

MATTHEW P. BROWN

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February 2009

EDUCATION:

1996 Ph.D., University of Virginia, English and American Literature.
1986 B.A., Oberlin College, English. Magna Cum Laude.

PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC POSITIONS:

Director, UI Center for the Book, 2006-
Associate Professor, English Department/Center for the Book, University of Iowa, 2007-
present. Assistant Professor, 2001-2007.
Assistant Professor, English Department, Northern Illinois University, 1999-2001.
Visiting Assistant Professor, Coe College, 1996-97, 1998-99.
Distinguished Post-Doctoral Fellow and Instructor, Louisiana State University, 1997-98.

ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS:

National Endowment for the Humanities Research Fellow, Library Company of
Philadelphia, January-June 2009.
Mellon Seminar Leader, "Early American Literature and Material Texts," Philadelphia,
July 20-July 24, 2009.
Participant, "Books and their Readers to 1800 and Beyond." Summer Seminar in the
History of the Book. American Antiquarian Society. June, 2006.
Arts and Humanities Initiative Summer Research Grant. University of Iowa. July-August,
2005.
Participant, "Benjamin Franklin: Writer, Printer, Reader," Seminar in Literary Studies.
National Humanities Center. July, 2005.
Old Gold Summer Fellowship. University of Iowa. June-July, 2002.
Interdisciplinary Course Development Grant: "Introduction to Book Studies." Office of
Interdisciplinary Programs, University of Iowa. November, 2001.
NEH Summer Stipend Fellowship. June-July, 2001.
Summer Research Grant. Northern Illinois University. June-July, 2000.
Participant, "The Book Trades in Early America." Summer Seminar in the History of the
Book. American Antiquarian Society. June, 1998.
Mellon Short-Term Research Fellow. The Huntington Library. July, 1997.
Mellon Short-Term Research Fellow. Massachusetts Historical Society. 1994-95.

PUBLICATIONS:

Book

The Pilgrim and the Bee: Reading Rituals and Book Culture in Early New England
(University of Pennsylvania Press, June 2007).

Award: MLA Prize for Best First Book, Honorable Mention, December 2008

Reviews: *American Literature*, *Journal of American History*, *American Historical Review*, *Early American Literature*, *Common-place*, *The New England Quarterly*, *SHARP Newsletter*

Articles

- “Undisciplined Reading.” *Common-place* 8:1 (October 2007).
- “Book Arts and the Desire for Theory.” *Journal of Artists’ Books* 22 (Fall 2007).
- “Hand Piety; or, Operating a Book in Early New England.” *Cultural Narratives*. Ed. Sandra Gustafson. Notre Dame: U of Notre Dame P, forthcoming.
- “The Thick Style: Steady Sellers, Textual Aesthetics, and Early Modern Devotional Reading.” *PMLA* 121:1 (January 2006): 67-86.
- “Book History, Sexy Knowledge, and the Challenge of the New Boredom.” *American Literary History* 16:4 (Winter 2004): 688-706.
- “The Study and Story of Books in Early America.” Essay-review of *A History of the Book in America, Volume One: The Colonial Book in the Atlantic World*. *Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America* 98:4 (2004): 522-30.
- “How is Cultural Studies Anyway?: Evidence, Discipline, and the Iconographical Impulse.” *Journal of the MMLA* 34:3 (Fall 2001): 54-69.
- “Cultural Studies, Materialist Bibliography and the New England Archive: Editing an Elegy from King Philip's War.” *Studies in the Literary Imagination* 32: 1 (Spring 1999): 81-89.
- “‘BOSTON/SOB NOT’: Elegiac Performance in Early New England and Materialist Studies of the Book,” *American Quarterly* 50:2 (1998): 306-39.
- “Basketball, Rodney King, Simi Valley.” *Whiteness: A Critical Reader*. Ed. Mike Hill, New York: New York UP, 1997. 102-116.
- “Funk Music as Genre: Black Aesthetics, Apocalyptic Thinking and Urban Protest in Post-1965 African-American Pop,” *Cultural Studies* 8:3 (1994): 484-508.

Reviews

- Millennial Thought in America: Historical and Intellectual Contexts, 1630-1860*. *Early American Literature* 39:1 (2004): 700-704.
- The Story of A: The Alphabetization of America from The New England Primer to The Scarlet Letter*. *William and Mary Quarterly* 59 (April 2002): 500-03.
- Giving Up the Ghost: Spirits, Ghosts, and Angels in Mainstream Comedy Films*. *Style* 34 (2000): 337-42.
- The Republic in Print and Learning to Read and Write in Colonial America*. *Early American Literature* (forthcoming).

