

Curriculum Vitae

Valerie Barnes Lipscomb

Department of English
University of South Florida
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POSITIONS HELD: Professor of English, University of South Florida, 2020-present.

Associate Professor of English, University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee, 2015-2020.

Assistant Professor of English, University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee, 2010-2015.

Instructor of English, University of South Florida, 2009-10.

Visiting Assistant Professor of English, University of South Florida, 2005-08.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of South Florida, 1998-2004.

Adjunct Instructor, University of Northern Iowa, 1995-2002.

Adjunct Instructor, Hawkeye Community College, 1995-96.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Kentucky, 1994-95.

EDUCATION:

University of South Florida, Tampa

Degree: Ph.D. in English, 2004

Focus: Twentieth Century Literature

Graduate Certificate in Teaching Composition

Dissertation: *Act Your Age: The Performance of Age in Modern and Postmodern Drama*

Dissertation Director: Sara M. Deats

University of Kentucky

Fifteen hours toward Ph.D. in English

University of South Florida, Tampa

Degree: M.L.A.

Field: Humanities, with emphasis in literature

Thesis: *A Glimpse into the Victorian Drawing Room: Changing Marriage Roles in G.B. Shaw and W.Q. Orchardson*

University of Iowa

Degree: B.A., Cum Laude, Honors Program in English

Major: English

Minor: Theatre Arts

- PUBLICATIONS:** “Drama: Performing Age, Fighting Ageism.” *The Bloomsbury Handbook to Ageing in Contemporary Literature and Film*, edited by Sarah Falcus, Heike Hartung, and Raquel Medina, Bloomsbury Academic, 2023, pp. 25-38.
- “Review: *Safe House*, by Brendan Ragan.” *Theatre Journal*, vol. 73, no. 4, Dec. 2021, pp. 564-65.
- “Foreword.” Special Issue on Age and Performance: Expanding Intersectionality, *Theatre Research in Canada*, vol. 42, no. 2, Fall 2021, pp. 165-66.
- “Ida Lupino's Manipulation of Age Conventions.” *Ida Lupino, Filmmaker*, edited by Phillip Sipiora, Bloomsbury Press, 2021, pp. 127-45.
- “The Performativity of Age.” *Springer Encyclopedia of Gerontology and Population Ageing*. Springer Nature, 2019. Invited peer-reviewed entry.
- “The North American Network in Aging Studies.” *Springer Encyclopedia of Gerontology and Population Ageing*. Springer Nature, 2019. Invited peer-reviewed entry.
- Review of *The Penelope Project*, edited by Anne Basting, Maureen Towey, and Ellie Rose. *Age, Culture, Humanities* 4 (2019): ageculturehumanities.org
- “The Art of Ageing Theatre Project.” *The Theatre Times*. 17 Feb. 2018. <https://thetheatretimes.com/art-ageing-theatre-project/>
- “The Promise of Documentary Theatre to Counter Ageism in Age-Friendly Communities.” Co-authored with Kathy Black. *Journal of Aging Studies*, vol. 42, Aug. 2017, pp. 32-37.
- “Exploring the Boundaries of Literary Age Studies.” Co-authored with Aagje Swinnen and Cynthia Port. *Frame Journal of Literary Studies*, vol. 30, no. 1, May 2017, pp. 19-30.
- Performing Age in Modern Drama*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016.

Reviewed by *Modern Drama* (U.S.), *Journal of Contemporary Drama in English* (Europe)

"Age in *M. Butterfly*: Unquestioned Performance." *Modern Drama* 59.2 (2016): 193-212.

Review of *Staging Ageing*, by Michael Mangan. *The Drama Review* 60.1 (2016): 178-79.

"'Putting on Her White Hair': The Life Course in Wilder's *The Long Christmas Dinner*." *Age, Culture, Humanities* 1 (2014): 141-62.

"Performing the Aging Self in Hugh Leonard's '*Da*' and Brian Friel's *Dancing at Lughnasa*." *Comparative Drama* 47.3 (2013): 285-308.

