Dennis Yi Tenen

August 5, 2025

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Field Specialization

The confluence of texts, people, and technology.

Dennis Yi Tenen is an associate professor of English at Columbia University, where he also co-directs the Narrative Intelligence Lab. His published work includes *Plain Text: The Poetics of Computation* (Stanford University Press, 2017), *Literary Theory for Robots* (W.W. Norton, 2024), and *Author Function* under contract with Chicago UP. His recent articles appear on the pages of *Modern Philology*, *New Literary History*, *Amodern*, *boundary2*, *Computational Culture*, and *Modernism/modernity*, on topics that span literary theory, the sociology of literature, media history, and computational narratology.

Education

Harvard University (Cambridge, MA)
Ph.D. Comparative Literature, 2004 – 2012.

"The Poetics of Human-Computer Interaction," Unpublished PhD Dissertation defended in 2012 under the advisement of Elaine Scarry, William Todd, and Michel Chaouli.

University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI)
  — B.A. with High Honors in Comparative Literature, 2001.
  — B.A. with High Honors in Political Science (Theory Concentration), 2001.

Appointments and Affiliations

Columbia University in the City of New York
Associate Professor, 2018.
Assistant Professor, Department of English and Comparative Literature, 2012.

  — Editor, On Method book series, Columbia University Press (2019 –).
  — Executive Committee, Institute for Comparative Literature and Society (2018 –).
  — Affiliated Faculty, Institute of Data Sciences and Engineering, Center for Data, Media, and Society (2015 –).
  — Founder, Columbia's Group for Experimental Methods in Humanistic Research (2014 –).

Berkman Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University
Member of metaLab and Cooperation research groups.

  — Academic Fellow, 2011 – 12.
  — Affiliated Faculty, 2012 – 16.

Harvard University (Cambridge, MA)
Lecturer in Comparative Literature, Spring 2012.

Microsoft (Palo Alto, CA)
Software Engineer. WebTV, Media Center, and subsequently Windows XP group, 2000 – 04.

Teaching & Advising

2025 – 26
  — Writing AI.
  — Conspiratorial Thought in American Culture.
  — *Contemporary Civilization*. Undergraduate seminar. Columbia Core, year-long.

2024 – 25
— *Narrative*. Graduate seminar on narrative theory from literary studies to sociology and the philosophy of mind and language.
— *English MA Seminar* ENGL GR5001. A comprehensive introduction to the field of literary studies for graduate students.
— *Contemporary Civilization*. Undergraduate seminar. Columbia Core, year-long.

2023 – 24
— *Literature in the Age of Artificial Intelligence* ENGL 4728. The long history of literature composed with, for, and by machines.
— Formal Methods in Text Analysis. Formal methods in literary / text analysis for graduate students, alongside a gentle introduction to NLP in Python.
— *Contemporary Civilization*. Undergraduate seminar. Columbia Core, year-long.

Summer 2023
— The Business Story. Works in this genre will lead us to profound philosophical questions about collective intelligence, personal belonging, the emergence of institutional agency, and the feeling of personal powerlessness in the face of large bureaucracies.
— Introduction to Language and Computation. Textual analytics for undergrads, from word to sentence, story, and corpus.

2020 – 21
— *English MA Seminar* ENGL GR5001. A comprehensive introduction to the field of literary studies for graduate students.
— *Contemporary Civilization*. Undergraduate seminar. Columbia Core, year-long.

2019 – 20
— *Literature in the Age of Artificial Intelligence* ENGL 4728. The long history of literature composed with, for, and by machines.
— *English MA Seminar* ENGL GR5001. A comprehensive introduction to the field of literary studies for graduate students.
— *Contemporary Civilization*. Undergraduate seminar. Columbia Core, year-long.

2018 – 19
— *Textual Formations* ENGL/HIST W84031. The physicality of text from characters, to words, sentences, paragraphs, pages, books, and archives. Graduate and undergraduate seminar with a lab component.
— *Literature Humanities* HUMA C1001/2. Western Literature and Philosophy from Homer to Zora Neale Hurston. Undergraduate seminar. Columbia Core, year-long.

2017 – 18
— *Technologies of Dissent* ENGL W4911. Media studies, critical computing. Graduate and undergraduate enrollment, fall.
— *Metaphor and Media* CLEN W4910. A survey of major works on metaphor, beginning with Aristotle and ending with contemporary cognitive and media theory. Graduate and undergraduate enrollment, spring.
— *Literature Humanities*. Western Literature and Philosophy from Homer to Zora Neale Hurston. Undergraduate seminar. Columbia Core, year-long.

