

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

**John Brenkman**

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### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. University of Iowa Comparative Literature 1974  
B.A. University of Iowa English 1970

### **ACADEMIC POSITIONS**

2022 – Emeritus, City University of New York.

1996-2022 Distinguished Professor, English and Comparative Literature, Baruch College and The Graduate Center, City University of New York

1990-96 Professor, English and Comparative Literature, Baruch College and The Graduate Center, City University of New York

1982-90 Associate Professor, Department of English and Program in Comparative Literature and Theory, Northwestern University

1974-82 Assistant Professor, Department of Comparative Literature, University of Wisconsin-Madison

### **RELATED RESPONSIBILITY**

Director, U.S.-Europe Seminar at Baruch College, City University of New York

### **ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE**

2018-2021 Coordinator, Critical Theory Certificate Program, CUNY Graduate Center

2012-13 Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Baruch College

2009-12 Chair, Department of English, Baruch College

### **VISITING POSITIONS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS**

2014 Fellowship Leave (Spring and Fall), Baruch College

2012 Faculty, School of Criticism and Theory, Cornell University, Seminar: "Philosophy of the Passions, Rhetorics of Affect," June 17 – July 26

2008-2009 Participant, Great Issues Forum and Seminar on "Power in the Contemporary World," Center for the Humanities, CUNY Graduate Center

2002-2003 Research Leave, City University of New York

## JOHN BRENKMAN

Spring 2002	Professeur associé (Visiting Professor), Institut du Monde Anglophone, Université Paris III
Spring 1999	Visiting Professor, Tisch School of the Arts, New York University
Summer 1995	Director, NEH Summer Seminar for College Teachers, Baruch College "Culture and Democracy: Emergent American Literatures"
1992-93	Fellow, Oregon State University Center for the Humanities Scholar Incentive Award, City University of New York
1989-90	Visiting Professor, English, City University of New York
Fall 1988	Research Leave, Northwestern University
Spring 1986	Research Leave, Northwestern University
1984-86	Course Development Grant, Northwestern University and Exxon Foundation, for team-taught undergraduate course sequence on Social Discourse
Summer 1980	Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation Fellowship
Spring 1978	Research Fellowship, Graduate School, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Summer 1976	Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation Fellowship
Summer 1975	Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation Fellowship

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Modern Criticism and Aesthetics  
20/21c Literature  
Modernism, Nihilism, and Belief

Theory of the Novel  
Modern Novel  
Political Theory and Foreign Affairs

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

- Mood and Trope: The Rhetoric and Poetics of Affect* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2020).
- The Cultural Contradictions of Democracy: Political Thought Since September 11* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2007).
- Straight Male Modern: A Cultural Critique of Psychoanalysis* (New York: Routledge, 1993). Reissued, Routledge Library Editions: Psychoanalysis, Volume 5 (London and New York: Routledge, 2016).
- Culture and Domination* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1987).

### Essays and Articles

## JOHN BRENKMAN

“Sigmund Freud,” *The Johns Hopkins Guide to Critical and Cultural Theory*, ed. Martin Kreiswirth, Imre Szeman, Cymene Howe, and Andrew Pendakis (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, forthcoming), 14 ms-pp.

“Voix et temps,” trans. Anne Birien, *La théorie du narrateur optionnel: Principes, perspectives, propositions*, ed. Sylvie Patron (Villeneuve d’Assac: Presses universitaires du Septentrion, 2022), 95-110.

“Rhetorics of Affect: Notes on the Political Theory of the Passions,” *Oxford Handbook of Rhetoric and Political Theory*, ed. Dilip Gaonkar and Keith Topper (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming), 35 ms-pp.

“Lyric,” *The Routledge Companion to Literature and Emotion*, ed. Patrick Colm Hogan, Lalita Pandit Hogan, and Bradley Irish (London: Routledge, 2022), 383-394.

“Varieties of Nothing,” *SubStance* 155 (50:2, 2021), Special Issue: Reading After Blanchot, 119-140.

“Voice and Time,” *Optional-Narrator Theory: Principles, Perspectives, Proposals*, ed. Sylvie Patron (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2021) 89-106.

“A Response to Jonathan Kramnick, ‘Criticism and Truth,’” *Critical Inquiry* 48:1 (Autumn 2021), 167-171.

“My Lai at 50,” *The American Interest*, May/June 2018, 45-47.

“I, Not I,” *Qui Parle* 26:2 (December 2017), 351-353.

“World and Novel,” *Narrative* 24:1 (January 2016), 13-26.

“Beautiful Circuits and Subterfuges,” *The Henry James Review* 36 (2015) Special Issue: Fredric Jameson, Henry James, 249-256.

(with Frances Ferguson), “Introduction,” *Essays from the English Institute, ELH* 82 (Summer 2015), 313-318.