"'We Need a Theoretical Base': Cynthia Rich, Women's Studies, and Ageism--An Interview." In *Gender and Women's Studies in Canada: Critical Terrain*. Eds. Margaret Hobbs and Carla Rice. Toronto: Canadian Scholars' Press, 2013. 417-23.

"'The Play's the Thing': Theatre as a Scholarly Meeting Ground in Age Studies." *International Journal of Ageing and Later Life* 7.2 (2012): 117-41.

Staging Age: The Performance of Age in Theatre, Dance, and Film. Co-edited with Leni Marshall. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.

Reviewed by *Theatre Journal* and *Theatre Survey*.

"Performing Female Age in Shakespeare's Plays." Co-authored with Janet Hill. *Staging Age: The Performance of Age in Theatre, Dance, and Film*. Ed. Valerie Barnes Lipscomb and Leni Marshall. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010. 85-108.

"'We Need a Theoretical Base': Cynthia Rich, Women's Studies, and Ageism." *National Women's Studies Association Journal* 18.1 (2006): 3-12.

"'Old Gentleman': Age Differences as Plot Subversion." *Shaw: The Annual of Bernard Shaw Studies* 25 (2005): 147-61.

"Reflections of the Aging Caesar: Drama as Cultural Perspective." Co-authored with Lagretta T. Lenker. *Journal of Aging and Identity* 7 (2002): 275-86.

"'Yet That's Not Much': Age Differences in *Othello*." *Journal of Aging and Identity* 6.4 (2001): 209-21.

Review of *Ibsen, Strindberg and the Intimate Theatre*. *Comparative Drama* 35.2 (2001): 242-45.

**WORKS IN
PROGRESS:**

The Palgrave Handbook of Literature and Aging. Lead editor. In press.

"Age-conscious Casting: Comedy and the Middle-Aged Ingenue." *LATE STAGE: Theatrical Perspectives on Age and Aging*, edited by Cindy Rosenthal, Elinor Fuchs, and Benjamin Gillespie. Accepted.

**INVITED
LECTURES:**

"Fighting Ageism, One Play at a Time." *Unsafe @Any Age: Creative Aging in the American Theatre*. The Dramatists Guild of America online event, July 2021.

"Acting Your Age: Fighting Ageism through Drama." USFSM Research Pecha Kucha, April 2019.

"Town and Gown: Connecting Senior Theatre Research and Practice." Keynote address. Age on Stage International Congress, Genk, Belgium, October 2018.

"Act Your Age: Aging and Ageism in Contemporary Drama." University of British Columbia, September 2018.

"Age on Stage: Performance and Possibility." Arts, Media, and Culture Symposium on Performance and Performativity, Maastricht University, The Netherlands, May 2011.

**PEER-REVIEWED
CONFERENCE
PAPERS AND
LEADERSHIP:**

"Challenging the Dementia Imaginary in *The Father*." Comparative Drama Conference, Orlando, March 2023.

Plenary Panel: Book Launch and Review of Four New Works in Age Studies. Joint conference of European Network in Aging Studies and North American Network in Aging Studies, online, September 2022. Panel member. [Unable to participate live because of hurricane]

Resistant Nostalgia in Live Performance. Joint conference of European Network in Aging Studies and North American Network in Aging

Studies, online, September 2022. Session respondent. [Unable to participate live because of hurricane]

“Sex and Senescence in *Desire under the Elms*.” Eugene O’Neill Society 11th International Conference, Boston, July 2022.

“‘Age-Inappropriate’ Casting: Comedy and the Middle-Aged Ingenue.” Comparative Drama Conference, Orlando, October 2021. Also Session Chair.

“‘Age-Inappropriate’ Casting and Performativity on Stage.” TrentAging2019, North American Network in Aging Studies Conference, Peterborough, Ontario, May 2019. Also Session Chair.

Langston Hughes and Lorraine Hansberry. Comparative Drama Conference, Orlando, April 2019. Session Chair.

