

MYRA MENDIBLE, PhD
mendible@fgcu.edu

OFFICE:
Florida Gulf Coast University
10501 FGCU Blvd. S.
239-590-7182 (office)

EDUCATION: Doctor of Philosophy, English, University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL (1993)
Dissertation: *Postmodern Spectacle: Theory, Politics, and the Philippine Context*
(Awarded Distinction)

TEACHING and RESEARCH INTERESTS: Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies, Critical Race Theory; Media and Politics; Gender and Sexuality; Ethnic Studies

TEACHING APPOINTMENTS

Professor (tenured), Comparative Lit and Cultural Studies (2007-present)
Faculty Fellow, FGCU Center for Critical Race and Ethnicity Studies (2020-present)
Honors Faculty Fellow (2013-2016)
Associate Professor, FGCU (2001-2006)
Assistant Professor, Nova Southeastern (2000-2001)
Assistant Professor, FGCU (1998-2000)
Assistant Professor, University of South Florida in transition to FGCU (1994-1998)
Lecturer, English and Composition, University of Miami (1993-1994)

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Interim Director, FGCU Judaic, Holocaust, and Human Rights Studies (2011-12)
Chair, Language and Literature Department, FGCU (2008-2011)
Interim Writing Program Director, Nova Southeastern University (1999-2000)
English Program Leader, Humanities Division, FGCU (1997-99)
Co-Founder, English Program, FGCU (1994-1997)
Florida Gulf Coast University Founding Faculty (USF in transition to FGCU 1994-1997)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Books

American War Stories: Veteran-Writers and the Politics of Memoir, Myra Mendible (in process, University of Massachusetts Press)

American Shame: Stigma and the Body Politic, Myra Mendible, Ed. Indiana University Press, 2016.

Race 2008: Critical Reflections on a Historic Campaign, Myra Mendible, Ed. Brown Walker Press, 2010.

From Bananas to Buttocks: The Latina Body in Popular Film and Culture, Myra Mendible, Ed.
University of Texas Press, 2007.

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters

- “Soldier Memoirs and the Power of Credibility,” forthcoming *REBUS*, Spring, 2021.
- “Silence Amid the Din of War: Sound and Vision in Brian Turner’s *My Life as a Foreign Country*.” *War, Literature, and the Arts*, v. 22, 2020.
- “Cultural Disenfranchisement and the Politics of Stigma.” *Ethnic Studies Review*, University of California Press, 42.1 (2019): 7-24.
- “Saving Face: Shame, Humiliation, and the Affective Economy of War.” *War, Literature, and the Arts*. Volume 28 (2016).
- Guest Editor, “Race, Politics, and the Humanities in the Age of ‘Posts.’” Special Issue, *Humanities* 5.3 (2016).
- “Rethinking the Human/Race.” Introduction. “Race, Politics, and the Humanities in the Age of ‘Posts.’” Myra Mendible, *Humanities* 5.3 (2016).
- “Scarlet-Letter Politics: Racial Shaming in the Campaign to Unseat President Obama.” *Ethnic Studies Review*. 35.1-2, 2015.
- “Post-Vietnam Syndrome.” *Yellow Peril! An Archive of Anti-Asian Fear*. John Kuo Wei Tchen, Ed. London, New York: Verso, 2014.
- “Literature as Activism: Ninotchka Rosca’s Political Aesthetic.” *Journal of Postcolonial Writing* Volume 50, Issue 3 (May 2014): 354-367.
- “Human Dignity, Humiliation, and the Erosion of the Humanities.” *The International Journal of the Humanities*. Volume 9, Issue 5 (2012): 189-200.
- “Race and Politics in the Age of Obama.” Special Issue, “‘Post-Racial’ America.” *Journal of Research in American Civilization [Revue de Recherche en Civilisation Américaine]* v 3 (2012).
- Review of *Unsettling the Bildungsroman: Reading Contemporary Ethnic American Women's Fiction* by Stella Bolaki Rodopi. *Postcolonial Text* 7.2 (2012).
- “A Feral Beauty.” *Unspoiled: Writers Speak for Florida's Gulf*. Eds. Janisse Ray and Susan Cerulian. Heart of the Earth Press, 2010.
- “Big Booty and the New Sexual Aesthetic.” *American Sexuality*. National Sexuality Research Center, San Francisco State University (January 6, 2009). (Selected AlterNet’s Top 5 Most Popular Articles of 2009).
- “Post-Vietnam Syndrome: National Identity, War, and the Politics of Humiliation.” *Radical Psychology: A Journal of Psychology and Politics* v 7 (Fall 2008).
- “Storytelling and the Politics of Exile.” *Telling Stories to Change the World: Voices on Building Community and Claiming Social Justice*, Ed. Rickie Solinger. Routledge, 2008.
- “Chica Flicks: Postfeminism and the Latina American Dream.” *Chick Flicks: Contemporary Women at the Movies*, Eds. Suzanne Ferriss and Mallory Young. Routledge, 2007.
- “Sexy Señoritas and other Imperial Fantasies: US Foreign Policy, Domestic Fictions, and the Latina Body.” *Screening the Past: An International Journal of Media and History* 20 (Dec. 2006).
- “Dominance and Submission in Postmodern War Imagery.” *Peace Review: A Journal of Social Justice*. Volume 17, Issue 1 (January 2005): 55-63.

