

Judith Oster
Department of English
Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio 44106
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English, Case Western Reserve University, 1979

M.A. in English, Case Western Reserve University, 1974

A.B. magna cum laude, Mather College, Western Reserve,
English/French/Secondary Ed. Phi Beta Kappa

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Professor of English 2004 - Case Western Reserve University
Director of Writing Resource Center – Fall 2006

Assoc. Prof. of English 1993-2004

Director of Composition
& Writing Center, Case Western Reserve University
CWRU, 1983-1998; 2003-2004; Director, Writing Center
Fall 2006.

Ass't. Prof. of English; Director of Composition
& Writing Center, CWRU, 1987 -1993

Adjunct Ass't. Prof. of English, CWRU, 1981-1987

Act. Director of Composition and Writing Center, CWRU,
1985-1987

Coordinator, English for Foreign Students (CWRU), 1981- 1993

Lecturer in English, Composition and Literature, University of
Akron, 1980-1981

PUBLICATIONS – BOOKS

Crossing Cultures: Creating Identity in Chinese and Jewish American Literature.
Columbia: University of Missouri P., 2003. (Awarded Outstanding Book seal
By *Choice*.)

Toward Robert Frost: The Reader and the Poet. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1991; Paperback edition, 1993

From Reading to Writing: A Rhetoric and Reader and Instructor's Manual, Boston: Little, Brown, 1987 (Expanded 2nd Edition of 1984 book)

REPRINTS

“Robert Frost’s Poetry of Metaphor.” From Cambridge Companion to Robert Frost, ed. Robert Faggen. Rpt. For Longman publ., 2007.

“Felix Culpa: Frost and Eden.” From Toward Robert Frost (pp 220-254). Rpt. on CD-ROM, Robert Frost: American Poet. Henry Holt, 1997.

“Felix Culpa: Frost and Eden.” (pp 236-245), Rpt. in Introduction to Literature and Composition II: Readings. Open University, 1999.

From Toward Robert Frost (pp 148-151; 153-155; 157-161). Rpt. Greenhaven Press, 1999.

From Toward Robert Frost. Excerpts from chapters 6 and 7. Rpt. Literature and Ourselves . Longman Publishers, 2000. Reprinted again, 4th edition, 2003.

Additional reprints of excerpts from Toward Robert Frost. Australia (exact use not known, but the royalty indicated a substantial amount), 2000.

ARTICLES

Review of Dean J. Franco. Ethnic American Literature: Comparing Chicano, Jewish, and African American Writing (invited). Philip Roth Studies. Vol.4, Num 2, Fall 2008.

“Now Close the Windows.” (invited) Robert Frost Encyclopedia. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 2001.

“ ‘God Loves Stories,’ Jews Love Questions: I.B. Singer Questions God.” Journal of the Short Story in English. Spring, 1999: 11-23.

“See(k)ing the Self: Mirrors and Mirroring in Bicultural Texts.” MELUS 23 (1998): 59-84. Awarded MELUS prize.

“An American in China: Firsthand Conference Report.” China/ Judaic Connection. Vol. 6, 1 (Winter, 1997).

“Whose Frost? The Biographer, the Poet, and the Reader.” Robert Frost Review, Fall, 1996: 1-11.

Review of Katherine Kearns, Robert Frost and the Poetics of Appetite, The Robert Frost Review. Fall, 1994: 118-121.

“The Dramatized ‘You’: Poetry Heard and Overheard.” South Carolina Review (in annual Robert Frost section) 24 (1991): 109-117.

“Seeing with Different Eyes: Another View of Literature in the ESL Class.” TESOL Quarterly 23 (1989): 85-193.

“The Figure a Marriage Makes.” South Carolina Review (in annual Robert Frost Section) 22 (1989): 109-119.

“ESL Composition and the Idea of a University.” College English 47 (1985): 66-76.

CD ROM

Interpretations of ten poems by Robert Frost (invited): “The Aim Was Song,” “Directive,” “A Dream Pang,” “Home Burial,” “Never Again Would Birds’ Song Be the Same,” “An Old Man’s Winter Night,” “The Pauper Witch of Grafton,” “Putting in the Seed,” “A Servant to Servants,” “Storm Fear” for CD ROM Robert Frost: American Poet. Henry Holt, 1999.

