

Patricia Ventura

Spelman College • Department of English • 350 Spelman Lane SW • Atlanta, GA 30314
404/270-5572 (office) • pventura@spelman.edu

Fields of Research and Topics of Interest

My fields of research are cultural studies, media studies, and critical theory. My topics of special interest within these fields include neoliberal culture, utopian studies, and race and media.

Degrees Awarded

Doctor of Philosophy in English.

University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.

Dissertation: *The Cultural Logic of the United States in the Globalization Era*.

Master of Arts in English.

University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.

Thesis: *Medieval Transformations, Postmodern Appropriations: Tactics for Others*.

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina,.

Academic Employment

Associate Professor, Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia. 2012-present.

Assistant Professor, Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia. 2005-2012.

Fellow, Georgia Institute of Technology. Atlanta, Georgia. 2003-2005.

Assistant Editor, *JAC: A Journal of Composition Theory*. 1997-1999.

Instructor, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida. 1994-2003.

Publications

Monographs

White Power and American Neoliberal Culture, co-written with Edward K. Chan, in process. A study of the imbrication of white power and American neoliberal culture.

Neoliberal Culture: Living with American Neoliberalism. Routledge (Ashgate) 2012, 2016. A study positing neoliberalism as a “cultural logic” emerging as the dominant cultural formation at the end of the Cold War. The book develops a framework for studying neoliberalism’s impact at the level of American everyday life. *Neoliberal*

Culture argues that neoliberalism developed in the US as a popular culture analyzable through key “artifacts” such as Oprah’s Book Club, Las Vegas architecture, food political movements, Iraq War documentaries. The book creates a framework for understanding neoliberal culture by organizing it into five key components: biopolitics—regulation of populations at the level of bodies to force life to endure in prescribed ways; corporatocracy—government in which corporations exercise significant control over daily life; erosion of welfare-state society—attrition of welfare-state institutions operating in the interests of society as a whole and subordinating society to the economy; globalization—worldwide process of eroding national, economic, financial, and cultural borders; and hyperlegality—creation of new legal classifications or enforcing trifling ones as a means of control.

Edited Collections

Race and Utopian Desire in American Literature and Society. Palgrave Macmillan, November 2019. Bringing together a variety of scholarly voices, this collection analyzes literature and theory by authors of color. Spanning genres as diverse as Afrofuturism to queer theory, the collection argues for the necessity of understanding the important role literature plays in crystallizing the ideologies of the oppressed, while exploring the necessarily racialized character of utopian thought. The collection fills a critical gap in both literary studies, which has largely ignored the racialized character of utopia, and utopian studies, which has said too little about race. (Co-edited with Edward Chan, Waseda University, Tokyo).

Special Issue: *Articulating Race and Utopia*. *Utopian Studies*, vol. 30, no.1, 2019. Bringing together disciplinary perspectives from political theory, history, film, and literature, these essays examine race and utopia through a variety of experiences and global locations including the Philippines, Mali, Vietnam, and the Black Atlantic. (Co-edited with Edward Chan, Waseda University, Tokyo).

Special Double Issue: *Circulating “America.” Genre: Forms of Discourse and Culture* Fall 2005 and Winter 2005. The essays examine the circulation and identification of “America” as a cultural-political-military force in the contemporary globalization era. Includes my article-length editorial introduction.

Journal Articles and Book Chapters

“America and/as White Supremacy” with Edward K. Chan. *Cambridge Companion to American Utopian Literature and Culture, 1945-2020*. Cambridge University Press. In process.

“Race and Utopian Desire.” *Race and Utopian Desire in American Literature and Society*. Palgrave Macmillan. 2019.

“Scandal: A Melodrama of Social Death.” *Gladiators in Suits: Race, Gender, and the Politics of Representation in Scandal*. Eds. Simone Puff, Kimbrly R. Moffitt, and Ronald Jackson II. Syracuse University Press, 2019.