Beckettian Conversations. Comparative Drama Conference, Orlando, April 2019. Session Chair.

New Voices at the Intersection of Drama, Performance, and Age Studies. Modern Language Association Conference, Chicago, January 2019. Session Chair.

“‘You Need Someone to Make Love to You’: Middle-aged Happy Endings in *Ruined*.” Comparative Drama Conference, Orlando, April 2018.

Rituals, Folk Tales, and Ghosts. Comparative Drama Conference, Orlando, April 2018. Session Chair.

Aging and Its Extra/Ordinary Differences. American Society for Theatre Research Conference, Atlanta, November 2017. Curated Panel. Moderator, Respondent.

“The Master Narrative of Age in ‘The Thalian Adventure.’” Norman Mailer Society Conference, Sarasota, October 2017.

“Using Theatre to Reflect and Revise Attitudes Toward Aging in an Age-Friendly Community.” International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics World Congress, San Francisco, July 2017. Also symposium chair.

“The Weight of Dramatic Heritage and *Desire under the Elms*.” European Network in Aging Studies Conference, Graz, Austria, April 2017.

"*Desire under the Elms: Sex and the Senex.*" Comparative Drama Conference, Orlando, April 2017.

"Exploring the Boundaries of Literary Age Studies." Modern Language Association Conference, Philadelphia, January 2017. Session chair/roundtable moderator. Chosen for Presidential theme.

"Documentary Playwriting: Reflecting/Revising Community Attitudes Toward Aging." Gerontological Society of America Scientific Meeting, New Orleans, November 2016.

"Ageism and Activism: Texts That EngAge." Modern Language Association Conference, Austin, January 2016. Session chair. Chosen for Presidential theme.

"Performance Theory for Senior Theatre: Agelessness on Stage." Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Orlando, November 2015. Poster.

"'I Am Old—So Old': Performing Multiplicities of Age in a One-Man Play." North American Network in Aging Studies Conference, Oxford, Ohio, May 2015.

"*M. Butterfly*. Unquestioned Performance." *Playing Age Symposium*, Toronto, February 2015.

"Performing the Aging Memory -- Response." Modern Language Association Conference, Vancouver, January 2015.

"'The Happiest Moment': Albee in Temporal Depth." American Society for Theatre Research Conference, Baltimore, November 2014.

"Staging Age in Contemporary Drama." Comparative Drama Conference, Baltimore, April 2014. Session chair.

"*The Heidi Chronicles* as Midlife Performative." Comparative Drama Conference, Baltimore, April 2014.

"Literature without Borders: The North American Network in Aging Studies (NANAS)." Roundtable speaker. Modern Language Association Conference, Chicago, January 2014.

"'The Other Generation': Playing Conflict and [Ir]resolution between Child and Elder." Association for Theatre in Higher Education Conference, Orlando, August 2013. Session chair.

"Why Just Listen? Let's Dance!" Association for Theatre in Higher Education Conference, Orlando, August 2013. Session chair.

"The Memory Play as Site for the Exploration of Age in Drama." American Society for Theatre Research Conference, Nashville, November 2012.

"Fragments of Middle Age: Memory in Contemporary Drama." Comparative Drama Conference, Baltimore, March 2012.

"Performing Identity in Later Life – Response." Modern Language Association Conference, Seattle, January 2012.

"'The Play's the Thing': Theatre as a Unifying Force in Age Studies." The 7th International Symposium on Cultural Gerontology/The Inaugural Conference of the European Network in Aging Studies, Maastricht University, the Netherlands, October 2011.

Teaching Texts: The Role of Narrative in Aging-Related Pedagogy. The 7th International Symposium on Cultural Gerontology/The Inaugural Conference of the European Network in Aging Studies, Maastricht University, the Netherlands, October 2011. Session chair.

"Embodying Memory: Older Performers." Association for Theatre in Higher Education Conference, Chicago, August 2011.

"Sarasota Senior Theater: The Benefits of Linking Generations." Workshop. Duvall Family Studies Conference, Sarasota, February 2011.

