Aaron Baker
Film and Media Studies Program
Department of English
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Arizona State University
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Aaron.Baker@asu.edu

Education

Ph.D. in Comparative Literature
Indiana University, Bloomington, 1995.

B.A. in Comparative Literature
Hobart College, Geneva, New York, 1982.

Teaching Positions

Professor
Film and Media Studies Program
Department of English
Arizona State University
2016-present

Associate Professor
Film and Media Studies Program
Department of English
Arizona State University
2005-2016

Associate Professor
Interdisciplinary Humanities Program
Arizona State University
2003-2005

Assistant Professor
Interdisciplinary Humanities Program
Arizona State University
1997-2003

Publications

Books

1. *The Baseball Film. A Cultural and Transmedia History.* (Rutgers University Press. 2022), 195 pages.

Reviewed by

- Laura Valenza in *The Brooklyn Rail*. https://brooklynrail.org/2022/02/film/Aaron-Bakers-The-Baseball-Film.

2. *Steven Soderbergh* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2011), 132 pages.

Reviewed by

- Paul Ramacker *in Screening the Past.* http://www.screeningthepast.com/2011/10/steven-soderbergh/.

- Kevin Haworth in *Quarterly Review of Film and Video.* 31,1 2014: 83-86.

3. *Contesting Identities: Sports in American Film* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2003), 162 pages.

Reviewed by

- Leger Grindon in *Cineaste*. 29, 1 Winter 2003: 85-86.

- Kurt Lindemann in *Journal of Communication*. 55, 2 June 2005: 406-408.

Edited Books

1. *A Companion to Martin Scorsese* Revised Edition. (Hoboken, NJ: Wiley Blackwell, 2021), 518 pages.

2. *A Companion to Martin Scorsese*. Editor and contributor. (Boston: Blackwell Publishers, 2014), 484 pages.

Reviewed by

- Paolo Garofalo in *The Year's Work in Modern Language Studies*. 76, 2016: 319-329.

2. *Out of Bounds: Sports, Media and the Politics of Identity*. Contributor and equal co-editor with Todd Boyd. (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1997), 206 pages.

Refereed Journal Articles

1. **"**Hollywood Baseball Films: Nostalgic White Masculinity or the National Pastime?" *Quarterly Review of Film and Video.* 39,4 (February, 2022): 731-759.

2. "Global Cinema and *Contagion*." *Film Quarterly.* 66, 3 (Spring 2013): 5-14.

3. "*Goal!* and the Globalized Sports Film." *Sport in Society.* 11, 2-3 (March 2008): 253-264.

4. "Sports Films, Identity, and History." *Journal of Sport History.* (Summer, 1998): 217-233.

5. "Mysticism and the *Household Saints* of Everyday Life." Equally co-authored with Juliann Vitullo. *Voices in Italian Americana*. 17, 2 (1996): 55-68.

6. "The Tramp: Down and Out in Chaplin and Orwell." *Literature/Film Quarterly* 17, 1 (1989): 27-32.

Refereed Book Chapters

1. "*Eight Men Out*" in *Screening American Independent Film*. Eds. Justin Wyatt and W.D. Phillips. (New York: Routledge, 2023), 261-68.

2. "*The Irishman*: Cosmopolitan Authorship in the Age of Streaming Media." in *A Companion to Martin Scorsese*. Revised Edition. (Hoboken, NJ: Wiley Blackwell, 2021), 492-505.

3. "Intersectionality in *Venus Vs*." in *Sporting Realities: Critical Readings of the Sports Documentary*. Eds. Samantha N. Sheppard and Travis Vogan. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2020): 35-48.

4. "Transmedia Storytelling and *Friday Night Lights."* in *Sport im Film.* Eds. Robert Gugutzer and Barbara Englert. (Konstanz, Germany: UVK Publisher*,* 2014*),* 223-239.

5. "Masculinity, Race and Violence on *Any Given Sunday*" in *The NFL: Critical and Cultural Perspectives.* Eds. Zachary Furness and Thomas Oates. (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2014), 160-168.

