

**Michael Hoberman**  
**Professor of English Studies, Fitchburg State University**  
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of Massachusetts, Amherst (1993). English and American Studies.  
M.A. University of Massachusetts, Amherst (1991). English and American Studies.  
B.A. Reed College, Portland, Oregon (1986). American Studies.

HONORS AND AWARDS

National Endowment for the Humanities, "Privilege and Prejudice," Summer Institute Fellow, Pearlstine/Lipov Center for Southern Jewish Culture, Charleston, South Carolina, 2019.  
Special Projects Grant, Course Release Award, Fitchburg State University, 2017-2018, 2020-2021.  
Special Projects Grant, Travel Award, Fitchburg State University, 2018-2019.  
Sid and Ruth Lapidus Fellowship, American Jewish Historical Society, 2014-2015.  
Tikvah Fund Advanced Institute Summer Fellowship, New York City, 2014.  
Honorary Fellow, Massachusetts Historical Society, 2013-present.  
Faculty Award for Research and Scholarship, Fitchburg State University, 2013-2014.  
Post-Tenure Review Awardee, Fitchburg State University, 2020 and 2013.  
Joseph and Eva Dave Fellowship, American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, 2012.  
Fulbright Senior Professor of American Studies, Utrecht University, the Netherlands, 2010.  
National Endowment for the Humanities/Massachusetts Historical Society Long Term Fellow, Boston, 2008-2009.  
Ruth Butler Award, Fitchburg State University, 2006-2007 and 2010-2011.  
Undergraduate and Graduate Teaching/Research fellowships from Fitchburg State University, 2002-2009.  
University Fellowship, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 1992-1993.

BOOKS

*Imagining Early American Jews: Popular Representations of Jewish American History in the Contemporary Era.* Proposal and sample chapters currently under review for advance contract with New York University Press.  
*A Hundred Acres of America: The Geography of Jewish American Literary History.* Rutgers University Press (2019).  
<https://www.rutgersuniversitypress.org/a-hundred-acres-of-america/9780813589695>  
<https://marginalia.lareviewofbooks.org/jewish-identity-divided-america/>;  
<https://muse.jhu.edu/article/753921>; 2019 *Choice* Outstanding Academic Title

- Jews in the Americas, 1776-1826*. Co-edited with Laura Leibman and Hilit Surowitz-Israel. Routledge (2017).  
<https://www.routledge.com/Jews-in-the-Americas-1776-1826/Hoberman-Leibman-Surowitz-Israel/p/book/9781138202917>
- New Israel/New England: Jews and Puritans in Early America*. University of Massachusetts Press (2011). <https://www.umass.edu/umpress/title/new-israel-new-england>;  
[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/265905161\\_New\\_IsraelNew\\_England\\_Jews\\_and\\_Puritans\\_in\\_Early\\_America\\_by\\_Michael\\_Hoberman\\_review](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/265905161_New_IsraelNew_England_Jews_and_Puritans_in_Early_America_by_Michael_Hoberman_review);  
<https://newtv.org/recent-video/78-historic-newton-presents/5819-historic-newton-presents-jews-and-puritans>
- How Strange It Seems: The Cultural Life of Jews in Small-Town New England*. University of Massachusetts Press (2008). <https://www.umass.edu/umpress/title/how-strange-it-seems>
- Yankee Moderns: Folk Regional Identity in the Sawmill Valley of Western Massachusetts, 1890-1920*. University of Tennessee Press (2000). <http://utpress.org/title/yankee-moderns/>

#### PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS IN EDITED VOLUMES

- “‘Did you ever hear of Judah Benjamin?’”: Fictional Representations of the Jewish Confederate.” Forthcoming, *Southern Jewish History*, Volume 25 (2022).
- “‘How important, how dignified, do we appear . . . exploring the works of an almighty Providence’”: Gershom Seixas, early American Jews, and the language of the Enlightenment.” Essay included in *The Place of Religion in the Enlightenment*, eds. Daniel Fulda, Laura Stevens, Sabine Volke-Burke). Oxford Studies in the Enlightenment (forthcoming 2022).
- “‘They have with faithfulness and care transmitted the Oracles of God unto us Gentiles’: Jewish kabbalah and text study in the Puritan imagination.” Essay included in *Kabbalah in America: Ancient Lore in the New World*, ed. Brian Ogren. Brill (2020).
- “‘To prove the correctness and authenticity of my statements’”: Solomon Nunes Carvalho’s revision of the Western travel narrative.” *American Jewish History*, 102.2 (April 2018).
- “‘Parking the ark in Niagara Falls: Mordecai Manuel Noah and the imposition of meaning in Jewish American literary history.” *Studies in American Jewish Literature*, 37.1 (Spring 2018).
- “‘Home of the Jewish Nation: London Jews in the eighteenth-century Anglo American imagination.” *Eighteenth-Century Studies* 50.3 (April 2017).
- “‘How It Will End, the Blessed God Knows’: A reading of Jewish correspondence during the Revolutionary War era.” *American Jewish History* 99.4 (October 2015).
- “‘God Loves the Hebrews’: Exodus typologies, Jewish slaveholding, and black peoplehood in antebellum America.” *American Jewish Archives Journal* 67.2 (Spring 2015).
- “‘More Disgrace than Honor’: The diminishment of paternal authority in the letters of Aaron Hart.” *American Jewish History*, 98.4 (October 2014).
- “‘The Confidence placed in you is of the *Greatest Magnitude*’: representations of paternal authority in early Jewish American letters.” *Studies in American Jewish Literature*, 33.1 (Spring 2014).
- “‘Under Their Captivity and Dispersion’: the story of Boston’s first Jewish business venture.” *Early American Studies*, 9.3 (Fall 2012).
- “‘Be worthy of your heritage’: Jews and tradition at two New England boarding schools.” Essay included in *Revisioning Ritual: Jewish Traditions in Transition*, ed. Simon Bronner.

- Littman Library of Jewish Civilization (2011).
- “New England folklore.” Chapter included in the New England volume of the *American Regional Cultures* series, ed. Michael Sletcher. Greenwood Press (2004).
- “‘The names of the flowers’: Ruby Hemenway’s redemption of history.” *Frontiers: A Journal of Women’s Studies*, 25.1 (Winter/Spring 2004).
- “High crimes and falling factories: nostalgic utopianism in an eclipsed New England town,” *Oral History Review*, 28.1 (Winter/Spring 2001).
- “Demythologizing myth criticism: folklife and modernity in Eudora Welty’s ‘Death of a Travelling Salesman,’” *The Southern Quarterly*, 30.1 (Fall 1991).

