

# CURRICULUM VITAE

Lee Foust

## EDUCATION

- 2008 **New York University**, New York, New York.  
Ph.D. in Comparative Literature.  
Dissertation: *Dante's Commedia and the Poetics of Christian Catabasis*.  
(Abstract and dissertation available at: <http://gradworks.umi.com/33/29/3329884.html>)
- 1996 **New York University**, New York, New York.  
MA in Comparative Literature.
- 1992 **San Francisco State University**, San Francisco, California.  
BA *Cum Laude* in Italian language and literature. Course work included a year abroad (1989-90) with the California State University International Program in Florence, Italy.
- 1991 **Università degli Studi di Firenze**, Florence, Italy.  
I completed four *Corsi Singoli* in the department of *Lettere*, passing all four exams with a grade of 30/30.
- 1990 **Scuola di lingua e Cultura Italiana per Stranieri**, Siena, Italy.  
Diploma for advanced courses in Italian language, literature, and culture.
- 1988 **San Francisco State University**, San Francisco, California.  
BA *Cum Laude* in English: Creative Writing, with a minor in History.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

- 1996-97 Full scholarship from New York University's Italian Department for research abroad, carried out in Florence, Italy, under the supervision of Prof. John Freccero.
- 1994 Full fellowship in Prof. John Freccero's Institute for the Study of Science and the Humanities. The Institute consisted of a course on the influence of the sciences on the Medieval love lyric and a weekly lecture series, included a stipend and required the production of an article to be published in the papers of the Institute.
- 1989-90 Award for academic excellence in Italian Literature, the California State University International Program in Florence, Italy.
- 1989-90 Dean's list.
- 1982-84 Dean's list.

## TEACHING AND ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Fall 2014-  
the present I teach a two-semester course annually **Introduction to Literature** (ENG 200) at Studio Art Centers International. I designed this course to introduce non-native English speakers to Western literature through American, English, and Italian novels, short stories, and poems. I write the syllabi, conduct the in-class discussions, lecture, and grade all of the course work.
- Spring 2013-  
the present Annually in the spring I teach a monograph course on the works of **Dante Alighieri** (ENG 321) at Spring Hill University's campus in Bologna, Italy. I designed this course to introduce both literature and other majors to the *Commedia* and the literary tradition of *catabasis*, annually write the syllabi, conduct the in-class discussions, lecture, and grade all of the course work.
- Spring 2011-  
the present Annually now in the Fall I teach a course at Spring Hill University's campus in Italy on **Place, Culture, and Language** (Eng. 368). I designed this course for both literature majors and other students as a kind of meditation on the literature of displacement, travel, and the stakes of encountering cultures other than one's own. I write the syllabi, conduct the in-class discussions, lecture, and grade all of the coursework.
- Spring 2011-  
the present Enrollment permitting, I annually teach a course at Studio Art Centers International on **Literature and the Visual Arts** (Eng. 300). I proposed and designed this course for both literature majors and art students to explore the connections between the visual art's aesthetic techniques and various literary strategies, writing about art and artists, and art inspired by literary productions. I write the syllabi, conduct the in-class discussions, lecture, and grade all coursework. The syllabus is available at:  
[http://www.saciflorence.org/courses.asp?s=95&id\\_101=35&id\\_103=226&id\\_105=0&id\\_106=0](http://www.saciflorence.org/courses.asp?s=95&id_101=35&id_103=226&id_105=0&id_106=0)
- Fall 2010-  
the present Twice a year I teach the upper division course **Modern Italian Literature** (Ital. 488) in the Fall and Spring respectively for the Accademia Europea di Firenze (accredited through Elon Univ.) in both the fall and spring semesters. I proposed and developed this course to introduce both literature majors and general students to the varieties of twentieth century Italian fiction and poetry. I write the syllabi, conduct the in-class discussions, lecture, and grad all of the coursework.
- Fall 2007-  
the present After a five-year hiatus I returned to teaching a monograph course on the works of **Dante Alighieri** (Lit. 152) for the California State University in Florence, Italy every spring. I designed this course based on school precedents, annually write the syllabi, conduct the in-class discussions, lecture, and grade all of the course work, which includes giving oral exams to help prepare students planning to continue their literary studies at the University of Florence. A syllabus is available on Cal State's website:  
[http://www.csufirenze.it/pdf/pdf\\_08\\_09/ITL\\_410\\_DANTE\\_FOUST\\_FALL\\_08.pdf](http://www.csufirenze.it/pdf/pdf_08_09/ITL_410_DANTE_FOUST_FALL_08.pdf)
- Spring 2001-  
the present Every spring I teach **Foreign Writers in Italy: The Gothic Romance from Walpole to Stoker** (Lit. 153) for the California State University in Florence, Italy. I proposed and designed this course to put a twist on the "Foreign Writers in Italy"

rubric by focusing on the Gothic Romance (whose earliest exemplars are frequently set in Italy) and using these fables of foreignness, evil, ghosts, and monsters to explore the more xenophobic elements of Anglo-American literature set in Italy. This class also includes an optional segment in which students study both American and Italian horror films to explore contemporary Gothic productions within a greater cultural context. In 2007 this course's title and number were changed to **The Idea of Italy in Literature and Film** (ITL 412). The syllabus is available here:

