

TIMOTHY ERWIN
Emeritus Professor of English
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

EDUCATION

The University of Chicago, Ph.D. (English, 1984)
Dissertation Director, W. J. T. Mitchell, Gaylord Donnelley Professor of
English and Art History

EXPERIENCE

Emeritus Professor, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (2024)
Professor, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (2007-)
Associate Professor, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (1990-2006)
Assistant Professor, Rutgers University (1985-90)
Instructor, University of San Diego (1981-84)
Chief or Guest Editor, *Chicago Review* (1975-81)
Resident Head, Thompson House, University of Chicago (1976-81)

HONORS

USAC Visiting Professorship (University College, Cork, Summer 2017)
Donald and Mary Hyde Fellow, Houghton Library (Harvard, 2012-13)
Black Mountain Institute Fellow (UNLV, Spring 2011)
USAC Visiting Professorship, Université de Pau, France (Spring 2013; Fall
2000)
CFAR Grant, UNLV College of Liberal Arts (Summer 2006)
American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Summer
Fellow, Yale Center for British Art (1998)
NEH Fellow, Aston Magna Academy (Yale University, 1997)
Sabbatical Leave (UNLV, 1996, 2003, 2011, 2018)
Short-Term Fellow, Clark Library (UCLA, 1996)
University Research Summer Grant (UNLV, 1994)
NEH Summer Seminar in Historiography and Fiction (UCSB, 1993)
NEH Summer Institute on Theory in the Visual Arts (Hobart and
William Smith Colleges, 1987)
ACLS Travel Grant (1987)
University Research Council Summer Grant (Rutgers University, 1986)
American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies/Clark Library
Grant (UCLA, 1985)
The School for Theory and Criticism,
(University of California, Irvine, 1978)
Editorial Grantee, National Endowment for the Arts (1978)
Chicago Review, Editor, Best Illinois Magazine (Ill. Arts Council, 1976)

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Textual Vision: Augustan Design and the Invention of Eighteenth-Century British Culture (Bucknell, 2015; pb. 2017), 310 pp. with 38 illus. and 10 color plates. Reviewed by Joshua J. Weiner, *Modern Philology* 114, 2 (2016): 105-07; and by K. L. H. Wells, *Eighteenth-Century Fiction* 29, 3 (2017): 506-508.

Editor, with Michelle Burnham, *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture* 43, "The Pageant of Enlightenment" (Johns Hopkins, 2014), 245 pp.

_____, with Ourida Mostefai, *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture* 30, "The Geography of Enlightenment" (Johns Hopkins, 2001), 320 pp.

_____, *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture* 29, "Allegories of Healing" (Johns Hopkins, 2000), 373 pp.

Associate Editor, with Julie Candler Hayes, *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture* 28, "Public Inwardness, Intimate Scripts" (Johns Hopkins, 1999), 397 pp.

_____, *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture* 27, "Constructing Identities" (Johns Hopkins, 1998), 399 pp.

Editor, *The Life of Mr. Richard Savage* (1727), main narrative source of Samuel Johnson's *Life of Savage*, for the Augustan Reprint Society (1988), 42 pp. with 10 pp. introduction. Introduction repr. in *Literature Criticism from 1400 to 1800* 96 (2004): 138-42.

Editor and Co-Author, "Introduction," *The French New Philosophers*, a special issue, *Chicago Review* 32 (1981): 3. 176 pp.

Articles in Refereed Journals or Collections

"Sister Arts," *Oliver Goldsmith in Context*, ed. Michael Griffin and David O'Shaughnessy (Cambridge University Press, 2024), 237-245.

"Discourses of the Eye: *Romeo and Juliet* and Hogarth's *Marriage A-la-Mode*," in *Howard Weinbrot and the Precincts of Enlightenment* (Lehigh / Bloomsbury), 2024, 67-87.

"Austen's Oceans: New Contexts for *Persuasion*," *1650-1850: Ideas, Aesthetics, and Inquiries in the Early Modern Era* 29 (Bucknell/Rutgers University Press, 2024), 156-173.