“Nihilism and Belief in Contemporary European Thought,” *New German Critique* 119 (Summer 2013), 1-29.

“...wrestling with (my God!) my God’: Modernism, Nihilism, and Belief,” *Qui Parle* 21:2 (Spring/Summer 2013), 1-25.

“Prospectus,” *Social Text* 100 (Fall 2009), 205-209.

“L’exemple de la puissance ou la puissance de l’exemple?” trans. Michel Taubmann, *Le Meilleur des Mondes* 9 (octobre 2008), 22-26.

“Le 11-septembre et les fables de Noam Chomsky et Toni Negri,” trans. Juliette Ponce, *Le Meilleur des Mondes* 5 (octobre 2007), 7-12.

“La pensée politique dans le brouillard de la guerre,” trans. Sylvie Lévy, *La Règle du Jeu* 35 (septembre 2007), 41-62.

“Innovation: Notes on Nihilism and the Aesthetics of the Novel,” *The Novel Volume 2: Forms and Themes*, ed. Franco Moretti (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2006), 808-838.

Original publication: “Sull’innovazione. Romanzo, modernità, nichilismo,” [in Italian translation] in *Il Romanzo III: Storia e geografia*, ed. Franco Moretti (Turin: Einaudi, 2003), 54 ms-pp.

## JOHN BRENKMAN

"On Voice," in *Essentials of the Theory of Fiction*, Third Edition, ed. Michael J. Hoffman and Patrick D. Murphy (Durham: Duke University Press, 2005), 411-442.

Original publication: "On Voice," *Novel* 33:3 (Summer 2000), 281-306.

"Freud the Modernist," *The Mind of Modernism: Medicine, Psychology, and the Cultural Arts in Europe and America, 1880-1940*, ed. Mark S. Micale (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2004), 150-186.

"For a New Aesthetic Education," *Cultural Studies, estetica, scienze umane*, ed. Roberto Salizzoni (Turin: Trauben, 2003), 11-24.

"D'autrefois," trans. Magali Legrand, *L'Atelier du roman* 31 (septembre 2002), 48-51.

"Queer Post-Politics" and "Politics, Mortal and Natal: An Arendtian Rejoinder," *Narrative* 10:2 (May 2002), 183-189 and 195-200.

"Changeons l'angle," trans. Magali Legrand, *L'Atelier du roman* 29 (mars 2002), 65-73.

"La Peur de l'incertitude," trans. Doris Saclabani, *L'Atelier du roman* 26 (juin 2001), 139-147.

"Extreme Criticism," What's Left of Theory?, ed. Judith Butler, John Guillory, and Kendall Thomas (New York: Routledge, 2000), pp. 114-136.

"Rewolujjonisci Wpadaja na Oranzade" ["The Revolutionists Stop for Orangeade"], trans. Gabriela Barbara Switek, *Pokaz: Pismo Krytyki Artystycznej*, Numer Specjalny (1999), 60-64.

"Extreme Criticism" and "Reply to Drucilla Cornell," *Critical Inquiry* 26 (Autumn 1999) 109-127 and 140-146.

"Introduction" to Maud Mannoni, *Separation and Creativity: Refinding the Lost Language of Childhood* (New York: Other Press, 1999), xvii-xxxi.

"The Labyrinth of Accusation," *Venue* 3 (1998), 144-154.

"Mathilde," *Venue* 2 (1998), 111-118.

"Unholy Writ," *Venue* 1 (1997), 152-157.

"Race Publics: Civic Illiberalism, or Race After Reagan," *Transition* 66 (1995), 4-36.

"Raymond Williams and Marxism," *Cultural Materialism: On Raymond Williams*, ed. Christopher Prendergast (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1995), 237-267.

"Family, Community, Polis: The Freudian Structure of Feeling," *History and...: Histories within the Human Sciences*, ed. Ralph Cohen and Michael S. Roth (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 1995), 113-145.

"Politics and Form in *Song of Solomon*," *Social Text* 39 (Summer 1994), 57-82.

"The Citizen Myth," *Transition* 60 (1993), 138-144.

"Multiculturalism and Criticism," *English Inside and Out: The Places of Literary Criticism*, ed. Susan Gubar and Jonathan Kamholtz (New York: Routledge, 1993), 87-101.

## JOHN BRENKMAN

"Family, Community, Polis: The Freudian Structure of Feeling," *New Literary History* 23:4 (Autumn 1992), 923-954.

"An Introduction to Romanticism"; "Conflicting Interpretations of Romanticism"; "Reading Keats' 'To Autumn'"; "Wole Soyinka on Myth and Tragedy in Yoruba Culture"; "The Writer in African Society," in *Contexts and Comparisons: A Student Guide to the Great Works Courses*, ed. Paula S. Berggren (Dubuque: Kendall/Hunt, 1991), 181-199; 256-259; 292-293.

