

# Brad Berens

please contact me via [www.bradberens.com](http://www.bradberens.com)

---

## EDUCATION

1998: *Ph.D. in English*, U. C. Berkeley. Dissertation: "Shakespearean Contingencies: Repertory Allusion and the Birth of Mass Culture." Committee: Joel B. Altman (director), Jeffrey Knapp, Marvin Rosenberg.

**Description:** Allusions among Shakespeare's plays in original Renaissance performance could only have been understood by repeat visitors to the Globe or Blackfriars. Such allusions—unnoticed or unappreciated by previous scholarship—suggest that the crucial distinction within Shakespeare's original audience concerned first timers and repeat visitors rather than lords and groundlings. Shakespeare uniquely built his audience in a way that anticipated, or perhaps invented, mass culture as we understand it today.

1990: *A. B. in English*, Brown University, *magna cum laude* and with special honors.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

*U. C. Berkeley English Department*

1994-1997: **Associate-level Graduate Student Instructor**

Designed all materials for introductory and intermediate composition courses. Led classroom discussions. Graded papers and exams. Conferenced extensively with students. Trained Assistant-level Graduate Student Instructors. Courses include:

English 1A and 1B, Reading & Composition. Topics: the nature of the essay, Shakespeare, Orwell and other dystopias, comic books. Invited by the English department to teach a class with a special affirmative-action subunit.

English 50. Invited by the department to teach a special, experimental composition and theory course for gifted underclassmen.

1992-1994: **Assistant-level Graduate Student Instructor**

Led classroom discussions. Graded papers and exams. Conferenced extensively with students. Helped to design class materials. Courses include: introductory reading and composition, survey of British literature from Chaucer to Milton.

1990-1992: **Reader**

Graded papers and exams. Conferenced extensively with students. Courses include surveys on Chaucer, Shakespeare, and the Bible as Literature.

*Other Teaching*

1997-1998: Faculty Member, *Lehrhaus Judaica* (Berkeley and San Francisco).

"Shakespeare and the Jews." Continuing adult education class on how Jews are represented in Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice* in its original context and subsequent stage history, as well as in other related texts. Invited to teach at Lehrhaus after publication of a piece on this topic in *Tikkun*.

1998-1999: Seminar Leader, *DreamWorks SKG* (Universal City).

"Screenplay and Story Analysis." Weekly seminar for studio interns and assistants on how to analyze screenplays and other works for acquisition and development as feature films.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Theatrical History Consultant: *The Norton Shakespeare Workbook* (edited by Mark Rose).

Researched and wrote extensive stage histories for six plays. (The Workbook is a CD-ROM, part of the *Norton Shakespeare*, 1997.)

"In Practice There Is: Three stories about progressive fatherhood." In *Bad Subjects: Political Education for Everyday Life* (Spring 2004).

"The unwatchable dead-babyness of E.R." In *Bad Subjects: Political Education for Everyday Life* (Fall 2001).

"Spoken Daggers, Deaf Ears, and Silent Mouths: Fantasies of Deafness in Early Modern England." In *The Disability Studies Reader*, edited by Lennard Davis (New York: Routledge, 1997). Written with Professor Jennifer Nelson (Gallaudet University, Washington D. C.).

"On Beyond Shylock." In *Tikkun: A Bimonthly Jewish Critique of Politics, Culture & Society* (12.1, January/February issue, 1997).

Review of John Gillies' *Shakespeare and the Geography of Difference*, in *Renaissance Quarterly* (50.3, Fall 1997).

Review of Robert E. Wood's *Some Necessary Questions of the Play: A Stage-Centered Analysis of Shakespeare's Hamlet*, in *Shakespeare Bulletin: A Journal of Performance Criticism and Scholarship* (14.3, Summer 1996).

Review of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, as performed by American Conservatory Theater (Geary Theater, San Francisco, CA), in *Shakespeare Bulletin: A Journal of Performance Criticism and Scholarship* (14.2, Spring 1996).

## **ONLINE PUBLICATIONS**

A complete list of my online publications with links is available at [www.bradberens.com](http://www.bradberens.com).

## **CONFERENCE PAPERS AND INVITED GUEST LECTURES**

"Images of Judgment and Judging in Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure*." California College of Judges. April 2004.

"Strategies for Effective Online Writing." Independent Writers of Southern California. June 2003.

"Shakespeare and the Business of Writing." University of Southern California. October 2001.

"*Romeo and Juliet*: History, Appropriation, and New Composition Opportunities." University of Southern California, February 2001.

"Two Thousand Times Good Night': Repertory Allusion and the Invention of Shakespeare's Audience." National Communication Association Annual Convention, Chicago, November 1997.

"Teaching Comics in the Literature and Composition Classroom." Graduate Pedagogy Workshop for the Rhetoric and Composition Colloquium, U. C. Berkeley, October 1996.

"Two Thousand Times Good Night': Repertory Allusion and the Experience of Shakespeare's Audience." Northern California Renaissance Conference, Mills College, April 1996.

"Spoken Daggers, Deaf Ears, and Silent Mouths: Fantasies of Deafness in Early Modern England." 1993 CEMERS (Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies) Conference "On The Margins," SUNY Binghamton. Presented with Professor Jennifer Nelson.

## **HONORS, AWARDS, AND SERVICE**

### *Teaching*

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, U.C. Berkeley, 1996.

Fellowship to The Shakespeare Globe Centre in London for a three-week pedagogy seminar, summer, 1997.

U. C. Berkeley Graduate Division, GSI Course Improvement Award, spring, 1994.

### *Research*

Humanities Graduate Research Grant, from U.C. Berkeley, summer, 1997.

Mellon Dissertation Year Fellowship, 1995-96.

Mellon Summer Fellowship, 1994.

Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Fellowship: to Trinity College, Dublin, 1988-89.

### *Service*

Graduate Response Committee (GRC), Fall, 1993. The graduate student component of an extra-departmental, extra-university review of the U.C. Berkeley English Department.

## **REFERENCES**

Available on request.

See also my business resume and other materials at [www.bradberens.com](http://www.bradberens.com).