6. “Artistic Solutions to Sociological Problems” in *A Companion to Martin Scorsese*. Ed. Aaron Baker (Boston: Blackwell Publishers, 2014), 1-13.

7. “*Alice Doesn’t Live Here Anymore* and *Italianamerican*: Gender, Ethnicity, and Immigration” in *A Companion to Martin Scorsese*. Ed. Aaron Baker (Boston: Blackwell Publishers, 2014), 117-132.

8. “Remade by Steven Soderbergh” in *Steven Soderbergh and Philosophy*. Ed. Barton Palmer (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2011), 121-142.

9. “Robert DeNiro: Star Actor as Auteur” in *Acting for America: Movie Stars of the 1980s*. Ed. Robert Eberwein (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2010), 19-35.

10. “1930” in *American Cinema of the 1930s*. Ed. Ina Rae Hark (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2007), 25-47.

11. “Midtown Jewish Masculinity in *Body and Soul*" in *City that Never Sleeps: New York and The Film Imagination*. Ed. Murray Pomerance (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2007), 167-182.

12. "Beyond the Thin Line of Black and Blue: Movies and Police Misconduct in Los Angeles" in *BAD: Evil, Nefariousness, and Immorality on Screen*. Ed. Murray Pomerance (Albany: State University of New York Press, 2004), 54-63.

13. "From Second String to Solo Star: Classic Hollywood and the Black Athlete" in *Classic Hollywood, Classic Whiteness*. Ed. Daniel Bernardi (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2001), 31-51.

14. "Screening the Italian/American Male" (Equally co-authored with Juliann Vitullo) in *Masculinity: Bodies, Movies, Cultre*. Ed. Peter Lehman (New York: Routledge, 2001), 293-317.

15. "Hoop Dreams in Black and White: Race and Basketball Movies" in *Basketball Jones: America, Above the Rim* Eds. Kenneth L. Shropshire and Todd Boyd. (New York: New York University Press, 2000), 215-239.

16. "A Left/Right Combination: Populism and Depression-Era Boxing Films" in *Out of Bounds: Sports, Media and the Politics of Identity* Eds. Aaron Baker and Todd Boyd (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1997), 161-74.

Encyclopedia Article

1. "Sports Films" In *The Schirmer Encyclopedia of Film* (New York: Thompson Gale, 2007), 135-39.

Annotated Online Bibliography
1. “Sports in Film” Oxford University Press Bibliographies in Cinema and Media Studies. Ed. Krin Gabbard. 2012. 26 pages.
http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/browse?module_0=obo-9780199791286

Interview
1. "A New Combination: Women and the Boxing Film: An Interview with Karyn Kusama" *Cineaste*. XXV, 4 (2000): 22-26.

Book Review
1. *From Wiseguys to Wise Men*. Fred Gardaphe (New York: Routledge, 2006) in *Men and Masculinities.* Spring (2007): 508-510.

Film Reviews

1. *“Miracle: the Boys of ‘80” Journal of American History* December, 2026.
2. *“September 5” Journal of Sports History* 52,3 Fall 2025: 180-182.
3. *“League of Denial” Journal of Sports History.* 43,1 Spring 2016: 102-103.

Film

School of Rockies. 21 minute digital video documentary about the Colorado Rockies’ cultural education program. 2019.

Invited Presentations

1.Guest Lecturer
“Baseball History on Film for the Smartphone Gambler”
The Columbia University Film Seminar
New York, New York
January, 2026.

2.Guest Lecturer
The Sports Film
Global Sports Business Program
Rutgers University
New Brunswick, NJ
Via Zoom
November, 2020.

3.Respondent
Panel entitled “Visual Representation of Boxing and Wrestling”
American Studies Association Conference
Los Angeles,
November, 2014.

4.Guest Lecturer
“Masculinity, Race and Violence On *Any Given Sunday*”
Cinema and Media Studies Graduate Colloquium
University of California, Los Angeles
November, 2012.

