

Benjamin D. Carson, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor and Chair  
Department of English  
Bridgewater State University  
Bridgewater, MA, 02325  
bcarson@bridgew.edu

Education

- Ph.D. University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, May 2005  
Dissertation: "Re-Imagining the Contact Zone: Ethnic Theory and the Fiction of Clarence Major, Maxine Hong Kingston, Ana Castillo, and Gerald Vizenor"  
Dissertation Director: Dr. Nicholas Spencer  
Areas of concentration: Contemporary American Literature and Critical Theory
- M.A. University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebraska, May 1999 *Summa cum laude*  
Major: Critical Theory  
Thesis: "Incommensurability in Bloom's Theory of Influence"
- B.A. University of South Dakota, Vermillion, South Dakota, May 1997  
L'Université d'Orléans, Orléans, France, 1996-97  
Major: English Minor: French

Teaching Experience

- Assistant Professor of English, Bridgewater State College, Bridgewater, MA, 2005-2010  
Associate Professor of English, Bridgewater State University, 2010-
- Graduate Seminar: Postmodern Ethnic American Literature
  - Graduate Seminar: Asian American Literature
  - Graduate Seminar: Native American Literature
  - Graduate Seminar: Contemporary American Fiction
  - Graduate Seminar: Jewish American Literature
  - Graduate Seminar: Brain & Culture: Navigating the Contact Zone
  - Senior Seminar: Indigenous Literature of Native North America
  - Senior Seminar: Japanese Literature in Translation
  - Senior Seminar: Literature and Philosophy
  - Senior Seminar: Flannery O'Connor
  - Senior Seminar: Eugene O'Neill
  - Honors Literature and the Politics of Violence
  - Honors Non-Western Literature
  - Honors Composition II
  - Ethnic American Literature
  - African American Literature II
  - Jewish American Literature
  - Classic Works of Social Protest (Special Topics)
  - Eugene O'Neill (Special Topics)
  - Literature of the Working Class
  - Non-Western Literature
  - East Asian Literature in Translation
  - Writing About Literature
  - Composition I

Mentoring at BSU:

Honors Thesis: Loni-Ann Sanford. 2010-11.  
ATP Mentor, Matthew Keogh. Summer 2010.  
ATP Mentor, Britta Gingras. Summer 2009.  
Graduate Thesis Director, Wendy Malone. 2008-09.  
Undergraduate Thesis Director, Joseph Gorman. 2008-09.  
Internship Advisor, Steven Pavao. Fall 2008.  
Internship Advisor, Rayna Shoag-Backman. Spring 2008.  
Undergraduate Thesis Director, Lori Moberg. 2006-07.  
Graduate Thesis Director, Kristin Danker. 2006-07.  
Undergraduate Research Advisor, Anne-Marie Friedlander. Spring 2007.

Teaching Assistant, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, Fall 1999-Spring 2005

Twentieth Century Fiction  
Introduction to Women's Literature  
Introduction to Literature  
Honors Composition and Literature I & II  
Composition and Literature I  
Honors Composition I  
Composition I & II  
Writing of Fiction (Independent Study)  
Tutor, Writing Assistance Center

Publications

Books:

---, and Michael Bennett, eds. *Eugene O'Neill's One-Act Plays: New Critical Perspectives*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012.

---. ed. and Intro. *Sovereignty, Separatism, and Survivance: Ideological Encounters in the Literature of Native North America*. Newcastle, UK: Cambridge Scholars P, 2009.

Articles and Encyclopedia Entries:

“‘Many forces at work’: Clarence Major's Early Fiction and the Critique of Racial Economy.” *Authentic Blackness/“Real” Blackness: Essays on the Meaning of Blackness in Literature and Culture*. Ed. Martin Japtok and Jerry Rafiki Jenkins. New York: Peter Lang, 2011.

“Ana Castillo” and “Gerald Vizenor.” *Blackwell Encyclopedia of Twentieth Century American Fiction*. Ed. Patrick O'Donnell, Justus Nieland and David Madden. Wiley-Blackwell, 2010.

“Ainu and Anishinaabe Stories of Survivance: Shigeru Kayano, Katsuichi Honda, and Gerald Vizenor.” *Journal of East Asian Cultural Interaction Studies* 2 (2009): 443-49.

