

Aaron Ottinger, PhD

[for contact information, please see **Contact** page on this website]

TEACHING APPOINTMENTS

Lecturer, English Department, University of Washington, Seattle (2016-2018)

Acting Instructor, English Department, University of Washington, Seattle (2010-2016)

Adjunct Writing Instructor, Highline College, Des Moines, WA (2008-present)

EDUCATION

PhD (2016), English Literature, University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Dissertation: *The Role of Geometry in Wordsworth's "Science of Feelings"*

Dissertation Directors: Marshall Brown and Raimonda Modiano

MA (2008), English Literature, DePaul University, Chicago, IL

BA (2004), Philosophy & German, North Central College, Naperville, IL

FELLOWSHIPS

Modern Language Quarterly, Dissertation Fellowship, University of Washington (2012-13)

Travel Grant, Department of English, University of Washington (2009)

Travel Grant, Charles Lamb Society (2008)

Richter Research Fellowship, North Central College (2004)

PUBLICATIONS

Articles

"Astral Guts: The Nemocentric Self in Byron and Brassier," a chapter for *Romanticism and Speculative Realism*. Edited by Anne McCarthy and Chris Washington, Bloomsbury, 2019.

"The Mathematics of Associationism in Laurence Sterne's *Tristram Shandy*," a chapter for *The Palgrave Handbook of Literature and Mathematics*. Edited by Alice Jenkins and Rob Tubbs. [forthcoming]

"Ecocritical Perspectives and Media Adaptations in the Anthropocene: Teaching Wordsworth's 'Written in Germany,'" an essay for "Teaching Romanticism in the Anthropocene," *Romantic Circles: Romantic Pedagogy Commons*. Edited by Kate Singer and Chris Washington. [forthcoming]

"Geometry, the Body, and Affect in Wordsworth's *The Ruined Cottage*." *Essays in Romanticism*, vol. 21, no. 2, 2014, pp. 159-178.

Reviews

Literature After Euclid: The Geometric Imagination in the Long Scottish Enlightenment, by Matthew Wickman in *Romantic Circles* (2017).

Romantic Intimacy, by Nancy Yousef in *Romantic Circles* (2015).

Plastic Intellectual Breeze: The Contribution of Ralph Cudworth to S.T. Coleridge's Early Poetics of the Symbol, by Cristina Flores in *The Coleridge Bulletin* (winter 2009), 92-94.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Monographs

“Astral Romanticism” [examines a significant turning point in the history of objectivity or “the view from nowhere”—namely the alliance between British Enlightenment psychology and mathematics—and the way mid-eighteenth-century and Romantic-era writers integrated this view].

“Wordsworth’s Euclid: Mathematics Education and Global Romanticism” [examines the global military regime that emerged from a formal education in mathematics and how non-institutional forms of mathematics education resisted this development].

Articles

“The Logic of *Lyrical Ballads*” [situates Wordsworth’s *Lyrical Ballads* in eighteenth-century and present-day debates in speculative philosophy regarding the logic of discovery].

“Mathematics in First-Year Rhetoric and Composition” [explores strategies for integrating mathematical and quantitative reasoning in writing classes focused on the rhetoric and ethics of digital representations and algorithmic decision-making].

DIGITAL HUMANITIES AND PUBLICATOINS

Guest Curator, *Keats-Shelley Association of America Blog* (fall 2018)

Produced a three-part blog series on the role of Ada Lovelace in literary research and pedagogical practice, including an interview with Dr. Roger Whitson and a post on Ada Lovelace adaptations.

Lead Organizer, *Digital Humanities and Media Arcade Social* (spring 2018)

Co-organized with UW library staff, this event brought together students, faculty, and staff to meet, share DH projects, and discuss collaboration. I presented a short talk, “What is Digital Humanities?”

Lead Curator, Public Digital Scholarship Project, *Literature and Mathematics* (2018-present)

Literature and Mathematics is a public, digital campaign to raise awareness regarding the global connections between literature and mathematics throughout history. Students and I produce daily content on a Twitter account (@mad_mathesis). The long-term goal is to seek an NEH grant to develop a website devoted to promoting mathematics and literature in and outside of academia.

Communications Fellow, *Keats-Shelley Association of America* (2017-18)

Fellows created original content for the Keats-Shelley Association website. Fellows managed social media platforms. This fellowship is ongoing in a limited capacity. I still contribute a weekly Twitter post about an article from the *Keats-Shelley Journal* archive.

Staff Writer, *North American Society for Studies in Romanticism Graduate Student Caucus Blog* (2012- 2013)

Entries covered an array of subjects, including posts on graduate student life, an introduction to Speculative Realism/Materialism, and a three-part series on Digital Humanities.