2016 – 17
— *Form, Formula, Format* CLEN G6537. Literary theory. Graduate Seminar, fall. Undergraduate lecture, spring.
— *Contemporary Civilization*. Undergraduate seminar. Columbia Core, year-long.

2014 – 15
— *Computing in Context: Textual & Literary Scholarship.* CSEN W1002 w/ Matt Jones (History), Adam Cannon (Computer Science), and Karl Sigman (Economics). Computational approaches to the study of literature. Lecture, spring.
— *Code & Poetry* ENGLW4911. Lecture. Topics in new media studies and literary theory, fall.
— *Contemporary Civilization*. Undergraduate seminar. Columbia Core, year-long.
— *Coding for Human(s|ists)*. Lecture & lab. University of Victoria, Canada. Digital Humanities Summer Institute, summer 2015.

2013 – 14
— *Illicit Knowledge* ENGL G6915/3915. Media theory, science and technology studies. Seminar & DH lab, spring.
— *Media Archeology* ENGL G6921. Graduate seminar, topics in new media studies, fall.
— *Contemporary Civilization*. Undergraduate seminar. Columbia Core, year-long.
— *Foundations of Computing for Data Science Journalism* JOUR J4001. Lecture & lab. Lede Program. Graduate School of Journalism, summer 2014.

2012 – 13
— *Beyond the Human* CLEN W3770. Seminar. Topics in new media studies, spring.
— *Hacking the Archive* ENHS W4983. Seminar & DH lab w/ Matthew Connelly, fall.
— *Literature Humanities* HUMA C1001. Undergraduate seminar. Columbia Core, year-long.

Doctoral Advising
— Chelsey Barbar (Teachers College), "Cyborg Composing: Feeling Specters in the Web of AI Intra-Actions," dissertation defense, outside reader.
— Julia Walton (CU English), Game Theory / Media Studies reading list 2024.
— Ramathi Bandaranayake (CU English), History and Philosophy of Science reading list, 2024.
— Alijan Ozkiral (NYU English), "Iteration, New Media," dissertation committee, 2023–
— Naomi Michalowicz (CU English), "Psychometrics and the Twentieth-century Novel," Dissertation Defense Com., June 2023. "Narratology," Reading list, Oral Exam Com. 2018 – 19.
— Jonathan Reeve (CU English), "Computational Approaches to the Study of Literary Style," Reading list. Oral Exam Com., 2017 – 18. Dissertation Com., Second reader, April 2023.
— Graham Sack (CU English), "Simulation Fiction: Models of Narrative & Literary Culture," Dissertation Com. Chair, 2014 – 2021.
— Eduardo Pavez, "Metaphor Theory" Reading List, Oral Exam Com., 2020 – 2021.
— Sierra Eckert (CU English), Title TBD, Second Reader, Dissertation Defense Com., July 2020.
— Tracy O'Neill (CU Journalism), "The Politics and Aesthetics of the Popular Creative Writing Manual," External Reader, Dis. Def. Com., April 2020.
— Neil Ziolkowski (CU Germanic), "Reading Orientation: Two Case Studies in Modernist Prose," External Reader, Dis. Def. Com., November 2019.
— Vera Senina (CU Slavic), Minor Colloquium on Discourse Analysis, Committee Member, November 2019.
— Sean Thomas O'Neil (CU History), "The Art of Signs: Symbolic Notation and Visual Thinking in Early Modern Europe, 1600–1800," External Reader, Dis. Def. Com., August 2019.
— Milan Terlunen (CU English), "Literary Theory" Reading list, Oral Exam Com., 2018 – 19.
— Maxwell Foxman (CU Communications), "Playing with Virtual Reality: Early Adopters of Commercial Immersive Technology," External Reader, Dis. Def. Com., Spring 2018. Assistant Professor of Media Studies/Game Studies at the University of Oregon.
— Yuliya Grinberg (CU Anthropology), "Sensored: Quantified Self, Self-Tracking, and the Limits of Radical Transparency," External Reader, Dis. Def. Com., Spring 2018. Former consultant at The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, as of 2020 holding a tenure-track appointment in the Department of Anthropology at Drew University.
— Agie Markiewicz (Teachers College), "College Student Literacy Practices in Online Asynchronous Discussion Spaces," External Reader, Dis. Def. Com., Spring 2018. Placed as Director, Pace University Writing Center.
— Sierra Eckert (CU English), "Sociology of Literature" Reading list, Oral Exam Com., 2016 – 17.