(with Jules David Law) "Resetting the Agenda: A Response to Derrida," *Critical Inquiry* 15 (Summer 1989), 804-811.

"Fascist Commitments," in *Responses: On Paul de Man's Wartime Journalism*, ed. Werner Hamacher, Neil Hertz, and Thomas Keenan (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1989) 21-35.

"The Concrete Utopia of Poetry: Blake's 'A Poison Tree,'" in *Lyric Poetry: Beyond New Criticism*, ed. Chaviva Hosek and Patricia Parker (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1985), 182-193.

"Theses on Cultural Marxism," *Social Text* 7 (Spring-Summer 1983), 19-33.

"Mass Media: From Collective Experience to the Culture of Privatization," *Social Text* 1 (Winter 1979), 96-109.

"Deconstruction and the Social Text," *Social Text* 1 (Winter 1979), 186-188.

"Introduction to Georges Bataille ('The Psychological Structure of Fascism')," *New German Critique* 16 (Winter 1979), 59-63.

"The Other and the One: Psychoanalysis, Reading, the Symposium," *Yale French Studies* 55/56 (1978), 396-456. Volume reprinted as *Literature and Psychoanalysis*, ed. Shoshana Felman (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1982).

"Narcissus in the Text," *The Georgia Review* 30:2 (Summer 1976), 293-327.

"Writing, Desire, Dialectic in Petrarch's Rime 23," *Pacific Coast Philology* IX (April 1974), 12-19.

### Reviews and Commentary

Review of Bruce Robbins, *Upward Mobility and the Common Good: Toward a Literary History of the Welfare State*, *Modern Philology* 108:3 (2011), E204-E209.

Interview, *Social Text* 100 (Fall 2009), passim.

"Ele não será um presidente da paz" ["He won't be a peace president"], interview, *O Estado de S. Paulo*, November 15, 2008.

"Tender Is His Night" (review of Paul Auster, *Man in the Dark*), *Village Voice*, August 27-September 2, 2008).

"Roberto Bolaño: To Have and Have Nazi" (review of *Nazi Literature in the Americas*), *Village Voice*, February 19, 2008.

"La culture française' victime d'un canular," trans. Gilles Berton, op-ed, *Le Monde*, December 30-31, 2007.

## JOHN BRENKMAN

"Call the Conflict by Its Proper Name: Geo-Civil War, *YaleGlobal Online*, September 12, 2006.

"Lessons on Hunting and Truth-Telling," op-ed, *Chicago Tribune*, February 17, 2006.

"A Retreat from Great Europe?—Part II," *YaleGlobal Online*, June 2, 2005.

Letter to *Lingua Franca* and "Lingua Franca Roundtable" (with David Z. Albert and Elisabeth Lloyd), in *The Sokal Hoax: The Sham that Shook the Academy*, ed. Editors of *Lingua Franca* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2000), 64-67 and 252-265.

"Death of a Bookie" (review of Elias Canetti), *The Nation*, April 20, 1998, 26-28.

"One-on-One with Nadine Gordimer" (Interview), *Bookforum*, March 1998, 21 f.

"Serbspotting" (review of Vladimir Aresenijevic, *In the Hold*), *Village Voice*, September 24, 1996.

"We Just Made Them Watch" (review of Dale Peck, *The Law of Enclosures*), *The Nation*, January 29, 1996, pp. 31-32.

"Prêt-à-Penser," (review of Bernard-Henri Lévy, *Adventures on the Freedom Road: The French Intellectual in the 20th Century*), *Voice Literary Supplement*, November, 1995), 9-11.

"Istanbul Not Constantinople" (review of Orhan Pamuk, *The Black Book*), *Voice Literary Supplement*, February, 1995, 19.

"Redemption Songs: Trying to Write the Ghetto," *Voice Literary Supplement*, December, 1994, 12-13.

"Cry, The Beloved Island" (review of Edwidge Danticat, *Breath, Eyes, Memory* and Anne-christine d'Adesky, *Under the Bone*), *New York Newsday*, April 24, 1994.

"Other Voices" (review of Caryl Phillips, *Crossing the River*), *Village Voice*, February 22, 1994, 82.

Review of Felipe Alfau, *Chromos*, *New York Times Book Review*, May 13, 1990.

Review of Fredric Jameson, *The Political Unconscious*, *Substance* 37/38 (1983), 237-239.

## EDITING

(with Frances Ferguson), Essays from the English Institute, *ELH* 82 (Summer 2015), 313-429.

Editor, *Venue: An International Literary Magazine*, 1999-2001, G+B Arts International:

*Venue* 4 "Loved & Lost"

*Venue* 3 "Boy Girl"

*Venue* 2 "The Killers"

*Venue* 1 "False Starts"

Co-founder and Editor, *Social Text*, 1979-82.

