Jean Barré

Department of Literature and Language
École Normale Supérieure – PSL University
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PhD candidate developing computational methods to analyze French novels literary history (19th-20th centuries), with focus on canonicity, intertextuality detection in popular subgenre, and character network analysis. Expertise in applying NLP and machine learning to large-scale literary corpora.

Born: 11.12.1999
Languages: French, English, some German, some Spanish

Programming: Python, R, SQL, bash, slurm, LaTeX
Skills: text mining, data engineering, ML, LLM finetuning

Research interests: computational literary studies, literary history, literary theory, stylometry, cultural evolution

Professional and Educational History

from Oct 2025	**Research Software Engineer** (fixed-term) CNRS – LaTTiCe, Paris
from Oct 2022	**PhD Candidate** in Computational Literary Studies LaTTiCe, École Normale Supérieure-PSL, Paris
2021–2022	**Student Research Assistant** to T. Poibeau CNRS – LaTTiCe, Paris
2020–2022	**MSc in Digital Humanities** École nationale des Chartes, PSL University
2017–2020	**BA in French Literature** Sorbonne University
2017–2020	**BSc in Computer Science** Sorbonne University

Grants & Awards

2025	**Young Researcher Visiting Grant** (€2,000) DFG Priority Programme "Computational Literary Studies" – Research stay at Würzburg DH Lab under Prof. Fotis Jannidis

Publications

Journal Articles

Barré et al. "Operationalizing Canonicity: A Quantitative Study of French 19th and 20th Century Literature." *Journal of Cultural Analytics*, vol. 8, no. 1, Oct. 2023. doi:10.22148/001c.88113

Mélanie-Becquet et al. "BookNLP-fr, the French Versant of BookNLP. A Tailored Pipeline for 19th and 20th Century French Literature." *Journal of Computational Literary Studies*, Nov. 2024. doi:10.48694/jcls.3924

Conference Articles

Published

Barré et al. "Modeling the Birth of a Literary Archetype: The case of the Detective Figure in French Fiction." *CHR2025*, Dec. 2025, Esch-sur-Alzette, Luxembourg. arXiv:2511.00627

Brottrager et al. "Patterns of Canon: A Multilingual Network Study." *CHR2025*, Dec. 2025, Esch-sur-Alzette, Luxembourg.

Gabay et al. "The times are a-changin': présent vs passé simple in French novels (1811-2020)." *Digital Humanities Benelux*, Jun. 2025, Amsterdam. hal-04984105

Barré. "Latent Structures of Intertextuality in French Fiction." *CHR2024*, Dec. 2024, Aarhus, Denmark. arXiv:2410.17759

Chen et al. "Network Analysis, Plot Theory: Revisiting French Literature through Character Networks." *DH2024*, Jul. 2024, Washington. hal-04855204

Barré et al. "Détection automatique de l'architextualité dans le roman d'aventures. Une tentative d'opérationnalisation." *Humanistica 2024*, May 2024, Meknès, Morocco. hal-04559749

Barré et al. "Beyond Canonicity. Modeling Canon/Archive Literary Change in French Fiction." *CHR2023*, Dec. 2023, Paris. CHR | hal-04279087

Vianne et al. "Gender Bias in French Literature." *CHR2023*, Dec. 2023, Paris. CHR

Barré et al. "Pour une Détection Automatique de l'Espace Personnage dans les Romans." *Humanistica*, Jun. 2023, Geneva, Switzerland. hal-04105537

Grunspan et al. "Event Annotation for Literary Corpora Analysis." *DH2022*, Jul. 2022, Tokyo. hal-03738806

Teaching

As Course Instructor

Fall 2025	**Récit et Argumentation - 24h**, L1 Lettres Modernes (LLFL), Sorbonne Nouvelle	
Fall 2025	**Applied NLP for Computational Literary Studies - 20h** CPES - Data, art and cultures, Lycée Louis le Grand, PSL	
Fall 2025	**Python for Computational Humanities - 24h** École Nationale des Chartes, Master Humanités Numériques	
Spring 2025	**Applied NLP for Computational Literary Studies - 20h** CPES - Data, art and cultures, Lycée Louis le Grand, PSL	
Fall 2024	**Python for Computational Humanities - 24h** MSc in Digital Humanities, École nationale des Chartes	
March 2024	**Using Large Language Models to Study Fiction - 20h** DH meet AI - PSL University intensive week	
Fall 2023	**Python for Computational Humanities - 24h** MSc in Digital Humanities, École nationale des Chartes	
Nov 2022	**A Computational Literary History of Gender in French Fiction - 20h** DH meet AI - PSL University intensive week	

As Teaching Assistant

Spring 2025	**Introduction to Computational Literary Studies**, with F. Cafiero Department of Literature and Language, École Normale Supérieure	
Fall 2024	**Introduction to Natural Language Processing**, with T. Poibeau MSc in Digital Humanities, École nationale des Chartes	
Spring 2024	**Introduction to Computational Literary Studies**, with F. Cafiero Department of Literature and Language, École Normale Supérieure	

Scientific Activities

Reviewer for: Computational Humanities Research (Journal and Conference), Humanistica Conference

Events Organized:

- *Le texte de l'autre. Dialogue interdisciplinaire autour de l'intertextualité et du discours rapporté*, Conference, July 1-3, 2025, Paris. intertextualite.sciencesconf.org

- *AI and Large Language Models (LLMs) for the Analysis of Large Literary Corpora*, Workshop, December 5, 2023, Paris. workshop-llms4cls.github.io

- *Lattice PhD Presentation Day*, PhD Workshop, June 2023 - 2024 - 2025, Montrouge.

Other responsibilities: Organization for "Digital Humanities" Master Degree – Participation in building the pedagogical model, Member of the admissions panel; Representative of doctoral students at the Lattice laboratory committee.