5. Respondent
Panel entitled “US Sports Media and Culture”
Society for Film and Media Studies
Boston
March, 2012.

6. Guest Lecturer
“Steven Soderbergh: Authorship, Independent and Hybrid Cinema”
English Department
Yonsei University
Seoul, South Korea
March, 2010.

7. Guest Lecturer
“Steven Soderbergh and Authorship”
Media Arts Department
The University of Arizona
December, 2005.

8. Respondent
Panel entitled “Visual Economies in Motion: the Sports Film”
North American Society for the Sociology of Sport
The University of Arizona
November, 2004.

9. Guest Lecturer
"Beyond the Thin Line of Black and Blue: Movies and Police Misconduct in Los Angeles"
The Columbia University Film Seminar
New York, New York
March, 2002.

10. Guest Lecturer
"Progressivism and Cultural Essentialism in the *The Italian*"
Imagining Immigration: Italy and the Americas Symposium
Center for Italian Studies
State University of New York, Stony Brook
October, 2000.

Conference Presentations

"Baseball History on Film for the Smartphone Gambler"
North American Society for the Sociology of Sport
Seattle
November 2025.

"The Catcher Was a Guy"
Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference
Seattle
March, 2019.

"Intersectionality in *Venus Vs."*
The American Studies Association Conference
Denver
October, 2016.

"Screening Jackie Robinson"
The American Studies Association Conference
Toronto
October, 2015.

"*The Real Rocky*: Television Documentary and the American Dream"
The Italian American Studies Annual Conference
The University of Toronto
October, 2014.

2. "*Contagion*, Fractal Narrative and Global Cinema"
Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference
Chicago
March, 2013.

3. "Sports and Social Media"
Conference on Voices for Nonviolence in the Muslim World

Arizona State University
October, 2010.

4. "Antonioni, Soderbergh and the Color of Money"
Society for Film and Media Studies Annual Conference
Los Angeles
March, 2010.

5. "Italian American Masculinity, Violence and Football in *Any Given Sunday*"
Film and History Annual Conference
Chicago
November, 2008.

6. "*Goal!* and the Global Sports Film"
Association for Cultural Studies Annual Conference
The University of West Indies
Kingston, Jamaica
July, 2008.

7. *"Nuovomondo* and the Immigration Debate"
Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference
Philadelphia
March, 2008.

8. "The Unpopular Popular: Music and Authorship in *Ocean's Eleven* and *The Limey*"
Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference
The University of London
March, 2005.

9. "Brothers and Keepers: Masculinity and Authorship in Italian American Cinema"
Modern Language Association Annual Conference
San Diego
December, 2004.

10. "Remade by Steven Soderbergh"
Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference
Atlanta
March, 2004.

11. "Authorship in the Age of the Blockbuster: the Films
of Steven Soderbergh"
Modern Language Association Annual Conference
Los Angeles

December, 2003.

12. "Italian-American Hybridity and *Any Given Sunday*"
Society for Cinema Studies Annual Conference
Denver
May, 2002.

13. "Screening the Italian/American Male"
Society for Cinema Studies Annual Conference
Chicago
March, 2000.

14. "Canon and Identity in the Italian/American Cinema"
(with Juliann Vitullo)
Modern Language Association Annual Conference
Chicago
December, 1999.

15. "Sports Films, History, and Identity"
Conference on Race in Film and Literature
Florida State University
January, 1998.

Workshops

"Strategies for the Academic Job Market. " Conducted as chair of the Professional Development Committee, Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference, Boston 2012 and Chicago 2013.

Administrative Positions

1. Director, Film and Media Studies Program, Department of English Department, Arizona State University, 2011-2016, 2018-2019, Spring 2021, Fall 2023-Present.

2. Interim Chair, Department of English, Arizona State University, 2016-2017.

3. Director of Graduate Studies, Film and Media Studies Program, Department of English Arizona State University, 2006-11.

