

ALAN DURANT

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At the end of 2023 I retired from full-time academic employment to prioritise ongoing scholarly publications and projects in the field of discourse interpretation, whether of general language or specialised professional use.

My continuing university roles are:

- Professor Emeritus in the Faculty of Business and Law, Middlesex University London;
- Associate Member of CIPIL (the Centre for Intellectual Property and Information Law), University of Cambridge;
- Honorary Professor in the School of English, the University of Hong Kong.

During full-time university employment, I held positions in several UK universities as well as Visiting Professor positions from time to time in other universities internationally. Applying work that developed in these capacities, I have also planned and delivered short courses and training for staff and/or students in many countries under the auspices of the British Council and other funding bodies, and made numerous keynote and other conference presentations based on my research.

In addition to journal articles and standalone chapters, I have published eleven books (details below). Some are interdisciplinary, and some were co-authored with one or more specialists in other subject areas. A further book, containing a theoretical essay and 26 entries on particular terms of art used in intellectual property law, is near completion (co-authored with Jennifer Davis, to be published by Cambridge University Press in 2025).

1. Employment history

2007- 2023 Professor of Communication, Middlesex University London, Faculty of Business and Law (earlier, a separate Business School and School of Law).

1993-2007 Professor of Communication and Head of the School of English, Cultural and Communication Studies, Middlesex University London, with related duties as a University Senior Manager (details below).

1990-3 Professor and Head of the Department of English, University of London, Goldsmiths' College.

1986-1990 Director of the Programme in Literary Linguistics, a research and graduate studies centre at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow.

2. Education

1973-1980, Trinity College, University of Cambridge: (i) double first-class BA honours in English; (ii) PhD on techniques in the poetry of Ezra Pound (1980, subsequently published as *Ezra Pound Identity in Crisis* (Harvester Press and Barnes and Noble, 1981).

1997-8, Mini-pupillage with Bar Council approval to conduct research on contested “meaning” in UK defamation law: 1 Brick Court, Middle Temple, London (with pupil-master HHJ Patrick Moloney, QC).

3. Teaching, Management and Leadership

3.1 Teaching.

Because my research is interdisciplinary, I have been drawn to many different kinds of teaching and course design, both theoretical and applied. I have prepared, taught and co-taught undergraduate and postgraduate courses in linguistics (especially semantics and pragmatics), literary study (including stylistics), public relations and strategic communication, legal language and interpretation, and topics in media law and intellectual property law. I have supervised 16 UK PhDs to successful completion and examined doctoral theses in a number of different countries.

3.2 Management and leadership

- Academic member of the University Board of Governors (Middlesex) and of College Council (Goldsmiths);
- Three periods on Academic Boards (Middlesex and Goldsmiths); one as member of University Senate (Strathclyde);
- Head of Department (Goldsmiths), Head of School (Middlesex); Director of self-funding research and graduate studies centre (Strathclyde);
- Extensive involvement in appointments at all levels, mentoring, quality assurance (at subject and institutional level), external examining (in a number of different national systems); drafting and editing research assessment (REF) submission;
- Link role in overseas partnerships;
- Chair of numerous university-level, faculty-level, and department committees.

3.3 External positions

- Visiting Professor, University of Hong Kong (2016);
- Visiting Professor, University of Tokyo (funded by JSPS, 2000);
- Visiting Professor in exchange collaboration with University of Sao Paulo (1998).

- Member of British Council’s Literature Advisory Committee (LITAC), 2000-3, and convenor of “language skills and awareness through the study of literature” projects in approximately 20 countries (1986-2005).
- “TV ideas based on the BFI archive” development project for the British Film Institute, London, 1989-1990.
- Credited producer of two documentaries for UK Channel 4 television: one scripted by the novelist David Lodge about attending an actual rather than fictional academic conference (1987); the other presenting responses to cultural politics in the UK articulated by US philosopher Cornel West (1990).

4. Publications

4.1 Overview

11 books published (3 single-authored; 5 co-authored; 2 co-edited; 1 single-editor student edition of an existing work). Approximately 40 journal articles and chapters in collections edited by others. Co-authored book in progress.