"Book Illustration and *The Deserted Village*," *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture* 52 (Johns Hopkins 2023), 477-490.

"Discours sur l'Oeil: *Romeo and Juliet* et le *Marriage A-la-Mode* de William Hogarth," *Actes des congrès de la Société Française Shakespeare*, 2022.

"Alexander Pope and a Carracci Venus at the Court of James II and Mary of Modena," *Huntington Library Quarterly* 83 (2020), 361-94.

"The Comic Visions of Emma Woodhouse," *Jane Austen and Comedy*, ed. Erin M. Goss (Bucknell, 2019), 148-185.

"The Changing Patterns of Iconology," *W. J. T. Mitchell's Image Theory: Living Pictures*, ed. Krešimir Purgar (Routledge, 2017), 25-39; rpt. from *Image and Ideology*.

"Imagery," chap. 38 of the *Oxford Handbook of British Poetry, 1660-1800*, ed. Jack Lynch (Oxford University Press, 2016), 617-31.

"Seeing and Being Seen in *Northanger Abbey*," *Women, Popular Culture and the Eighteenth Century*, ed. Tiffany Potter (University of Toronto Press, 2012; pb. 2014), 202-222.

"Sir John Hawkins on Richard Savage and the Profession of Authorship," *Reconsidering Biography: Contexts, Controversies, and Sir John Hawkins's Life of Johnson*, ed. Martine Watson Brownley (Bucknell University Press, 2012), pp. 101-114.

"*Ut Rhetorica Artes*: The Rhetorical Theory of the Sister Arts," *Haydn and the Performance of Rhetoric*, ed. Sander Goldberg and Tom Beghin (University of Chicago Press, 2007), 61-79.

"The Immanent Image of History and Fiction," *Historical Boundaries, Narrative Forms: Essays on British Literature in the Long Eighteenth Century in Honor of Everett Zimmerman* ed. Lorna Clymer and Robert Mayer (University of Delaware Press, 2007), pp. 87-113.

"L'extraordinaire langage de Robert Pinsky," *Cercles* 14 (2005): 91-113.
<www.cercles.com>

"The Ecliptic of the Beautiful," *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture* 33 (2004), 339-67.

"Scribblers, Servants, and Johnson's *Life of Savage*," *The Age of Johnson* 14 (2003): 99-130.

"Hogarth and the Aesthetics of Nationalism," *Huntington Library Quarterly* 64, 3 and 4 (2003): 383-410.

"Spectacle in *The Way of the World*," with Leon Coburn, *Restoration and Eighteenth-Century Theatre Research* 15, 1 (2000): 1-13.

"Angelica Kauffmann, Henry Fuseli, and the Birth of the Sublime," *Reconceptualizing Nature, Science, and Aesthetics: Contribution à une Nouvelle Approche des Lumières Helvétiques* (Editions Slatkine, 1998), pp. 157-66.

"Alexander Pope and the Disappearance of the Beautiful," in *So Rich a Tapestry: The Sister Arts and Cultural Studies*, ed. Kate Greenspan and Ann Hurley (Bucknell University Press, 1995), pp. 88-115.

_____ also published in abbreviated form in *Eighteenth-Century Life* 16, 3 (November 1992): 46-64.

"The Extraordinary Language of Robert Pinsky," *Halcyon / 1994: A Journal of the Humanities* 16 (1994): 123-43.

"Johnson and Lockean Empiricism," in *Approaches to the Teaching of Samuel Johnson*, ed. David R. Anderson and Gwin J. Kolb (Modern Language Association, 1993), pp. 35-41.

"Poussin and the Rhetoric of Depiction: A Response to Michael Podro," *Visual Theory: Painting and Interpretation*, ed. Norman Bryson, Michael Holly, and Keith Moxey (HarperCollins, 1991), pp. 190-200.

"Modern Iconology and Postmodern Iconologies," an essay responding to W. J. T. Mitchell, *Iconology: Image, Text, Ideology* with a reply by Mitchell, *Works and Days* 6 (Spring/Fall 1988): 217-29.

_____ reprinted as chap. 16 of *Image and Ideology*, ed. Susan Bazargan and David Downing (SUNY Press, 1991), pp. 309-20.

