

Peter D. Leman

Brigham Young University, Department of English
4198 JFSB, Provo, UT, 84602
Email: peterdleman@gmail.com

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor, Department of English, Brigham Young University – August 2018 - Present
Assistant Professor, Department of English, Brigham Young University – August 2011 - August 2018
Affiliate Faculty Member in Africana Studies and European Studies, BYU – August 2011 - Present

EDUCATION

Ph.D., English – University of California, Irvine, June 2011
Dissertation: "Literature, Law, and Oral Culture in East Africa"
M.A., English – University of California, Irvine, December 2006
B.A., English and Philosophy (summa cum laude) – University of Idaho, May 2003

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph

Singing the Law: Oral Jurisprudence and the Crisis of Colonial Modernity in East African Literature, Liverpool University Press, April 2020.

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters

"What do you call Leopold Bloom with a potato in his pocket?" *James Joyce Quarterly*. (accepted and forthcoming)

"Like a Corpse Resurrected: The Politics of Living Death in Nuruddin Farah's *Sweet and Sour Milk*." *NOVEL: A Forum on Fiction*. (forthcoming, issue 54.1, 2021)

"Introduction: Law and Literature from the Global South." Co-written with David Babcock. *Journal of Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies*, special issue. Edited by Peter Leman and David Babcock. 7.1 (2019).

"Law Meets Critical Theory." *Law and Literature* (Contemporary Critical Concepts). Ed. by Kieran Dolan. Cambridge University Press, 2017. (invited)

"Nelson Mandela and Civic Myths: A Law and Literature Approach to Rivonia." *The Courtroom as Space of Resistance: Reflections on 50 Years of the Rivonia Trial*. Ed. by Awol Allo. Ashgate Publishing, 2015. (invited)

"Law and Transnational Utopias in East African Fiction." Special Issue on "Law and Lawlessness in the Indian Ocean," ed. by Stephanie Jones. *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies*. 16.6 (2014). (invited)

“China-Africa Relations, Political Conditions, and Ngũgĩ wa Thiong’o’s *Wizard of the Crow*.” *ARIEL: A Review of International English Literature*. 45.1-2 (2014).

“African Oral Law and the Critique of Colonial Modernity in *The Trial of Jomo Kenyatta*.” *Law and Literature*. 23.1 (2011).

“Relative Facts: Emergency Law, Northern Ireland, and Brian Friel’s *The Freedom of the City*.” *Text & Presentation*, 2009. Ed. by Kiki Gounaridou. The Comparative Drama Conference Series, 6. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2010. 45-60.

“Singing the Law: Okot p’Bitek’s Legal Imagination and the Poetics of Traditional Justice.” *Research in African Literatures*. 40.3 (2009).

Encyclopedia Articles

“Dictatorships and Global Anglophone Fiction” (invited, in process) in *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Literature*.

“Okot p’Bitek” entry (2500 words) in *The Literary Encyclopedia*. 25 June 2010.

“Politics/Activism and Fiction” entry (3000 words) in *Blackwell Encyclopedia of Twentieth-Century Fiction*, Vol. 3 (World Fiction). Ed. by John Clement Ball. Blackwell Publishing, 2010.

Book Reviews

“*States of Emergency: Colonialism, Literature and Law* and *Imagining the Cape Colony: History, Literature, and the South African Nation*.” *Wasafiri: International Contemporary Writing*. 81 (Spring 2015).

“*Hemingway and Africa* and *Masculinities in African Literary and Cultural Texts*.” *Wasafiri: International Contemporary Writing*. 75 (Autumn 2013).

Non-Peer-Reviewed Publications

“Why I Tell my University Students I’m Depressed.” *OC87 Recovery Diaries*. 12 October 2020.

“Singing the Law.” Liverpool University Press Blog. 1 October 2020.

“How Profit and Prejudice Built a Family’s Human Skull Collection.” *Atlas Obscura*. 2 October 2019.

EDITING

Co-Editor, Journal Special Issue: “Law and Literature from the Global South”

- special issue of *The Journal of Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies*
- co-editor with David Babcock (James Madison University)
- Volume 7, Issue 1 (2019)

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AWARDS

College of Humanities Research Grant, BYU	2019-2021
Charles Redd Center for Western Studies, Research Grant	2018
Kennedy Center for International Studies Faculty Research Grant, BYU	2016
College of Humanities Research Grant, BYU	2013-2014
Faculty Research Grant, Center for the Study of Europe, BYU	2013
International Summer Institute for the Cultural Study of Law, U of Osnabrück	2012
Humanities Network Presidential Fellowship, UC Society of Fellows in the Humanities	2010-2011
Graduate Dean's Dissertation Fellowship, UC Irvine	2010
Summer Dissertation Fellowship, UC Irvine School of Humanities	2010
Jacob K. Javits Fellowship, U.S. Dept. of Education	2005-2009
UC African Studies Multi-Campus Research Group Dissertation Workshop, UC Davis	2009
Irish Seminar Fellowship, Keough Naughton Notre Dame Centre, Dublin	2008
Graduate Research Award, UC Irvine Humanities Center	2008
Research Grant, UC Irvine International Center for Writing and Translation	2008
Graduate Fellow, Center in Law, Society and Culture, UC Irvine	2007-2008
UC Regents Fellowship	2005-2006
Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha of Idaho	2003

PROFESSIONAL PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

"NAGPRA, Horror, and the Future of Repatriation in the United States." Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities, 23rd Annual Conference. Quinnipiac University School of Law. March 7-8, 2020.

