

CURRICULUM VITAE

DR. JAMES DORSON

Wiener Strasse 42
10999 Berlin
Germany

E-mail: dorson@zedat.fu-berlin.de
Phone: +49 (0)17676014205

Nationality: U.S. and Danish
Date of birth: 25 September, 1978



EDUCATION

Ph.D., 2007-2011. Doctoral candidate at the Graduate School of North American Studies, John F. Kennedy Institute, Freie Universität Berlin.

Dissertation title: "Counternarrative Possibilities: Virgin Land, Homeland, and Cormac McCarthy's Negative Imagination".

Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Ulla Haselstein, Prof. Dr. Winfried Fluck, and Prof. Dr. Heinz Ickstadt.
Degree awarded on 14 July, 2011 (*summa cum laude*).

M.A., 2004-2007. English, Copenhagen University, Denmark.

Thesis title: "Between Immanence and Transcendence: Resistance and Belief in Don DeLillo's Post-Cold War Fiction".

Supervisor: Dr. Martyn Bone.

B.A., 2000-2003. English, Copenhagen University.

Thesis title: "Henry Miller and the American Nightmare".

GRANTS AND RESEARCH ABROAD

August 2011 to present, recipient of the Dahlem Research School Honors Fellowship, Freie Universität Berlin.

May 2010, research stay at Penn State University in State College, PA.

July-September 2009, research stay at Texas State University, San Marcos, and University of Texas, Austin.

2004-2005, Erasmus scholarship at Universität Wien, Austria.

2002-2003, Nordic exchange program "Nordlys" at Lund University, Sweden.

RESEARCH AREAS

Postmodernism, naturalism, critical theory, American Studies metadiscourse.

TEACHING

"American Myth and Literary Counternarratives", 2009-2010. B.A. Aufbau seminar, John F. Kennedy Institute of the Freie Universität Berlin.

Classes in Oral English and British Literature, 2007. B.A. level, Northwest University, Xi'an, China.

PUBLICATIONS

"'9/11' and the Rhetoric of Rupture". *REAL – Yearbook of Research in English and American Literature* 27 (2011), eds. Winfried Fluck, Katharina Motyl, Donald E. Pease, and Christoph Raetzsch. 369-85.

"Demystifying the Judge: Law and Mythical Violence in Cormac McCarthy's *Blood Meridian*". *Journal of Modern Literature* (forthcoming).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"The American Romance as Tragedy in the Border Trilogy", presented at the New England American Studies Association Conference, "American Mythologies: Creating, Re-creating, and Resisting National Narratives", held in Plymouth, MA, November 4-5, 2011.

"'9/11' and the Rhetoric of Rupture", presented at the International Graduate Conference, "States of Emergency: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Dynamics of Crisis", held at the John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies of the Freie Universität Berlin, June 11-12, 2010.

"The Key to Heaven': Finding Solid Ground in Cormac McCarthy's Westerns", presented at a research seminar held by the English Department of Copenhagen University, November 27, 2009.

"Seeds of Nihilism: Negation, Affirmation, and the Possibility of Literary Counternarratives", presented at the 24th Annual Conference of the International Society for the Study of Narrative hosted by the Department of American and Canadian Studies at the University of Birmingham, June 4-6, 2009.

"Agony in the Garden': American Studies and the Subversion of the Virgin Land Myth in Cormac McCarthy's *Blood Meridian*", presented at the Nordic Association of American Studies Conference, "Cosmopolitan America: The United States in Transition", hosted by the English Department of Copenhagen University, May 28-30, 2009.

"Some Apparition Out of the Vanished Past': Counternostalgia in Cormac McCarthy's Border Trilogy", presented at the International Graduate Conference, "Divided We Stand – United We Fall. Perspectives on Inclusion and Exclusion in America", held at the John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies of the Freie Universität Berlin, June 28, 2008.