Narrating (Later) Lives. Modern Language Association Conference, Los Angeles, January 2011. Session chair.

"Let's Pitch a Bigger Tent: The Marginalization of Senior Theatre." Association for Theatre in Higher Education Conference, New York City, August 2009.

"Wilder, Death, and the Not-So-Sentimental." Association for Theatre in Higher Education Conference, Denver, July 2008.

"Albee and Pinter: Re-imagining Constructions of Age." Association for Theatre in Higher Education Conference, New Orleans, July 2007.

"Driving Trauma: The Aging Female Body in *How I Learned to Drive*." National Women's Studies Association Conference, Orlando, June 2005.

"'Old Gentleman': Age Differences and Plot Subversions in Shaw." GBS by the Bay International Shaw Conference, Sarasota, March 2004.

"The Mirror Stage on the Modern Stage." Modern Language Association Conference, San Diego, December 2003.

"Act Your Age: Age and the Body in Modern Drama." South Atlantic Modern Language Association Conference, Atlanta, November 2003.

"The Dynamics of the Listserv in the Literature Classroom." Florida College English Association Conference, Seminole, October 2003.

"Transcending the Binary: Examining Age in Drama." College English Association Conference, St. Petersburg, April 2003.

"'Oh, My Wrinkles, My Wrinkles!': Reflections of the Aging Caesar in Shakespeare and Shaw." Florida College English Association Conference, Gainesville, October 2002.

"'That's a Hard Man fur Ye!': Performing Age in *Desire Under the Elms*." Florida State University Film and Literature Conference, Tallahassee, January 2002.

"Drama in Performance: A Small Revolution." Florida College English Association Conference, Orlando, October 2001.

"'The Vale of Years': Age as Self-Construction in *Othello*." Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Cleveland, November 2000.

**AWARDS
AND HONORS:**

Women in Leadership & Philanthropy Faculty Research Award, USFSM recipient, 2018.

USF System Faculty International Travel Grant: 2017, 2012.

USFSM Chancellor's Professional Support Initiative recipient, 2017, 2015.

USFSM Outstanding Student Organization Advisor, 2014.

English Society named USFSM Student Organization of the Year, 2014, 2012.

2009 Excellence in Teaching Award, National Society of Leadership and Success, USFSM chapter.

Alice Hearne Award for Outstanding Doctoral Candidate in English, USF.

Nominated for the USF Outstanding Dissertation Award.

P.E.O. Scholar Award, national graduate fellowship.

Provost's Award for Outstanding Teaching by a Graduate Student, USF.

Provost's Commendation for Outstanding Teaching by a Graduate Student, USF.

Irving H. Rubin Award for Outstanding Graduate Student in the English Department, USF.
Florida Center for Writers Award for Distinguished Scholarship.
Passed Ph.D. Qualifying Exam with Distinction.
James Parrish Teaching Fellowship, USF.
Sigma Tau Delta, USF.
Phi Kappa Phi, USF.
College of Arts and Sciences merit scholarship, USF.
Graduate School merit scholarship, USF.
Department of Humanities merit scholarship, USF.
B.A. conferred Cum Laude and with Honors from the English Dept.
Phi Beta Kappa, University of Iowa.
Phi Eta Sigma, University of Iowa.

**COURSES
TAUGHT:**

Graduate level: Studies in American Literature to 1860, Studies in American Literature 1860-1920, Studies in Modern American Literature, Studies in Contemporary Literature, Studies in Criticism and Theory II, Selected Topics: Drama 1850-1950, Directed Independent Study.

Undergraduate literature for majors: Senior Seminar, Literary Criticism, Modern Drama, Contemporary Drama, Studies in American Literature and Culture: Literature and Aging, Selected American Authors, Selected Topics, 19th Century American Novel, American Literature to 1860, American Literature 1860-1912, American Literature 1912-1945, 20th Century American Novel, British Literature 1900-1945, British Novel Conrad-Present, Contemporary Literature, Survey of Poetry, Literature of the Western World II, British and American Literature by Women, Directed Independent Study.