- “Lost Lovers and Absent Fathers: The Romance of Conquest in Margarita Engle's *Skywriting* and Cristina Garcia's *Dreaming in Cuban*.” Revised and read online in Christie, John S. and Jose B. Gonzalez. *Keeping Brown Literature Booming Project* (2005).
- “Visualizing Abjection: Gender, Power, and the Culture of Humiliation.” *Gender Forum* v11 (2005).
- “Latina Bodies.” *Latino/as in the United States*, V. 2 Eds. Suzanne Oboler and Deena Gonzalez, Oxford University Press, 2005.
- “Writing as Activism.” *Asian-American Writers Series*. New York: Bruccoli Clark Layman, 2005.
- “Humiliation, Subjectivity, and Reality TV.” *Feminist Media Studies* 4.3 (2004).
- “Between Borders: Exile, Ethnicity, and ‘Homelessness’ in Julia Alvarez, Margarita Engle, and Edwidge Danticat.” *Florida English* V 2 (2004).
- “Against the Grain: Teaching Multicultural Literature to Middle-Class Values.” *Academic Exchange Extra* (November 2003).
- “Paradise Lost, Paradise Found: Oral Histories and the Formation of Cuban Identities.” *University of Florida Law Review* v 55 (2003).
- “Dictators, Martyrs, and Movie Stars: Political Spectacle in Hagedorn’s *Dogeaters*.” *Genders* v36 (2002).
- “The Politics and Poetics of Festival in Ninotchka Rosca’s *State of War*.” *International Fiction Review* v 29.1-2 (2002).
- “Desiring Images: Representation and Power in Hagedorn's *Dogeaters*.” *Critique: Studies in Contemporary Fiction* Volume 43, Issue 3 (January 2002): 289-304.
- “Lost Lovers and Absent Fathers: The Romance of Empire in Margarita Engle’s *Skywriting* and Cristina Garcia’s *Dreaming in Cuban*.” *Entre Lineas: Revista de critica literaria [Between the Lines: Journal of Literary Criticism]* U of Seville P, Spain (June 2001).
- “Growing up Cuban in Miami: Storytelling, History, and the Politics of Exile.” *Jouvert: Journal of Postcolonial Studies* 6.1-2 (Fall 2001). [At their request, a condensed version of this essay was reprinted in the October 2007 issue of the Florida Humanities Council publication, *FORUM*.]
- “High Theory/Low Culture: Postmodernism and the Politics of Carnival.” *Journal of American Culture* 22.2 (SUM 1999): 71-76.
- “What is Multiculturalism?” *St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture*. Eds. Sara and Tom Pendergast. 5 vols. Farmington Hills, Michigan: St. James Press, 1999.
- “Tito Puente: *Nuyorican* Style.” *St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture*. Eds. Sara and Tom Pendergast. 5 vols. Farmington Hills, Michigan: St. James Press, 1999.
- “Boat People.” *St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture*, Eds. Sara and Tom Pendergast. Farmington Hills, Michigan: St. James Press, 1999.
- “The Cruz-Varela Case.” *Ready Reference: Censorship*. Ed. R. Kent Rasmussen. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 1997.
- “Censorship in Cuba.” *Ready Reference: Censorship*. Ed. R. Kent Rasmussen. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 1997.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“American Identity in the Era of Globalization: Language and Identity.” Seidler Collaborative Research Project Presentation, South Atlantic Modern Language Association Conference, Georgia State U, Atlanta, November 15–17, 2019.

“Silence amid the Din of War: Brian Turner’s *My Life as a Foreign Country*. Southern Humanities Conference, Asheville, NC. Jan. 24-27, 2019.

“American Patriots or Foreign Traitors: Duty, Honor, and the Immigrant Soldier.” FCEA Annual Conference, Tampa, FL. Oct. 18-20, 2018.

“American War Stories in the Age of ‘Fake News.’” Southern Humanities Council Conference. Savannah, Georgia. Feb. 1-4, 2018.