- "Dystopian Eating, Queer Liberalism, and the Roots of Donald Trump in HBO's *Angels in America*." *Journal of Popular Culture*. 2018.
- "Teaching *The Hangover*." *The Cine-Files*. Issue 9 (Fall 2015).
- "Looking Back on Iraq: Winning American Hearts and Minds." *Jump Cut: A Review of Contemporary Media*. No. 54, Fall 2012.
- "Beautiful Girls, Feminist Consciousness, and Civil Rights." (Written with Elizabeth Mauldin.) *Mad Men, Women and Children: Gender and Generation in Mad Men*. Eds. Heather Marcovitch and Nancy Batty. Lanham Press, 2012.
- "Millennial Television and Fan Cultures." (Written with Elizabeth Mauldin.) *Business of Entertainment: Television*. Ed. Robert Sickels. Praeger Press,. 2008.
- "Why White Kids Love Hip Hop: Wangstas, Wiggers, Wannabes, and the New Reality of Race in America." *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Hip Hop Literature*. Ed. Tarshia Stanley. Greenwood Press, 2008.
- "A New 'Marshall Plan': Terrorism, Globalization, Blockbusters, and *Air Force One*." *Genre: Forms of Discourse and Culture*. 38:4 (Winter 2005).
- "Learning from Globalization-Era Las Vegas." *Southern Quarterly: A Journal of Arts in the South*. 42:1 (Autumn 2003).
- "The Essay and the Websay." *Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy*. 7:2 (Summer 2002).

Scholarly Interviews

- "Patricia Ventura. *Neoliberal Culture*." *New Books in Critical Theory: Discussions with Critical Theorists about Their Books*. <http://newbooksincriticaltheory.com/>

Book Reviews and Informational Pieces

- "Review of *Buying into Fair Trade: Culture, Morality, and Consumption*." *Contemporary Sociology*. 44.3 (2015).
- "Privatization and Deregulation." (Written with Unislawa Williams.) *American Political Culture: An Encyclopedia*. Ed. Michael Shally-Jensen. ABC-CLIO. April 2015.
- "Review of Allison Carruth *Global Appetites: American Power and the Literature of Food*." *Utopian Studies*, 26.1 (2015).
- "Better Living Through Crafting." *Disability Studies Quarterly*: 34.1 (2014).
- "Social Intersections in Social Media." *Atlanta Tribune: The Magazine*. September 2013.
- "Review of Rebecca Bridges Watts' *Contemporary Southern Identity: Community through Controversy*." *Journal of Southern History*. 75.3 (August 2009).
- "Review of James C. Cobb and William Stueck's *Globalization and the American*

South. *Journal of Southern History* 74.2 (May 2008).

"Theresa Hak Kyung Cha." *Notable American Women: A Biographical Dictionary: Completing the Twentieth Century*. Volume V. Cambridge: Belknap P of Harvard UP, 2005.

"Review of Susan Buck-Morss's *Thinking Past Terror Islamism and Critical Theory on the Left.*" *Politics and Culture: An International Review of Books*. Issue 1: 2004.

Conference and Institutional Presentations

"White Power Utopian Ethno-nationalism in the Era of Neoliberal Racial Capitalism." American Studies Association. Honolulu, HI. November 2019.

"Quotidian, Queer of Color Utopia Faces Neoliberal Labor." Society for Utopian Studies. East Lansing, MI. November 2019.

"Professional Racist Trolls and Trump-Era Neoliberalism." Southern American Studies Association. Atlanta, GA March 2019.

"White Power Utopias and/as American Neoliberalism." American Comparative Literature Association. Georgetown, Washington DC. March 2019.

"White Consciousness, Racist Trolling, and Dystopian/Utopian Temporalities." Society for Utopian Studies. Berkeley, CA. November 2018.

"Theorizing Race in Utopia." Society for Utopian Studies. Memphis, TN. November 2017.

"Analyzing Milo Yiannopolous and Right Wing Cruelty in the Rise of Donald Trump." American Studies Association. Denver, November 2016.

"Hipster Racism in the Films of Harmony Korine." Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference. Atlanta, April 2016.

"Controptopia and the Films of Harmony Korine." Society for Utopian Studies. Pittsburgh, PA. November 2015.

"*Scarface* on Repeat, Gold Bullets, and Calvin Klein Escape: The American Dream in the Age of the Neoliberal Frontier in *Spring Breakers.*" Cultural Studies Association. Las Angeles. May 2015.

"*Scandal* and Social Death in the Age of PechaKucha." American Studies Association, Los Angeles, CA. November 2014.

