Lifelong inquiry is a guiding principle for Hanover faculty and students alike, and our faculty model this, in large part, by remaining active students of, and contributors to, their disciplines.

This document features faculty books and recent faculty articles from all academic departments and disciplines, showing the many ideas that enrich the classroom experience at Hanover College.

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These essays explore early modern writers using a broad range of approaches and methodologies. Topics covered include: contextualizing the self; female discursive strategies; religious discourses and gender; writing a female space; negotiating power and desire; female writing and the marketplace/publishing; and revisions of male-dominated poetic conventions and traditions.


This article recovers the Scottish context of the late fourteenth-century Sir Degrevant, situating the main conflict of the poem against the backdrop of the Scottish Wars of Independence.

• Dominique Battles, Cultural Difference and Material Culture in Middle English Romance; Normans and Saxons (New York: Routledge, 2013). English/Medieval Studies.

This book explores how the cultural distinctions between Anglo-Saxons and Normans originating with the Norman Conquest of 1066 prevailed well into the fourteenth century and are manifest in a number of Middle English romances including King Horn, Havelok the Dane, Sir Orfeo, Sir Gawain and the Green Knight, and The Tale of Gamelyn.

• Dominique Battles, The Medieval Tradition of Thebes: History and Narrative in the OF Roman de Thèbes, Boccaccio, Chaucer, and Lydgate (Routledge, 2003). English/Medieval Studies.

This book constitutes the first comprehensive study of the classical legend of Thebes in the vernacular literature of the Middle Ages, from the 12th to the 15th century: This story of the civil war between the sons of Oedipus rivaled that of Troy in popularity and influence.


This article explores the multiple references to German luxury trade goods and German culture in the border narrative Sir Degrevant within the context of the Scottish Wars of Independence, in which German merchants played a controversial role by circumventing the trade embargoes imposed on the Scots by England.


This article identifies the castle-home of the protagonist of Sir Degrevant, the earl, as an example of tower house architecture, a type of late-medieval, small-scale castle architecture that predominated along the Anglo-Scottish border in direct response to the Scottish Wars of Independence.


This article argues that medieval retellings of Theban legend, particularly of the war between Polyneices and Eteocles, exercised a profound and sustained influence upon Arthurian tradition.

• Paul Battles is the 2018 recipient of the Karsu Award for Faculty Scholarship and Creative Activity.


Sir Gawain and the Green Knight is masterpiece of medieval English literature and one of the finest Arthurian tales in any language. Because of its difficult language, the poem is rarely read in the original language. This edition is designed to make the poem, in Middle English, accessible to general readers.


Most critics believe that Anglo-Saxon poets had no notion of genre. However, many poems open by telling the audience precisely what kind of poem to expect (epic, elegy, or wisdom poem). I argue that genre criticism is a valid and important approach to Old English poetry.


This article explores the recurring scene in Old English poetic tradition whereby feasting followed by sleeping becomes a narrative prelude to danger and attack.


The essay identifies a traditional theme, which we call “the Scop’s Repertoire,” in Old English verse. It defines the poet as a bearer of tradition and associates three qualities with his compositions: orality, antiquity, and copiousness—in essence, a poet is someone who can tell many stories about days long gone by.


• Kathy Knuckles Barbour, “Past Hazard, Near Viper” and “Mona Lisa.” STILL (3: Summer 2010).


Ivan Spassov is one of the premiere Bulgarian composers and conductors of the 20th century, who integrates elements of Bulgarian folklore into his music while exhibiting influences from the contemporary Western compositional tradition. Batchvarova examines Spasov’s songs for women’s choir, in the Bucolics From The Pirin Region collection, against their original folk versions.


• Miryam Criado, “Chapter 18: Materiales para la enseñanza multicultural. La Alianza de Civilizaciones: Cultura para la paz.” Spanish.


• Miryam Criado and José Manuel Reyes, Mujeres de hoy: textos, voces y imágenes (Prentice-Hall, 2005). Spanish.

This content-based collection of literary works by Spanish, Spanish-American and Latina women exposes readers to all sorts of texts (newspaper articles, testimonies, art, interviews, films, songs and web activities) and gives them the opportunity to examine the diversity and complexity of the Hispanic world and the richness of its culture.

This article explores narrative strategies used in La Vita Christi by Isabel de Villena (1430-60) to achieve educational objectives: to move, to channel behaviors and, ultimately, to strengthen interpersonal bonds and, therefore, the emotional interconnection of her community. Furthermore, by examining the construction of characters such as Mary and Mary Magdalene, this study also shows the effectiveness of experiential learning, collective experience and sublimation in the process of instruction and indoctrination of the Poor Clares of the Holy Trinity Monastery in the fifteenth century.

• Edward Eden and Dee Goertz, eds., Carol Shields, Narrative Hunger, and the Possibilities of Fiction (University of Toronto Press, 2003). English.

Award-winning Canadian writer Carol Shields has garnered praise from readers worldwide. Inspired by the quality and scope of Shields’s work, this volume addresses her creative exploration of postmodernism. As the first thorough examination of the Pulitzer Prize-winning author, this collection of essays establishes the groundwork for future studies of her oeuvre. Pulitzer Prize-winning author Carol Shields graduated from Hanover College in 1957 with a degree in History and Education.


