

## Ruth Bernard Yeazell

### Education

B.A. with High Honors, Swarthmore College, 1967  
M.Phil. in English Literature, Yale University, 1970  
Ph.D. in English Literature, Yale University, 1971

### Academic Positions

Boston University. Assistant Professor of English, 1971-75  
University of California, Los Angeles. Assistant Professor of English, 1975-77; Associate Professor, 1977-80; Professor, 1980-91  
Yale University. Professor, 1991--; Chace Family Professor, 1995-2018; Director, Lewis Walpole Library, 1996—2016; Chair, 2000—2005; Acting Chair, Spring 2017; Sterling Professor, 2018--; Director of Undergraduate Studies (Acting), 2022-23

### Honors and Awards

Phi Beta Kappa, 1967  
Woodrow Wilson Fellow, 1967-68  
Guggenheim Fellow, 1979-80  
UCLA College Institute grant, 1985  
NEH Senior Fellow, 1988-89  
President's Research Fellow (University of California), 1988-89  
Harvey L. Eby Award for the Art of Teaching, UCLA, 1990  
Fellow, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, 1992-95; Senior Fellow, 2006-2008  
Getty Scholar, 2003-04 (declined)  
Rockefeller Foundation, Bellagio Residency, 2005  
Nominee, Second Vice-President, Modern Language Association, 2007 (for President in 2010)  
Walter Hines Page Fellow, National Humanities Center, 2009  
Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences (elected 2009)

### Professional Service

Associate Editor, *Nineteenth-Century Fiction*, 1977-81  
Advisory Board, *Nineteenth-Century Fiction*, 1976-86  
Advisory Committee, *PMLA*, 1980-84  
Board of Directors, Henry James Society, 1982-85  
Supervising Committee, English Institute, 1983-86  
Executive Council, Modern Language Association, 1985-88  
Committee on Amendments to the Constitution, Modern Language Association, 1986-89  
Board of Trustees, Dickens Society, 1986-89  
Selection Committee, Library of America, 1986-90  
Visiting Committee, English Department, Swarthmore College, 1990  
Nominating Committee, Modern Language Association, 1990-92  
Visiting Committee, English Department, University of California, Berkeley, 1992  
Selection Committee, Woodrow Wilson Center Fellows, 1992-93; 1998-99  
New York Public Library Task Force on the Preservation of the Cultural Heritage, 1993  
Overseers' Committee to Visit the Department of English, Harvard University, 1992-2001; Chair, 1994-2001  
Advisory Board, *The Complete Letters of Henry James* (University of Nebraska Press), 1995-  
Visiting Committee, English Department, Stanford University, 1996

Selection Committee, National Humanities Center Fellowships, 1996-97  
 Advisory Board, *Studies in the Novel*, 1998-  
 Search Committee for Chair of Department of English, Columbia University, 1999-2000  
 George Jean Nathan Prize Selection Committee, 2000-2002; 2004  
 Selection Panel, ACLS Fellowships, 2000  
 Visiting Committee, English Department, University of South Carolina, 2001  
 Editorial Board, *Yale Review*, 2002-2008  
 Selection Committee, Mellon Foundation Emeritus Fellowships, 2003-2011  
 Visiting Committee, English Department, Emory University, 2006  
 External Appraiser, Graduate Program in English, University of Toronto, 2009  
 Evaluator, Visiting Scholars Program in Literature and Philosophy, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 2009  
 Advisory Board, *The Complete Fiction of Henry James* (Cambridge University Press), 2010-  
 Advisory Board, Lewis Walpole Library Series in Eighteenth-Century History and Culture (Yale University Press, 2017-18)  
 Reader for the University Presses of California, Chicago, Columbia, Cornell, Delaware, Harvard, Oxford, Princeton, Wisconsin, and Yale; Routledge, Broadview, Norton, Polity; *Nineteenth-Century Contexts*; *Nineteenth-Century Literature*, *Victorian Studies*  
 Peer reviewer for American Academy in Berlin, 2009; National Humanities Center, 2009, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2022  
 Officer, Henry James Society: Secretary-Treasurer, 2023, Vice-President, 2024, President, 2025

## Books

*Language and Knowledge in the Late Novels of Henry James*. Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press, 1976. Paperback ed., 1980.

Ed. (with biographical essay and notes), *The Death and Letters of Alice James*. Berkeley, Los Angeles, and London: University of California Press, 1981. Paperback ed., 1983. Reprint, Boston: Exact Change Press, 1997.

Ed., *Sex, Politics, and Science in the Nineteenth-Century Novel: Selected Papers from the English Institute, 1983-1984*. Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1986. Paperback ed., 1990.

*Fictions of Modesty: Women and Courtship in the English Novel*. Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press, 1991.

Ed., *Henry James: A Collection of Critical Essays (New Century Views)*. Englewood Cliffs. N. J.: Prentice-Hall, 1994.

