

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
The University of Michigan  
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Daniel Noemi, assistant professor of romance languages and literatures, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of romance languages and literatures, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2003	Yale University
M.Phil.	2001	Yale University
M.A.	1999	Yale University
M.A.	1998	Universidad de Chile

Professional Record:

2006 – present	Assistant Professor, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, University of Michigan
2004 – 2006	Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, University of Michigan
2003 – 2004	Visiting Assistant Professor, Division of Languages and Literatures, Bard College

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Noemi has demonstrated teaching excellence in a wide range of undergraduate and graduate courses, and he has shown a high level of engagement with students. His four undergraduate survey courses provide a solid historical overview of contemporary Latin America, and help students familiarize themselves with its major contemporary literary, cultural, and social trends. Students consider him to be an excellent teacher and a generous mentor and advisor.

Research – Professor Noemi’s writings explore the relation between literary form, historicity, political commitment, and collective life in Latin American societies marked by authoritarian rule, economic crisis, and long-term impoverishment. His first book, Leer la pobreza en América Latina: Literatura y velocidad, approaches the “aesthetics of poverty” in contemporary Chile, Argentina and Uruguay, among others. In his second book, ¿Arte o política? Realismo y vanguardia en América Latina, Professor Noemi addresses the contentious relationship between art and politics in a time of crisis in Latin America through an innovative approach to two terms: Realism and the Avant-Garde (or Modernism).

Recent and Significant Publications:

¿Arte o política? Realismo y vanguardia en América Latina, Cuarto Propio, forthcoming 2012.  
“Y después de lo post, ¿qué? Narrativa latinoamericana hoy,” in Entre lo local y lo global: la narrativa latinoamericana en el cambio de siglo (1990-2006), M. Juárez, et al. (eds.), Iberocamericana-Vervuert, 2008, pp. 83-99.

“The ‘uchronic’ city: Writing (after) the catastrophe,” in Unfolding the City: Women Write the City in Latin America, A. Lambright and E. Guerrero (eds.), University of Minnesota Press, 2007, pp. 180-195.

Leer la pobreza en América Latina: Literatura y velocidad, Cuarto Propio, 2004.

Service – Professor Noemi has made significant contributions to the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures. He has also worked closely with the Office of International Programs assisting and advising students.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

“He has written two significant monographs in the field of Latin American Literature, and a brilliant collection of essays and articles published in professional periodicals of the field. His scholarship is definitely innovative and immensely original, practically encompassing the entire region of South America.”

Reviewer (B)

“Professor Noemi’s dossier shows a strong commitment to his research. ... There is no question that he has worked hard to become a reference in his field. As I told one of my graduate students... ‘you cannot avoid engaging in a dialogue with Noemi’s approach to contemporary culture even if you do not agree with his post-autonomy perspective and take on realism.’”

Reviewer (C)

“...Noemi’s work does force us to think about the implications of a postmodern aesthetic of poverty in a geopolitical area known for its economic instability...and in the wake of the failure of neoliberal economic policies. ... Furthermore, Noemi’s work on Diamela Eltit...should be assigned reading in courses dealing with the writing of the Chilean author.”

Reviewer (D)

“...his maturity of thought becomes quite evident upon reading his scholarship chronologically; there is an impressive evolution of ideas and interpretations which illustrates the degree to which Noemi’s scholarship is an on-going critical/theoretical project as opposed to a mere collection of disjointed articles and essays.”

Reviewer (E)

“...I am extraordinarily impressed by the range, maturity, and overall quality of his scholarship. His writing is lucid, insightful, grounded in a thorough familiarity with the primary texts, and theoretically aware of the most current debates in literary criticism and cultural studies. ...Noemi has one of the strongest cases for tenure I have seen in many years.”

Reviewer (F)

“It is clear from these two books that Professor Noemi Voionmaa has read extensively, is well versed on [sic] both literary and theoretical works, and that he has an excellent command of the intricacies of both. He is not one of those critics who refers to criticism to appear knowledgeable, he resorts to theory to think more deeply.”

Reviewer (G)

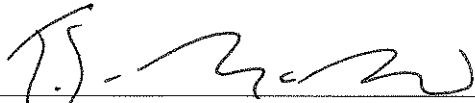
“In an age of specialization, Prof. Noemi not only covers several subject-matter areas, but also is willing to take on such sweepingly broad intellectual problems as the relation between literature, or even art generally, and social realities. He writes about matters that are undeniably important, though also hard to treat because of their scope. ... if he were a candidate for tenure in my department, I would be highly enthusiastic in supporting his case.”

Reviewer (H)

“Noemi’s study of the most recent literary production in Ecuador, Chile, and Argentina in *Leer la pobreza* also breaks with the pattern established by many Latin Americanists who study the Southern Cone usually at the expenses of other countries. ...I find Professor Noemi’s work to be consistently refreshing because he explores important questions that have been bypassed by our turn to cultural studies in recent years.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Noemi is an outstanding scholar, a valued and committed teacher. He is always willing to serve in the administration of his department. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Daniel Noemi be promoted to the rank of associate professor of romance languages and literatures, with tenure, in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



---

Terrence J. McDonald  
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor,  
Professor of History and Dean,  
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

May 2012