4. Associate Director, Film and Media Studies Program, Department of English,
Arizona State University, 2006-09.

5. Director of Graduate Studies, Interdisciplinary Humanities Program, Arizona State University, 2001-2005.

Teaching

Note: * indicates courses taught online

1. Courses developed and taught at Arizona State University as an Associate Professor and Professor:

FMS 100 Introduction to Film*
FMS 340 Contemporary American Film
FMS 360 Sports Media*
FMS 377 Baseball Films*
FMS 468 Crime and Violence in American Film*
FMS 494 Global Cinema
FMS 502 Sports Media*
FMS 504 Film Theory and Analysis*
FMS 507 Crime and Violence in American Film*
MLS 598 Global Cinema*
FMS 598 Sci-Fi Cinema*
WWS 567 World War II in Film*

2. Courses developed and taught at Arizona State University as an Assistant Professor:

FMS 100 Introduction to Film
HUM 110 Contemporary Issues in the Humanities
HUM 200 Encountering the Humanities
FMS 200 Film History
FMS 270 Race and Gender in American Film
FMS 340 Contemporary American Film and Popular Culture
FMS 440 Los Angeles and Cultural Theory
HUM 498 Theory and Culture
HUM 503 Research and Writing
HUM 513 Cultural Studies and Film

Mentoring at Arizona State University

Doctoral Committees

1. Member, Paul Iannone "Pornography and Masculinity" Ph.D. in Art History, 2025.

2. Co-Chair, Shawn Mitchell, "Defining Pokéliteracy" Ph.D. in English, 2024.

3. Member, Brad Gyori, "Becoming the Medium," Ph.D. in English, 2011.

4. Member, Kristina Rios De Lumbreras, "Reading the Oppositional in the Obscene: Postmodern Allegory in Gotisolo, Moix and Grandes" Ph.D. in Spanish, 2005

5. Member, Sandra Quinn, "Pink Noir" Ph.D. in Justice Studies, 2000.

Master's Theses and Applied Projects

1. Chair, Wesley Weaver, Master's of Liberal Arts. "Beautifully Abject: Art Cinema, Horror, and Postmodern Genre Trends in Twenty-First Century Cinema and Television." 2019

2. Chair, Victoria Ellis, Master's of Advanced Studies, "Star-Crossed: Byronic Heroes and Feminine-Coded Tropes in the *Star Wars* Sequel Trilogy." 2018.

3. Member, Abby Coll. Master's of Liberal Arts. "Leaven of History: The Art of Retelling and Reinscription in *Smoke Signals."* 2017.

4. Chair, Thomas Jenkins, Master's of Advanced Studies, "Introduction to Film Online Class" 2017.

5. Chair, James Jacoby, Master's of Advanced Studies, "The Cronkite Effect" 10 minute video. 2016.

6. Chair, Dan Donovan, Master's of Advanced Studies, "The Films of Christopher Nolan," 2015.

7. Chair, Floyd Easley, Master's of Advanced Studies, A Production Bible for *Among Us*. 2015.

8. Chair, Travis Yates, Master's of Advanced Studies, 17 minute digital video entitled *Tombola.* 2015. https://vimeo.com/137673007.

9. Chair, Henry Rubin, Master's of Advanced Studies, "Technology and Television Coverage of Sports," 2013.

10. Chair, Sy Shamsedeen, Master's of Advanced Studies, "Hollywood, Islam, and the Terrorist Narrative," 2013.

11. Chair, Ryan Hernandez, Master's of Advanced Studies, "Ethics and Politics in the Films of Tyler Perry," 2013.

12. Chair, Paul Jensen, Master's of Advanced Studies, "Ford, Eastwood, and the Evolution of the Frontier Myth," 2013.

13. Chair, Maximino Diaz, Master's of Advanced Studies, "The Rise and Fall of New Hollywood Horror," 2012.

14. Chair, Amanda Kehrberg, Master's of Advanced Studies, "And the Crowd Goes Wild: Musical Syntax and the Spectacle of Masculinity in Contemporary Sports Films," 2011.