*Harems of the Mind: Passages of Western Art and Literature*. London: and New Haven: Yale University Press, 2000.

*Art of the Everyday: Dutch Painting and the Realist Novel*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2008. Paperback ed., 2009.

Ed. (with introduction and notes), Henry James, *The Golden Bowl*. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 2009.

*Picture Titles: How and Why Western Paintings Acquired their Names*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2015.

--Nominated for the Mary Lynn Kotz Art in Literature Award, 2015

--Chapter 1 rpt. as "The Art that Has No Name," *The New Republic* (online), December 2015; Arabic trans., *Journal of Al-Thaqafa Al-Alimaya (Global Cultures)*, May 2016, 118-23.

--Japanese translation, Misuzu Shobo, 2022

--Chinese translation, Chongqing University Press (forthcoming)

## Articles

"The New 'Arithmetic' of Henry James." *Criticism*, 16 (1974): 109-19.

"More True than Real: Jane Eyre's 'Mysterious Summons.'" *Nineteenth-Century Fiction*, 29 (1974): 127-43; rpt. in *The Brontë Sisters: Critical Assessments*, ed. Eleanor McNeese (Robertsbridge: Helm, 1996), vol. 3.

"Fictional Heroines and Feminist Critics." *Novel*, 8 (1974): 29-38.

"Talking in James." *PMLA*, 91 (1976): 66-77. See also Reply to Daniel J. Schneider, "Forum," *PMLA*, 91 (1976), 923-24.

"An Exchange of Letters between William and Alice James" (with Barbara Maliszewski and Andrea Constantikes). *Psychohistory Review*, 8 (1979): 53-59.

"Podsnappery, Sexuality and the English Novel." *Critical Inquiry*, 9 (1982): 339-57 (awarded Dickens Society Prize for 1982-83).

"The Boundaries of Mansfield Park." *Representations*, 7 (1984): 133-52; rpt. in "*Mansfield Park*" and "*Persuasion*," ed. Judy Simons (Houndmills, Basingstoke: Macmillan, 1997), 67-92.

"Why Political Novels Have Heroines: *Sybil*, *Mary Barton*, and *Felix Holt*." *Novel*, 18 (1985), 126-44; rpt. in *Nineteenth-Century Literary Criticism*, 88 (Gale Research: 2000).

"The Difficulty of Ending: Maggie Verver in *The Golden Bowl*" (rpt. of chapter 5, *Language and Knowledge*), in *Critical Essays on Henry James: The Later Novels*, ed. James W. Gargano (Boston: G. K. Hall, 1986), 168-90.

"Henry James." *The Columbia Literary History of the United States*, ed. Emory Elliott et al. (New York: Columbia University Press, 1988), 668-689.

"Nature's Courtship Plot in Darwin and Ellis." *Yale Journal of Criticism*, 2 (1989): 33-53.

"Do It or Dorrit." *Novel*, 25 (1991): 33-49.

"The Conspicuous Wasting of Lily Bart." *ELH* 59 (1992): 713-34; rpt. in *New Essays on the House of Mirr*, ed. Deborah Esch (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001), 15-41; also rpt. in *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism*, 149 (Gale Research: 2004).

"Private Baths and Public Harems: Lady Mary Wortley Montagu and the Origins of Ingres's *Bain Turc*." *Yale Journal of Criticism* 7 (1994): 111-38.

"Teaching *The Golden Bowl* as the Last Victorian Novel." *The Henry James Review*, 17 (1996): 275-80.

"Harems for Mozart and Rossini." *Raritan* 16:4 (1997): 86-105.

- “Sexuality, Shame and Privacy in the English Novel.” *Social Research* 68 (2001): 86-111.
- “Sex, Lies and Motion Pictures: *The Wings of the Dove*.” *The Henry James Review* 25 (2004): 87-96.
- “Hardy’s Rural Painting of the Dutch School.” *Thomas Hardy Reappraised: Essays in Honour of Michael Millgate*, ed. Keith Wilson (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2006), 136-53.
- “The Lighting Design of Hardy’s Novels.” *Nineteenth-Century Literature* 64 (2009): 48-75.
- “Turner’s Titles.” *Victorian Studies* 51 (2009): 478-93.
- “This is Not a Title.” *Yale Review* 100: 2 (2011): 134-43.
- “The Power of a Name: In Bruegel’s Icarus, For Instance.” *Raritan* 33:2 (2013): 80-97.
- “Art with a Capital ‘I.’” *Raritan* 35: 3 (2015): 158-79.
- “Who Owns the Art?” *Yale Review* 104: 3 (2015): 59-67.
- “Sargent’s Other Portraits.” *Raritan* 36: 1 (2016): 115-38.
- “Remembrance of Things Present in *The Ambassadors*.” *The Henry James Review* 38 (2017): 231-37.
- “Henry James’s Portrait-Envy.” *New Literary History* 48:2 (2017): 309-35.
- “Western Literature and the Visual Arts: An Interview with Ruth Bernard Yeazell” (with Cheng Xin). *Foreign Literature Studies* 42: 6 (2020): 1-15.
- “Henry James In—and Out of—the Classroom.” *Daedalus* 150:1 (2021): 62-77.
- “Perspective.” *Cambridge Companion to Prose*, ed. Daniel Tyler (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2021), 96-111.
- “Vermeer and the Language of Poetry.” *Raritan* 41 (2022): 99-132.