4.2 In progress

(with Jennifer Davis) *Key Words in Intellectual Property Law: A Legal and Linguistic Analysis* (Cambridge University Press, 2025).

4.3 Books

(with Janny HC Leung, eds.), *Meaning and Power in the Language of Law* (Cambridge University Press, 2018).

(with Janny HC Leung), *Language and Law*. RELI textbook (Routledge, London, 2016).

(with M. Montgomery, T. Furniss and S. Mills), *Ways of Reading: Advanced Reading Skills for Students of Literature*, 4th, revised edition (Routledge, 2013). The first edition of this textbook was published, in 1992; second and third revised editions were published in 2000 and 2006.

Meaning in the Media: Discourse, Controversy and Debate (Cambridge University Press, 2010).

(with Marina Lambrou), *Language and Media*, RELI textbook (Routledge, 2009). xvii + 269pp.

(with Nigel Fabb), *How to Write Essays and Dissertations: a Guide for English Literature Students*. 2nd revised edition (Pearson, 2005); renamed from first edition, *How to Write Essays, Dissertations and Theses in Literary Studies* (Longman, 1993) with a parallel, Chinese edition by Sichuan University Press, 2003).

Penguin Classics *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* (Student Edition). Edited with introduction, editorial notes, glossary, student tasks and accompanying CD. (Penguin, 2002).

(with Nigel Fabb), *Literary Studies in Action* (Routledge, 1990). Also, Chinese edition, World Publishing Corporation, Beijing, 1992.

(ed, with Fabb, Attridge and MacCabe), *The Linguistics of Writing: Arguments between Language and Literature* (Manchester University Press, UK; Routledge, USA, 1987). Also translation into Spanish by Carlos Piera published by Visor, Madrid, 1990.

Conditions of Music (Macmillan and SUNY Press, 1984).

Ezra Pound, Identity in Crisis: a Fundamental Reassessment of the Poet and His Work (Harvester Press and Barnes and Noble, 1981).

4.4 Some selected shorter publications

(with Jennifer Davis), 'What's in a name? Linguistic and legal aspects of company names, product and service names, trademarks, and brands,' in I.M. Nick (ed), *Names, Naming, and the Law: Onomastics, Identity, Power, and Policy* (Routledge, 2024), pp.221-238.

(with Jennifer Davis), 'Directions in intellectual property law research: a linguistic contribution', in, Irene Calboli and Maria Lillà Montagnani (eds.), *A Handbook on Intellectual Property Research* (Oxford University Press, New York, 2021), pp.341-360.

(with Kathryn Allan), 'Environment: analysing a political key word', *Critical Quarterly*, 61 (3). 2019, pp. 67-84.

(with Jennifer Davis), 'The communicative effects of verbal signs in trade mark law', in, Jacqueline Visconti (ed.), *A Handbook of Communication in the Legal Sphere* (de Gruyter, Berlin, 2018), pp.287-320.

Entries for "Enterprise", "Global", "Information", "Legitimate", "Market", "Opinion", "Property", "Rights", and "Value", contributed to the collective Keywords Project publication, *Keywords for Today: A 21st Century Vocabulary*, edited by Colin MacCabe and Holly Yanacek (Oxford University Press, New York, 2018).

'Seeing sense: the complexity of key words that tell us what law is', in, Janny HC Leung and Alan Durant, eds., *Meaning and Power in the Language of Law* (Cambridge University Press, 2018). pp.32-70.

'A story of *rights*: from word and conceptualisation to law and cultural narrative', *Journal of English Language and Literature*, volume 63, no.4 (2017), 623-640.

(with Janny HC Leung), 'Pragmatics in Legal Interpretation', in Anne Barron, Peter Grundy and Gu Yueguo (eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Pragmatics* (Routledge, London, 2017), pp.535-49.

(with Jennifer Davis), "'Have a Break" and the changing demands of trademark registration', *Queen Mary Journal of Intellectual Property (QMJIP, vol 5 number 2)*, 2016, 132-156.

