

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Michael L. Johnson

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### ACADEMIC ADDRESS

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Department of English  
3001 Wescoe Hall  
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Lawrence, KS 66045-2115

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Baldwin City, KS 66006

### EDUCATION

PhD (English), Rice University, 1968  
MA (English), Stanford University, 1967  
BA (English), Rice University, 1965

Dissertation: "This Flickering of Wit: William Empson and the Psychology of Verbal Forms"

Director: Monroe K. Spears

### TEACHING INTERESTS

Western American literature, rhetoric, creative writing (poetry and nonfiction), the English language, postmodernism, literary criticism, comparative literature, composition studies, contemporary popular literature, modern British and American poetry, humanism and technology, critical theory, language and cognition, pedagogical theory

### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Professor of English, University of Kansas, 1978-present  
Associate Professor of English, University of Kansas, 1972-1978  
Assistant Professor of English, University of Kansas, 1969-1972  
Lecturer in English, Rice University, 1968-1969

## REPRESENTATIVE RELATED EXPERIENCE

Conductor of poetry workshops at various regional institutions, 1990-present  
 Referee, *Great Plains Quarterly*, 1998-present  
 Chair, Department of English, University of Kansas, 1984-1996  
 Member, Rhodes/Marshall Selection Committee, 1987  
 Chair, College Committee on Undergraduate Enrollment, 1986-87  
 Contributing editor, *Hellas*, 1990-present  
 Member, University Task Force on Computer Education, 1983-84  
 Director, Freshman-Sophomore English, University of Kansas, 1981-84, 1992-93, 2000-present  
 Associate Director, Freshman-Sophomore English, University of Kansas, 1972-81  
 Member, Editorial Board, University Press of Kansas, 1982-84  
 Administrator, English Composition Placement Test for the School of Education, 1981-86  
 Director, Communication Resource Center, KU School of Business, 1978-79, 1981-82  
 Member, Advisory Committee for the Language Laboratory, 1984-86  
 Consultant, Pre-school Language Project, University of Kansas, 1980-82  
 Text consultant for various publishers, 1972-present  
 Program consultant, occasionally, for regional institutions, 1980-present  
 Faculty advisor, Cottonwood Press, 1979-present  
 Proposal reviewer, Fund for the Improvement of Post-secondary Education, 1988-present  
 Referee, *College English*, 1988-present  
 Referee, *Western Historical Quarterly*, 1997-present  
 Referee, *Pacific Historical Review*, 2001-present  
 Graduate-level examiner in Spanish, 1993-2000  
 Judge in numerous literary competitions, 1978-present

## COURSES TAUGHT

Composition, Composition and Literature, Advanced Composition, Theory and Practice of Scientific Writing, Nonfiction Writing, Introduction to Poetry  
 Rhetorical Backgrounds of English, Practicum in the Teaching of English, Studies in the History of Critical Theory, Contemporary Critical and Rhetorical Theory, Introduction to the English Language, Grammar and Usage for Composition, Language and Cognition  
 Poetry Writing I (undergraduate), Poetry Writing II and III (graduate), Writer's Workshop (graduate), Practicum in the Teaching of Creative Writing (graduate)  
 Popular Fiction, Recent Popular Literature, Social Fiction, Introduction to Major British Writers, Modern British Poetry, Twentieth-Century British and American Poetry, Literature of Sexual Love, Studies in the Lyric Poem, History of the Lyric, Interpretation of Literature, Western American Literature  
 Modern Tradition, Science and Literature, Literature of a Technological Culture, Technology and Human Values, Contemporary Intellectual Problems

## REPRESENTATIVE HONORS

*From Hell to Jackson Hole: A Poetic History of the American West* honored with a Ben Franklin Award from the Publishers Marketing Association in 2002  
 Listed in the *Dictionary of International Biography, Directory of American Scholars, Who's Who in Kansas, Directory of American Poets, Contemporary Authors, International Who's Who in Poetry, Who's Who in Humanities Higher Education*  
 Member of Delta Phi Alpha Deutsche Ehrenverbindung  
 Woodrow Wilson Fellow  
 Ford Foundation Scholar  
 Recipient of a Bausch and Lomb Science Award  
 Recipient of seven University of Kansas General Research Fund grants  
 Recipient of two Seaton Awards and a *Plainsongs* Award  
*Education on the Wild Side* selected as a *Choice* Outstanding Academic Book for 1995  
*New Westers* honored by the Western Writers of America with the Spur Award for the Best Western Contemporary Nonfiction Book of 1996  
 Recipient of a CTE Excellence in Teaching award  
 Recipient of the Frederick Manfred Prize from the Western Literature Association (for creative writing on the West)

## CURRENT PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Western Literature Association  
 Association for the Study of Literature and Environment  
 Association of Writers and Writing Programs