### Reviews and Review Essays

- Elizabeth Hardwick, *Seduction and Betrayal* and Françoise Basch, *Relative Creatures. Nineteenth-Century Fiction*, 30 (1975): 225-29.
- Gary H. Lindberg, *Edith Wharton and the Novel of Manners. Modern Fiction Studies*, 22 (1976-77): 618-19.
- Vineta Colby, *Yesterday’s Woman. Modern Philology*, 74 (1977): 330-33.
- Barbara Hardy, *Tellers and Listeners*; Richard Levine, ed. *The Victorian Experience*; and T.B. Tomlinson, *The English Middle-Class Novel. Victorian Studies*, 21 (1977): 120-23.
- Elaine Showalter, *A Literature of Their Own. Novel*, 11 (1978): 281-85.

Shlomith Rimmon, *The Concept of Ambiguity: The Example of James*. *Modern Language Quarterly*, 40 (1979): 420-22.

Charles R. Anderson, *Person, Place, and Thing in Henry James's Novels*. *JEGP*, 79 (1980): 462-64.

"Doctor's Orders" (Stephen Trombley, "All that Summer She was Mad": *Virginia Woolf and the Doctors*), *London Review of Books*, 4:3 (1982): 18-19.

Allon White, *The Uses of Obscurity*; Daniel Fogel, *Henry James and the Structure of the Romantic Imagination*; Alwyn Berland, *Culture and Conduct in the Novels of Henry James*; R.B.J. Wilson, *Henry James's Ultimate Narrative*; and Sara Daugherty, *The Literary Criticism of Henry James*. *Nineteenth-Century Fiction*, 37 (1983): 611-18.

"In a Horizontal Posture" (*The Letters of Elizabeth Barrett Browning to Mary Russell Mitford 1836-1854*, ed. Meredith B. Raymond & Mary Rose Sullivan). *London Review of Books*, 6:12 (1984): 14-15.

Dianne F. Sadoff, *Monsters of Affection: Dickens, Eliot and Brontë on Fatherhood*. *Modern Philology*, 4 (1985): 436-39.

"Subject and Object in Henry James," *Review*, 7 (1985): 43-55.

"Domineering" (Daniel Karlin, *The Courtship of Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett*). *London Review of Books*, 7:19 (1985): 19-20.

William R. Goetz, *Henry James and the Darkest Abyss of Romance*. *New England Quarterly*, 60 (1987): 299-302.

"The Henry James Show" (Leon Edel, *Henry James: A Life; The Complete Notebooks of Henry James*, ed. Leon Edel and Lyall Powers). *London Review of Books*, 10:1 (1988): 18-19.

"I Can't Go On Like This" (*The Letters of Edith Wharton*, ed. R. W. B. Lewis and Nancy Lewis; Constance Fenimore Woolson, *Women Artists, Women Exiles; "Miss Grief" Other Stories*). *London Review of Books*, 11:2 (1989): 11-12.

Edwin Fussell, *The French Side of Henry James*. *Nineteenth-Century Literature*, 45 (1991): 524-27.

Sharon Cameron, *Thinking in Henry James*. *Modern Philology*, 89 (1991): 302-6.

"A Favourite of the Laws" (Susan Staves, *Married Women's Separate Property in England, 1660-1833*; Sylvia Harcstark Myers, *The Bluestocking Circle*; Helena Wall, *Fierce Communion: Family and Community in Early America*). *London Review of Books*, 13:11 (1991): 18-20.

"Tears Before the Storm" (Anne Vincent-Buffault, *The History of Tears*). *London Review of Books*, 13:20 (1991): 18-19.

"Mongkut and I" (Anna Leonowens, *The Romance of the Harem*). *London Review of Books*, 14:2 (1992): 22-23.

Rosemary Ashton, *George Henry Lewes: A Life*. *New York Times Book Review* (March 15, 1992), 12.

Lotte Hamburger and Joseph Hamburger, *Contemplating Adultery: The Secret Life of a Victorian Woman*. *Victorian Studies*, 36 (1992): 83-84.

Michael Levenson, *Modernism and the Fate of Individuality*. *Modern Language Quarterly*, 53 (1992): 259-61.