— Phillip Polefrone (CU English), "Technology and Society" Reading list, Oral Exam Com., 2015 – 16.
— Jessica Hallock (CU English), "Literary Theory" Reading list, Oral Exam Com., 2015 –
— Alice Boone (CU English), "The Progress of Error: or, the Recursive 18th Century," Dis. Def. Com., Spring 2014.

MA Advising
— Nicola Green (CU English), "Design Fiction to Product," MA thesis advisor 2024.
— Gabrielle Dacosta (CU English), "The Reading Self in George Jackson's *Soledad Brother*," MA thesis advisor, 2016 – 17.
— Maxine Arndt (CU English), "Women and Animals in *The Woman Warrior* and *My Year of Meats*," MA thesis advisor, 2016 – 17.
— Gianmarco Saretto (CU English), Academic advisor, 2014 – 15.
— Florence Wan Yu Ang (CU English), Academic advisor, 2017 – 18.
— Isabel Guan (CU English), Academic advisor, 2017 – 18.
— Jeremy Stevens (CU English), Academic advisor, 2014–15.
— Erica Grove (CU English), Academic advisor, 2013 – 14.
— Becky Bort (CU English), Academic advisor, 2013 – 14.

Undergraduate Advising
— Jenny Leana Fotso Ngompe, Deep Fakes (digital ethnography), senior thesis, AO 2024–25.
— Sandra Eunsol Han, Gendered AI, senior thesis, AO 2023-24.
— Rahmah Amjad Badran, digital ethnography, senior thesis, Spring 2024.
— Sharla Kirkpatrick, GSAS Summer Research Program, 2021.
— Bethel Ikenna Adiele, Laidlaw Foundation Scholar, 2021.
— Adiba Hussein, Barnard Summer Research Institute, 2021.
— Jungwoo Park, Laidlaw Scholar, summer 2020.
— Valeria Arbonies (University of Puerto Rico), Columbia Leadership Alliance Mellon Mays Initiative Scholar, summer 2020.
— Gabrielle Agnes Kloppers, "*Fallout: New Vegas* and Conflicting Representations of Temporality," Senior Thesis, spring 2019.
— Elena Goldstein, "Big Brother all Grown Up," independent study, 2014.
— Christopher Brennan, "Personal Social Networks and Deliberative Democracy in the Russian Anti-Putin Protest Movement," Senior Thesis, 2014.
— Jessica Tyler, "The New Opposition, The Russian Language Blogosphere and its Impact on Public Discourse," Senior Thesis, 2013.

Before 2012 (Harvard University, Tufts University)
— *Experimental Criticism*, Lecturer w/ Prof. Jeffrey Schnapp. Seminar & DH lab, Spring 2012.
— *The Art of Numbers*, Teaching Fellow (TF) with Prof. Alyssa Goodman, Spring 2008 & 2010. Undergraduate seminar, data visualization, quantitative reasoning.
— *Literature Tutorial*, Harvard Tutor in the of Fall 2007 through Spring 2010.
— *Self, Serenity, and Vulnerability*, TF w/ Profs. Roberto Unger & Michael Puett, Fall 2007 and Spring 2010. Moral reasoning.
— 19th Century English Literature Survey, TF w/ Prof. Matthew Kaiser, Spring 2009.
— *Future of the Book*, Tufts University Lecturer, Spring 2008, undergraduate seminar.
— *Self, Freedom, and Existence*, TF w/ Prof. Richard Moran, Fall 2008. Moral reasoning.
— 19th Century Russian Literature Survey, TF w/ Prof. William Mills Todd III, Spring 2006.
— 20th Century Russian Literature Survey, TF w/ Prof. Svetlana Boym, Fall 2005.

Publications and Works in Progress

Published Monographs
1. "Author Function: A Literary History of Artificial Intelligence." Forthcoming, University of Chicago Press, 2024.
2. *Literary Theory for Robots*, W.W. Norton, 2024.
3. *Plain Text: The Poetics of Computation.* Stanford University Press, 2017. Reviewed in *Critical Inquiry* (September 2017), *Leonardo* (October 2017), *LARB* (November 2017), and *Textual Practice* (July 2018).

