

Curriculum Vitae

Jennifer L. French

Department of Romance Languages
Williams College
85 Mission Park Drive
Williamstown, MA 01267

jfrench@williams.edu
153 Pine Circle
Bennington, VT 05201

EDUCATION:

- Ph.D.** **Graduate Program in Comparative Literature**, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. October 2001. Dissertation: *The Invisible Empire: Neo-Colonialism and the Spanish-American Regional Writers*.
- M.A.** **Graduate Program in Comparative Literature**, Rutgers University, May 1997
- B.A.** **Departments of Spanish and English**, College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, VA.

TEACHING AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Professor of Spanish, Williams College. July 2014-present.

Director, Center for Environmental Studies, Williams College. Academic head of interdisciplinary program involving approximately 150 students and 30 faculty members. (July 2009-June 2013)

Associate Professor of Spanish, Williams College. Teaching responsibilities include Spanish language courses, Latin American literature and Literature of the Americas. (July 2008-June 2014.)

Assistant Professor of Spanish, Williams College. Teaching responsibilities include Spanish language courses and literature courses in Latin American literature and Comparative Literature. (July 2002-June 2008.)

Visiting Assistant Professor of Latin American Literature and Spanish, Williams College
Duties included intermediate and advanced language courses, Latin American Civilization, Latin American Literature 1880-the Present, and a senior seminar on modernity and modernism(s) in Latin America. (September 2001-June 2002)

Part-time Lecturer, Rutgers University Department of Spanish and Portuguese
Responsible for planning and implementing autonomous courses: Elementary and Intermediate Spanish, Introduction to the Study of Hispanic Literatures, Spanish Conversation and Composition, Advanced Grammar and Composition. (1997-2000)

Teaching Assistant, Rutgers University Program in Comparative Literature
Responsible for designing, planning, and implementing Comparative Literature 136: Introduction to Short Fiction, "The Art of Imperialism: Short Fiction from Discovery to Globalization." (Sept. 1999-May 2000)

BOOKS:

Letras terribles: Augusto Roa Bastos and the Triple Alliance War. A book-length study of memory, nationalism, and subjecthood in Paraguayan literature, interpreted through Marxist and psychoanalytic theory. Chapters focus on Augusto Roa Bastos, Rafael Barrett, Juan Crisóstomo Centurión, Juan E. O’Leary, Teresa Lamas and J. Natalicio González. In progress.

Nature, Neo-Colonialism and the Spanish American Regional Writers, Dartmouth/University Press of New England, 2005. An exploration of the environmental discourses that emerge in Spanish-American regional fiction (1910-1940) as a response to Britain’s economic imperialism in Latin America. Uncovers the intertextual dialogue between Horacio Quiroga, José Eustasio Rivera and Benito Lynch and British colonial literature, including work by Joseph Conrad and Rudyard Kipling.

ESSAYS AND ARTICLES:

“Como suelen los jabalíes”: Shamanism and Subjectivity in the *Spiritual Conquest of Paraguay*. In progress.

“Traumatismo y la nación telúrica: *La raíz errante de J. Natalicio González*,” *Paraguay: El nacionalismo y la guerra. Actas de las Cuartas Jornadas Internacionales de Historia del Paraguay en la Universidad de Montevideo*. Juan Manuel Casal y Thomas L. Whigham, eds. Asunción, Paraguay: Tiempo de Historia, forthcoming.

“Naturaleza y subjetividades en la América Latina colonial: Identidades, epistemologías, corporalidades,” *Revista de Crítica Literaria Latinoamericana* special issue on ecocriticism. Guest editor, Gisela Heffes (July 2014).

“Voices in the Wilderness: Environment, Colonialism, and Coloniality in Latin American Literature,” *Review: Literature and Arts of the Americas* special issue on environmental literature, guest editor, Steven White (November 2012).

“‘El peso de tanta pena’: La Triple Alianza como trauma intergeneracional,” *Paraguay: El nacionalismo y la guerra. Actas de las Segundas Jornadas Internacionales de Historia del Paraguay en la Universidad de Montevideo*. Juan Manuel Casal y Thomas L. Whigham, eds. Asunción, Paraguay: University of Montevideo and Servilibro, 2012.

“La honra de la casa: Memoria y nacionalismo en las *Tradiciones del hogar de Teresa Lamas*.” *Paraguay: El nacionalismo y la guerra. Actas de las Primeras Jornadas Internacionales de Historia del Paraguay en la Universidad de Montevideo*. Juan Manuel Casal y Thomas L. Whigham, eds. Asunción, Paraguay: University of Montevideo and Servilibro, 2009.

