

## DOUGLAS BIOW

Superior Oil Company—Linward Shivers Centennial Professor  
in Medieval and Renaissance Studies  
Director, Center for European Studies

### Curriculum vitae

Department of French and Italian  
1 University Station B7600  
The University of Texas at Austin  
Austin, Texas 78712-1197  
Tel: (512) 471-7267  
fax: (512) 471-8492  
[biow@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:biow@mail.utexas.edu)

### ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2009-: Courtesy Appointment in the Department of History, University of Texas at Austin  
2008-: Director, Center for European Studies, University of Texas at Austin  
2008-: Superior Oil Company—Linward Shivers Centennial Professor in Medieval and Renaissance Studies, University of Texas at Austin  
2003-: Professor, Dept. of French and Italian, University of Texas at Austin  
2002: Acting Director, Plan II Honors Program, University of Texas at Austin (*fall semester*)  
1998-05: Associate Director, Plan II Honors Program, University of Texas at Austin  
1997-03: Associate Professor, Dept. of French and Italian, University of Texas at Austin  
1992-97: Assistant Professor, Dept. of French and Italian, University of Texas at Austin  
1992-: Member, Graduate Faculty in the Program of Comparative Literature  
1990-92: Assistant Professor, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Syracuse University  
1986-87: Instructor, Italian, Department of Continuing Education, Johns Hopkins University  
1984-85: Teaching Assistant, Italian, Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies, Johns Hopkins University

### ACADEMIC HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

- 2010- : Principal Investigator, Title VI Award for National Resource Center, Department of Education (awarded \$1,622,380 over 4 years) for the Center for European Studies  
2008-9: Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation for Research in Venice and the Veneto (*winter*); Research Grant, University of Texas at Austin  
2008: Fellow of the Humanities Institute, University of Texas at Austin (*spring*)  
2007: Recipient of a Choice Magazine Outstanding Academic Title (*The Culture of Cleanliness in Renaissance Italy*)  
2007: Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation for Research in Venice and the Veneto (*summer*)

- 2006-7: John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship Foundation  
 2006-7: Faculty Research Assignment, University of Texas at Austin  
 2006: Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation for Research in Venice and the Veneto (*summer*)  
 2005: Dean's Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin (*fall semester*)  
 2003: Recipient of a Robert W. Hamilton Book Award (*Doctors, Ambassadors, Secretaries*)  
 2003: Faculty Research Assignment, University of Texas at Austin (*spring semester*)  
 1996-97: National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship  
 1996-97: National Humanities Center Fellowship (declined)  
 1996-97: Faculty Research Assignment, University of Texas at Austin  
 1996: Summer Research Assignment, University of Texas at Austin  
 1992: Summer Research Award, Syracuse University  
 1989: Fellow at the Charles S. Singleton Center for Italian Studies, Villa Spelman, Johns Hopkins University, Florence  
 1988-89: Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Program, United States Department of Education  
 1986-88: The Jacob K. Javits Fellowship, United States Department of Education

#### EDUCATION

- 1988-90: Ph.D., Italian Language and Literature, Johns Hopkins University  
 1984-88: M.A., Italian Language and Literature, Johns Hopkins University  
 1975-79: B.A., Double Major: Literature; Music/Art, Bennington College

#### PUBLICATIONS

##### BOOKS

1. *In Your Face: Professional Improprieties and the Art of Being Conspicuous in Sixteenth-Century Italy*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2010. Pp xix + 246.  
 Reviews: *Reference & Research Book News* (May, 2010).
2. *The Culture of Cleanliness in Renaissance Italy*. Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press, 2006. Pp xix + 244.  
 Awarded: *Choice Magazine Outstanding Academic Title* (2007)  
 Reviews: *European History Quarterly* (2009): 122-24; *Italica* 85 (2008): 344-5; *Modern Philology* 106 (2008): 228-31; *The Historian* 70 (2008): 821-22; *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 82 (2008): 708-9; *Sixteenth Century Journal* 39 (2008): 204-5; *Speculum* 83 (2008): 172-4; *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 38 (2008): 456-7; *Social History* 32 (2007): 465-7; *Comitatus: A Journal of Medieval and Renaissance Studies* 38 (2007): 190-92; *Archivio storico italiano* 165 (2007): 615-16; *Bibliothèque d'humanisme et Renaissance* 69 (2007): 746; *The Art Book* 14 (2007): 60; *Renaissance Quarterly* 60 (2007): 909-10; *American Historical Review* 112 (2007): 946-7; *Choice* (May 2007); *De volksrant*, "In de hel zietten de vleiers onder se stront," 5 January 2007; *The Virginia Quarterly Review*, 83 (2007).
3. *Doctors, Ambassadors, Secretaries: Humanism and Professions in Renaissance Italy*.

Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press, 2002. Pp. xviii + 224.