Peer-reviewed Publications

1. "Author—Anonymous and Distributed." *New Techno Humanities* 4.1 (2024).
2. "Distributed Agency in the Novel." *New Literary History* 54.1 (2022): 903-937.
3. "The Emergence of American Formalism." *Modern Philology* 117.2 (November 2019): 257–283.
4. "Toward a Computational Archaeology of Fictional Space." *New Literary History* 49.1 (2018): 119–47.
5. "Laminate Text: The Strata of Digital Inscription." *Amodern* (December, 2017).
6. "Unintelligent Design." *Boundary 2* 44.2 (May, 2017): 145–56.
7. "Book Piracy as Peer Preservation," primary author with Maxwell Foxman *Computational Culture 4* (2014).
8. "Sustainable Authorship in Plain Text." *The Programming Historian* (2014). Primary author with Grant Wythoff. Translated into Spanish as "Escritura sostenible en texto plano usando Pandoc y Markdown" by Víctor Gayol (revisado por Antonio Rojas Castro y Maria José Afanador-Llach).
9. "Stalin's PowerPoint." *Modernism/modernity 21.1* (2014): 253–267.
10. "Three Notes on *Mary*." *The Nabokovian* 46 (2001): 24–25.

Contributed Essays & Chapters (Refereed)

1. "Materiality," in *The Cambridge Companion to Literature in a Digital Age*, ed. Adam Hammond. Cambridge UP, 2024.
2. "Anonymous, Massively Collaborative, Trans-human," in *Rethinking Authorship in Comparative and Historical Perspectives* [in Japanese], ed. Haruo Shirane and Tomi Suzuki. Iwanami Shoten, 2022.
3. "Reading Platforms: A Concise History of the Electronic Book" in *The Unfinished Book*, ed. Alexandra Gillespie and Deidre Shauna Lynch. Oxford UP, 2021.
4. "Archive" in *Literature: An Introduction to Theory and Analysis*, ed. Mads Rosendahl Thomsen, et al. Bloomsbury, 2017: 299-310.
5. "Visual-quantitative Approaches to the Intellectual History of the Field" in *Futures of Comparative Literature*, ed. Ursula K. Heise, et al. Routledge, 2017: 258-266.
6. "Critical Computing in the Humanities" with John Simpson and Phillip Polefrone in *Doing Digital Humanities: Practice, Training and Research*, Ed. Ray Siemens. Routledge, 2016: 85-103.
7. "Blunt Instrumentalism" in *Debates in the Digital Humanities*, ed. Matthew K. Gold, et al. Minnesota UP, 2016: 83-91.
8. "Travelogue as Fact and Fiction." *Imaginäre Topografien: Migration und Verortung*, ed. Klaus Müller-Richter and Ramona Uritescu-Lombard. Transcript-Verlag, 2007: 99-111.

Reviews, Editorials, Interviews, Popular Press

1. "Writing Was Always Magical: An Interview with Dennis Yi Tenen" with Tsering Dolka Gurung in *Public Seminar* on June 12, 2025.
2. "Translation Machines" for *Imminent Newsletter*, May 2025.
3. "Automi autori dai dizionari a ChatGpt," *L'Espresso* November 8, 2024: p80–82. English translation here.
4. An interview with Luca De Biase for *Il Sole 24 Ore*. November 3, 2024.
5. "Drowning in a Mechanical Chorus," a response to Jill Walker Rettberg's "How Generative AI Endangers Cultural Narratives." *Issues in Science and Technology* Volume XL.3, Spring 2024: 15.
6. "Dennis Tenen on *Exposed: Desire and Disobedience in the Digital Age* by Bernard Harcourt." *Los Angeles Review of Books* (2016). Included in the *The Digital Revolution: Debating the Promise and Perils of the Internet in the Last Years of the Obama Administration* (LARB, 2017), ed. Michele Pridmore-Brown & Julien Crockett.
7. "What Is? Nine Epistemological Essays by Johanna Drucker." *Design and Culture*, 7.2 (2015): 264-5.
8. "Writing Technology: *The Circle* by David Eggers and *Mad About a Boy* by Bridget Jones." *Public Books* (2014).
9. "*History and Poetics of Intertextuality* by Marko Juvan." *The Slavic and East European Journal* 56.2 (2012): 309.
10. "*Vokzal, Garazh, Angar: Vladimir Nabokov I Poetika Russkogo Urbanizma* by Yuri Leving." *The Slavic and East European Journal 49.4* (2005): 688–89.

