

May 2009

CURRICULUM VITAE
Elisabeth Weber

PERSONAL Germanic, Slavic and Semitic Studies
University of California, Santa Barbara
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EDUCATION

1988-91 Postgraduate research, Paris
1988 PhD (Promotion) at the University of Freiburg-im- Breisgau (on the
Philosophy of Emmanuel Levinas)
1987 Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondies (D.E.A.) at the University of Paris-I
1983 Maîtrise de Philosophie at the University of Paris-I, Sorbonne (on Adorno
and Benjamin)

EMPLOYMENT

2002-present Chair, Department of Germanic, Slavic and Semitic Studies
2005-present Chair, Program of Comparative Literature
1998- Professor, Department of Germanic, Slavic and Semitic Studies,
University of California, Santa Barbara
Affiliate Professor of Religious Studies, UCSB
Affiliate Professor of Comparative Literature, UCSB
1995 Visiting Associate Professor, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.
1994-1998 Associate Professor, Department of Germanic, Slavic and Semitic Studies,
University of California, Santa Barbara
1991-1994 Assistant Professor, Department of Germanic, Slavic and Semitic Studies,
University of California

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

1998 - 1999 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship
1998 University of California Regents' Humanities Faculty Fellowship
1996 Faculty Research Award of the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center,
UCSB
1993 FCDA Grant, University of California
1992 - 1993 FCDA Grant, University of California
1992 Fellowship of the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme (Paris) and the
Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
1990 - 1991 Fellowship of the Stiftung zur Förderung der Philosophie (Germany)
1985 - 1987 Doctoral Fellowship of the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes
1981 - 1982 Grant of the French Government
1978 - 1983 Fellowship of the Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes

PRIZE

1995 Prize of the Dr. Margrit-Egnér-Foundation, Switzerland, for book on
Levinas

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Verfolgung und Trauma. Zu Emmanuel Lévinas' Autrement qu'être ou au-delà de l'essence, Wien: Passagen 1990.

[English title: Persecution and traumatism. On Emmanuel Levinas's *Otherwise than Being or Beyond Essence*]

Jüdisches Denken in Frankreich. Gespräche mit Pierre Vidal-Naquet, Jacques Derrida, Rita Thalmann, Emmanuel Levinas, Léon Poliakov, Jean-François Lyotard, Luc Rosenzweig (interviews, edition, translation and introduction by E.W.), Frankfurt am Main: Jüdischer Verlag 1994

Questions au Judaïsme. Entretiens avec Elisabeth Weber: Pierre Vidal-Naquet, Jacques Derrida, Rita Thalmann, Emmanuel Levinas, Léon Poliakov, Jean-François Lyotard, Luc Rosenzweig (French edition of the previous item), Paris: Desclée de Brouwer 1996

Das Vergessen(e). Anamnesen des Undarstellbaren (editor, author of introduction and two texts and translator of two contributions), ed. with G. C. Tholen, Wien: Turia & Kant 1997 (texts, among others, by J.-F. Lyotard, A. Ronell, J. Derrida, J.-L. Nancy, Ph. Lacoue-Labarthe, S. Weber)

Questioning Judaism [with an updated introduction, added and expanded notes], translated by Rachel Bowlby, Stanford University Press, 2004

Edition:

Jacques Derrida, *Limited Inc.*, Paris: Galilée 1990.

Jacques Derrida, *Points de Suspension. Entretiens*, Paris: Galilée 1992

Jacques Derrida, *Points... Interviews 1974-1994*, Stanford University Press, 1995

Articles:

Zur Kindheit des Ereignisses. Ein Gespräch zwischen Jean-François Lyotard und E. Weber, *Spuren in Kunst und Gesellschaft*, No. 30/31, Hamburg, Dec. 1989

Unvordenklichkeit des Jetzt. Zu den späten Gedichten der Nelly Sachs, *Spuren in Kunst und Gesellschaft*, No. 32, Hamburg, March 1990

“Eclatement du temps”. “Zerspringen der Zeit”. Über eine apokalyptische Wendung bei Emmanuel Lévinas, *Zeit-Zeichen. Aufschiebe und Interferenzen zwischen Endzeit und Echtzeit*, eds. G.C. Tholen, M. Scholl, Weinheim: VCH 1990

