Council for the Humanities, 2002
 Pulitzer Prize for History, 2002 (The Metaphysical Club)
 Francis Parkman Prize, Society of American Historians, 2002 (The Metaphysical Club)
 Finalist, Los Angeles Times Book Prize in History, 2002 (The Metaphysical Club)
 Heartland Prize for Nonfiction, Chicago Tribune, 2001 (The Metaphysical Club)
 Editors' Choice, Nine Best Books of 2001, New York Times Book Review (The Metaphysical Club)
 Alfred P. Sloan Foundation research grant, 1997–1998
 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship, 1991–1992
 National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, 1990–1991
 Scholar Incentive Award, Queens College, 1990–1991; CUNY Graduate Center, 1997–1998
 PSC-CUNY Research Award, 1990–1991
 John E. Annan Bicentennial Preceptorship, Princeton University, 1984–1987
 Princeton University Council for the Humanities Research Grant, 1981
 President's Fellow, Columbia University, 1975–1976, 1976–1977, 1979–1980
 Fellow of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University, 1974–1975
 John Dye Award for best writing in a student publication, Pomona College, 1973
 Phi Beta Kappa, Pomona College, 1973

EDITORIAL POSITIONS

Staff writer, The New Yorker, 2001–
 Contributing Editor, The New York Review of Books, 1994–2001
 Literary Editor, The New Yorker, 1993–1994
 Associate Editor, The New Republic, 1986–1987

SELECTED HARVARD ACTIVITIES

Standing Committee on Degrees in History and Literature
 Standing Committee on Degrees in American Studies
 Affiliated faculty of the Department of History
 Faculty of the Graduate School of Education
 Executive Committee, Mahindra Humanities Center
 Working Group on the Humanities Concentration (2013–2014)
 Co-Chair, Task Force on General Education (2006–2007)
 Faculty Council (2006–2009)

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Current

Advisory Board, ESOPUS
 Advisory Editor, Studies in American Fiction
 Advisory Board, Iowa Series in Contemporary Literature and Culture
 Contributing Editor, Raritan: A Quarterly Review

Past

Board of Trustees, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, 2013–2015
 Board of Trustees, Boston Museum of Fine Arts, 2011–2015
 Board of Trustees, National Humanities Center, 2011–2014
 Board of Editors, New England Quarterly, 2002–2015
 Board of Supervisors, The English Institute, 2002–2004
 Vice-President, PEN American Center, 1995-96; Executive Board, 1994–1996
 Co-director, The Twentieth Century Seminar, CUNY Graduate Center, 1993–1999
 Program Director, New York Institute for the Humanities at New York University, 1992–1994;
 Resident Fellow, 1990–1992; Fellow 1990–1996
 Senior staff, Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, New York University, 1986

PUBLICATIONS

Books

The Marketplace of Ideas. New York: W. W. Norton, 2010. Paperback edition, 2011.
 Translations: Korean, Spanish.

American Studies. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2002. Paperback edition, 2003.
 Translation: Italian.

The Metaphysical Club. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2001. Paperback edition, 2002
 Translations: Spanish, Korean, Italian, Chinese, Russian, Japanese, Arabic, Turkish.

Discovering Modernism: T. S. Eliot and His Context. New York: Oxford University Press, 1987.
 Paperback edition, 1988. Second edition, with a new afterword, 2007.

Edited books

Best American Essays 2003. Ed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2004. Paperback edition, 2004.

Pragmatism: A Reader. Ed. New York: Vintage Books, 1997. Translation: Korean.

The Future of Academic Freedom. Ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996. Paperback edition, 1998.

Co-edited books

The Rise of the Research University: A Sourcebook. Ed., with Paul Reitter and Chad Wellmon.
 Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2017.

The Cambridge History of Literary Criticism, Volume 7: Modernism and the New Criticism. Ed., with A. Walton Litz and Lawrence Rainey. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000. Paperback edition 2006. Translations: Arabic, Chinese.

America in Theory. Ed., with Leslie Berlowitz and Denis Donoghue. New York: Oxford University Press, 1988.

Published Papers

The Story of the Soup Cans. University of Oregon Books. Eugene: University of Oregon Press, 2006.

The Marketplace of Ideas. ACLS Occasional Paper, No. 49. New York: American Council of Learned Societies, 2001.

William James in Brazil. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2000.

Catalogue essays

“This Is the End.” Avedon: Murals and Portraits. New York: Gagosian Gallery, 2012. Pp. 24-32.

“What It Is Like to See a Sacks.” Peter Sacks: Paintings. New York: Paul Rodgers/9W, 2009.

“Putting the Voice Back into the Form: James Dinerstein’s Hellenic Modernism.” Poetry by Louise Gluck and Robert Pinsky, Sculpture by James Dinerstein. New York, 2008.

Articles in books

Headnotes for Charles William Eliot, “The New Education” and “Liberty in Education,” G. Stanley Hall, “Opening Address,” James McCosh, “The New Departure in College Education” and The Morrill Act. In The Rise of the Research University: A Sourcebook. Ed., with Paul Reitter and Chad Wellmon. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2017.

“Postwar: Note.” The 40s: The Story of a Decade. Ed. Henry Finder. (New York: Random House, 2014. Pp. 231-34.

“Dissociation of Sensibility.” The New Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics. Ed. Roland Greene and Stephen Cushman. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2012. P. 369.

“Objective Correlative.” The New Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics. P. 963.

“Tradition.” The New Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics. Pp. 1444-46.

“Being There.” The War Room, dir. Chris Hegedus and D. A. Pennebaker, DVD, Criterion Collection, 602 (2012).

“Freud, Anxiety, and the Cold War.” After Freud Left: A Century of Psychoanalysis in America. Ed. John Burnham. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2012. Pp. 189-207. Awarded the Courage to Dream Book Prize of the American Psychoanalytic Association.

Introduction to Masscult and Midcult: Essays Against the American Grain, by Dwight Macdonald. New York: New York Review Books, 2011.

Introduction to Dialogue with Death: The Journal of a Prisoner of the Fascists in the Spanish Civil War, by Arthur Koestler. Rpt. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2011.

Introduction to The Liberal Imagination, by Lionel Trilling. New York: New York Review Books, 2008.

“The End Matter.” Disquiet, Please: More Humor Writing from “The New Yorker.” Ed. David Remnick and Henry Finder. New York: Random House, 2008.

“Notable Quotables.” Best American Essays 2008. Ed. Adam Gopnik and Robert Atwan. New York: Houghton Mifflin, 2008. Pp. 148-54.

“Name that Tone.” Best American Essays 2007. Ed. David Foster Wallace and Robert Atwan. New York: Houghton Mifflin, 2007. Pp. 155-57.

“Holden at Fifty.” If You Really Want to Hear About It. Ed Catherine Crawford. New York: Thunder’s Mouth Press, 2006. Pp. 235-48.

“Do Movies Have Rights?” Thomas Dixon Jr, and the Making of Modern America. Ed. Michele K. Gillespie and Randal L. Hall. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2006. Pp. 183-202.

“The Promise of Liberty, the Friend of Authority: American Culture in Postwar France.” Americanism: New Perspectives on the History of an Ideal. Ed. Michael Kazin and Joseph A. McCartin. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press. 2006. Pp. 205-20.

Introduction to Civilization and Its Discontents, by Sigmund Freud. New York: W. W. Norton, 2005.

“Kael’s Attack on Sarris.” Polemic: Critical or Uncritical. Ed. Jane Gallop. New York: Routledge, 2004. Pp. 153-77.

“The Science of Human Nature and the Human Nature of Science.” Genetics, Disability, and Deafness. Ed. John Vickrey Van Cleve. Washington, D.C.: Gallaudet University Press, 2004. Pp. 5-22.

Introduction to Memoirs of Hecate County, by Edmund Wilson. New York: New York Review Books, 2004.

“New New York Intellectual: An Interview with Louis Menand.” Critics at Work: Interviews

1993-2003. Ed. Jeffrey J. Williams. New York: New York University Press, 2004. Pp. 117-35.

“History Written with Lightning: The NAACP’s Bid to Ban The Birth of a Nation.” The New Gatekeepers: Emerging Challenges to Free Expression in the Arts. Ed. Christopher Hawthorne and Andras Szanto. New York: National Arts Journalism Program, 2003. Pp. 45-52.

Introduction to The Manchurian Candidate, by Richard Condon. New York: Four Walls Eight Windows, 2003.

“Foreword: The Historical Romance.” To the Finland Station, by Edmund Wilson. New York: New York Review Books, 2003.

“College: After the Golden Age.” Best American Essays 2002. Ed. Stephen Jay Gould and Robert Atwan. New York: Houghton Mifflin, 2002. Pp. 219-31.

“Listening to Bourbon.” Fierce Pajamas: An Anthology of Humor Writing from “The New Yorker.” Ed. David Remnick and Henry Finder. New York: Random House, 2001.