Projects in Progress

1. "Writers' Room," book manuscript in progress.
2. "Formal Methods in Text Analysis," book manuscript in development.
3. "Soft Power through State Reading Rooms," article in progress.
4. "The Stories of Vaccination," article in progress.
5. "LARPing as a National Security Threat," article in progress.

Selected Grants & Other Collaborations

— "Craft, Literature, and Data: Interdisciplinary Methodologies and Analyses of Technical Texts." Co-PI with Pamela Smith (CU, History). Provost's Interdisciplinary Teaching Award in the amount of $20,000 for faculty who are looking to integrate new educational approaches and technologies into their classrooms, or to develop jointly-taught interdisciplinary courses. Spring 2020.

— Google Cloud Platform Research Credits Grant. $6,000 to support computational work related to the second book manuscript. Summer 2019.

— "Data, Algorithms, and Social Justice." Co-PI with Matt Jones (CU, History) and Chris Wiggins (CU, Data Science). An award in the amount of $17,500 from the Center for the Study of Social Difference to support a graduate working group organized by Nikita Shepard (CU, History), Spring 2019. In progress.

— "Transforming Texts: Computational Approaches to Text Analysis and Visualization." Co-PI with Pamela Smith (CU, History) and Steven Feiner (CU, Computer Science). Team-taught course initiative, recipient of $150,000 award from Columbia's Collaboratory Fellows Fund in 2018. Course taught in the Spring of 2019.

— "Digital Justice." PI. $20,000 in support of international workshops on censorship and access to knowledge from the Presidential Global Innovation Fund in 2015. Convened under the title "Architectures of Knowledge" in Mumbai, India on July 4, 2016 and Lahore, Pakistan on March 12, 2018. Events covered in *Daily Times*, *The Express Tribune*, and *Urdu Point*.

— "Rikers Story Bot." Coding workshop and algorithmic storytelling event set in and about Rikers Island correctional facility, New York City's main jail complex. Principle convener and co-instructor in collaboration with Columbia's Center for Justice. Featured in *Fast Company* and *Prison Education*. Three four-day workshops completed. Twitter bot operational for over a year in the period between 2015 – 18.

— "Science Surveyor." Co-PI with Marguerite Holloway (CU, Journalism), Laura Kurgan (CU, Architecture), Dan Jurafsky (Stanford, Computer Science) and Daniel McFarland (Stanford, Sociology). Award in the amount of $500,000 from the Brown Center for Media Innovation to facilitate the study of scientific knowledge production. Multiple students funded in 2014 – 16; project featured in the *Communications of the ACM* and Nieman Lab.

— "Open Syllabus Project." Co-PI with Joe Karaganis (American Assembly) and Alison Head (University of Washington, Information Science). Collecting and analyzing the world's largest corpus of academic syllabi. Recipient of $210,000 grant from the Sloan Foundation for the period of 2013 – 15. Research featured in *Nature*, *The New York Times*, *TIME Magazine*, *Der Spiegel Online*, *FiveThirtyEight*.

— "piracylab.org." PI, 2013 – 14. PI of a research group exploring the impact of piracy on the spread of knowledge around the world. Findings featured in *Melville House* and *Le Monde*, leading to the publication of "Book Piracy as Peer Preservation," with Maxwell Foxman in *Computational Culture 4* (2014).

For a curated portfolio of projects, awards, and press coverage please visit xpmethod.columbia.edu/impact.

VII. Honors, Prizes, and Fellowships

— Schoff Publication Fund award recipient in support of second book, Spring 2019.
— Schofield Fund Publication Award (Harvard, Comparative Literature), Spring 2019 and 2016.
— Hettleman Junior Faculty Summer Research Grant, Summer 2019 and 2015.
— Computational Narratology Research Fellowship and residency, Unearned Wealth Research Group, Institute for Communication and Culture, Aarhus University, Denmark, 2019.
— Heyman Center Faculty Fellowship, Columbia University, academic year 2017 – 18.
— Media Studies Fellowship and Residency at the Center for Digital Cultures, Leuphana University, Germany, 2017.
— Lenfest Junior Faculty Development Grant in support of first book, 2016 – 17.
— Harvard Presidential Scholar, 2004 – 2012.
— Whiting Dissertation Completion Fellowship in the Humanities (declined), 2011.
— Harvard Merit Grant, 2009.
— Harvard Research Computing in the Humanities Fellowship, 2008 – 09.
— Harvard Instructional Technology Fellow, 2006 – 08.
— Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, 2005 – 06.

