
BRADON SMITH

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RESEARCH SUMMARY

My doctoral research examined the mutual ‘borrowings’ between contemporary popular science writing and contemporary British and American fiction, focussing in particular on representations of determinism. I also have research interests in climate change and culture; in particular, I am interested in the dominant rhetorics and iconographies around climate change in public and media discourses, and in the role of artistic and literary responses to climate change.

EDUCATION

2006-2010 **PhD** at the University of Cambridge (AHRC Funded). Supervised by Dr. David Clifford (Faculty of English).

Dissertation: “*It is Written*”: Representations of Determinism in Contemporary Popular Science Writing and Contemporary British Fiction’.

2004-2005 **MPhil** in Criticism and Culture from the University of Cambridge, with work in English and History and Philosophy of Science faculties (AHRC Funded). Distinction-level final mark awarded.

Dissertation: ‘The Literature of Evolution: Metaphor, Narrative and Teleology in Richard Dawkins and Stephen Jay Gould’.

2001-2004 **BA (Hons)** in English Literature from Downing College, University of Cambridge.

First Class honours in Part I and Part II. Appointed to Buchanan Scholarship, 2003.

PUBLICATIONS

‘Clever Particles, Maps, and Shadows: Metaphors in Late Twentieth-Century Popular Physics Books’, forthcoming in *Public Understanding of Science*.

‘The Price of Metaphor is Eternal Vigilance: Metaphors in Popular Genetics’, *International Journal of the Humanities*, Vol 6, Issue 10, 79-86.

‘Representing climate change: *Lines of Defence* and a war of words’ in *Bipolar* (Arts Catalyst / Arts Council, 2008) (with Benjamin Morris).

The Cultures of Climate Change: A Reader in the Ecological Imagination. Volume under preparation (with Benjamin Morris).

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Research Fellow on Climate Change at the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. Part of the AHRC/ESRC Placement Fellowship Scheme (April 2011 – April 2012).

Visiting Fellow, Geography Department, The Open University (March 2011 – March 2012).

Affiliate Member, OpenSpace Research Centre, The Open University (February 2011 –).

Mellon-Sawyer Risk Dissertation Fellow 2009-10, Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Science and Humanities (CRASSH), Cambridge.

Co-founder, ‘The Cultures of Climate Change’, CRASSH, University of Cambridge (<http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/page/34/climate-change.htm>), 2007-2010. This bi-weekly interdisciplinary research group drew high profile speakers from the UK and abroad. As convener, I was responsible for all aspects, from concept and successful funding applications, to inviting speakers, budgeting, chairing sessions and report writing. The series also in-

cluded a three day conference ('Representing Climate Change: Ecology, Media and the Arts') in October 2008 (<http://www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/events/546/>) and an exhibition featuring photography from four internationally acclaimed photo-journalists (October – November 2008).

CONFERENCE PAPERS

'Indeterminate Metaphors in Late Twentieth-Century Popular Physics'. Paper presented at "Booms" of Popular Science Publishing: a Symposium on Science Communication in the 20th Century', Imperial College, London, 31 March 2010.

'Is the End of the Film the End of the Human? On *28 Weeks Later* and *The Happening*' (with Benjamin Morris). Paper presented at Future Ethics, 'a workshop series on climate change, political action and the future of the human', University of Manchester, 16 January 2009.

'Reading Popular Science: Metaphors and Determinism'. Paper presented at The 6th International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, Fatih University, Istanbul, Turkey, 17 July, 2008.

'The Rhetoric and Iconography of Climate Change' (with Benjamin Morris) at "An End to History? Climate Change, the Past, and the Future." Paper presented at RescueHistory! Conference, University of Birmingham, 3 April 2008.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

December 2010	Part of interviewing team for undergraduate applications, Downing College.
September 2009 – ongoing	Freelance media producer (film and audio) for: 'Creative Climate' (Open University); 'Cambridge Ideas' (University of Cambridge); 'Guerrilla Science'.
November 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010	Examination marker of English Literature Admissions Test (Oxford University's English admissions exam) for Cambridge Assessment.
May 2005 – ongoing	Supervisor for Downing College, Cambridge. Supervisions on: practical criticism; literary theory and criticism; contemporary fiction; prose forms; and science writing.
December 2005 – May 2006	Full-time English teacher and Librarian, Ibstock Place School, Roehampton.

REFERENCES

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