“Borders in the Age of Globalization.” Florida Southwestern State College Humanities Colloquium. March 21, 2018.

“Imagining the Transnation: History, Fiction, and Memory in Brian Turner’s *My Life as a Foreign Country*.” Interdisciplinary Conference on Critical Theory, Center for the Humanities, CUNY May 4-7, 2017.

“American War Stories and the Politics of Credibility.” American Association of Comparative Literature, Harvard University, March 17-20, 2016.

“Cultural Disenfranchisement and the Politics of Stigma.” Chair and Presenter, National Association for Ethnic Studies Conference, University of Mississippi, March 26-29, 2015.

“Moral Outrage: Affective Structures and the Killing of Trayvon Martin and Jordan Davis.” National Association for Ethnic Studies Conference, Oakland California, April 2-3, 2014.

“Saving Face: Shame, Humiliation, and the Affective Economy of War.” Beyond Blood and Treasure Panel. American Studies Association Conference, Hilton Washington, DC, November 21-24, 2013.

“Scarlet-Letter Politics: Racial Shaming in the Campaign to Unseat President Obama.” Association of African American and Latino Studies Joint National Conference, Feb. 11-16, 2013, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

“Shame Spectacles in American Popular and Legal Culture.” Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Conference, Universidad Abat Oliba, Barcelona, Spain. June 25-29, 2012.

“Universal Human Rights and the Erosion of the Humanities.” Ninth International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, University of Granada, Spain. June 8-11, 2011.

“The Right to Dignity: Humiliation and Human Rights.” International Humanities and Sustainability Conference, Florida Gulf Coast University, Oct 8-10, 2010.

“The Body on the Scaffold: The Return of Public Shaming in American Popular and Legal Culture.” Interdisciplinary Studies panel, Southwest Popular/American Culture Conference, Albuquerque, NM (Feb. 10-14, 2010).

ADE (Association of Departments of English). Workshop for New Chairs, Brown University, Providence, R.I. (June 10-14, 2009).

“Video Wars: Spectatorship and Humiliation in the ‘War on Terror.’” LatCrit Conference (Latino/a Legal and Critical Race Theory), Miami, FL. Florida International University, College of Law (October 4-6, 2007).

“Disturbing Pleasures: Humor and Humiliation.” Human Dignity and Humiliation Studies, Global Core of Scholars, Annual Workshop. UN Peace University, Costa Rica. (September 6-10, 2006).

“What do JLo, FDR, and Chiquita Have in Common? Reflections on Latino/as and the Politics of Entertainment.” Second Annual Interdisciplinary Studies Conference, FGCU, April 2007.

“Humiliation and Mass Media.” Human Dignity and Humiliation Studies Conference. Columbia University, Conflict Resolution Center, NYC. (Dec. 15-16, 2005).

Presenter, Interdisciplinary Book Project. Interdisciplinary Studies Conference, Florida Gulf Coast University. April 7, 2006.

“Spectacular Bodies: ‘The Latin Woman’ in the Popular Imagination.” Latin American Studies Association International Conference (LASA). Panel Organizer, Presenter, & Chair. Las Vegas, NV (October 6-9, 2004).

“A Woman’s Place: Gender, Honor, and the Culture of Humiliation.” Oxford Roundtable, Oxford University, UK (August 8-13, 2004).

“Exile, Ethnicity, and the Politics of Memory: ‘Homelessness’ in Julia Alvarez, Margarita Engle, and Edwidge Danticat.” Multi-Ethnic Literatures of the US (MELUS) Conference, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL (April 10-12, 2003).

“Risky Business: Reconciling Race, Class, and the ‘American Dream’ in Multicultural Literatures.” Northeast Modern Language Assoc. (NEMLA), Boston, Mass. (March 7-9, 2003).

“Cubans without Borders.” Framing North-South Issues in Lat-Crit Theory, Lat-Crit VI Annual Conference, University of Florida (School of Law), Gainesville, FL (4/27-4/30, 2001).

“Romancing Empire: Images of Spain in Recent Cuban-American Novels.” National Communications Association Conference, Chicago, IL (Nov 5-7, 1999).

“Festival as Trope for Postcolonial Literature and Theory.” Reader and Special Session Chair. Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Conference, Santa Fe, NM (Oct 1999).

“Literature and Life: Building a Culture for a New University.” Florida College Teachers Association Conference, Mt. Dora, FL (Feb. 6, 1998).

“Theory, Politics & Academia: Multiculturalism in the Society of the Spectacle.” Paper presented at the University of Havana, Cuba, Annual Conference of North American and Cuban Philosophers and Social Scientists (June 7-14, 1996).

