

BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE

Michael Lucey
Departments of French and Comparative Literature
4125 Dwinelle Hall
University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, CA 94720-2580 USA

Office: 4210 Dwinelle Hall

1- (510) 642-2712 for messages

mlucey@berkeley.edu

CURRENT ACADEMIC POSITION:

Sidney and Margaret Ancker Chair in the Humanities
Distinguished Professor of French and Comparative Literature
Affiliated faculty in Gender and Women's Studies
Faculty member, Designated Emphasis in Critical Theory

EDUCATION:

- 1984-1988: Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey.
Ph.D. in Comparative Literature, January 1989.
- 1982-1984: Christ Church, University of Oxford. (Keasbey Scholar)
M. Phil. in Modern English Studies.
- 1978-1982: Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut.
B.A. with High Honors in the College of Letters.

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS:

Comparative Literature; Modern French Literature and Culture; Modern English and American Literature and Culture; The Novel; Literary and Cultural Criticism and Theory; Social Theory; Linguistic Anthropology; Sexuality Studies; Cultural Studies of Music; Sound Studies.

SELECTED AWARDS, GRANTS, HONORS, VISITING APPOINTMENTS:

- 2026: Visiting Fellow, All Souls College, Oxford
- 2023: Modern Language Association, Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for French and Francophone Studies, for *What Proust Heard*
- 2023: Honorable Mention, Modernist Studies Association Book Prize, for *What Proust Heard*
- 2021: Visiting Researcher, St. John's College, Oxford
- 2021: Visiting Research Fellow, Merton College, Oxford
- 2017-19: Mellon Foundation Sawyer Seminar Grant (together with Tom McEnaney) for a 2018-19 seminar on "Linguistic Anthropology and Cultural Critique"
- 2015: Visiting Fellow, All Souls College, Oxford
- 2014: Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques
- 2010: Visiting Professor, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France
- 2008: Distinguished Teaching Award for Senate Faculty Members, Division of Arts and Humanities, UC Berkeley

2002: John Simon Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship
1996: National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship.

PUBLICATIONS:

Books:

Thinking about Sexuality with Novels. Current project nearing completion.

What Proust Heard: Novels and the Ethnography of Talk. University of Chicago Press. 2022.

Someone: The Pragmatics of Misfit Sexualities, from Colette to Hervé Guibert. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2019.

Never Say I: Sexuality and the First Person in Colette, Gide, and Proust. Durham: Duke University Press, 2006.

The Misfit of the Family: Balzac and the Social Forms of Sexuality. Durham: Duke University Press, 2003.
(French Translation: *Les ratés de la famille. Balzac et les formes sociales de la sexualité*. Paris: Fayard, 2008.)

Gide's Bent: Sexuality, Politics, Writing. New York: Oxford University Press, 1995.

Edited volume:

Michael Warner, *On the Grid: Climate Change and the Utopia of Green Energy*. The Berkeley Tanner Lectures. With Dale W. Jamieson, Anahid Nersessian, and Jedediah S. Purdy. New York: Oxford University Press, 2025.

Special Issues:

"Approaching Proust in 2022." A special issue of *Paragraph: A Journal of Modern Critical Theory* 45, no. 1 (March 2022).

"Language-in-Use and the Literary Artifact." A special issue of *Representations*, no. 137 (Winter 2017).
Co-edited with Tom McEnaney and Tristram Wolff.

Selected Recent Articles:

"Silverstein and Bourdieu: A Science of Literary Works in Use." In Luke Fleming, Nicholas H. Harkness, and Constantine V. Nakassis, eds., *The Total Linguistic Fact*. University of Toronto Press. Forthcoming.

Introduction to Marcel Proust, *Sodom and Gomorrah*, translated by Helen Constantine, Oxford World Classics, Oxford University Press, 2026.

"Sexuality, Indexicality, and Music in Baldwin's *Just Above My Head*," *Representations* 174 (Spring 2026): 53-82.

"Some Novelistic Versions of Sexuality Happening in Language." In "How to See What Has Been Done with Words," eds. Nan Da and Matt Hunter. A special issue of *Textual Practice* 40, no. 3 (2026): 334-56.

"Understanding 'Understanding Music' in Proust." In "Fugitive Proust," eds. Hannah Freed-Thall and Zakir Paul. A special issue of *Textual Practice* 38, no. 11 (2024): 1746-58.