Upper-level composition: Expository Writing, Professional Writing.

Upper-level core curriculum: The Image of Women in Literature, British and American Literature by Women, co-taught Cultural Studies and the Popular Arts.

Core curriculum: Introduction to Drama, Introduction to Fiction, Introduction to Poetry, Introduction to Literature, College Reading and Writing, Composition I, Composition II.

**SELECTED
PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE:**

Treasurer, North American Network in Aging Studies, 2018-present.
Vice-Chair, 2015-17. Executive Committee Member, 2013-

2021.

Associate Chair for Sarasota-Manatee, USF Dept. of English, 2020-23.
Member, USF Faculty Success Initiative Access and Empowerment
Implementation Team, 2021-22.

Executive Committee member, Modern Language Association Age
Studies Forum, 2014-2019. Chair, 2017-18. Secretary, 2016-17.

Interim Co-Editor, *Age, Culture, Humanities* journal, 2018-2021.

Invited Reviewer, Springer Publishing, 2020; Bloomsbury Publishing,
2020; *Modern Drama*, 2020; Routledge, 2019; *The
Gerontologist*, 2018, 2019, 2023; SUNY Press, 2015;
International Journal of Ageing and Later Life, 2017; *Theatre
Research in Canada*, 2014.

Chair, USF S-M Department of Liberal Arts, 2018-2020.

USF S-M member, search committee, dean of the USF College of the
Arts, 2019-20.

Chair, search committee, USF S-M composition instructor, 2019-20.

At-Large representative, USF S-M Faculty Senate, 2018-19.

External examiner, tenure and promotion application, UMass Boston,
2020; theatre doctoral thesis, Queensland University of
Technology, 2019.

Member, Thesis Committee, Julia Henderson, University of British
Columbia. Doctorate awarded 2018.

Honors thesis director for Madison Touchton, 2018-19. Mentor for her
presentation at Student Research Showcase, which won first
prize in category.

College of Arts and Sciences representative, USF S-M Faculty Senate,
2015-16.

Editorial Committee Member, *Age, Culture, Humanities* journal, 2013-
present.

Chair, USF S-M Faculty Senate Constitution and By-Laws Committee,
2015-16. Member, 2013-16.

Member, USF S-M First-Year Composition Planning Group, 2013-16.

Chair, USF S-M search committee for Assistant Professor of English,
2012-13.

Chair, USF S-M English/literature degree program group, 2012-2018.

Member, U.S. Advisory Board, European Network in Aging Studies,
2011-2014.

Committee chair, Chapter IY, P.E.O. (international philanthropic
educational organization), 2011-present. Recording Secretary,
2019-2021. President, 2017-2019. Vice President, 2015-
2017.

Volunteer coordinator, Norman Mailer Society Conference, 2010.

Director, USF S-M Writing Resource Center, 2008-10.

Member, USF-SCF joint faculty committee, 2009-2011.

Duvall Conference planning committee, 2009-15.

Advisor, Sigma Tau Delta chapter, USF S-M, 2006-present.

Advisor, English Society of USF S-M, 2009-present.

Member, Diversity Committee, USF S-M, 2006-2010.
Member, College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Graduate selection committee, USF S-M, 2007.
Local Arrangements Committee, GBS (George Bernard Shaw) by the Bay Conference, 2004.
Associate Editor, *Journal of Aging and Identity*, 2002.
Editor, English Department Newsletter, USF, 2001.
USF Composition Annual Awards Committee, 2001.
Coordinator and Panel Member, "Approaches to Teaching Drama," Teaching Assistants' Practicum presentation, 2000.
Graduate Student Member, University of Kentucky Writing Program Portfolio Committee, 1994-95.

**TEACHING
INTERESTS:**

20th Century British and American Literature, Dramatic Literature, Contemporary Literature, 19th Century American Literature, Age Studies, Interdisciplinary Studies.