

Patrick Chura, Ph.D.
Department of English, University of Akron,
Akron, OH 44325-1906, jpc@uakron.edu

Professor of English, University of Akron

- *Specialization in American literature and culture studies*

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Saint Louis University
M.A. University of Missouri
M.L.A. Washington University
B.A. University of Notre Dame

RESEARCH AND LECTURING GRANTS

- Fall 2015 **Visiting Professor Grant** from the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Lithuania for a 15-day lectureship in the Humanities Department, Siauliai University.
- June 2015 **National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Educational Programs Award** for participation in the NEH Summer Institute, *What Is Gained in Translation?*, Kent State University.
- May 2013 **University of Akron Faculty Research Committee Grant** for the project, "Ten Days that Shook Lithuania: The *Atgaiva* Drama Festival of 1988."
- May 2012 **Fulbright Specialists Grant** to lead a 3-week graduate seminar in 19th century American literature at the University of East Anglia School of American Studies, Norwich, England.
- Spring 2009 **Fulbright U.S. Scholars Program Grant** for research and teaching in American Literature and American Studies at Siauliai University in Siauliai, Lithuania.

Spring 2009

'Free Movers in Baltic Studies' Grant from the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania for research in Baltic literature and drama.

Summer 2007

University of Akron Faculty Research Committee Grant for the project, "Louise Bryant's Radical Influence on the Stagecraft of Eugene O'Neill."

Summer 2006

University of Akron Faculty Research Committee Grant for the project, "Economic and Environmental Perspectives in the Surveying Field Notes of Henry David Thoreau."

AWARDS

Winner of the 2012 Dasher Award, given by the College English Association of Ohio to the outstanding publication in literary scholarship during the three-year period from 2009 to 2011. (for *Thoreau the Land Surveyor*)

University of Akron **Outstanding Honors College Faculty Award**, 2011.

Selected for the **National Fulbright Specialists Roster**, 2011.

University of Akron Buchtel College of Arts and Sciences **Chairs' Award for "Outstanding Achievement: Early Career,"** 2007.

St. Louis University **Walter J. Ong Award**, 2000.

EDITORIAL BOARD SERVICE AND CONSULTATION

Scholarly consultant to *Henry David Thoreau: Surveyor of the Soul*, a documentary film scheduled for release in 2017. <http://www.filmsbyhuey.com>

Member since 2011 of the Editorial Board of *The Eugene O'Neill Review*.

Member since 2004 of the Editorial Board of *Lituanus*, a peer-reviewed quarterly journal of Eastern European and American arts and sciences published by Lituanus foundation

Peer-Reviewer of manuscripts for: *ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance* and *Twentieth Century Literature*.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Thoreau the Land Surveyor. (University Press of Florida, 2010, 2nd printing Oct. 2011)

A contextualization of Henry Thoreau's land-surveying career, analyzing the methods and material products of his fieldwork for what they reveal about the author's ethics and politics.

Vital Contact: Downclassing Journeys in American Literature from Herman Melville to Richard Wright. (Routledge, 2005)

A study of American fiction about middle or upper-class characters who voluntarily descend the class ranks to experience "vital contact" by living or working, temporarily, among the poor.

Articles and Book Chapters

"It's Time for Scholars to Take Harper Lee Seriously" *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, July 22, 2015. [<http://chronicle.com>]

"The Hopewell Saunterer: Thoreau as Vietnam Vet in Bobbie Ann Mason's *In Country*" *The Thoreau Society Bulletin*, 289 (Spring 2015): 4-6.

"*Demon est dues inversus*: Literary Cartography in Melville's *The Encantadas*." *49th Parallel, An Interdisciplinary Journal of North American Studies*, 35 (Winter 2015): 1-29.

"'Read *Martin Eden*'": Jack London in a Glasnost-era Lithuanian Drama" *The Call: The Magazine of the Jack London Society*, Vol. 24, no. 1 (Spring/Summer 2013): 6-9.

"Ten Days That Shook Lithuania: The *Atgaiva* Drama Festival of 1988." *Lituanus*, 59:3 (Fall 2013): 5-36.

- Translated and reprinted in the Lithuanian language in *Varpai* (Vilnius, Lithuania) 32 (2015): 103-122.

