

Curriculum Vitae  
**Karen J. Ford**  
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Department of English  
University of Oregon  
118 Prince Lucien Campbell Hall  
[fordk@uoregon.edu](mailto:fordk@uoregon.edu)

Creative Writing Program  
University of Oregon  
144 Columbia Hall  
(541) 346-0552

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1989  
M.A. in English, University of California at Davis, 1981  
B.A. in English, California State University, Sacramento, 1978

## EMPLOYMENT

2005-            Professor of English, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR  
1998-05        Associate Professor of English, University of Oregon, Eugene OR  
1992-98        Assistant Professor of English, University of Oregon  
1989-92        Assistant Professor of English, Marquette University, Milwaukee WI  
1988-89        Visiting Assistant Professor of English, Marquette University

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

*Split-Gut Song: Jean Toomer and Modernist Poetics*. Tuscaloosa, Alabama: U of Alabama P, 2005.  
*Gender and the Poetics of Excess: Moments of Brocade*. Jackson, Mississippi: UP of Mississippi, 1997.

### Articles and Chapter

“Marking Time in Native America: Haiku, Elegy, Survival.” Forthcoming in *American Literature* (2009). 11,000 words.  
“The Lives of Haiku Poetry: Self, Selflessness, and Solidarity in Concentration Camp Haiku.” Forthcoming in *Poetry, Politics, and the Profession: Cary Nelson and the Struggle for the University*. State U of New York P. 7,000 words.  
“The Sonnets of Satin-Legs Brooks.” *Contemporary Literature* 48.3 (Fall 2007): 345-73.  
“These Old Writing Paper Blues: The Blues Stanza and Literary Poetry.” *College Literature*, 23.3 (October 1997): 84-103.  
“Making Poetry Pay: The Commodification of Langston Hughes.” *Marketing Modernisms: Self-Promotion, Canonization, and Rereading*. Ed. Kevin J. H. Dettmar and Stephen Watt. University of Michigan Press, 1996. 275-96.  
“Do Right to Write Right: Langston Hughes’s Aesthetics of Simplicity.” *Twentieth-Century Literature*, 38:4 (Winter 1992): 436-56. Reprinted in Laurie Kirszner and Stephen R. Mandell, *Langston Hughes: A Collection of Poems*. Thomas Learning, 1998; *The Wadsworth Casebook Series for Reading, Research and Writing: Collection of Langston Hughes*, Wadsworth Publishers, 2005; *Modern Critical Views*, Facts on File, Manly, Inc., 2007.

## Reviews and Notes

- “Jean Toomer.” Headnote for *The Thomson Anthology of American Literature, Volume 4 (1910-1945)*. Ed. Martha J. Cutter. Boston: Thomson/Gale, 2007.
- Review of Dorothy Huff Oberhaus, *Emily Dickinson’s Fascicles: Method and Meaning*. *American Literature* (December 1997): 851-52.
- Review of Susan R. Van Dyne, *Revising Life: Sylvia Plath’s Ariel Poems*. *New England Quarterly*, 66:4 (December 1993): 652-56.

## Presentations

- “The Lives of Haiku Poetry: Self, Selflessness, and Solidarity in Concentration Camp Haiku.” Poetry, Politics, and the Profession Symposium, Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, University of Illinois, October 27-28, 2006.
- “The Function of Lyric in Jean Toomer’s *Cane*.” Oregon Humanities Center, Eugene, OR, April 19, 1996.
- “Teaching at the University of Oregon.” President’s dinner for new Oregon Foundation Board of Trustee Members, September 9, 1995.
- “Blues on the Page: The Black Arts Movement and the Blues Stanza.” Modern Language Association, San Francisco, CA, December 1991.
- “Lyricizing Propaganda: The Revolutionary Poetry of Edwin Rolfe.” The Edwin Rolfe Archive Conference, Urbana, IL, October 1990.
- “The Aesthetics of Excess in Modern American Women’s Poetry.” Modern Language Association, New Orleans, LA, December 1988.
- “Feminist Poetry as Cultural Politics.” Modern Language Association, San Francisco, CA, December 1987.

## **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

- “Race and Poetic Form in American Poetry,” book project

## **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

- 2007 Research Innovation Award, University of Oregon
- 2005 American Council of Learned Societies Yearlong Research Fellowship
- 2005 Williams Fellow Teaching Award, University of Oregon
- 1996 University of Oregon Summer Faculty Research Award
- 1995 University of Oregon Ersted Award for Distinguished Teaching
- 1994 University of Oregon Humanities Center Fellowship
- 1993 University of Oregon Summer Faculty Research Award

## **TEACHING**

### Undergraduate

- African American Poetry
- Poetry and Everyday Life
- Introduction to Poetry
- Modern Poetry
- Women Writers: Poetry
- Twentieth-Century Literature
- Major Authors: Gwendolyn Brooks
- Major Authors: Gertrude Stein

Major Authors: Emily Dickinson  
Major Authors: Richard Wright  
Modern American Literature  
Contemporary American Poetry  
Contemporary African American Women Writers  
Twentieth-Century African American Poetry and Poetics

### Graduate

Race and Form in American Poetry  
Nineteenth-Century American Poetry and Poetics  
Modern Poetry  
Emily Dickinson  
Introduction to Graduate Studies in English  
Contemporary American Poetry and Poetics  
African American Literature and Literary Theory  
Walt Whitman and Emily Dickinson

### **ADMINISTRATION**

2004-2010 Director, Creative Writing Program  
1998-2004 Director of Graduate Studies, Department of English

### **SERVICE**

#### Department

2007 Horn Endowed Chair in African American Literature Search Committee, Chair  
2004-05 Moore Distinguished Professor Search Committee  
1998-04 Director of Graduate Studies  
1998-04 Graduate Committee  
1998-04 Graduate Admissions Committee  
1998-04 Graduate Appointments Committee  
2001 *Ad Hoc* Committee on Developing Ethnic Literatures in English, Chair  
2001 Tenure Committee, Anand Prahlad  
2001 Ethnic American Literature Search Committee  
2000 Tenure Committee, Paul Peppis  
2000 Third-Year Review Committee, Shari Huhndorf  
1999 Third-Year Review Committee, Anne Laskaya  
1998 Merit Review Committee  
1996-97 Ph.D. Qualifying Exam Committee  
1996-97 Ph.D. Qualifying Exam Reading List Committee  
1996 Merit Review Committee  
1995 American Literature Search Committee  
1995 Barbara and Carlisle Moore Distinguished Chair Search Committee  
1994-96 Department Council  
1993-94 Curriculum Committee

#### University

2005 Search Committee, Ethnic Studies and Women's and Gender Studies Programs  
1996-present The Williams Council for Innovation in Undergraduate Education  
2000-present Teaching Effectiveness Program Advisory Board Member

2003-06 Graduate Council (Chair, 2004-2005)  
1999 Target of Opportunity Laurel Awards Committee  
1992-95 Pre-major Advising in EMU Ballroom

Member

Modern Language Association

Professional

*Oxford Anthology of Modern American Poetry* (1999), Editorial Board  
Oxford University Press, editorial consultant  
Wesleyan University Press, manuscript reader  
*Twentieth Century Literature*, manuscript reader  
*College Literature*, manuscript reader  
*Mosaic: A Journal for the Comparative Study of Literature and Ideas*, manuscript reader