## PERFORMANCE

## JOHN BRENKMAN

An Interpreter in Tino Sehgal's conceptual artwork "This Progress," Guggenheim Museum, New York, January 29 – March 19, 2010.

### CONFERENCES AND LECTURES

"Keats's 'Ode on Melancholy,'" Romanticism Forum (virtual), Modern Language Association, Washington, D.C., January 2022.

"What's Form Got To Do With It?" Seminar on "Aesthetics Unbound," American Comparative Literature Association Virtual Conference, March 2020.

"At the Edges of Criticism" (lecture) and "Criticism and Media Aesthetics" (seminar), Northwestern Summer Institute in Rhetoric and Public Culture, Center for Global Culture and Communication, Northwestern University, July 2019.

"Novelistic Voice and Narrative Time," Novel Theory Conference, Society for Novel Studies, Cornell University, June 2018.

"At the Edges of Criticism," School of Criticism and Theory Conference "Criticism and Theory Now," New York University, April 2018.

"Sensation and Being," Volatility Working Group, The New School, February 2018.

"Varieties of Nothing," Maurice Blanchot: Thought of Absence, Annual Fall Colloquium, Department of French and Italian, Northwestern University, November 2017.

"Rhetorics of Affect: Populism and the Uncertainties of Citizenship" (lecture) and "Peter Sloterdijk's *Stress and Freedom*" (seminar), Northwestern Summer Institute in Rhetoric and Public Culture, Center for Global Culture and Communication, Northwestern University, July 2017.

"Exchange Paradigm, Jouissance Paradigm," The Subject's Economy and Neoliberal Discourse Colloquium, Après-Coup Psychoanalytic Association, New York, March 2017.

"Latches of Being," International Conference on Narrative, Amsterdam, June 2016.

"Rage: Rhetoric of Affects and 'Anger Banks,'" School of Criticism and Theory Symposium: Criticism and Theory in the Age of Populism, Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University, April 2016.

"The 'Popular' and the Ordeal of Universalism," The Global-Popular Conference, University of California-Santa Barbara, April 2016.

"Varieties of Nothing," Maurice Blanchot Seminar, American Comparative Literature Association, Harvard University, March 2016.

"Sensation and Being: The Work of Art Between Heidegger and Deleuze" (lecture) and "Sloterdijk's *Rage and Time*" (seminar), Northwestern Summer Institute in Rhetoric and Public Culture, Center for Global Culture and Communication, Northwestern University, June 2015.

"World and Novel," Keynote Address, International Conference on Narrative, Chicago, March 2015.

"Sloterdijk: Interpreting the World," American Comparative Literature Association, New York, March 2014.

## JOHN BRENKMAN

“From Heidegger to Aristotle: Mood, Trope, Rhetoric” (lecture) and “The Affective Turn: Perils and Possibilities” (graduate student workshop), Center for Global Culture and Communication, Northwestern University, November 2013.

Position paper and participation in seminars on The Global University and the Production of Knowledge and Culture, World Cities World Class University Network (WC2) Conference, Politecnico di Milano, October 2013.

“Nietzsche the Apostle?: Sloterdijk on Zarathustra,” American Comparative Literature Association, Toronto, April 2013.

“Ontology of the Couple: Henry James’s Late Novels” (lecture) and “Form and Formlessness: the Logic of Dreams” (seminar), Tel Aviv University, March 2013.

“wrestling with (my God!) my God’: Modernism, Nihilism, and Belief,” MALS Seminar, Dartmouth College, October 2012.

“The Grand Inquisitor,” American Comparative Literature Association, Providence, March 2012.

“Volatility, Economic and Aesthetic,” Modern Language Association, Seattle, January 2012.

“wrestling with (my God!) my God’: Nihilism and Belief in G.M. Hopkins,” Modern Studies Association, Buffalo, October 2011.

“Nihilism and Belief in Contemporary European Thought,” Dartmouth College, May 2011.

“World and Lifeworld in Novel Theory,” American Comparative Literature Association, Vancouver, March 2011.

Roundtable with Christopher Bollas and Nancy Yousef, Center for the Humanities, CUNY Graduate Center, March 2011.

“Desire/Demand/Will: The Labyrinth of Love in Henry James,” Modern Language Association, January 2011.

“James the Minimalist,” Americanist Colloquium, Yale University, November 2010.

“World as Metaphor,” American Comparative Literature Association, New Orleans, April, 2010.

Moderator and summation, “Immigrants in Europe: Politics, Media and Literature,” Deutsches Haus and Department of Germanic Languages,” Columbia University, April 2008).

“The Melvillean Moment: Politics and the Art of the Novel,” University Seminar on Critical Theory, Columbia University, February 2008.

Roundtable Debate with Donald E. Pease and Bruce Robbins on *The Cultural Contradictions of Democracy: Political Thought since September 11*, CUNY Graduate Center, February 2008.

“Consequences of Marxism: Fractured Sense and Radical Sensibility,” Northwestern University, April 2006.