"Drawing-Rooms Are Always Tidy" (Gloria C. Erlich, *The Sexual Education of Edith Wharton*). *London Review of Books*, 14:16 (1992): 18-19.

"Allowed to Speak" (Helena Michie, *Sororophobia*; Elisabeth Bronfen, *Over Her Dead Body*). *London Review of Books* 14:22 (1992): 20, 22.

"Demystifying the Master," *American Literary History* 5 (1993): 314-25.

"Domestic Disaffection" (Walter Herbert, *Dearest Beloved: The Hawthornes and the Making of the Middle-Class Family*). *London Review of Books* 15:11 (1993): 16-17.

"Collapse of the Sofa Cushions" (Isobel Armstrong, *Victorian Poetry*; Kate Flint, *The Woman Reader: 1837-1914*). *London Review of Books* 16:6 (1994): 20-21.

"Aurora's Rise," *Yale Review* 82:2 (1994): 99-110.

"Vampiric Words" (Maud Ellmann, *The Hunger Artists*). *London Review of Books* 16:10 (1994): 22-23.

"Her Pen Made the First Move" (Lyndall Gordon, *Charlotte Brontë*; Lyndall Gordon, *Shared Lives*; Miriam Bailin, *The Sickroom in Victorian Fiction*). *London Review of Books* 16:13 (1994): 10-11.

"Ructions in the Seraglio" (Fatima Mernissi, *The Harem Within*; Out el Kouloub, *Ramza*). *London Review of Books* 16:23 (1994), 16-17; rpt. in *Contemporary Literary Criticism* 17 (Gale: 2003).

"Doubling the Oliphant" (Elisabeth Jay, *Mrs Oliphant*). *London Review of Books* 17:17 (1995): 12-13.

"The World's Worst-Dressed Woman" (Adrienne Munich, *Victoria's Secrets*). *London Review of Books* 18:15 (1996): 10-11.

"Glad to Go" (Pat Jalland, *Death in the Victorian Family*). *London Review of Books* 19:5 (1997): 31-32.

"E Pluribus Unum" (Irwin Altman and Joseph Ginat, *Polygamous Families in Contemporary Society*). *London Review of Books* 19:24 (1997): 24-25.

"One of the Pyramids of Egypt" (Isobel Grundy, *Lady Mary Wortley Montagu*). *London Review of Books* 21: 11 (1999): 3-7.

"I Thirst for his Blood" (Philip Horne, ed. *Henry James: A Life in Letters* and Lyndall Gordon, *A Private Life of Henry James*), *London Review of Books* 21: 23 (1999): 17-18.

"Is Everybody's Life Like This?" (Linda Hunt Beckman, *Amy Levy: Her Life in Letters*). *London Review of Books* 22:22 (2000): 14-15.

Barbara Leah Harman, *The Feminine Political Novel in Victorian England*. *Modern Philology* 98 (2001): 523-25.

"Deadly Eliza" (William Dean Howells et al., *The Whole Family* and June Howard, *Publishing the Family*). *London Review of Books* 23: 21 (2001): 25-27.

"Overindulgence" (A. S. Byatt, *A Whistling Woman*). *London Review of Books* 24:23 (2002): 19-21.

“Viva la trattoria” (*The Letters of Elizabeth Barrett Browning to Her Sister Arabella*). *London Review of Books* 25:19 (2003): 28-30.

“Too late to die early” (Harriet Martineau, *Life in the Sick-Room* and Virginia Woolf, *On Being Ill*). *London Review of Books* 26:3 (2004): 29-31.

“Merry Companies” (Wayne Franits, *Dutch Seventeenth-Century Genre Painting: Its Stylistic and Thematic Evolution*). *London Review of Books* 27:2 (2005): 23-24.

“Ah, la Vie!” (*The Letters of Lytton Strachey*, ed. Paul Levy). *London Review of Books* 27: 23 (2005): 25-26.

“Self-Made Man” (Hermione Lee, *Edith Wharton*). *London Review of Books* 29: 7 (2007): 15-18.

“Howl! Howl! Howl!” (Deirdre David, *Fanny Kemble: A Performed Life*). *London Review of Books* 30: 10 (2008): 21-22.

“Sit Like an Apple” (Ruth Butler, *Hidden in the Shadow of the Master: The Model-Wives of Cézanne, Monet, and Rodin*). *London Review of Books* 30:20 (2008): 25-26.

“I Whine Like a Babe” (Susan E. Gunter, *Alice in Jamesland: The Story of Alice Howe Gibbens James*). *London Review of Books* 31: 12 (2009): 13-15.

“Maisie’s Sisters” (Erica Hirshler, *Sargent’s Daughters: The Biography of a Painting*), *London Review of Books* 32: 15 (2010): 20-21.

Rachel Teukolsky, *The Literate Eye: Victorian Art Writing and Modernist Aesthetics*, *Victorian Studies* 52 (2010): 621-22.

