

VITA OF RONALD P. DUFOUR

Address:- Dept. of History
Rhode Island College
Providence, RI 02908

Education: Ph.D. The College of William and Mary, 1982
M.A. " " " , 1970
B.A. Merrimack College, 1969, *summa cum laude*

Awards, Honors: Woodrow Wilson Fellow, 1969-70
Dissertation nominated for Nevins Award, 1982 (National Award for best written dissertation in American History)
RIC sabbaticals, Spring 1997, Spring 2004, Spring 2015
Arthur J. Coleman Teaching Award, Cheshire Academy, 1988
Mary Tucker Thorpe Professor, RIC, 2006-7

Teaching Experience

Rhode Island College, 1988-present
Chair, Dept. of History, 1996-2002
Professor, 1998-present
Adjunct at many Connecticut and Massachusetts colleges and universities, 1976-1988
The Cheshire Academy, 1976-88
Chair, Dept. of History and Social Sciences; taught courses in History, Music History, and Economics, Psychology; numerous other academic and social responsibilities, particularly in counseling.
The Phillips Academy Summer Session, 1976-88; courses in Colonial America; American Foreign Policy

Principal Courses Taught at RIC

American Colonial History; The American Revolution; The Early Republic;
Music and Culture in Recent American History; The Birth of Bebop;
Jazz and Civil Rights: Freedom Sounds

Graduate M.A. Seminars in Historiography; Comparative History (The Atlantic World; Market, Capitalism and Culture in the Atlantic World, 750-1850; Nationalism and Revolutions in the Atlantic World)

Undergraduate Seminars, The Contest of Cultures in Europe and America, 1450-1650; Political and Personal Identity in Ante-Bellum America; Women and American Music.

Freshman Honors Interdisciplinary and Western Civ seminars; Western Civ and American History surveys
Numerous independent reading courses—eg., “The Formation Racial Identity In the Early Republic”

I’ve also directed several department undergraduate Honors theses and M.A. theses.

Publications

--“Becoming American: Public and Private Identities in the Early Republic,” RIC FAS Newsletter, Fall 2007

--Colonial America (West/Wadsworth, 1994)

--Modernization in Colonial Massachusetts, 1630-1763 (Garland, 1987)

--African-American National Biography, ed. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham (Oxford, 2008), author of 13 biographical essays on jazz figures

--“Mahalia Jackson,” in Gates Jr. and Higginbotham, eds. African American Lives (Oxford, 2004)

--Author and Associate Editor, American National Biography, 24 vols., (Oxford, 1999)—as editor, responsible for compiling initial list of jazz and blues figures, for editing 71 entries, and writing 30 entries on jazz and colonial America figures; entire project awarded the Waldo G. Leland Prize by the American Historical Association. Many of these essays have been re-

--Participant in long-term public history project on Providence North Burial Ground; published two on-line biographies on Annie peck {(mountaineer), and Christina Bannister (African-American reformer, humanitarian).

--Encyclopedia of Colonial Wars, ed. Alan Gally (Garland, 1996); eight entries

--Approximately two dozen book reviews in various historical journals.

Current Research

“Jazz and Freedom in a Global Context”

“Becoming American: Personal and Political Identity in Connecticut, 1750-1850”

“Skunks: Labor Activism in Early Connecticut and The Thompsonville Strike”

Selected Panels and Papers

--“Jazz and Freedom in a Global Context,” Paper presented to NEH Summer Seminar, Hutchins Institute at Harvard, Summer 2018.

--“Skunks: The Connecticut Carpet Weaver’s Strike in the Early Republic” Paper presented to the History Department Colloquium, 2016.

-- “Becoming American: Public and Private Identities in the Early Republic” Thorp Award Lecture, 4/26/2007

-- “Birth of the Cool,” 2/2008, RIC panel with Gunther Schuller

- "Becoming American Aristocrats in the Early Nineteenth Century," Chair and comment, NEHA, 10/2005
- Panelist, "Vietnam: Lessons for the Present," RIC, 10/2004
- "Recording Identity: Jazz and the Records Industry," Friends of Adams Library, Spring 2004
- "Jazz and American Popular Culture," Two panels with Gunther Schuller and John Zwed, 3/2003
- "New Approaches to the New England Community," Chair, NEHA, Fall '02
- "Republican and Liberal Thought in Connecticut, 1780-1792," RIC History Colloquium, 3/1990
- "Modernization Theory and its Relevance for the Study of Colonial Mass," Ct. Center for Independent Historians, Fall 1983
- "Cultural Generativity and the Great Awakening in Massachusetts," as above, fall 1982

Grants

- NEH Summer Seminar Grant, "Recent Literature on the Civil Rights Movement," Hutchins Institute, Harvard University, Summer 2018.
- Co-recipient, State of RI RITER grant (2005-8) for History Teacher Professional development, "New Approaches in American History Research"
- Co-recipient, State of RI Eisenhower Grant (2002-3), for same, "Teaching Recent American History"
- Six RIC faculty research grants
- Co-director, "Turning Ideas into Reality: The Executive Branch Fosters Engineering Excellence," program for teachers and museum educators, Funded by Bicentennial Commission, Winter 1989
- Independent Study in the Humanities, NEH funded, for "A Comparative History of the Civil Rights Movement, the Counterculture and the New Left, and the Women's Movement," Summer 1983
- Various graduate school fellowships and grants

Professional and College Service

History Department Chair, 1996-2002: Responsible for administration of department of 15 full-time members and up to 15 adjuncts. Duties included scheduling, hiring, faculty oversight, registering and initial scheduling of History majors, relations with Dean of Arts and Sciences office, relations with Feinstein School of Education, curriculum oversight, operating and capital budget oversight, and written evaluations of all full-time faculty. The final two years included extensive preparation for NCATE/NCSS accreditation process and initial formulation of assessment procedures for both Liberal Arts and Secondary Education majors.

Summer Chair, 2002-6

Asst. to Chair, 1992-6, 2002-3, Spring 2006

Dept. Committees: Department Advisory Committee; Western Experience coordinator; Chair, Instructional Resources Committee; Curriculum Committee; various search committees; Program and Lecture Committee; Assessment Committee. I was instrumental in writing the curriculum for the new department general education course, "The United States in the World."
Director of Graduate Studies, History Dept.: Responsible for administrative duties, student advising, and assessment of M.A. students (we have a small program that graduates 2-3 students a year).

College Committees: Curriculum Committee; Dean's Advisory Committee; Truman Scholarship Committee; Advising Committee
Interim director, inter-disciplinary Global Studies major.

Professional Service

Mss. Evaluator for several publishers
Proposal Evaluator, American Council for Learned Societies, Dissertation Completion Grants, 2011-12
Executive Committee, New England Historical Association, 2006-8
Program and Planning Committee, National Eighteenth-Century Studies Conference, 1993
Article Referee, The William and Mary Quarterly
Proposal Evaluator, Independent Study in the Humanities, 1983-6

Public Service

Program Evaluator and Consultant, Connecticut Humanities Council
Discussion Leader for hundreds of sessions in Ct. and RI public libraries for various book projects, and for several Jazz and Classical music series.
I was also a consultant and grant writer for the Award-Winning, NEH-funded "American Lives" discussion series, which ran from the late 1980s through the early 1990s.