“Introduction: Modernism and the New Criticism” (with Lawrence Rainey). The Cambridge History of Literary Criticism, Volume 7: Modernism and the New Criticism.

“T. S. Eliot.” In The Cambridge History of Literary Criticism, Volume 7: Modernism and the New Criticism. Pp. 17-56.

“Modernity and Literary Theory.” Earth, Air, Fire, Water: Humanistic Studies of the Environment. Ed. Jill Conway, Kenneth Keniston, and Leo Marx. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1999. Pp. 305-19.

“Pragmatists and Poets.” The Revival of Pragmatism: New Essays on Social Thought, Law, and Culture. Ed. Morris Dickstein. Durham: Duke University Press, 1998. Pp. 362-69.

“Re-imagining Liberal Education.” Education and Democracy: Re-imagining Liberal Learning in America. Ed. Robert Orrill. New York: The College Board, 1997. Pp. 1-19.

“Christopher Lasch’s Quarrel with Liberalism.” The Liberal Persuasion: Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., and the Challenge of the American Past. Ed. John Patrick Diggins. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1997. Pp. 233-50.

“Edmund Wilson in His Times.” Edmund Wilson: Centennial Reflections. Ed. Lewis M. Dabney. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1997. Pp. 253-65.

Afterword to On the Market: Surviving the Academic Job Search. Ed. Christina Boufis and Victoria C. Olsen. New York: Riverhead, 1997.

“An Introduction to Pragmatism.” Pragmatism: A Reader.

“The Demise of Disciplinary Authority.” What’s Happened to the Humanities? Ed. Alvin Kernan.

Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1997. Pp. 201-19.

“Radicalism for Yuppies.” The Eighties: A Reader. Ed. Gilbert T. Sewall. Reading, Mass.: Addison-Wesley, 1997. Pp. 254-9.

“The Limits of Academic Freedom.” The Future of Academic Freedom. Pp. 3-20.

“Culture and Advocacy.” Advocacy in the Classroom: Problems and Possibilities. Ed. Patricia Meyer Spacks. New York: St. Martin’s, 1996. Pp. 116-24.

“Kipling in the History of Forms.” High and Low Moderns: Literature and Culture 1889-1939. Ed. Lucy McDiarmid and Maria DiBattista. New York: Oxford University Press, 1996. Pp. 148-65.

Introduction to Women in Love, by D. H. Lawrence. New York: Bantam Books, 1996.

“Marketing Postmodernism.” The Condition of American Liberal Education: Pragmatism and a Changing Tradition. Ed. Robert Orrill. New York: The College Board, 1995. Pp. 140-44.

“Diversity.” Critical Terms for Literary Study. Ed. Frank Lentricchia and Thomas McLaughlin. 2nd ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995. Pp. 336-53.

“Methods and Madnesses.” Perspectives on “Raging Bull.” Ed. Steven G. Kellman. New York: G. K. Hall, 1994. Pp. 60-68.

“What Are Universities For?” Falling into Theory: Conflicting Views on Reading Literature. Ed. David H. Richter. Boston: Bedford Books, 1994. Pp. 88-99.

“Oscar Wilde.” The Johns Hopkins Guide to Literary Theory and Criticism. Ed. Michael Groden and Martin Kreiswirth. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1994. Pp. 730-31.

“Edmund Wilson.” The Johns Hopkins Guide to Literary Theory and Criticism. Pp. 734-35.

“Dissociation of Sensibility.” The New Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics. Ed. Alex Preminger and T. V. F. Brogan. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1993. P. 298.

“Objective Correlative.” The New Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics. P. 848.

“Tradition.” The New Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics. Pp. 1295-96.

“Mr. Bloom’s Planet.” Essays on “The Closing of the American Mind.” Ed. Robert L. Stone. Chicago: Chicago Review Press, 1989. Pp. 300-03.

Articles in periodicals

“Nowhere to Hide: Why Do We Care about Privacy?” The New Yorker, 18 June 2018, 24–29.

- “Made in Vietnam: Edward Lansdale and the War Over the War.” The New Yorker, 26 February 2018, 65–71.
- “Been There: The Presidential Election of 1968.” The New Yorker, 8 January 2018, 69–75.
- “Ashbery: Voyage in the Blue.” Arteté, #53 (Autumn 2017), 97-101.
- “Drop Your Weapons: What Happens When You Outlaw War.” The New Yorker, 18 September 2017, 61–66.
- “The Stone Guest: Can Sigmund Freud Ever Be Killed?” The New Yorker, 28 August 2017, 75–82.
- “The Defense of Poetry: Can a Poem Change Your Life?” The New Yorker, 31 July 2017, 64–69.
- “People of the Book: Two Faces of American Publishing.” The New Yorker, 12 December 2016, 78–85.
- “He’s Back: Karl Marx, Yeterday and Today.” The New Yorker, 10 October 2016, 90–97.
- “The Elvic Oracle: Did Anyone Invent Rock and Roll?” The New Yorker, 16 November 2015, 80–87.
- “Out of Bethlehem: The Radicalization of Joan Didion.” The New Yorker, 24 August 2015, 68–75.
- “Young Saul: The Subject of Bellow’s Fiction.” The New Yorker, 11 May 2015, 71–77.
- “A Friend of the Devil: Inside a Famous Cold War Deception.” The New Yorker, 23 March 2015, 85–90.
- “Pulp’s Big Moment: How Emily Bronte Met Mickey Spillane.” The New Yorker, 5 January 2015, 62–69.
- “Crooner in Rights Spat: Are Copyright Laws Too Strict?” The New Yorker, 20 October, 2014, 84–89.
- “The Sex Amendment: How Women Got in on the Civil Rights Act.” The New Yorker, 21 July, 2014, 74–81.
- “The de Man Case: Does a Critic’s Past Explain His Criticism?” The New Yorker, 24 March 2014, 89–95.
- “The Prisoner of Stress: What Does Anxiety Mean?” The New Yorker, 27 January 2014, 64–69.
- “The Norman Invasion: The Crazy Career of Norman Mailer.” The New Yorker, 14 October 2013, 86–95.

“The Color of Law: The Voting Rights Act and the Southern Way of Life.” The New Yorker, 8&15 July 2013, 80–89.

Response to “The media and intellectuals' response to medical publications: the antidepressants' case,” by Konstantinos N Fountoulakis, Cyril Hoschl, Siegfried Kasper, Juan Lopez-Ibor, and Hans-Jürgen Möller. Annals of General Psychiatry, 12:11 (April 2013).

“Why We Have College.” Forum Futures 2012 (Forum for Higher Education, Cambridge, MA), 5-10.

“Glory Days: What We Watch When We Watch the Olympics.” The New Yorker, 6 August 2012, 64-72.

“Seeing It Now: Walter Cronkite and the Legend of CBS News.” The New Yorker, 9 & 16 July 2012, 88-94.

“Silence, Exile, Punning: James Joyce’s Chance Encounters.” The New Yorker, 2 July 2012, 71-75.

“Money Pol: Does Mitt Romney Really Love You?” The New Yorker, 19 March 2012, 72-77.

“Getting Real: George F. Kennan’s Cold War.” The New Yorker, 14 November 2011, 76-83.

“Practical Cat: How Eliot Became Eliot.” The New Yorker, 19 September 2011, 76-83.

“Browbeaten: Dwight Macdonald’s War on Midcult.” The New Yorker, 5 September 2011, 72-78.

“The English Department: Imagined Futures.” ADE Bulletin, 151 (2011): 9-17.

“Live and Learn: Why We Have College.” The New Yorker, 6 June 2011, 74-79.

“Louis Menand Reaches Critical Mass.” Interview with Alexis Tonti. Columbia: A Journal of Art and Literature issue 48 (2011), pp. 71-85.

“Graduate Education and the Liberal Arts.” The Cresset, Advent-Christmas 2010, 6-14.

“Talk Story: Dick Cavett and the Battles for Late Night.” The New Yorker, 22 November 2010, 126-134.

“Parodies Lost: The Art of Making Fun.” The New Yorker, 20 September 2010, 107-110.

“The Magazine World.” Belles Lettres: A Literary Review, 10 (January/May 2010), 22-26.

“The Two Frannys.” Areté, #31 (Spring/Summer 2010), 95-102.

