

# Molly H. Hiro

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Assistant Professor of English  
University of Portland  
Department of English  
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## Education

University of California, Los Angeles

M.A. English, 1999; Ph.D. 2005

Dissertation: *The Forces of Feeling: Sympathy and Race in American Modernity*

Advised by Martha Banta, Professor Emerita

Areas of specialty: 19<sup>th</sup>- and 20<sup>th</sup>-Century American Literature, African-American Literature

Georgetown University (Washington, DC)

B.A. English, 1994

Phi Beta Kappa, *summa cum laude*

## Academic appointments

2005-present University of Portland (Portland, Oregon)  
Assistant Professor of English

1997-2005 University of California, Los Angeles  
Teaching Assistant, Associate, and Fellow

## Teaching experience

University of Portland

Lower Division: *Introduction to Literature*

Upper Division: *African-American Writers, American Women Writers, Multi-Ethnic American Literature, American Literature and Social Change, Nineteenth-Century American Literature, American Modernism(s)*. One-credit Honors Course: *A Post-Racial Age? Race and Meaning in Contemporary America* (to be taught, Fall 2010)

Senior Capstone projects directed: 1-4 per semester

**UCLA Departments of English and Writing Programs**

**Courses taught as instructor** (lower division): *Composition, Rhetoric, and Language* (Intro to Composition), *Critical Reading and Writing* (Intro to Literature), *Reading and Weeping: Texts and Contexts of American Sentimentality* (Honors Seminar)

**Lecture courses with discussion sections** (upper division): *American Fiction to 1900*, *Major American Authors*, *The American Novel*, *English Literature, 1832-present*

**Teaching Assistant Consultant, 2000-2001:** co-taught pedagogy seminars for graduate students

**Publications**

“Tain’t no tragedy unless you make it one: *Imitation of Life*, Melodrama, and the Mulatta”  
Forthcoming in *Arizona Quarterly*, 66.4 (Winter (December) 2010)

“The Undergraduate Literature Conference: a Report from the Field”  
Co-Authored with Cara Hersh, University of Portland  
Forthcoming in *Pedagogy: Critical Approaches to Teaching Literature, Language, Composition, and Culture*. 11.1 (January 2011)

“How it Feels to Be without a Face: Race and the Reorientation of Sympathy in the 1890s”  
*NOVEL: A Forum on Fiction*. 39.2 (Spring 2006), 179-203.

“Between Truth and truths: Nicholas Boyle’s ‘Catholic Approach to Literature’ in the Classroom”  
*Sacred Imagination*, ed. Charles B. Gordon, C.S.C. and Margaret Monahan Hogan. 2009. 79-90.

Review of *Transatlantic Stowe: Harriet Beecher Stowe and European Culture*  
*Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers* 25.2 (Fall 2008), 335-37.

**Scholarly presentations**

“Catharine Maria Sedgwick and the Decorum of History”  
C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists Conference, Penn State, May 2010

“Rethinking the Primitive in Eugene O’Neill’s *The Emperor Jones*”  
American Literature Association Conference, Boston, May 2009

An early version conceived for Seminar, “Biologies of the Avant-Garde”  
Modernist Studies Association, Long Beach, CA, November 2007

“Tain’t no tragedy unless you make it one’: *Imitation of Life*, Melodrama, and the Persistence of the Tragic Mulatto”  
Louisville Conference on Literature Since 1900, Louisville, KY, February 2007

“Versions of Sympathy: Stowe and Chesnut”

American Literature Association, San Francisco, CA, May 2006

“Hard Feelings: Reading Sympathy against the Politics of Sentimentality”  
Modern Language Association, Philadelphia, December 2004

“Feeling without a Face: Sympathy and Ethics in Stephen Crane’s ‘The Monster’”  
American Literature Association, Cambridge, MA, May 2003

“The ‘Race Problem’ and the Problems of Sympathy in Stephen Crane’s ‘The Monster’”  
UCLA Americanist Research Colloquium, May 2003

“Feeling Right? Cross-Racial Sympathy in America from *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* to Oprah’s Book Club”  
UCLA Friends of English, June 2003

“Feminist Storytelling in Hyper-Novels”  
Western Humanities Conference, University of California, Riverside, October 1997

### Research in progress

Article, “What is the Porter’s Past? History, Atavism, Primitivism in *The Emperor Jones*”

Article, “Race Feeling and White Pathology in Gunnar Myrdal and Lillian Smith”