“Oh!—only Oh!” (Fiona MacCarthy, *The Last Pre-Raphaelite: Edward Burne-Jones and the Victorian Imagination*) *London Review of Books* 34: 3 (2012): 34-35.

Kevin Ohi, *Henry James and the Queerness of Style*, *Henry James Review* 34: 1 (2013): E4-E8.

“Updating *What Maisie Knew*” (film by Scott McGehee and David Siegel, based on the novel by Henry James), *Los Angeles Review of Books*, 27 June 2013.

“Marriage” (Jennifer Phegley, *Courtship and Marriage in Victorian England* and Ginger S. Frost, *Living in Sin: Cohabiting as Husband and Wife in Nineteenth-Century England*), *Victorian Review* 39 (2013): 208-15.

“In What Sense Did He Love Her?” (*The Complete Letters of Constance Fenimore Woolson*, ed. Sharon L. Dean) *London Review of Books* 36: 9 (2014): 33-35.

“Growing up with *Middlemarch*” (Rebecca Mead, *My Life in Middlemarch*), *New York Review of Books* 61: 7 (2014): 59-60.

Leo Costello, *J. W. W. Turner and the Subject of History*, *Victorian Studies* 57: 1 (2014): 113-14.

“What Peggy Did” (Francine Prose, *Peggy Guggenheim: The Shock of the Modern*), *New Republic*, November 2015, 66-68.

“Peaches d’antan” (Henry James, *Autobiographies*, ed. Philip Horne), *London Review of Books*, 38: 16 (2016): 21-23.

“The Sincerest Form of Flattery” (Elizabeth Prettejohn, *Modern Painters, Old Masters: The Art of Imitation from the Pre-Raphaelites to the First World War*) *NYR Daily*, 7 August 2017.

“Which Jane Austen?” (four books on or by Jane Austen), *New York Review of Books* 63:14 (2017): 63-65.

“Loving Lips” (Kathryn Hughes: *Victorians Undone: Tales of the Flesh in the Age of Decorum*), *New York Review of Books* 65:14 (2018): 57-59.

Oliver Herford, *Henry James’s Style of Retrospect: Late Personal Writings, 1890-1915*, *Nineteenth-Century Contexts* 40: 5 (2018)

“Unnatural Naturalism” (Birmingham Museum and Arts Gallery, *Victorian Radicals: From the Pre-Raphaelites to the Arts & Crafts Movement*, and Susan Owens and Nicholas Tromans, eds., *Christina Rossetti: Poetry in Art*), *New York Review of Books* 66: 6 (2019): 29-31.

“Stardom is Born” (Sharon Marcus, *The Drama of Celebrity*; Susan J. Douglas and Andrea McDonnell, *Celebrity: A History of Fame*; and Peter Rader: *Playing to the Gods: Sarah Bernhardt, Eleonora Duse, and the Rivalry that Changed Acting Forever*), *New York Review of Books* 66: 14 (2019): 24-27.

“Stealing Vermeer for the IRA” (Anthony M. Amore, *The Woman Who Stole Vermeer: The True Story of Rose Dugdale and the Russborough House Art Heist*). *New York Review of Books* 68: 4 (2021): 15-17.

“Dickens’s Multitudes” (John Mullan, *The Artful Dickens: Tricks and Ploys of the Great Novelist*; A. N. Wilson, *The Mystery of Charles Dickens*). *New York Review of Books* 68: 15 (2021): 27-28.

“Painting Herself” (Jennifer Higgin, *The Mirror and the Palette: Rebellion, Revolution, and Resilience: Five Hundred Years of Women’s Self Portrait*; Natalie Rudd, *The Self-Portrait*). *New York Review of Books* 69: 10 (2022): 4-8.

“Laughs and Smiles” (Steven Nadler, *The Portraitist: Frans Hals and His World*). *New York Review of Books* 70: 5(2023): 19-21.

“Life Made Light” (Vermeer exhibition, Rijksmuseum, 10 February-4 June 2023; catalog of the exhibition; and two other books about Vermeer). *New York Review of Books* 70:12 (2023): 32-34.

--trans. Christophe Van Gerrewey, “Lichter Leven,” *De Witte Raaf* (Nov.-Dec. 2023), 2-4.

“A Life in Pictures” (Laura Cumming, *Thunderclap: A Memoir of Art and Life & Sudden Death*). *New York Times Book Review*, 3 Sept. 2023: 13. Published online, 9 July 2023, under the title “When Life Resembles a 17<sup>th</sup>-Century Dutch Painting.”



## Other media

Radio interview on *Harems of the Mind*, with Humphrey Carpenter, "In Tune," BBC 3, November 2000.

Radio interview (on Henry James, *The Bostonians*) with Sally Placksin, panel on Independent Working Women for MLA program on public radio: "What's the Word?" December 2007.