"From Phonemes and Sonemes to Qualia, Aspects, and Collateral Observation." *American Book Review* 45, no. 3 (2024): 61-65.

"Translation and Polylinguaging: Sexuality and Novels from James Baldwin to Mohamed Mbougar Sarr." *Comparative Literature* 76, no. 4 (2024): 406-28.

"Sociological." In "Syntax of Thought: Reading Leo Bersani," eds. Jacques Khalip and John Paul Ricco. A special issue of *differences*. Volume 34, no. 1 (2023): 244-51.

"Speech." In Anna Elsner and Tom Stern, eds., *The Proustian Mind*. Pp. 191-208. New York: Routledge, 2023.

"Introduction: Proust's Modernist Sociology." In "Approaching Proust in 2022." A special issue of *Paragraph: A Journal of Modern Critical Theory* 45, no. 1 (2022): 1-21.

"How You Read *Madame Bovary*." *Representations* 156 (Fall 2021): 27-54.

"Real-Time Literary Texts." *College English* 82, no. 1 (2019): 41-54.

Selected Translations:

Didier Eribon, *The Life, Old Age, and Death of a Working-Class Woman*. Semiotext(e)/Penguin Books. 2025.

Édouard Louis, *The End of Eddy*. A translation of *En finir avec Eddy Bellegueule*. Harvill Secker (U.K. edition)/Farrar, Straus and Giroux (U.S. Edition). 2017.

Didier Eribon, *Returning to Reims*. A translation of *Retour à Reims*. New York: Semiotext(e), 2013. Reprinted by Penguin Books, 2018.

Didier Eribon, *Insult and the Making of the Gay Self*. Translation of *Réflexions sur la question gay*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2004.

RECENT TALKS OR LECTURES:

"How listening to this you hear that: Miles Davis, Ludwig Wittgenstein, James Baldwin." Visiting Fellows Colloquium, All Souls College, University of Oxford, June 16, 2026.

"Sexuality, Indexicality, and Music in James Baldwin's *Just Above My Head*." University of Oxford Faculty of English, Modern and Contemporary Literature Research Seminar, All Souls College, April 29, 2026.

"Balzac and Totality: Reading *Les Paysans* Today." University of Oxford, Modern French Research Seminar, Maison Française d'Oxford, February 26, 2026.

“What Novels Can Show about Sexuality Happening in Language.” A talk in the seminar “How to See What Has Been Done with Words.” ACLA Meeting, Montréal, March 15-17, 2024.

“Translation and Polylinguaging: Sexuality and Novels from James Baldwin to Mohamed Mbougar Sarr.” A paper on the panel “Translating the Translingual.” Modern Languages Association Conference. Philadelphia. January 6, 2024.

“Texte et contexte: deux traductions de la même phrase.” An invited paper at the conference: Transatlantic Reflections on Bourdieu’s Legacy. NYU-Paris. June 15, 2023.

“How Sound Becomes Meaningful in Proust.” Cambridge Seminar Series in Nineteenth-Century French Studies. University of Cambridge. June 5, 2023.

“Silverstein and Bourdieu: Indexicality and Cultural Works and Fields.” A paper on the panel “Language in Culture 2: Papers in Honor of Michael Silverstein.” American Anthropological Association Conference. Seattle, Washington. November 10, 2022.

“Transhistorical Maupin.” A paper on the panel “Transposing Gautier’s *Mademoiselle de Maupin*” for which I was a co-organizer. Nineteenth-Century French Studies conference. New York, New York. November 5, 2022.

“Misfits, Perverts, and Other Modernist Sexualities.” Seminar co-coordinator with Benjamin Kahan. Modernist Studies Association conference. Portland, Oregon. October 28, 2022.

“How Sound Becomes Meaningful in Proust.” *Fugitive Proust* conference. New York University. October 14-15, 2022.

“Talk’s Work in Proust: A Look at *What Proust Heard*.” France and the World Seminar. Mahindra Humanities Center. Harvard University. September 28, 2022.

“Proust, Speech Acts, and Language Ideologies.” Lecture delivered at The Center for Theoretical Inquiry in the Humanities. Indiana University, Bloomington. September 22, 2022.

