

**Nadine M. Weidman**

Department of the History of Science, Harvard University

[weidman@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:weidman@fas.harvard.edu) 339-221-0900

Education:

Cornell University, Department of Science and Technology Studies

Ph.D., 1994: history and philosophy of science and technology

Dissertation: "Of Rats and Men: Karl Lashley and American Psychology"

M.A., 1991: history and philosophy of science and technology

Bryn Mawr College

A.B. with honors, 1988: major: Ancient Greek language and literature

Teaching Experience:

Lecturer in Extension Studies, Harvard University Division of Continuing Education,  
2004 to Present

Instructor, Harvard University Division of Continuing Education, 1997-2004

Courses Taught:

- Biology and Religion
- Science and Human Nature
- History and Ethics of Biotechnology (*taught with an online option*)
- Advanced Analytical Reasoning for the Social Sciences (*a course in historical research methods, including archival research*)
- Evolution and Society
- Graduate Research Methods and Scholarly Writing in the Social Sciences (*proseminar for master's candidates in history and government, covering topics in the history of the physical, biological, and human sciences*)

Junior Tutor, Harvard University, 1997-1998

Junior Seminar Instructor, Harvard University: Minds, Machines and Subjectivity, spring 1997

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities and Arts, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, fall 1996: Science in Western Civilization

Senior Tutor, Harvard University, 1995-2001

Teaching assistant at Harvard University for the following courses:

- The Darwinian Revolution, spring 1996, spring 1998
- Medicine and Society in America, fall 1995, fall 1997

Freshman Writing Seminar Instructor, Cornell University: Women in Biology and Biology on Women, spring 1994

Teaching assistant at Cornell University for the following courses:

- History of Biology, spring 1993
- Science in Western Civilization: Rise of Modern Science, spring 1992
- American History, 1865 to the Present, spring 1991
- Science in Western Civilization: Ancient World to the Scientific Revolution, fall 1990
- Introduction to Western Civilization, academic year 1989-90

Books:

*Race, Racism and Science: Social Impact and Interaction.* Co-authored with John P. Jackson, Jr. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC Clio, 2004. Science in Society Series. Paperback, Rutgers University Press, 2006.

*Constructing Scientific Psychology: Karl Lashley's Mind-Brain Debates.* New York: Cambridge University Press, 1999. Cambridge Studies in the History of Psychology.

Current project:

*The Aggression Instinct: Popular Science and Human Nature in Twentieth-Century America*  
*An historical study of the popularization of and debates over scientific claims for a human instinct for violence. Examines how conceptions of the human are popularized, and how they are shaped by political and social pressures.*

Articles:

"An Anthropologist on TV: Ashley Montagu and the Biological Basis of Human Nature, 1945-1960" (forthcoming in *The Social Sciences In the Cold War*, ed. Mark Solovey and Hamilton Cravens, Palgrave, 2011)

"Popularizing the Ancestry of Man: Robert Ardrey and the Killer Instinct" (forthcoming in *Isis*, June 2011)

"The Depoliticization of Karl Lashley," *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences* 38:3 (Summer 2002): 247-253.

"Gender Issues in Biology: An Approach to Teaching Writing," and "Response to Criticism," *Language and Learning Across the Disciplines* 2 (1998): 61-86, 75-76.

"A Response to Bruce (1998) on the Lashley-Hull Debate," *History of Psychology* 1(1998): 156-159.

"Heredity, Intelligence and Neuropsychology; or, Why *The Bell Curve* is Good Science," *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences* 33 (1997): 141-144.

"Psychobiology, Progressivism and the Anti-Progressive Tradition." *Journal of the History of Biology* 29 (1996): 267-308.

"Mental Testing and Machine Intelligence: The Lashley/Hull Debate." *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences* 30 (April 1994): 162-180.

Numerous short book reviews in *Isis* and *Journal of the History of the Behavioral Sciences*

Encyclopedia Entries:

"Measuring Intelligence and its History," *Encyclopedia of Statistics in Behavioral Science*, ed. Brian Everitt and David Howell (John Wiley and Sons, Ltd.), forthcoming.

"Behaviorism" and "Phrenology" for *Dictionary of the History of Ideas* (Charles Scribner's Sons), forthcoming.

"Theodora Abel," *Notable American Women*, ed. Susan Ware (Harvard University Press, 2004): pp. 2-4.

"Asa Gray," *Encyclopedia of New England Culture*, ed. Burt Feintuch and David Watters (Yale University Press, 2003): 1366.

"Karl Lashley," *The History of Science in the United States: An Encyclopedia*, ed. Marc Rothenberg (Garland, 2000) pp. 1146-1149.

"John Dollard," *American National Biography*, ed. John A. Garraty and Mark C. Carnes (Oxford University Press, 1999) Vol 6, pp. 708-710.