Classes, Workshops, and Skills

Current: Computer Science 102: “Web Development,” Highline College.

“Introduction to Machine Learning in the Digital Humanities,” Digital Humanities Summer Institute, University of Victoria, June 11-15, 2018. Skillset: Topic Modeling. Software: R Studio, R programming language.

“Text Encoding Fundamentals and Their Application,” Digital Humanities Summer Institute, University of Victoria, June 5-9, 2017. A seminar on the Text Encoding Initiative’s guidelines, a humanist brand of extensible markup language (XML) for digitizing texts. Skillsets: Philosophy and applications of XML; using the Text Encoding Initiative (TEI); input versus output. Software: Oxygen XML Editor.

“Data, Math, Visualization, and the Interpretation of Networks: An Introduction,” Digital Humanities Summer Institute, University of Victoria, June 15-19, 2015. A seminar on topic modeling. Skillsets: Building databases, reading visualized networks, and visualizing data. Software: Excel, NodeXL, Gephi.

“Demystifying the Digital Humanities.” Simpson Center for the Humanities, University of Washington. Winter workshops, 2015. A two-part series on digitizing texts using XML and visualizing data with R programming language.

“Demystifying the Digital Humanities.” Simpson Center for the Humanities, University of Washington. 2012-13. A year-long series of workshops on digital publishing, online personas, HTML, and the ethics of Digital Humanities.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Upcoming: Invited speaker, Conference on the 200th Anniversary of Lord Byron's *Don Juan*. Hosted by the Keats-Shelley Association of America and the Byron Society of America, Chicago, IL, October 18-19, 2019.

Pending: "The Stone and the Shell: Reading Euclid's *Elements* with *Arabian Nights*." North American Society for Studies in Romanticism (NASSR) annual conference, Chicago, IL, August 8-11, 2019.

"Probable Openings: Mary Wollstonecraft," for the panel, "Mathematical Openings, Opening Mathematics." North American Society for Studies in Romanticism (NASSR) annual conference, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, June 22-25, 2018.

"Allegories in the Anthropocene: Visualizing the Romantic Mind in the Classroom," for the roundtable, "Living through Human Trumpery: Teaching Romanticism in the Anthropocene." International Conference on Romanticism (ICR) annual conference, Colorado Springs, Colorado, October 20-23, 2016.

"Between None and *Don Juan*." International Conference on Romanticism (ICR) annual conference, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado, October 20-23, 2016.

"Wordsworth and Physiocracy." North American Society for Studies in Romanticism (NASSR) annual conference, University of California, Berkeley, California, August 11-14, 2016.

"Coleridge's Geometry of Love." Modern Language Association (MLA) annual conference, Vancouver, British Columbia, January 9-11, 2015.

"Parts, Whole, Identity: The Sublime and the 'Weak Figure' in Wordsworth's Poetry." Modern Language Association (MLA) annual conference, Vancouver, British Columbia, January 9-11, 2015.

"Wordsworth's Speculative Geometry." International Conference on Romanticism (ICR) annual conference, University of St. Thomas, Minneapolis, Minnesota, September 25-28, 2014.

"The Logic of *Lyrical Ballads*." North American Society for Studies in Romanticism (NASSR) annual conference, Washington, D.C., June 10-13, 2014.

"Wordsworth and Geometrical Instruments." Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts (SLSA) annual conference, University of Notre Dame, Indiana, October 3-6, 2013.

"Before the Postulate, After the Line: Rethinking Order in the *Lyrical Ballads*." American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) annual conference, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada, April 4-7, 2013.

"Desynchronizing Rhythms: The Body, Technics, and Surprise in Wordsworth's 'The Ruined Cottage.'" International Conference on Romanticism (ICR) annual conference, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, November 8-11, 2012.

“Wordsworth’s ‘The Discharged Soldier’ and the Violence of Pastoral Prostheses.” North American Society for Studies in Romanticism (NASSR) annual conference, Park City, Utah, August 11-14, 2011.

“Lord Byron’s *Don Juan*: Converted Characters ‘In and Out of Place?’” International Byron Society annual conference, Athens/Messolonghi, Greece, September 6-13, 2009.

“The Otherness of Home: Mary Evans and Samuel Taylor Coleridge.” Summer Coleridge Conference, Cannington, England, July 12-30, 2008.

“Orientalism, Race, and National Identity in Byron’s *Don Juan*.” International Student Byron Conference, Messolonghi, Greece, May 18-25, 2008

“Byron’s Retreat to Action in the ‘Ode to Napoleon Buonaparte.’” International Student Byron Conference, Messolonghi, Greece, June 25-30, 2007.