“The Imagination of Power,” The Futures of American Studies Summer Institute, Dartmouth College, June 2004.

“Nihilism and the Aesthetics of the Novel,” University of Turin, Department of Philosophy, November 2003.



## **JOHN BRENKMAN**

"Politics and Post-Politics in Queer Theory," Seminar of the Center for the Critical Analysis of Contemporary Culture," Rutgers University, September 2003.

"The Thing Called Form?: The Poetics of Jorie Graham," Les Choses, Université Paris III, September 2002.

"For a New Aesthetic Education," University of Turin, Department of Philosophy and Italian Aesthetics Society, March 2002.

"The Ordeal of Universalism," Dartmouth College, July 2001.

"Make It New? Nihilism and Experiment in the Contemporary Novel," Center for the Study of the Novel, Stanford University, May 2001.

"Citizen-Soldiers," lecture, American Civilization Seminar, Columbia University, April 2001.

"The Art of Dreaming," Interpretation of Dreams/Dreams of Interpretation Conference, University of Minnesota, October 2000.

"Extreme Criticism," St. Johns University, March 2000.

"Psychoanalysis and Politics," Center for Critical Theory, University of Kentucky, November 1999.

"Max Weber in Love," Social Symptoms Conference, Association for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society," Columbia University, October 1999.

Reply to Andreas Huyssen and Gayatri Spivak, Foundations of Comparative literature Conference, Columbia University, February 1999.

"Queer Post-Politics," Oedipus Today Conference, Association for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society, Emory University, October 1998.

"On Voice," Faculty Colloquium, Wesleyan University, April 1998."

"On Voice: Writer not Narrator," International Convention of the Society for the Study of Narrative Literature, Northwestern University, March 1998.

"The Imagination of Democracy," Post-Nation Seminar, Center for Literary and Cultural Studies, Harvard University, March 1998.

"The Romance of Community," Modern Language Association, Toronto, December 1997.

"Extreme Criticism," The English Institute, Harvard University, September 1997.

"The Limits of Patriotism" (response to Benedict Anderson), Center for the Critical Analysis of Contemporary Culture, Rutgers University, May 1997.

"The Multicultural Controversy" (response to Stanley Crouch), Liberalism at the Crossroads Conference in Honor of Arthur J. Schlesinger, Jr., CUNY-Graduate Center, May 1997.

"Novel Theory vs. Narrative Theory," International Convention of the Society for the Study of Narrative Literature, University of Florida, April 1997.

"The Imaginary Polis," Americas Abroad Conference, Dartmouth College, May 1996.

## JOHN BRENKMAN

"On Innovation," Beyond the Modernist/Postmodernist Paradigm Panel, International Convention of the Society for the Study of Narrative Literature, Columbus, Ohio, April, 1996.

"The Imaginary Polis," American Studies Association, Pittsburgh, November, 1995.

"The Imaginary Polis," International Convention of the Society for the Study of Narrative Literature, Park City, Utah, April, 1995.

"Race Publics: Civic Illiberalism, or Race After Reagan," The Wetmore Lecture Series, Brown University, April, 1995.

"Writing Against the Citizen Myth," International Convention of the Society for the Study of Narrative Literature, Vancouver, British Columbia, May, 1994.

"Failing Equality: Race and the Public Sphere," Conference on the Black Public Sphere in the Reagan-Bush Era," Chicago Humanities Institute, University of Chicago, October, 1993.

"Failing Equality: Race and the Public Sphere," Oregon State University Humanities Center, April, 1993.

"The Black Public Sphere in the Reagan-Bush Era," Conference on The Public Sphere and the Black Good Life Society," Africana Studies Program, New York University, March, 1993.

"Multiculturalism and Criticism" (lecture) and "Psychoanalysis and Society" (seminar), University of Washington, April, 1992.

"Family, Community, Polis: The Freudian Structure of Feeling," Seminar on Sexuality and History: Authors and Institutions, Commonwealth Center for Literary and Cultural Change, University of Virginia, November 1991.

"Multiculturalism and Criticism," The English Institute, Harvard University, August 1991.

"The Coming of Multiculturalism," SUNY-Purchase, April 1991.

"The Novel and the Polis," University of Pennsylvania, March 1991.

"Contingent Values and Political Commitments," Modern Language Association, Chicago, December 1990.

"The Coming of Multiculturalism," Provost Lecture, Baruch College, City University of New York, November 1990.

"Oedipus and the Exemplary Suffering of Modernity," International Congress of Law and Mental Health, Toronto, June 1990.

"Consequences of Marxism," University of Tennessee, November 1989.

"Politics and Uncertainty in the Writing of Christa Wolf," Conference on Historical Criticism in the Age of Deconstruction, Program in Comparative Literature," University of Illinois-Champaign/Urbana, October 1989.