“Literature Can Be Our Teacher’: Reading Informal Empire in *El inglés de los güesos*.” *Informal Empire in Latin America: Culture, Commerce and Capital*, ed. Matthew Brown. Blackwell, 2008.

“Violence in Paraguayan Narrative” by Mar Langa Pizarro and Jennifer French. *A World Torn Apart: Violence in Latin American Art*, edited by Victoria Carpenter. Peter Lang, 2007.

“Un mundo al revés: Lucio V. Mansilla y la Guerra del Paraguay.” *Les guerres du Paraguay aux XIX^e et XX^e siècles*, edited by Nicolas Richard, Luc Capdevila and Capucine Boidin. CoLibris (Paris) 2007.

“Martin Decoud in the Afterlife: A Dialogue with Latin American Writers.” *Conradiana*, Fall 2008.

“Conrad and the ‘Poland of the Americas’: *Nostromo*’s Latin American Contexts.” *Przegląd Polityczny* (“Political Quarterly”), Gdansk, Poland. December, 2005.

“A Geographical Inquiry into Historical Experience’: The Misiones Stories of Horacio Quiroga”
Latin American Literary Review, January-June 2003.

Captive Women: Memory and Oblivion in Argentina by Susana Rotker, introduction by Jean Franco, translated by Jennifer French. (*Cautivas: Memoria y olvido en la Argentina*, Buenos Aires: Ariel, 1999) University of Minnesota Press, 2002.

Ficciones verdaderas (“True Fictions”) by Tomás Eloy Martínez in collaboration with Jennifer French. Buenos Aires: Editorial Planeta, October, 2000.

The American Chronicles of José Martí by Susana Rotker, translated by Jennifer French and Katherine Semmler. (*José Martí: Fundación de una escritura*, Winner of the 1991 Casa de las Américas Prize for Best Literary-Artistic Essay) University Press of New England, April 2000.

Citizens of Fear, edited by Susana Rotker, translated by Kate Goldman, Heather Hammett, and Jennifer French. Rutgers University Press, 2002.

BOOK REVIEWS:

“The Mournful Cry of the Urutaú: Review of *The News from Paraguay* by Lily Tuck,” by Jennifer L. French and Thomas Whigham. *Midwest Quarterly*, Fall 2008.

Review of *British Representations of Latin America* by Luz Elena Ramirez (University of Florida Press, 2007). *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos*, forthcoming.

Review of *Conrad and Empire*, by Stephen Ross. *Modern Language Notes*, Fall 2006.

Review of *Beyond Imagined Communities*, ed. Sara Castro-Klarén and John Charles Chasteen (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2003). *Revista Iberoamericana*, July 2005.

Review of *Edible Amazonia* by Nicómides Suárez Araúz in *Gastronomica: The Journal of Food and Culture*. November, 2002.

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS:

“Augusto Roa Bastos: Lectura y reparación.” Accepted for presentation at the V Jornadas de Historia Paraguaya, Universidad de Montevideo. July 2016.

“Letras terribles: Augusto Roa Bastos and the Triple Alliance War.” Accepted for presentation at the Latin American Studies Association convention. New York City, May 2016.

“Una savia vegetal: Trauma y el nacionalismo ‘telúrico’ (Reflexiones sobre J. Natalicio González),” IV Jornadas de Historia Paraguaya, Universidad de Montevideo, July 23-25, 2014.

“‘Recuerdos de gloria’: El trauma intergeneracional en la historiografía de Juan E. O’Leary,” presented at the annual conference of the Latin American Studies Association in San Francisco, May 22-25, 2012.

“Ecologies of Paraguayan Independence,” invited talk at “Efecto Independentista,” a symposium at Dartmouth College, October 27-29, 2011.