Radio interview on *Picture Titles*, with Michael Cathcart, "Books and Arts," Australian Broadcasting Company, November 2015.

Short online pieces published in connection with *Picture Titles*:

The Page 99 Test: *Picture Titles*, November 2015.

"How the Painting Got Its Name," *The Conversation*, November 2015.

"How Famous Paintings Get their (Wrong) Names," *The Daily Beast*, January 2016.

## Invited lectures and papers delivered

"Literature and American Studies: The Limits and Possibilities of Feminist Criticism." New England American Studies Association, Andover, Mass., November 1972.

"The Mortal Career of Alice James." Modern Language Association, New York, December 1978.

"The Death and Letters of Alice James." U. C. Berkeley, April 1979.

"Podsnappery, Sexuality, and the English Novel." Faculty Seminar on Women, Culture and Theory, UCLA, December 1981.

"The Boundaries of Mansfield Park." Princeton University, Spring 1984.

Moderator, Panel on "Defining a Context: The Example of Women's Studies," Conference on Historical Studies and Literary Criticism (Caltech/Weingert Conference in Humanities), March 1984.

Directed panel, "New Perspectives on the Nineteenth Century Novel." English Institute, Cambridge, Mass., September 1984.

Respondent to Nancy Armstrong, "Monstrous Women and Early Victorian Fiction." University of Southern California, Fall 1984.

"Plumbing the Young Female Consciousness in *The Awkward Age*." Modern Language Association, December 1983; also delivered to seminar at King's College, Cambridge, February 1985.

Respondent, Panel on "Henry James and Nineteenth-Century Literary Conventions." Modern Language Association, Washington, D. C., December 1984.

"Why Political Novels Have Heroines." University of Rochester, April 1985.

"The Sign of the Blush." Modern Language Association, Chicago, December 1985.

"The Innocent Blush and Other Fictions." Creating Women Conference, UCLA, March 1986.

"The Fiction of Modesty." Keynote speech, Conference on Women and Victorian Culture, UC Santa Cruz, August 1988; also delivered as "Nature's Courtship Plot in Darwin and Ellis" to Faculty Research Seminar on Women, UCLA, April 1989.

"Do It or Dorrit." Dickens Universe, UC Santa Cruz, August 1990.

"*Pudeur* Among the Pigeons." Modern Language Association, Chicago, December 1990.

"Was Jane Austen a Feminist?" Friends of English, UCLA, February 1991; also delivered to the Yale University Women's Association, March 1997.

"Where are the Women and (Why) Does it Matter?" Directed Studies Colloquium, Yale, February 1992.

"The Women's Coffee House, the Painter's Harem: Lady Mary Wortley Montagu and the Origins of Ingres' *Bain turc*." New York Eighteenth-Century Seminar, March 1993; also delivered to the Department of English, Wellesley College, April, 1994.

"The English Origins of Ingres' *Bain turc*." Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, October 1993.

"Ethnography and Cosmopolitanism in Lady Mary Wortley Montagu's Turkish Embassy Letters." Modern Language Association, Toronto, December 1993.

"Some Victorian Harems Are Hell." Bard College, November 1995.

"Seeing It All: The Inside Story of the Harem." Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Colloquium, English Department, Yale University, January 1997; also delivered as the Miriam Leranbaum Lecture, SUNY Binghamton, March, 1999.

Panel on "The Future of Graduate Education." AYA Assembly, Yale University, April 1997.

"Holding Out Against the Harem: From Marmontel's Roxelane to Rochester's English Girl." AESECS, Nashville, TN, April 1997.

Panel on "Yale as an Intellectual Community." AYA Assembly, Yale University, April 1998.

"Woolf's Voyage Out from Austen." Modern Language Association, San Francisco, December 1998.

"Demystifying the Harem." Women's Studies Seminar, University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy, May 2000.

Panel on "Teaching the Novel." Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Colloquium, English Department, Yale, October 2000.

"Sexuality, Shame, and Intimacy." Privacy Conference, New School University, New York, October 2000.

Co-Organizer, Conference on Theatricality and Anti-Theatricality in the Eighteenth Century (and Moderator, Panel on "Staging the Actress"), Yale, February 2001.

Keynote panel on Periodization, Northeast Victorian Studies Conference, Providence, R. I., April 2001.

"Harems of the Mind." Whitney Center, Hamden, CT., May 2001.

“Myths and Images of the Harem.” Chicago Humanities Festival, November 2001.

“Myths of the Harem.” Yale University Women’s Organization, November 2001.

Invited participant, Liberty Fund Colloquium on Montesquieu’s *Persian Letters* and the Book of Esther. Bozeman, Montana, May 2002.