Reference works

- Contributor, *The Oxford Companion to the Book*. Gen. Ed. Michael Suarez. Oxford: Oxford UP, forthcoming.
- Contributor, *The Columbia Dictionary of Modern Literary and Cultural Criticism*. Ed. Joseph Childers and Gary Hentzi, New York: Columbia UP, 1995.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:

- “The Index, the Abecedary, and the Record: An Aesthetics of Psalm Culture in Early New England.” *Where are Hamlet and “Lycidas”?: Questions of Value in Textual Studies*. Society for Textual Scholarship, New York City. March 2007.
- Chair, *Where are Hamlet and “Lycidas”?: Questions of Value in Textual Studies*. Society for Textual Scholarship, New York City. March 2007.

- “‘A Man All in Black with a Thing in His Hand’: Protestant Book Culture and the Contact Zone.” New Approaches to Religion in Early America. Modern Languages Association, Philadelphia. December 2006.
- Chair, Melville and the Book. SHARP-sponsored panel, American Literature Association, San Francisco. May 2006.
- “Franklin’s Beat.” Considering Print. The Book. Twentieth-Annual DeBartolo Conference on Eighteenth-Century Studies, Tampa, FL. February 2006.
- “Hand Piety: Devotional Steady Sellers and the Conduct of Reading.” Histories of Print, Manuscript, and Performance in America: AAS History of the Book Conference, Worcester, MA. June, 2005.
- Chair, Book History, American Texts, and the Question of Literary Value. SHARP annual panel, Modern Languages Association, San Diego. December, 2003.
- “‘God Leaves a Space that You May Write’: Reception Studies, Bibliographical Theory, and Early Modern Devotional Reading.” Religious Writing and Reading. SHARP, Claremont, CA. July, 2003.
- “Does Theory Have a Place in the History of Books?” Writing the History of the Book. Modern Languages Association, New York. December, 2002.
- “An Epistemology of the Archive: The Eliot Mission and Early American Literary Studies.” “That Art of Coyning Christians”: Reading Puritan Mission Literature. Society of Early Americanists, Norfolk, VA. March, 2001.
- “The Narcissism of the Public Sphere.” The Vicissitudes of Narcissism. Modern Languages Association, Washington, DC. December, 2000.
- “The Thick Style: McGann, Ginzburg, and an Aesthetics of Early New England.” From Orality to Textuality. Material Cultures: The Book, the Text, and the Archive. Edinburgh, UK. July, 2000.
- Chair, Making Early American Studies Matter: A Roundtable Discussion of Evidence, Discipline and the Institution. American Studies Association, Montreal. October, 1999.
- Chair, Making Early American Studies Matter: A Roundtable on Evidence, Discipline and the Institution. Modern Languages Association, San Francisco, CA. December, 1998.
- “Jesse Jackson in Whiteface: *How Ya Like Me Now?* and the Masking of African-American Dissent.” Undercover Outrage and Role Reversal, American Studies Association, Kansas City, MO. November, 1996.
- “The *Gatsby* Artifact as Erotic Commodity: Desire, Modernism and the Marketplace in Fitzgerald's Narrative.” Visual Technologies and 20th Century Fiction, American Studies Association, Nashville, TN. October 1994.

INVITED TALKS:

- “Early Modern Surfing?: Enlightenment and Devotional Attitudes to Discontinuous Reading,” History of Material Texts Seminar, University of Pennsylvania, February 2009.
- “‘But to Return’: Mary Rowlandson, Ruminative Reading, and the Book Object,” Literature, Book History, and the Anxiety of Disciplinarity, Israel Science Foundation, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Israel. July 2008.
- “Books, Things, Mary Rowlandson, Us,” Book History Seminar, Harvard University. November 2007.
- “On ‘the History of the Book and the Idea of Literature’,” American Cultures Colloquium and Early Modern Colloquium, Northwestern University. March 2006.
- “Commonplacings Shakespeare,” Folger Shakespeare Library. “Shakespeare in American Education, 1607-1934.” March 2007. (Declined.)

SERVICE:

Co-Organizer, "Art, Fact, and Artifact," First Biennial College Book Art Association Conference, University of Iowa, January 2009.

Editorial Board, *Early American Literature*, 2007-2010.

Editorial Board, *Philological Quarterly*, 2007- .

Research Associate, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania, 2009.

Panelist, National Endowment for the Humanities. Review of Summer Stipend Applications for 2003 and 2007. Fall, 2002; Fall, 2006.