ROBERT PAUL RESCH

History Department Texas A&M University College Station, TX 77843-4236 979 422 0176 (Home) 979 845 8472 (Office) 979 862 4314 (FAX)

Education:

Ph.D in History, University of California, Davis, March, 1985.

Dissertation: "Social Structure and Class Struggle: A Critical Survey

of Structural Marxism."

Dissertation Director: Eugene Lunn.

Fields of Interest:

20th century European Intellectual History: Critical Theory, Marxism,

Psychoanalysis, Structuralism and Poststructuralism, Racism.

Academic Posts:

Associate Professor of History, Texas A & M University, 1992-present.

Assistant Professor of History, Texas A&M University, 1987-1992.

Visiting Assistant Professor in History and Comparative Literature,

University of California, Davis, 1986-1987.

Visiting Assistant Professor in History, California State University,

Sacramento, 1985.

Lecturer in American Studies, University of Paris (VII), Paris, France,

1982-3.

Courses Taught:

Western Civilization from 1500 (Europe and United States).

European Intellectual History (1): Birth of Capitalist Culture

(Renaissance to Positivism).

European Intellectual History (2): The Culture of Capitalism

(Positivism to Postmodernism).

Race, Gender, and Class (graduate reading seminar). Utopia and Dystopia (undergraduate reading seminar).

Publications:

"A Rock and a Hard Place: Althusser, Structuralism, Communism and the Death of the Anticapitalist Left," in Mark Bevir, Jill Hargis, and Sara Rushing, eds. *Histories of Postmodernism*. New York: Routledge (forthcoming).

"What if God Were One of Us? Zizek's Political Ontology," in Geoff Boucher and Jason Glynos, eds. *Traversing the Fantasy: Critical Essays on Slavoj Zizek.* London: Ashgate, 2005: pp. 89-104.

"The Sound of Sci(I)ence: Zizek's Concept of Ideology Critique." *Journal for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society,* 6:1 (Spring, 2001), pp. 6-20.

"Running on Empty: Zizek's Concept of the Subject." *Journal for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society, 4*:3 (Spring, 1999), pp. 92-99."

"The Sublime Object of Liminality: A Critique of Homi Bhabha." Journal for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society, 2:2 (Fall, 1997), pp. 109-120.

Utopia and Dystopia in *Nineteen Eighty-Four.* boundary2, 24:1 (Spring, 1997), pp. 137-176.

Althusser and the Renewal of Marxist Social Theory. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1992.

"Modernism, Postmodernism and Social Theory: A Comparison of Althusser and Foucault," *Poetics Today*, 10:3 (Fall, 1989), pp. 511-549.

"On the Subject of Class: History, Politics and Economic Determination," *Current Perspectives in Social Theory*, 9 (1989), pp. 91-121.

Work in Progress:

Prejudice, Power and Profit: White Racism, Antisemitism and the Development of Capitalism. A comparative study of the social psychology of the two predominant forms of "Otherness" in capitalist society, the "evil ethnic rival" and the "inferior dependent laborer." By focusing on the economic, political, and ideological roles and functions of European Jews and African Americans the book compares the impact of white racism and antisemitism on the dynamics of class conflict and political ideology.

Part One deals with the transition to commercial capitalism from the High Middle Ages to European colonization of the New World. Part Two analyzes the relationship of capitalist economic development to the emancipation of Jews and African Americans and to their postemancipation position in the political conflicts of the later 19th and early 20th centuries. Part Three compares the differing fates experienced by Jews and African Americans during the crises 20th century capitalism: the rise of political antisemitism culminating in the Nazi's "final solution" to the Jewish question, and the creation of "Jim Crow" segregation and its destruction by the Civil Rights Movement. Although it is a historical analysis of their oppression more than a history of European Jews and African Americans, *Prejudice and Profit* does not ignore their role as active agents caught up in socioeconomic processes within which their options were tightly, often brutally constrained.

Conference Papers, Encyclopedia Entries, and Book Reviews:

"Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Althusser, Structuralism, and Communism." Presented at the invitation-only conference, "Historicizing Postmodernism: Precursors, Heyday, Legacy," sponsored by the Department of Political Science and the Center for the Humanities, University of California, Berkeley, September 11-12, 2004.

"Racism, Capitalism, and *The Dialectic of Enlightenment*." Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Society for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society, George Washington University, May 22, 2004.

"Jacques Lacan." *Ritzer's Encyclopedia of Social Theory,* Vol 1. (London: Sage, 2005), pp. 428-433.

"Prejudice and Psychoanalysis: Reflections on Young-Bruehl's *Anatomy of Prejudice*." Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Society for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society, Rutgers University, November 11, 2001.

"Marxism and Postmodernist Theory: The Case of Homi Bhabha." Readings and discussion led by Professor Robert Resch. Presented to The Working Class History Seminar, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, March 16, 2000.

"Sci(I)ence as Symptom: Zizek's Concept of Ideology Critique." Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Society for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society, New York, New York, October 29, 1999.

"Running on Empty." Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Society for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society, Atlanta, Georgia, November 8, 1998.

Review essay. Teresa Brennan. <u>History after Lacan</u> (London: Routledge, 1993). *Journal for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society* 1 (Spring, 1996), pp. 156-160.

"Sublime Object of Liminality." Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Society for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society, Washington, D. C., October 12, 1995.

Review essay. Margaret Canovan. <u>Hannah Arendt: A</u>
<u>Reinterpretation of her Political Thought</u> (Cambridge: Cambridge
University Press, 1992) and Jeffrey C. Isaac. <u>Arendt, Camus, and</u>

Modern Rebellion (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1992). American Historical Review (April, 1994), pp. 527-8.

"Utopia and Dystopia in Nineteen Eighty-Four." Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Society for Utopian Studies, St. Louis, Missouri, November 5, 1993.

"Postmodernism and Historiography," Talk given to the 1993-94 Mentalités Seminar Series of the Pittsburgh Center for Social History, University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University, September 30, 1993.

Review essay. Louis Althusser's Philosophy and the Spontaneous Philosophy of the Scientists and Other Essays (London, 1990). Theory and Society, 22 (1993), pp. 442-447.

"Orwell's <u>Nineteen Eighty-Four</u>: A Revisionist Reading." Paper presented to The History Forum, Duquesne University, October 23, 1992.

Review essay. Edward W. Soja's <u>Postmodern Geographies</u> (London, 1989). *Theory and Society*, 21 (1992), pp. 145-154.

Panel commentator. "Postmodern Theory and Contemporary Public Life." Western Society for French History meeting at the University of California, Santa Barbara, November 9, 1990. Comments published in *Proceedings of the Western Society for French History*, (1991).

"Discourse, Ideology, Literature: Towards a Materialist Concept of Literary Production." Paper presented to the interdisciplinary conference, "(Re)producing Texts/(Re)presenting History," Texas A&M University, September 27, 1989.

"Critical Modernism and Postmodernism in Social Theory." Paper presented to the annual meeting of the Southeast Marxist Scholar's Conference, Duke University, March 14, 1987.

Review essay. Steven B. Smith's <u>Reading Althusser</u> (Ithaca, 1984). *Theory and Society*, 16 (1986), pp. 921-925.

Service:

Area Committee (History) JPCS, 1998-present.

Article referee, Modern Intellectual History, June, 2003.

Article referee, Sociological Theory, April, 1998.

Article referee, JPCS, December, 1997.