

## Elizabeth S. Anker

### Academic Appointments

Cornell University

Assistant Professor, Department of English, 2008 to present

Wake Forest University

Assistant Professor, Department of English, 2006 to 2008

### Education

Ph.D., English Language and Literature, University of Virginia, 2006

J.D., University of Chicago Law School, 1999

B.A., English Literature and Philosophy, *summa cum laude*, Hope College, 1996

### Books in Progress

*The Human Rights Paradox: The Postcolonial Novel and the Claims of Theory* (Currently under review)

*Constitutional Imaginaries: Literary Aesthetics and the Politics of the New Global Constitutionalism*

### Publications

“Human Rights, Social Justice, and J.M. Coetzee’s *Disgrace*.” *Modern Fiction Studies* 54.2 (Summer 2008).

“‘Where Was Moses When the Candle Went Out?’: Infinity, Prophecy, and Ethics in Spinoza’s Philosophy and the ‘Ithaca’ Episode of *Ulysses*.” *James Joyce Quarterly* 44.4 (Summer 2007).

“*Elizabeth Costello*, Embodiment, and the Limits of Rights.” Forthcoming in *New Literary History*.

“Narrating Human Rights and the Limits of Magical Realism in Salman Rushdie’s *Shalimar the Clown*.” Forthcoming in *Human Rights and Literature*. Eds. Elizabeth Swanson Goldberg and Alexandra Schultheis (Pennsylvania UP).

### Review Articles

“The Contaminations of Global Culture”: Review of Pheng Cheah, *Inhuman Conditions: On Cosmopolitanism and Human Rights*. *Theory and Event* 11.3 (2008).

### Honors and Awards

Mellon Humanities Seminar, “The Human,” Cornell University, 2008 – 2009

Mellon Interdisciplinary Writing Group, “Human Rights and Cosmopolitanism,” Cornell University, 2008 – 2009

Archie Research Grant, Wake Forest University, Summer 2007

International Course Development Summer Stipend, Wake Forest University, May 2007  
Course Title: “Citizens, Immigrants, Refugees: Narrating Displacement”

Award for Excellence in Scholarship in the Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Virginia, 2006

National Humanities Center Summer Institute Fellow: “The Political: Law, Culture, Theology,” convening at Yale University, Summer 2005, and Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, Germany, Summer 2006

Albert Gallatin Fellow in International Affairs, University of Virginia, 2005-6

Presidential Fellow, University of Virginia, 2002 - 2006

## Select Papers and Presentations

20<sup>th</sup>-Century Colloquium

Yale University Department of English, February 2010 (invited)

Faculty Workshop

Cornell Law School, February 2010 (invited)

“Witnessing Human Rights and the Crisis of Truth”

Modern Language Association Conference, Philadelphia, December 2010

“Redeeming the Postcolonial and the Humanitarian Bestseller”

Modern Language Association Conference, Philadelphia, December 2010

“Theory and the Question of Human Rights”

The American Comparative Literature Association, Harvard, April 2009

“Narrating Human Rights”

Cornell Law School, Law and Humanities Colloquium, March 2009 (invited)

Respondent, Conference on Academic Freedom

Cornell University, February 2009 (invited)

“Translating Human Rights”

Modern Language Association Conference, San Francisco, December 2008

“Phenomenology and the Ethics of Postcoloniality”

The American Comparative Literature Association, Long Beach, April 2008

“*The Kite Runner* Syndrome: Emplotting the Human Rights Bestseller”

International Narrative Conference, Austin, April 2008

“Narrative Ambivalence and the Tragic Claims of Human Rights”

Modern Language Association Conference, Chicago, December 2007

““They Speak of Homeland”: Kiran Desai’s *The Inheritance of Loss* and the Paradoxes of Nationalism”

The American Comparative Literature Association, Puebla, Mexico, April 2007

Respondent, Symposium on Citizenship

Wake Forest University, April, 2007 (invited)

## Panels, Seminars, and Conferences Organized

“Rethinking Secularism” (Seminar)

American Comparative Literature Association, 2010 (with Bernadette Meyler)

Conference on Human Rights (Invited speakers: Homi Bhabha, Pheng Cheah, Joseph Slaughter, and Peter Fitzpatrick)

Cornell University, October 2009

“Worlding Literature, Globalizing Law” (Seminar)

American Comparative Literature Association, 2009 (with Joseph Slaughter)

“Beyond Subversion: Reading as Affirmation, Knowledge, or Wonder” (Seminar)

American Comparative Literature Association, 2008 (with Rita Felski)

“Locating Subjectivity in Postcolonial Narratives”

International Narrative Conference, April 2008

“Problems of Narrative and the Human Rights Paradigm,” Sponsored by the Society for the Study of Narrative Literature, Modern Language Association Conference, 2007

## Academic Service at Cornell

Graduate Student Placement, 2008-9 and 2009-10 (chair)

Course Leader, Spring 2009