[http://www.csufirenze.it/pdf/Itl\\_412\\_The\\_Idea\\_of\\_Italy\\_in\\_Literature\\_and\\_Film\\_Spring\\_2008.pdf](http://www.csufirenze.it/pdf/Itl_412_The_Idea_of_Italy_in_Literature_and_Film_Spring_2008.pdf)

Spring 1999- the present Twice a year I teach a **Creative Writing Workshop** (Eng. 209) at Studio Art Centers International, Florence, Italy (accredited through Bowling Green State Univ., Ohio). I proposed and designed this course to give both experienced writers as well as newcomers the opportunity to share and polish their writings in a workshop setting. I also use texts, discussion, and on-site writing assignments to make the City of Florence a locus for the Production of text and the experience of travel and living abroad as a means of discussing formal and stylistic choices. The syllabus is available at:

[http://www.saci-florence.org/courses.asp?s=95&id\\_101=17&id\\_103=98&id\\_105=0&id\\_106=0](http://www.saci-florence.org/courses.asp?s=95&id_101=17&id_103=98&id_105=0&id_106=0)

This course also has a blog for both current and alumni students at:

<http://sacicreativewriting.blogspot.com/>

Fall 2009- Spring 2010 I taught **The Postmodern European Novel** (Lit. 400) for the Accademia Europea di Firenze (accredited through Elon Univ. of N. Carolina) in both the fall and spring semesters. I proposed and developed this course to introduce both literature majors and general students to the varieties of contemporary European fiction. I wrote the syllabi, conducted the in-class discussions, lectured, and graded all of the coursework.

Spring 2009 I taught **Introduction to Fiction: The English Gothic Romance** (ENGL. 273) for Loyola University's John Felice Rome Center. For this core curriculum course I adapted my Gothic Romance rubric to introduce non-literature majors to the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century English novel's most common treatment of Italy as a frightening and alien land of evil monks and ignoble *banditti*. I wrote the syllabus for this course, conducted the in-class discussions, lectured and graded all coursework.

Spring 1998- Spring 2005; Fall 2008, Spring 2009 Annually I taught the upper division courses **Renaissance Italian Literature** (Ital. 361) and **Modern Italian Literature** (Ital. 488) in the Fall and Spring semesters respectively at the Studio Art Centers International, Florence, Italy (accredited through Bowling Green State Univ., Ohio). I designed both of these survey courses to introduce studio art, art history and other non-literature majors to these two periods of Italian literature. I wrote the syllabi, conducted the in-class discussions, lectured, and graded all course work. (Note: These courses were discontinued in 2005 due to low enrollment and then reactivated twice for the 2008-9 academic year due to renewed interest.)

Fall 2005- Spring 2007 Annually I taught **Studies in Fiction** (Eng. 202) at Gonzaga University in Florence, Italy. This core curriculum course served to introduce non-literature majors to the basic techniques and methods of literary study and the writing of literary essays. I wrote the syllabi based on Gonzaga's English department's guidelines, conducted

the in-class discussions, lectured, and graded all coursework.

