Doug Cumming, Ph.D.

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Doug Cumming worked for newspapers and magazines in Raleigh, Providence and Atlanta for 26 years before getting a Ph.D. in mass communication at UNC-Chapel Hill in 2002. Since then, he has taught at Loyola University in New Orleans and Washington & Lee University in Lexington, Va. He teaches writing, digital storytelling, reporting, and literary journalism.

Education

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, N.C., August 2002
* Ph.D., School of Journalism and Mass Communication. Freedom Forum Fellow.
* Dissertation - "Facing Facts, Facing South: The Southern Education Reporting Service and the Effort to Inform the South after Brown v. Board, 1954-1960."
* Kappa Tau Alpha, journalism student honor society.

Brown University, Providence, R.I., May 1980
* M.A., American Civilization, with focus on religion, social reform.

Bennington College, Bennington, Vt., June 1974
* B.A., Literature.

Research

Literary journalism, literary journalists and narrative non-fiction writing.
History: Southern, American intellectual, media, civil rights, religion, education.

Teaching

Courses taught: The Magazine: Past, Present and Future; The Literature of Journalism (literary nonfiction); The Press and the Civil Rights Movement; Introduction to Reporting; Beat Reporting; Introduction to Mass Communication; "A Sense of Place"; Urbino Project (Italy) and Armagh Project (Northern Ireland) (ieiMedia, multimedia storytelling); Discovering America's Early Newspapers; In-Depth Reporting; feature writing; media law.

Teaching workshops: "The Teaching Professor," Magna, Atlanta, June 1-3, 2018; "Summer Teaching & Learning Workshop," Associated Colleges of the South, Rollins College,

May 31-Mune 5, 2010; "Journalism Workshop on Teaching," Indiana University School of Journalism, June 22-28, 2003.

Articles in peer-reviewed journals and encyclopedias; conference papers, lectures, panels

"Tom Wolfe's Roots, Reporting, and What Remains," lecture to the Lexington branch of the English Speaking Union, Virginia Military Institute post, March 10, 2019.

"Ink and Blood: Dueling as an Occupational Hazard in Southern Journalism," *Journalism History* Spring 2018 (44:1), 39-48, and presented at AEJMC Southeast Colloquium, Tuscaloosa, Ala., March 2006.

Discussant, 2017, AEJMC conference panels, Chicago: "Media Models," on five papers; "Pools of Press History," on four paper presentations.

Moderator, 2016, AEJMC conference panel, Minneapolis, "Wartime Journalism."

Presenter, "Indivisible Freedom: The Transnational Experience of South African Nieman Fellows," submitted for inaugural conference on Transnational Journalism History at Augusta University, March 4-5, 2016.

"'Just as I Am,': Marshall Frady's Making of Billy Graham", *Literary Journalism Studies,* Fall 2014, (6,2) pp. 74-98. (Peer reviewed)

" 'So Splendid it Hurts'," *Journalism History,* Spring 2014 (40,1), pp. 59-64 (by invitation).

Panelist, 2014, AEJMC, Montreal, "New York Times v. Sullivan, 50 years later."

Presenter, 2013, AEJMC, Washington D.C.: Poster session, G.I.F.T., "What's the Big Idea?"; discussant, History Division etc. poster session.

"Putting Your Community on Stage: Creating a Play out of Local Historical Letters to the Editor," *American Journalism,* essay (by invitation), and presented at AEJMC Southeast Colloquium, March 17-19, 2011, Columbia, S.C.

"Editors" and "Atlanta," two entries (4,000 words and 1,800 words) in *Encyclopedia of Journalism*, New York: MTM/Sage Publications, 2009.

"Jazz and Blues," in *Star Struck: An Encyclopedia of Celebrity Culture*, Sam Riley, ed., Greenwood Press, 2010.

"Tom Wolfe, Reporter: His Relationship to Old New Journalism and New New Journalism," *Shenandoah: The Washington & Lee University Review*, Spring, 2007, and online at *Journal of Magazine & New Media Research*, Fall, 2006.

"Building Resentment: How the Alabama Press Prepared the Ground for Sullivan v. New York Times," *American Journalism*, Summer 2005.

Presenter, " 'So Shocked, So Stunned': Letters to Southern Newspapers after *Brown v. Board*," Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) Southeast Colloquium, Little Rock, Ark., March 2003.

Presenter, "Building Resentment," earlier versions of above, presented at AEJMC Convention, Miami, Aug. 2002, won Student Paper Award runner-up, History Division; and AEJMC Southeast Colloquium, Gulfport, Miss., March 2002, won Best Student Paper, Southern History.

Presenter, " 'Just the Facts, M'am': Southern School News and the Search for 'Objectivity'," American Journalism Historians Association, San Diego, Calif., October 2001.

Presenter, "Public School Muckraker of the 1890s: A Reinterpretation of Joseph M. Rice, Southeast Colloquium, History Division, AEJMC, Columbia, S.C., March 2001 and (revised) AEJMC, Washington, DC, August 2001.

Presenter, "Breaking the Seal: Using Public Records Laws to Lift the 'Cloak of Secrecy' from Student Tests," Law division, Southeast Colloquium, AEJMC, Columbia, S.C., March 2001.

Book Reviews in Academic Journals: *Deep South Dispatches* by John Herbers, reviewed in Journalism History, Summer 2019; *Deep South*, Paul Theroux, and *The Redemption of Narrative*, Jan Whitt, Literary Journalism Studies (Literary Journalism Studies, Fall 2016); *Defending White Democracy*, Jason Morgan Ward, Journalism History (Summer 2012); *Settling the Borderland: Other Voices in Literary Journalism*, Jan Whitt, Journalism History (Fall 2009); *The Postwar Decline of American Newspapers* and *Journalism at the End of the American Century*, J&MC Quarterly (Spring 2007*); Lafcadio Hearn's America*, Simon Bronner, J&MC Quarterly (Spring 2003).