Selected Talks, Workshops & Conferences

— "Computational Humanities," inter-lab seminar at the Department of Digital Humanities and Computational Social Sciences, KAIST, South Korea on July 30, 2025.

— "Narrative Intelligence," lecture at SKKU Global Colloquium, *Innovation and Humanity*, Sungkyunkwan University, Seoul on July 24, 2025.

— "The Limits of Machine Translation," keynote address at the Kyungpook National University International Symposium on Human-AI Collaboration, on July 17 2025.

— "AI for Cultural Research" seminar lecture at the Seoul Advanced Methods in Scholarly Computation Institute (SAMSCI) at Sungkyunkwan University, on July 11, 2025.

— "Narrative Intelligence," lecture to the Ethics Seminar, Department of Philosophy at St. Joseph's University on April 15, 2025; Language and Intelligence seminar, University of Sarajevo, Faculty of Philosophy June 3, 2025; Forms of Intelligence seminar, Harvard University, September 2025.

— "The Lifecycle of Synthetic Objects," Keynote address at the *Sandbjerg Seminar: Methods and Materials*, Graduate School of the Arts at Aarhus University on March 26, 2025.

— "Early Story Generators," Keynote address at the Chungbuk National University on October 12, 2024.

— "Manufacturing Creativity," lecture by invitation to Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology (KAIST), Daejeon on October 10, 2024.

— "Story Machines," lecture by invitation to the narrative research group (Situation Lecture Series) on September 27th, 2024 at Concordia University.

— "Author Function," lecture by invitation from the International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences in Beijing on September 21, 2024.

— "Measuring Text Reuse in Fiction," lecture by invitation from the Special Advisor to the Provost for AI at Dartmouth College on September 19th, 2024.

— "Literary Theory for Robots," lecture by invitation from the Program for Media and Modernity, Princeton University on February 16th, 2024.

— "Literary Modeling and Visualization," keynote address at the 2023 Wenshan International Conference, National Chengchi University in Taipei, Taiwan on November 18, 2023. Program. Slides.

— "What is Machine Literature?" Lecture by invitation to the 2023 World Humanities Forum in Busan, Korea, November 9th 2023. Poster 1.

— "Seriously Entertaining: Literary Theory for Robots," literary cabaret as part of W. W. Norton's 100th anniversary and the launch of Norton Shorts, a new series of short books by leading scholars. Public Theater, New York, November 7th 2023. Poster 1, 2, 3. Sketch by Joan Chiverton.

— "Digital Philology." Lecture by invitation to Tsinghua University, Beijing October 25th,

  2023. Slides.

— "The Anatomy of Vaccine Hesitancy." Computational Formalism Workshop at the Neukom Institute, Dartmouth, Spring 2023.

— "Literary Theory for Robots." 2023 Renato Poggioli Lecture at the Department of Comparative Literature, Harvard University on April 20th, 2023.

— "Literature in the Age of AI." Lecture by invitation at the American University of Central Asia, Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan), March 16, 2023.

— "AI in Humanities Education." Faculty-student round table at AUCA Technical School of Innovation, Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan), March 15, 2023.

— "Computational Philology." Lecture by invitation to Bishkek State University (Kyrgyzstan), March 15, 2023.

— "Filing Technique in the Manufacture of Realism." Talk by invitation to a conference on *Office Supplies: The Material History of Writing*, at the University of Pittsburgh, February 24th, 2023.

— "Chat Bots Among Us." Roundatble by invitation to Coding and the New Human Phenotype, at the Helix Center, New York Psychoanalytic Society on October 16, 2022.

— "Algorithmic Imagination and Literary Study." Keynote address as part NRF Korea *Artificial Intelligence avec Digital Humanities* Symposium at the Transmedia World Literature Institute, Dongguk University on September 24th, 2022.

— "The Folklore of Vaccine Resistance." Talk and discussion by invitation at the Center for American Literary Studies, Penn State as part of "The Role of the Humanities in Addressing Vaccine Hesitancy" panel in the *Unprecedented* Webinar Series on January 21, 2022.