- “A Wasi’chu at the Sun Dance: Unconditional Hospitality, or Welcoming the ‘Wholly Other.’” *Paddlefish* 2 (Summer 2008): 47-55.
- “The Chicana Subject in Ana Castillo’s Fiction and the Discursive Zone of Chicana/o Theory.” *Bilingual Review/Revista Bilingue* 28.2 (May-August 2004-2007): 109-126.
- “Flannery O’Connor’s Machiavellian Christianity, 9/11, and the ‘Price of Restoration.’” *The Arabesques Review* 3.3 (2007): 64-85.
- “Red on Red: Native American Literary Separatism by Craig S. Womack.” *Encyclopedia of Native American Authors*. Ed. Jennifer McClinton-Temple and Alan Velie. Facts on File, 2007.
- “Blake in the Postmodern: Reading the *Songs of Innocence and of Experience* as Hypertext.” *artciencia.com: revista de arte, ciência e comunicação* 5 (2007): 1-21. <<http://www.artciencia.com/Admin/Ficheiros/BENJAMIN309.pdf>>.
- “The ‘Cosmopolitan Consciousness’ of Gerald Vizenor and Native American Literary Separatism.” *English Studies Forum* 3.1 (Fall-Winter 2007). <<http://www.bsu.edu/web/esf/spaces.htm>>.
- “Planting the Seeds of Anarchy: Octavia Butler’s *Parable of the Sower*.” *The Fifth Estate* 41.2 (Fall 2006): 19-23.
- “‘Success in Certain Passionate Failures’: Oscar Wilde, Max Beerbohm, and Satire.” *artciencia.com: revista de arte, ciência e comunicação* 4 (2006): 1-20. <<http://www.artciencia.com/Admin/Ficheiros/BENJAMIN269.pdf>>.
- “Teaching the ‘gentle arts of the spirit’ in the Age of Multinational Capitalism.” *ZNet* 5 May 2006. <<http://www.zmag.org/content/showarticle.cfm?SectionID=105&ItemID=10209>>.
- “Clarence Major.” *Writing African American Women: An Encyclopedia of Literature by and about Women of Color*. Ed. Betsy Beaulieu. Westport, Ct: Greenwood P, 2006. 587-91.
- “Spaces of Hope in Octavia Butler’s *Parable of the Sower* and Ana Castillo’s *So Far From God*.” *The Indian Review of World Literature in English* 2 (2006): 1-11. <<http://www.worldlitolonline.com/index.htm>>.
- “Darkness Beyond the Lighthouse: Virginia Woolf, Charles Baudelaire, and Literary Modernism.” *Nebula* 2.3 (2005): 18-33. <<http://www.nobleworld.biz>>.
- “‘That Doubled Vision’: Edith Wharton and *The House of Mirth*.” *Women’s Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal* 32 (2003): 695-717.
- “Towards a Postmodern Political Art: Deleuze, Guattari, and the Anti-Culture Book.” *Rhizomes: Cultural Studies in Emerging Knowledge* 7 (Fall 2003) <<http://www.rhizome.net>>.

### Conference Presentations

- Chair, "Native Americans." New England American Studies Association Annual Conference. Plymouth Plantation, Plymouth, MA. Nov 4-6, 2011.
- Chair, "Race and the Reception of African American Literature and Film." 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual American Literature Association Conference. Boston, MA. May 26-29, 2011.
- Chair and Panel Organizer. "World Literature/Global Empathy." Northeast MLA Conference. New Brunswick, NJ. April 7-10, 2011.
- Chair and Panel Organizer. "Native American Literature." College English Association Conference. St. Petersburg, FL. March 31-April 2, 2011.
- "Rhetorical Sovereignty/Rhetorical Alliance: Engaging Native American Studies at BSC." CART Celebration XIV. BSC. May 12-13, 2010.
- Chair and Panel Organizer. "Indigenous Literatures of North America." Northeast MLA Conference. Montréal, Quebec. April 8-11, 2010.
- Chair and Panel Organizer. "Native American Literature" (2 sessions). College English Association Conference. San Antonio, TX. March 25-27, 2010.
- Chair and Panel Organizer. "Native American Literature." College English Association Conference. Pittsburgh, PA. March 26-28, 2009.
- "How to Read Harold Bloom and Why." Northeast MLA Conference. Boston, MA. Feb. 27, 2009.
- Chair and Panel Organizer. "Native American Literature." Northeast MLA Conference. Boston, MA. Feb. 27, 2009.
- "Ainu and Anishinaabe Stories of Survivance: Shigeru Kayano, Katsuichi Honda, and Gerald Vizenor." Association for Asian Studies New England Regional Conference. UMASS, Boston. Oct. 18, 2008.
- "Ainu and Anishinaabe Stories of Survivance: Shigeru Kayano, Katsuichi Honda, and Gerald Vizenor." America and East Asia: Cultural Interchange Since the Mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century. Osaka, Japan (Kansai University). June 6, 2008.
- Chair and Panel Organizer. "Native American Literature." Northeast MLA Conference. Buffalo, NY. April 11-13, 2008.
- Chair and Panel Organizer. "Native American Literature." College English Association Conference. St. Louis, MS. March 27-29, 2008.
- "A Wasi'chu at the Sun Dance: Unconditional Hospitality, or Welcoming the 'Wholly Other.'" English Department Faculty Colloquium. Bridgewater State College.