- Fall 2005-  
Spring 2007- Annually I taught **The English Gothic Romance** (Eng. 466) at Gonzaga University in Florence, Italy. I proposed this course to introduce English majors studying abroad to a literary genre that uses Italy as a locus for strange and frightening narratives. By focusing on the history of the Gothic Romance (whose earliest exemplars are generally set in Italy) I made use of these narratives of foreignness, evil, monsters and ghosts to explore the xenophobic elements of Anglo-American literature set in Italy. I wrote the syllabi for this course, conducted the in-class discussions, lectured and graded all coursework.
- Spring 2005-  
Spring 2007- Annually I taught **Boccaccio and Chaucer** (Eng. 422) for Gonzaga University in Florence, Italy. This comparative course explored Boccaccio's influence on Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* as well as addressing both authors' mutual precedents for their Medieval novellas in French fabliaux, saint's lives, *exempla*, and historical texts. I proposed this course to present English literature with an *in situ* interest to English majors studying in Florence. I wrote the syllabi, conducted the in-class discussions, lectured, and graded all coursework.
- Spring 2002-  
Spring 2007- Annually I taught **Modern European Novel** (Eng. 474) for Gonzaga University in Florence, Italy. This course focused on various aspects of the Nineteenth and Twentieth-century novels from various European countries, introducing students to movements, trends and national differences within the form during the modern period. (Some of the topics upon which I focused the course were The Problem of Evil, The Post-Modern Novel, the Anti-Novel, and The French *Nouveau Roman*.) I wrote the syllabi, conducted the in-class discussions, lectured, and graded all coursework.
- Spring 2004-  
Spring 2005- For three semesters I taught a **Creative Writing Workshop** (CW. 300) for the International Studies Institute at Palazzo Rucellai/Univ. of Connecticut. I proposed and designed this course to give both working writers as well as newcomers the opportunity to share and polish their writing in a workshop setting. I also used texts, discussion, and on-site writing assignments to make the City of Florence a locus for the Production of text and the experience of travel and living abroad as a means of discussing formal and stylistic choices.
- Fall 1999/  
Fall 2003- Twice I taught a topical comparative lit. course on the **Origins and Development of the Novella from Late Antiquity through Chaucer** (Lit. 155) for the California State University in Florence, Italy. I proposed and designed this course, which used Ovid and Apuleius, Saint's Lives and other liturgical literature to illuminate the narrative origins of the great works of Giovanni Boccaccio, Geoffrey Chaucer and some of their Renaissance followers.
- Fall 2002-  
Fall 2005- Annually I taught **Epic Poetry** (Eng. 485) and **Dante and Milton** (Eng. 433) for Gonzaga University in Florence, Italy. This two-part course introduced students to the study of epic verse through the texts of Homer and Virgil (in the Fall) and Dante and Milton (in the spring) I annually wrote the syllabi, conducted the in-class discussions, lectured, and graded all of the coursework.

- Fall 2002 I taught **Origins of Italian Literature in Translation** (Eng. 430) and **20<sup>th</sup> Century Italian Literature** (Eng. 440) for the International Studies Institute at Palazzo Rucellai. I designed these two survey courses to introduce both literature majors and other students to these two periods of Italian literature. I wrote the syllabi, conducted the in-class discussions, lectured, and graded all of the coursework.
- Fall 1999- Spring 2002 Annually I taught a monograph course on the words of **Dante Alighieri** (Lit. 152) Spring 2002 for the California State University in Florence, Italy. I designed this course based on school precedents, wrote the syllabi, conducted the in-class discussions, lectured, and graded all the coursework, which included giving oral exams to help prepare students planning to continue their literary studies at the University of Florence.
- Fall 1999- Spring 2002 I taught the first and second parts of the **Survey of Italian Literature I and II**, (Lit. 104 and 105), in the Fall and Spring respectively, for the California State University in Florence, Italy. I designed the first section of the course—from The Sicilian School poets to Machiavelli—and the second—from Giordano Bruno to the Gruppo '63— based on school precedents, annually wrote the syllabi, conducted the in-class discussions, lectured, and graded all of the coursework.
- Fall 2001 I taught an introductory History course called **The Italian Renaissance** (HIST300/POLSC 430) for the International Studies Institute at Palazzo Rucellai. In this course I attempted to introduce students to the late Medieval and Renaissance period through its literature. Some of the topics covered were Political organization as exemplified by lyric poetry, social mores in the novellas of Boccaccio, Humanist thought as seen in the letters and poetry of Petrarch, and social organization in Machiavelli and Castiglione.
- Summer 2001 I co-taught **Florence in the Age of Dante** (Humanities 204) a four-week summer course for Richmond College in Florence, Italy. I team-taught this course with the art historian Katharina Giraldi, introducing students to the texts, concepts and places key to an understanding of Dante Alighieri's world-view as well as his place in Florentine history.
- Spring 2001 I taught a monograph course on Dante Alighieri called **Dante in Translation: Texts and Context** (Eng. 328) at Richmond College in Florence, Italy. This course used lyric poems from the Sicilian school, excerpts from Vergil's *Aeneid*, Medieval visionary texts such as *Tundale's Vision*, and Dante's own *Vita Nuova* as background to an extended study of Dante's *Commedia*. I adapted this course from an existing syllabus, lectured, conducted the in-class discussions and graded all of the coursework.
- Fall 2000 I taught **Italian Literature in Translation** (Eng. 327) at Richmond College in Florence, Italy. This course introduced students to some of the founding works of Italian literature by the Sicilian School poets, Dante, Boccaccio, and Machiavelli as well as a couple of works by a modern author—I chose Italo Calvino—in order to explore the nation's literary continuity. I adapted this course from an existing syllabus, lectured, conducted the in-class discussions and graded all coursework.