— "Media and Metaphor (Or How Literary Theory Figures in the Study of Human Computer Interaction)." Talk by invitation at Princeton University, Department of Comparative Literature, *Virtually So, Virtually Here* lecture series on September 23, 2021.

— "The Rise of Literary Machines." Keynote lecture by invitation to The Korean Society of East West Comparative Literature, Third International Conference on "Digital Humanities and World Literature" at Pohang University, Korea on October 26, 2019.

— "The Morphology of Formalism." Talk by invitation at the Prehistory of Computational Analysis Workshop, Center for Humanities and Information, Penn State on August 22–25.

— "The Hermeneutics of Computer-generated Text." Talk by invitation at the "Poetic Critique" conference, Indiana University Global, Berlin on June 27 – 29, 2019.

— "Minimal Computing in Plain Text." Keynote lecture by invitation to the Computer-Assisted Text Analysis for Resource-Scarce Literatures conference at the University of Miami on April 25, 2019.

— "Technology and Literary Studies." Seminar by invitation to the Rifkind Center for Humanities and the Arts at the City College of New York on March 14, 2019.

— "Authoring Artificial Intelligence: Chatbots and Story Generators of the 1950–1970s." Lecture by invitation at the Human Futures Research Program, Aarhus University, Denmark on January 17, 2019.

— "Distributed Agency in the Novel." Lecture by invitation at the Institute of Communication and Culture, Aaarhus University, Denmark on January 9, 2019.

— "Experimental Humanities." Talk by invitation at the Global Emergent Media Lab at Concordia University on November 21, 2018.

— "Techniques of Industrial Modernism: Plot Genie / Plot Robot." Lecture by invitation at the Puzzles, Bots, and Poetics symposium hosted by the Institute of the Humanities and Global Cultures, University of Virginia on October 27, 2018.

— "Platform Reading." Lecture and workshop by invitation to Digital Theory Lab at New York University on October 23, 2018.

— "Character and Agency in Arthur Hailey's *Airport*." Talk by invitation at the Harvard NHC Novel Theory seminar on April 2, 2018.

— "Computational Archaeology of Fictional Space." Lecture by invitation at Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities and Center for Literary & Comparative Studies, Maryland University on March 29, 2018.

— "Phenomenological Models of Time in William Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury*." Workshop by invitation to Aarhus University on March 23, 2018.

— Principal convener of "Architectures of Knowledge: Lahore" conference. "Archives Anonymous, Massively Collaborative, Trans-human," lecture. Information Technology Institute, Pakistan on March 14-15, 2018.

— "American Formalism and the Automation of Intellectual Labor." Lecture by invitation at the Becoming Media conference, UCLA on February 23, 2018.

— "Literary Modeling and Visualization." Lecture by invitation to the School of Communication and Culture, Aarhus University (Denmark) on January 5, 2018.

— "Experimental Criticism: The Creative Limits of Artificial Intelligence." Talk by invitation to the Center for Digital Cultures at Leuphana University (Germany) on December 20, 2017.

— "Infrastructural Reading: Content, Medium, Context, History." Lecture by invitation to the Internet Cultures Symposium at Yale on December 2, 2017.

— "Plain Text: The Poetics of Computation." Book launch and talk by invitation at the Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society, Harvard University on November 28, 2017.

— "What is Enlightenment? Kant, Arendt, and the Relevance of Columbia's Core Today." Lecture at at the Core to Commencement Campaign event in Chicago on November 6, 2017.

— "Computational Approaches to Characterizing Fictional Space." Lecture by invitation at the Theory and Media Studies Colloquium, Yale University on October 13, 2017.

— "Sustainable Authorship in Plain Text" and "Plain Text: The Poetics of Computation." A workshop and lecture by invitation at the Digital Humanities Forum, Kansas University, on September 29, 2017.

— "Modeling Space: Quantitative Parsimony in Computational Literary Analysis." Lecture by invitation at the Analysing Text conference hosted by the Alan Turing Institute at the British Library, London on September 22, 2017.

— "Version Control for Textual Criticism." Lecture and workshop by invitation at the What is a Book in the 21st Century? seminar, Columbia University on January 20, 2017.

— "Technologies of Dissent: Shadow Libraries." Lecture by invitation at the The Black Sea Networks Initiative, Columbia University on January 20, 2017.

— "The Sociology of Book Piracy." Lecture by invitation at the Digital Humanities Symposium, Yale University Library on November 12, 2016.