## REPRESENTATIVE RECENT PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Read "Wildfire: A Taste of Authenticity" (essay) at the Western Literature Association meeting, Boise, ID, October 2006  
 Read "Hunger for the Wild: Finding a True Western Self" (essay) and "Poetic Portraits: Benchmarks of American Identity" (poetry) at the New Literacies Conference, Lawrence, KS, March 2005  
 Read an in-progress collection of poems entitled "Jet Lag: A Poetic Cook's Tour of Europe" at the Annual European Studies Conference, Omaha, NE, October 2004  
 Was filmed for a segment of *Le Credo Americain*, a documentary film directed by Alain Lasfargues and produced by ARTE that was aired in Europe, November 2004  
 Presented "*Violence and Grace, From Hell to Jackson Hole, and Beyond: Discovering and Nourishing a Western American Poetic Voice*" for the Hall Center Poetics Seminar, May 2003  
 Was interviewed on thirteen radio stations nationally concerning *From Hell to Jackson Hole*, 2002  
 Read poetry at the Johnson County Library, Overland Park, KS, April 2002

- Read poetry at The Writer's Place, Kansas City, MO, February 2002
- Read poetry at the Kansas Corral of the Westerners meeting, Abilene, KS, January 1998
- Read "Rivers" (essay) at the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment meeting, Missoula, MT, July 1997
- Read poetry at the Western Literature Association meeting, Lincoln, NE, October 1996
- Read "Caves" (essay) at the Seventh North American Interdisciplinary Wilderness Conference, Reno, NV, March 1996
- Read "Guns" (essay) at the Western Literature Association meeting, Vancouver, BC, October 1995
- Read "Horses" (essay) at the Western Literature Association meeting, Salt Lake City, UT, October 1994
- Read poetry at the Western Literature Association meeting, Wichita, KS, October 1993
- Co-chaired a workshop for new English-department chairs at the Association of Departments of English meeting, Las Vegas, NV, June 1993
- Read poetry at the Mulvane Art Museum, Topeka, KS, November 1992
- Read poetry at the Western Literature Association meeting, Reno, NV, October 1992
- Presented "Persona(l) Details: A Pedagogy of the 'Voice' Poem" at the GEL Conference, Emporia State University, May 1992
- Presented "Beyond the Dark Divide: The Frontier Poetry of Orange Scott Cummins, the Pilgrim Bard" and read poetry at the Western Literature Association meeting, Estes Park, CO, October 1991
- Presented a keynote address, "Swamped by the Updates: Semioclasm, Expert Systems, and Apeironic Education," at the conference on Expert Systems, Culture and Semiotics, University of Groningen (NETH), December 1990
- Co-chaired a discussion, "PhD Education and the Needs of College English Departments," at the Association of Departments of English meeting, Boulder, CO, July 1989
- Taught a week-long seminar on technology and culture at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, June 1989
- Co-presented "A Defense of Text Analyzers: Theory and Practice" at the Technology in Education Conference, Kansas City, MO, March 1989
- Presented "Ecphrases: Poems as Interpretations of the Other Arts" at the St. Louis Art Museum, May 1988
- Participated in the national meeting of the Holmes Group, Washington, DC, February 1988
- Presented "Turning Over the Token: The Teacher's Way to De(con)struction" at the Department of English, Wichita State University, November 1987
- Participated in the South Central Region Holmes Group meeting, Houston, TX, November 1987
- Read poetry at the Popular Culture Association meeting, Montreal, CAN, April 1987

## PUBLICATIONS

*Hunger for the Wild: America's Obsession with the Untamed West.* Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2007

- From Hell to Jackson Hole: A Poetic History of the American West.* Rancho Murieta, CA: Bridge House Books, 2001
- New Westers: The West in Contemporary American Culture.* Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1996
- Violence and Grace: Poems about the American West.* Lawrence, KS: Cottonwood Press, 1993
- Education on the Wild Side: Learning for the Twenty-first Century.* Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1993
- Ecphrases: Poems as Interpretations of the Other Arts* (poetry). Topeka, KS: Woodley Press, 1989
- The Birds from I Know Where: Translations of Poems in Spanish* (poetic translations). Lawrence, KS: Cottonwood Press, 1989
- Mind, Language, Machine: Artificial Intelligence in the Poststructuralist Age.* London: Macmillan; New York: St. Martin's, 1988
- Writing and Reading Differently: Deconstruction and the Teaching of Composition and Literature.* Ed. and intro. with G. Douglas Atkins. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas, 1985
- Familiar Stranger* (poetry and poetic translations). Lawrence, KS: Flowerpot Mountain Press, 1983
- The Unicorn Captured* (poetry and poetic translations). Lawrence, KS: Cottonwood Review Press, 1980
- Dry Season* (poetry). Lawrence, KS: Cottonwood Review Press, 1977
- Holistic Technology.* Roslyn Heights, NY: Libra Publishers, 1977
- Prometheus Reborn: Countertechnology, Holistic Education, and the Ecology-Energy Crisis.* Roslyn Heights, NY: Libra Publishers, 1977
- El nuevo periodismo: La prensa "underground," los artistas de la no ficción y los cambios en los medios de comunicación.* Buenos Aires: Editorial Troquel, 1975
- The New Journalism: The Underground Press, the Artists of Nonfiction, and Changes in the Established Media.* Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1972