#### ARTICLES IN POPULAR PRESS, ENCYCLOPEDIA ESSAYS, REVIEWS, FOREWORDS, AND EDITORIAL WORK

- “Leaving the Mountaintop,” essay presenting a Jewish perspective on the conservationist John Muir. *Berkshire Jewish Voice* (December 2021, pp. 18-19).  
<https://jewishberkshires.org/community-events/berkshire-jewish-voice/berkshire-jewish-voice-highlights/leaving-the-mountaintop-a-local-historians-journey-on-the-john-muir-trail>
- “Portrait of Haim Carigal” and “Canadian Jewish Rights,” document and essay entries included in *Jews Across the Americas, 1492-present*, eds. Laura Leibman and Adriana Brodsky. New York University Press (forthcoming 2022).
- “American Pastorals,” essay published in Arts and Letters section of *Tablet Magazine* (March 19, 2021).  
<https://www.tabletmag.com/sections/arts-letters/articles/american-pastorals-philip-roth-all-egra-goodman-michael-hoberman>
- “The Counterlife of Judah P. Benjamin,” essay published in Arts and Letters section of *Tablet Magazine* (August 11, 2020).  
<https://www.tabletmag.com/sections/arts-letters/articles/judah-benjamin>
- “Jews Out West,” essay published in Arts and Letters section of *Tablet Magazine* (May 8, 2020).  
<https://www.tabletmag.com/sections/arts-letters/articles/18th-century-jews-american-west>
- “A Sephardic Lens on Early Los Angeles,” essay on Solomon Nunes Carvalho, commissioned and published by the UCLA Sephardic Archive Initiative, Alan D. Leve Center for Jewish Studies (2020).  
<http://www.sephardiclosangeles.org/portfolios/carvalho-in-los-angeles/>
- Foreword to *Soil and Shul in the Berkshires: The Untold Story of Sandisfield’s Jewish Farm Colony*, by Lorraine German. Sandisfield (MA) Arts Center (2018).
- “Typology, Jews, and Early American literature,” “Spiritual autobiography in Early America,” and “Roger Williams and the Legacy of Rhode Island pluralism,” essays included in *Religious Origins of American Literature*, ed. Laura Leibman. Gale Researcher/Thomas Riggs & Company (2018).
- “Preppies,” and “Boarding Schools,” essays included in *The Encyclopedia of Youth Cultures in America*, eds. Simon Bronner, Mary Napoli, and Cindy Dell Clark. ABC-CLIO (2016).
- “Rural Jews,” “Galina Gertzenon,” “Phyllis and Archie Nahman,” and “Harold Grinspoon and Diane Troderman,” article contributions to the book *Our Stories: The Jews of Western Massachusetts*. Published by *Springfield Republican* newspaper (2013).

“Connecticut Folklore,” “The Leatherman,” “Moodus Thunder,” “Windham Frog Fright,” and “The Ghost Ship of New Haven” essay entries for *Connecticut History* online, sponsored by the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media at George Mason University (2012).

<http://connecticuthistory.org/bridge-ornaments-help-tell-the-legend-of-the-windham-frog-fight/>

<https://connecticuthistory.org/the-old-leatherman-alive-in-our-memories/>

<http://connecticuthistory.org/the-ghost-ship-of-new-haven-sets-sail-shrouded-in-mystery/>

“The Jews,” “The Berkshires,” and “The Mohawk Trail” essays included in *The Encyclopedia of New England Culture* (eds. Burt Feintuch and David Watters). Yale University Press (2005).

“Local Color: How Community Heritage Enhances Education.” *Connection: New England's Journal of Higher Education and Economic Development*, XVI.1 (Summer 2001).

Journal peer reviewer for *Church History*, *Folklore*, *Jewish Social Studies*, *Journal of the Early Republic*, *MELUS: Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States*, *Southern Jewish History*, *Studies in American Jewish Literature*, and *William and Mary Quarterly*.

Book proposal and manuscript peer reviewer for University of Massachusetts Press and Rutgers University Press.

Member of editorial board, *Southern Jewish History* (2021-)

Senior Consulting Editor for folklife section of *Encyclopedia of New England Culture* (Yale University Press).

Book and film reviews published in *American Historical Review*, *American Jewish History*, *AJS Review*, *Clio*, *Britain and the World*, *Historical Journal of Massachusetts*, *Journal of American Folklore*, *Journal of the Illinois Historical Society*, *Southern Jewish History*, *Studies in American Jewish Literature*, and *Vermont History*.

Consulting scholar/panel member, Gale/Cengage initiative on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (2021-2022).

#### INVITED PUBLIC LECTURES/APPEARANCES

Taubman Symposium in Jewish Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara, featured lecturer on Philip Roth and Allegra Goodman (October 2022).

Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center/New England Historical and Genealogical Society, Boston. Moderator, “Imagining the Jewish Past: Three Authors Discuss Jewish History and Literary Inspiration,” with Anita Diamant, Allegra Goodman, and Rachel Kadish (May 2022).

