

# TIMOTHY K. NIXON

## Contact Information (Work):

Shepherd University  
Department of English and Modern Languages  
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Shepherdstown, WV 25443  
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Rockville, MD 20850  
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## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. in English**—The George Washington University, 2005.

Dissertation: "The Homo-Exilic Experience: Queerness, Alienation, and Contrapuntal Vision." Director: Robert McRuer.

This study builds upon Edward Said's ruminations on exile and suggests that exile manifests itself in numerous ways and can even be a wholly internal phenomenon—in both an intra-national sense and as a purely psychic condition. Moreover, for queers, exile is oftentimes an a priori condition, for they frequently are alienated by the homophobia of their families and communities long before their relationship to a national entity is even considered. This project demonstrates these aspects of the exilic experience through case studies of four twentieth-century, modernist authors, each with a noteworthy relationship to the United States: Christopher Isherwood and Klaus Mann both were naturalized US citizens; James Baldwin and Arturo Islas were native-born Americans who never felt fully at home here. Finally, this study concurs with Said's view that exile is a resoundingly painful, life-altering experience, but one which has at least one consolation: a clarity of vision, a new way of looking at the world. While not solely responsible for the artistic output of the four writers considered in this study, this contrapuntal vision enriches the work of these authors by enabling views of their respective worlds that have a perspective simultaneously from within and without.

**M.A. in English**—The College of William and Mary, 1992.

Thesis: "Toni Morrison's Reclamation of Her Past." Director: Joanne Braxton.

**B.A. in English**—Belmont University, 1987. *Cum laude*.

## PUBLICATIONS, PEER-REVIEWED

"Klaus Mann: The *Teufelskind* Doubly Exiled." *Literature in Exile: East and Central Europe*. Ed. Agnieszka Gutthy. New York: Lang, 2009. 177 – 91.

"Quantum Leap? Queering Melville's *Mardi*." *Harrington Gay Men's Literary Quarterly* 8.4 (2006): 109 – 30.

"Same Path, Different Purpose: Chopin's La Folle and Welty's Phoenix Jackson." *Women's Studies* 32 (2003): 937 – 56.

## **PUBLICATIONS, PEER-REVIEWED (Cont'd.)**

"The Exclusionary Nature of *The Moviegoer*." *Walker Percy's Feminine Characters*. Ed. Lewis A. Lawson and Elzbieta H. Oleksy. Troy: Whitston, 1995. 50 – 61.

## **PUBLICATIONS, OTHER**

Rev. of *Alexander: A Novel of Utopia*, by Klaus Mann. Trans. David Carter. *The Gay and Lesbian Review Worldwide* Nov. – Dec. 2008: 39.

"*House of the Spirits, The*: Isabel Allende (1982)." *Encyclopedia of Hispanic-American Literature*. Ed. Luz Elena Ramirez. New York: Facts on File, 2008. 160 – 61.

"Islas, Arturo (Arturo Islas La Farga) (1938 – 1991)." *Encyclopedia of Hispanic-American Literature*. Ed. Luz Elena Ramirez. New York: Facts on File, 2008. 178 – 79.

"*Migrant Souls*: Arturo Islas (1990)." *Encyclopedia of Hispanic-American Literature*. Ed. Luz Elena Ramirez. New York: Facts on File, 2008. 231 – 32.

"*Rain God, The*: Arturo Islas (1984)." *Encyclopedia of Hispanic-American Literature*. Ed. Luz Elena Ramirez. New York: Facts on File, 2008. 280 – 81.

"Hedonism Bound: Isherwood in Berlin." *The Gay and Lesbian Review Worldwide* Nov. – Dec. 2007: 13 – 14.

"'Everybody's Protest Novel': James Baldwin (1949)." *Encyclopedia of Twentieth Century African-American Writers*. Ed. Wilfred D. Samuels, Loretta Woodard, and Tracie Guzzio. New York: Facts on File, 2007: 175 – 76.

"Dunbar-Nelson, Alice Moore (1875 – 1935)." *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of African American Literature*. Ed. Hans Ostrom and J. David Macey, Jr. Vol. 2. Westport: Greenwood, 2005. 5 vols. 463 – 65.

"Kenan, Randall Garrett (born 1963)." *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of African American Literature*. Ed. Hans Ostrom and J. David Macey, Jr. Vol. 3. Westport: Greenwood, 2005. 5 vols. 921 – 23.

## **SCHOLARLY WORK CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW**

*Selected Short Works of Klaus Mann*

"Linguistic Bias and English as a Counter-Offensive in the Fiction of Arturo Islas"

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

"Conceptual Patriot: American Affiliation in the Mind and on the Page in Gertrude Stein's Early Writings." International Colloquium—American Identities: Relations and Interactions. Toulouse, France (June 2010).