- Fall 1999 I taught a site-specific creative writing workshop entitled **Foreign Writers in Italy** (Lit. 153) for the California State University in Florence, Italy. I proposed and designed this course to inspire students to create original works of literature in a workshop situation while taking inspiration from a variety of writers who have written about or set their works in Italy. I wrote the syllabus, compiled the course reader, conducted the workshops, graded all course work and edited the journal that the class produced (*Attimo Fugente*, 60 pp.) and officiated at the journal's debut reading.
- Fall 1998, Spring 1999 I taught **Humanities I: the Ancient World** (Y02.1001.097) and **Humanities II: the Middle Ages & Renaissance** (Y02.1001.098) for New York University's General Studies Program at their campus at the Villa La Pietra in Florence, Italy. These courses introduced primarily non-American freshmen to the art and literature of the Western world from its Semitic origins up to the through the end of the Renaissance period using the "great books" approach, slides, films and on-site viewing of the art works.
- 1997 **Student Travel Coordinator** for New York University's Villa La Pietra program in Florence, Italy. I arranged and accompanied 52 undergraduate students on cultural field trips within the city of Florence and throughout Italy. My duties included making all transportation, hotel, and cultural event (i.e. opera and theater) arrangements, as well as acting as a group tour guide for trips to Verona, Venice, and Rome.
- 1996 **Resident Advisor** at New York University's Villa La Pietra program in Florence, Italy. I supervised a group of 22 undergraduate students; duties included day-to-day advising, academic/bureaucratic communications between New York and Italy, supervising field trips, and providing NYU organizers with information and suggestions pertaining to the development of this nascent program.
- 1993-95 **Graduate Assistant** in Comparative Literature, New York University, New York. My duties consisted of administrative tasks related to the running of the department.

## PAPERS AND CONFERENCES

- "Dante's *Inferno* in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*." Lecture at the British Institute of Florence, September 25<sup>th</sup> 2002.
- "*Inferno* XXXII-XXXIII, Cannibalism During the First Crusade and the Rhetorical Significance of the Eucharist." Guest lecture, California State University in Florence, Italy, May 1998.
- "Cosmological Acoustics: the Resonance of an image from Dante into Chaucer." Paper written and presented for John Freccero's Institute for the Study of Science and the Humanities at New York University, 1997-8 academic year.
- "Eating God/Eating Saracen Dogs: Christian Cannibalism and a Gnawing Conscience."

Culture Shock Conference, New York University, Feb. 1996.

- “Dante’s Pilgrim and the Medieval *Faust*: High Comedy/Low Tragedy.” High/Low Conference, New York University, April 1995.

## PUBLICATIONS

- “The Literature Corner” (A column on books and literary events) *Florence News and Events* (Monthly since September, 2013)
- “Finn Blood” (Fiction) *Witness Magazine* (Forthcoming.)
- “Lilith” (Fiction) *The Bicycle Review* (Print and Online journal. Issue #30, Oct. 15, 2014. <https://www.scribd.com/doc/243147887/the-Bicycle-Review-30>)
- “Devin Wants To Make a Movie” (Fiction) *Crack The Spine* (Online journal Aug. 1, 2014. [http://issuu.com/crackthespine/docs/issue\\_115](http://issuu.com/crackthespine/docs/issue_115))
- “With Paul at the Beach” (Fiction) *Forge* (Print and Online journal. Vol. 8, Issue 1. Summer, 2014. <http://forgejournal.com/forge/2014/07/06/with-paul-at-the-beach/>)
- “Seventh Street” (Fiction) “Liberation” (prose poem) “What if Words” (poem) *Syndic Literary Journal* (Online journal. June 1, 2014. <http://syndicjournal.us/cover-syndic-no-11/spoken-word-story-by-lee-foust/>)
- “House Hunting” (Fiction) *Streetlight Magazine* (Online Journal. April 30, 2014. <http://streetlightmag.com/fiction-issue-no-9-spring-2014/>)
- “Testament of Faith” (Fiction) *One Throne Magazine* (Online journal. April 15, 2014. <http://www.onethrone.com/#!testament-of-faith/c17m>)
- “Poison and Antidote” (Fiction) *Wilderness House Literary Review* (Online journal. April 1, 2014. <http://www.whlreview.com/no-9.1/fiction/LeeFoust.pdf>) and *Black & White Review* (Print. Vol. 3 No. 1, spring 2014.)
- “Zwariowany Kapeusznik” (Prose poem text and sound recording) *Visions and Voices* (Online journal. March 29, 2014. <http://visionswithvoices.com/zwariowany/index.html#zwariowanytext>)
- “The Morning of the Day” (Fiction) *Vending Machine Press* (Online journal. March 1, 2014. <http://vendingmachinepress.com/2014/04/01/the-morning-of-the-day-by-lee-foust/>) and *Futures Trading* (Online journal. April 30, 2014. [http://www.scribd.com/fullscreen/221573488?access\\_key=key-7uk39pgtb83n9ydjkkh&allow\\_share=false&escape=false&show\\_recommendations=false&view\\_mode=scroll](http://www.scribd.com/fullscreen/221573488?access_key=key-7uk39pgtb83n9ydjkkh&allow_share=false&escape=false&show_recommendations=false&view_mode=scroll))
- “Devin Wants To Make a Movie (excerpt)” *Origami Journal* (Online journal. March 1, 2014. <http://origamijournal.com/leefoust/>)