CHAPTERS IN BOOKS – invited

“Frost’s Poetry of Metaphor” (invited). Cambridge Companion to Robert Frost. Ed. Robert Faggen. Cambridge University Press, 2001: 155-177.

“‘Come In’: Robert Frost, Mary Oliver, and the Poetry of Nature.” Robert Frost at the Millennium: New Essays. Eds. Jonathon Barron and Earl Wilcox. U Missouri P. (accepted and in press when it was denied permission to quote by Mary Oliver, and therefore removed).

INVITED LECTURES

“The Voices of Eve: Women in the Poetry of Robert Frost.” Cheltenham and Gloucester College, England. May, 1999

“Book or Mirror, Friend or Foe: The Roles of Nature in the Poetry of Robert Frost.” Friends of the Dymock Poets. Ledbury, Herefordshire, England. May, 1999.

PAPERS

“How to Tell a False War Story (and make it seem true): Experiencing *The Plot Against America* (Invited). Jewish American and Holocaust Literature Of the American Lit. Ass’n. Forthcoming, September, 2009. Salt Lake City.

“‘Stories Forgotten, Saved Up, Never Told’ The Matter(ing) of Fathers in the Fiction of Ehud Havazelet.” Jewish American and Holocaust Literature Symposium. Salt Lake City, September, 2008.

“The Power of the Real in Philip Roth’s ‘American’ Nightmare: Reading *The Plot against America*.” Conference on Factual Fictions, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel. June, 2008.

“Living Stories, Writing Lives: Autobiographical Narratives of Kingston, Yeziarska, and Philip Roth.” MESEA Conference (Multi-Ethnic Studies of Europe and the Americas). University of Navarre, Pamplona, Spain, May, 2006.

“Legacies from Grandmothers’ ‘Gardens’ in Chernin, Kingston, and Goldstein: Seeds of Art and Power.” ALA Jewish American and Holocaust Literature Symposium. Boca Raton, October, 2004.

“Education in Immigrant Literature: Encountering Democracy.” MESEA Conference (Multi-Ethnic Studies of Europe and the Americas). Aristotle University, Thessaloniki, Greece, May, 2004.

“Where’s Home? Brothers and Fathers in Philip Roth’s Identity ‘Dramas.’” MELUS Conference (Multi-Ethnic Literature of the US). San Antonio, March, 2004.

“Clustering, Separation, and Self-Division in Goldstein’s *Mazel*: Anatomizing the Bubble.” ALA Jewish-American and Holocaust Literature Symposium. Boca Raton. October, 2003.

“Volcanic Pastoral: Daughters in Chang-rae Lee’s *A Gesture Life* and Philip Roth’s *American Pastoral*. MELUS Conference, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton. April, 2003.

“Robert Frost, Mary Oliver, and the Poetry of Nature: A Gendered View.” MLA Convention. New York, December, 2002

“Heaping Bowls and Narrative Hungers in Chinese and Jewish American Texts.” MELUS conference, Knoxville, March 2000

“ ‘God Loves Stories,’ Jews Love Questions: I.B. Singer Questions

God.” Conference on Jewish Identity and Otherness in the Modern Short Story, Angers, France. March 1999.

“Out of Fragmentation – Unity: Narration and Language in The Joy Luck Club.” South Central Modern Language Ass’n. conference, New Orleans, November, 1998.

“Scaling Babel: Language(s), Voice(s), and Poetic Becoming in Call it Sleep.” MELUS (Multi-Ethnic Literature of the U.S.) Conference, Howard Univ., Washington, DC, April, 1998.

Panelist (invited), Scholars Panel on Frost Biography. Robert Frost Celebration – International Conference. Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC, September, 1997.

“The Lure and the Cost of Success as Seen in American Jewish Literature,” International Conference on Judaic Studies, Nanjing University, Nanjing, China, October, 1996.