15. Chair, Ryan McGinley, Master's of Advanced Studies, "Coherence through Complexity: *Crash* and the Ensemble Film," 2011.

16. Chair, Jeremy Carr, Master's of Liberal Studies, "Kubrick and Control: Authority, Order and Organization in the War Films of Stanley Kubrick," 2010.

17. Member, Brad Gyori, Master's in English, "Traumatic License: Ritual Sacrifice and Reality Television," 2008.

18. Member, Michael Green, Master's in Interdisciplinary Humanities, "A Difficult Choice: *Deep Cover* and African American Cinema in the 1990s," 2006.

19. Member, Sana Haque, Master's in Interdisciplinary Humanities, "The Ultimate Smart Weapon: Technology, Discipline and the Construction of the Cyborg Soldier," 2006.

20. Member, Jean Lauer, Master's in Interdisciplinary Humanities, "Male/Female Feminism and Magical Realism in *De noche vienes, Esmerelda*/*Esmerelda Comes by Night*," 2001.

21. Member, Rochelle Blanchard Rodrigo, Master's of Interdisciplinary Humanities, "*Alien* as a Pornographic Text," 2001.

22. Member, Sarah Ramirez, Master's of Interdisciplinary Humanities, "Borders, Feminism, and Spirituality: Revisioning Chicana Aesthetics," 2000.

23. Member, Michelle McGibbney, Master's of Interdisciplinary Humanities, "Keeping Up Appearances: Female Sexuality in the 1950s," 2000.

24. Chair, Lisa Pino, Master's of Interdisciplinary Humanities, "Redefining Cuban Image Making in Film : Deconstructing Hollywood and Implementing New Models for an Alternative Vision," 1999.

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committees

1. Chair, Connor Christenson, Cooper Laloli, Morgan Correia, *Chasing the Winter Sun*, 2025.

2. Chair, Branden Liang, "All the Fixins: Contradicting Portrayals of Diversity on *Survivor"* 2024.

3. Co-Chair, Lauren Kisicki, "For Your Consideration: Academy Awards Campaigning and the Precarious Relationship Between Art and Commerce in Hollywood" 2023

4. Chair, Sam Truman and Jack Grant, "The Just Say Podcast" 2020-21.

5. Chair, Sunaina Tandon, "Multicultural Identies" 2019.

6. Chair, Justin Stabley, Film "Justified" 2016.

7. Chair, Bianca Repasi, "The Process and Analysis of Film Reviewing," 2015.

8. Chair, Beth Monnig, "Disney Culture and the Construction of Social Identities," 2014.

9. Chair, Sonal Patel, "Gender and Racial Identities in *The Little Mermaid* and *Aladdin,"* 2013.

10. Member, Aubrey Morgan, "Celebrity Impact on Consumer Behavior," 2012.

11. Member, Mary Beth Hutchenson, "Post Apocalyptic Narratives," 2012.

12. Chair, Sydni Green, "A Treatment of Louis Erdrich's Novel *The Plague of Doves*," 2011.

Service

Professional Service: National and International

1. Letter for Promotion to Full Professor, Samantha Sheppard, Cornell University, October 2025.

2. Reviewer, *Journal of Sport History*. 2024 and 2025.

3. Reviewer, The University of Illinois Press, 2014 and 2025.

4. Letter for Promotion to Full Professor, Travis Vogan, The University of Iowa, August, 2021.

5. Letter for Tenure Review and Promotion to Associate Professor, Samantha Sheppard,

Cornell University, October 2020.

