

Alexander J. Ashland

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Education

PhD, English, University of Iowa	Fall 2019 (expected)
MA, British and American Literature, Marquette University	May 2013
BA, Literature and Creative Writing, Marquette University	Dec. 2010
Public Digital Humanities Certificate	Spring 2018

Dissertation

The Documentary Turn: U.S. Literature in the Age of Compromise, 1850-1877

Co-Directors: Kathleen Diffley and Stephen Voyce

Committee: Ed Folsom, Lena Hill, Matthew Brown

Areas of Interest

19th and 20th Century U.S. Literature, Media and Visual Studies, Literary Theory, Poetry and Poetics, Digital Humanities, Transatlantic Literature

Fellowships and Awards

Ballard Seashore Dissertation Fellowship (\$10,000)	Fall 2019
Frederick P. W. McDowell Dissertation Scholarship (\$1000)	Fall 2019
University of Iowa Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio Fellowship (\$4,000)	Summer 2017
Mellon/ACLS Fellowship Incentive Program (\$500)	Spring 2017
U. of Iowa, English Department (\$400), South Atlantic MLA (SAML A)	Fall 2018
Graduate and Professional Student Government (\$250), South Atlantic MLA (SAML A)	Fall 2018
Annette K. Baxter Travel Grant (\$300), American Studies Association (ASA)	Fall 2016
U. of Iowa, English Department (\$200), American Studies Association (ASA)	Fall 2016
U. of Iowa, English Department (\$200), American Literature Association (ALA)	Spring 2016

Publications

"Documenting Novel Sources in Nineteenth-Century U.S. Literature," *South Atlantic Review*, forthcoming 2019.

"Fugitive *Pieces*: Herman Melville's Reconstructive Poetics" (submitted).

"'All thy wide geographies': Reading Whitman's Epistolary Database," *The New Whitman Studies*, Cambridge University Press (forthcoming 2019).

"Off the Grid: Zora Neale Hurston's Racial Geography in *Their Eyes Were Watching God*," *Iowa Journal of Cultural Studies*, 2017, pp. 76-90.

"Toward a More Perfect Union: Whitman, Ekphrasis, and the Daguerreotype," *Ekphrasis in American Poetry: The Colonial Period to the 21st Century*, Cambridge Scholars Press, 2015, pp. 51-78.

Digital Scholarship

"Making Data Fit: What Digital Repackaging Can do for the Humanities," *Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio*, 2017, [Link](#).

"Periodizing Big Data: Reintroducing Punctuation Back Into Corpus Analysis," *Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio*, 2017, [Link](#).

"DH Salon Recap: 'Whitman's Letters—The Collaboration of the Walt Whitman Archive Correspondence Team,'" *Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio*, University of Iowa, in collaboration with Ed Folsom, Stephanie Blalock, Stefan Schöberlein, and Ryan Furlong, [Link](#).

"Flux Year Box 2," Fluxus Collection, University of Iowa, [Link](#).

"Night Unfolding Ever into Night," *ZO Magazine*, 2015, [Link](#).

Conference Presentations

"*figures cannot lie*: Documenting Novel Sources in Antebellum U.S. Literature," Afterlives of Violence in American Literature and Culture, South Atlantic Modern Language Association (SAML), Birmingham, AL, Nov. 4, 2018.

"Making Data Fit: What Digital Repackaging Can Do for the Humanities," Jakobsen Memorial Conference, University of Iowa, March 24, 2018.

"Animating Whitman's Correspondence: Pedagogy and Practice," Walt Whitman in/and the Digital Humanities, American Literature Association (ALA), Boston, MA, Nov. 27, 2017.

"Postwar Appendage: Paratext and Reconstruction in Herman Melville's *Battle-Pieces and Aspects of the War*," The Crucible of Calamity: Crisis and Identity Formations, American Studies Association (ASA), Denver, CO, Nov. 18, 2016.

"Aestheticizing the Archive: Documentary Poetics in Charles Reznikoff's *Holocaust*," The Holocaust in Contemporary American Jewish Literature organized by the Society for American Jewish Literature, American Literature Association (ALA), San Francisco, CA, May 27, 2016.

"Off the Grid: Hurston's Racial Geography in *Their Eyes Were Watching God*," Craft Critique Culture (CCC) Conference, University of Iowa, April 8-9, 2016.

Moderator: "Virtual Bridges: Establishing Digital Connections Between Communities," Craft Critique Culture (CCC), University of Iowa, April 9, 2016.