- “Head Case: Can Psychiatry Be a Science?” The New Yorker, 1 March 2010, 68-74.
- “Top of the Pops: Did Warhol Change Everything?” The New Yorker, 11 January 2010, 56-65
- “Road Warrior: Arthur Koestler and His Century” The New Yorker, 21&28 December 2009, 132-136.
- “The PhD Problem.” Harvard Magazine, 112 (November-December 2009), 27-31, 91.
- “Gifted: Updike’s Style.” Areté, #29 (Winter 2009), 107-111.
- “Some Frames for Goffman.” Social Psychology Quarterly, 72 (2009): 296-299.
- “The Marketplace of Ideas.” Forbes (online), 8 August 2009.
- “Show or Tell: Should Creative Writing Be Taught?” The New Yorker, 8&15 June 2009, 106-111.
- “Saved from Drowning: Barthelme Reconsidered.” The New Yorker, 23 February 2009, 68-76.
- “It Took a Village: How the Voice Changed Journalism.” The New Yorker, 5 January 2009, 36-45.
- “Regrets Only: Lionel Trilling and His Discontents.” The New Yorker, 29 September 2008, 80-90.
- “Woke Up This Morning: Why We Read Diaries.” The New Yorker, 10 December 2007, 106-112.
- “Drive, He Wrote: What the Beats Were About.” The New Yorker, 1 October 2007, 88-93.
- “Dangers Within and Without.” Profession 2005, New York: Modern Language Association, 2006, 10-17.
- “Unpopular Front: American Art and the Cold War.” The New Yorker, 17 October 2005, 174-179.
- “Missionary: Edmund Wilson and American Culture.” The New Yorker, 8&15 August 2005, 82-88.
- “Gross Points: Is the Blockbuster the End of Cinema?” The New Yorker, 7 February 2005, 54-60.
- “The Science of Human Nature and the Human Nature of Science.” Sign Language Studies, 5 (2005): 170-87.
- “Permanent Fatal Errors: Did the Voters Send a Message?” The New Yorker, 6 December 2004, 54-60.

“Edmund Wilson’s Vanished World.” The New York Review of Books, 51 (23 September 2004), 86.

“The Unpolitical Animal: How Political Science Understands Voters” The New Yorker, 30 August 2004, 92-96

“Nanook and Me: ‘Fahrenheit 9/11’ and the Documentary Tradition.” The New Yorker, 9&16 August 2004, 90-96.

“True Story: The Art of Short Fiction.” The New Yorker, 1 December 2003, 104-110.

“After the Revolution: Bernardo Bertolucci Revisits Paris.” The New Yorker, 20 October 2003, 188-96.

“Brainwashed: Where The Manchurian Candidate Came From.” The New Yorker, 15 September 2003, 88-91.

“The Thin Envelope: Why College Admissions Has Become Unpredictable.” The New Yorker, 7 April 2003, 88-92.

“The Historical Romance.” The New Yorker, 24 March 2003, 78-82.

“Paris, Texas. How Hollywood Brought the Cinema Back from France.” The New Yorker, 17 & 24 February 2003, 169-77.

“Honest, Decent, Wrong.” The New Yorker, 27 January 2003, 84-91.

“Reply.” Intellectual History Newsletter, 24 (2002), 120-125.

“Cat People.” The New Yorker, 23 & 30 December 2002, 148-54.

“Faith, Hope, and Clarity.” The New Yorker, 16 September 2002, 98-104.

“The Reluctant Memorialist.” The New Yorker, 8 July 2002, 55-65.

“Morton, Agassiz, and the Origins of Scientific Racism in the United States.” Journal of Blacks in Higher Education, No. 34 (Winter, 2001-2002), 110-113.

“Introduction: Privacy and the Self.” Social Research, 68 (2001): 117.

“Culture Club.” The New Yorker, 15 October 2001, 202-210.

“College: The End of the Golden Age.” The New York Review of Books, 48 (18 October 2001), 44-47.

“Undisciplined.” The Wilson Quarterly, 25 (Autumn 2001), 51-9.

- “Holden at Fifty.” The New Yorker, 1 October 2001, 82-7.
- “The Seventies Show.” The New Yorker, 28 May 2001, 128-33.
- “She Had to Have It.” The New Yorker, 23 & 30 April 2001, 62-70.
- “Why They Were Fab: The Geopolitical Significance of Beatlemania.” The New Yorker, 16 & 23 October 2000, 236-46.
- “A Fine Detachment.” The New York Review of Books, 47 (9 March 2000), 8-10.
- “Opening Moves.” The New York Review of Books, 46 (2 December 1999), 4-5.
- “Laurie Anderson: United States, 1983.” Artforum, 37 (March 1999), 96-7.
- “William James and the Case of the Epileptic Patient.” The New York Review of Books, 45 (17 December 1998), 81-93.
- “After Elvis.” The New Yorker, 26 October & 2 November 1998, 164-77.
- “What Is ‘Art’?” The New Yorker, 9 February 1998, 39-41.
- “The Return of Pragmatism.” American Heritage, 48 (October 1997), 48-63.
- “How to Frighten Small Children.” The New Yorker, 6 October 1997, 112-19.
- “Everybody Else’s College Education.” The New York Times Magazine, 20 April 1997, 48-9.
- “The Iron Law of Stardom.” The New Yorker, 24 March 1997, 36-9.
- “T. S. Eliot and Modernity.” The New England Quarterly, 69 (December 1996), 554-79.
- “Dole’s Three Strikes.” The New York Review of Books, 43 (14 November 1996), 23.
- “How to Make a Ph.D. Matter.” The New York Times Magazine, 22 September 1996, 78-81.
- “Hollywood’s Trap.” The New York Review of Books, 43 (19 September 1996), 4-6.
- “The Advocacy Trap.” Lingua Franca, 5 (July/August 1995), 57-61, 72.
- “Mixed Paint.” Mother Jones, March/April 1995, 31-33.
- “The Trashing of Professionalism.” The New York Times Magazine, 5 March 1995, 41-3.
- “The War of All Against All.” The New Yorker, 14 March 1994, 74-85.

- “The Future of Academic Freedom.” Academe, 79 (May/June 1993), 11-17.
- “School Daze.” Harper’s Bazaar, September 1992, 380ff.
- “Also Available” (fiction). The New Yorker, 6 July 1992, 28.
- “What Are Universities For?” Harper’s, 283 (December 1991), 47-56.
- “Proof That the World Is Real.” Premiere, special edition (Winter 1991), 25-7.
- “A Wilde for Our Time.” Partisan Review, 57 (Spring 1990): 255-63.
- “Don’t Think Twice.” The New Republic, 201 (9 October 1989), 18-23.
- “Seven Days That Shook New York.” 7 Days, 1 (4 January 1989), 9-16.
- “T. S. Eliot After His Time.” Raritan, 8 (Fall 1988), 88-102.
- “Radicalism for Yuppies.” The New Republic, 194 (17 March 1986), 20-23.
- “T. S. Eliot and F. H. Bradley.” Raritan, 5 (Winter 1986), 61-75.
- “The Machine in the Ghost.” Raritan, 3 (Fall 1983), 88-106.
- “Liberalism without the Imagination.” Dissent, 30 (Summer 1983): 354-59.
- “In the Toils of Art.” The Bennington Review, number 15 (Summer 1983), 18-22.
- “All Shook Up.” The Nation, 234 (5 June 1982), 690-92.
- “Glad Hearts at the Supermarket.” The Nation, 234 (15 May 1982), 594-97.
- “The Victorian Historical Sense and Modernism.” Victorian Newsletter, number 61 (Spring 1982), 5-8.
- “T. S. Eliot on Durkheim: A New Attribution” (with Sanford Schwartz). Modern Philology, 79 (February 1982), 309-15.
- “Methods and Madnesses.” The Bennington Review, number 12 (December 1981), 58-65.
- “I Love New York, Between 59th and 89th Streets East of Central Park.” The Bennington Review, number 6 (December 1979), 48-51.

Reviews

- Rev. of The Personality Brokers, by Merve Emre. The New Yorker, 10 September 10, 2018, 92–95.

Rev. of Identity: The Demand for Dignity and the Politics of Resentment, by Francis Fukuyama. The New Yorker, 3 September 2018, 64–68.

Rev. of Making It, by Norman Podhoretz. The New Yorker, 1 May 2017, 63–69.

Rev. of You May Also Like, by Tom Vanderbilt, and Magic and Loss, by Virginia Heffernan. The New Yorker, 20 June 2016, 73–76.

Rev. of This is Your Brain on Sports, by L. Jon Wertheim and Sam Sommers, and Players, by Matthew Futterman, The New Yorker 16 May 2016, 90–94.

Rev. of Smarter Faster Better, by Charles Duhigg. The New Yorker, 28 March 2016, 68–71.

Rev. of City on Fire, by Garth Risk Hallberg. The New Yorker, 12 October 2015, 102–105.

Rev. of 1995: The Year the Future Began, by W. Joseph Campbell. The New Yorker, 30 March 2015, 72–76.

Rev. of The Georgetown Set: Friends and Rivals in Cold War Washington, by Gregg Herken. The New Yorker, 10 November 2014, 75–80.

Rev. of Updike, by Adam Begley. The New Yorker, 28 May 2014. 70-76.

Rev. of Command and Control: Nuclear Weapons, the Damascus Incident, and the Illusion of Safety, by Eric Schlosser. The New Yorker, 30 September 2013, 87-82.