"Adam Smith's Theory of Rhetoric and the Method of Hume's *Dialogues*," *Studies on Voltaire and the Eighteenth Century* 303 (1992): 396-98.

"Voltaire and Johnson Again: The *Life of Savage* and the Sertorius Letter (1744)," *Studies on Voltaire and the Eighteenth Century* 284 (1991): 211-223.

"Johnson's *Life of Savage* and Lockean Psychology," *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture* 18 (1988): 199-212.

"The *Life of Savage*, Voltaire, and a Neglected Letter," *Notes and Queries*, NS 30 (December 1983): 525-26.

Other Publications

Six articles, with bibliographies, in *Britain in the Hanoverian Age, 1714-1837: An Encyclopedia* (Garland 1997). With Clarissa Cullerton Erwin, chapter 8, "Restoration and Eighteenth-Century Literature," a general introduction, headnotes, and thirty-three author entries for *The Reader's Adviser*, 14th ed. (Bowker 1994), 1: 223-63.

Editor's Memoir, "Chicago Review Fifty Years: A Retrospective Issue" 42 (1996): 228-30. And others.

Articles in Progress

"Temporality, Atomic Culture, and the Twist," examines the dance motif in Italian films from the sixties.

"What Was Lambency?" an article on aspects of poetic diction 1660-1820.

"Canine Constructs: The Dog in Augustan Letters," an essay on representations of the dog in literature and painting.

"The Problem of Time in James Barry," an article on temporal representation in late eighteenth-century history painting.

Book Reviews and Review Essays Published in Refereed Journals

Amandine Rabier, ed., *Maria Cosway 1760-1838: The Exceptional Journey of an Artist 1760-1838* (Snoek, 2024), *The Scriblerian and Kit Kats* 58,1 (2025): 96-102.

Brycchan Carey, *The Unnatural Trade: Slavery, Abolition, and Environmental Writing, 1650-1807* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2024), *Modern Philology* 123, 2 (November 2025): E27-E30.

Nicholas Mirzoeff, *How to See the World: An Introduction to Images, from Self-Portraits to Selfies, Maps to Movies, and More*, for *Critical Inquiry* 44, 4 (Summer 2018): 795-796.

“Discourse and Period Style across the Arts,” review-essay of Ashley Marshall, ed. *Representation, Heterodoxy, and Aesthetics: Essays in Honor of Ronald Paulson* (Newark: Univ. of Delaware, 2015); and Cedric D. Reverand II, ed. *Queen Anne and the Arts* (Lewisburg: Bucknell, 2015); for *Eighteenth-Century Life* 40, 3 (2016): 134-47.

Ruth Mack, *Literary Historicity: Literature and Historical Experience in Eighteenth-Century Britain*, for *The Scriblerian and Kit Kats* 44, 2 and 45, 1 (2012): 136-39.

Stanley Stewart, *Shakespeare and Philosophy*, for *Ben Jonson Journal: Literary Contexts in the Age of Elizabeth, James, and Charles* 18 (2011), 2: 308-11.

Howard Weinbrot, *Menippean Satire Reconsidered: From Antiquity to the Eighteenth Century*, for *Modern Philology* 106, 2 (2008): 280-86.

Janine Barchas, *Graphic Design, Print Culture, and the Eighteenth-Century Novel, for 1650-1850: Ideas, Aesthetics, and Inquiries in the Early Modern Era* 14 (2007): 362-66.

“Parody and Prostitution,” review-essay of Ronald Paulson, *Hogarth’s Harlot: Sacred Parody in Enlightenment England*, for *Huntington Library Quarterly* 68 (2005), 4: 677-83.

“New Hogarth Studies,” review-essay of Matthew Craske, *William Hogarth*; Bernadette Fort and Angela Rosenthal, eds. *The Other Hogarth: Aesthetics of Difference*; Mark Hallett, *Hogarth*, for *Eighteenth-Century Studies* 36 (2003), 2: 304-08.