“Some Harem Bodies.” Robert Penn Warren Lecture in the Humanities Seminar in Medicine and the Humanities, Yale, May 2002

“Sex, Lies, and Motion Pictures.” Henry James Society, Modern Language Association, New York, December 2002.

“Cassandra’s Portrait of Jane Austen and Its Rivals.” Art-in-Context Gallery Talk, British Art Center, Yale University, February 2003.

Chair, Panel on “Henry Adams’s Humanities.” Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, March 2003.

Principal Organizer, Symposium on “Why Literature Matters,” Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, April 2005.

“Dutch Painting and the Realist Novel in Britain and France,” Bellagio Study and Conference Center, Bellagio, Italy, November 2005; different version delivered at Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, November 2006.

“Low Genre and High Theory: Ruskin and Others on Dutch Painting,” Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Colloquium, English Department, Yale University, December 2006.

“Henry James and the Lure of Character,” Invited participant, Interdisciplinary workshop on “The Concept of Character,” Heyman Center for the Humanities, Columbia University, February 2007.

“Henry James Goes to Paris,” Conversation with Peter Brooks, Labyrinth Books, New Haven, April 2007.

“The Lighting Design of Hardy’s Novels,” Invited lecture, International Thomas Hardy Conference, Yale University, New Haven, June 2007.

“Turner’s Titles,” North American Victorian Studies Conference, Yale University, New Haven, November 2008.

“How the Pictures Got Their Titles” (with Nicolas Bock, University of Lausanne), Invited lecture, National Humanities Center, March 2009.

“The Victorian Everyday.” Keynote panelist, Northeast Victorian Studies Association Conference, Wellesley College, April 2009.

“The Not-so-Gentle Art of Picture Titles.” Invited lecture, Seminar in Victorian Literature and Culture, Humanities Center, Harvard University, April 2009; also delivered to Nineteenth-Century Seminar, History of Art, Yale University, October 2009.

Moderator, *London Review of Books* panel on memoir-writing. Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, February 2011.

“The Salon *Livret* and the Origins of the Modern Picture Title.” College Art Association Conference, New York, NY, February 2013.

“On the Circulation of Words and Images” (interview about my recent work). Nineteenth-Century Circulation Symposium, Rutgers University, October 2014.

“Titling as Classifying in the Victorian Art Museum.” North American Victorian Studies Association Conference, London, Ontario, November 2014.

“Picture Titles: How and Why Western Paintings Acquired Their Names” (book talk). Yale University Art Gallery, November 2015; also delivered for Sterling Memorial Library Arts and Humanities Book Talks, Yale University, February 2016; and Yale Alumni Association of Greenwich CT, Greenwich Public Library, October 2017.

Respondent to Michaela Bronstein, “The Author and the Assassin: Writing as an Act of Terror in Coetzee and Brink.” Red on Red Symposium, Yale University, April 2016.

“Remembrance of Things Present in *The Ambassadors*.” Henry James and Memory Conference, British Library, London, April 2016.

“Henry James’s Portrait-Envy.” Association of Literary Scholars, Critics and Writers, Catholic University, Washington, DC, October 2016.

Panel, “Teaching in a Common Curriculum.” DS@70, Yale University, March 2017.

“Victorian Vermeer.” North American Victorian Studies/Australian Victorian Studies Plenary Conference, Florence, Italy, May 2017.

Invited panelist, “Jane Austen and Women Writers ‘At Home in the World,’” Heyman Center for the Humanities, Columbia University, November 2017.

“Henry James’s Portrait-Envy & Some Further Thoughts,” Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Colloquium, English Department, Yale University, April 2019.

Conversation about *Mansfield Park*, Humanities Program, Yale University, April 2019.

“Words for Vermeer,” Symposium on Nineteenth-Century Literature and the Graphic Arts, Princeton University, October 2019.

Invited participant, Picture title discussion, the Curator’s Club (a nation-wide group of museum docents), October 2021.

“The Modern Times of *To the Lighthouse*,” Invited lecture (online), Shanghai International Studies University, Shanghai, China, October 2022.

Panel moderator, Symposium on Alex Woloch’s *The One and the Many*, Yale University, April 2024.

### University Service, Yale

Committee on Aims and Procedures, English Department (elected), 1991-92; 1993-94; 1994-95; 1997-98; 2018-19; 2020-21

Junior Appointments Committee, English Department, 1991-92; Chair, 2000-2005; 2015-16; 2016-17; 2017-18

Graduate Committee, English Department, 1992; Chair, 1993-95; 1996-98; Spring 2007; Spring 2020; Fall 2021; 2023-24

Term Appointments Committee, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, 1991-93

Director of Graduate Studies, English Department, 1993-95; 1996-98; Spring 2007

Senior Appointments Committee (subsequently Appointments Committee), English Department, 1994-95; Fall 1998; 1999-2000; 2006-07; 2009-10; 2011; 2012-13; 2013-14; 2014-15; 2015-16; 2016-17; 2017-18; Spring 2020; 2020-21; Fall 2021