Berkshire Museum, Pittsfield MA, featured speaker on Herman Melville’s literary legacy (November 2021).

41<sup>st</sup> International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, Philadelphia, keynote speaker on early Jewish settlers of the Americas (remote access through the IAJGS, August 2021).

Katz Center, University of Pennsylvania. Seminar respondent for paper by Heather Nathans, “Playing in the Land of Milk and Honey: the Charleston Stage, 1793-1808” (remote access through the Katz Center, March 2021).

Greenfield Community College. Featured lecturer on the sense of place in American literature, Senior Symposium (remote access through Greenfield Community College, February 2021).

New England Jewish History Collaborative. Keynote speaker for launching conference

(remote access through Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center/New England Historical and Genealogical Society, January 2021).

Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center/New England Historical and Genealogical Society, Boston. Featured lecturer, "Jewish life in rural New England: how did the Jews get to Mars Hill, Maine, and other stories from the field," (remote access through the Wyner Center, June 2020).

Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center/New England Historical and Genealogical Society, Boston. Featured lecturer, "From Teeming Zion's Fertile Womb: the curious case of Judah Monis," (remote access through the Wyner Center, June 2020).

Center for Jewish History, New York, NY. "Jewish Thought and Messianism in the Colonial Puritan Imagination: The Case of Judah Monis," public conversation with CJH Fellow Brian Ogren. (Remote access through the CJH, May 2020).

Jewish Federation of the Berkshires, Pittsfield MA (November 2019). Featured series lecturer on literature of the Berkshires.

Historic Newton, Newton, MA. Featured lecturer on early Jewish American history (March 2019).

Rice University, Houston. Invited speaker at "Kabbalah in America" conference (October 2018).

Sandisfield Arts Center, Sandisfield MA. Keynote speaker at conference on rural Jewish life (November 2016).

University of Texas, Austin. Guest lecturer at the Schusterman Center for Jewish Studies, "New Israel/New England," (October 2015).

Wheaton College, Norton, MA. Guest speaker for Norton Institute for Continuing Education (June 2014).

Roger Williams University, Bristol, RI. Keynote speaker for film series on the Jewish experience (November 2013).

Old South Meeting House, Boston, "Middays at the Meetinghouse" lecture series speaker (March 2013).

Brown University, Providence, book talk on *New Israel/New England*, sponsored by the Office of the Chaplains and Religious Life, Brown RISD Hillel Foundation, and the Office of Institutional Diversity (February 2013).

Fitchburg Art Museum, Fitchburg, MA, featured series lecturer for "The Literary Landscape: American Words and Images in the Mid-Nineteenth Century," (February/March 2013).

Newport Historical Society, Newport, RI, invited participant in planning retreat for 2013 conference on "The Spectacle of Tolerance: Learning from the Livelie Experiment" (October 2012).

Reed College, Portland, OR, American Studies program, guest speaker, (October 2012)

New England Historical and Genealogical Society/American Jewish Historical Society, Boston, author talk (September 2012).

American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, guest speaker (June 2012).

Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, author talk on *New Israel/New England* (February 2012).

Utrecht University, the Netherlands, American Studies Program Colloquium, featured lecturer (January 2012).

Jewish Historical Society of Western Massachusetts, South Deerfield, author talk (January 2012).