Rev. of Fear Itself: The New Deal and the Origins of Our Time, by Ira Katznelson. The New Yorker, 4 March 2013, 69-74.

Rev. of Iron Curtain: The Crushing of Eastern Europe, 1945-1956, by Anne Applebaum. The New Yorker, 12 November 2012, 77-84.

Rev. of Wild Bill Donovan, by Douglas Waller. The New Yorker, 14 March 2011, 69-73.

Rev. of Strange Stirring: “The Feminine Mystique” and American Women at the Dawn of the 1960s, by Stephanie Coontz. The New Yorker, 24 January 2011, 76-79.

Rev. of Inherent Vice, by Thomas Pynchon. The New Yorker, 3 August 2009, 74-75.

Rev. of Txtng: The Gr8 Db8, by David Crystal. The New Yorker, 20 October 2008, 86-87.

Rev. of Ezra Pound: Poet, by A. David Moody. The New Yorker, 9&16 June 2008, 123-29.

Rev. of Human Smoke, by Nicholson Baker. The New Yorker, 14 April 2008, 76-77.

- Rev. of The Ten-Cent Plague, by David Hajdu. The New Yorker, 31 March 2008, 124-128.
- Rev. of Bridge of Sighs, by Richard Russo. The New Yorker, 15 October 2007, 100-101.
- Rev. of Shoot the Widow, by Meryle Secrest, and Biography: A Brief History, by Nigel Hamilton. The New Yorker, 6 August 2007, 64-66.
- Rev. of The Myth of the Rational Voter, by Brian Caplan. The New Yorker, 9&16 July 2007, 88-91.
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- Rev. of Expert Political Judgment, by Philip Tetlock. The New Yorker, 5 December 2005, 98-101.
- Rev. of Postwar: A History of Europe since 1945, by Tony Judt. The New Yorker, 28 November 2005, 168-76.
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Rev. of Ravelstein, by Saul Bellow. The New York Review of Books, 47 (25 May 2000), 17-18.

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Rev. of William James: Writings 1878-1899, ed. Gerald E. Myers. New York Newsday, 5 July 1992, 37-8.

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Rev. of Outerbridge Reach, by Robert Stone. The New Yorker, 4 May 1992, 93-6.

Rev. of The Justice From Beacon Hill: The Life and Times of Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, by Liva Baker. The New Yorker, 6 January 1992, 75-80.

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Rev. of The Complete Book of Covers from "The New Yorker," foreword by John Updike. The New Republic, 202 (26 February 1990), 27–34.

Rev. of Poetries of America: Essays on the Relation of Character to Style, by Irvin Ehrenpreis, ed. Daniel Albright. The Times Literary Supplement, number 4,527 (5-11 January 1990), 4.

Rev. of Soho Square II, ed. Ian Hamilton. The Times Literary Supplement, number 4,525 (22–28 December 1989), 1411.

Rev. of Cultural Politics in Contemporary America, ed. Ian Angus and Sut Jhally, and Conscientious Objections: Stirring Up Trouble About Language, Technology and Education, by Neil Postman. The Times Literary Supplement, number 4,503 (21–27 July 1989), 796.

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Rev. of Southerners and Europeans: Essays in a Time of Disorder, by Andrew Lytle. The Times Literary Supplement, number 4,492 (5-11 May 1989), 479.

Rev. of The Essays of Virginia Woolf, Volume Three: 1919-1924, ed. Andrew McNeillie. The Times Literary Supplement, number 4,486 (24-30 March 1989), 298.

Rev. of Law and Literature: A Misunderstood Relation, by Richard A. Posner. The New Republic, 200 (13 March 1989), 31–34.

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Rev. of The Short Story: Henry James to Elizabeth Bowen, by John Bayley. The New York Times Book Review, 6 November 1988, 25.

Rev. of The Lives of John Lennon, by Albert Goldman, and Yesterday: The Unauthorized Biography of Paul McCartney, by Chet Flippo. The New Republic, 199 (31 October 1988), 30-35.

Rev. of Pigeons on the Granite: Memories of a Yale Librarian, by Donald C. Gallup. The Times Literary Supplement, number 4,460 (23-29 September 1988), 1058.

Rev. of Speaking in Public, by Reid Buckley, Standing Ovation, by James C. Hume, and The Charisma Quotient, by Ronald E. Riggio. The Wall Street Journal, 30 June 1988, 20.

Rev. of British Writers of the Thirties, by Valentine Cunningham, and The Temple, by Stephen Spender. The Times Literary Supplement, number 4,445 (10-16 June 1988), 651.

Rev. of The Sixties: Years of Hope, Days of Rage, by Todd Gitlin, and In the New World: Growing Up with America, 1960-1984, by Lawrence Wright, The New Republic, 198 (18 April 1988), 34-40.

Rev. of Trump: The Art of the Deal, by Donald J. Trump, A Cannibal in Manhattan, by Tama Janowitz, New York Confidential: The Lowdown on the Big Town, by Sharon Churcher, City Slickers, by William E. Geist, and New York 1930: Architecture and Urbanism Between the Two World Wars, by Robert A. M. Stern, Gregory Gilmartin, and Thomas Mellins. The New Republic, 198 (1 February 1988), 29-34.

Rev. of He Do the Police in Different Voices: "The Waste Land" and Its Protagonist, by Calvin Bedient, and T. S. Eliot, by Angus Calder. The Times Literary Supplement, number 4,422 (1-7 January 1988), 18.

Rev. of The Last Intellectuals: American Culture in the Age of Academe, by Russell Jacoby. The New Republic, 197 (9 November 1987), 33-6.

Rev. of Dickens' Working Notes for His Novels, ed. Harry Stone. The New Republic, 197 (14&21 September 1987), 55-7.

Rev. of The Closing of the American Mind, by Allan Bloom. The New Republic, 196 (25 May 1987), 38-41.

Rev. of The Triumph of Vulgarity: Rock Music in the Mirror of Romanticism, by Robert Pattison. The New Republic, 196 (23 March 1987), 41-2.

Rev. of A Supplement to the Oxford English Dictionary, Volume Four: Se-Z, ed. R. W. Burchfield, The Story of English, by Robert McCrum, William Cran, and Robert MacNeil, American Talk: The Words and Ways of American Dialects, by Robert Hendrickson, Take My Word For It, by William Safire, A Word or Two Before You Go, by Jacques Barzun, and Adam's Task: Calling Animals by Name, by Vicki Hearne. The New Republic, 196 (16 February 1987), 28-33.

Rev. of The Collected Letters of Joseph Conrad, Volume Two: 1898-1902, ed. Frederick R. Karl and Laurence Davies. The New York Times Book Review, 25 January 1987, 16.

Rev. of The Fifties, by Edmund Wilson. The New Republic, 195 (1 December 1986), 31-6.

Rev. of Obbligati, by Anthony Hecht. The New York Times Book Review, 7 September 1986, 19.)

Rev. of Going to the Territory, by Ralph Ellison. The New Republic, 195 (4 August 1986), 37-40.

Rev. of Mailer: His Life and Times, by Peter Manso. The New Republic, 192 (24 June 1985), 29-33.

Rev. of Selected Letters of E. M. Forster, Volume 1: 1879-1920; Volume 2: 1921-1970, ed. Mary Lago and P. N. Furbank. The New Republic, 192 (25 March 1985), 30-32.

Rev. of T. S. Eliot: A Study in Character and Style, by Ronald Bush, and The Roots of Treason: Ezra Pound and the Secret of St Elizabeths, by E. Fuller Torrey. The Yale Review, 74 (Autumn 1984), 119-26.

Rev. of Criticism and Social Change, by Frank Lentricchia, and The Arts without Mystery, by Denis Donoghue. Dissent, 31 (Fall 1984), 493-6.

Named lectures and keynotes

“Conditions for the Possibility of Rock’n’ Roll: An Exercise in Cultural History.” Harry Camp Memorial Lecture, Stanford University, March 14, 2018.

“The University’s Responsibility to the Truth.” Keynote lecture, Pomona College Trustee-Faculty Retreat, San Diego, March 3, 2018.

“History Is a Virus: Claude Lévi-Strauss and ‘The Family of Man,’” History and Literature Distinguished Lecturer, Harvard University, February 18, 2016.

“The Marketplace of Ideas.” Keynote lecture, Common Ground Initiative, Grand Valley State University, December 10, 2015.

“Art and Thought in the Cold War.” F. E. L. Priestley Memorial Lectures in the History of Ideas, University of Toronto: “Hans Morgenthau and Hannah Arendt,” October 21; “Clement Greenberg and Jackson Pollock,” October 22; “Lionel Trilling and Allen Ginsberg.” October 23, 2015.

“The Humanist Condition.” Kemp Lecture in the Humanities, University of Missouri, April 18, 2014.