- “Growing Up” (Fiction) *Fuck Fiction* (Online journal. Feb 10, 2014. <http://fuckfiction.net/?author=88>) *Full of Crow* (Print. May, 2014)
- “Deaux Magots (11/’91, Paris)” (Poem) *WTF* magazine (Print. No. 19, Summer 2013)
- *Sojourner* (A collection of short stories, verse, and prose poems gathered together around the mystery of place) Print. Infinity Publishing. Feb, 2013.
- “Under the One and Only Sun in a Place Called Tuscany” (Fiction) Serialized in *The Florence Newspaper* (Print. No.s 37-39, Feb-April, 2013)
- “Homo Quisquiliae (Junkman)” (prose poem) *The Book of Broken Images* (Print. No. 3, Nov. 2012)
- “A poem about Commuting on the *Ferrovio Italiana*.” *WTF* (Print. No. 1, Winter 2009)
- “Zombie! a Monster for the Masses” (Scholarly article on the figure of the zombie within the Gothic tradition and its political significance.) *H2SO4* (Print. No. 20, Spring/Summer 2006. Also available on-line at: <http://www.h2so4.net/politics/zombies.htm>)
- “The American Cemetery” (Fiction) *H2SO4* (Print. No. 19, Summer/Fall 2004)
- “The Horrific Experience of Coming Face to Face with the Other 2, or: Why *The Thing with Two Heads* is a Great Horror Film” (A follow-up article on Gothic and initiatory literature and horror film fandom), *H2SO4* (Print. No. 17, Summer/Fall 2002. Available on-line at: <http://www.h2so4.net/politics/twoheads.html>)
- “The Horrific Experience of Counter-cultural Initiation” (Scholarly article on Gothic and initiatory literature and horror film fandom), *H2SO4* (Print. No. 16, Winter/Spring 2002. Available on-line at: <http://www.h2so4.net/artlove/monsters.html>)
- “Sojourner” (fiction) *H2SO4* (Print. No. 13, Summer/Fall 2000)
- “Paradoxa” (A series of prose poems) *H2SO4* magazine (Print. Serialized in issues Nos. 9-12, 1998-2000. Three of these texts are available on-line at: <http://www.h2so4.net/artlove/paradoxa.html>)
- A review of/essay on the poetry of the *Rent*, *Semicerchio* (Print. 1997)
- *Inbetween*. (novel excerpts), *resister* \ (Print. No. 2, Fall/Winter 1996)
- Five short articles on various subjects (*Rent*, an absinthe party in a Brooklyn flat, two on baseball, and the poet Sparrow’s presidential bid), *Village Voice* (Print. 1996)
- Two poems, *resister* (Print No. 1, Spring/Summer 1996)

- “The Heiroglyphologia” (fiction) *H2SO4* (Print. Serialized in issues 4-8, 1995-1997)
- “Dante’s *Inferno*” by Edmond Jabès (translation) *Dark Ages Clasp the Daisy Root* (Print. 1991)
- “Poison and Antidote” (fiction) *Aql* (print. 1988)

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

- Italian and Anglo-American Literature (with emphasis on the middle ages), Epic Poetry, the Development of Prose forms from antiquity to the present, Folklore and its relationship to High Literature, the Medieval Love Lyric, the Medieval Romance, Literary Historiography, and Literary Theory from Antiquity to the Present.

## **LANGUAGES**

- English, Italian (fluent)
- Reading knowledge of Anglo-Saxon, Middle English, Latin, and French.

*Letters of recommendation, recent student evaluations, and sample syllabi available upon request.*