Nachdenken als Nach-denken: Anamnesis, *Parabel*, No. 12: *Lévinas. Zur Möglichkeit einer prophetischen Philosophie*, eds. M. Mayer, M. Hentschel, Gießen: Focus 1990

Graffiti sur le mur, *Digraphe*, No. 53, Paris, Sept. 1990

Im Grenzland der Schrift. Randgänge zwischen Philosophie und Literatur. Gespräch mit J. Derrida, *Spuren in Kunst und Gesellschaft*, No. 34/35, Hamburg, Oct.-Dec. 1990

“Wie ein Riß der Granatfrucht...” (Francis Bacon mit Jacques Lacan), *Gegenwart Ewigkeit. Spuren des Transzendenten in der Kunst unserer Zeit*, Stuttgart: Cantz 1990 (also in *Frag-mente*, No. 34: *Zwie-Spalt der Geschlechter*, Kassel, Dec. 1990).

Approche, Ritspa, Esther. Quelques remarques sur M. Buber et E. Lévinas, *Les Cahiers de l'Herne, Emmanuel Lévinas*, ed. Catherine Chalié, Paris 1991.

Le temps des larmes, *Penser après Heidegger*, eds. W. Schirmacher, Poulain, J., Paris: L' Harmattan 1992

Larmes d'encre, *L'éthique du don. Jacques Derrida et la pensée du don*. Colloque de Royaumont, Décembre 1990, ed. J.-M. Rabaté, M. Wetzel, Paris: Métailié-Transition, 1992

Eigensinn, *Wahnwelten im Zusammenstoss. Die Psychose als Spiegel der Zeit*, eds. U. Sonnemann, D. Kamper, R. Heinz, Berlin, Akademie-Verlag, 1993

Schwarze Tränen, Tintenspur, *Die Ethik der Gabe. Denken nach Jacques Derrida*, eds. J.-M. Rabaté, M. Wetzel, Berlin: Akademie Verlag 1993 (German version of “Larmes d’encre” listed above)

“The Easily Stirred Tribe of Tears.” A Text of Jacques Derrida, *Enlightenments. Encounters between Critical Theory and Contemporary French Thought*, eds. H. Kunneman, H. de Vries, Kampen (Netherlands): Kok Pharos 1993

“I'm a Fool To Want You”, *Zukunft oder Ende*, ed. R. Maresch, Munich: Bohr 1993

Riss der Zeit, *Zeitreise*, eds. G. C. Tholen, M. Scholl, Museum für Gestaltung, Zürich, 1993

Willfullness, *Semiotics 1991*, eds. J. Deely, T. Prewitt, Lanham, New York, London: University Press of America, 1993 (English translation of “Eigensinn” listed above)

Kassiber, Schibbolim, etc., (de bandits, voleurs, etc.), *Le passage des frontières (autour du travail de Jacques Derrida)*, Colloque de Cerisy, ed. M.-L. Mallet, Paris, Galilée 1994

“Das Geschlecht, das leichtbewegliche, der Tränen”, *Frag-mente*, No 44/45, Kassel, July 1994 (German version of “The Easily Stirred Tribe of Tears” listed above)

Kassiber, Schibbolim, etc. (von Banditen, Räufern, etc.), *Körper/Kultur: Kalifornische Studien zur deutschen Moderne*, ed. T. Kniesche, Würzburg: Königshausen & Neumann 1995 (expanded German version of article listed above)

Writing Resistances, *Deconstruction is/in America: A New Sense of the Political*, ed. A. Haverkamp, New York & London: New York University Press 1995

Anamnèse et immémorial (à propos de *Autrement qu'être ou au-delà de l'essence* d'Emmanuel Levinas), *La différence comme non-indifférence*, ed. A. Münster, Paris: Editions Kimé 1995

The notion of persecution in Levinas's *Otherwise than Being or Beyond Essence*, *Ethics as First Philosophy*, ed. A. Peperzak, New York: Routledge 1995