'Harold Berman and the language of law', *International Journal for the Semiotics of Law*, 27, number 3 (2014), Special Issue "Jurisprudence and Communication". Springer online: DOI 10.1007/s11196-014-9389-2.

(with Marina Lambrou), 'Analysing the media', in Peter Stockwell and Sara Whitely (eds) *The Cambridge Handbook of Stylistics* (Cambridge University Press, 2014), pp.503-19.

'Reading "cases" in interdisciplinary studies of law and literature', in Marco Wan (ed), *The Legal Case: Crosscurrents between Law and the Humanities* (Routledge, 2012), pp.11-28.

(with Jennifer Davis), 'To protect or not to protect? The eligibility of commercially-used short verbal texts for copyright and trade mark protection', *Intellectual Property Quarterly*, (4), 2011, 345-70.

(with Ifan Shepherd), "'Culture" and "Communication" in Intercultural Communication', in, Ian Mackenzie (ed.), *Intercultural Negotiations* (Routledge, 2010), pp.13-28.

'How does 'substantial similarity of expression' in infringement actions look from a linguistic point of view?', in, Lionel Bently, Jennifer Davis & Jane Ginsberg (eds.), *Copyright and Piracy: an Interdisciplinary Critique* (CUP, 2010), pp.147-93.

'How can I tell the trade mark on a piece of gingerbread from all the other marks on it? Naming and meaning in verbal trademark signs', in, Lionel Bently, Jennifer Davis & Jane Ginsburg (eds), *Trade Marks and Brands* (CUP, 2008), pp.107-140.

"'The significance is in the selection': identifying contemporary keywords," *Critical Quarterly* 50 nos.1-2 (2008), 122-144.

'Raymond Williams's *Keywords*: meanings "offered, felt for, tested, confirmed, asserted, qualified, changed"', *Critical Quarterly*, 48 no.4 (2006), 1-26.

'There may be regular guys but there are no regular native speakers: lexis and native-speaker-like competence', in, Solveig Granath, June Miliander & Elisabeth Wenno (eds), *The Power of Words: Studies in Honour of Moira Linnarud* (University of Karlstad Press, 2005), pp.31-45.

'Applying linguistics: questions of language and law'. Translated from English into Japanese, by Yoshifumi Saito. In, Sadakazu Fujii et al (eds.), *Praxis of Language*, 6 volumes (University of Tokyo Press, 2002). Volume 5: 'Politics', edited by Hidetaka Ishida and Yoichi Komori, pp.253-81.

'Reading mixed reception: the case of *The Satanic Verses*', co-written with Laura Izarra, in, *Cauce: Revista De Filologia Y Su Didactica* ('Reading beyond the text: processes and skills'), No.24 2001 (Universidad de Sevilla), pp.653-78.

'What future for interpretive work in Film and Media Studies?', in Alan Durant (issue editor), *Screen*, Millennial Issue, volume 41 number 1 (2000), 7-17.

'Aspectos problematicos del significado: analisis critico del discurso' (translation by Pedro Tena of, 'Critical discourse analysis and social engagement'), in, Luisa Martin Rojo and Rachel Whittaker (eds) *Poder [JUNK] Decir O El Poder De Los Discursos*, Arrecife Producciones & Ediciones de la Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Madrid (1998), pp.121-47.

'Exploring inferences prompted by reading a very short story, *Perspectives: Journal of TESOL Italy*, volume XXIV number 1 (1998), 45-55.

'On the interpretation of allusions and other innuendo meanings in libel actions: the value of semantic and pragmatic evidence', *Forensic Linguistics*, volume 3 number 2 (1996), 195-210.

(with Colin MacCabe), 'Compacted Doctrines: Empson and the Meanings of Words', in, Chris Norris and Nigel Mapp (eds.), *William Empson: the Critical Achievement* (CUP, 1993), pp.170-95.

'Intelligence: issues in a word or a field', *Social Intelligence* volume 1 number 3 (1991), 171-8.