

OXFORD  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Oxford University Press, Inc., publishes works that further  
Oxford University's objective of excellence  
in research, scholarship, and education.

Oxford New York

Auckland Cape Town Dar es Salaam Hong Kong Karachi  
Kuala Lumpur Madrid Melbourne Mexico City Nairobi  
New Delhi Shanghai Taipei Toronto

With offices in

Argentina Austria Brazil Chile Czech Republic France Greece  
Guatemala Hungary Italy Japan Poland Portugal Singapore  
South Korea Switzerland Thailand Turkey Ukraine Vietnam

Copyright © 2010 by Oxford University Press, Inc.

Published by Oxford University Press, Inc.  
198 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10016

www.oup.com

Oxford is a registered trademark of Oxford University Press.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced,  
stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means,  
electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise,  
without the prior permission of Oxford University Press.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

The Oxford handbook of transcendentalism / edited by Joel Myerson, Sandra Harbert Petrulionis, Laura Dassow Walls.  
p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

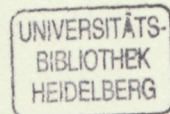
ISBN 978-0-19-533103-5

1. American literature—19th century—History and criticism. 2. Transcendentalism (New England).  
3. Transcendentalism in literature. 4. New England—Intellectual life—19th century. 5. United States—  
Intellectual life—1783–1865. I. Myerson, Joel. II. Petrulionis, Sandra Harbert. III. Walls, Laura Dassow.

PS217.T7O94 2010

810.9'384—dc22 2009025814

2010 A 9377



OXFORD  
1 3 5 7 9 8 6 4 2

Printed in the United States of America  
on acid-free paper

# CONTENTS

.....

Contributors	xi
Abbreviations	xxi
Introduction	xxiii

## PART I TRANSCENDENTAL CONTEXTS

1. Greek and Roman Classics 3  
*K. P. Van Anglen*
2. Enlightenment and Scottish Common Sense Philosophy 9  
*Robin Grey*
3. Asian Influences 27  
*Alan Hodder*
4. Puritanism 38  
*Frank Shuffelton*
5. Unitarianism 50  
*Dean Grodzins*
6. World Revolutions 70  
*Michael Ziser*
7. Romanticism 84  
*Barbara L. Packer*
8. Nineteenth-Century Print Culture 102  
*Ronald J. Zboray and Mary Saracino Zboray*

## PART II TRANSCENDENTALISM AS A SOCIAL MOVEMENT

9. Religion 117  
*Albert J. von Frank*

10. Politics and Economics 136  
*Len Gougeon*
11. Education 153  
*Wesley T. Mott*
12. Environmentalist Thought and Action 172  
*Lance Newman*
13. Manifest Destiny and the Question of the Moral Absolute 183  
*Lawrence Buell*
14. Native American Rights 198  
*Joshua David Bellin*
15. Antislavery Reform 210  
*Sandra Harbert Petruionis*
16. Woman's Rights and Feminism 222  
*Phyllis Cole*
17. Health and the Body 241  
*Mary Lamb Shelden*
18. Transcendentalist Communities 249  
*Sterling F. Delano*

PART III TRANSCENDENTALISM AS A LITERARY MOVEMENT

19. Transcendental Poetics: Emerson, Higginson, and  
the Rise of Whitman and Dickinson 263  
*Ed Folsom*
20. Journals 291  
*Robert Sattelmeyer*
21. Letter Writing 309  
*Robert N. Hudspeth*
22. Sermons 319  
*Susan L. Roberson*

23. Lectures and the Lyceum Movement 330  
*Kent P. Ljungquist*
24. Conversations 348  
*Noelle A. Baker*
25. Transcendentalist Periodicals 361  
*Todd H. Richardson*
26. *The Dial* 373  
*Susan Belasco*
27. Literary Criticism 384  
*Jeffrey Steele*
28. Travel Literature 396  
*Barbara L. Packer*
29. Nature Writing 408  
*Philip F. Gura*
30. Biography, Autobiography, and Reminiscence 426  
*Robert D. Habich*

#### PART IV TRANSCENDENTALISM AND THE OTHER ARTS

31. The Visual Arts 441  
*Albert J. von Frank*
32. Photography 453  
*Sean Ross Meehan*
33. Architecture 460  
*W. Barksdale Maynard*
34. Music 469  
*Ora Frishberg Saloman*

## PART V VARIETIES OF TRANSCENDENTAL EXPERIENCE

35. Concord 477  
*Ronald A. Bosco*
36. Boston and Beyond 495  
*Robert J. Scholnick*
37. Global Transcendentalism 513  
*Laura Dassow Walls*
38. Families and Friendships 524  
*Elizabeth Addison*
39. Transcendental Virtue 537  
*Philip Cafaro*
40. The Cavellian Turn 549  
*Lawrence F. Rhu*
41. Aesthetics 559  
*Eric G. Wilson*
42. Science and Technology 572  
*Laura Dassow Walls*
43. Evolutionary Theory 583  
*William Rossi*
44. Naysayers: Poe, Hawthorne, and Melville 597  
*Richard Kopley*

## PART VI TRANSCENDENTAL AFTERLIVES

45. The Free Religion Movement 617  
*David M. Robinson*
46. The Life and Legacy of "Civil Disobedience" 629  
*Linck Johnson*
47. Nature Writing and Environmental Activism 642  
*Robert E. Burkholder*

48. Walden: Pilgrimages and Iconographies 659  
*Leslie Perrin Wilson*
49. Twentieth-Century American Poetry 671  
*Saundra Morris*
50. The Electronic Age 682  
*Amy E. Earhart*

## APPENDICES

1. Chronology 691  
*Joel Myerson*
2. Bibliographies 703  
*Joel Myerson*
- Index 725