Tenure Advisory Committee, Division of the Humanities, 1993-95; 2023-24

Selection Committee, Morse Fellowships in the Humanities, 1996-97

Review Committee, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, 1996-97; 2009-2010; 2013-14

Working Group on Teaching and Teacher Preparation, 1996-97

Tanner Lecture Committee, 1997-98

Committee on the Future of the Whitney Humanities Center (later Executive Committee), 1997-2008

Executive Committee, Graduate School, 1999-2000

Search Committee, Librarian, Lewis Walpole Library, 1999-2000; 2014

Advisory Committee, Center for British Art, 2000-2005

Chair, English Department, 2000-2005; Acting Chair, Spring 2017

Dean’s Grievance Committee, Graduate School, 2003; 2006-07

Distinguished Lecturers Committee, Whitney Humanities Center, 2004-05

Faculty Advisory Committee, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, 2004-

Selection Committee, Yale Center for British Art Fellowships, 2005

President’s Advisory Committee on Yale College Admissions and Financial Aid, 2006-07

Steering Committee, Yale College, 2009-11

Graduate Admissions (reader), English Department, 2009; 2010; 2013; 2014; 2019; 2020; 2021

Graduate School Committee on Regulations and Discipline (Chair), 2010-11

Executive Committee, Humanities Program, 2009-14

Search committee, joint position in History and Humanities, 2012-13

Yale Studies in English Committee, 2011-12; 2012-13; 2013-14; 2015-16

Provost’s Ad Hoc Committee on Expression in the Classroom, 2012-13

Yale Board for *Eighteenth-Century Studies*, 2012-17

Faculty Counselor, Presidential Search Committee, 2012-13

Provost’s Review Committee, 2013

Dean’s Ad Hoc Committee on Grading, 2013-14

President’s Advisory Committee for Deans Search (Yale College, Graduate School, and FAS), 2014

Arts Schools Standing Advisory and Appointments Committee, 2015- Fall 2017

Lewis Walpole Library Fellowship Committee, 2017

Course director, English 129, 2017

Provost’s Advisory Committee on Library Policy, Fall 2017, 2018-19

External Recognition Committee, 2018-19  
 Chair, Search Committee for Director of the Yale Center for British Art, 2018-19  
 Directed Studies Working Group, Spring 2020  
 FAS Seminar Task Force, Pandemic Teaching at Yale, Summer 2020  
 Directed Studies, Literature Coordinator, Spring 2021  
 Doctoral Reform Committee, English Department, Fall 2021  
 Acting Director of Undergraduate Studies, English Department, 2022-23  
 Chair, Undergraduate Studies Committee, English Department, 2022-23; member, 2023-24  
 Creative Writing Fiction Search, English Department, 2022-23  
 Chair, Wrexham Prize Committee, 2023

### University Service, UCLA

Executive Committee, Department of English, 1976-77, 1978-79, 1987-88; 1990-91  
 Equal Opportunity Committee, Academic Senate, 1976-78  
 Association of Academic Women Awards Committee, 1977-78, 1980-81  
 Chair, Honors Committee, Department of English, 1977-78  
 Women's Studies Committee, 1977-78  
 Chancellor's Career Development Committee, 1978-79  
 Vice Chair for Graduate Studies, Department of English, 1978-79; 1990-91; Chair, Graduate Committee  
 and Graduate Admissions  
 Department of English, 1978-79  
 Search Committee, Dean of Graduate School, 1978-79  
 Executive Committee, College of Letters & Sciences, 1980-81  
 Search Committee, Chancellors Associates Chair in English, 1980-82  
 Ewing Lecture Committee, Department of English, 1980-83  
 Women's Studies Liaison Committee, 1981-1982  
 Search Committee, Chancellor's Associates Chair in English, 1980-82  
 Council on Academic Personnel (reviews appointments and promotions in College of Letters and  
 Science and the professional schools), 1981-1984; Chair, 1982-83  
 Executive Board, Academic Senate, 1982-83  
 Search Committee, Associate Vice-Chancellor for Faculty Relations, 1982-83  
 Chair, Humanities General Education Committee, 1985-86  
 Graduate Committee, Department of English, 1986-87  
 Special Committee on Academic Personnel Procedures, 1988  
 Literary Panel, President's Research Fellowship Committee, 1989-90  
 Lennart Travelling Fellowship Selection Committee, 1990-91

### Address

### Telephone

Department of English	(203) 432-2239 (office)
Yale University	(203) 432-2233 (messages)
P. O. Box 8302	(203) 623-8971 (cell)
New Haven, Conn. 06520-8302	(203) 892-6968 (home)
	<b>email:</b> <a href="mailto:ruth.yeazell@yale.edu">ruth.yeazell@yale.edu</a>