“The Condition of the Humanities.” Julius and Suzan Glickman Lecture, University of Texas, Austin, April 25, 2013.

“The Marketplace of Ideas.” Distinguished Lecture Series, Boise State University, April 17, 2013.

“A Man Is Shot.” Annie Sonnenblick Lecture, Wesleyan University, February 27, 2013.

“What Every College Student Needs to Know.” Philip Thayer Memorial Lecture, Randolph College, February 14, 2013.

“The Education of Andy Warhol.” Gladys S. Blizzard Lecture and the Institute of the Humanities and Global Cultures Inaugural Lecture, University of Virginia, March 22, 2012.

“The Great Books Idea.” Mellon Fellowship of Scholars Visiting Lecturer, Stanford University, March 8, 2012.

“Are the Great Books the Moral Heart of Liberal Education?” The Second Annual William Jewett Tucker Lecture, Dartmouth College, February 16, 2012.

“What College Is For.” Keynote address, UC in 2025: Reframing Undergraduate Education in the Research University, Los Angeles, November 2, 2011.

“Why We Have College.” The Second Annual Anne Mayhew Distinguished Honors Lecture, University of Tennessee, October 14, 2011.

“The Education of Andy Warhol.” Betty Spriestersbach Distinguished Lecture, University of Iowa Museum of Art, April 7, 2011.

“What Every University Graduate Needs to Know.” Cardario Lecture, University of Toronto, February 17, 2011.

“Reform, Resistance, and the Future of Graduate Education.” Plenary speaker, Council of Graduate Schools Annual Meeting, Washington, D. C., December 2, 2010.

“The Future of Disciplinarity: The Case of Literature.” Keynote address and Lecture in the College of Arts and Humanities Dean’s Lecture Series, Reading Comparatively: Theories, Practices, Communities, University of Maryland, November 4, 2010.

“What It’s All About.” Sarah and James Bowdoin Day, Bowdoin College, October 22, 2010.

“A Man Is Shot: The Content of a Cinematic Technique.” Stephen Crane Memorial Lecture, Syracuse University, October 7, 2010.

“What Every College Graduate Needs to Know.” Donald C. Samuel Fund Lecture, Sarah Lawrence College, September 29, 2010.

“Five Types of Interdisciplinarity.” Keynote address, Interdisciplinary Studies: A Critical Component of Education for the 21st Century, Lawrenceville School, June 14, 2010.

“General Education and Interdisciplinarity.” Littauer lecture, Babson College, March 24, 2010.

“The Magazine World.” Keynote address, Faculty Book Celebration, Washington University, November 17, 2009.

“A Man Is Shot: The Content of a Cinematic Technique.” Eugene Lunn Memorial Lecture, University of California at Davis, May 14, 2009.

“Why General Education Is a Problem.” Keynote address, General Education, Assessment, and the Learning Students Need, American Association of Colleges and Universities. Baltimore, February 26, 2009.

“Art, Ideas, and the Cold War.” Keynote address, Project on the Arts and Politics, New Hampshire Institute of Politics, St. Anselm’s College, November 20, 2008.

“Why Is General Education a Problem?” Keynote address, 4th Annual CUNY General Education Conference, Baruch College, May 2, 2008.

“Academic Pickles.” Page-Barbour Lectures, University of Virginia: “The Problem of General Education,” February 19; “Interdisciplinarity and Anxiety,” February 20; “Why Do Professors All Think Alike?” February 21, 2008.

“Art and Ideas in the Cold War.” Jesse Mack Lecture. Oberlin College, April 19, 2007.

“Is Interdisciplinarity Progressive, Transgressive, or Regressive?” Keynote address, The Ends of Interdisciplinarity, University of California at Santa Cruz, March 3, 2007.

“Reflections on General Education.” Keynote address, January Conference on General Education, Towson University, January 10, 2007.

“Do Movies Have Rights?” Peter Burton Hanson Presentation, Northeastern University, April 20, 2006.

“What Is the Legacy of Modernism?” Keynote address, Cornerstone Arts Week, Colorado College, February 9, 2006.

“The Story of the Soup Cans.” Kritikos Lecture, Portland, Oregon, May 12, 2005.

“The Paradoxes of Pluralism.” Keynote address, Bushnell Park at One Hundred and Fifty: Legacies and Lessons, Trinity College, September 30, 2004.

Commencement address, Pomona College, May 20, 2003.

“What’s Going on in Liberal Education?” Keynote address, Association of Boarding Schools Convention, Boston, December 5, 2003.

“Do Movies Have Rights?” Jessie and John Danz Lecture, University of Washington, November

6, 2003.

“Love and Duty in the Cold War.” Spencer T. and Ann W. Olin Foundation Lecture, Cornell University, April 22, 2003.

“Do Movies Have Rights?” Clonts Lecture, Wake Forest University, April 12, 2003.

“The Cat Who Came in from the Cold: Language and the Cold War.” URI Foundation Distinguished Address, University of Rhode Island, April 3, 2003.

“The Science of Human Nature and the Human Nature of Science.” Schaefer Distinguished Lecture, Keynote Address, Genetics, Disability and Deafness, Gallaudet University, April 2, 2003.

“Anti-Americanism as a Form of Americanism.” Keynote address, Americanism: A Historical Conference, Georgetown University, March 27, 2003.

“Pragmatism and War.” Scholar of the Year Lecture, New York Council for the Humanities, Donnell Library, New York City, October 23, 2002.

“The Liberal Arts, the Doctorate, and the War.” The First American Association of University Professors Lecture, Amherst College, April 4, 2002.

“Academic Reproduction.” Keynote address, Pomona College Trustee-Faculty Retreat, Palm Springs, March 2, 2002.

“Pragmatism and War.” Bentley Memorial Lecture, Salem Athenaeum, Salem, Massachusetts, December 2, 2001.

“Was Pragmatism a Chicago Invention?” American Airlines Lecture, Chicago Humanities Festival, November 1, 2001.

“Pragmatism and War.” Richard Goldman Lecture, Yale University, October 30, 2001.

“Wendell Holmes’s Civil War.” Charles S. Holmes Lecture, Pomona College, March 2, 2000.

“William James in Brazil.” The First Richard Poirier Lecture, Rutgers University, March 30, 1999.

“The Condition of the Humanities.” Keynote address, Conference on Rethinking the Humanities, Associated Colleges of the Midwest, Coe College, March 19, 1999.

“Democracy and Higher Education.” Democracy in Theory and Practice, Herbert Spencer Lectures, University of Oxford, February 9, 1999.

“Reimagining Liberal Education.” Keynote address, Rollins Colloquy: Toward a Pragmatic Liberal Education: The Curriculum of the 21st Century, Rollins College, February 13, 1997.

“Intellectual Identity after Trilling.” Lionel Trilling Seminar, Columbia University, November 9, 1995.

“T. S. Eliot and Modernity.” T. S. Eliot Memorial Lecture, T. S. Eliot Society, St. Louis, September 23, 1995.

Invited lectures

“Writers and Their Publics,” Mellon School of Theatre and Performance, Harvard University, June 19, 2018.

“What Made Rock ‘n’ Roll Possible?” Harvard Learning in Retirement, Harvard University, April 6, 2018.

“The Cat Who Came in from the Cold.” Tufts University, September 29, 2017.

“Red Soldier on the Reichstag: Unpeeling the Image.” Boston University Graduate School of Visual Arts, April 12, 2016.

“Pollock and Politics.” Society of the Four Arts, Palm Beach, Florida, February 9, 2016.

“Hannah Arendt on Totalitarianism.” University of Wyoming, October 1, 2015.

“How Cold Was the Cold War?” The New Yorker Festival, New York City, October 11, 2014.

“The Education of Andy Warhol.” Jack Kerouac Festival, University of Massachusetts, Lowell, October 9, 2014.

“The Many Lessons of ‘Advancing American Art.’” University of Georgia, February 6, 2014.

“The Future of the Liberal Arts College.” Bates College Board of Trustees, January 24, 2014.

“Is It Time for a Different Approach to Cold War Cultural History?” The Cold War Culture Series, Wellesley College, November 21, 2013.

“The Humanistic Condition.” Swarthmore College, February 1, 2013.

“What Every College Graduate Needs to Know.” The Ohio State University, November 14, 2012.

“The Humanistic Condition.” Institute for the Arts and Humanities 25th Anniversary, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, April 20, 2012.

“The Education of Andy Warhol.” Art and Ideas Lecture Series, Savannah College of Art and Design, April 12, 2012.

“The Marketplace of Ideas.” Democracy Forum, Elmhurst College, March 15, 2012.

“How to Read: Philosophy or Literature: The Case of Plato’s Symposium” (with Lanier Anderson). Stanford University, March 9, 2012.

“The Value of a Liberal Education.” All-College Staff lecture, Harvard College, February 10, 2012.