“A Carnival of Others: The Politics of Multiculturalism.” Popular Culture Association Conference, Richmond, Virginia (Oct. 1995).

Archival Research

Veterans History Project, Library of Congress, Washington DC, 8/6/15 - 8/9/15

Study Abroad

Led students from FGCU’s and University of North Texas Honors Programs on a Study Abroad trip to the Peace University in Costa Rica. “Creating a Culture of Peace” (co-taught with Dr. Richard Coughlin, Political Science, FGCU)

SELECTED AWARDS/DISTINCTIONS

- Honors Fellow, FGCU Honors College
- “Post-Vietnam Syndrome,” Selected for Special Edition of Library of Social Sciences newsletter, “Theorizing with the Stars” (11/16).
- Top 3% Researcher Academia.edu (2016-19)
- “Women Who Make SW Florida” Award, WGPU, Finalist (2016)
- Certificate of Excellence, CAS Faculty Leadership, 2014
- Certificate of Appreciation, FGCU Female Empowerment Camp, 2017
- Certificate of Recognition, Undergraduate Research Mentor, 2017-18
- Certificate of Appreciation, International Services, 2010
- Plaque of Appreciation for Leadership as Chair, Dept. Faculty Award 2011
- Twenty Year Service Award, FGCU 2014
- Fifteen Year Service Award, Florida Gulf Coast University, 2009
- “Roads Scholar” 2009-2010. Florida Humanities Council
- Greater Naples Women of Achievement Award, 2007
- Association of University Women Postdoctoral Fellow, 2005-6
- NEH Fellowship 2005 (Vietnam: America’s Longest War)
- Oxford Round Table; Women’s Leadership Forum, Oxford University, England
- “Top XX” Excellence Award FGCU (1998-99)
- Minority Faculty Recognition, Minority Caucus & SGA
- “Students’ Choice Award” FGCU Student Gov’t, 2002
- Certificate of Appreciation, Pan American Minority Student Association
- Graduating Class Student Service Award
- Dissertation Award, Distinction, University of Miami
- Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, University of Miami (1990)
- National Hispanic Scholar, 1990

RECENT GRANTS AWARDED

- Innovative Assignment Design Grant (2018)
- Eagle Work-Study Researchers Grant (2018)
- Faculty Development Grants (multiple)
- Professional Enhancement Faculty Grant (2019)
- Seidler Faculty-Student Collaborative Research Grant (Summer 2019)

SELECTED INTERVIEWS/PUBLIC LECTURES

- Invited Speaker, “Borders in the Age of Globalization,” FSW Humanities Colloquium, (3/18)
- Interview, *Teen Vogue*. Stereotypes and Halloween Costumes (9/2017)
- Interview, Gulf Coast Live, WGCU Radio, Dystopian Fiction: 1984. (3/28/17)
- Interview, National Public Radio, “Parent shaming” podcast (6/29/16)
- Interview, *Allure Magazine*, Ramona Emerson, reporter. Jan. 2015 (women’s issues)
- Speaker, Immokalee Foundation Writing Center Scholarship Workshop, September 19, 2015
- Interview, *Latina Magazine*, Helen Ubinas, reporter. March 2014 (film representations)
- Interview, *New York Times*, Marisa Meltzer, reporter. June 2014 (body image)
- Invited Lecture, “Latina Women and the Body: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly,” Museum of Contemporary Art, Miami, FL (with FIU Gender Studies and Honors Programs, 2013)
- Dean of Students Invited Panelist “*Managing Diversity and Enhancing Cultural Competency in the Workplace*” January 2014
- Interview, Public History project, FGCU Digital Archives, 2014. Online <<https://fgcu.digital.flvc.org/islandora/object/fgcu%3A27969>>
- Interview, *New York Times*, Tanzina Vega, Reporter, Latina Body Image, November 2013
- Interview, BBC News, Rajini Vaidyanathan, Reporter, Women’s Issues
- Interview, 50th Anniversary, Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird*, David LaGaccia, Reporter, *Florida Weekly*
- Interview, *Philadelphia Daily News*, Jenice Armstrong, “A Trend to Watch”
- Interview, FGCU Perspectives, Public Television Program, “Literature’s Relevance Today”
- Interview, *Wall Street Journal*, Rachel Dodes, “Curvy Stars”
- Interview, National Public Radio “In Character” Series”: America’s Love Affair with Stereotyped Brands: “Chiquita Banana” January 23, 2008.
- Radio Interview (Bill Dudley) “Floridians Living on the Hyphen” Humanities Council Radio
- Presenter, “Managing Conflict” Relations and Organizational Development
- Interview, WGCU Public Radio, Hispanics in Hollywood
- Interview, *Expressions Magazine*, February 2008 Issue
- Invited Speaker. Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association. April 2008.
- Interview, WGCU Public Radio, “Cuba after Castro” Feb. 25, 2008.
- Invited Speaker, Immigration Forum, Covenant Community Church, Ft. Myers Feb. 2008
- Invited Speaker. “Latino/as in Film and Media” Hispanic Heritage Event. FGCU Oct. 2007
- Invited Speaker, “African Americans and Cubans: Cultural Crossings” (African American History Museum, Ft. Myers, FL 10/12/07)
- Interview, *Latina Magazine*, “Latinas and Cosmetic Surgery” (8/07).
- Interview, *New York Times Magazine*, “Degradation, Inc.” 8/6/06 [Reality TV/Humiliation]