6. Editor, Screening Sports Book Series for Rutgers University Press. 2018-Present.

7. Editor, Sports, Media and Society Book Series for the University of Nebraska Press. 2014-2021.

8. Reviewer, *Sports in Society*, 2023

9. Reviewer, Routledge 2018.

10. Member, Editorial Board for *Sport in Society*, 2009-15.

11. Reviewer, *Italian American Review,* 2015.

12. Chair, Professional Development Committee, Society for Cinema and Media Studies, 2011-2014.

13. Reviewer, The University of Illinois Press, 2014.

14. Reviewer, *Communication and Sport*, 2014.

15. Reviewer, *The Bulletin of Spanish Studies,* 2012.

16. Reviewer, *Cinema Journal,* 2007.

17. Reviewer, Oxford University Press, 2006.

18. MLA Delegate to the Film Division, 2003-06.

19. Reviewer, *City and Society,* 2002.

20. Reviewer, *Men and Masculinities,* 2002.

21. Reviewer, Blackwell Publishers, 2000.

University

1. Faculty Advisor, Honors College, 2006-present.

2. Interview with Brent Schrotenboer of *USA Today* for article on sports films, 2013.

3. Presentation, "*Contagion*, Fractal Narrative and Global Cinema" in Faculty Seminar at the

ASU Institute for Humanities Research, 2013.

4. Panelist for Arizona premier of *Booker's Place,* a documentary about civil rights in Mississippi. Co-panelists included director Raymond DeFelitta, Co-Producer Yvette Johnson, Sherry Robertson and Keith Miller, Tempe Center for the Arts, 2012.

5. Interview with Tim Lemke of Foxnews.com for article on the sports film, 2010.

6. Member, Arizona Humanities Council Grants Review Board, 2009-2010.

7. Affiliate, Lincoln Center for Applied Ethnics, 2005.

8. Member, Search Committee for Professor of Film Directing, College of Fine Arts, 2006.

9. Member, Committee on Multidisciplinary Media and Digital Culture, 2001-04.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

1. Dean's Faculty Advisory Committee, Spring 2023.

2. Member**,** Advisory Board, Institute for Humanities Research, 2007 and 2014.

3. Member, Research Cluster on Social Media, Institute for Humanities Research, 2010.

4. Member, Committee on Committees, CLAS, 2000-04.

5. Senator, CLAS Senate, 1994-98.

6. Member, Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Southeast Asian Art History, 1997-98.

English Department

1. Member, Executive Committtee, Department of English, 2021-22, 2023-present.

2. Member, Graduate Committee, Department of English, 2012-16, 18-Spring 19, 2023-present.

3. Chair, Search Committee for Instructor in Film and Media Studies, Spring 2019.

4. Chair, Search Committee for Lecturer in Film and Media Studies, Spring 2018.

5. Chair, Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Film and Media Studies, 2013, 2015, 2016.

6. Member, Scholarship Committee 2016.

7. Member, Assessment Committee, Department of English, 2012.

8. Chair, Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Film and Media Studies, 2012.

9. Chair, Search Committee for Lecturer of Film and Media Studies, 2010.

10. Chair, Personnel Action Committee, Film and Media Studies, 2007-10.

11. Chair, Search Committee for Associate Professor of Film and Media Studies, 2007.

12. Chair, Comparative Literature Committee, Department of English, 2004-2007.

13. Member, Search Committee for Marshall Professor of Poetry, Department of English, 2002.

14. Member, Personnel Committee, Humanities Program, 1997-1999, 2000-05.

15. Coordinator, Film Concentration, Humanities Program, 1996-2005.

Community

1. Visited Tom Joice's Film Analysis class at San Tan Foothills High School to talk about a college major in film and media studies, December 2019.

2. Introduced and led discussion of film *Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore* Phoenix Art Museum, October, 2010.

3. Introduced and led discussion of film *Moscow Belgium* Talk Cinema Series, Camelview Cinema, Scottsdale, April, 2009.

3. Introduced and led iscussion of film *Big Night* The Phoenix Art Museum, August, 2007.

4. Introduced and led discussion of film *Solaris* The Phoenix Art Museum. January, 2006.

5. Panel member for discussion of film *Their Eyes Were Watching God* Arizona State University. March, 2005.

6. Panel member for discussion of film *Whale Rider* South Mountain Community College, October, 2003.