Paul Monod, *The Power of Kings: Religion and Monarchy in Europe, 1589-1715*, for *Ben Jonson Journal: Literary Contexts in the Age of Elizabeth, James, and Charles* 7 (2000): 632-34.

Ronald Paulson, *The Beautiful, Novel, and Strange: Aesthetics and Heterodoxy*; Dennis Todd, *Imagining Monsters: Miscreations of the Self in Eighteenth-Century England*; Aileen Douglas, *Uneasy Sensations: Smollett and the Body*; and Joel Peter Eigen, *Witnessing Insanity: Madness and Mad Doctors in the English Court*, for *Eighteenth-Century Studies* 30 (1997), 3: 329-32.

A. W. Johnson, *Ben Jonson: Poetry and Architecture*, for *Ben Jonson Journal: Literary Contexts in the Age of Elizabeth, James, and Charles* 3 (1997): 187-91.

“New Books on Johnson,” review of Paul Korshin, ed. *The Age of Johnson* 4, et al. for *The Johnsonian Newsletter* 52 (October 1993), 2, 3, and 4 and 53, 1, 2: 26-33.

John Bender, *Imagining the Penitentiary*, for *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 47 (1989): 385-87.

Ann Bermingham, *Landscape and Ideology*, for *Criticism* 30 (1988): 408-12.

Claude Gandelman, *Le regard dans le texte*, for *Yearbook of General and Comparative Literature* 37 (1988): 199-201.

Oscar Kenshur, *Open Form and the Shape of Ideas*, for *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 45 (Fall 1987): 88-90.

"Fame and Its Audience," Patrick Brantlinger, *Bread and Circuses*; Leo Braudy, *The Frenzy of Renown*; Neil Postman, *Amusing Ourselves to Death*; and Richard Schickel, *Intimate Strangers*, for *Michigan Quarterly Review* 26 (Spring 1987): 413-20.

Charles Newman, *The Post-Modern Aura*, for *Western Humanities Review* 40 (Winter 1986): 368-70.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Editor, *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture* (2013-14, vol. 43; 1999-2001; vols. 29, 30).

Associate Editor, *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture* (Johns Hopkins Press, 1997-99; vols. 27-28).

Editorial Boards, *Huntington Library Quarterly* (2012-); *Eighteenth-Century Life* (2011-); *Ben Jonson Journal: Literary Contexts in the Age of Elizabeth, James, and Charles* (1995-); *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture* (1996-2000); *Halcyon: A Journal of the Humanities* (1994-2000); *Neon: A Publication of the Nevada Arts Council* (2001- 15).

President, Samuel Johnson Society of Southern California (2004-05); **Advisory Board Member**, 2018-); **President**, Western Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (1999-2000); **Vice-President**, Western Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (1998-1999); **Board Member**, Western Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (1994-); **Elected Member**, Modern Language Association, Delegate Assembly (1995-98)

Peer Reviewer, *British Studies Panel*, National Endowment for the Humanities (2014); **Nominations Committee**, American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (2011); **Manuscript and Book Proposal Reviewer**, Bucknell University Press, University of Delaware Press, Lehigh University Press, Stanford University Press, University of Toronto Press, University of Wisconsin Press, Yale University Press, and others.

Program Chair, annual meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (UNLV, 2005); **Program Chair**, annual meeting of the Western Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (UNLV 1994; 2000; 2018).

Undergraduate Coordinator, **Department of English** (2014-16), **Chair**, **Cultural Studies Program** (2004-2007); **Chair**, University Forum Committee (2007-2011); **Chair**, **Multidisciplinary Studies Program**, UNLV (1997-2002); **Elected Member and Chair**, College of Liberal Arts Promotion and Tenure Committee (2013-16); **Member**, Faculty Senate Promotion and Tenure Committee (2017-18); **Member**, Diversity Committee (2017-2019); **Elected Member**, UNLV Sabbatical Review Committee (2008-10); **Internal Review Committee**, Department of Philosophy, UNLV (1994-95); **Elected Delegate**, **Faculty Senate** UNLV (1997-2000); **Elected Member**, **Tenure and Promotions Committee**, UNLV (1999-2000); **Elected Member**, Research Council, UNLV (1999-2000); **New**

Faculty Mentoring Committee Co-Chair, UNLV (1998-2000); **Advisor**, English Honors Society Sigma Tau Delta UNLV (1997-2006); **Faculty Advisor**, Tennis Club (2010-14).