Annette Wieviorka, *Déportation et Génocide* (Paris, Plon 1992) (Book Review), *Mittelweg 36, Zeitschrift des Hamburger Instituts für Sozialforschung*, 7/8 1996

Fragment über die Wissenschaft reiner Ereignisse, *Gilles Deleuze. Fluchtlinien der Philosophie*, eds. F. Balke, J. Vogl, München: Fink 1996

Grenzgänge aus dem Nichts. Zu Jacques Lacans *Ethik der Psychoanalyse, Das Andere der Identität*, ed. K. Scheppke/M. Tichy, Freiburg/München: Alber 1996

“e”, in: N. Haas, R. Nägele, H.-J. Rheinberger (eds.), *Liechtensteiner Exkurse III: Aufmerksamkeit*, Eggingen: Edition Isele 1998 (p.251-270)

L'entêtement (translated by Isabelle Kalinowski), in: M. Casevitz, H. Ewencyk, P. Ginésy (eds.), *Césure. Revue de la convention psychanalytique*, nr. 13: *Apolis*, Paris 1998 (French translation of “Eigensinn” listed above)

'La tribu des larmes, prompte à se lever'. En marge d'un texte de Jacques Derrida (translated by Isabelle Châtelet), in: M. Casevitz, H. Ewencyk, P. Ginésy (eds.), *Césure. Revue de la convention psychanalytique*, nr. 13: *Apolis*, Paris 1998 (French translation of “Das Geschlecht, das leicht bewegliche...” listed above)

Verkehrtherum schreiben, in: Jacques Derrida, *Auslassungspunkte. Gespräche*, Wien: Passagen 1998, 11-15

Übergänge -- vom Trauma zum Versprechen, in: Jacques Derrida, *Auslassungspunkte. Gespräche*, Wien: Passagen 1998, 377-398 (corrected and expanded version of “Im Grenzland der Schrift” (listed above))

Lacanian Tragedy and the Ethics of *Jouissance* (response to James Mellard), in: *Publications of the Modern Language Association of America*, vo. 114, nr. 1, January 1999, pp. 103-104.

Willfulness – Eigensinn, in: Laurence A. Rickels (ed.), *Acting out in Groups*, Minneapolis, London, University of Minnesota Press, 1999, pp. 179-189. (modified reprint of article listed above)

- Before the law, after the law. An Interview with Jean-François Lyotard conducted by E.W., in *Qui parle*, vol. 11, nr. 2, Fall/Winter 1999, Berkeley, pp.35-58
- Davanti la legge, dopo la legge, (Interview with Jean-François Lyotard, translated by Federica Sossi), in F. Sossi, ed., Pensiero al presente. Omaggio a Jean-François Lyotard, Napoli, Cronopio, 1999
- Antigone ou: “une science des événements purs”, in: Patrick Guyomard, René Major (eds.), *Depuis Lacan* (Colloque de Cerisy 1996), Paris: Aubier 2000, pp.234-269
- Gedächtnisspuren, in: W. Stegmaier (Hg.), *Die philosophische Aktualität der jüdischen Tradition*, Frankfurt: Suhrkamp 2000
- Fragment, in: *Tympanon. A Journal of Comparative Literary Studies*, vol. 4: *Khoraographies for Jacques Derrida on July 15, 2000*, Guest Editor D. Kujundzic; <http://www.usc.edu/dept/comp-lit/tympanum/4/khora.html>
- Elijah’s Futures, in: R. Rand (ed.), *Futures. For Jacques Derrida*, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2001
- Das Medium der Lehre. Zu Benjamins “Die Aufgabe des Übersetzers”, in: C. Welsh, C. Hoffmann (eds.), *“In jedem Augenblick auf das Äusserste gefasst”. Aus dem Labor philologischer Neugierde*, Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, 2004, pp. 83-88
- “...buchstabierend bis aufs Blut”. Zur Subjektivität nach Levinas, in: Christian Kupke, (ed.), *Lévinas’ Ethik im Kontext*, Berlin: Parodos, 2005, pp. 57-71 (reprint)
- Das dringendste Denken, in: *Journal Phänomenologie* 23/2005, pp. 31-38
- “Deconstruction is Justice”, in: Cornelia Vismann, Florian Hoffmann (eds.), *German Law Journal*, vol. 6, No. 1 (1 January 2005), Jacques Derrida (online publication) <http://www.germanlawjournal.com/article.php?id=547>
- “Deconstruction is Justice”, in: *Substance*, Issue 106, vol. 34, No1: Jacques Derrida 1930-2004. A Counter-Obituary, 2005, pp. 38-43 (corrected reprint)
- Das Medium der Lehre. Zu Benjamins “Die Aufgabe des Übersetzers”, in: Christoph Hoffmann, Caroline Welsh (eds.), *Umwege des Lesens. Aus dem Labor philologischer Neugierde*, Berlin, Parerga, 2006, pp. 175-183 (reprint)
- Suspended from the other’s heartbeat, in: *South Atlantic Quarterly*, special issue on Jacques Derrida, Ian Balfour and Deborah Esch (eds.), 2007, pp. 325-344
- Fending Off Idolatry: Ceremonial Law in Mendelssohn’s *Jerusalem*, in: *Modern Language Notes*, vol. 122, no.2, April 2007, German Issue, Rochelle Tobias, ed., pp.522-543