Scholarly articles and essays on literary figures such as William Empson, Walter Raleigh, Gerard Manley Hopkins, and Thomas Hardy and on a variety of topics ranging from popular culture to poetics and reading theory in such publications as the *Bulletin of Bibliography*, *South Atlantic Review*, *Studies in English Literature*, *Victorian Poetry*, *Journal of Popular Culture*, *Kansas English*, *Sphinx*, *Journal of Aesthetic Education*, *College English*, *Heritage of the Great Plains*, *North Dakota Quarterly*, *Language and Style*, *Stanford Humanities Review*, *Journal of Unconventional History*, and others

Scholarly articles anthologized in several books, including *New Journalism*, ed. Marshall Fishwick; *Will the Real Norman Mailer Please Stand Up*, ed. Laura Adams; *The Expert Sign: Semiotics of Culture*, ed. Slikkerveer et al.; *Poetry Criticism: Excerpts from Criticism of the Works of the Most Significant and Widely Studied Poets of World Literature*, ed. Ellen McGeagh; and *Mechanical Bodies, Computational Minds: Artificial Intelligence from Automata to Cyborgs*, ed. Stefano Franchi and Güven Güzeldere

Personal essays in *Texas Review*, *Cimarron Review*, *New Frontiers*, *Black River Review*, *Under the Sun*, and *Dionysus: Journal of Literature and Addiction*

Reviews in *Journal of Popular Culture*, *Cottonwood Review*, *American Studies*, *Western American Literature*, *Western Historical Quarterly*

Over a thousand poems in such publications as *Westview*, *California Quarterly*, *Illinois Quarterly*, *Northeast Journal*, *Portland Review*, *Kansas Quarterly*, *Aethlon*, *Epos*, *Ball State University Forum*, *St. Andrews Review*, *Jeopardy*, *Greensboro Review*, *Sou'wester*, *Nantucket Review*, *Help Yourself*, *Red Cedar Review*, *Lake Superior Review*, *Vanderbilt Poetry Review*, *Gramercy Review*, *Jam To-Day*, *Chouteau Review*, *Bitterroot*, *Blue Unicorn*, *New Kent Quarterly*, *Texas Review*, *Touchstone*, *Cumberlands*, *Pacific Poetry and Fiction Review*, *Laurel Review*, *Old Hickory Review*, *Piedmont Literary Review*, *Sheba Review*, *Green River Review*, *International Poetry Review*, *Nimrod*, *Onionhead*, *Mid-American Review*, *Midwest Quarterly*, *Mildred*, *Zone 3*, *Heritage of the Great Plains*, *Nerve Cowboy*, *Plains Poetry Journal*, *Grasslands Review*, *Weber Studies*, and many others

Dozens of poetic translations from Hofmannswaldau, Pavese, Saigyó, Heredia, Mörike, Quasimodo, Hölderlin, Pascoli, Pushkin, Tetsugyu, Rilke, Tsurayuki, Yevtushenko, Mallarmé, Hesse, Ungaretti, Villon, Sulpicia, Storm, Sarduy, Yoshinobu, Sappho, Hitomaro, Debravo, Eich, Alkman, Rimbaud, Tasso, Othón, Sahagún, Tadamine, and others in such publications as *Hector & Hector*, *New Kent Quarterly*, *Webster Review*, *International Poetry Review*, *Blue Unicorn*, *Blue Buildings*, *Rhino*, *Apocalypse*, *Thunder Mountain Review*, *Cumberlands*, *Mundus Artium*, *Bitterroot*, *The Literary Review*, *Touchstone*, *Poetry Miscellany*, *Chariton Review*, *Thinker Review*, and others

Poetry and poetic translations anthologized in numerous books, including *Anthology of New American Verse*; *National Poetry Anthology*; *30 Kansas Poets*; *Literary Olympians 1992*; *The Age of Koestler*; *Prairie Poetry: Cowboy Verse of Kansas*; *Verse and Universe: Poems about Science and Mathematics*; *XY Files: Poems on the Male Experience*; *Urban Nature: Poems about Wildlife in the City*; *Literature, Class, and Culture: An Anthology*; *Poetry of the Wheatfield Two*; *Confluence: Contemporary Kansas Poetry*; *Phoenix Papers: 26 Lawrence Poets*; and *In the Heydays of His Eyes: An Anthology of Poems about Being Young and Growing Up*