Dissertation Director Danielle Menge, *Literary Appetites: Framing Food Studies in British Literature* (2026); Sujata Chattopadhyay, *Illness Under the Microscope: Disease in Colonial Discourse, a Disruptive Study* (2023); Andrew Rhoades, *The Unfinished Enlightenment Novel: Comparative Studies in Indeterminacy and Democracy* (2021); Carly Hunter, *Death, Dying, and the Eternally Damned: Blood, Medicine, and the Occupation of the Female Body in Gothic Literature* (2021); Garland Beasley, *The British Gothic Novel in the Age of Enlightenment, 1764-1798* (2018); Amanda Scott, *Female Subjectivity and Religious Vision in the Brontës' Novels* (2016); Tina Kuhlisch Ogorek, *Wayward Fictions: A Study of the Dynamic Picaresque Novel*, Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation 2009, College of Liberal Arts, UNLV; Thomas E. Breene, Outstanding M. A. Thesis 2000, UNLV *You: A Study of Second-Person Narrative in Two Postmodern Novels*; and other significant graduate advising.

Select Papers and Presentations at Professional Meetings (2014-2024)

“Rhetoric, Artifice, and Iconoclasm,” Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, March 2024, Toronto, CA.

“Discourses of the Eye: *Romeo and Juliet* and *Marriage A la Mode*, Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, March 2023, St. Louis, MO.

“New Contexts for *Persuasion*,” Western Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, February 2023, Los Angeles, CA.

“Jane Austen’s Oceans,” Triennial Meeting of the International Association for Word and Image Studies, July 2021, Esch-sur-Alzette, Luxembourg.

“The Sister Arts in *The Deserted Village*, Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, April 2021, Toronto, CA.

“The Discourse of the Eye: *Romeo and Juliet* and Hogarth’s *Marriage A-la-Mode*,” Plenary Lecture, Société Française Shakespeare, March 2021, Paris, France.

“Pope’s Belinda, *The Rape of the Lock*, and a Carracci Venus at the Court of James II,” Annual Meeting of the Modern Language Association, January 2019, Chicago, IL.

“The Comic Visions of Emma Woodhouse,” Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, March 2018, Orlando FL.

“Venus in and out of Court,” Triennial Meeting of the International Association for Word and Image Studies, July 2017, Lausanne, Switzerland.

“Venus, Pope, the Carracci, and the Stuart Court,” British Society of Eighteenth-Century Studies, January 2017, Oxford, GB.

“Austen, Art, and Adaptation” Western Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, February 2017, Santa Barbara, CA.

“Seeing and Being Seen in *Northanger Abbey*,” JASNA lecture, May 2017, Vancouver, BC; and also April 2017, Tucson, AZ.

“Visual Raillery in *Northanger Abbey*,” Invited Lecture, Annual Meeting of the Jane Austen Society of North America SW (*Serious Laughter: The Importance of Humor and Satire in Jane Austen’s Time*), December 2012, Los Angeles, CA.

“*Venus Attired by the Graces*, Anne Killigrew,” an illustrated lecture; and Chair, “Images and their Productions,” Western Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, February 2016, Riverside, CA.

“Jane Austen on Film,” University Forum illustrated lecture, UNLV, September 2015, Las Vegas, NV.

Panelist, “Re-assessing Richard Savage,” and Chair, “Reading for the Picture,” American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Annual Meeting, March 2015, Los Angeles, CA.

“Riddles of Form in Alexander Pope,” IAWIS Triennial Meeting, Hosted by the Scottish Word and Image Group, August 2014, Dundee, Scotland.

References

Prof. W. J. T. Mitchell, Department of English, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL 60637; Prof. Paula Backscheider, Department of English, Auburn University, Auburn, AL 36849; Prof. John Richetti, Department of English, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104; Dean John Tuman, College of Liberal Arts, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, 89154.