"Parabola Nation; or, the Power of Disparate Things" *The Thoreau Society Bulletin*, 281 (Spring 2013): 1-3.

- Expanded version re-published March 2014 by the *Thoreau Society Blog/News* [<http://www.thoreausociety.org/news/blog>]

"Study of O'Neill's plays in 'capstone course' inspires U of Akron English majors"
Eugene O'Neill Society Newsletter, January 2013, 8.

"'May 4 Voices': The Historical Artifact as Literary Text" in *A Teacher's Resource Book for May 4th Voices: Kent State, 1970*. Ed. John L. Morris, Kent State UP, 2013. p. 8-11.

"Reintroducing *The Harbor*, a Muckraking Classic" *The American Literary Naturalism (ALN) Newsletter*, Vol. 7, Nos. 1-2 (Fall 2012): 19-23.

"Ernest Poole's *The Harbor* as a Source for O'Neill's *The Hairy Ape*." *The Eugene O'Neill Review*, Vol. 33, No. 1 (Spring 2012): 24-42.

"Introduction," *The Harbor* by Ernest Poole. New York: Penguin, 2011: ix-xxviii.
Introduction, notes, editing for first *Penguin Classics* edition of *The Harbor*, 2011.

"Emily Plater: 'Frontispiece' for Margaret Fuller's *Woman in the Nineteenth Century*."
Lituanus, 57:1 (Spring 2011): 5-14.

- Reprint and translation into the Lithuanian language published in *Lithuanian Culture Studies (Lietuvos Kulturos Tyrimai)*, Nr. 3 (2013), by the *Lithuanian Culture Research Institute*, Vilnius, Lithuania, pp. 78-84.

"Goodbye, Columbus" by Philip Roth. *The Literary Encyclopedia*, August 2010.
[<http://www.litencyc.com>]

"Defender of the Faith" by Philip Roth. *The Literary Encyclopedia*, June 2010.
[<http://www.litencyc.com>]

"Resisting the Absurd: Thoreau in Lithuania." *The Thoreau Society Bulletin*, 268
(Fall 2009): 1-3.

"Class" in O'Neill's Life and Plays. In *The Critical Companion to Eugene O'Neill: A Literary Reference to His Life and Work*. (New York: Facts on File, Inc. 2009): 553-558.

"O'Neill's *Strange Interlude* and the 'Strange Marriage' of Louise Bryant." *Eugene O'Neill Review*, Volume 30 (2008): 7-21.

"Economic and Environmental Perspectives in the Surveying 'Field-Notes' of Henry David Thoreau." The Concord Saunterer: A Journal of Thoreau Studies, New Series, Vol. 15 (2007): 37-64.

"Abraham Cahan's *Vilna* and the Roots of 'Litvak' Realism." Lituanus 52.4 (Winter 2006): 46-69.

"Vital Contact: Eugene O'Neill and the Working Class." Twentieth Century Literature 49.4 (Winter 2003): 520-546.

- Reprinted in *Bloom's Modern Critical Views series, Eugene O'Neill*, ed. Harold Bloom (Chelsea House, 2007): 175-197.
- Reprinted in *Eugene O'Neill and His Early Contemporaries: Bohemians, Radicals, Progressives and the Avant Garde*. eds. Robert Dowling and Eileen Hermann (New York: McFarland, 2011): 9-30.

"Prolepsis and Anachronism: Emmett Till and the Historicity of *To Kill a Mockingbird*." Southern Literary Journal 32.2 (Spring 2000): 1-26.

- Reprinted in the *Bloom's Modern Critical Interpretations, Harper Lee's To Kill a Mockingbird*, ed. Harold Bloom (Chelsea House, 2006): 115-140.
- Reprinted in *To Kill a Mockingbird: New Edition (Bloom's Guides)*, ed. Harold Bloom (Chelsea House, April 2010).

"Reclaiming Shakespeare: Eimuntas Nekrosius's Lithuanian *Othello*." Lituanus 47.3 (Fall 2001): 20-36.

"*Hamlet* and the Failure of Soviet Authority in Lithuania." Lituanus 46.4 (Winter 2000): 8-46.

Translations

"'To Be' Means to Resist the Absurd," an introduction to Thoreau's *Walden* by Rolandas Pavilionis. Translated from the Lithuanian language. Lituanus 57.4 (December 2011): 47-59.