Reviews: *Journal of Modern History* 78 (2006): 973-5; *Isis* 95 (2004): 692-3; *Clio* 33 (2004): 321-8; *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 78 (2004): 714-6; *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences* 59 (2004): 297-9; *American Historical Review* 108 (2003): 1240-2; *Choice* (February 2003); *Journal of Early Modern History* 7 (2003); *Sixteenth Century Journal* 34 (1993): 910-11; *Renaissance Quarterly* 46 (2003): 1152-3.

**4. *Mirabile Dictu: Representations of the Marvelous in Medieval and Renaissance Epic.***

Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1996. Pp. viii + 199.

Reviews: *Modern Philology* 97 (2000): 566; *Speculum* 74 (1999): 126-9; *Symposium* 52 (1998): 117-21; *Sixteenth Century Journal* 28 (1997): 1047-9; *Choice* (December 1996).

**ARTICLES**

**Submitted**

“Visualizing Cleanliness, Visualizing Washerwomen in Venice and Renaissance Italy: The Peculiar Case of Tintoretto’s *Jews of the Desert*” (9500 words)

**In Print or Forthcoming**

“Constructing a Maverick Physician in Print: Leonardo Fioravanti, Medical Odors, and the Reconstructed Nose.” Forthcoming in *Modern Language Notes [MLN]* 126 (2011).

“Manly Matters: The Theatricality and Sociability of Beards in Giordano Bruno’s *Candelaio* and Sixteenth-Century Italy.” *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies* 40 (2010): 325-46.

“Beards in Cinquecento Italy.” *The Body in Early Modern Italy*, ed. Julia Hairston and Walter Stephens. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010. Pp. 176-94, 347-49.

“Diplomacy: Castiglione and the Art of Being Inconspicuously Conspicuous” *Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies* 38 (2008): 35-55.

“Food: Pietro Aretino and the Art of Conspicuous Consumption.” In *The Renaissance World*, ed. John Jeffries Martin. Oxford: Routledge, 2007.

“Reflections on Professions and Humanism in Renaissance Italy and the Humanities Today.” *Rinascimento* 43 (2003): 333-53.

“From Machiavelli to Torquato Accetto: The Secretarial Art of Dissimulation.” In *Educare il corpo, educare la parola*, Ed. G. Patrizi and A. Quondam. Rome: Bulzoni, 1998. Pp. 219-38.

“The Politics of Cleanliness in Northern Renaissance Italy.” *Symposium* 50 (1996): 1-13.

Partly reprinted in the series “Exploring Cultural History”: Mark R. Nesbitt, *Living in Renaissance Italy* (Detroit: Greenhaven Press, 2005).

“Epic Performance on Trial: Virgil's *Aeneid* and the Power of Eros in Song.” *Arethusa* 27 (1994): 223-46.

“Dido, Pier della Vigna, and the Discourse of Tragedy in the *Commedia*.” *Stanford Italian Review* 11 (1992): 155-70.

“From Ignorance to Knowledge: The Marvelous in *Inferno* 13.” In *The Poetry of Allusion: Virgil and Ovid in Dante's “Commedia”*. Ed. Rachel Jacoff and Jeffrey T. Schnapp. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1991. Pp. 45-61.

“Psychoanalysis, History, Marginality: A Study of Violence and Disease in Pirandello's *Enrico IV*.” *Italica* 66 (1989): 158-75.

#### NOTES AND TRANSLATIONS

*Antonio Vivaldi: The Four Seasons*. The Metropolitan Museum of Art Publications. Little, Brown and Company: Boston, 1999. Translation of sonnets.

“Ariosto, Ludovico.” In *Major Tudor Authors: A Bio-Biographical Critical Sourcebook*, ed. Alan Hager. Westport: Greenwood Press, 1997. Pp. 16-20.

#### REVIEWS

Jon Snyder. *Dissimulation and the Culture of Secrecy*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2009. In *American Historical Review*, 115 (2010): 880-81.

Timothy Hampton. *Fictions of Embassy: Literature and Diplomacy in Early Modern Europe*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2009. In *Renaissance Quarterly*, 62 (2009): 1223-25.

Virginia Smith. *Clean: A History of Personal Hygiene and Purity*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007. In *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 82 (2008): 709-10.

Meredith J. Gill. *Augustine in the Italian Renaissance: Art and Philosophy from Petrarch to Michelangelo*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005. In *Italian Culture* 24/25 (2006-7): 195-9.

Thomas V. Cohen, *Love and Death in Renaissance Italy*. Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press, 2004. In *The Historian* 68 (2006): 867-8.

Christopher S. Celenza. *The Lost Italian Renaissance: Humanists, Historians, and Latin's Legacy*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press. In *American Historical Review* 110 (2005): 245-6.