"Reading *1984* in Penumbral Light: George Orwell in U.S. Privacy Law." Reception Study Society Conference. Provo, UT. September 27-28, 2019.

"Apache Chief Mangas Coloradas: Warrior, Leader, Legend." Oregon-California Trails Association Annual Convention. Santa Fe, NM. September 5-7, 2019. (invited)

"Paul Muldoon and Mangas Coloradas: An Irish Poet's Apache Hero." American Conference for Irish Studies. Boston, MA. March 20-23, 2019.

"Samuel Beckett and the Legal Absurd." American Conference for Irish Studies, Western Regional. Jackson Hole, WY. October 11-13, 2018.

"Without Form and Void: Dystopian Literature and Legal Lacunae." 2018 ACLA Annual Meeting, UCLA. March 29 - April 1, 2018. (invited; "Forms of Law" seminar)

"'Intelligence is a seed that must be watered': African Literature, Animal Cognition, and the Boundaries of Legal Personhood." *Cognitive and Affect Studies Forum*. 2017 MLA Convention in Philadelphia.

"Time Heals All Regimes: Temporality in Law and African Literature." 2016 ACLA Annual Meeting, Harvard University. March 17-19, 2016.

“Legal and Literary Persons.” Session organizer and chair, 2016 MLA Convention in Austin, TX.

“African Oral Culture, Post-Conflict Memoirs, and the Crisis of International Law.” Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities, 18th Annual Conference. Georgetown University Law Center. March 6-7, 2015.

“Space, Law, and Utopia in Shabaan Robert’s *Kusadikika*.” *Law and Humanities Forum*. 2015 MLA Convention in Vancouver, BC.

“Law, Literature, and African Oral Culture.” 2014 MLA Convention in Chicago, Illinois.

“Mandela’s Speech as Civic Myth: A Law and Literature Approach to Rivonia.” *The Rivonia Trial 50 Years On: The Courtroom as a Space of Resistance*. University of Pretoria. June 2013. (invited)

“Contemporary Sudanese Literature and the Crisis of International Law.” 39th Annual African Literature Association Conference. College of Charleston. Charleston, SC. March 20-24, 2013.

“Impersonation and/as Adaptation: Irish Diasporic Identities in British Colonial Fiction.” American Conference for Irish Studies, Western Regional. BYU. Provo, UT. Oct. 26-28, 2012.

“Somali Orature and the Poetics of Traditional Law.” African Studies Association, UK 2012 Conference. Leeds, England. Sept. 6-9, 2012. (invited)

“Law and Utopia in East African Literature.” International Summer Institute for the Cultural Study of Law Symposium. University of Osnabruck (Germany). August 16, 2012.

“Collaborative Authorship and the Critique of Labor Law in Ngũgĩ wa Thiong’o’s ‘Mother, Sing for Me’.” 38th Annual African Literature Association Conference. Southern Methodist University. April 11-14, 2012.

“Orature-as-Law: The Idea(s) of Justice in African Oral Culture.” Literature and Law Biennial Conference. John Jay College of Criminal Justice (CUNY). March 29-30, 2012.

“The Mode of Production is the Message: Collaborative Authorship as a Critique of Kenyan Labor Law in Ngugi wa Thiong’o’s Drama.” Humanities Network Presidential Fellows Talk. UC Irvine Humanities Collective. May 18, 2011.

“Literature, Law, and Oral Culture in East Africa.” Inaugural UC President’s Society of Fellows in the Humanities Forum. UC Humanities Research Institute. April 29, 2011.

“(Ir)Regular Forms: Colonial Law, Emergency, and *Queen v. Kenyatta* in Press and Performance.” *Covering the Law: Critical Legalities Symposium*. UC Irvine. Nov. 9-10, 2009.

“Doing What Comes Constitutionally: Dictator Novels and the Legacy of Colonial Law in Africa.” 35th Annual African Literature Association Conference. University of Vermont. April 15-19, 2009.

“‘Relative Facts’: Emergency Law, Bloody Sunday, and Brian Friel’s *The Freedom of the City*.” 33rd Annual Comparative Drama Conference. Loyola Marymount University. March 26-28, 2009.