Reference Articles

"Gerald Early." In The African American National Biography. Oxford University Press, 2008: (Vol. 3, 131-132).

"Shelby Steele." In The African American National Biography. Oxford University Press, 2008: (Vol. 7, 392-393).

"Louise Bryant." In The Critical Companion to Eugene O'Neill: A Literary Reference to His Life and Work. (New York: FactsonFile, 2009): 539-541.

"Ernest Poole." The Literary Encyclopedia, December 2009.
[<http://www.litencyc.com>]

"Max Eastman." The Literary Encyclopedia, January 2010.
[<http://www.litencyc.com>]

"*The Hoosier Schoolmaster*, by Edward Eggleston." The Literary Encyclopedia, January 2012. With Rachel Roth. [<http://www.litencyc.com>]

"*The Hairy Ape*, by Eugene O'Neill." In The Literary Encyclopedia. December 2011.
[<http://www.litencyc.com>]

"*Quicksand*, by Nella Larsen." The Literary Encyclopedia, August 2012. With Casey Shevlin. [<http://www.litencyc.com>]

"Nella Larsen." The Literary Encyclopedia, August 2012.
[<http://www.litencyc.com>]

"Michael Gold." The Literary Encyclopedia, August 2014.
[<http://www.litencyc.com>]

"*Jews Without Money*, by Michael Gold." The Literary Encyclopedia, September 2014.
[<http://www.litencyc.com>]

"*Black Boy (American Hunger)*, by Richard Wright." The Literary Encyclopedia, May 2015.
[<http://www.litencyc.com>]

Special Issue of Journal

Edited "American Perspectives on Cultural Transition" a special issue of Lituanus (March 2007), and a general issue of Lituanus in December 2011.

Reviews

"'Shell Shock,' directed by Treviel Cody" *The Eugene O'Neill Review*, Vol. 35, No. 2 (Fall 2014): 128-129.

"*The Iceman Cometh*, directed by Ian Wolfgang Hinz." *The Eugene O'Neill Review*, Vol. 35, No. 1 (Spring 2014): 126-129.

"*The Emperor Jones*, directed by Lois Elswick." *The Eugene O'Neill Review*, Vol. 34, No. 2 (Fall 2013): 276-279.

"*The Dynamite Club: How a Bombing in Fin-de-seicle Paris Ignited the Age of Modern Terror*," by John Merriman. Journal for the Study of Radicalism, Volume 5, no. 2 (Summer 2011): 137-139.

"*The Banks of Noon [Pusiadienio Krantai]: Selected Poems of Emily Dickinson*," translated by Sonata Paliulyte. Lituanus 57.4 (Winter 2011): 90-92.

"*A Call from Jersey*," by P.F. Kluge. Peace Corps Writers. July 2010
[<http://peacecorpsworldwide.org/pc-writers/>]

"*The Incarnation of CatMan Billy*," by Will Jordan. Peace Corps Writers. November 2010
[<http://peacecorpsworldwide.org/pc-writers/>]

"*The New Theatre of the Baltics: From Soviet to Western Influence in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania*," by Jeff Johnson. Lituanus 54:4 (Winter 2008): 76-80.

"*Lost and Found: The Discovery of Lithuania in American Fiction*," by Ausra Paulauskiene. Lituanus 54:1 (Spring 2008): 85-88.

"*Upton Sinclair: The Lithuanian Jungle*," by Giedrius Subacius. Lituanus 53.3 (Fall 2007): 76-78.

"*Hidden*," by Paul Jaskunas. Lituanus 51.2 (Summer 2005): 77-80.

"*Modern Love: Cezaris Grauzinis' The Taming of the Shrew*." Lituanus 50.3 (Fall 2004): 76-80.

"*Nekrosius and Lithuanian Theatre*," by Ludvika Apinyte Popenhagen. Lituanus 48.1 (Spring 2002): 77-80.

Selected Paper Presentations and Invited Lectures

"Mapping Armageddon: How Melville's Literary Cartography Complicates Thoreau's"
Thoreau Society Annual Gathering, July 11, 2014, Concord, MA.

"Ten Days That Shook Lithuania: The *Atgaiva* Drama Festival of 1988" University of Akron "Research for Lunch" invited lecture, October 23, 2013.