- Interview, “The Current,” Canadian Broadcasting Company, “Extreme RTV,” Nicola Luksic, Producer (Sept. 2006)
- Live Interview, KAHL 1310 AM radio, Austin, Texas, “Bumfight Videos” (9/06).
- Interview, *New York Times Magazine*, “Degradation, Inc.
- Hispanic Heritage Presentation, “A Brief History of Latinos in Hollywood” WGPU Media. Audio archive online 2011
- Guest Lecture, AAUW State Conference, Sarasota, FL
- Guest Lecture, Educational Foundation Naples
- Guest Speaker, American Association of University Women, Lee County
- Guest Speaker, Humiliation and Human Dignity, Holocaust Museum of Naples
- Guest Lecture on Cuban Embargo: League of Women Voters (Jan 2005)
- Presenter and panel participant: 911 Days Memorial Forum
- Presenter, Promotion Workshop, FGCU Academic Affairs
- Presenter, “Safe, Healthy, Educated” Teen Mothers: Education and Empowerment
- Community Forum on Iraq Crisis (Speaker & Participant)
- Interview, “Personal Perspectives on Immigration” Student University Research Project (03)
- Participant, Hispanics in Academe study (UF doctoral dissertation/02-03)
- Interview, *Naples Daily News* (re: film courses at FGCU/03)
- Guest Opinion, Hispanic Heritage Month (*News Press* Oct. 03)
- Guest Speaker, AAUW Naples (Sept. 2005)
- Latinx Cultural Exchange, Barnes & Noble (00-02)
- Speaker, Hispanic Leadership Council (2001)
- Gainesville Public Library, Invited Speaker (2001)
- Guest Speaker, Student Forum, “Third Wave Feminism,” Women’s History Month (2000)
- Guest Speaker, Faculty Lecture Series: “Film as Politics.” (2000)
- Speaker, “Celebrity Read-a-thon,” Literacy Volunteers of Lee County
- Reader, San Carlos Park Elementary, National Education Association,
- Speaker, Cities of Refuge, Fort Myers
- Invited Speaker, Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

- ◆ Ethnic Studies Association
- ◆ Southern Humanities Council Association
- ◆ Humiliation and Human Dignity Studies, Global Scholars Core Team
- ◆ LatCrit Scholars Association

SELECTED UNIVERSITY & PUBLIC SERVICE

- Seidler Collaborative Research Grant Committee member (2019)
- Social Justice Research Forum, Panelist (Jan. 2019)
- External Reviewer, Tenure, University of Chicago, Latinx Studies (Summer 2018)
- External Reviewer, Scholarship, DePaul University, Media Studies (Fall 2017)
- Lucas Learning Center, Teaching Tips for Student Veterans, 11/20/2019
- Veterans Support Committee, Member (2017-present)
- Seidler Lecture Series Committee, Member (2017-18)