- Nov. 28, 2007.
- Moderator and Organizer, "Jackpot! Casinos, Sovereignty, and Stereotypes." Special Forum on Indian Gaming Sponsored by Bridgewater State College's Ethnic Studies Program. Bridgewater State College. Nov. 13, 2007.
- "A Wasi'chu at the Sun Dance: Unconditional Hospitality, or Welcoming the 'Wholly Other.'" College English Association Conference. New Orleans, LA. April 12-14, 2007.
- Chair and Panel Organizer, "Native American Literature." College English Association Conference. New Orleans, LA. April 12-14, 2007.
- "'Your people? We're not your people': Sherman Alexie's 'Class' and *The Trouble with Diversity*." Northeast MLA Conference. Baltimore, MD. March 2-4, 2007.
- Chair and Panel Organizer. "Native American Literature." Northeast MLA Conference. Baltimore, MD. March 2-4, 2007.
- "In Praise of (Maureen Brady's) *Folly*: A Materialist Feminist Reading." Society for the Study of American Women Writers Conference. Philadelphia, PA. Nov. 9-11, 2006.
- "Reading, Writing, and Teaching Race: Richard Wright's *Native Son*." Race & Pedagogy National Conference. Tacoma, WA. Sept. 14-16, 2006.
- "Teaching the 'gentle arts of the spirit' in the Age of Multinational Capitalism." University of Connecticut Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies Conference on the Crisis in the Academy. Storrs, CT. April 21, 2006.
- "Ecocide in Gerald Vizenor's *Bearheart*." College English Association Conference. San Antonio, TX. April 6-8, 2006.
- Chair and Panel Organizer, "Native American Literature." College English Association Conference. San Antonio, TX. April 6-8, 2006.
- "The 'Cosmopolitan Consciousness' of Gerald Vizenor and Native American Literary Separatism." South Atlantic MLA Conference. Atlanta, GA. Nov. 4-6, 2005.
- "Spaces of Hope in Ana Castillo's *So Far From God* and Octavia Butler's *Parable of the Sower*." Utopian Studies Annual Conference. Memphis, TN. Oct. 27-30, 2005.
- "Clarence Major's *Emergency Exit* and the Critique of 'Racialized Seeing.'" New England American Studies Association Conference. Worcester, MA. Sept. 23-24, 2005.
- Chair and Panel Organizer, "Native American Literature." College English Association Conference. Indianapolis, IN. March 31-April 2, 2005.
- "Transcultural Zones and the Fiction of Mourning Dove and Gerald Vizenor." College English Association Conference. Indianapolis, IN. March 31-April 2, 2005.

“Teaching Sexually Explicit Literature: Vizenor’s *Bearheart*.” 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pedagogy Conference. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Lincoln, NE. October 28, 2004.

Chair and Panel Organizer, “Contemporary Critical Theory.” Central New York Conference on Language and Literature. SUNY Cortland, Cortland, NY. October 27, 2003.

“O’Connor, Falwell, Robertson, and the Theologico-Political Implications of 9/11.” Rocky Mountain MLA. Missoula, MT. October 10, 2003.

“Politics and Pedagogy in the Composition Classroom.” 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Pedagogy Conference. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Lincoln, NE. September 28, 2003.

“Major’s *Reflex and Bone Structure* and the Politics of the Anti-Culture Book.” Craft, Critique, Culture Conference. Iowa City, IA. March 30, 2003.