This article explores how Martin infuses A Song of Ice and Fire with both characters and symbols reminding us of the great mother, making motherhood an integral part of the game of thrones and challenging the narrow ideology of the ideal mother.


This volume makes available an ample selection of James’s personal and occasionally intimate letters -- many long withheld from publication -- to four men: the sculptor Hendrik Andersen, the dilettante Dudley Jocelyn Persse, and the writers Howard Sturgis and Sir Hugh Walpole. The letters reveal a warm and humorous man, far from the austere persona we usually associate with James. He clearly loved a number of those friends with a depth and eroticism previously noted but never so fully documented.

• Steven H. Jobe, The searchable Calendar of the Letters of Henry James.

Hosted online by the University of Nebraska Press since 2000, has found a new home at Henry James Letters (http://henryjamesletters.la.psu.edu), the site for the emerging digital edition of The Complete Letters of Henry James. Dean of Faculty and Vice President of Academic Affairs.


This text is designed to help players and conductors master many of the asymmetrical and mixed meter passages found in contemporary music. By developing an increased awareness of the eighth note pulse that underlies many rhythmic patterns, complex rhythms will soon become easier to sight-read, play, and conduct.

• David Mruzek, (November 6, 2018). Kentuckiana (Original composition for concert band). Composition performed by the Columbus State Community College Band in Columbus, OH. Performed as part of the twentieth anniversary celebration of the CSCC Band. Music.


This volume offers a comprehensive and in-depth study of the Zhenghan state during China’s Warring States Period (476-221 BCE). Analyzing artifacts, inscriptions, and grandiose funerary structures within a broad archaeological context, Wu illuminates the connections between power and identity, and the role of material culture in asserting and communicating both.


This article presents a vivid account of elite tombs on China’s Northern Frontier, together with a closely argued case for cultural hybridity within the postcolonial paradigm. This incisive exposition of political interaction on a frontier will resonate with all of us who work with ‘imperial-barbarian’ relations—on any continent.


The critical essays in this volume are dedicated to the works of Argentine writer Silvina Ocampo (1903-1993) and introduce readers more fully to a figure who has long been a kind of insider’s secret among intellectuals of her country. The essays address the quirkiness, cruelty, violence, and overt sexuality of her works, elements which have impeded a full understanding of her creative vision.

HUMANITIES


Baechle gives us a broad, rigorously conducted, and theoretically sophisticated exploration of the iambic trimeter in Greek tragedy. From his analysis of compositional factors, there emerges a major contribution to our understanding of dramatic style and of the way Old Comedy played against the trimeter of serious drama. (Victor Bers, Classics Department, Yale University)


This book is an exploration of what Shen calls “logical negativism,” the thesis that there is something that cannot be said in language. Hence, mysticism arises as a consequence of logical necessity. The book brings out the logical and mystical elements in the philosophies of Lao Tzu, Chuang Tzu, Kant and Wittgenstein to show the underlying philosophical affinity among them.

NATURAL SCIENCES

• Ellen R. Altermatt is the 2016 recipient of the Karns Award for Faculty Scholarship and Creative Activity.


Professor Altermatt is the 2015 recipient of the Karns Award for Faculty Scholarship and Creative Activity. This study, involving Middle School students, examined the role the everyday academic successes and failures – and the interactions with family members and peers that followed these events – play in predicting day-to-day changes in children’s emotional responses to school.

• Ellen R. Altermatt, “Predicting day-to-day changes in students’ school-related affect from daily academic experiences and social interactions,” Journal of Experimental Education 83(2) (2015): 218-235. Psychology.


This cross-sectional study provides evidence that perceived academic support from peers declines from 3rd to 8th grade. This decline is partially explained by grade-level declines in perceptions that academic success disclosures are normative and will elicit positive responses, especially among students who strongly endorse social-demonstration goals (i.e., a desire to be viewed as “popular” peers).


This study of elementary and middle school students provides evidence that girls are more likely than boys to disclose academic successes to friends, in part because girls are more likely to believe that academic success disclosures are normative and will be met supportive responses. Although these findings may run contrary to the notion that girls are more likely than boys to adopt a modest self-presentation style, they are consistent with evidence that girls’ friendships are more likely than boys’ to be characterized by features (e.g., validation) that would facilitate positive event disclosures and with evidence that boys are more likely than girls to demonstrate a devaluing of academic achievement and effort.

Hanover College created an award to honor scholarship and creative activity in 2011 and announced it at the annual Honors Convocation in April, naming Professor of Biology Daryl R. Karns as the award’s first recipient. When he died unexpectedly two months later, the faculty voted to rename the award in his honor.

Among his accomplishments, Karns identified a new species of homalopsid snake, which was later named after him in honor of his contributions to homalopsid snake biology: Karnusphis karnsi (See Murphy and Voris, Asian Herpetological Research 4 (2) (2013): 140-146.)


