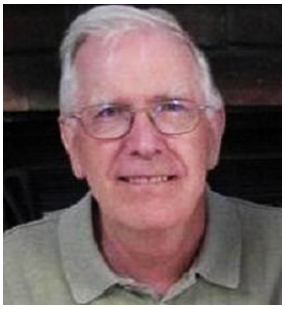
CSULA Emeriti Faculty Biography



Name: John Lawrence Cleman

Department: English

Academic rank: Professor

Year appointed: 1971

Year retired: 2006

FERP years: 2006-11

City of residence: Temple City, California

Email: jcleman@calstatela.edu

Birth Place: Ellensburg, Washington

Birth Year: 1943

Marital status: Married **Spouse or partner's name**: Donna

Family information: Three daughters: Catherine Hansen, Angela Martin, Deborah Hall. Five grandchildren: Alexandra and Braden Hansen, Zachary Martin, Hudson and Beckham Hall

Colleges or Universities Attended:	**Year**	**Degree**
Stanford University	1961-1965	AB English
Washington State University	1965-1967	MA English
University of Wisconsin, Madison	1967-1973	PhD English

Teaching Experience:

Institution	**From**	**To**
Teaching Assistant, Washington State	1966	1967
Teaching Assistant, University of Wisconsin	1967	1971
Assistant Professor, CSULA	1971	1976
Associate Professor, CSULA	1971	1981
Professor, CSULA	1981	2006

Courses taught: Period courses in American Literature, primarily from beginnings to 1914; Nineteenth and Twentieth Century American Novel; Graduate and Undergraduate Seminars in American Literary Realism, American Gothic Literature, The Tragic Mulatto Motif in American Literature, American Literary Regionalism, The City in American Novels, Hawthorne and James, Henry James, Edgar Allan Poe, Early American Novel, and Nature in American Literature; Introduction to Literature; English Composition at all levels.

Description of Scholarly/Creative Activity:

- My primary interest was in late nineteenth-century American literature, literary realism in particular. My most significant work was on George Washington Cable, a New Orleans local color writer, contemporary and lecture partner of Mark Twain, and one of the few Southern

writers to challenge the treatment of the freedman after the Civil War and Reconstruction. I have also published articles on such writers as Charles Brockden Brown, Edgar Allan Poe, William Faulkner, Stephen Crane, and a Pacific Northwest regionalist, H.L. Davis. This last – Pacific Northwest literature – is closest to my current scholarly interests.

Awards, Honors, Professional Recognition:

- National Merit Scholar (1961-1965)
- Professeur Associé, in American Literature, Faculté, des Lettres et Sciènces Humaines, Université, de Clermont II, Clermont-Ferrand, France (Spring 1981)
- Fulbright Travel Grant (Spring 1981)
- Meritorious Performance and Professional Promise Award (1987)
- Keynote Speaker, American Culture and Language Program Graduation Ceremonies (Winter 1989)
- NEH Travel to Collections Grant (1992/93)
- Performance Salary Step Increase (1996)
- Sabbatical Leaves (Fall 1991, Fall 1998, Spring 2004)
- Faculty Merit Increase (1997/98; 1998/99; 1999/00)
- Innovative Instruction Award (Spring 1999)
- Professeur Associé, in American Literature, Faculté des Lettres et Sciènces Humaines, Université, Blaise Pascal, Clermont-Ferrand, France (Winter-Spring 2001)

Selected Publications, Presentations and/or Creative Activities:

Book

George Washington Cable: Revisited. New York: Twayne United States Authors Series, New York: Simon & Schuster Macmillan, 1996.

Articles

"The Art of Local Color in George W. Cable's *The Grandissimes*." *American Literature* 47 (November 1975): 396-410. Rpt. in *Twentieth Century Literary Criticism* (Gale Research).

"Ambiguous Evil: A Study of Villains and Heroes in Charles Brockden Brown's Major Novels." *Early American Literature* 10 (1975): 190-219. Rpt. in *The Critical Temper*, Vol. IV (New York: Ungar Pub. Co., 1979), pp. 476-7.

"College Girl Wildness: Nature in the Work of George W. Cable." *The Markham Review* 5 (Winter 1976): 24-31.

"`Pantaloon in Black': Its Place in *Go Down, Moses*." *Tennessee Studies In Literature* 22 (1977): 170-81.

"Irresistible Impulses: Edgar Allan Poe and the Insanity Defense." *American Literature* 63 (December 1991): 623-40.

“Blunders of Virtue: The Problem of Race in Stephen Crane's ‘The Monster.’” *American Literary Realism, 1870-1914* 34 (Winter 2002): 119-134.

“The Belated Frontier: H.L. Davis and the Problem of Pacific Northwest Regionalism.” *Western American Literature* 37 (Winter 2003): 431-451.

University Service:

English Department

Terms of service on various Department committees, including Policy Committee, RTP Committee, Part-Time Instructors Review Committee, Ad-hoc Committee to Evaluate the Department Chair, Chair Selection Advisory Committee, Graduate Studies Committee, etc.

Composition Coordinator (Fall 1977 to Spring 1978)

Associate Department Chair: (Fall 1983 to Spring 1985; Winter-Fall 2000)

Department Chair (Summer 1985 – Spring 1991; Fall 2005-Summer 2006 [Acting]; Fall 2006-Spring 2007)
Undergraduate and Credential Advisor (many times)
Graduate Advisor (many times)

American Studies Program
Acting Coordinator (Fall 1997 to Spring 1998)

History Department
Acting Department Chair (Fall 2004 to Winter 2005)

School of Letters and Science; College of Arts and Letters
Service on RTP Committees A and B
Graduate Council

University
Terms of service on various standing committees, including Faculty Policy Committee, Educational Policy Committee, Graduate Studies Committee, Undergraduate Studies Committee, Student Affairs Committee, Committee on Committees. Sabbatical Leave Committee, Program Review Subcommittee, Writing Skills Subcommittee, and Intercollegiate Athletic Board.
Several terms as member of CSULA Academic Senate, both College of Arts and Letters Representative, as At-Large Member, and as Representative of the Emeriti Association
Vice Chair of the Academic Senate (Fall 1998 to Spring 1999)
Several terms as At-Large Member of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate
Member of Provost Search Committee (2006/07)
Director, Writing Proficiency Exam (Winter 1995 – Summer 1999; Fall 2007)
Interim Director, University Writing Center (Summer-Fall 2000)

CSU
Member statewide task-force Committee on English Graduation Standards sponsored by the Intersegmental Coordinating Committee of the California Education Round Table (Winter-Spring 1996); charged with developing standards for assessing levels of writing competency necessary for graduation from California high schools)

Date completed: August 26, 2013