- Peer Review Committee, Member (2017-18)
- Student Research Forum (Grant-based), Dec. 6, 2018
- Hispanic Heritage Panelist, Film Series Speaker (October 2017)
- Women's Empowerment Camp, South Village, Panelist, June, 2017
- Panelist, Faculty Experience with Study Abroad, 2/14/18 Lucas Center
- Honors Faculty Fellows Research Symposium, 4/24/17, Honors College
- Member, Gender Studies Faculty (curriculum planning session)
- Panelist, Hispanic Heritage Film Discussion: Who is Dayani Cristal? 9/27/17
- Graduate English Program Assessment (2018)
- Undergraduate English Program Assessment (2018)
- "Girls' Empowerment Camp" Invited Panelist, FGCU (2015)
- Honors Faculty Fellow, FGCU Honors Program (Term 2014-17)
- "The Enlightenment and Its Discontents" Curriculum Design, Honors Program (2014)
- Faculty Affairs Committee (Chair 2001-02/Member 2011-14/Chair 2012-13)
- World Lit Minor, Member, Curriculum Development Task Force (2014)
- Language Panelist, International Education Week, International Services, 2012
- Multicultural Student Services, panelist, "Hispanic Leaders Panel and Luncheon" 2012
- Critical Theory Minor, Faculty Initiative (2018-9)
- Global Studies Major Curriculum Design Task Force, 2011
- Social Justice Minor Development Task Force, 2011
- Amnesty International, FGCU Chapter, Faculty Sponsor, 2008-2017
- Amnesty International Workshop, University of Miami, 2008
- Global Citizenship Honor's College Track Development, 2010
- Judge, Florida Humanities Council Lifetime Achievement Award in Writing (2013-14)
- Honors Study Abroad, Planning, Logistics, Teaching University for Peace, Costa Rica, 2010
- Critical Theory Minor Initiative, 2010
- Social Justice Minor Development, Lead Writer, 2007-08
- Comparative Humanities Planning Committee, 2007-08
- American Democracy Project, 2007
- English Learning Outcomes Revision, 2005-07
- Graduate English Program Development, 2005-06
- Gender Studies Minor Curriculum Task Force, 2004-05
- Faculty Salary Equity Task Force (CAS Representative), 2003-04
- University President Search Advisory Committee (2000-01)
- Search Committees: Early American Lit Professor (2013-14); (Chair) German Language Assistant Professor (2011-12); Modern European History Professor (2011-12); Director of Composition (2007-08); Spanish Assistant Professor (2011; 2008); 19th c American Lit (2006); (Chair) Interdisciplinary Studies (2005); English Composition Instructors (2004); 20th c American Lit (2003); Director of Composition (2003); Presidential Search Advisory Committee (1999); Theatre, Spanish, Math and English Renaissance Committees (1999); College of Education, Assistant Professor (1998); Mathematics Professor (1998); British Lit Professor (1998); Executive Secretary, CAS (1997).
- Multi-Year Contract Review Task Force (Spring 2000)
- L.A.T.I.N.A. (Professional, academic, and leadership development), Faculty Co-sponsor

- Grade Appeals Committee (2000)
- Honor's Program Mentor, 1999-00
- Latin America/US Latino Studies Program Planning (2002-3)
- “Hope, Healing & Understanding” Humanities Forum Planning Committee (Fall 01)
- Liberal Studies Integrated Core Curriculum Planning and Design (1994-96)
- Interdisciplinary Studies Design (1994-96)
- General Education Design Committee (1994-96)
- “Day of Dialogue” Planning Committee CAS Representative
- Founding Sponsor, English Honor Society, Sigma Tau Delta (1995-6)
- Chair, English Degree Program Curriculum Planning (NSU)
- Advisory Committee, Florida Writer's Project (NSU)
- Chair, Prerequisites and Learning Outcomes Committee (NSU)

INVITED PEER REVIEWS (2014-2019)

Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy; InMedia Journal, Université de Lorraine, France; Postcolonial Text; International Journal of the Humanities; Communication Theory; Latino Studies; Feminist Media Studies; EurAmerica: A Journal of European and American Studies; Hispanic American Historical Review; ARIEL: A Review of International English Literature; Polity Press; Rutgers University Press; Film Reviewer, Latinos Beyond Reel: Challenging a Media Stereotype, Media Educ. Foundation.

Master’s Theses: Deidre Evans, “Merlin in Literature,” Advisor; Kate Benson, “African American Responses to Christianity,” Advisor; Joe Higgins, “The Vampire’s Body and Discourses of Identity,” Chair; Scott Ortolano, “Gendered Rhetoric and the Demonization of German America in the *New York Times* 1914-1917,” Chair; Francesca Marinaro, “The Function of Food Refusal in the Victorian Novel,” Advisor; Chris Foree, “Mixed Race Characters in 19th Century American Fiction” (Advisor)

**Bilingual (English/Spanish) Native Fluency; Reading knowledge of French

A Sampling of Courses Created and Taught

Aliens, Outcasts, and Border Crossers

LIT 4853: Topics in Cultural Critique

Borders are no longer seen simply as physical divisions but also as discursive practices, metaphorical concepts, and cultural institutions. This seminar will explore the ways that borders are embodied, imagined, enforced, transgressed, and represented through both physical and symbolic acts of violence. It will focus special attention on the construction and significance of sexuality, gender, race, and nationality as boundary-making processes. Guiding questions include, “How are borders constructed, negotiated, and policed or transgressed?” “How are they challenged and renegotiated?” “What role do literal and figurative borders play in creative processes, cultural practices, and identity formation?”