Work Experience in Non-Profit Organization:

Senior Research Associate, Council for Responsible Genetics: organizer of a project on scientific criticism of “gene myths” in the media (Dec 2008- Sept 2009)

Selected Conference Participation:

- Session organizer: “Historicizing Love and Hate: Emotion and the Human Sciences After World War Two,” American Historical Association, Boston, January 2011
- “Ashley Montagu, Boasian and Biological Determinist,” Cheiron, Syracuse, June 2010
- “Gender and Aggression in 1960s Popular Ethology,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, November 2008
- Commentator at session on “The Human Sciences and the Cold War,” Three Societies Meeting, Oxford University, July 2008
- “The Creation of a Public Science of Human Nature in 1960s America,” Cheiron, University of Toronto, June 2008
- Session organizer: “Popularizing the Human Sciences in 20<sup>th</sup> Century America,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Vancouver, November 2006
- “Human Origins and Racial Ideology: Raymond Dart in South Africa,” Cheiron, University of California, Berkeley, June 2005
- “The Aggression Instinct: Masculinity and Pop Ethology in 1960s America,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Cambridge, November 2003
- Commentator at panel discussion “Theorizing Race and Gender in the History of the Human Sciences,” Cheiron, University of Oregon, June 2002
- “Human Nature, Science Popularization, and Liberal Politics in Twentieth Century America,” Cheiron, Indiana University, June 2001
- Commentator at “The Brain and Its Sciences in the Twentieth Century,” Max Planck Institute for History of Science, Berlin, November 1999
- “The Aggression Debate and the Ethics of Science Popularization,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Kansas City, October 1998
- “The Science of Aggression at the Institute of Human Relations,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Atlanta, November 1996
- Commentator at 5th Annual Mellon Workshop, “From Molecular Power to Biological Wisdom,” MIT, May 1995
- “From the Apes to Angell: Developing a Science of Man at Yale’s Institute of Human Relations,” Joint Atlantic Seminar, Cold Spring Harbor, March 1995
- “Lashley, Race, and the Writing of History,” Cheiron, University of Quebec at Montreal, June 1994
- Commentator at interdisciplinary workshop “Between Design and Choice: The Social Shaping of New Reproductive Technologies,” Cornell University, April 1993
- “Lashley, Watson and the Meaning of Behaviorism,” Cheiron, University of Windsor, June 1992
- “Mental Testing and Machine Intelligence,” History of Science Society Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, December 1992
- Co-Organizer, 28th annual Joint Atlantic Seminar in History of Biology, Cornell University, April, 1992
- “Lashley, Watson and the Meaning of Behaviorism,” 11th Annual Graduate Student

Conference in History, Philosophy and Sociology of Science, Technology and Medicine,  
Princeton University, March 1992

“Karl Lashley and Holism,” HSS Annual Meeting, University of Wisconsin, Madison,  
October 1991

“In the Flower Garden of the Gray Matter: Hans Driesch, J.S. Haldane, and Models for the  
Mind,” 10th Annual Graduate Student Conference, University of Pennsylvania, March  
1991

Invited Talks:

“Race, Gender, and Biology: Historical Perspectives, Contemporary Problems,” University of  
Connecticut at Stamford, March 2009

“Race, Racism, and Science: Historical Interactions,” American Psychological Association, New  
Orleans, August 2006

“The Rise and Fall of Scientific Racism,” University of New Hampshire, February 2005

“Women of Courage and Vision in Engineering,” Women’s History Month Celebration, Army  
Corps of Engineers New England Division, March 2001

“Beyond Pure Science: Intelligence, Heredity and Karl Lashley’s Neuropsychology,” Johns  
Hopkins University, October 1997

“Race, Intelligence and Neuropsychology: The Private Life of Karl Lashley,” University of New  
Hampshire, February 1996

“Of Rats and Men: Karl Lashley and American Psychology, 1912-1955,” MIT, March 1995

“Earth, My Likeness: Robert Fludd, Oswald Croll and the Macrocosm/Microcosm Analogy,”  
Cornell University, September 1989

Honors and Awards:

Petra T. Shattuck Award for Excellence in Teaching, Harvard University Extension  
School, June 2001

National Science Foundation research grant for project entitled “The Aggression Debate:  
Human Nature, Science Popularization and Politics in 20<sup>th</sup> century America”  
(Jan. 2001- June 2002)

Andrew W. Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow, Program in Science, Technology and Society,  
MIT, academic year 1994-95

Graduate School:

NSF Research Training Grant: fall 1992, fall 93

Olmstead Continuing Fellowship: fall 1991

Sage Fellowship for Graduate Study: academic year 1988-89

College:

Richmond Lattimore Prize for Poetic Translation, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988

Katharine Stains Award for Excellence in Greek Literature, 1988

Senior Honors Thesis on “The Hippocratics and Aristotle's Biology,” Spring 1988

National Endowment for the Humanities Younger Scholars Grant, 1987

Membership/ Society Governance:

History of Science Society:

Member of committee for research and the profession, August 2002 to May 2005

Forum for the History of the Human Sciences:

Treasurer and corresponding secretary, Nov. 2000 to present

Cheiron: Society for the History of the Behavioral Sciences

Newsletter editor, 1995-1998

Member of review committee, 2001-2004; chair of review committee, 2004

Program co-chair for annual meeting, 2007

European Society for the History of the Human Sciences

American Historical Association