**James Arnett, PhD**

Assistant Professor of English

Department of English, University of Tennessee-Chattanooga

**EDUCATION**

**PhD in English**: City University of New York (CUNY) Graduate Center, 2013

Robert A. Day Award for Best Interdisciplinary Dissertation

**MA in English**: University of Illinois at Chicago, 2007

**BA in English**: Tulane University, 2003

Magna Cum Laude with Departmental Honors

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor of English, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC)

Fall 2014 – present

Assistant Professor of English, American University of Afghanistan (AUAF)

Fall 2013

Visiting Assistant Professor of English**,** Manhattan College

Fall 2010 – Spring 2013

Instructor of English, Manhattan College (MC)

Fall 2009 – Spring 2010

Instructor of English and Women’s Studies, Hunter College

Fall 2007 – Summer 2012

**PUBLICATIONS**

***Peer-Reviewed Articles***

“What Feelings Are Left? The Affective Labor of Political Work in Doris Lessing’s *The Golden Notebook,*” *Journal of Modern Literature*, Vol. 41, No. 2, Winter 2018 (forthcoming)

“The Revolution Will Be Working-Class and Queer: Progressive Politics and Revolutionary Rhetorics in John Dos Passos’ Early Novels,” *QED*, Summer 2017 (forthcoming)

“Paul’s Letter to the Congolese: Allegory, Optimism, and Universality in Alain Mabanckou’s *Blue White Red,*” with Angela Wright. *Genre* Vol. 50, No. 2, July 2017 (forthcoming)

“Daniel Deronda, Professor of Spinoza,” *Victorian Literature and Culture* Vol. 44, No. 4, December 2016

“No Place Like Home: Failures of Feeling and the Impossibility of Return in Dinaw Mengestu’s *The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears*,” *African Literature Today* No. 34, (Fall) 2016

“Taking Pictures: The Affective Economy of Postcolonial Performativity in NoViolet Bulawayo’s *We Need New Names*,” *Ariel: A Journal of International English* Vol. 47, No. 3, July 2016

“First as Farce, Then as Tragedy: *Cranford* and the Internal Periphery of Capitalism,” *Literature Interpretation Theory*, Vol. 25, No. 1. Winter 2014.

“Sex Love and Sensuous Activity in the Work of Historical Materialism,” *Mediations*, Vol. 25, No. 2. Winter 2011.

“Free From the Family: Lessing, Klein, and the Unwanted Child,” *Doris Lessing Studies*, Vol. 30, No. 1, Fall 2010.

***Chapter in Edited Volume***

“*Bleak House* and Social Mapping,” with Abraham Asfaw. The Nabokov Paper. Eds. Kate Briggs and Lucrezia Russo. Acklan, UK: information as material press, 2013.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (selected)

“The Market In/And African Literature: Amma Darko’s Information Economies,” African Literature Association (ALA), New Haven, CT, July 2017

“Zadie Smith, Spinozist Ethics, and Collectivized Realism,” American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), Boston, MA, March 2016

“What’s Left of Feeling? Cruel Optimism, Left Melancholy, and Political Depression in Doris Lessing’s *The Golden Notebook*,” Louisville Post-1900 Conference, Louisville, KY, February 2016

“Mars Bars, Jazz Numbers and Graft: Rhetoricizing Resistance to Capital in Brian Chikwava’s *Harare North*,” British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, GA, February 2015

“*Three Soldiers*: The Revolution Will Be Working-Class and Queer,” John Dos Passos Society Conference, Chattanooga, TN, October 2014

“How to Hear a Squirrel’s Heartbeat: Spinoza, Sympathy and Nature,” NeMLA, New York, NY, April 2011

“Crowds, Proletariat, Multitude: Towards a Spinozist Practice of Reading,” ACLA, New Orleans, LA, April 2010

“Striking Abjection, Evacuating Horror: Dynamic Psychic Processes in Dickens’s *Dombey and Son*,” British Annual Victorian Studies Conference, Leicester, UK, September 2008

“Specters of Masculinity at the Edge of the Broken Family: Pat Barker's *Blow Your House Down* and *The Man Who Wasn't There*,” NeMLA, New York, NY, April 2008

“The Politics of Reception: Public Response to John Dos Passos’s *Three Soldiers*,” The Space Between Society Conference, Annapolis, MD, June 2007

PUBLIC LECTURES (selected)

“Pinter After Brexit,” UTC Theater Department Presents Julian Sands in Harold Pinter, January 2017

“Constructing Gender in War and Empire: Harvey Dunn and His Students,” Hunter Museum of American Art, September 2016

“A Call to Formation: Beyoncé’s Radical Manifesto on Blackness, Sexuality and Gender,” Women’s Studies Brown Bag Talk, UTC, March 2016

“Making/Unmaking Narrative: Using Chris Ware’s *Building Stories* in a Range of Applications and Contexts,” English Department Works in Progress Series, UTC, February 2016

“Resisting Materialism: Eliot Daingerfield,” Hunter Museum of American Art, January 2016

"Experiential Learning in the Literature Classroom: Findings, Finding Purpose & Delivering Promises,” English Department Works In Progress Series, April 2015

“Taking Pictures: The Affective Economy of Postcolonial Performativity in NoViolet Bulawayo’s *We Need New Names*,” UTC Women’s Studies Lecture Series (invited lecture, March 2015

GRANTS

UTC Walker Center for Teaching and Learning, High-Impact Teaching Program Grant, “Lemonade: The Lecture,” Spring 2017

UTC Student Development/Academic Affairs Grant, with Shewanee Baptiste-Howard, “The Right to Move”

UTC Library Enhancement Grant, “African African Literature”