“Sexuality, Translation, and Polylinguaging in Some Francophone Contexts.” A lecture delivered at the Department of French and Italian, University of Texas at Austin, April 1, 2022.

“How You Read *Madame Bovary*.” A lecture at Merton College, University of Oxford, March 9, 2021.

“Proust on How to Do Things with Language.” A lecture delivered for the 20th Century and Contemporary Graduate Research Seminar, Faculty of English, University of Cambridge, March 2, 2021.

“Proust-Gide-Genet: The Novel and Sexuality’s Intelligibility.” A lecture delivered for the Modern French Research Seminar, University of Cambridge, February 1, 2021.

“Proust, Albertine, Dostoevsky, and People Who Talk Strangely.” A lecture at the “Proust 1919” conference at the Maison Française, Columbia University, April 12, 2019.

"Realtime Literary Texts." A talk on the panel "Weaving the Text: Changing Disciplinary Orientations." Modern Language Association Convention. Chicago. January 4, 2019.

"Someone." A talk on a panel on "Gender Calling: Pronouns as a Comparative Problem." Modern Language Association Convention. New York. January 6, 2018.

"Proust and Bourdieu, Distinction and Form." Yale University. April 28, 2016.

"'La recherche que l'on peut dire formelle': Proust with Bourdieu". A talk delivered at "What forms can do: attending to the real in 20th and 21st century French literature. A conference in honour of Professor Michael Sheringham." All Souls College, Oxford. January 12, 2016.

"Translating Sexuality Contextually." A talk on the panel devoted to "Gender in Translation" sponsored by the Berkeley Program in Critical Theory. December 10, 2015.

"What You Might Hear When People Talk, or Proust as a Linguistic Anthropologist." Keynote address at the Cambridge French Graduate Conference. Cambridge University. May 14, 2015. Also delivered at All Souls College, Oxford University. June 17, 2015. UC Berkeley Linguistic Anthropology Working Group. May 4, 2016.

"Leduc au village: Sexuality and Multivariable Acrobatics." A talk at the *Beauvoir, Leduc, Wittig: Feminism's Abject Selves* conference. Maison Française. Columbia University. April 17-18, 2015.

"Proust and literature as language-in-use." Maison Française, Oxford. November 1, 2012.

"Typicality/Sexuality: Leduc and Guibert with Bourdieu and Foucault." All Souls College, Oxford University. October 31, 2012.

"Misfit Gossip." Invited lecture at the symposium "Sex, Empire and Literature in the Anglo-American World, 1700-2020: Henry Abelove and 'The Gay Science.'" New York University. February 17, 2012.

RECENT GRADUATE SEMINARS:

Comp. Lit. 202: The Novel and Sociological Forms of Knowledge

Comp. Lit. 250: Theories of Discourse

Comp. Lit. 250: Literature and Indexical Meaning: The Uses of Novels

Comp. Lit. 265: Sexuality and the Literary Field

French 250: The Nineteenth Century and Ways of Reading: Literature, Social History, Hermeneutics

French 260: Marginalization and extravagant self-expression in recent French writing

French 270: Proust and Proust Criticism

French 270: Literary Objects

French 270: Structuralism, Phenomenology, and Beyond

French 275: Proust, Speech Act Theory, and Language-in-Use

EDITORIAL SERVICE:

Editorial Board of *Modernism/modernity*, 2019- .

Editorial Board of *Representations*, 2015 - .
Advisory Board of *French Studies*, 2009- .
Editorial Board of *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*, 1993-2005.

SELECTED BERKELEY ACADEMIC SERVICE:

Academic Senate Committee on Budget and interdepartmental Relations ("Budget Committee"), 2015-2018 (Chair, 2017-2018); 2022-2023; Chair, Fall 2024.
Academic Senate Graduate Council, 2012-2014
Chair, French Department, 2005- 2011
Director, Center for the Study of Sexual Culture, UC Berkeley. 2001-2005 and 2006-2007
Faculty Director, Berkeley Bisexual Lesbian Gay Center, 1994-1995. (Oversaw final development & approval of the LGBT Studies minor program; coordinated successful proposal for establishment of Campus Advisory Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns.)
Vice Chair in Charge of Graduate Studies, Department of Comparative Literature, 1994-1996.