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (Cont'd.)**

- "Is It Even the Same America? Klaus Mann and Christopher Isherwood: Disparate Experiences in the US." Modernist Studies Association Conference. Long Beach, CA (November 2007).
- "English as a Counter-Offensive in Arturo Islas's Fiction." Mid-Atlantic Popular Culture/American Culture Association Conference. Baltimore, MD (October 2006).
- "Immigration, Ethnicity, and Race in Alice Dunbar-Nelson's 'Tony's Wife.'" Berry College's Southern Women Writers Conference. Rome, GA (September 2005).
- "The Poet Laureate Laughs No More: The Exhausted Optimism of Langston Hughes." South Atlantic Modern Language Association Conference. Roanoke, VA (November 2004).
- "*Was ist denn 'deutsch'?:* Germanness as a Quandary for Thomas Mann." Southern Comparative Literature Association Conference. Austin, TX (September 2003).
- "Seeing through Serpent and Eagle Eyes: Gertrude Simmons Bonnin, Native Intellectual and *Mestiza*." Mid-Atlantic Popular Culture/American Culture Association Conference. Pittsburgh, PA (November 2002).
- "Grabbing the Past, Gripping the Present, Grasping the Future: Toni Morrison's Reclamation of a Problematic Past." Central New York Conference on Language and Literature. Cortland, NY (October 2002).
- "Unheeded Rumbings: Manifestations of Impending Violence in Antebellum African-American Literature." Georgia State University's New Voices Conference. Atlanta, GA (September 2002).
- "Beautiful, Beautiful: Cinematic Interplay of Gay Male Couples and Surrounding Subcultures." Popular Culture/American Culture Association Conference. Toronto, Canada (March 2002).
- "The Necessity—and Impossibility—of Empathy: A Reading of Baldwin's *Another Country*." Howard University's Role Call Conference. Washington, DC (January 2002).

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Assistant Professor and Chair, Department of English and Modern Languages, Shepherd University: 2010 – Present. Courses taught during entire tenure at Shepherd:

English 448 (Senior Capstone Practicum in English)  
English 447 (American Literature Travel Practicum)  
English 446 (American Literature and the Prominence of Place)  
English 405 (Seminar in Literature: The Literature of Exile)  
English 399 (Special Topics: Lesbian Writers)  
English 365 (Contemporary Literature)  
English 355 (American Ethnic Literature)  
English 313 (Literature in English since 1900)

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE (Cont'd.)**

English 312 (American Literature to 1900)  
English 301 (Introduction to Literary Studies)  
English 280 (Introduction to Technical Communication)  
English 209 (Survey of World Literature II)  
English 208 (Survey of World Literature I)  
English 204 (Survey of American Literature)  
English 104 (Science and Technical Writing)  
English 102 (Writing for the Humanities)

Assistant Professor, Department of English and Modern Languages, Shepherd University: 2007  
– 10.

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of English and Modern Languages, Shepherd  
University: 2006 – 07.

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of English, McDaniel College: 2005 – 06. Courses  
taught:

English 2258 (African-American Literature)  
Comparative Literature 2220 (Great Works of the Western World II)  
Comparative Literature 2219 (Great Works of the Western World I)  
English 1101 (Introduction to College Writing)  
Topic—Writing about Food

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of English, The George Washington University: 2002  
– 04. Courses taught:

English 11 (English Composition: Language and the Arts and Sciences)  
Topic—(1) Research Writing for All Disciplines; (2) Queer Culture  
English 10 (English Composition: Language as Communication)  
Topic—Shipwrecks and Shark Attacks: Personal Narrative vs. Reportage

Writing Center Tutor, Department of English, The George Washington University: 2001 – 02.

Adjunct Instructor, Department of English, Northern Virginia Community College: fall 1993, fall  
1994, fall 2000, spring 2001. Courses taught:

English 116 (Writing for Business)  
English 112 (Introduction to Literature)

## **ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

Foreign-Language Assistant for English Instruction through the US Fulbright Commission and  
the German Pädagogischer Austauschdienst, Friedrich Ebert Gymnasium (Hamburg,  
Germany): 1988 – 89.

## **TEACHING INTERESTS**

World Literature; American/African-American/Multi-Ethnic American Literatures; Lesbian and Gay Studies; Writing across the Curriculum.

## **SERVICE**

To the University

General Studies Committee Member, 2007 – present.

Technology Oversight Committee, 2009 – 10.

Student Life Council, 2008 – 10.

Mentor for Honors Theses:

- Brittney Scaccia (2009)
- Phillip Zapkin (2008 – 09)
- Elizabeth Bessom (2007 – 08)

To the Department

Coordinator of Science and Technical Writing, 2007 – present.

Member of the Modern Languages Committee, 2007 – present.

Member of the Program Advisory Committee, 2007 – present.

Advisor to English Majors, 2007 – present.

Search and Hiring Committees, 2007 – present.

Departmental Open Houses, 2007 – present.

## **HONORS/AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS**

Summer Development Professional Grant from Shepherd University: \$560 for travel expenses related to presenting at an international conference (2010)

Summer Development Professional Grant from Shepherd University: \$3,500 for travel and archival research (2008)

Dean's Fellowship from the Columbian College of the Arts and Sciences at The George Washington University (2004 – 05)

The George Washington University's Philip Amsterdam Graduate Teaching Assistant Award for Outstanding Teaching (2004)

Graduate Teaching Award from the Department of English at The George Washington University (2004)

Nominee: The George Washington University's Trachtenberg Teaching Prize/Bender Teaching Award (2003)

Fellowship and Graduate Teaching Assistantship from The George Washington University (2001 – 04)

## **HONORS/AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS (Cont'd.)**

Research Assistantship from The College of William and Mary (1989 – 90)

Fulbright Scholarship to Hamburg, Germany (1988 – 89)

Jerry E. Lambdin Award for Belmont University's Outstanding Graduating Senior (1987)

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

Modern Language Association

## **LANGUAGES**

Conversancy and high-level competency in German; basic knowledge of French and Italian.

## **LIST OF REFERENCES**

Michael Austin, Ph.D.  
Provost and  
Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Newman University  
3100 McCormick  
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