"Engineering for All America': Thoreau, Melville, and the Science of Surveying," Invited public lecture presented at Harvard University, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences and Department of the History of Science, Cambridge, MA, September 25, 2013.

"Parabola Nation; or, the Power of Disparate Things" invited lecture presented at the Thoreau Society 'Windows on Walden' Series, Concord, MA, January 6, 2013.

"*May 4 Voices: The Historical Artifact as Literary Text*" presented at the 2013 MLA Annual Convention, Boston, MA, January 6, 2013.

Organized the Special Session, "*May 4 Voices: Teaching about the 1970 Kent State Shootings through Oral History and Drama*," at the 2013 MLA Annual Convention, Boston, MA, January 6, 2013.

Organized and introduced the Special Event, "*May 4 Voices: Film Premier*" at the 2013 MLA Annual Convention, Boston, MA, January 5, 2013.

Invited Respondent to the panel, "Recovering Thoreau's Topography" at the 2013 MLA Annual Convention, Boston, January 4, 2013.

"Thoreau the Surveyor: Combining Civil Engineering with Civil Disobedience." Invited public lecture delivered at the University of East Anglia School of American Studies, Norwich, United Kingdom, May 16, 2012.

"Ernest Poole's *The Harbor* as a Source for O'Neill's *The Hairy Ape*." Presented at the Eighth International Conference on Eugene O'Neill, "O'Neill in Bohemia," New York, NY, June 23, 2011.

"Thoreau, Professional and Amateur." Keynote address, annual convention of the Massachusetts Association of Land Surveyors and Civil Engineers (MALSCE), Hyannis, MA, Sep. 23, 2011.

"Measures of Meaning: Thoreau's Surveying as Life-Narrative." Presented at the Modern Language Association (MLA) Annual Convention, Los Angeles, CA, January 6, 2011.

"Re-Reading Haymarket and *Billy Budd*." Presented at the Midwest Modern Language Association Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL, November 6, 2010.

**Proposed, Organized and Chaired the Special Session, "Melville and Terror" at the M/MLA Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL, November 6, 2010.*

"The Concord Surveyor and the Kansas Surveyor." Invited lecture presented at the Thoreau Society Annual Gathering, Concord, MA, July 9, 2009.

"'Chicago Calling': A Background Narrative in The Great Gatsby and Tender Is the Night." Presented at the International Narrative Society Annual Meeting, Birmingham, England, June 5, 2009.

"Thoreau's 'Walden Map' and the Ethics of Eco-Cartography." Presented at Third Annual Conference on Design Practices and Principles, Berlin, Germany, February 15, 2009.

"Henris Toro: romantikas, matininkas." (Thoreau, Romanticist and Surveyor). Invited lecture presented at the College of the Humanities 54th "Text Readings" Lecture Series, Department of Literary History, Siauliai University, Siauliai, Lithuania; April 30, 2009.

"Louise Bryant's Radical Influence on the Stagecraft of Eugene O'Neill." Presented at the University of Akron Faculty Research Colloquium, Akron, Ohio, November 14, 2008.

"Athletics and American Identity in Philip Roth's Goodbye, Columbus." Presented at the Midwest Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Cleveland, OH, November 11, 2007.

"Questioning the 'Outsider Positionality' of White Instructors of Black Studies." Presented at the Midwest Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Cleveland, OH, November 10, 2007.

"Abraham Cahan and the Cultural Roots of 'Litvak' Realism." Presented at the 2nd Annual Symposium, "Crossing Over: Learning to Navigate Cultural Borders." Cleveland State University, October 2007.

"Economic and Environmental Perspectives in Thoreau's Surveying Field Notes." Invited presentation at the American Literature Association Annual Convention, Boston, May 27, 2007.

"American Perspectives on Cultural Transition." Invited lecture presented at the 52nd *Santara-Sviesa* Convention, Lemont, Illinois; September 6, 2005.

"Emmett Till, Sputnik and Harper Lee: To Kill a Mockingbird in its 1950s Context" presented at National Council of Teachers of English National Convention, Baltimore; November 2001.

"From To Kill a Mockingbird to the Jena Six." Lecture/discussion presented at University of Akron Race Week, Revisiting Race: Black White and Beyond. February 4, 2008.