

ALEX ZWEBER LESLIE

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate – Rutgers University	2017 – Present
M.A. – Rutgers University	2014 – 2017
B.A. – University of Notre Dame	2010 – 2014

Majors in English and Philosophy, *magna cum laude*

PUBLICATIONS

“Regional Nationalism and the Ends of the *Literary World*,” *J19: the Journal of Nineteenth-Century Americanists* 7.2 (Fall 2019): 249-275.

“Middling: On Hamlin Garland’s *Main-Traveled Roads*,” *Cleveland Review of Books*,
<https://www.clereviewofbooks.com/home/2019/10/7/middling-on-hamlin-garlands-main-traveled-roads>

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Dixon, Tourg  e, and the Fair-and-Balanced Civil War” accepted for inclusion in *Race, Citizenship, and Nation in the Literary Work of Albion Tourg  e*, ed. Sandra M. Gustafson and Robert S. Levine (Fordham University Press).

Article, **“Race and Region in the Dunbar Decades”**

Article, **“Modeling Genre Cross-Pollination in Periodicals”**

Dissertation, **“Reading Regions: Cultural Geography and American Literature, 1865-1925”**

Director: Brad Evans

Committee: Meredith McGill, Nicholas Gaskill, Andrew Goldstone

AWARDS AND GRANTS

Houghton Library Visiting Fellowship	2020 – 2021
Raritan Dissertation Fellowship, Rutgers University	2019 – 2020
American Antiquarian Society Kate B. and Hall J. Peterson Short-Term Fellowship	2019
Graduate Fellow, Rutgers Center for Cultural Analysis	2018 – 2019
Seminar description: https://cca.rutgers.edu/annual-seminar/past-seminars/491-2018-2019-classification	
Rutgers TA/GA Professional Development Fund Grant	Summer 2018
“Data and Culture” Digital Humanities Curriculum Development Fellowship	2017
Rutgers TA/GA Professional Development Fund Grant	Summer 2017
Rutgers School of Arts and Sciences Mellon Research Grant	2017
Rutgers Digital Humanities Initiative Seed Grant	2016 – 2017
“Reputations in the Regions, 1865-1915”; project description at https://dh.rutgers.edu/projects/	
Rutgers TA/GA Professional Development Fund Grant	Summer 2016
Runner-up, Marius Bewley Prize for Best Department Coursework Essay	2016
“Re-Regionalizing Race and De-Racializing Region in Paul Laurence Dunbar”	
Rutgers School of Arts and Sciences Mellon Summer Research Stipend	Summer 2015
Runner-up, Catherine Moynahan Prize for Best Graduate Department Essay	2015
“The End of the <i>Literary World</i> : Sectionalism and Antebellum Periodicals”	
Notre Dame Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts Grant	Summer 2014

TEACHING

Re-Writing and Re-Fighting the Civil War (358:442)	Summer 2018
“Teaching effectiveness of instructor” student evaluation: 5.00/5.00 (department term average: 4.75)	
Co-Taught w/ Brad Evans, The Cultural History of Now: Inequality–The New Gilded Age? (358:275)	Spring 2018
Principles of Literature: Poetry (359:201:25)	Fall 2017
“Teaching effectiveness of instructor” student evaluation: 4.63/5.00 (department term average: 4.57)	

Principles of Literature: Poetry (359:201:10)	Spring 2017
"Teaching effectiveness of instructor" student evaluation: 4.65/5.00 (department term average: 4.55)	
TA for Colin Jager, Principles of Literature: Poetry (359:201:07 & 08)	Fall 2016
"Teaching effectiveness of instructor" student evaluation: 4.70/5.00 (department term average: 4.53)	
Expository Writing (101:EG)	Spring 2016
Expository Writing (101:BA)	Fall 2015

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

C19: The Society for Nineteenth Century Americanists Conference (Coral Gables, FL)	April 2-5, 2020
Panel chair, "Quantifying Consensus and Dissent": "What was National or Popular about National Popularity?"	
Literary Tourgée Conference (Chautauqua, NY)	September 27-9, 2019
"Dixon, Tourgée, and the Fair-and-Balanced Civil War."	
Society of Early Americanists Conference (Eugene, OR)	February 28-March 2, 2019
"Timothy Flint and the New Region"	
Invited Presentation: HathiTrust Research Center "Digging Deeper, Reaching Further" Series	July 17, 2018
"Mining and Analyzing Text from Chronicling America Newspapers"	
Invited Presentation: Seton Hall Digital Humanities Symposium (South Orange, NJ)	June 5-6, 2018
"Analyzing and Teaching Historical Newspaper Databases"	
C19: The Society for Nineteenth Century Americanists Conference (Albuquerque, NM)	March 22-5, 2018
"Dis-Placing Race and Re-Placing Region in Paul Laurence Dunbar"	
American Literature Association Regionalism Symposium (New Orleans, LA)	September 7-9, 2017
"More than Color, Less than an -ism: the Postbellum Regional Novel"	
American Literature Association Conference (Boston, MA)	May 25-8, 2017
"How the Leopard Changed its Spots: Tourgée, Dixon, and the Novel Reconstruction of Reconstruction"	
Transatlantic Newspaper Symposium (London, England)	April 27, 2017
Rutgers Digital Humanities Showcase (New Brunswick, NJ)	March 23, 2017
"Reputations in the Regions: American Newspapers and Literary Geography, 1865-1915"	
C19: The Society for Nineteenth Century Americanists Conference (State College, PA)	March 17-20, 2016
"It's A Small <i>Literary World</i> after All: Nation, Region, and Antebellum Magazines"	

DIGITAL HUMANITIES WORKSHOPS

Approaches to Web Scraping	Spring 2019
Techniques for collecting content from websites: https://github.com/azleslie/WebscrapeTechniques	
Data 101	Fall 2018
Introduction to data organization, manipulation, and analysis in R: https://github.com/azleslie/Data101	
Introduction to Quantitative Textual Analysis	Fall 2018
Introduction to R and the basics of quantifying text: https://github.com/azleslie/TextAnalysisIntro	
Introduction to Mapping	Fall 2018
Survey of mapping tools with tutorials on StoryMapJS and Palladio: https://github.com/azleslie/MappingIntro	
Text Analysis with Newspapers	Spring 2018
Intermediate two-part workshop on mining and analyzing newspapers from Chronicling America in R: https://github.com/azleslie/ChronAmQuant	

SERVICE

Dissertating Students Representative, English Department Executive Committee	2018 - 2019
Rutgers Library Graduate DH Specialist	Spring 2018 - Present
Provides project consultations, works with library data services, and runs workshops on digital methods.	
Workshops series at https://dh.rutgers.edu/workshops/ ; 90% of attendees "Extremely satisfied"	
Member, Black Bibliography Project	2017 - Present
Member, New Jersey Committee for the NEH Digital Newspaper Program	2015 - Present
Selects newspapers for digitizing at https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/ ; blogs.libraries.rutgers.edu/njdnpp/	
Co-Director, Rutgers Graduate Americanist Colloquium	2015 - 2017
Organized visiting speaker events, graduate student workshops, and discussion groups.	