Arrowhead (Herman Melville home and headquarters of the Berkshire Historical Society in Pittsfield MA), featured lecturer on Jews in the New England imagination (July 2011).  
 Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, consulting historian, teacher conference on recent immigration (April 2011).  
 Colby College, Waterville, Maine Jewish Heritage Conference, session leader (April 2011).  
 Society for Historians of the Early Republic, Rochester, NY, commentator for panel on “Mutual Accommodation Societies: Jews and the Early Republic” (July 2010).  
 Utrecht University, the Netherlands, Utrecht Seminar for Cultural History featured speaker (April 2010).  
 Utrecht University, the Netherlands, *Discovering the Dutch* book release guest speaker (April 2010).  
 Netherlands American Studies Association, Amsterdam, guest lecturer (March 2010).  
 University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Communication Department, guest speaker (January 2010).  
 Massachusetts Historical Society, Early American History Seminar, Boston, featured speaker (November 2009).  
 Maine Jewish History Initiative, Bates College, Lewiston, keynote speaker (October 2009).  
 Keene State College, (History Department) invited speaker for Annual Farnsworth Lecture, Keene, NH (April 2009).  
 Greenfield Community College, Featured lecturer, Senior Symposium, Greenfield, MA (March 2009).  
 National Yiddish Book Center, Amherst, MA, author talk (February 2009).  
 Jewish Federation of Central Massachusetts, Worcester, author talk (November 2008).  
 Massachusetts History Book Fair, Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, author talk (November 2008).  
 Fitchburg State College, lecturer/facilitator for “Let’s Talk About It” Jewish literature book discussion group (multiple sessions, Fall 2008).  
 New England Writers Series, Fitchburg State College, featured speaker (April 2007).  
 University of Southern Maine American and New England Studies Lecture Series, Portland ME featured speaker (March 2006).  
 Springfield Jewish Community Center, New Horizons: A Jewish Cultural Experience, guest speaker (January 2006).  
 Springfield (MA) Quadrangle Museums, featured speaker (October 2005).  
 Strawberry Banke Museum, Portsmouth, NH, featured speaker (July 2004).  
 Five College Folklore Forum, UMASS Amherst, MA, featured speaker (September 2000).

In addition, I have given invited presentations in several community forums, including:  
 Buckland Historical Society, Buckland, MA (2022); Mount Wachusett Community College, Gardner, MA (2022); Jewish Federation of the Berkshires, Pittsfield, MA (2021, 2019 and 2013); Congregation Shalom, Chelmsford, MA (2021); Amherst History Museum, Amherst MA (2019), Arms Library, Shelburne Falls MA (2019); Golda Meir House, Newton MA (2019);) Buckland MA Public Library (2019); Jewish Community of Amherst (2019); Congregation B’Nai Israel, Northampton MA (2019); Charlemont MA Public Library (2017); Kent School, Kent, CT (2017); Ashfield, MA Public Library (2017); Kalal B’raira, Cambridge, MA (2015); Hazak, Sharon, MA (2015 and 2016); Temple Beth Israel, Winsted, CT (2014); Hevreh of Southern

Berkshire, Great Barrington, MA (2014); Forbes Library, Northampton, MA (2013); Beth Jacob Synagogue, Montpelier, VT (2012); Congregation B’Nai Torah, Springfield, MA (2012); Heath Fair, Heath, MA (2012); Pelham Historical Society, Pelham, MA (2012); All Souls Unitarian Church, Greenfield, MA (2012); Leominster Public Library, Leominster, MA (March 2011); Eisenberg Assisted Living Center, Worcester, MA (2009); Leverett Town Library, Leverett, MA (2009); Congregation Agudath Achim, Leominster, MA (December 2008); Congregation Avahath Sholom, Great Barrington, MA (2008); Jewish Genealogical Society of Boston (2007); Temple Israel, Greenfield, MA (2019, 2018, 2012, 2008 and 2005); Jewish Genealogical Society of Western Massachusetts (2005); Conference on Judaism in Rural New England (2004); Bethlehem, NH Jewish Community (2010 and 2004); Montague Book Mill, Montague, MA (2000); Leverett Historical Society, Leverett, MA (2016, 2004, and 2000); Colrain Historical Society, Colrain, MA (2000); Conway Historical Society, Conway, MA (2000)

