



I am The ROCK

Rachela Permenter

Job: Professor of English.

Joined SRU: Fall 1992.

Background: I've been stuck on Herman Melville and R. W. Emerson from day one of college, I studied under Melville scholar Howard Vincent during the last year of his life. I received my master of arts degree from Kent State and my doctorate from Northern Illinois. After undergraduate school, I lived in California, Boston, three years raising two sons while running a health food/antique store in the farmlands of Ohio, and ten years in Chicago.

Interests: My current research focuses mostly on Melville, Native American literature, 19th-century American literature and the literature and theories of pluralism. I'm still intrigued with film studies as a sideline and enjoy quirky films. Outside of work, I enjoy hiking, traveling, nature and hanging out with my family the most.

Last book read: 'The White Tiger' by Aravind Adiga.

Why I work at The Rock: We all have to do our work somewhere, and SRU pays a competitive salary in a beautiful part of the state and still respects academic freedom. I enjoy working with good colleagues and many students who are seriously motivated by intellectual curiosity. The students keep me working hard for them, and they also keep me laughing. What more could a professor want?

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