“Issues in Doctoral Education.” New York University, December 8, 2011.

“A Man Is Shot: The Content of a Cold War Cinematic Technique.” University of Kansas, November 17, 2011.

“The Nature of General Education” (with Alison Simmons), New York University, November 10, 2011.

“College and K-12.” The Spencer Foundation, Washington, D. C., October 27, 2011.

“What Every College Graduate Needs to Know.” University of the South, September 30, 2011.

“The Higher Education System and Its Rationales.” Forum on Higher Education, Aspen Institute, June 7, 2011.

“Why the Case for Liberal Education Is Hard to Make.” Carleton College, April 15, 2011.

“General Education and Its Discontents” (with Alison Simmons). Utah State University, March 31, 2011.

“Why the Case for Liberal Education Is So Hard to Make.” Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, Annual Conference, Ottawa, March 26, 2011.

“The Marketplace of Ideas.” Franklin and Marshall College, March 24, 2011.

“How the Map Got Drawn.” Old and New Territories: Remapping the Liberal Arts for the Twenty-First Century, Boston College, November 13, 2010.

“Literature and the Future of Disciplinarity.” Emory University, November 8, 2010.

“Liberal Education,” National Forum on Liberal Education, New York City, October 15, 2010.

“Liberal Education.” Amherst College, October 14, 2010.

“What Every College Graduate Needs to Know.” Hamilton College, October 8, 2010.

“What Every College Graduate Needs to Know.” Directed Studies Colloquium, Yale University, September 23, 2010.

“Graduate Education and the Liberal Arts.” Fall Faculty Workshop, Valparaiso University,

August 20, 2010.

“Curricular Reform.” Faculty Development Seminar, SMB Honors College, University of Mississippi, May 12, 2010.

“Curricular Reform.” DePauw University, May 11, 2010.

“Liberal Education.” Brown University, April 27, 2010.

“General Education and Interdisciplinarity.” American Studies Adviser Colloquium, Columbia University, April 9, 2010.

“The Mind-Body Problem: Literature and Philosophy in the Age of Psychopharmacology” (with Alison Simmons). Stanford University, March 16, 2010.

“On Anxiety.” The William Alanson White Institute of Psychiatry, Psychoanalysis, and Psychology, New York City, May 27, 2009.

“A Man Is Shot: The Content of a Cinematic Technique.” Master class, Harvard Humanities Center, April 2, 2009.

“It Took a Village: Journalism and Sensibility in the Cold War.” Princeton University, November 10, 2008.

“On Interdisciplinarity.” Humanities Council, Princeton University, November 10, 2008.

“Interdisciplinarity and Anxiety.” University of Connecticut, April 23, 2008.

“A Few Dogmas of Literary Studies.” Columbia University, April 9, 2008.

“Literary and Philosophical Ways of Reading” (with Alison Simmons). Stanford University, April 3, 2008.

“A Few Dogmas of Literary Studies.” Stanford University, April 2, 2008.

“Art and Ideas in the Cold War.” Cullman Center for Writers and Scholars, New York Public Library, December 12, 2007.

“Art and Ideas in the Cold War.” University of California at Irvine, May 16, 2007.

“Art and Ideas in the Cold War.” University of Memphis, April 5, 2007.

“The Humanities and the University of the Twenty-First Century.” University of Oregon, May 10, 2005.

“The Cat Who Came in from the Cold.” Carnegie Mellon University, April 6, 2005.

- “After the Liberal Arts.” The Austin Riggs Center, Stockbridge, Mass., November 19, 2004.
- “Pragmatism’s Three Moments.” Cardozo School of Law, September 7, 2004.
- “After the Liberal Arts.” Florida State University, April 1, 2004.
- “After the Liberal Arts.” Williams College, February 17, 2004.
- “Pragmatism’s Three Moments.” The Askwith Education Forum, Harvard Graduate School of Education, February 12, 2004.
- “Do Movies Have Rights?” Writers Institute, State University of New York at Albany, October 30, 2003.
- “After the Liberal Arts.” Mount Holyoke College, October 15, 2003.
- “The Cat in the Hat.” University of Pennsylvania, February 26, 2003.
- “Love and Duty in the Cold War.” Harvard University, February 19, 2003.
- “The Cat in the Hat.” The New York Public Library, November 20, 2002.
- “After the Liberal Arts.” Whittier College, November 7, 2002.
- “Pragmatism’s Three Moments.” Claremont McKenna College, November 6, 2002.
- “Holmes, Ropes, and Gray.” Ropes and Gray, Boston, October 10, 2002.
- “What Was That All About? Kael’s Attack on Sarris.” The Polemic, The English Institute, Harvard University, September 20, 2002.
- “Democratic Culture for Export: The Case of the Movies.” University of Chicago, May 15, 2002.
- “Pragmatism’s Three Moments.” Lehigh University, April 18, 2002.
- “A Reading.” Creative Writing Program, Amherst College, April 4, 2002.
- “Pragmatism’s Three Moments.” Sarah Lawrence College, February 20, 2002.
- “What Was That All About? Kael’s Attack on Sarris.” Stanford University, February 14, 2002.
- “Pragmatism and War.” The Faculty Lecture, Ph.D. Program in English, The Graduate Center of the University of New York, December 14, 2001.
- “Pragmatism and War.” Harvard University, December 6, 2001.
- “The Marketplace of Ideas.” University of Missouri, November 9, 2001.

- “Darwinism and American Social Thought,” Texas A&M, November 8, 2001.
- “Darwinism and American Social Thought.” Blinn College, Bryan, Texas, November 8, 2001.
- “Wendell Holmes’s Civil War.” The New York Public Library, November 7, 2001.
- “Pragmatism and War.” University of Georgia, October 22, 2001.
- “The Marketplace of Ideas.” Dartmouth College, October 2, 2001.
- “Wendell Holmes’s Civil War.” The Boston Athenaeum and the Boston Public Library, May 16, 2001.
- “The Metaphysical Club.” The Commonwealth Club of California, San Francisco, June 14, 2001.
- “The Metaphysical Club.” Center for the Book, Library of Congress, May 30, 2001.
- “The Marketplace of Ideas.” University of Wisconsin-Madison. March 8, 2000.
- “William James in Brazil.” University of California at Riverside, March 1, 2000.
- “Wendell Holmes’s Civil War.” Initiative for the Study of Values, Faculty Colloquium, Brown University, February 1, 2000.
- “William James in Brazil.” University of Nebraska at Lincoln, October 21, 1999.
- “The Future of Scholarship in the Humanities.” The Humanities Program, University of Nebraska at Lincoln, October 20, 1999.
- “William James in Brazil.” John Jay College of Criminal Justice, November 17, 1998.
- “Pragmatism and the Law.” Society for Law and Ideas, Columbia Law School, April 9, 1998.
- “The James Family in Newport.” Beyond Bellevue Avenue: The Other Summer Colonies of Newport County, The Newport Historical Society, April 26, 1997.
- “The Demise of Disciplinary Authority.” Princeton University, April 10, 1996.
- “The Collapse of Professionalism and Its Academic Consequences.” Johns Hopkins University, November 30, 1994.
- “Modernity and Literary Theory.” Massachusetts Institute of Technology, February 2, 1994.
- “Academic Freedom and Its Future.” Annual Council Meeting of the American Association of University Professors, Washington, D.C., November 14, 1992.

“The Shadow World: Sixties Ideas in Nineties America.” Impressions d’Amerique, Association Descartes, Paris, July 16, 1992.

“Is There a Difference Between Culture and Multiculturalism?” Bennington College, May 5, 1992.

“Why the Movies Were Invented.” Smith College, February 21, 1991.

“Kipling and Cinema.” University of Virginia, February 22, 1990.

“The Aestheticization of Work.” Symposium on wealth, Colorado College, January 8, 1990.

“T. S. Eliot and Academic Criticism.” Villanova University, March 15, 1989.

“The Separation of Critical Powers: Writing and Thought Inside and Outside the Academy.” Boston University, November 3, 1988.

“Does Oscar Wilde Matter?” University of Delaware, May 4, 1988.

“Eliot After Eliot.” The Graduate Center of the City University of New York, March 4, 1988.

Panels and conference papers

“On To Secure Knowledge.” Social Science Research Council, New York City, September 17, 2018.

“Reconceptualizing the English Curriculum” and “Enrollments and Other Practical Questions.” New Approaches to English Studies, University of Colorado Boulder, March 2, 2018.

“The University’s Responsibility to the Truth.” Harvard University, September 20, 2017.

“What Are We Looking At?” Holberg Prize Symposium, University of Bergen, June 7, 2016.

“What Warhol Did.” Was Andy Warhol the Most Influential Artist of the Last Fifty Years? Metropolitan Museum of Art, October 21, 2012.

“The Humanities and the Cold War.” Politics and the Divisions of Knowledge, The Warren Center, Harvard University, September 12, 2011.