"The Careers of Paul de Man," Colloquium on Paul de Man: Literary Theory and the Public Sphere, Dartmouth College, May 1989.

"Politics and Uncertainty in the Contemporary Novel," University Seminar on the Theory of Literature, Columbia University, May 1989.

## JOHN BRENKMAN

"Oedipus as Individual Myth," Annual Colloquium of the English and Philosophy Doctoral Program, on Cultural Narratives, Purdue University, April 1989.

"Symbols and Practices in the Criticism of Kenneth Burke," Center for 20th Century Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1988.

"Paul de Man's Fascist Commitments—and Their Aftermath," English Department, The Johns Hopkins University, 1988.

"Marxism and Lyric" (lecture and faculty seminar), Hamline University, 1988.

"Political Modernity, Romantic Poetics," Modern Language Association, San Francisco, 1987.

"Toward a Critical Hermeneutics," English Department, Dartmouth College, 1987.

"Toward a Critical Hermeneutics," English Department, University of Pittsburgh, 1985.

"The Name-of-the-Father and Male Dominance," Conference on Feminism and Knowledge, Center for 20th Century Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1985.

"Marxism and Critical Hermeneutics," Criticism Workshop, University of Chicago, 1985.

"Theories of Mass Culture: From the Frankfurt School to Post-Structuralism," Center for 20th Century Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1983.

"For a New Aesthetic Education," Conference on Marxism and Culture, University of Illinois-Urbana, 1983.

"The Concept of Freedom in Post-Structuralism," The German Workshop, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1982.

"Philosophy of Modern Poetry: Poetic Technique as Social Form," Conference on Lyric Poetry and the New Criticism, University of Toronto, 1982.

"The Concrete Utopia of Poetry," The English Institute, Harvard University, 1982.

"Marxism and Contemporary Criticism" (lecture, colloquium, and faculty seminar), University of Arizona Criticism Study Group, University of Northern Arizona, 1982.

"The Concrete Utopia of Poetry" (lecture) and "Utopia and Heritage" (two seminars), Culture and Society Institute, Marxist Literary Group, St. Cloud University, 1981.

"The Concrete Utopia of Poetry (lecture) and "Poetry and Society" (seminar), English Department, Cornell University, 1981.

"Tradition and Interpretation in Contemporary Criticism," Modern Language Association, Houston, 1980.

"Heritage and Revolt," Conference on Writing Literary History, Program in Comparative Literature, University of Minnesota, 1980.

"Film-Memory and the Politics of Subjectivity," Conference on Film and Cinema, Center for 20th Century Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1979.

## **JOHN BRENKMAN**

"Towards a Semiotics of Oppositional Practices," Semiotics Society of America, Indiana University, 1979.

"After Lacan—Psychoanalysis and Politics," Conference on Psychoanalysis and Sexual Difference, Center for 20th Century Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1979.

"The Limited Risks of Deconstruction," Modern Language Association, Chicago, 1977.

"The Politics of Culture," Midwest Modern Language Association, Chicago, 1977.

"Instincts and Their Textual Vicissitudes," The English Institute, New York University, 1977.

"Differance and the Other: Derrida and Lacan," Midwest Modern Language Association, St. Louis, 1974.

"Writing, Desire, Dialectic in Petrarch's Rime 23," Philological Association of the Pacific Coast, University of Nevada-Reno, 1973.

## **INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE**

### **CUNY (1989-present)**

#### Baruch College:

Executive Committee, English Department, 2018-2021.

College Promotion and Budget Committee, 2016-2020.

Provost's Task Force on Faculty Research, 2015-2016.

Weissman Global Initiatives Committee, 2015—2017.

Harman Writer-in-Residence Committee, 1997-2021.

Presidential Awards Committee, 1996-2012.

Director of Global Initiatives (Weissman), 2013-2015.

English Department Curriculum Committee, 2013-2016.

Chair, Weissman School of Arts and Sciences Personnel and Budget Committee, 2010-12.

Chair, Department of English, 2009-2012.

Member and then Co-Chair Strategic Planning Committee, 2011-2012.

Coordinator, American Studies Program, 2005-2009.

Chair, English Department Curriculum Committee, 2007-2009.

Co-Chair, English Department Curriculum Committee, 2006-2007.

Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on the English Major, English Department, 2000-2001.

## **JOHN BRENKMAN**

English Department Executive Committee, 2000-02.

Minority Hiring Task Force, 2000-2002.

Search Committee, School of Public Affairs, 1998-99.

Search Committee, School of Public Affairs, 1996-97.

Convocation Address, September 5, 1996.

Committee for Interim Middle-States Review, subcommittee on Faculty  
Enrichment, 1994-95.

Committee for Release-Time Grants, Baruch, 1990-92, 1993-94, 1995-96.

Steering Committee, Great Works of Literature course sequence, Baruch, 1990-93.