“See(k)ing the Self: Mirrors and Mirroring in Bicultural Texts,” American Literature Association, San Diego, May, 1996, in session organized by MELUS (Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States).

“Reading Robert Frost,” for session on the “official” Frost biography, MLA Convention, San Diego, December, 1994.

“Maps, Models, and Metaphors: Reading and Writing at Ridgeland,” WPA/ADE Conference, Oxford, Miss., July, 1994.

“Viewing Literature through Point of View: Values for ESL,” Malaysian English Language Teaching Association International Conference, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, May 1993

“From Empathy to Analysis: Engaging the Student with Literature,” UPM Literature in English Seminar, Universiti Pertanian Malaysia, June, 1993

“What ESL Students Can Teach Us about Perry and Iser,” CCC Convention, Boston, March, 1991

“Mirror Imagism: Narcissus, Echo, and the Poetics of Reflection,” MLA Convention, San Francisco, December, 1991

“Unlocking Writing: Reader Response in the ESL Writing Class,” CCC Convention, Chicago, March, 1990

“Rigidity----> Resistance----> Emergence: A Chinese Engineer Becomes a Writer,” TESOL International Convention, San Francisco, March, 1990

“The Figure a Marriage Makes: Women in the Poetry of Robert Frost,” Institute for the Psychological Study of the Arts, University of Florida, Gainesville, March, 1989

English Coalition panel, ESL respondent, MLA Convention, New Orleans, 1988

“The Use of Literature in the ESL Composition Class—Point of View In Literature, and Beyond It,” CCC Convention, Atlanta, March, 1987.

“Old Age as Metaphor and Reality in the Poetry of Yeats,” Gerontological Society of America Convention, Chicago, November, 1986

Panelist, Colloquium for Freshman Composition Administrators TESOL International Convention, Anaheim, March, 1986

“Responses to Aging in the Poetry of Robert Frost and Shakespeare’s King Lear,” Center of Aging and Health, CWRU, December, 1985

“ ‘Is Man No More Than This?’: Redefinition and Reconciliation in King Lear,” Gerontological Society of America Convention, New Orleans, November, 1985

“Another View of Literature in the ESL/EFL Class: The Values of Looking At Point of View,” Jerusalem Conference of TESOL/TEFL, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, July, 1985

“Using Non-Verbal Stimuli to Teach Rhetorical and Analytical Skills,” Jerusalem Conference of TESOL/TEFL, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, July, 1985

“A Graduation Follow-up of Ten Former Freshmen,” TESOL International Convention, New York, April, 1985

“The Rhetoric of the Visual: Using Nonverbal Stimuli to Teach Analytical Skills,” TESOL International Convention, Houston, March 1984

“Images of Aging in the Poetry of Robert Frost,” Gerontological Society of America Convention, San Antonio, November, 1984

GRANTS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

Bruce Jackson MD Award for Undergraduate Mentoring, 2004

MELUS, prize for article: "See(k)ing the Self: Mirrors and Mirroring in Bicultural Texts." Spring, 2000.

Walter Nord Grant to develop African American and Jewish American Literatures: A Dialogic Course. 1999-2000

English Excellence Award, Cleveland English Speaking Union, November, 1997. (for developing program in English as a Second Language)

Mortar Board "Top Prof." Award. May, 1997

W.P. Jones Grant toward travel to Malaysia to present two papers, 1993

Undergraduate Teaching Excellence Award, 1992

Lilly Endowment Teaching Fellowship, 1991-1992

W.P. Jones Grant to attend NCTE Institute on Critical Theory and Practice, 1991

Cleveland Foundation Grant to develop Integrated Professional Communication, Project Director, 1986-1989

Cleveland Foundation Grant to expand and refine ESL Composition Program, CWRU, 1979-1980

Phi Beta Kappa

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Visiting Scholar, Department of American Studies, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel, February-June, 2002; January-May, 2007; January-June, 2008
January – June, 2009.

North Central Visitation Committee Member, Lincoln West H.S.

Member editorial advisory board, The Robert Frost Encyclopedia. Eds. Nancy Lewis Tuten and John Zubizarreta. Westport: Greenwood Press, 2001.