Panel judge (for past five-plus years)**:** Sigma Delta Chi Awards (Best Non-Deadline News Writing, 100,000+ circ.), Robin Toner Prize for Excellence in Political Reporting.

Books

The Lexington Letters: Two Centuries of Water Under the Bridge, Mariner Media, November 2011.

The Southern Press: Literary Legacies and the Challenge of Modernity, Northwestern University Press, Visions of the American Press series, 2009.

"Foreword," in *Bylines: Writings from the American South, 1963-97,* by Joe Cumming, Authorhouse, 2010.

Other recent published writings

"To Reckon with Robert E. Lee," March 2, 2023, in "Salvation South"; "Searching for the Origins of the Appalachian Trail," Oct. 17, 2021, Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

From the Roanoke Times:

"King's Crusade when Objective Journalists Took Sides," Jan. 18, 2021.

"A Night at the Community Table," Dec. 12, 2020.

"Down to the Entryway of Higher Education," Dec. 2, 2019.

"The Proliferation of Southern Ancestors," July 22, 2017.

"Other Countries Have Their Own Flaggers," Jan. 11, 2017.

"I Voted," Nov. 8, 2016.

"College on the iPhone: along together, naturally," May 19, 2014.

From "Like the Dew: A Journal of Southern Culture & Politics," republished on my blog: "What's a Southern Gentleman Today?" June 2021; "Political Pros and Cons," November 2020; "On Atlanta's Northern Border," October 2019; "Five Lessons & Carols for Southern Liberals," December 2019; "Michael Cohen's Lesson," November 2019.

Book reviews in newspapers: *All the Truth*, Laura Brodie, Roanoke Times (July 1, 2012); *Morning Miracle: Inside the Washington Post*, by Dave Kindred, Roanoke Times (Sept. 5, 2010); *John Brown's Trial*, by Brian McGinty, Roanoke Times; *Concord, Virginia: A Southern Town in Eleven Stories*, by Peter Neofotis, Roanoke Times; *Buried by the Times: The Holocaust and America's Most Important Newspaper,* Laurel Leff, Atlanta Journal-Constitution, 2003.

"The Outtakes of a Literary Life," *Furman* magazine, Winter 2012.

Columns as Head (2017-18) and Teaching Standards chair (2012-2015) in issues of the quarterly *Clio: Among the Media, Newsletter of the History Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communications*.

Professional Experience

Department of Journalism and Mass Communications, Washington & Lee University, Lexington, Va. (Fall 2003-22), faculty.

Department of English & Humanities, Surry County Community College, Dobson, N.C. (Fall 2019), visiting adjunct instructor.

Institute for Education in International Media (ieiMedia), four-week summer courses in Urbino, Italy (2011, 2012, 2015, 2019, 2022) and Armagh, Northern Ireland (2014), faculty.

Communications Department, Loyola University New Orleans, 2002-03, faculty.

Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Atlanta, Ga., 1990-2000, assistant metro editor, education reporter.

Southpoint monthly, Atlanta, Ga., 1989-90, a former Time-Warner launch, senior editor for features.

Providence Journal-Bulletin, Providence, R.I., 1976-89, staff reporter, Sunday Magazine editor.

Raleigh Times, *News & Observer*, Raleigh, N.C., 1974-75, state regional reporter.

Atlantic Monthly, Boston, Mass., Jan.-Feb. 1974, intern reader.

Academy Theatre, Atlanta, Ga., 1971, writer-in-residence.

Fellowships & Awards

Lenfest Grants, summer 2018, for "The Teaching Professor" conference; summer 2017, for CUNY summer intensive "New York City Reporting & Writing"; summer 2016, travel for research on the education beat; summers of 2009 and 2010 for research and student assistance for book *The Lexington Letters*, Washington & Lee University

John M. Glenn Grant, Summer 2006, for research on Southern press history for a book, Washington & Lee University

Freedom Forum Fellowship, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2000-02

CASE Fellowship, Harvard Graduate School of Education, Cambridge, Mass., one week, April 1999

Knight Center for Specialized Journalism, religion, University of Maryland, College Park, Md., one week, December 1993

Nieman Fellowship, academic year, 1986-87, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

Unity Award; New England Associated Press News Executives (1st Place-Features); United Press International New England Newspaper Award, 1986

George Polk Award, Metropolitan Reporting, *Providence Journal-Bulletin*, 1982, for "Ticket

to Ride," four-day series on commuter airline safety and deregulation

Author of the Year Award in poetry, Dixie Council of Authors and Journalists, with co-author Joe Cumming and illustrator Walter Cumming, for book *Family Secret*, 1983

University, Academic & Community Service

The Community Table, Lexington, Va., board member, 2020- .

History Division, AEJMC, Head, 2017-18; Vice Head/Research Chair, 2016-17; Secretary/newsletter editor, 2015-16; Teaching Standards chair, 2012-15.

Science, Society and the Arts 2017, W&L, on two subcommittees

Fishback Fund for Visiting Writers Committee, W&L, chair, 2015-18

Associate Professor Cohort group, W&L, chair, 2015-16

Public Functions Committee, W&L, member, 2011-16

Faculty advisor, Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ), W&L campus chapter, Fall 2005-13; hosted four-state Region II spring conference, March 2008.

Communication Task Force member (writing news releases for), 2020, Grace Episcopal Church; and Vestry member, under its former name, R.E. Lee Memorial Episcopal Church, 2010-12, 2015-17.