Body Functions: Interdisciplinary Explorations of the Body

LIT 6806 Literature as Cultural Study

The human body has been subjected to various technologies, medical interventions, scientific expectations and disciplinary controls throughout history. This interdisciplinary course explores the ways that the body has been regulated, conceptualized, represented, and incorporated into discourses of production and consumption in American culture. Topics include the construction and representation of

raced, gendered bodies; the relationship between the body's signifying role and the performance of violence; the role that violence against the body plays in religious practice, State authority, and group identity formation. We will examine a variety of novels and visual texts, as well theorists Michel Foucault, Judith Butler, Elizabeth Grosz, Sander Gilman, Rose Weitz, Sara Ahmed, Mikhail Bakhtin, Elaine Scarry.

Latinx Studies

AML 3630

Latino/as have been integral to American history and culture, contributing to its economic, cultural, and social life even before the founding of the republic. Today, they comprise the largest minority group in the United States, and their impact on U.S. culture--from food to entertainment to literature-- is vast. Yet Chicano/as and Latino/as are still often regarded as "aliens" or "perpetual foreigners who inhabit an ambiguous, mutable space in America's racial imaginary. This course will explore Latino/a and Chicano/a cultural production and representation, examining these in connection with broader cultural and political contexts and in relation to Latin America, other U.S. racial and ethnic groups, and prevailing social and economic conditions.

War and Remembrance: American Soldiers Write the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars

IDH 3910/Interdisciplinary Honors

Soldiers' personal narratives carry significant political, cultural, and moral authority, their first-hand accounts shaping public sentiment, opinion, and memory. In this course, students will consider memoirs by veterans of the Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan Wars to explore how they articulate and challenge the "authenticity" readers seek in first person accounts of combat. We focus attention on the rhetorical and political work they perform in the context of postmodern war, where shifting alliances, non-state actors, and new media technologies generate and circulate multiple, often competing "truths," destabilizing the epistemological foundations of the memoir as a genre. Our analyses of these works and the cultural, political, and social forces that shape them will examine the various ways that soldier-writers negotiate a broader crisis of truth as witnesses of and participants in traumatic conflict.

Becoming American: Poetics and Politics in Immigrant Narratives

The Immigrant Experience in US Literature—AML 4703

This course examines the immigrant experience as represented in various 20th and 21st century U.S. novels and short stories. We will consider both fiction and non-fiction texts to explore the impact of official policies, historical precedents, economic conditions, and changing cultural attitudes on diverse immigrant writers. Students will acquire a historical understanding of the diverse experiences of immigrant groups in the US and their impact on literature; develop a critical understanding of immigration and exile as experienced by different groups; gain an awareness of theoretical debates relevant to the study of immigrant literature; and evaluate immigrant narratives in relation to "the American Dream" and other foundational American myths and stories.

Women's Voices from the Margins: American Identity in a Multicultural Society

Lit by Women of Color--AML 4624

This course focuses on contemporary short stories by women of color in the US, analyzing how these writers express their vision of American identity. Topics for exploration include ethnic, racial, cultural, and ideological concepts of American identity; literary relations between national and other identities; contemporary debates over national identity; and immigration, assimilation, and multiculturalism.

Inter-Ethnic Conflict, Gender, and the Performance of Violence

LIT 4353 Ethnic Studies

Why does one group of human beings set out to eradicate another group? How is belief reinforced and reified through acts of violence against such "othered" bodies? What symbolic roles do gender, race and ethnicity play in the performance of national identity and how are these used to justify violence? Interethnic violence poses one of the greatest challenges to the world today, and "ethnicity" may well replace "race" as the defining issue of our time. This course involves an interdisciplinary exploration of the role of violence in constituting and enforcing ethnic and gender difference in both local and international contexts. We examine these questions through literature and film, building on insights from a broad array of disciplines including gender studies, social psychology, history, and critical race theory.

Villains and Bombshells: Hollywood's Narratives of Ethnicity and Race

LIT 3301

Cinema articulates a range of worldviews, attitudes, and dispositions, the stuff of political judgments and decision-making processes. Focusing primarily on Hollywood, this course will explore cinema's role in constituting identities and structuring political economies. We will analyze a range of films that have challenged or reinforced collective mythologies of ethnicity, race, gender, class, region, and sexuality in America, beginning with the Silent film era (pre-Hollywood) then tracing these early representations as they are recycled and revised in contemporary films. Using a "cultural studies" approach to the subject, students will evaluate the relationship between politics and popular culture; consider the reception and impact of selected films in their historical contexts; analyze how popular films frame public debates about race, class, and ethnicity; and consider the extent to which they popularize and legitimize notions about America and its role on the world stage.