Visiting Scholar, Department of English Literature, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, February-May, 1995.

Guest lectures and seminar on Robert Frost and Reader Response Theory, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, May, 1995

Invited scholar, Robert Frost Symposium at the Robert Frost Farm State Historic Site, Derry, NH, September, 1994

Editorial Board, Robert Frost Review, effective 1993

Invited lecture on the teaching of literature, International Islamic University Malaysia, Selangor, Malaysia, June, 1993

Seminar on Robert Frost, Universiti Pertanian Malaysia, June, 1993

Reader, TESOL Quarterly, 1991

Chair, TESOL Colloquium for FR. Engl. Administrators, 1986

Reviewer of manuscripts for Cambridge University Press, St. Martin's Press, Macmillan Publishers, Wadsworth Publishers, Allyn and Bacon Publishers

COURSES TAUGHT

GRADUATE SEMINARS:

Studies in Poetry: Frost and Yeats

American Literature: Cross-Cultural Perspectives

Robert Frost and Other Poets

Theories of Rhetoric and Teaching Writing

Teaching ESL Composition

UPPER DIVISION COURSES:

Senior Seminar: Narratives of Literacy

American Literature

African American and Jewish American Literatures

American Jewish Literature

Asian American Literature

The Immigrant Experience in American Literature

Reading Poetry

Modern British and American Poetry

Teaching English in the Secondary Schools

British Literature up to 1800

INTRODUCTORY COURSES:

SAGES First Seminar (and freshman advising) (Seminar Approach to General Education and Scholarship – a series of courses whose writing component takes the place of Freshman Composition)

SAGES first seminar for ESL

SAGES USSY: Representing the Immigrant

Literature in English

Expository Writing

ESL Composition

Major American Writers

Major British Writers

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Modern Language Association (MLA)

National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)

Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC)

Robert Frost Society

MELUS (Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States)

Society for Jewish-American Literature

Philip Roth Society

COMMITTEES

UNIVERSITY:

Committee of the University Distinguished Lecture Series

Personnel Committee

Graduate Committee of Arts and Sciences, 97-98

University Undergraduate Faculty Curriculum Committee, 1993-1996

Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Development, 1995-96

Faculty Advisory Board for TA Training, 1992 to 2000

Task Force on Recruiting and Marketing, 1992-1995

Mather Centennial Executive Comm. And Symposium Comm., 1988

COLLEGE:

Search committees: Dean of Undergraduate Studies 2005 - 2006
Assistant dean for Freshmen 2005

Rosenthal Advisory Committee, 2004 - present

Admissions committee, 2003 - 2006

Jackson Award Selection Committee, 2005

Academic Integrity Board, since its inception

American Studies Advisory Committee, 2001 –

Jewish Studies Advisory Committee, 2001 –

Hallinan Chair Advisory Committee, 2001 –

Freshman Dean Search Committee, 2001-2

Educational Programs, CAS, 1998-2000.

CWRU/Kirk Middle School Project, UCITE, 1998-1999; 1999-2000

SAFER (Students and Faculty Exec Roundtable) 1996- 2000

UCITE Advisory Board (University Center for Innovation in Teaching and Education)

Admissions Committee, 1996-1999; 1992-94; 1988-89

Task Force on the Freshman Year, Spring, 1993, and ongoing

Chair, Committee on Curriculum of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, 1988-1990; committee member, 1988-92

Committee on Curriculum of the General Faculty of the Colleges, 1988-1990

Faculty Mentor, Minority programs, 1990-1992

Travel for Admissions for recruiting, 1988

Advisory Board, Educational Support Services, 1987-1988

Task Force on Student Retention, 1987

Task Force on Writing, 1986

Western Reserve College Dean's Committee on Communication in
a Technological Society, 1983-1984

DEPARTMENT:

Search committee – Fall 2006

M.A. Advisor, Dept. Of English, 2000- 2004

Chair, Undergraduate Committee, Dept. of English, 1999-2000; 1988-89

Executive Committee, Dept. of English, 1999-2000; 1988-89

Search Committees, English Department, 1998; 1996-7; 1995-96