### Awards and honors

Summer 2006 Butine Faculty Development Award, University of Portland  
2003-2004 Mellon-Sawyer Predoctoral Fellowship, UCLA Center for Jewish Studies  
2002-2003 Lily Bess Campbell Dissertation-Year Fellowship, UCLA English Department  
2001-2002 Collegium of University Teaching Fellows, UCLA Office of Instructional  
Development  
2000-2001 Teaching Excellence Award, UCLA English Department  
2000 Summer Research Mentorship, UCLA Graduate Division  
1999-2000,  
1996-1997 President’s Fellowship in the Humanities, UCLA Graduate Division  
1997-2004 Evaluations in top 10% of Teaching Assistants, 5 quarters

### Professional development

#### Reading/Discussion Groups

Garaventa Center Reading Group: “Sacred Imagination,” Spring 2008  
Faith and Intellectual Life Discussion Group, Fall 2005 to present  
CAS Faculty reading group, January 2010, January 2009, January 2008

## Conferences and Workshops attended

[in addition to those at which I presented, above]

Modern Language Association Conference, December 2008, December 2005  
University of Portland Writing-embedded workshop led by Andrea Lunsford, May 2009  
University of Portland Writing-embedded workshop led by Chris Anson, May 2008  
University of Portland Writing-embedded luncheon-workshops, 2007-present

## Professional experience and affiliations

2001-present Member, Modern Language Association  
2001-2005 Member, UCLA Americanist Research Colloquium  
2003 Research Assistant for *The Cambridge Companion to Harriet Beecher Stowe*  
2000-2002 Research Assistant for Professor Jennifer Fleissner

## Department and university service

### University of Portland

Northwest Undergraduate Conference on Literature (NUCL)  
-Chair or Co-chair, 2005- present  
-Workshop leader, "Writing and Presenting a Conference Paper: How-to"

English Department  
-Academic Adviser, 2005-present  
-Contributor to Program Review, 2007-08  
-Co-author of new Capstone syllabus, 2007  
-Member of Medieval/Renaissance Search Committee, 2005-06

University Academic Senate  
-Faculty Welfare Committee Member, 2009-present

Faculty Development Day  
-Presenter, "Teaching Organization and Coherence in Student Writing," May 2007

Writing Embedded Program  
-Member of Assessment Team, 2008, 2009 (spring and fall assessments)  
-Compiler, writing manuals bibliography, 2007  
-Presenter, "Teaching Organization and Coherence in Student Writing," March 2007

CAS New Faculty Development  
-Invited presenter, "Lessons from the First Year," October 2006

University of Portland Childcare Committee  
-Chair of Research sub-committee, 2008

Building Community/ Serving to Learn Program  
-Faculty discussion leader, Sept. 2008

Student Activities  
-Contributor to *Beacon* for African-American History Month article, February 2009  
-Host, African-American Read-In, January 2006, January 2008  
-Faculty Adviser, Literary Palaver Society, 2006-2008

Moreau Center for Service and Leadership  
-Discussion leader, Post-Graduate Service Dinner, November 2006, November 2008

**University of California, Los Angeles**

Graduate Student Member, CUTF Selection Committee, Spring 2002  
Invited Panelist, UCLA Annual TA Training Conference, Fall 2001  
Workshop Leader, UCLA Annual TA Training Conference, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2003  
Invited Panelist, UCLA English Department Part I and Part II Exam Workshops, 2001,  
2002  
Teaching Mentor, English Department, 1999-2000, 2002-2003  
Website Developer, "Hyperteach Resources," 1997-1999  
Vice-President, UCLA English Graduate Union (EGU), 1997-1998  
UCLA Department of English Graduate Committee, 1997-1998

**Community service**

Holy Redeemer Catholic School, N Portland

- Volunteer, kindergarten classroom and elsewhere, 2009-present
- Founder, Holy Redeemer Bike to School Week, May 2010

Saint Andrew Catholic Church, NE Portland

- Convener and Leader, "After-Hours University," Spring 2010, Spring 2009
- Lector, 2007 to present
- Ambassador, Campaign for the Community, 2009
- Assistant, Summer Bible Camp, August 2008
- Member, St. Andrew Community Center Auction Committee, 2008

Run for Congo Women

- Fundraiser and Volunteer, 2009-present

SOLV Earth Day Cleanup

- Neighborhood Cleanup Volunteer, April 2010

Yes on 66 and 67

- Canvasser, 2010

King Neighborhood Farmer's Market, FoodShare Fund NE

- Info Table Volunteer, 2009

Obama '08 Presidential Campaign

- Canvasser, Fall 2008

Friends of Trees

- Volunteer, Winter 2008 planting