“Blake in the Postmodern: Reading the *Songs* as Hypertext.” Northeast MLA. Boston, MA. March 8, 2003.

“Alan Sokal’s ‘Tale of A Tub’ and the Converting Imagination.” The Enlightenment and Modernity: An International Interdisciplinary Conference. CUNY Graduate Center. New York City, NY. October 19, 2002.

Chair, “Jane Austen.” College of English Association Conference. Cincinnati, OH. April 5, 2002.

#### Academic Service

Bridgewater State University, Department of English:

Chair of the Department, July 1, 2010-present

Chair, Modern Drama Search Committee. 2009-10.

Chair, 19<sup>th</sup> Century American Literature Search Committee. 2008-09.

Member (with Dr. Evelyn Pezzulich), Program Review Committee. 2007-08.

Editor, *Embracing Writing: The First-Year Writing Program at Bridgewater State College* (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> editions).

Member, Poetry Search Committee. 2007-08.

Member, Twentieth Century Literature and Film Search Committee. 2006-07.

Member, Graduate Committee. 2006-07 & 2008-09.

Advisor, English Society (Undergraduate Student Organization). Spring 2006-08.

Editor, English Department Newsletter. Fall 2006-08.

Editor (with Ann Brunjes), English Department Newsletter. Spring 2006.

Bridgewater State University, Campus-Wide:

Honors Task Force. Spring 2009.

Adrian Tinsley Program Advisory Board. 2009-10.

Coordinator, U.S. Ethnic Studies Program. 2007-2010.

Facilitator, Targeted English 101 Book Club. Fall 2008.

Member, New Course Subcommittee (UCC Committee). Fall 2007 through Fall 2008.

Facilitator, Honors Book Club. Fall 2007, 2008, 2009.

English Department Team Member, ATP/Honors Workshop and Retreat, November 10, 2005 and February 7, 2006.

Member, Center for the Advancement of Research and Teaching Advisory Board. Spring 2006.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 1999-2005:

Member, Chair's Advisory Committee. Department of English. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2003-04.

Member, Department of English Search Committee for Post-Colonial Position. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2002-03.

Member, Department of English Search Committee for African American Position. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2001-02.

Participant, Placement Panel about MLA Job Interviews. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2003.

Participant, Panel for Graduate Student Issues for Five-year Program Review of Dept. of English. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2003.

New Graduate Student Mentor. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2002-05.

Coordinator, Critical Theory Colloquium. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2001-02.

Treasurer, English Graduate Student Association. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2001-02.

Member, Executive Committee of English Graduate Student Association. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2000-01.

Member, Junior Staff Steering Committee. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2000-01.

National:

Chair, Diversity Committee for the College English Association. 2011-

Member, Diversity Committee for the College English Association. 2010-11.

Member, Conference Program Committee for the National College English Association. 2004-06.

#### Awards

ATP Summer Mentorship Grant (with Matthew Keogh) (\$1750). BSU. 2010.

ATP Summer Mentorship Grant (with Britta Gingras) (\$1750). BSC. 2009.

Award for Academic Excellence. BSC. 2009.

Outstanding Honors Faculty Award (\$250). BSC. 2008.

Japan Foundation Grant (\$3500). BSC. 2008.

CART Summer Grant (\$3100). BSC. 2008.

Bridgewater State College Graduate Student Mentoring Award. 2007.

Adrian Tinsley Program for Undergraduate Research Faculty Mentor Award. BSC. 2007.

Faculty/Librarian Research Grant. Bridgewater State College. 2006.

Recognized by the Alpha Tau Chapter of Beta Theta Pi for Excellence in Education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. April 4, 2005.

Junior Staff Teaching Award. Department of English. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2002.

Certificate of Recognition for Contributions to Students at University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Department of English. 2000 & 2004.

Wilbur and Elizabeth Gaffney Travel Fellowship. Department of English. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 2002, 2003 & 2005.

Nominee, John W. Robinson Award for Best Graduate Paper. Department of English.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 1998 & 2001.

Editorial Positions

Editor, *Nebula*, February 2007-2009.

Consulting Editor, *The Indian Review of World Literature in English*, 2006-2011.

Teaching and Research Interests

Native American Literature

African American Literature

Non-Western Literature

East Asian Literature in Translation

Women's Literature

Chicana/o Literature

Asian American Literature

Eugene O'Neill