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Respondent for panel, “Jews and Judaisms in the Eighteenth-Century Atlantic World: New Considerations.” Association for Jewish Studies annual conference. Boston, December 2022.
- “Housebound Specters: the Mordecai House Dynasty’s Fall from Grace.” Southern Jewish Historical Society annual conference. Charleston, October 2022.
- “‘May the Lord fight for them’: Gershom Seixas and the Rhetoric of the American Revolution.” Conrad E. Wright Research Conference on the American Revolution, Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, July 2022.
- “Telling stories: Jewish American renderings of collective history.” Roundtable participant, American Jewish Historical Society Biennial Scholars Conference. New Orleans, May 2022.
- “‘Did you ever hear of Judah Benjamin?’: fictional representations of the Jewish Confederate.” Southern Jewish Historical Society annual conference, remotely accessed October 2021.
- “Jews Across the Americas: New Trends in Pedagogy”. Roundtable participant, American Jewish Historical Society Biennial Scholars Conference (remotely accessed), June 2020.
- “History’s Traitors: How Jewish Tories Trouble Early American Jewish Historiography.” Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference. Boston, December 2018.
- “Colonial revival in the immigrant city: the invention of Jewish American urban history, 1870-1910.” American Jewish Historical Society Biennial Scholars’ Conference. Philadelphia, June 2018.
- “To prove the correctness and authenticity of my statements”: Solomon Nunes Carvalho’s revision of the Western travel narrative.” Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States (MELUS). Cambridge, MA, April 2017.
- Colloquy on *Sympathetic Puritans*, by Abram Van Engen. Roundtable participant, American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies. Minneapolis, April 2017.
- “To prove the correctness and authenticity of my statements”: veracity claims in Solomon Nunes Carvalho’s *Incidents of Travel and Adventure in the Far West* (1857). American Jewish Historical Society Biennial Scholars’ Conference. New York, June 2016.
- “Home of the Jewish Nation: London Jews in the Early American Imagination.” Society of Early Americanists. Kingston University, London, July 2014.



- “Egyptian Principles Fastened to the People of Israel”: Particularist and Universalist Implications of Exodus in Antebellum America.” Blacks, Jews, and Social Justice in America conference, Brandeis University, June 2014.
- ““I hope you are safe arrived”: fatherly counsel from an 18th century Canadian Jewish merchant.” Northeast Modern Language Association Conference. Harrisburg, March 2014.
- Moderator/commentator for “How Tolerant? Religious Liberty and Persecutions in 18th Century America.” “The Spectacle of Toleration” Conference. Newport, RI, October 2013.
- “New Israel/New England: Jews and Puritans in Early America.” American Jewish Historical Society Biennial Scholars’ Conference. New York, June 2012.
- “Cross-cultural Perspectives on Teaching Early American Literature: A Comparison of Dutch and American Students’ Reception of Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century Religious Discourse.” American Literature Association (Society of Early Americanists Teaching Panel), Boston, May 2011.
- “New-England Is Seldom Wholly Without Them: Boston’s Frazon Brothers and the Limits of Puritan Zeal.” Society of Early Americanists, Philadelphia, March 2011.
- “An Openness to Candour: Haim Carigal and the Dilemma of Puritan Scholarship.” Association for Jewish Studies, Boston, December 2010.
- “New-England Is Seldom Wholly Without Them: Boston’s Frazon Brothers and the Limits of Puritan Zeal.” Third Annual Contact Day on the Jews of the Low Countries, Antwerp, Belgium May 2010.
- ““What Land is Israel’s Parallel’: Puritan Discourse on the Legacy of the Jews in the Context of Sephardic Settlement in Rhode Island.” Society of Early Americanists, Hamilton, Bermuda, March 2009.
- “Birds of Passage/Harbingers of Change: Jewish Peddlers in 19<sup>th</sup> and Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Rural America.” Association for Jewish Studies, Washington DC, December 2008.
- “Some of the Local Characters We Had Around: Town Character Anecdotes As a Marker of Cultural Tension in Small Town New England.” Folklore Studies Association of Canada, Cape Breton, Canada, May 2008.
- “Shuls in Boarding Schools: Friday Night Shabbat Services at Two New England Boarding Schools.” American Folklore Society, Quebec City, Canada, October 2007
- “Communities as Classrooms: The New England Community Heritage Project.” American Studies Association, Philadelphia, October 2007
- “Strangers No More: Oral Traditions of Jewish Peddlers and Cattle Merchants in Early 1900’s New England.” American Folklore Society, Milwaukee, October 2006
- “How Strange it Seems: Regionalizing a Jewish Presence in Rural New England.” Oral History Association, Providence, November 2005
- “How Strange it Seems: Regionalizing a Jewish Presence in Rural New England.” American Studies Association, Washington, DC, November 2005
- “How Strange it Seems: Jewish Cultural Life in Rural New England.” Northeast Popular Culture Association, Brookline, October 2004.
- “Creating Dialogue Between Communities and Schools.” American Studies Association, Hartford, October 2003.
- “Using Story Circles as a Method of Teaching Folklore.” American Folklore Society, Rochester, October 2002.