“Lex Britannica: Empire, Positive Law, and Augusta Webster’s *The Sentence*.” *Literature and Law: A Celebration*. John Jay College of Criminal Justice (CUNY). April 11, 2008.

“Unacknowledged Legislations: Law, Restorative Justice, and the Poetry of Okot p’Bitek.” *Literature for our Times*, ACLALS 14th Triennial Conference. University of British Columbia. August 17-22, 2007.

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Course Coordinator – Writing Literary Criticism (BYU)	2020-Present
Hiring Committee Member (BYU)	2019-Present
Organizer, Annual English Symposium (BYU)	2018-2019
Assistant organizer, Annual English Symposium (BYU)	2017-2018
Panel organizer and chair, “Legal and Literary Persons,” 2016 MLA	2016
Panel chair, ASLCH 18 th Annual Conference	2015
Co-founder and co-director – “African Worlds” Faculty Research Group (BYU)	2014-2016
Executive Committee Member – Africana Studies Minor (BYU)	2014-Present
Course Coordinator – British Literature Survey (BYU)	2013-2017
Faculty Advisor – <i>Criterion</i> (BYU Undergraduate Journal of Literary Criticism)	2012-2014
Graduate Committee Member (BYU)	2012-2013
External Reviewer – Boise State Univ. Arts and Humanities Institute	2012-2013
Student Advising Committee Member (BYU)	2011-2012
External Reader, <i>Research in African Literatures</i> , <i>JALA</i> , <i>ARIEL</i> , <i>PMLA</i>	2011-Present

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities
American Conference for Irish Studies
American Comparative Literature Association
Modern Language Association
Oregon-California Trails Association

TEACHING (BYU)

- English 230: Studies in Literature (taught 1x)
- English 236: Studies in English (taught 2x)
- English 251: Fundamentals of Literary Interpretation (taught 1x)
- English 292: British Literary History 2 (taught 8x)
- English 294: Transnational Literary History (taught 1x)
- English 295: Writing Literary Criticism (taught 8x)
- English 333: The English Novel (taught 1x)
- English 358R/397R: African Literature (taught 3x)
- English 376: British Literature, 1900-1950 (taught 2x)
- English 380: British Literature, 1950-Present (taught 6x)
- English 397R: World Literature/Law and Humanities (taught 1x)
- English 495: Senior Seminar, “Literature and Human Rights” (taught 2x)
- English 495: Senior Seminar, “Law and Literature” (taught 1x)

- English 622R: Literature and Human Rights (taught 1x)
- English 622R: Irish Modernism (taught 1x)
- English 630: Theoretical Discourse, “Theories of Personhood in Law and Literature” (taught 1x)

MA Theses

As Chair:

- Marissa Compton, “The Living River: Ritual and Reconciliation in *The Famished Road*,” May 2017
- Ben Kilgore, “‘Twenty or thirty or forty years ago’: Time, Posthistory, and the Hyper-Present in Patrick McCabe’s *The Butcher Boy*,” September 2016
- Kylie McQuarrie, “Sacred Things, Sacred Bodies: The Ethics of Materiality and Female Spirituality in *Purple Hibiscus*,” April 2015
- Candice Stratford, “‘Healing a Hurting Heart’: FEMRITE’s Use of Narrative and Community as Catalysts for Traumatic Healing,” March 2015

As Reader:

- Hannah Azar, “Defensive Flippancy: Playful Disorientation as Coping with Injustice in Brian Friel’s *The Freedom of the City*,” April 2020 (Chair: Jarica Watts)
- Jace Brown, “Subverting Sacrifice: Exploring the Dark Ethics in Dystopian Young Adult Literature,” May 2019 (Chair: Chris Crowe)
- Jacob Shumway, “The Humanizing Influences of Humor in Andrea Levy’s *Small Island*,” June 2018 (Chair: Aaron Eastley)
- RoseE Hadden, “‘I wondered at her silence’; Jane Eyre’s Wrestle with the Bystander’s Dilemma,” Sept. 2017 (Chair: Leslee Thorne-Murphy)
- Alaric Williams, “Posthuman Maturation in Amie Kaufman and Jay Kristoff’s *Illuminae*: Re-conceptualizing the Human for Adolescence and AI,” May 2017 (Chair: Jon Ostenson)
- Laura Marostica, “Zadie Smith’s Critical Cosmopolitanism: Edwardian Influence and Mobile Identity in *NW*,” December 2014 (Chair: Frank Christianson)
- Miranda Quist, “Representations of Victims and Perpetrators in Edwidge Danticat’s *The Dew Breaker*,” April 2014 (Chair: Trent Hickman)

Honors Theses

As Chair:

- Taelin Wilford, “The Symbolism of Animals in African Literature: A Critique on Law,” June 2020

As Reader:

- Alixa Brobbey, “Censorship and The Satanic Verses: Policing Blasphemy in a Secular World,” in process