"Pedagogies of Pain: An Exploration of Violence and Modernity in David Fincher's *Se7en* and *Zodiac*," Remediating Violence: Film, Photography, and the Aesthetics of Pain, Madlit 2014, Madison, WI, February 21, 2014.

"Towards a More Perfect Union: Anti-Revolutionary Sentiment in Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass*," Ekphrasis in American Poetry II, Midwest Modern Language Association (MMLA), Milwaukee, WI, November 8, 2013.

Co-chair, Ekphrasis in American Poetry II, Midwest Modern Language Association (MMLA), Milwaukee, WI, November 8, 2013.

"Crystalizing Knowledge: When To Do Small Group Work," The 19th Annual UWM-Marquette 1st-Year English Graduate Student Conference, Milwaukee, WI, December 3, 2012.

Campus Talks

Introduction to Digital Humanities, Marshall University, April 16, 2019 (invited guest speaker)

Digital Humanities Studio Summer Fellowship, panel on "Project Planning and Management," June 13, 2018 (invited guest speaker).

"DH Salon: Whitman's Letters—The Collaboration of the Walt Whitman Archive Correspondence Team," Digital Scholarship and Publishing Studio, Presented in collaboration with Ed Folsom, Stephanie Blalock, Stefan Schoeberlein, and Ryan Furlong, February 12, 2016.

"Exhibiting Correspondence: Gallery Space and the Postal Relay System," *The Avant-Garde as Media Cultures*, "Actor Networks, (Un-)Intelligible Objects," University of Iowa, December 8, 2015.

"(Re)mediating the Civil War: Poetics of Reconstruction in Herman Melville's *Battle-Pieces*," *Civil War Cultures: Roundtables*, "After Appomattox: A National Imaginary," University of Iowa, April 29, 2015.

"Visualizing Race in Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*," American Literature Colloquium, Marquette University, August 9, 2012.

"Re-membering Ethnicity: Proletarian Literature and the Multicultural Curriculum," Twentieth-Century American Literature Colloquium, Marquette University, May 11, 2012.

"Speaking from the Margins: Parodic Discourse, Subversion and Postmodernism," Twentieth-Century American Literature Colloquium, Marquette University, December 15, 2011.

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant, University of Iowa Writing Center	Spring 2016 – Spring 2018
Teaching Assistant, University of Iowa Foundations of the English Major	August 2014 – May 2015
Adjunct Instructor, Marquette University Rhetoric and Composition 1 Rhetoric and Composition 2	August 2013 – December 2013 January 2014 – May 2014
Teaching Assistant, Marquette University Rhetoric and Composition 1 Rhetoric and Composition 2	August 2012 – December 2012 January 2013 – May 2013

Research Experience

Research Assistant, University of Iowa

Walt Whitman Quarterly Review

Spring 2020

- Assistant Editor

Research Assistant, University of Iowa

The Walt Whitman Archive

Fall 2014 – Summer 2019

- Old Age Letters (1888-1892)
- Post-Reconstruction Correspondence (1877-1887)
- The Walt Whitman Encyclopedia
- Pictures and Sound, “Gallery of Images”
- New York Aurora, Journalism

Whitman Camp, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE

Summer 2015 – 2019

- Attended annual planning meeting for The Walt Whitman Archive where I discussed progress on current projects, participated in “code sprints,” consulted staff on website proofing and design, and discussed future plans for the site.
- Presented updates on my Digital Humanities project, Mapping Whitman’s Correspondence; presented findings of scholarly article written in collaboration with Whitman Archive staff.

Digital Humanities

Whitmap, project creator and developer ([Link](#) to website).

Whitmap Digital Exhibit, featured at the Whitman Bicentennial, University of Iowa, Summer 2019.

Public Digital Humanities Certificate, received Spring 2018.

Studio Fellow, Digital Scholarship & Publishing Studio Summer Fellowship, University of Iowa, 2017.

Project management

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- Hiring consultant for the Digital Scholarship and Publishing Studio’s editorial assistant position (2016, 2017). Helped train interns on data entry and geocoding, as well as project overview for the Mapping Whitman’s Correspondence Digital Humanities project.
 - Additional Digital and Technical Skills: TEI | CSS | JavaScript | XML | HTML | Python | ArcGIS | Omeka | Cytoscape | Gephi | OutWit Hub | OpenRefine | Google Fusion | Tableau | D3 | R | Transcription and Encoding | Spreadsheet and Data Entry Subversion/PuTTY.
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Memberships

Midwest Modern Language Association (MMLA)

South Atlantic Modern Language Association (SAML A)

American Studies Association (ASA)

American Literature Association (ALA)

References

Kathleen Diffley

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