“Becoming Yankee: Regional Identity in a Turn-of-the-Century Western Massachusetts Community.” New England American Studies Association, Portland (Maine) April 2000.

“High Crimes and Falling Factories: Nostalgic Utopianism in an Industrial New England Town.” New England American Studies Association, Boston April 1999.

“From Yankeedom to Hippiedom: A Public Folklorist Explores Four Generations of the Moores corner Store.” American Folklore Society, Pittsburgh, October 1996.

“We Had a Few Characters: Local Character Anecdotes and Regional Identity in the Sawmill Valley of Western Massachusetts.” American Studies Association, Nashville, November 1994.

“Traveling the (Commercial) Mohawk Trail.” New England American Studies Association. Boston, April 1992.

“Melville’s ‘Encantadas’ and Westward Expansion.” American Literature Association, Washington DC May 1990.

Chaired panels at New England American Studies Association (2003, 2004, 2005) and Society of Early Americanists (2009, 2011, and 2014), and American Literature Association (2011) conferences.

#### POSITIONS HELD

**Fitchburg State University (Fitchburg, MA)** (Professor of English Studies, tenured— Fall 2001-present) Courses taught: At the graduate level: Folklore in America; American Modernism; Jewish American Literature and Culture; Literature and Culture of Place; Art and Literature in America, 1820-1860. At the undergraduate level: Early American Literature; Ethnic American Literature; Jewish American Literature and Culture; ; Jewish Literature Around the World; Major American Authors of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century; Major Authors: Philip Roth; English Capstone; Honors Seminar in Literature; Children’s Literature; Romantic Period in American Literature; American Novel to 1950, Mark Twain and American Humor; New England Literature and Culture; 19<sup>th</sup> Century African American Literature; 20<sup>th</sup> Century African American Literature; American Literature I; Folklore in America; Storytelling and the Oral Tradition; American Novel Post-1950; World Literature I; College Composition; Director/Coordinator Writing Associates Program (2006-2008).

**Utrecht University (the Netherlands)** (Fulbright Scholar, January-May 2010; Visiting Professor of American Studies, Fall 2011/Winter 2012, Summer 2002, Fall 1998 and Spring 1997.) Courses taught: At the graduate level: Religious Diversity in Early America; Cultural History of the American West. At the undergraduate level: Ethnography and the Study of American Culture; American Literature from 1900; American Modernism; American Literature, 1620-1900; tutorial on American Jewish culture for Jewish Studies minor.

**Massachusetts Historical Society (Boston, MA)** (Long term NEH Fellow, Academic Year 2008-2009.) Project title: New Israel/New England: Jews and Puritans in Early America.

**Boston University** (Preceptor, College of Arts and Sciences, Fall 2000-Spring 2001.) Courses taught: Freshman-level writing.