Chairperson, Ad Hoc Committee on "Culture and Immigration"  
Initiative, School of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Baruch  
College, 1989-90.

Participant, Feit Faculty Seminar, Baruch, 1989-92, 1993-94.

Colloquium on African theatre for English 2800-2850 faculty.

Work on 2800-2850 textbook.

### Graduate Center:

Coordinator, Critical Theory Certificate Program, 2018—.

Executive Committee, Ph.D. Program in English, 2019-2021

Executive Committee, Ph.D. Program in Comparative Literature, 2016-2021.

Friday Forum and Speakers Committee, Ph.D. Program in English, 2008-2018.

Admissions Committee, Ph.D. Program in English, 2004-2008, 2013-2017.

Curriculum Committee, Ph.D. Program in English, 2001-2003.

Curriculum Committee, Ph.D. Program in Comparative Literature,  
2000-01.

Faculty Membership Committee, Ph.D. Program in English, 1998-99.

Curriculum Committee, Ph.D. Program in English, 1997-98.

Executive Committee, Ph.D. Program in English, Graduate Center, 1990-92, 1993-96, 1997-98.

Chairperson, Faculty Membership Committee, Graduate Center, 1990-92, 1993-96.

## **JOHN BRENKMAN**

Self-Study Committee, Ph.D. Program, 1994-95.

Representative, the Graduate Council, 1994-97

Graduate Center Colloquia on: Consequences of Marxism; the Debate on Multiculturalism; Psychoanalysis; 20th Century Studies; Aesthetics and Literary Evaluation; Defining Modernism; Political Thought since September 11.

### **OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE**

Senior Fellow, School of Criticism and Theory, 2013—.

Co-organizer with Sorin Radu Cucu, Seminar on “Aesthetics Unbound,” American Comparative Literature Association, Virtual Conference, March 2020.

Board of Supervisors, The English Institute, Harvard University, 2012-2014.

Co-organizer with Sorin Radu Cucu, Seminar on “World, Globe, Capital: Theoretical Problems for Contemporary Philosophy,” American Comparative Literature Association, New York, March 2014.

Co-organizer with Sorin Radu Cucu, Seminar on “Techno-Allegories and Rhetorics of Worldmaking,” American Comparative Literature Association, Toronto, April 2013.

Co-organizer with Zachary Samalin, Affect Theory Seminar, Center for the Humanities, 2010-12.

Co-organizer with Sorin Radu Cucu, Seminar on “Prophecy and Nihilism,” American Comparative Literature Association, Providence, April 2012.

Co-organizer with Sorin Radu Cucu, Seminar on “World and Lifeworlds of the Novel,” American Comparative Literature Association, Vancouver, March 2011.

Co-organizer with Sorin Radu Cucu, Seminar on “World and Worldliness,” American Comparative Literature Association, New Orleans, April, 2010.

Member, VORTEX research group on 19th- and 20th-century British and American Literature, Institut du Monde Anglophone, Université Paris III, 2002-2009.

Participant, Columbia University Seminar, American Studies, 2001-2005.

Respondent, “Representations of the Enemy” Conference, Center for the Study of the Novel, Stanford University, April 2004.

Elected member, Delegate Assembly, Modern Language Association, 1995-98 term.

Participant, Columbia University Faculty Seminar, Modernity and Modernism, 1994-97.

"Culture--Origin or Horizon?" Lecture and colloquium, World Humanities Series, City College of New York, October, 1996.

Member, Selection Panel, 1997 NEH Summer Seminars and Institutes, May 1996.

## JOHN BRENKMAN

Organizer, panel, Beyond the Modernist/Postmodernist Paradigm, International Convention of the Society for the Study of Narrative Literature, Columbus, Ohio, April, 1996.

Supervisor, Board of the English Institute, 1992-95 term; Chair, 1994-95.

Organizer, panel on The Novel and the Polis, International Convention of the Society for the Study of Narrative Literature, Park City, Utah, April, 1995.

Respondent to Michael Taussig, "Solomon's Temple," Columbia University Faculty Seminar, Modernity and Modernism, December, 1994.

Organizer, panel on Submerged Histories and Emergent Literatures, International Convention of the Society for the Study of Narrative Literature, Vancouver, B.C., May, 1994.

Co-director, Multiculturalism Group, Research Seminar on Cultural Forms and Public Spheres, the Center for Psychosocial Studies, Chicago, 1990-1993.

Co-director, Research Seminar, Literature and Social Theory, the Center for Psychosocial Studies, Chicago, 1988-90.

Participant, Center for Psychosocial Studies, Chicago, 1987-1988.

Co-organizer and/or respondent for several colloquia, lectures, and mini-conferences sponsored by the Program in Comparative Literature and Theory, Northwestern University, 1982-88. Topics: trends in literary theory; modern drama; Romanticism; narrative theory; curriculum and canons; poetics.