Leda Giannuzzi Jaworski, ed. *Lo studio bolognese: Campi di studio, di ricerca, di insegnamento, di divulgazione*. Forum Italicum: Filibrary Series, number 8, 1995. In *Symposium* 51 (1997): 206-8.

Rodney J. Payton, *A Modern Reader's Guide to Dante's "Inferno"*. New York: Peter Lang, 1992. In *Annali d'italianistica* 13 (1995): 477.

J. F. Took. *Dante: Lyric Poet and Philosopher. An Introduction to the Minor Works*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1990. In *Lectura Dantis* 13 (1933): 96-7.

Domenico Pietropaolo. *Dante Studies in the Age of Vico*. Ottawa: Dovehouse Edition Inc., 1989. In *Romance Quarterly* 39 (1992): 252-3.

#### SELECTED PAPERS DELIVERED

“Leonardo Fioravanti, Odors, and Noses.” Renaissance Society of America Conference. Venice, Italy. April, 2010.

“Anton Francesco Doni and Print Culture.” American Association for Italian Studies Conference, New York City. May, 2009.

“Dante’s *Inferno*.” Invited lecture at Trinity University, San Antonio. November, 2008.

“Staging Facial Hair in the *Candelaio*: Theatricality and Sociability in Sixteenth-Century Italy.” Invited lecture. University College Cork, Cork, Ireland. May, 2008.

“Anton Francesco Doni and the Art of Conspicuous Reproduction” and “Consumption and Absorption in Michelangelo’s *Bacchus*.” Invited papers presented at the University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, April, 2008.

“Limits: Understanding Nature, Understanding Cultures, Understanding the World in Fioravanti’s *Specchio*.” Invited lecture. *Interpreters of Culture*, Koper, Slovenia, September 2007.

“Michelangelo’s *Bacchus* and the Art of Absorption.” Invited lecture. Trinity University, San Antonio, April, 2007.

“The Beard in Sixteenth-Century Italy.” *Renaissance Society of America*. Miami, March 2007.

“Soap.” *Renaissance Society of America*. New York City, April 2004.

“Three Reactions to Plague: Marvels and Commonplaces in Medicine and Literature” and “The Importance and Tragedy of Being an Ambassador: The Performance of Francesco Guicciardini.” Invited papers presented at the University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, October 2001.

“Fracastoro’s *Syphilis*: Wonder, the Metaphors of Illness, and Naming a ‘New’ Disease.”  
American Association for Italian Studies Conference, New York City, April 2000.

“Petrarch’s Profession and His Laurel.” Modern Language Association, Chicago, December 1999.

“The Authority of the Renaissance Secretary: Tasso’s Analogy.” Kentucky Foreign Language Conference. Lexington, KY, April 1999.

“Fathers and Sons: Ermolao Barbaro’s Treatise on the Ambassador.” American Association for Italian Studies Conference. Chicago, April 1998.

“Guicciardini as Sophist and Storyteller: The 'Discrezione' of the Humanist Ambassador.”  
Invited lecture. The Charles S. Singleton Center for Italian Studies, Johns Hopkins University. Florence, Italy, December 1995.

“From Machiavelli to Torquato Accetto: The Secretarial Art of Dissimulation.” Invited paper. Università di Roma “La Sapienza.” Rome, Italy, 1995.

“Treating Diseases: Medicine, Legislators, and Boccaccio's *Decameron*.” American Comparative Literature Association. Atlanta, March 1995.

“The Trials of the Secretary.” Renaissance Society of America. Dallas, April 1994.

“Dido, Pier della Vigna, and the Discourse of Tragedy.” Twenty-Sixth International Conference on Medieval Studies. Kalamazoo, May 1991.

#### **SERVICE (major duties)**

2008- : Dean’s Academic Affairs College Committee, College of Liberal Arts

2008- : Dean’s Committee for International Education, College of Liberal Arts

2007- : Dean’s Promotion and Tenure Committee, College of Liberal Arts

2007- : Steering Committee, Film Across Disciplines

2007- : Steering Committee, European Studies

2005-6: Faculty Development Program Committee

2003-5: Dean’s Promotion and Tenure Committee, College of Liberal Arts

2001- : Executive Committee, Department of French and Italian

2001-3: Member of the Castiglione Fiorentino Steering Committee

2000-2: Member of the Faculty Council

Member of the Faculty Council Grievance Committee

1997-8: Chair of the Qualifying Exam Committee, Program in Comparative Literature

1994-6: Graduate Adviser of the Program in Comparative Literature, University of Texas

#### **ASSOCIATIONS**

Modern Language Association

American Historical Association

Renaissance Society for America  
Sixteenth Century Society  
American Association for Italian Studies  
News on the Rialto

Reviewer for University of Chicago Press, Yale University Press, University of Toronto Press,  
University of Pennsylvania Press