Forthcoming:

“Vectorizing our thoughts toward ,current events””. For Avital Ronell, in: Diane Davis (ed.), *Avital Ronell: A Critical Reader*, Illinois University Press (Spring 2009)

Translations (from French into German):

Jacques Derrida, *Ulysses Grammophon*, Berlin: Brinkmann und Bose 1988.

Jacques Derrida, *Wie Meeresrauschen auf dem Grund einer Muschel... Paul de Mans Krieg. Mémoires II*, Wien: Passagen 1988.

Jacques Derrida, Eben in diesem Moment in diesem Werk findest du mich, in: *Parabel*, Nr. 12: Lévinas. Ed. M.Mayer und M. Hentschel, Gießen: Focus 1990.

Emmanuel Lévinas, Israel unter den Nationen (eine Talmudlektüre), in: *Frag-mente*, Nr. 32/33, Kassel, Juni 1990.

Jacques Derrida, Donner le temps (de la traduction) - Die Zeit (der Übersetzung) geben, in: *Zeit-Zeichen*, eds. G.C. Tholen, M. Scholl, Weinheim: VCH, 1990.

Jacques Derrida, Kurs auf das andere Kap, in: *LIBER*, Jahr 2, Nr. 3, Oktober 1990, Frankfurt.

Félix Guattari, Die Schizo-Chaomose, in: *Wahnwelten im Zusammenstoss. Die Psychose als Spiegel der Zeit*, ed. U. Sonnemann, D. Kamper, R. Heinz, Berlin, Akademie-Verlag, 1993

Emmanuel Levinas, *Zur Stunde der Nationen. Fünf Talmud-Lektüren*, München, Fink, 1994

Jacques Derrida, *Interpretations at War. Kant, der Jude, der Deutsche*, in: *Das Vergessen(e). Anamnesen des Undarstellbaren*, eds. E. Weber, G. C. Tholen, Wien: Turia & Kant 1997

Jean-François Lyotard, Streitgespräche oder: Sätze bilden “nach Auschwitz”, in: *Das Vergessen(e). Anamnesen des Undarstellbaren*, eds. E. Weber, G. C. Tholen, Wien: Turia & Kant 1997

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**Recent Lectures Presented**