“The Terrain of the Discipline.” The Political Economy of English: What We Think about When We Think about the English Department. ADE Summer Seminar West, Claremont, California, June 21, 2010.

“William James: Philosophy and Psychology.” What Makes a Life Significant? A Panel Discussion in Memory of William James, Harvard University, April 26, 2010.

“On *Why Do We Care about Literary Characters?*” Stanford University, March 15, 2010.

“Freud, Anxiety, and the Cold War.” After Freud Left: Centennial Reflections on His 1909 Visit to the United States. New York Academy of Medicine, October 3, 2009.

“Berlin as a Cold War Liberal: A Response to Svetlana Boym and Alan Ryan.” Isaiah Berlin: Centennial Reflections. Harvard University, September 25, 2009.

“‘Avant-Garde and Kitsch’ Re-revisited.” Clement Greenberg at 100, Harvard University, April 3, 2009.

“Russia and the USSR in American Intellectual History.” Commentator, Davis Center Sixtieth Anniversary Symposium, Harvard University, December 5, 2008.

“Lionel Trilling and The Liberal Imagination.” Lionel Trilling and His Legacy, Columbia University, October 3, 2008.

“Barriers to Entry.” The Politics of the Professors, Harvard University, October 6, 2007.

“The Humanities and Science.” The Humanities and Expertise, Carnegie Mellon University, April 7, 2005.

“Are the Humanities Falling Behind the Curve?” The Future of the Humanities, The Presidential Forum, Modern Language Association Convention, December 28, 2004.

“Useful Degrees.” Reforming the PhD, Modern Language Association Convention, December 27, 2004.

“The Liberal Arts Saved from Drowning.” The Liberal Education: Dead or Alive? Dartmouth College, November 6, 2004.

“Edward Said’s Orientalism.” Harvard Humanities Center, November 17, 2003.

“Edmund Wilson.” The Intellectual in American Culture, Harvard University, March 9, 2003.

“The Birth of a Nation.” The New Gatekeepers: A Conference on Free Expression in the Arts, Columbia School of Journalism, November 20, 2002.

“Are We Doing Doctoral Education Right? A Reply to Debra Stewart.” Fortieth Anniversary Celebration, Graduate Center of the City University of New York, March 20, 2002.

“The Public Face of the Humanities.” Beginning with the Humanities: The Tercentennial Symposium, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, March 31, 2001.

“The State of the Liberal Arts.” The Future of the Liberal Arts, Antioch College, June 2, 2000.

“The Marketplace of Ideas.” (Dis)locating Knowledge: An Interdisciplinary Conference on the Changing Foundations of Knowledge, Center for the Humanities, Wesleyan University, May 7, 1999.

“John Dewey and Modernity: A Response to Alan Ryan.” Ideas That Shaped the Twentieth Century, Princeton University, April 29, 1999.

“Have the Humanistic Disciplines Collapsed?” The Question of “English,” Have the Humanistic Disciplines Collapsed? Stanford Humanities Center, Stanford University, April 23, 1999.

“The Liberal Arts College: Anachronism or Paradigm?” The Liberal Arts College in the 21st Century: Challenges and Responsibilities, Trinity College, February 22, 1999.

“Does Our Being American Give Us a Shared Moral Identity?” Does America Have a Democratic Mission? University of Virginia, March 19, 1998.

“William James’s Depression.” Conference on the Confidentiality of Psychiatric Case Notes As Against the Needs of History, Columbia University, October 30, 1997.

“Can Legal Pragmatism Avoid Becoming Something Law Professors Do? A Response to Thomas Grey.” University of Virginia School of Law, September 19, 1996.

“Movies and Modernism.” Modernism/Postmodernism, The Graduate Center of the City University of New York, April 12, 1996.

“Institutionalization and Professionalization in the Humanities.” The Princeton Conference on Higher Education, Princeton University, March 23, 1996.

“Edmund Wilson as a Witness to His Times.” Edmund Wilson: Centennial Reflections, Princeton University, November 17, 1995.

“Pragmatists and Poets: A Response to Richard Poirier.” The Revival of Pragmatism, The Graduate Center of the City University of New York, November 4, 1995.

“The Academy as a Site of Public Controversy.” The University in the Public Eye, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, September 29, 1995.

“Culture and Advocacy.” Conference on the Role of Advocacy in the Classroom, Pittsburgh, June 3, 1995.

“James Family Values.” In the American Experience: A Symposium in Honor of Alfred Kazin, The Graduate Center of the City University of New York, May 12, 1995.

“Publics, Intellectuals, and Public Intellectuals.” The Last of the Public Intellectuals: Edmund Wilson and the American Century, The Mercantile Library, New York City, April 5, 1995.

“The Death of Disciplinarity.” Colloquium on Structural Changes in the Humanities, National

Humanities Center, September 24, 1994.

“T. S. Eliot Among the Academics.” Modern Language Association convention, Washington, D.C., December 29, 1989.

“T. S. Eliot’s Influence on Academic Criticism.” T. S. Eliot Centennial Appraisal, Washington University, October 2, 1988.

“Culture Heroes and Pop Cultism.” New Jersey College English Association, Rutgers University, April 17, 1982.

“The Victorian Historical Sense and Modernism.” Division on the Victorian Period, Modern Language Association convention, New York City, December 29, 1981.

Columns and editorials

“This Year, for the Fourth of July, Can We Talk About Something Else?” The New Yorker (online), July 3, 2018

“Tom Wolfe: Sage of Status Anxiety.” The New Yorker (online), posted May 15, 2018.

“When Martin Luther King, Jr., Became a Leader,” The New Yorker (online), posted April 4, 2018.

“Robert F. Kennedy’s Funeral Train, Fifty Years Later,” The New Yorker (online), posted 2 April 2, 2018.

“Comment: Words of the Year.” The New Yorker, January 8, 2017, 15–16.

“How to Look at a Rauschenberg.” The New Yorker (online), posted August 30, 2017.

“Bonnie and Clyde Fifty Years After.” The New Yorker (online), posted August 13, 2017.

“In Denmark, Is It Really That Good To Be the King?” The New Yorker (online), August 11, 2017.

“The Paradox to Be Found in T. S. Eliot’s Summer House.” The New Yorker (online), posted August 11, 2017.

“Thirteen Crucial Years for Art in Downtown New York,” The New Yorker (online), posted March 28, 2017.

“Lunch with Bob Silvers,” The New Yorker (online), posted March 21, 2017.

“The Majesty of Early Photography.” The New Yorker, online, posted January 24, 2017.

“Cultural Criticism and the Way We Live Now.” The New Yorker, online, posted October 17,

2016.

“The Late Late Phase.” The New Yorker, online, posted July 21, 2016.

“Why We Are No Longer Shocked by Ulysses.” The New Yorker, online, posted June 16, 2016.

“What Do We Love about War and Peace?” The New Yorker, online, posted January 18, 2016.

“Learn by Painting.” The New Yorker, online, posted October 27, 2015.

“Matt and Sweat’s Prisoner’s Dilemma.” The New Yorker, online, posted July 24, 2015.

“The Bump and the Hollow of Thomas Hart Benton.” The New Yorker, online, posted July 1, 2015.

“Crooked Psychics and Cooling the Mark Out.” The New Yorker, online, posted June 18, 2015.

“Watching Them Turn Off the Rothkos.” The New Yorker, online, posted April 1, 2015.

“The Heart of *Texas*: Why Colleges Admit the Way They Do.” The New Yorker, online, posted June 24, 2013.

“The Patriot’s Day Bombing.” The New Yorker, online, posted April 15 2013.

“Comment: Today’s Assignment.” The New Yorker, 17 December 2012, 25–26.

“Why the French New Wave Matters.” The Cine-files, Issue 2, 2012 (online).

“What Would You Like to See on Television?” Esopus, 15 (2010), 168.

“The Point of Education.” Do Colleges Need French Departments? Room for Debate, New York Times, online, posted October 17, 2010.

“The Metaphysical Club.” Harvard Library Bulletin, 20 (Spring 2010), 7.

“Letter to a Young Writer,” Narrative, 11 (Spring 2010), 189–190.

“Jeff the Obscure.” Minnesota Review, “Roast Issue,” 2009, n.p..

“Comment: Chin Music.” The New Yorker, 2 November 2009, 39–40.

“Postscript: Norman Mailer.” The New Yorker, online, posted November 10, 2007.

“Comment: The Graduates.” The New Yorker, 21 May 2007, 27–28.

“Comment: Name That Tone.” The New Yorker, 26 June 2006, 21–24.

