

# HUGH M. EGAN

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Ithaca, NY 14850  
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Ithaca College  
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**EDUCATION** Ph.D., Department of English, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa.  
Thesis: *Gentlemen-Sailors: The First-Person Sea Narratives of Dana, Cooper, And Melville*, December 1983  
M.A., Department of English, University of Iowa, May 1979.  
A.B., Department of English, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island.  
June 1974.

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS** Professor of English, Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY 14850, 2001-Present.  
Associate Professor of English, Ithaca College, 1990-2001.  
Assistant Professor of English, Ithaca College, 1985-90.  
Assistant Professor of English, Loyola University, Chicago, Illinois 60626, 1983-85.

**ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS** English Department Chair, 1992-95, 2008-2010.  
Coordinator, Special Academic Opportunities, 2006-Present  
Director, Honors Program, Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY 14850, 1995-2001

**COURSES TAUGHT AT ITHACA** Honors Intermediate Seminar: American Breakdown: The Literature of Madness in America  
Honors Junior Year Seminar: American Individualism  
Introduction to American Literature: First-Person Voice in America  
Introduction to Fiction: The Poetics of Domesticity and the Poetics of Adventure  
Introduction to Poetry  
Approaches to Literary Study  
Great American Writers Before 1890: Discovery and Discourse in American Literature  
Studies in American Literature: The Alienated Storyteller

**ACADEMIC AWARDS** Robert Ryan Professor of the Humanities, 2010-2013.  
Ithaca College Summer Research Grant, 2007  
Fulbright Lecturing Award in American Literature to Gadjah Mada University in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, Spring 2003.  
Xerox Foundation Humanities Technology Grant, 2002.  
Fulbright Lecturing/Research Award in American Literature to University of Umeå, Sweden, Spring 1992.  
Ithaca College Dana Teaching Award, 1988.  
National Endowment for the Humanities Travel-to-Collections Grant, 1987.  
Cornell Society for the Humanities Summer Research Grant, 1986.  
Teaching-Research Graduate Fellowship, University of Iowa, 1975-79.  
Magna Cum Laude, with Honors in English, Brown University, 1974.

## PUBLICATIONS

- “Historical Introduction” to scholarly edition of *Ned Myers* by James Fenimore Cooper. With R.D. Madison and William Dudley. New York: AMS Press 2009.
- “Entangled Rhyme: A Dialogic Reading of Melville’s *Battle-Pieces*.” With David DeVries. *Leviathan*, October 2007.
- “Richard Henry Dana, Jr.” Entry in *Encyclopedia of Maritime History*, Oxford University Press, 2007.
- “Cooper’s Career in the First Person,” *James Fenimore Cooper: His Country and His Art*. Papers from the 2001 Cooper Seminar. Ed. Hugh C. MacDougall. Oneonta, NY: 2001.
- “Enabling and Disabling the Lake Erie Discussion: James Fenimore Cooper and Alexander Slidell Mackenzie Respond to the Perry/Elliot Controversy.” A chapter in *The Early Republic and the Sea: Essays on the Naval and Maritime History of the Early United States*, ed. William S. Dudley and Michael J. Crawford, Brassey’s Inc., 2001. (Original version published in *The American Neptune*, 57:4 (Fall 1997), 149-58.
- Encyclopedia entries on “Nathaniel Ames,” “Elizabeth Bishop,” “Richard Henry Dana, Jr.,” “William Leggett,” “Alexander Slidell Mackenzie,” “Mark Richard,” “U.S.S. Somers,” and “*Two Years Before the Mast*” in *Encyclopedia of American Literature of the Sea and Great Lakes*, ed. Jill B. Gidmark. Greenwood Press, 2001.
- “Element bearable to no mortal’: The Sea in Selected Elizabeth Bishop Poems,” College English Association *CEA Critic* (special issue on literature of the sea), 63:1 (Fall 2000), 47-60.
- “Whitman’s ‘Song of Myself’” [Close reading of section 36], *The Explicator*, 57:2 (Winter 1999), 80-83.
- “Cooper and His Contemporaries.” A chapter in an anthology, *America and the Sea: A Literary History*, ed. Haskell Springer, U of Georgia P, 1995.
- “Introduction” (40 pp.) to a new edition of an 1844 trial transcript, *Proceedings of the Naval Court Martial Trial in the Case of Alexander Slidell Mackenzie . . . to which is annexed an Elaborate Review by James Fenimore Cooper*. Facsimilies and Reprints Press, 1992.
- “The Mackenzie Court-Martial Trial: Cooper’s Secret Correspondence with William H. Norris.” *Studies in the American Renaissance*, 1990, 149-58.
- “The Second-Hand Wilderness: History and Art in Irving’s *Astoria*.” *ATQ (The American Transcendental Quarterly)*, New Series 2:4 (December 1988), 253-70.
- “‘One of Them’: The Voyage of Style in Dana’s *Two Years Before the Mast*, *ATQ*, New Series, 2:3 (September 1988), 177-90.