- May 2001 “The absolute affect: *Lebensneid*,” Conference on “Negating the Enlightenment,” organized by the Department of Germanic Languages and the Center for Modern and Contemporary Studies, UCLA
- April 2002 Short-term visiting professorship at Northwestern University, Evanston.
Lectures delivered:
The question of ceremonial law in Mendelssohn’s *Jerusalem*
“Covenant of hatred”. Hegel’s interpretation of the Jewish Law
Wagner, Kafka, Rosenzweig: On soil, language, blood
- April 2002 “Remembering the Not Yet. Franz Rosenzweig's time”, Conference on Franz Rosenzweig organized by the German department at Northwestern University
- April 2002 Invited Participation in the Annual conference on the “Impact of Jewish Thought on European Civilization”
Response to Jacques Derrida
- May 2002 “Wagner, Kafka, Rosenzweig: On soil, language, blood.” Lecture given at the Center for Jewish Studies, UCLA
- Febr. 2003 “Being Called to Testify. Sciences of symbolic identity and the ethics of singularity,” Conference “The Cultural Turn IV”, UCSB
- Dec. 2004 *Nachruf*, UC Irvine, Memorial for Jacques Derrida
- April 2005 “The most urgent thinking”, UCLA, Hommage à Jacques Derrida
- April 2005 “Times of Transmission”, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Keynote Address at the 12th Annual German Graduate Studies Conference
- July 2005 “Penser autrement la vie”, Château de la Bretesche, France, Conference on “Jacques Derrida and the Question of Life”
- Nov. 2005 On Gil Anidjar’s *The Jew, the Arab: A History of the Enemy*, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Philadelphia
- March 2007 “All those neighbors”. Remarks on Derrida and Ronell”, International conference “Human Rights and Neoliberalism: Universal Standards, Local Practices, and the Role of Culture”, UCSB

- Oct. 2007 State-sponsored Torture. Reading Améry and Thomasius, today”, German Studies Association, Conference in San Diego
- May 2008 “‘Torture was the essence of National Socialism’. Reading Jean Améry today,” A.W. Mellon sponsored workshop on “The Ethics, Poetics, and Time of Testimony,” lecture series on “Testimony’s Futures” (co Sponsored by the Center for the Humanities, Jewish Studies, and Global Studies), University of Wisconsin, Madison
- Sept. 2008 “‘Torture was the essence of National Socialism’. Reading Jean Améry today,” Department of German, Brown University
- Sept. 2008 “‘Torture was the essence of National Socialism’. Reading Jean Améry today,” Department of German, Yale University
- Dec. 2008 “Portées politiques de la deconstruction”, Instituto de Estudos Filosóficos, Universidade de Coimbra, Portugal
- April 2009 “Subversion der Demokratie. Politiken der Dekonstruktion”, conference at the Hochschule für Bildende Künste (School of Advanced Studies in Fine Arts), Hamburg, Germany

Recent Participation in Panels:

- Febr. 2004 Panel discussion with Dr. Robert Krell on “Survivors of Trauma.” Panelists included Susan Derwin (GSS/CL), Barry Spacks (English, UCSB), Angela Mazer (Student and Campaign Coordinator, Amnesty International, UCLA), Carol Tanenbaum (psychoanalyst and Art Director, Global Children’s Organization, Los Angeles), UCSB, Interdisciplinary Humanities Center
- April 2005 “Humanities @ UCSB: A 21st Century Project”, “Humanities at the Global Interface”, UCSB, Interdisciplinary Humanities Center
- May 2008 Humanism, Human Rights & Ethics in French and Francophone Studies, 9th Annual UC Irvine-UC Santa Barbara Graduate Conference in French and Francophone Studies, Roundtable “Teaching Human Rights”, UCSB

Reviewing and Refereeing Activity

- January 2004 Outside referee for promotion to Associate Professor (Tenure Evaluation), Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, University of Toronto

- 2005 Referee for Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes, Germany
- July 2006 Outside referee for promotion to Associate Professor (Tenure Evaluation), German Department, Rutgers University
- Dec 2007 Member of an international advisory group to the research project on
To present “Return of torture? Interdisciplinary research project on an extreme form of violence, its representation in media, and its prohibition”, University of Düsseldorf, funded by the VW-Foundation
- March 2008 Member of External Review Committee of the Department of Comparative Literature, Emory College
- Spring 2008 Member of International Board of Editorial Consultants of “Konturen”
To present (Oregon University based e-journal, launched in Summer 2008) (ongoing)

CLASSES TAUGHT AT UCSB

Freshmen Seminar:

- Dreaming Revolutions: Short Introduction to Marx, Nietzsche, Freud

Undergraduate:

a) Lecture Classes fulfilling the General Education Requirement, taught in English:

- Genius and Madness in Literature
- Mysticism
- German Judaism in Literature and Philosophy
- Dreaming Revolutions: Marx, Nietzsche, Freud (lower division)
- Revolutions: Marx, Nietzsche, Freud (upper division)
- Dreaming Revolutions: Marx, Nietzsche, Freud (Freshman seminar)
- Trauma, Memory, History (taught for the Comparative Literature Program)

b) Other lecture classes:

