

**John Robert Smith**  
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### **Education**

M.A. Film Studies, Emory University, May 2011

Thesis: “Branded Developments: The HBO Serial and Beyond”

Ph.D. English, Boston University, May 1999

Dissertation: “Prominent Backgrounds: Visions of Class and Desire in Dickens’s Illustrated Novels”

M.A. English, Boston University, 1992

B.A. *magna cum laude*, English, Furman University, 1990

### **Awards and Fellowships**

Graduate Scholarship, Emory University Department of Film Studies, 2009-2011

Graduate Scholarship, Boston University English Department, 1991-1998

Teaching Fellowship, Boston University English Department, 1991-1992 and 1993-1996

Various Travel Grants, Boston University and Clemson University English Departments, 1996-2007

### **Employment**

Director, World Cinema program, Clemson University. July 2022-present.

Interim Director, World Cinema program, Clemson University. May 2019-July 2022.

Senior Lecturer, Clemson University. May 2022-present. Lecturer, August 2017-May 2022. Teach classes including Introduction to Film and Film Theory and Criticism.

Co-Owner, Smith & Sons Citrus, November 2008-present. Participate in management and administrative work related to family business in Florida citrus.

Paid Intern, Turner Classic Movies, Branding Department, June-August 2010. Participated in discussion and implementation of branding strategies and merchandising across media for programs including *Moguls & Movie Stars* (November 2010); researched Turner’s image archives for TCM’s monthly viewing guide *Now Playing*; engaged with TCM fans through snail mail, Facebook, Twitter; assisted in the research, planning, and branding for TCM’s 2011 Classic Film Festival in Hollywood.

Lecturer, Clemson University, August 1999-May 2009. Left voluntarily to matriculate in Emory’s Film and Media Studies program. Taught classes ranging from introductory film to honors literature to upper-level courses for English majors.

### **Courses Taught** (2017-present)

Senior Seminar: Cinephilia

Film Genres: Film noir, Melodrama, and Major Genres

Great Directors: Billy Wilder, Lee Chang-dong, Céline Sciamma

Film Theory

Adaptations of World Classics

Introduction to Film

Honors Composition and Rhetoric

Honors Contract

American Literature

### **Selected Publications**

“Sounds Like HBO: The Politics of Mold in *Treme*’s Opening Credits.” *Journal of Popular Film and Television*. 47.2 (2019): 90-100.

“Making the Cut: Documentary Work in John Ford’s *The Grapes of Wrath*.” *Literature/Film Quarterly* 35.4 (2007): 323-29.

### *Works in Progress:*

“‘Who’s telling this tale?’: *Song of the South* and the Business of Nostalgia in 1986 Atlanta.” (Aiming to submit for publication by December 2022)

“Cinephilia at the End of the World: Movie Houses and Rooms with a View”

“Generic Transgressions: Mapping the Real in *Bacurau* (2019)”

“Excess and the Alternate Endings of *Double Indemnity* (1944) and *Get Out* (2017)”

### **Selected Professional Talks**

“The End: Serialized Branding and HBO’s *Six Feet Under*.” Emory University Graduate Symposium. Sponsored by Department of Film Studies. Atlanta, Georgia, October 28, 2010.

“Revising John Bull: Transatlanticism in *Unforgiven* (1992).” 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Western Literature Association. Boulder, Colorado, October 1-4, 2008.

“Locating the Author in *Great Expectations* (1998).” Association of Literature on Screen Studies, 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference. Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, Georgia, September 20-22, 2007.

“Reading Lessons: Steering the Narrative in ‘Suffer the Little Children’ (*Deadwood*).” 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Western Literature Association. Boise, Idaho, Oct 25-28, 2006.

“Marking Time: Funereal Storytelling in *David Copperfield*.” 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Victorian Interdisciplinary Studies Association of the Western United States Conference. Albuquerque, New Mexico, October 28 -30, 2005.

“Making the Cut: Documentary Work in John Ford’s *The Grapes of Wrath*.” Southwest/Texas Popular Culture/American Culture Association, 25th Annual Conference, held in conjunction with the National Popular Culture/American Culture Association Conference, San Antonio, Texas, April 7-10, 2004.

### **Other Experience**

Panelist, *Southern Margins International Short Film Festival*. Clemson University, March 2, 2019.

Instructor, Clemson Summer in Rome. June 2018. Taught a survey course on film and literature for one of Clemson University’s Study Abroad programs at the American University of Rome in Rome, Italy.

Member, World Cinema Steering Committee. August 2017-present. Participate in committee work on the management of Clemson’s World Cinema program.

Board Member, Lake Wales Citrus Growers Association. May 2017-present.

Volunteer G.E.D. Instructor at Greenville Literacy Association, November 2011-September 2012.

Registration Coordinator and Scheduler, Department of English, Clemson University. Responsibilities organizing the teaching schedules for Clemson’s English Department. January 2008-June 2009.

Advisor. Assist English majors as they work to fill requirements for graduation and completion of the major. October 2008-May 2009.

Board Member, The Warehouse Theatre (participate in committee work on long-term success of community theater in Greenville, SC). August 2005-July 2007.

Reader, *The South Carolina Review* (read and comment on fiction submissions for this literary journal). August 2001-May 2009.

Volunteer G.E.D. Instructor at United Ministries, May-December 2000.

Played several minor roles in The Warehouse Theater’s production of *Henry V*, March 2000.

Assistant to Director of Graduate Studies, Boston University English Department, 1995-1996 (assisted in graduate application process; organized monthly Graduate Student

Symposiums; edited *Gradgrind*, the English Department newsletter).

### **Guest Lecturer**

Graduate seminar on serial narrative, Clemson University, Spring 2006.

Undergraduate class on Dickens, Furman University, Spring 1997.

Graduate pedagogy class on teaching composition, Boston University, Fall 1994 and 1995.

Undergraduate and Graduate class on The Victorian Age, Boston University, Fall 1995.

Undergraduate and Graduate class on Dickens, Furman University, Fall 1994.

Played Sir Walter Whorehound in Boston University Willing Suspension's production of Thomas Middleton's *A Chaste Maid in Cheapside*, Spring 1996. Played Castille in Willing Suspension's production of Thomas Kyd's *A Spanish Tragedy*, Spring 1995.

Non-degree student, Clemson University, Fall 1996: studied German.

Non-degree student, University of New Mexico, September 1992-August 1993: studied French and Victorian Novel.

### **Memberships**

Society for Cinema and Media Studies

Modern Language Association

Phi Beta Kappa

The Association of Moving Image Archivists

### **Recommendations**

Dr. Michele Schreiber, Associate Professor of Film Studies, Emory University.

[mjschre@emory.edu](mailto:mjschre@emory.edu)

Dr. Matthew H. Bernstein, Professor of Film Studies, Emory University.

[mbernst@emory.edu](mailto:mbernst@emory.edu)

Dr. R. Barton Palmer, Calhoun Lemon Professor of English (retired), Clemson University. [ppalmer@clemson.edu](mailto:ppalmer@clemson.edu)