"Dystopian Eating and *Angels in America.*" Society for Utopian Studies Conference. Charleston, SC. November 2013.

- "Food and Subjectivity in *Angels in America*." Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association. Washington, D.C. March 2013.
- "Slow Death, The War on Terror, and the Bureaucratic Entrepreneur." Marxist Reading Group. Gainesville, FL. March 2013.
- "Fast Food Nation-Building: Necropolitics and Lateral Agency in the Iraq War." American Studies Association. San Juan, Puerto Rico. November 2012.
- "Contemporary Forms of Necropolitics." Crossroads in Cultural Studies. Paris, France. July 2012.
- "The Bureaucratic Entrepreneur." Cultural Studies Association. Chicago, IL. March 2011.
- "Allegorizing the War on Terror in *Burn After Reading*." South Atlantic Modern Language Association. Atlanta, GA. November 2010.
- "Donald Rumsfeld, Futurist." Cultural Studies Association of America. New York, NY. May 2008.
- "Symbolic Economies of Slow Food." South Atlantic Modern Language Association. Atlanta, GA. November 2007.
- "Final chapter of *Neoliberal Culture in the US 1990s*." Futures of American Studies Institute. Hanover, New Hampshire. June 2007.
- "*Gunner Palace*, Technologies of Representation, and the War on Terror." Society for Cinema and Media Studies. Chicago, Illinois. March 2007. Co-organized and moderated panel in addition to presenting.
- "Neoconservative Anxiety and the Struggle for Empire." Modern Language Association. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. December 2006. Organized and moderated panel in addition to presenting.
- "Artifacts of Occupation: Narrating the Iraqi Nation." Modern Language Association. Washington, D.C. December 2005. Co-organized panel in addition to presenting.
- "eBay as Global Monstrosity: The 'New Economy' Corporation and the Nation." Marxist Reading Group Conference. Gainesville, Florida. March 2005.
- "Commodifying Longing: eBay as Nostalgia Machine." Modern Language Association. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. December 2004.
- "Hardt and Negri and Oprah: Reading Morrison's *Paradise* and Letts's *Where the Heart Is* after *Empire*." Modern Language Association. San Diego, California. December 2003.
- "Global Terrorism, *Air Force One*, and the Problematics of the Nation-State." (with Elizabeth Mauldin). Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference. Denver, Colorado. May 2002.

- “The Architecture of Globalization.” Globalisation <live & online>. Adelaide, Australia. July 2001.
- “Welfare Reform, Enclosure, and the New Economy.” Marxist Reading Group Conference. Gainesville, Florida. March 2001.
- “Public Art and the Porous Composition Classroom.” Conference on College Composition and Communication. Denver, Colorado. March 2001 (with Ronald Broglio).
- “Creating Communities out of Fear: The Culture of Y2K.” Modern Language Association. Washington, D.C. December 2000.

Certification

Electronic Theory and Pedagogy. Georgia Institute of Technology. 2005.

Selected Professional Awards

- Institute for Citizens and Scholars (formerly Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation) 2008 Career Enhancement Fellowship for Junior Faculty.
- Marion L. Brittain Fellowship. Department of Literature, Communication, and Culture. Georgia Institute of Technology. Atlanta, Georgia. 2003-2005.
- Excellence in Teaching Award. Department of English. University of Florida. Gainesville, Florida. 2000.

Selected Grants Received

- Faculty Development Grant. 2006, 2012, 2018. Spelman College. \$2000.
- “Across the Disciplines and Around the Table: Rethinking Interdisciplinary Research and Teaching Using Food as a Model.” Awarded March 2011. Funded by UNCF-Mellon. \$30,000. (Co-authored with Kimberly Jackson and Mona Phillips.)

Courses Taught at Spelman

- American Mythologies
- Feminist Film Criticism
- Images of Women in the Media
- Introduction to Critical Studies in English (variety of themes within this category)
- Introduction to Popular Culture and Media Studies
- Interdisciplinary Big Questions Colloquia (IBQC): Approaching Culture, Politics, and Media Studies through *Scandal*
- Media and “Reality:” Reality TV and Documentary Film

Race and Media Seminar

Seminar on Literary and Critical Theory

US Literature after 1865