**University of New Hampshire, Durham** (Research Assistant Professor, Center for the Humanities, Fall 2000-Fall 2001.) (Coordinator of New England Community Heritage Project)

**Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (North Adams, MA)** (Visiting Assistant Professor,

Fall, 1997-Summer 2000.) Courses taught: Creative Writing (Fiction); Folklore; College Composition.

**Greenfield Community College (Greenfield, MA)** (Instructor, Fall, 1992-Spring 2000.)

Courses taught: Women in Literature (20<sup>th</sup> century); Women in Literature (19<sup>th</sup> century); Folklore; College Composition; Introduction to Literature.

**Holyoke Community College (Holyoke, MA)** (Instructor, Fall 1999-Spring 2000.) Courses taught: College Composition; Introduction to Literature.

**Pioneer Valley Folklore Society (Montague, MA)** (Staff folklorist, Western Massachusetts Folklife Project, 1993-1995.) Conducted year-long survey of folk traditions practiced in diverse western Massachusetts communities. Curated traveling exhibit on family folklore. Offered public workshops in community centers, libraries and schools throughout the region.

**University of Massachusetts, Amherst** (Teaching Associate, Fall 1988-Summer 1993.)

Courses taught: American Experience; American Ethnic Literature; American Realism (TA); College Composition.

#### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE, COLLEGE AND DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES

Massachusetts Historical Society, Research Committee member, 2021-

University of Toronto English Department, external tenure committee reviewer, 2020.

Massachusetts Historical Society, Short Term Fellowship Selection Committee, 2017.

American Jewish Historical Society, Academic Council, 2011-present.

Massachusetts Humanities Council, consulting humanities scholar, *Follow the Thread*, a multimedia project on Jewish immigrants and the American fashion industry, 2011-2012.

Massachusetts Historical Society/National Endowment for the Humanities, Long Term Fellowship Selection Committee, 2011.

Jewish Historical Society of Western Massachusetts, Board Member, 2011-present.

Fulbright Center Amsterdam, Netherlands, Grant Selection Committee, 2010.

New England American Studies Association council, 2001-2006.

New England American Studies Association, co-chair of Book Prize Committee, 2004 and 2006.

New England American Studies Association, co-chair of Best Graduate Paper Committee, 2002 and 2003.

Fitchburg State University, Graduate Council, 2019-present.

Fitchburg State University, Honors Program Advisory, 2018-2021.

Fitchburg State University, Promotions Committee (elected), 2015-2017; 2022-2023.

Fitchburg State University, English Studies Department, Post-Tenure Review Committee (elected), 2015-2016.

Fitchburg State University, Tenure Committee, 2013-2014, 2020-2021.

Fitchburg State University, Research and Scholarship Award Committee, 2014-present.

Fitchburg State University, English Studies Department, Search Committee Member, 2012-2013, 2021.

Fitchburg State University Equity and Diversity Committee, 2010-2011.

Fitchburg State College Advisory Committee for Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning, 2002-2003; 2009; 2012-2013; 2013-2014.

Fitchburg State University, English Studies Department, Graduate Committee, 2003-present.

Fitchburg State University, Library, Peer Evaluation Committee Chair, 2013.  
Fitchburg State College Leadership College (Honors Program) Advisory, 2007-2008.  
Fitchburg State College All College Curriculum Committee, 2005-2007.  
Fitchburg State College/University English Department, Peer Evaluation Committee, 2007, 2009, 2013, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2021.  
Fitchburg State College English Department, co-chair of Search Committee, 2004.  
Fitchburg State College English Department Search Committee Member, 2003.  
Fitchburg State College English Department, Faculty Advisor, English Club and Honors Society, 2001-2006.  
Fitchburg State College English Department, Curriculum Committee, 2001-2004.

#### REFERENCES

Chola Chisunka, Graduate Chair, English Studies Department, Fitchburg State University.  
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