UTC Faculty Pre-Tenure Enhancement Program Fellowship, “The Market Of/For African Literature” to conduct fieldwork and archival research and present research at 2017 African Literature Association conference

UTC Walker Center for Teaching and Learning, High-Impact Teaching Program Grant, “Refugees, At Home in Chattanooga: The Transnational (African) Novel,” Fall 2016

NEH/National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute, “Arts of Survival: Recasting Lives in African Cities,” Indiana University, Summer 2016

UTC Office of Equity and Diversity Grant to conduct research in Ghana; “Whose African Literature? A Materialist Analysis of the Market Of/For African Fiction,” Summer 2016

UTC Library Enhancement Grant: “Building Stories”

UTC Faculty Development Grant: Presenting “Zadie Smith, Spinozist Ethics, and Collectivized Realism” at ACLA, Spring 2016

UTC Research Support, to conduct manuscript research at Beinecke Library at Yale University, Spring 2015

UTC Think/Achieve Experiential Learning Grant: “The Transnational African Novel: Towards a Praxis,” Fall 2014

HONORS AND AWARDS

Fulbright Core Research/Teaching Scholar, Zimbabwe 2017-2018

Robert Adams Day Award for Best Interdisciplinary Dissertation, CUNY Graduate Center, 2013

CUNY Graduate Center Dissertation Fellowship, 2012-2013

Robert Gilleece Fellowship, CUNY Graduate Center, 2006-2011

Dean’s Honor Scholarship, Tulane University, 1999-2003

COURSES TAUGHT

**Seminars/Topics**

British Postmodernism (Graduate) ◦ The Transnational African Novel (Experiential Learning) ◦ Anarchy in the UK! ◦ Queer Theory ◦ British Women Writers ◦ Post-WWII British Masculinities (Honors) ◦ Post-War British Literature ◦ Introduction to Literary Criticism and Theory ◦ Modern British Literature: 21st-Century “British” Novel ◦ 20th-Century British Masculinities ◦ Literary Theory ◦ Women Writing the Fallen Woman ◦ Dickens and Capitalism ◦ The Sensation Novel

**Surveys/Introductions/Composition**

Introduction to Literary Analysis ◦ Western Humanities I & II ◦ Introduction to Literature ◦ Crime and Detection ◦ British Masterworks ◦ British Literature Survey [one semester] ◦ British Literature II ◦ 19th-Century British Women Writers ◦ 18th-Century British Women Writers ◦ Scandinavian Crime Fiction ◦ College Writing I & II ◦ Expository Writing ◦ College Writing (Experiential Learning)

**Independent Studies**

*Finnegans Wake* ◦ Marx/Marxism/Literature ◦ 20th-Century Colonial/Postcolonial Fiction (Graduate)

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS  
Anglophone sub-Saharan African literature ◦ affect theory ◦ Marx, Marxism and Marxist theory ◦ Spinoza and ethics ◦ postcolonial/transnational studies and theory ◦ queer theory and feminism ◦ 19th, 20th, & 21st-century British literature ◦ literary realism

EDITORIAL SERVICE

Peer reviewer, *Tulsa Studies in Women’s Literature*, 2016-

Editorial Assistant, *MidAmerica*, 2015-

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Committee Member, Budget & Economic Status, UTC, 2016-

Committee Member, Ad Hoc Workload Committee, UTC English Dept. 2016-17

Committee Member, Internship Committee, UTC English Dept., 2016-

Committee Member, Curriculum Committee, UTC English Dept., 2016-

Committee Member, Read2Achieve Curriculum, UTC, 2016-

Women’s Studies Advisory Council, UTC Women’s Studies Program, 2015-

Faculty Advisor, Students for a Democratic Society, UTC, 2014-

Faculty Advisor, Spectrum GLBTQ+ Alliance, UTC, 2014-

Faculty Advisor, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, UTC, 2015-16

Committee Member, Academic Standards and Scholarships, UTC, 2015-16

Committee Member, General Education Committee, UTC English Dept., 2015-16

Committee Member, 1-Year Reappointment Committee, UTC English Dept., 2015-16

Search Committee, CNF/Fiction Tenure-Track Hire, UTC English Dept., 2015

Facilitator, Veteran Writers’ Workshop, UTC, 2015

Judge, Young Southern Writers Competition, UTC English Dept. 2015-

Faculty Advisor, Debate Society, AUAF, 2013

Admissions Committee, CUNY English Student Association, 2010

Recruitment Committee, CUNY English Student Association, 2008, 2009, 2011

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

**Courses Proposed and Accepted**

ENGL/WSTU 4855: Queer Theory, UTC ◦ ENGL 2080r: Topics in Intellectual Inquiry, UTC ◦ ENGL/WSTU 3450: British Women Writers, UTC ◦ ENGL 5770: British Postmodernism, UTC ◦ ENGL 5790: Anglophone/ Postcolonial Literature, UTC ◦ ENGL 3420: Post-War British Literature, UTC ◦ ENGL 2530r: War and Literature, UTC (with Susan Eastman) ◦ Scandinavia Study Abroad (Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark): Scandinavian Crime Fiction, MC [proposed, designed, organized, executed; team-taught with Cory Blad]

REFERENCES

Rebecca Jones, Associate Professor, Director of Graduate Studies, Department of English, UT-Chattanooga

Heather Palmer, Associate Professor, Department of English, UT-Chattanooga

Cory Blad, Associate Professor, Departments of Sociology and Urban Studies, Manhattan College

Peter Hitchcock, Professor, Department of English, Baruch College (CUNY) and The CUNY Graduate Center

Anne Humpherys, Professor Emerita, Department of English, Lehman College (CUNY) and The CUNY Graduate Center