This study examines between-population variation of the Mekong Mud Snake, Enhydris subaenatae (Bourret, 1934) in Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, and Viet Nam, and relates the observed patterns to previously published patterns based on molecular data. Data on size, sexual size dimorphism, scalation, reproductive biology and diet were used to explore the biogeographical patterns revealed by a previously published phylogenetic and population genetic analysis.


Snakes of the genus Cerberus Cuvier, 1829 occupy a unique, widespread coastal distribution and have a salt-tolerant physiology that allows members of the genus to move across a wide range of salinities from full salt water to freshwater. Three species have been recognized by recent workers, here we recognize five species: the Southeast Asian C. rynchops; the Southeast Asian C. schneideri, a new combination; the freshwater Philippine endemic C. microlepis Boulenger; the Australasopian C. australis; and a new species from Micronesia.

• Brian Gall is the 2017 recipient of the Karns Award for Faculty Scholarship and Creative Activity.


Kari was a junior at Hanover College. Kari took complete responsibility for writing the manuscript.
by exposing spotted salamander (Ambystoma talpoideum) embryos to chemical stimuli from a predator (Ambystoma tigrinum), non-predator (Lithobates clamitans), or control at two different time points during embryo development.


This team of Hanover students and faculty set out to determine when learning becomes possible in amphibian development.


Sensation and Perception is a cutting-edge, easy-to-understand account of the modern sensation and perception field presented from both a cognitive and neurocognitive perspective. The book’s rich examples and applications to everyday life emphasize such high-interest topics as music, clinical applications, neuropsychology, and animal perception systems. Clear, illustrative diagrams and figures along with an extensive collection of online activities allow readers to interact with the phenomena covered in the text, perform experiments, and gain a deeper understanding of key course concepts.


This article presents an analysis of the evolution of gliding in scallops as well as a description of a new scallop genus and two included species based on molecular data.


This article presents a study of the effectiveness of training graduate teaching assistants in guided inquiry and hands-on learning in lab settings, and suggests methods for training assistants in science lab contexts.


Learning to Reason shows you how to use the basic elements of mathematical language to develop highly sophisticated, logical reasoning skills. You’ll get clear, concise, easy-to-follow instructions on the process of writing proofs, including the necessary reasoning techniques and syntax for constructing well-written arguments.

The game space she designed to accompany this book received a Merit Award from the Society for Technical Communications: learninreason.com.

Assoc Professor of Biology Darren L. Rubino is the 2014 recipient of the Korns Award for Faculty Scholarship and Creative Activity.


Using the widest range of psychological approaches to explore movies, the people who make them, and the people who watch them, this book explores the insights to be gained by applying various psychological lenses to popular films including cinematic depictions of human behavior, the psychology of filmmakers, and the impact of viewing movies.


SOCIAL SCIENCES


This chapter explores the school experiences of gay male youth around issues of bullying and harassment. In this work I discuss the impact of school responses on student well-being, and the importance of consistent follow-through on the part of professionals.


Abu Hamid Muhammad al-Ghazali’s twelfth-century treatise, The Niche of Lights, advances the philosophically important idea that reason can serve as a connection between the devout and God. Exploiting the boundary between philosophy and theology, The Niche of Lights seeks to understand the role of reality in the perception of the spiritual.


In this study, the authors analyze the rhetorical construction of Mother in Dr. Spock’s The Common Sense Book of Baby and Child Care from 1946–1992. The authors argue that Spock both reinforced and challenged the institution of motherhood by encouraging mothers to “trust themselves” while simultaneously conforming to a patriarchal model of motherhood.


This paper seeks to extrapolate the values articulated through the themes of social change as a counterpoint to a celebration of popular culture in the 2015 Grammy Awards. In this study, the authors provide a close reading of metaphors in five performances in order to address how contemporary values are juxtaposed with entertainment in this public context.


In this chapter, I argue that the tension between non-mainstream and mainstream representations of motherhood in independent films is best understood through the disruption-container model of motherhood.


Rather than providing definitive answers about gender, this unique book exposes readers to new material that will lead them to question their assumptions. The author uses both historical and cross-cultural approaches—as well as a focus on intersectionality and transgender issues—to help students understand the socially-constructed nature of gender.


• Mi Yang Yoon, “Tanzania: Women Judges as Agents of Judicial Education,” in Gretchen Bauer and Josephine Dawuni, eds., Gender and the Judiciary in Africa: From Obscurity to Parity? (Routledge, 2016), 93-107. Political Science and International Studies. This chapter discusses the effort women judges in Tanzania have made to promote judicial justice for women, focusing on judicial education. Women judges have sensitized women on the court system and women’s legal rights to enhance their access to the courts and have trained judges and magistrates to promote gender-sensitive court proceedings and judgments. Though the judicial education has resulted in some positive outcomes, multiple challenges have hindered its potential benefits.

In these two studies, we examined intimate behaviors done for a partner (termed intimate sacrifices) and relationship quality in cohabiting couples. We found that intimacy behaviors are not universally positive for people in relationships.


We examined how college students viewed instructor credibility across different types of social media profile content. While students held simultaneous positive and negative impressions of Twitter as an educational communication tool, they found professors who tweeted academic and professional content more credible than those who tweeted personal content.