Blood and Honor in Southern Culture

AML 4261

This seminar explores the defining set of values, traditions, and practices identified with "honor societies" generally and Southern culture specifically. It intends to critique the discourse of honor, evaluating both its constructive and destructive effects as a cultural system. How is "honor" defined in the American South? What is the psychological and social function of honor codes in society? What social hierarchies structure and enforce these systems? What role does violence play in the ethos of "Southern honor"? How does the concept of honor inform Southern literary themes and traditions?

Shame and Punishment: Body, Spectacle, and Violence

Lit & the Humanities: LIT 4932

This course takes a comparative, interdisciplinary look at the role of public shame and punishment in the management, embodiment, and display of difference. We begin by focusing attention on the politics of shame: What role do shame displays play in structuring, maintaining, and regulating societies? How does culture shape the experience of shame, the meanings we attach to it, and the rules governing its display? Through our readings and discussions, we'll explore shame's discursive role in producing and enforcing social identities (gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, religion) as well as its disciplinary function. We will incorporate diverse thinkers, including Agamben, Nussbaum, Nietzsche, and Foucault, and include literature by Coetzee, Faulkner, and Livaneli.

Politics and the Novel: A North-South Comparative Analysis

LIT 6930

What can we learn from the complex and often binding relationship between aesthetic and political aims, between individual creativity and collective political action? This course explores the uneasy relationship between literature and politics, examining contemporary literature and films inspired and informed by political conflicts, struggles, and events in both North and South America. Our comparative approach considers the relationship between the literary work and its cultural context, its impact on local and international communities, its status and reception, and the major issues represented and confronted within the text. We will analyze multiple perspectives and traditions, noting the distinct ways that different cultures define the relationship between literature and politics and the writer's role in society.

On Violence, Belief, and the Body

IDH 2931 Interdisciplinary Humanities for Honors

What is the relationship between discourses of the body and the performance of violence? What role does violence against the human body play in creative processes, religious thought, or identity formation? This honor's seminar will evaluate diverse philosophical, sociological, and religious approaches to the problem of violence. Our readings will stimulate critical thinking and thoughtful discussion by exploring a variety of thinkers on the question of violence, evaluating metaphors of violence and the signifying power of the body, considering how beliefs are reinforced, reified, and co-produced through acts of violence against an "otherized" body, as well as the role and effect of sanctioned group violence.

What Puts the "Pop" in Culture?

LIT 3301 Cultural Studies and Popular Arts

This course introduces critical issues and theories in the study of contemporary US popular culture. We approach the “popular” as a body of widely shared and contested beliefs and practices to explore how groups resist, negotiate, or vie for power via mass media forms; how such critical factors as ethnicity, race, gender, class, and sexuality are shaped and reshaped in popular culture; and the various social and economic relationships that mark popular tastes today. We will also examine theoretical approaches that help us to “read” forms and artifacts of popular culture from television shows to Hollywood movies, to advertisements and novels. Throughout the course, we ground what we call “culture” in political, economic, and social contexts. We pay special attention to questions of desire (what critics call “structures of feeling”) and to the ways popular culture mediates and produces pleasure.

The Shattered Image: Humiliation and the Imagined Self

LIT 4930

Humiliation is one of the most damaging and coercive of human emotions, so powerful that it has been called the “nuclear bomb” of the emotions. This course takes a comparative, interdisciplinary look at humiliation as theme in metaphor in literature and film. We begin by exploring current theories of emotion, focusing attention on the politics of humiliation: What role do self-assessment emotions, such as humiliation and shame, play in structuring, maintaining, and regulating societies? How does culture shape the experience of humiliation, the meanings we attach to it, and the rules governing its display? Through our readings and discussions, we’ll explore humiliation’s discursive role in producing and enforcing social identities (gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, religion); and its function in intergroup conflicts, power relations, terrorism, and war.

Cultural Foundations of War and Peace

IDH 2931: Study Abroad University for Peace, Costa Rica

Team Taught Myra Mendible (Lang and Lit) and Richard W. Coughlin (Political Science)

Costa Rica’s decision not to have an army contrasts sharply with the US, where the military is not only the most powerful in the world but also shapes the nation’s self-image and cultural expression. Combining the expertise of professors in cultural studies and political science, this course will explore topics such as militarism and identity formation; the ethos of violence; popular representations of war and peace; and the dynamics of foreign policy-making. Students will be able to draw connections between the major themes of this course and the unique place – the University for Peace in Costa Rica - where this course will be taught. How does Costa Rica’s self-fashioning as an advocate for peace among nations shape its social environment (public spaces, popular entertainment) and cultural identity? How do America’s foundational myths and representations inform our attitudes towards war and peace?