- Global Humanities: The Politics and Poetics of Witnessing (taught for the Comparative Literature Program)

c) Seminars taught in German

- German Literature of the 19th Century
- 19th Century Drama
- Special Topics: Franz Kafka

- German Literature of the 20th Century
- Special Topics: Robert Musil
- Special Topics: Sigmund Freud
- Special Topics: Heinrich von Kleist
- Special Topics: Kriegsschriften – War Literature
- Special Topics: Reflections on Judaism in the 20th Century (close reading and discussion of literary texts by German speaking Jewish authors in the 20th Century)

Graduate:

- The Laws of the Tragic
- German Judaism in Literature and Philosophy
- Thinking Differences: Jacques Derrida
- Ethics and Psychoanalysis
- Differences: Nomadic Thought, Nomadic Writing (team-taught with Prof. Lévy)
- Heidegger on Poetry
- Introduction to Contemporary Theory (Nietzsche -- Foucault, Freud -- Lacan, Heidegger -- Derrida)
- Authority (team-taught with Prof. Roger Friedland)
- Sprachdenken: Franz Rosenzweig and Walter Benjamin
- Trauma in 20th century continental thought
- Deconstructions: Jacques Derrida and the question of religion
- Walter Benjamin
- Humanities and Human Rights in Times of Torture
- Productions of Truth: Literature, Theory, Politics, and the Arts

UNIVERSITY SERVICE (other than committee service)

Conferences

Co-organizer of the two-day conference “Terminal. The Cultural Production of Death”, UCSB, April 1996

Co-organizer of the two-day conference “Irreconcilable Differences: Jacques Derrida and the question of religion”, October 2003 (12 participants, with Jacques Derrida as the Keynote speaker)

Co-organizer of day-long conference “Eye or Ear: Walter Benjamin on Optical and Acoustical Media” (with Wolfgang Hagen, Rob Ryder, Wolf Kittler, Michael Levine, Bettine Menke), November 2006

Co-organizer of day-long conference “Torture and the future” (with Barbara Harlow, Colin Dayan, Darius Rejali, Lisa Hajjar, George Hunsinger), May 2007

Lectures/Lecture series

Organized visits by Jacques Derrida, Jean-François Lyotard, Renata Stih and Frieder Schnock (Berlin based artists), Rainer Nägele, Reinhart Meyer-Kalkus, and others.

Organizer of lecture series in 2003-2004, “Current Voices and Critical Inquiries in German Literary Studies”, 7 events (among others: Eric Santer, Gil Anidjar, Carol Jacobs, Michael Levine)

Co-organizer of lecture series in 2004-2005, “Current Voices and Critical Inquiries in German Literary Studies” (15 events, among others: Peggy Kamuf, Joseph Vogl, Rüdiger Campe, Ika Hügel-Marshall)

Co-organizer of lecture series “Engagement: Human Rights and the Humanities”, Winter 2006 and Spring 2006 (two events: Mark Lee, “The Ghosts and the Living: Witnessing Genocide and Writing About It”; Richard Falk, “Crimes, Lies, and Law: Defending Human Rights in Times of Adversity”)

Co-organizer of the six months long series of events “Torture and the future” (Critical Issues in America 2006-2007), including ten public events and a one-day international conference.

Organizer of the Dr. George Wittenstein Lecture Series (inaugural lecture in October 2007, so far seven events, Geoffrey Hartman (Yale), Alexander Gelley (UC Irvine), Claudia Koonz (Duke), Amir Eshel (Stanford), Sara Horowitz (York U, Toronto), William Smithers (actor and director, directing a staged reading of Ida Fink’s “The Table”, Dr. George Wittenstein (Santa Barbara); ongoing)

Other:

Organized Memorial Gathering for Harry Steinhauer, May 23, 2005

Organized talk by Dr. George Wittenstein, active participant in the White Rose resistance movement, April 2007

Organized talk by Mara Kohn and Prof. Walter Kohn, Nobel Laureate, May 2007