## REVIEWS

- Melville: The Making of the Poet*. By Hershel Parker. *Frederick Douglass and Herman Melville: Essays in Relation*. Ed. Robert S. Levine, Samuel Otter. *American Literature*, September 2009.
- The View from the Masthead: Maritime Imagination and Antebellum Sea Narratives*. By Heather Blum. *Women and Children First: Nineteenth-Century Sea Narratives and American Identity*. By Robin Miskolcze. “*Whole Oceans Away*”: Melville and the Pacific. Ed. Jill Barnum, Wyn Kelly, Christopher Sten. *American Literature*, December 2008.
- James Fenimore Cooper: The Early Years*. By Wayne Franklin. *The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*, Autumn 2007.
- Gender and the Poetics of Reception in Poe’s Circle*. By Eliza Richards. *Poe, Fuller, and the Mesmeric Arts: Transition States in the American Renaissance*. By Bruce Mills. *American Literature*, December 2007.

**REVIEWS (cont.)**

- Having it Both Ways: Self-Subversion Popular Classics.* By Forrest G. Robinson. *American Literature*, June 1996.
- James Fenimore Cooper: Novelist of Manners.* By Donald Darnell. *American Literature*, December 1994.
- Cooper's Leatherstocking Novels: A Secular Reading.* By Geoffrey Rans. *American Studies*, Fall 1993.
- Ned Myers; Or, A Life Before the Mast.* Ed. James Fenimore Cooper. Introd. William S. Dudley. *American Literature*, June 1991.

**SELECTED  
PRESENTATIONS**

- "The Form and Fact of Slavery: Douglass, Covey, and Ralph Waldo Emerson." A paper presented at the College Language Association conference, Cambridge, MD, April 2009.
- "'The hunger of the human heart': Religion and the Creative Imagination in Richard Wright's *Black Boy* (*American Hunger*)." A paper presented at the College Language Association conference, Miami, FL. April, 2007.
- "Entangled Rhyme: Herman Melville and the Maze of War," a paper presented with David DeVries at the Modern Language Association Convention, Philadelphia, 2004.
- "Getting Inside the Whale: Ishmael's Rhetorical Skin in *Moby-Dick*," a paper presented at the American Culture Association Convention, Toronto, 2002.
- "The eternal float of solution': Speaker and Reader in Whitman's 'Crossing Brooklyn Ferry,'" a paper presented at the American Culture Association Convention, Philadelphia, 2001.
- "The 'Littoral Zone': Textuality and Gender in Andrea Barrett's *The Voyage of the Nambal*," a paper presented at the College English Association Convention, Charleston, 2000.
- "Capitalizing Robert Frost: Old School/New School in Honors English Courses," (with Professor Anthony Whall), a presentation for the National Collegiate Honors Council conference, Washington, D.C., 2000.
- "The Melvillean Impulse in Sebastian Junger's *The Perfect Storm*," a paper presented at the College English Association Convention, Philadelphia, 1999.
- "Fluidity, Transience, and Vision in Marilynne Robinson's *Housekeeping*," a paper presented at the American Culture Association Convention, Orlando, 1998.
- "Reading the Honors Student Application" (with Professor Ron Denson), a presentation for the Northeast regional National Collegiate Honors Council conference, Washington D.C., 1998.
- "Element bearable to no mortal': The Sea in Selected Elizabeth Bishop Poems," a paper presented at the American Culture Association Convention, San Antonio, 1997.
- "An Inquiry-Based Honors Curriculum," a paper presented at the Northeast regional National Collegiate Honors Council Conference, Portland ME, 1997.
- "Enabling and Disabling the Lake Erie Controversy: James Fenimore Cooper and Alexander Slidell Mackenzie Respond to the Perry/Elliott Controversy," a paper presented at the North American Society for Oceanic History conference, Boston, 1996.
- "Dickinson's Syllable-Less Sea," a paper presented at the American Culture Association Convention, Philadelphia, 1995.
- "The Sea-Echoes of Mark Richard's *Fishboy*," a paper presented at the American Culture Association Convention, Chicago, 1994.
- "Whitman's 'Old-time sea-fight' in 'Song of Myself,'" a paper presented at the American Culture Association Convention, New Orleans, 1993.