Respondent and panelist, Conference on Law and Psychosocial Politics, Wisconsin Psychiatric Association and University of Wisconsin Law School, 1985.

Respondent and panelist, Conference on Psychoanalysis, Center for 20th Century Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 1984.

Participant, Seminar on Contemporary Political and Social Theory, University of Chicago, 1982-84.

Participant, Faculty seminar on Max Weber, Law School, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Spring 1982.

Organized forum on Fascism and Culture, Modern Language Association, New York, 1981.

Co-organizer, Workshop on Culture and Theory, August 8-10, 1979, Madison. Participants included the editors, editorial boards, and regular contributors of *Social Text*, *New German Critique*, and *Aestetik und Kommunikation* (Berlin).

Moderator, The German Workshop, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1980.

Presentation and panel discussion, History Department Colloquium on Edward Said's *Orientalism*, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1980.

Organized forum on Psychoanalysis and Literature, Midwest Modern Language Association, Chicago, 1977.

Discussant, panel on Modern Drama, Modern Language Association, Chicago, 1977.

## JOHN BRENKMAN

Participant in an interdisciplinary study group composed of psychoanalysts and faculty, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1975-79.

### COURSES TAUGHT

City University of New York (1989 – 2021)

#### Baruch College:

American Literature Survey II  
Currents in the Modern Novel  
Introduction to Literary Studies  
American Literature Survey I  
American Novel  
Modern Short Novel  
Feit Seminar: America and its Visions of the World (with Dov Waxman, Political Science).  
American Studies Capstone: The European Mind in America  
British Literature Survey II.  
American Literature in the Decade of the 1990s.  
History Department's Friedman Seminar: Topics in American History (with four History Department faculty)  
Feit Seminar: Poverty and Culture (with Janet Gornick, Political Science)  
Banned Books: Blasphemy, Deviance, and Protest  
Feit Seminar: Nationalism, Ethnicity, and Identity (with Alfonso Quiroz, History)  
Ethnic Literature: Novels of Immigration  
Contemporary American Literature  
Great Works I and II  
Writing II

#### Graduate Center:

Theory of Lyric  
Critical Theory: Foundations and Practices  
History of Literary Theory and Criticism II  
Nietzsche Lévinas Blanchot  
Modernism, Nihilism, and Belief  
Novel Theory  
Modernity and Belief  
Mood and Trope in Lyric  
Heidegger, Poetics, and Aesthetics  
Jean-Jacques Rousseau  
T.S. Eliot  
Deconstruction—Its Roots and Ramifications  
Novelists on the Art of the Novel: James, Nabokov, Kundera  
The Late Novels of Henry James  
Psychoanalysis and Aesthetic Theory: On Creativity  
Aesthetic Theory: Heidegger vs. Bourdieu  
Novel Theory: Lifeworlds and Publics  
The Fate of Beauty  
Writers and Politics (Rushdie, Gordimer, Ngugi)  
Introduction to 20th-Century Studies: Core Concepts (with Cindi Katz, Environmental Psychology)  
The City and the World Novel  
Modernity, Modernism, Postmodernism (with Louis Menand, English)



## **JOHN BRENKMAN**

The Novel and the Polis  
Multiculturalism and the Novel  
Keywords: "Power," "Gender," "Community"  
Theory of the Novel  
Consequences of Marxism

### **RECENT DISSERTATIONS DIRECTED**

Daniel Jacobson, “‘You Can’t Be Shakespeare And You Can’t Be Joyce’: Lou Reed, Literature, and Mass-Production”

Tom Ribitzky, “Pessimism, Space, and the Novel.”

Anick S. Rolland, “Failures of Grace: Limits of Tragedy in the Late Nineteenth-Century Novel.”

Jeff Peer, “Transfigurations of the News: True Fictions, Strange Thresholds” (co-director: Paul Julian Smith).

Krystyna Michael, “The Urban Domestic: Domesticity, Space, and Aesthetics in 19th- and 20th-Century American Literature and Culture” (co-director: Hildegard Hoeller).

Jin Chang, “The Subject of the Novel: Aphra Behn, Charlotte Brontë, Fyodor Dostoevsky, and Samuel Beckett.”

Jason Ciaccio, “Waking Dreams: Modernist Intoxications and the Poetics of Altered States.”

Isabel Sobral Campos, “Modern Era Centaurs: The Fusion of Art and Religion.”

Abraham Rubin, “Kafka’s German-Jewish Reception as Mirror of Modernity.”

Mark Sussman, “Common Knowledge: The Epistemology of Realism.”

Zachary Samalin, “The Masses Are Revolting: Victorian Culture and the Aesthetics of Disgust.”

Zoltan Varga, “Writing the Acoustic Self in English Modernism.”

Elizabeth Alsop, “Making Conversation: The Poetics of Voice in Modernist Fiction.”

Fall 2022