- “Comment: Decisions, Decisions.” The New Yorker, 11&18 July 2005, 33–34.
- “Comment: Believer.” The New Yorker, 7 March 2005, 27–28.
- “Mystery Man: The Many Faces of Eustace Tilley.” The New Yorker, 14&21 February 2005, 206.
- “Comment: The Best of the ‘Best.’” The New Yorker, January 12, 2004, 23–24.
- “Talk of the Town: Dark Material.” The New Yorker, 2 February 2004, 28-31.
- “Comment: Moses in Alabama.” The New Yorker, 8 September 2003, 31-32.
- “The Talk of the Town” (on newspaper bylines), The New Yorker, 20 May 2002,
- “Comment: Silly Ideas.” The New Yorker, 13 May 2002, 33-34.
- “The Day Before.” The New York Observer, 17 December 2001, 23.
- “Comment: Alone Together.” The New Yorker, 2 July 2001, 21-4.
- “The Talk of the Town” (on major league baseball), The New Yorker, 16 April 2001.
- “Comment: Game Plans.” The New Yorker, 27 November 2000, 67-8.
- “The Talk of the Town” (on presidential election coverage). The New Yorker, 20 November 2000, 40.
- “The Way We Live Now: The Downside of the Upside of the Downside.” The New York Times Magazine, 9 January 2000, 13-14.
- “The Lives They Lived: Clifton Fadiman.” The New York Times Magazine, 2 January 2000, 24-5.
- “The Way We Live Now: Poolside Polemics.” The New York Times Magazine, 27 June 1999, 11-12.
- “The Way We Live Now: Complainers of the World, Unite.” The New York Times Magazine, 28 March 1999, 15-16.
- “Comment: Novels We Love.” The New Yorker, 3 August 1998, 4-5.
- “The Enduring Paranoia within the Image” (op-ed). The Los Angeles Times, 26 July 1998, M1, 6.
- “Comment: Slice and Dice.” The New Yorker, 13 July 1998, 4-5.
- “Comment: Making Nice.” The New Yorker, 13 April 1998, 5-6.

- “Comment: Da Quality of Life.” The New Yorker, 9 March 1998, 8-9.
- “Comment: Love Stories.” The New Yorker, 25 August-5 September, 1997, 9-10.
- “The Talk of the Town” (on Manhattan area codes). The New Yorker, 11 August 1997, 25.
- “The Talk of the Town” (on The Bible Code). The New Yorker, 16 June 1997, 35.
- “Comment: Get Unreal.” The New Yorker, 17 March 1997, 11-12.
- “Comment: Johnny Be Good.” The New Yorker, 13 January 1997, 4-5.
- “Comment: The Gods Are Anxious.” The New Yorker, 16 December 1996, 5-6.
- “Comment: But Is It Good for the News?” The New Yorker, 18 November 1996, 7-8.
- “Keep CUNY Whole” (op-ed). The New York Times, 12 May 1995, A31.
- “Comment: Indecent Exposure.” The New Yorker, 23 May 1994, 6-8 (unsigned).
- “Shouts and Murmurs: Listening to Bourbon.” The New Yorker, 18 April 1994, 108.
- “Comment: Different Strokes.” The New Yorker, 29 November 1993, 8-10 (unsigned).
- “Comment: Save the Zeitgeist!” The New Yorker, 23&30 August 1993, 9-10 (unsigned).
- “Comment: Off the Rails.” The New Yorker, 12 April 1993, 4-6 (unsigned).
- “Books Briefly Noted.” Occasional reviews. The New Yorker, 1993-94 (unsigned).
- “Bush’s Corporate Raid” (op-ed). The New York Times, 29 June 1992, A15.
- “Notes and Comment” (on Anita Hill). The New Yorker, 28 October 1991, 29-30 (unsigned).
- “Notes and Comment” (on Rust v. Sullivan). The New Yorker, 24 June 1991, 21-2 (unsigned).
- “Art and Politics: I Could Not Foresee This Thing Happening to You.” Esquire, 114 (December 1990), 53.
- “Books: Rabbit Is Dead,” Esquire, 114 (November 1990), pp. 93, 96.
- “Critic-at-Large.” M Inc., 7 (September 1990), 74-8.
- “Zeitgeist: Pop Goes the Proletariat.” Esquire, 114 (September 1990), 106.
- “Critic-at-Large.” Manhattan, inc., 7 (July 1990), 94-6.

- “Critic-at-Large.” Manhattan, inc., 7 (June 1990), 118-19.
- “Critic-at-Large.” Manhattan, inc., 7 (May 1990), 124-9.
- “Recalling the Discreet Charm of the 1950s” (op-ed). New York Newsday, 26 November 1989, 4.
- “Movies.” Weekly column. 7 Days, 30 March–28 September 1988.
- “New York Diarist.” The New Republic, 198 (4&11 January 1988), 42.
- “Bork’s Bite” (editorial). The New Republic, 196 (27 July 1987), 7-9 (unsigned).
- “Washington Diarist.” The New Republic, 196 (22 July 1987), 42.
- “Washington Diarist.” The New Republic, 196 (30 March 1987), 43.
- “New York Diarist.” The New Republic, 196 (16 February 1987), 43.
- “Washington Diarist.” The New Republic, 195 (24 November 1986), 51.
- “Washington Diarist.” The New Republic, 195 (20 October 1986), 42.

Selected conversations, classes, and symposia

“On Writing, Public Writing, and the Future of Academic Writing,” A conversation with Lanier Anderson. Stanford University, March 15, 2018.

Master Class, Program in History and Literature, February 19, 2016.

Conversation on the future of higher education. Hauenstein Center, Grand Valley State University, December 10, 2015.

Conversation on the condition of the humanities, Wyoming Institute for Humanities Research, University of Wyoming, October 1, 2015.

Conversation on Cold War historiography, University of Missouri, April 18, 2014.

The Writing Program, Wesleyan University, February 27, 2013.

Conversation on liberal education, Swarthmore College, February 2, 2013.

Conversation on Sophomore Seminar in the Liberal Arts, Middlebury College, October 12, 2012.

Composition class, Massachusetts Correctional Institution, Framingham, April 27, 2012.

Forum on the Humanities. Institute of the Humanities and Global Culture, University of Virginia,

March 21, 2012.

“The Marketplace of Ideas: A Conversation.” Hill Humanities Center, University of Kansas, November 18, 2011.

Seminar Leader, Summer Institute in Literary Studies, National Humanities Center, July 5-9, 2010.

“Universities and the Future.” Mod. Drew Faust. Committee on University Resources Annual Symposium, May 2, 2009.

Conversation with Joan Richardson. Graduate Center of the City University of New York, April 13, 2007.

“What Should American Studies Study?” (with Roberto Unger). Harvard University, December 11, 2006.

“Can the Disciplines Help Us Understand the U.S.?” (with Roberto Unger). Harvard University, October 23, 2006.

Conversation with Maya Lin. Carpenter Center, Harvard University, December 1, 2005.

Two poems by W. H. Auden. The New Yorker Festival, September 24, 2005.

Conversation with Ian Buruma. Queens College Evening Readings, March 22, 2005.

Conversation with Steven Pinker. Program in Mind, Brain, and Behavior, Harvard University, December 14, 2004.

Conversation with Marjorie Garber. 20/20: Looking Back, Looking Forward: Celebrating the First Twenty Years of the Harvard Humanities Center, October 22, 2004.

Conversation with Michael Bernstein. Revelle Forum, University of California at San Diego, November 20, 2003.

Workshop conversation. Writers Institute, State University of New York at Albany, October 30, 2003.

“American Values: Understanding Patriotism in Our Time,” mod. Derek Bok. John F. Kennedy Library, October 29, 2003.

Conversation with Maya Lin. The New Yorker Festival, September 20, 2003.

Conversation with Jon Carroll, City Arts and Lectures, San Francisco, September 12, 2002.

Conversation with Steven Ross, Los Angeles Public Library, September 11, 2002.

“Criticism and/or Journalism.” National Arts Journalism Program, Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University, April 17, 2001.

“Privacy and the Self: The Rise and Fall of Privacy.” Privacy: A Social Research Conference, The New School University, New York City, October 6, 2000.

“An International Conversation on the Past, Present, and Future of Liberal Education.” National Council on Education and the Disciplines, New York City, September 24-25, 2000.

“What’s the Mission? The Quest for ‘Excellence’ and a Market Niche.” Lessons from CUNY: A Forum on Clashing Visions of Higher Education, Social Science Research Council, New York City, March 18, 2000.

“Democracy, Diversity, and the Disciplines.” The College Board and the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, Princeton, New Jersey, May 21-22, 1999.

Conversation on Academic Freedom. State University of New York at New Paltz, April 30, 1998.

“Seminar on Liberal Education.” The College Board, New York City, November 10, 1994.

“Where Are the Intellectuals?” Thesis, 8 (Fall 1994), 12-21.

“Democratic Agonism.” The New School for Social Research, February 16, 1994.

“Symposium on the Humanities.” WNET, New York City, April 24, 1992.

“Free Speech, Safe Speech, and the University.” Columbia University, October 3, 1991.