- “La transmisión transgeneracional del trauma. Un acercamiento a la Triple Alianza,”** invited talk at “Segundas Jornadas sobre la Historia Paraguaya,” Universidad de Montevideo, June 14-18, 2010.
- “Geography and Destiny: Juan Natalicio González Remembers the Triple Alliance War,”** presented at the annual conference of the Latin American Studies Association in Toronto, October 8-10, 2010.
- “Melancholy Spaces: Land, Labor and Memory in Paraguay,”** invited talk at “Ciclo de Diálogos,” New York University Department of Spanish and Portuguese, April 29, 2010.
- “‘Out of History into Nature’: Landscape, Labor and Race in 20th c. Paraguay,”** invited talk at Middlebury College, March 2, 2010.
- “‘El ejército muere por pelear’: Cartas de Dominguito en la Guerra del Paraguay,”** presented at the annual conference of the Latin American Studies Association in Rio de Janeiro, June 11-14, 2009.
- “Vindicated: The Triple Alliance War in Paraguayan Literature, 1900-1936.”** Williams College Faculty Lecture Series, March 12, 2009.
- “Sleepless Nights: Remembering the Paraguayan War in Juan Crisóstomo Centurión’s *Viaje Nocturno*,”** presented at the annual conference of the Modern Language Association, San Francisco. December 30, 2008.
- “Violencia y nacionalismo en la literatura latinoamericana del siglo XIX.”** Videoconference with the University of Montevideo, September 10, 2008.
- “Historia y/en la literatura paraguaya: Reflexiones sobre *Tradiciones del hogar de Teresa Lamas*.”** Invited talk at “Tierra de encaje y leyenda: Simposio sobre la historia paraguaya,” University of Montevideo, April 14-18, 2008.
- “Sacrificial Fires: Trauma and Transformation in Augusto Roa Bastos’ *El fiscal*.”** Presented at the annual conference of the Latin American Studies Association conference in Montreal, Sept. 6-9, 2007.
- “From Colonial Cartographies to Bioregional Communities: Latin America’s Regional Writers Respond to Informal Imperialism.”** Invited speaker at “After ‘Informal Empire’? Commerce and Culture Outside Britain’s Formal Empire in the Long 19th Century.” University of Bristol/Bristol Institute for Research in the Humanities and Arts. January 30-31, 2007.
- “El pensamiento posnacional de Juan Bautista Alberdi,”** presented at Congreso de la Federación Canadiense de Humanidades y Ciencias Sociales, Toronto, Canada. May 23-25, 2006.
- “To Read/Write in the Red-Light District: Books, Democracy and the Market in Contemporary Paraguay,”** presented at the American Comparative Literature Association conference, Princeton University. March 24-26, 2006.
- “Muerte y transfiguración del Mariscal López: The Negative Sublime of Juan Emiliano O’Leary,”** presented at Latin American Literatures and Cultures Conference, Colorado Springs. February 23-25, 2006.
- “Augusto Roa Bastos and the Aesthetics of Defeat,”** invited talk at the University of Chicago Department of Romance Languages and Literatures. January 20, 2006.
- “Un mundo al revés: La Guerra del Paraguay en los escritos de Lucio V. Mansilla,”** presented at Congrès International: Le Paraguay à l’ombre de ses Guerres (1864-2004). Sujets, pouvoirs et

- esthétiques. Maison de l'Amérique Latine, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, et Institut d'Etudes Politiques, Paris, France. November 17-19, 2005.
- “Costaguana and the ‘Poland of the South’: *Nostromo*’s Latin American Contexts,”** invited talk at the Kosciusko Foundation, NYC. March 12, 2005.
- “*Nostromo*’s Latin American Legacy,”** featured talk at a round-table discussion commemorating the centennial of *Nostromo*, Modern Languages Association conference, December 28, 2004.
- “Pablo Neruda’s *The Heights of Macchu Picchu*: A Look at Poetry and Environmental Justice in Latin America,”** guest lecture in Professor Kai Lee’s Environmental Studies 101. November 6, 2004.
- “The War of the Triple Alliance in Paraguay’s National Memory,”** delivered at the Southern Comparative Literature Association Conference, Sept. 30-Oct. 2, 2004.
- “¿Panegírico o parodia? Augusto Roa Bastos y los mitos del Mariscal López,”** delivered at the Coloquio Internacional Literario, Buenos Aires, Argentina. August 18, 2004.
- “Cara cuesta su libertad: Augusto Roa Bastos and the War of the Triple Alliance”** delivered at the Society of Latin American Studies conference, Leiden, Netherlands. April 2-4, 2004.
- “A Tropical *Inferno*: Augusto Roa Bastos, Cándido López and the War of the Triple Alliance”** delivered in the International Studies Colloquium, Williams College. November 18, 2003.
- “Un cambio de régimen para el Paraguay: Reflexiones sobre la Guerra de la Triple Alianza”** invited talk delivered at the Universidad Nacional de Asunción, Paraguay. June 18, 2003.
- “Nature and the Nation in José Eustasio Rivera’s *La vorágine*”** delivered at “Hispanic Cultural Studies: The State of the Art,” a conference sponsored by the *Arizona Journal of Hispanic Cultural Studies*, in Tucson, September 18-21, 2002.
- “Informal Imperialism in José Eustasio Rivera’s *La vorágine*: A Trans-Atlantic Text”** delivered at “Geografías de Carlos Fuentes,” an international conference sponsored by the Trans-Atlantic Project at Brown University, Providence, RI, April 18-22, 2002.
- “‘The Freedom in the Field’: Empire and Ecology in the Stories of Horacio Quiroga”** delivered at “Latin American Literature, Technology, Ideology,” 10th Annual University of New Mexico Conference on Ibero-American Culture and Society, February 15-16, 2001.

FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS:

- Affiliated Scholar.** Center for Cultural Analysis, Rutgers University, 2013-2014.
- Class of 1950 World Fellowship Recipient.** Grant for international travel and language study. Williams College, 2005-06, 09-10.
- Oakley Fellow and Lehmann Fellow.** Grants for interdisciplinary research in the humanities. Williams College, spring 2006.
- Library Scholar.** David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University, July 2004.
- Louis Bevier Dissertation Fellow.** The Graduate School, Rutgers University, 2000-2001.

Excellence Fellow. The Graduate School, Rutgers University, September 1995-May 1999, including grant for travel and research in Peru, September-December, 1998.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION:

Session Co-Organizer with Professor Gisela Heffes, Rice University. “Critical Environments: New Theoretical Approaches to Latin American Environmental Literature.” MLA Convention, Austin, Texas. January 2016.

Advisory Board, *Modernity and the Landscape: Aesthetics, Politics, Ecology*. A three-year research project financed by the Swiss National Fund (SNF) and led by Prof. Dr. Jens Andermann at the University of Zurich. 2014-1018.

Visiting Committee, Smith College Department of Spanish and Portuguese, 2015.

Visiting Committee, Gettysburg College Department of Spanish, 2014.

Advisory Board, *Revista Paraguay desde las Ciencias Sociales*, Grupo de Estudios Sociales sobre el Paraguay (GESP).

Juror, PEN/Lily Tuck Award for Paraguayan Fiction, 2010.

External Reviewer, promotion to associate professor with tenure, 2010 (x3), 2013, 2016.

Manuscript reviews for Bucknell University Press, Duke University Press, *Revista Canadiense de Estudios Hispánicos*, *Revista Hispánica*, *PMLA*.

SERVICE AT WILLIAMS COLLEGE (SELECTED):

Chair of Tenure Evaluation Committees, Center for Environmental Studies (2010-present)

Faculty Steering Committee, 2004-05

Committee on Educational Policy, 2003-2004

Comparative Literature Advisory Committee, 2004-05, 06-07

Center for Environmental Studies Advisory Committee, 2002-05, 06-08, 09-13, 14-15

ENVI Search Committee, 2007-08

Faculty Compensation Committee, 2006-08

Latino/a Studies Advisory Committee, 2008-09

ENVI Faculty Seminar, 2008-09

Summer Humanities and Social Sciences Institute, 2008-present

AGAFA, 2008-09

COURSES TAUGHT AT WILLIAMS COLLEGE:

Romance Languages

Elementary Spanish (RLSP 102)

Intermediate Spanish (RLSP 103)

Upper Intermediate Spanish (RLSP 104)

Advanced Language (RLSP 106)

Civilizations of Latin America (RLSP 200)

Major Authors of Latin America (RLSP 203)

Icons and Imaginaries (RLSP 204)

Humor in Latin American Literature (RLSP 219)

Violence and Nation-Building in 19th Century Latin America (230T)

Contemporary Latin American Environmental Literature (RLSP/ENVI 233T)

The Subject of Empire: Race, Gender and Power in the Colonial Era (RLSP 308D)

Modernity and Modernisms in Latin America (403)

Revolution in Latin American Literature (403)

Contemporary Latin American Narrative (403)

Writing Latin America’s Environmental Crisis (402)

Comparative Literature:

Nature of Narrative (COMP 110)

War in Modern Literature (COMP 240T)

Literature of the Americas (COMP 256T)

Introduction to Eco-Criticism: North-South Dialogues on Nature and Culture (ENVI/COMP 239)

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY:

Near-native fluency in Spanish

Conversational Portuguese

Intermediate Guaraní