**PRESENTATIONS  
(cont.)**

- “The American Forest,” a guest lecture given to the American Studies Program, Lund University, Sweden, April 7, 1992.  
“American Poetic Voice: Emerson, Dickinson, and Whitman,” a guest lecture given to the American Studies Program, Lund University, Sweden, April 8, 1992.  
“Fame and Madness: Melville’s *Southampton Voyage*,” a paper presented at the American Culture Association Convention, San Antonio, 1991.

**FACULTY  
RENEWAL**

- Participant, “Re-Reading the Early Republic,” a summer seminar sponsored by the American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA, June 18-22, 2007.  
Recipient, Hewlett Corporation “Humanities and Technology” grant to create an “e-journal” of student research in the humanities, 2000-04.  
Panelist, “Nature and the Environment,” with author Joy Williams, Ithaca College, Spring 2000.  
Honors Junior Year Seminar faculty participant, 1998-99, 2000-01, 2003-04, and 2004-05. Presented two-week units on “Melville and Gauguin in the South Seas” for seminar titled, “Travel, Culture, and Modernity” (moderated by Professor Ron Denson).  
Wye Faculty Institute participant in week-long “Citizenship and the American Polity” seminar. Queenstown, Maryland, 1995.  
Seminar in 19<sup>th</sup> Century American Poetry with Professor Joel Porte, Cornell University, Fall 1991.

**SERVICE AT  
ITHACA COLLEGE**

- Presidential Search Committee, 2007-8  
All-College Faculty Appeals Committee, 2004-06.  
“Technology and the Humanities” Hewlett Grant Steering Committee, 2000-04.  
Speech Communication Tenure Review Committee, Spring 2002.  
Humanities and Sciences Ad Hoc Committee on Program Review and Assessment, 2001.  
Search Committee, Director for Center for the Study of Culture, Race, and Ethnicity, 2001.  
Academic Development Program Task Group, 1999-2000.  
Search Committee, Director of London Center, 1998.  
Honors Program Advisory and Steering Committees, 1993-2001.  
Writing Program Tenure Review Committee, 1995.  
Art History Tenure Review Committee, 1993.  
Writing Program Search Committee, 1992.  
Faculty Development Committee, 1990-1.  
H&S Committee on Academic Policies and Procedures, 1990-91.  
  
Department of English: Department Chair, 1992-95; 2008-2010.  
Department of English: assessment liaison, 2004-2008.  
Department of English: subcommittee on self-assessment, 2001-02.  
Department of English: Personnel Committee, 1986-1991, 1992-2002; 2003-06; 2007-2008.  
Department of English: Curriculum Committee, 1997-2001; 2003-06.