

Richard A. Garner
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Academic Employment

Instructional Assistant Professor, The Honors College, University of Houston, 2018 - Present
Director, Speech & Debate Program, University of Houston, 2017 - Present
Interim Director, Speech & Debate, University of Houston, 2016 - 2017
Lecturer, The Honors College, University of Houston, 2013 - 2018
Assistant Debate Coach, University of Houston, 2013 - 2016
Assistant Debate Coach, Harvard University, 2006 - 2015
Adjunct Professor, Lone Star College, 2013
Instructor, University at Buffalo, SUNY, 2005 - 2010
Assistant Debate Coach, Emory University, 2003 - 2004

Education

Ph.D. in English, University at Buffalo, State University of New York, 2012
B.A. in English (Honors, with a Specialization in Creative Writing), New York University, 2003

Areas of Specialization

Argumentation & debate; rhetoric; humanities; early American rhetoric & literature; American sentimental and women's novels; slave narratives and African American literature; aesthetics; critical theory, including poststructuralism, psychoanalysis, and queer theory

Publications

"Melville Among the Heathens: Religion, Race, and Representation in the South Seas," *Visionary of the Word: Melville and Religion*, Eds. Brian Yothers & Jonathan Cook, Northwestern UP, 2017.

"From Sovereignty to Ethopoiesis: Literature, Aesthetics, and New Forms of Life," *The Comparatist* 36 (2012): 86-106.

Courses

The Human Situation, Fall 2013 - present, University of Houston
Debating Policy, Spring 2020 - present, UH
Leadership & Mass Psychology, Fall 2017 & Spring 2021, UH
Radical Leadership in the 19th Century: Abolition & Suffrage, Spring 2019, UH
Composition & Rhetoric I & II, 2013, Lone Star College
Writing Composition, Fall 2005 - Spring 2010, University at Buffalo
Literary Types: Science Fiction, Fall 2009, UB

Other Teaching

Lecturer/Faculty, National Debate Institutes (NYU, Emory, Texas, UH), 2000 - present
Writer in Residence, Just Buffalo Literary Center, Spring 2007

Dissertation

“Aesthetics, Slavery, and Sentiment: The Discourses and Practices of Mastery in the American Renaissance.” Professors Tim Dean (Chair), Robert Daly, and William Solomon

Departmental & Disciplinary Service

Houston Urban Debate League, Board of Directors, 2018 - present

Honors Co-Curricular Committee, Fall 2022 - present

Honors College Huddle, Speech & Debate, University of Houston, Fall 2016 - present

Service Learning Committee, University of Houston, Fall 2016 - Spring 2017

Awards Subcommittee, Best Human Situation Essay Prize, University of Houston, 2016 - 2017

Curriculum Subcommittee, “The Human Situation,” University of Houston, 2013

Organizer, “Antebellum Affects: Literature & Theory,” MLA 2014

Organizer, “Nineteenth-Century American Sentiment, Radical or Otherwise,” MLA 2012

Ad Hoc By-Laws Committee, Department of English, SUNY Buffalo, 2007

Fellowships & Honors

Lerner Family Faculty Fellowship Award, UH Honors College, 2022

Wong Faculty Engagement Award, UH Honors College, 2020

Human Situation Lecture Award, “Sphragidonychogokomētai; Or, Measuring the Gnat’s Anus”
(Aristophanes’ *The Clouds*), UH Honors College, Fall 2018

Dean’s Service Award, UH Honors College, 2018

Outstanding Lecture Award, “Slavery as Humanism,” UH Honors College, Spring 2014

Inaugural Department of English Dissertation Fellow, SUNY Buffalo, Fall 2009 - Spring 2010

SUNY Buffalo Presidential Fellow, Fall 2005 - Spring 2009

SUNY Buffalo Composition Syllabus Prize, Honorable Mention, 2009

Cross Examination Debate Association National Champion, 2003

Public Appearances

Houston Matters, “Houston Teacher Wins World Championship of Public Speaking,” Houston
Public Radio 88.7, October 9, 2018

Houston Matters, “What Advice Would Houston Debaters Have For the Presidential Candidates?,”
Houston Public Radio 88.7, September 21, 2016

Conferences

Chair & Respondent, “Topographies of Violence and Desire: Race and Urban Space.” National
Communication Association Annual Convention, Las Vegas, NV, November 19-22, 2015

“Making Universality: Human Rights, Performance, and Archive Fever in Early American
Literature.” American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA,
March 19-22, 2015

“The Animal Magnetism of Sentiment: Novels and Imaginary Capture.” Modern Language
Association Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, January 9–12, 2014.

“The Clinic of Literature: Foucault, Deleuze, and Psychoanalysis.” Intensities and Lines of Flight:
Deleuze and Guattari and the Arts, King’s University College, London, Ontario, May 4-6, 2012.

Organizer & Respondent, “Nineteenth-Century American Sentiment, Radical or Otherwise.” Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Seattle, WA, January 5-8, 2012.

“An Archaeology of Slave Management: From ‘The State of War Continued’ to ‘No More Beautiful Picture of Human Society’.” Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Los Angeles, CA, January 6-9, 2011.

“Sinthome, Writing, Rhizome: New Forms of Life.” University of Massachusetts-Boston VII Annual Social Theory Forum conference on “Critical Social Theory: Freud & Lacan for the 21st Century,” Boston, MA, April 7-8, 2010.

“Science Fiction & Sexuality: Le Guin, Butler, Delany and the Limits of Transgression.” SUNY Buffalo Gender Institute, Gender Across Borders conference on “Globalisms,” Buffalo, NY, April 2-3, 2010.

“The Other Side of the Screen: Jonathan Coe’s *The Winshaw Legacy* and the Question of Simulation.” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, Princeton, March 23-26, 2006.

Journal Reviewer

Studies in American Fiction

Research & Editorial

Editorial Committee, *Umbr(a): A Journal of the Unconscious*, 2007 - 2010

Editorial Board, *Theory@Buffalo*, 2005 – 2010

Professional Memberships

American Literature Society (ALS)

American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS)

Modern Language Association (MLA)

Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists (C19)

Society of Early Americanists (SEA)