“The Homosocial Milton: *Comus*, Power, and Female Identity.” Midwestern Conference on Literature, Language, and Media, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, March 30-31, 2007.

“Domestic Daemons: Representations of Women in the Writings of Samuel Taylor Coleridge.” “Graduate Student Conference: Sexing the Text,” Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada, November 2-4, 2006.

“Representations of Cambodian Genocide.” Southeast Asian Writers Conference, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, February 28, 2004.

Panels Organized

“Mathematical Openings, Opening Mathematics,” a panel on decolonizing mathematics in the Romantic period, at North American Society for Studies in Romanticism (NASSR) annual conference, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, June 22-25, 2018.

“Dark Mathematics in the Romantic Period: Variations on Infinity,” a panel on emerging interpretations of infinity from the Enlightenment to Romanticism, at the International Conference on Romanticism (ICR) annual conference, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado, October 20-23, 2016.

“Speculative Approaches to Feelings in Romanticism” (with Thomas Manganaro), a panel on scientific and literary approaches to feelings outside of mainstream moral philosophy, at the Modern Language Association (MLA) annual meeting. Vancouver, Canada, January 8-11, 2015.

Panels Presided Over

“Technology and Romantic Afterlives,” International Conference on Romanticism (ICR) annual conference, University of St. Thomas, Minneapolis, Minnesota, September 25-28, 2014.

“Catastrophe as Organizing Principle in William Wordsworth’s Poetry,” International Conference on Romanticism (ICR) annual conference, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, November 8-11, 2012.

TEACHING

Present course: Principles of Writing 101: “Mathematizing Human Life: Writing and Rhetoric in an Algorithmic Culture,” Highline College, winter 2019.

Lecturer, University of Washington, Seattle

English 111: Composition: Literature and Brain Science (spring 2018)
English 131: Composition: The Rhetoric of Digital Media in the Anthropocene (winter 2018)
English 200: Prometheus Bound and Unbound: From Oral Culture to the Digital Age (fall 2017)
English 242: Prometheus Bound and Unbound: Science and Literature in Prose Fiction (summer 2017)
English 200: Alien Minds: Poetics and Mathematics from Print Media to Artificial Intelligence (spring 2017)
English 200: Environmental Perspectives: Genres, Media, and Narratives (winter 2017)
English 242: Science Fiction and Speculative Fiction: A History of Genres and Media (fall 2016)

Acting Instructor, University of Washington, Seattle

English 297: Interdisciplinary Writing in the Humanities: Writing Link with English 202: Introduction to the Study of English Language and Literature (spring 2016)
English 111: Composition: Literature (spring 2013, winter-spring 2014, winter-spring 2015, winter 2016)
English 242: Reading Fiction: Life After Wartime (fall 2012)
English 243: Reading Poetry (spring 2012)
English 242: Reading Fiction, Constructing Narratives (winter 2012)
English 212: Literature 1700-1900: Science, Technology, and Mediation (fall 2011)
English 131: Composition: Exposition (2010-2011)

Adjunct Instructor, Highline College, Des Moines, WA

English 101: Principles of Writing (2008-2010, 2013-present)
English 111: Introduction to Literature (winter 2011)
English 205: Research and Persuasive Writing (spring 2009)

SERVICE

University of Washington, Seattle

Gateway Lecture TA Planning Group (spring 2016)

Designed assignments/plans for future lecture TAs who will take over the responsibilities of the linked writing course instructors.

Presenter, UWHS Instructor Orientation (spring 2012, 2013)

Presented to high school English instructors on rhetorical situations and methods for transferring knowledge across genres

Conference Organizer (2011)

Graduate Conference for Interdisciplinary Studies: *Absurdity and the Everyday*

Conference Organizer (2010)

Graduate Conference for Interdisciplinary Studies: *Adaptations*

Highline College, Des Moines, Washington

National Poetry Month Planning Committee (2018-2019) This committee is responsible for planning a month of events, including guest speakers, writing workshops, and readings in celebration of the diversity of poetry and poets. For 2020, we are focusing on mixed-media, adaptations, and making exercises, including zines, podcasts, and poetry comics.

English 101 Curriculum Committee This committee has been tasked with re-visiting the course outcomes and faculty guidelines to accommodate responses based on surveys among English department faculty. (spring 2018)

English 101 Curriculum Committee Faculty from the English Department revised the course outcomes and instructor guidelines for the college's required English 101. (winter /spring 2015)

Service Outside the Academy

Games, Creativity, and Inclusivity in the Classroom Workshop (August 29, 2019) This day-long workshop for new instructors at the Barrio Planta Project, an NGO located in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, focused on culturally sensitive games and media adaptations, like skits and comic strips, that also contained language acquisition skills.