— "Experimental Methods in the Humanities." Lecture by invitation at the Scandinavian Modernism and Digital Resources workshop at Aaarhus University, Denmark on September 14,

2016.

— Principal convener of Architectures of Knowledge: Mumbai conference at the Tata Institute for Social Sciences on July 4-6, 2016.

— "Literature Down to a Pixel." Conference presentation as part of the Ephemera and Ephemerality: Media, Archive, Memory panel at ACLA (Harvard University) on March 17-19,

2016.

— "Metaphor Machines." Lecture by invitation at the Digital Poetics Conference, CUNY Graduate Center on February 5, 2016. Presented also at Possibilities: Works-in-Progress seminar, Institute for Comparative Literature and Society, Columbia on November 14,

2016.

— "Rapid Prototyping of Speculative Thought." Talk by invitation at Digging Deep: Ecosystems, Institutions and Processes for Critical Making, CUNY Graduate Center on December 1, 2015.

— "Scene Detection in Literary Fiction." Paper by invitation at the New Digital Resources and Computational Methods for the Study of Literature in a Global Context Conference, UCLA on November 4-5, 2015.

— "Digital Humanities: Core Skills and Foundations." Workshop by invitation at the Polonsky Foundation Graduate Student Workshops in Digital Humanities, NYU on May 29,

2015.

— "Version Control for Library Use." Workshop by invitation at Columbia Center for New Media Teaching and Learning on February 5, 2015.

— "The Ethics of Writing in Plain Text," with Grant Wythoff. Lecture by invitation at the Princeton-Weimar Summer School for Media Studies on June 19, 2014.

— "Rage with the Machine." Keynote address at the University of Glasgow on May 28, 2014.

— "Technology We Deserve." Keynote address at the Educational Technology Conference, Columbia University Teachers College on May 18, 2014.

— "Introduction to Cloud Computing with Amazon AWS." Workshop by invitation at the Digital Praxis Seminar, CUNY on March 14, 2014.

— "Book Piracy as Peer Preservation." Lecture by invitation at the Connective Media talk series, Cornell Tech (New York, NY) on March 6, 2014. Repeated on March 14, 2014 at a meeting of the Association of American University Presses, hosted by Columbia University Press.

— "Civic Scholarship." Lecture by invitation at the Research Without Borders conference, Columbia University on February 27, 2014.

— "Visualizing Book Piracy." Conference address by invitation at Detective: Advanced Data Visualization Project, Graduate School of Architecture, Columbia University on February 3, 2014.

— "Algorithmic Agency." Lecture by invitation at the Cognitive Theory and the Arts Seminar, Harvard Humanities Center on November 21, 2013.

— "Authoring in Plain Text." Workshop by invitation at the Center for Science and the Imagination, Arizona State University on November 15, 2013. Repeated at the Comparative Literature Colloquium at Harvard on November 22, 2013.

— "Literary Networks." Lecture by invitation at the Digitization in the Humanities conference, Rice University on April 6, 2013.

— "Digital Humanities in Context." Lecture by invitation at the Harriman Institute, Columbia University on February 21, 2013.

— "Interpretive Communities over Time." Lecture by invitation at the Big Data and Digital Scholarship Seminar, Columbia University on February 11, 2013.

— "Hacking the Archive." Lecture by invitation at the New Media in Education Conference, Columbia University on February 1, 2013.

— "Digital Humanities at Columbia." Lecture by invitation at the Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship, Department of Computer Science, Columbia University on November 27, 2012.

— "Growth and Decay of Shared Knowledge." Lecture at the Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society, Harvard University on April 3, 2012.

— "Reflections on the 'Laboratory' Paradigm in the Humanities." Lecture at the Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society, Harvard University on December 13, 2011.

— "Nothing is at Stake, Everything is at Stake: Literary Studies Today." Talk by invitation at the Graduate Professional Development Seminar, Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University on October 26, 2011.

— "Experimental Criticism: Is Knowledge Aggregation in the Humanities Possible?" Conference presentation at ACL(x), Data Mining Panel, Penn State University on October 1, 2011.
— "The Premise of Machine Literature." Lectures by invitation at the University of Iowa, Loyola University, University of Rochester on multiple dates in 2011.
— "Recursive Encounters with Ourselves." Lecture by invitation at the Department of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University on January 26, 2011.
— "The Tyranny of Literature." Lecture by invitation at the Thinking with Technology Workshop, Harvard Humanities Center on November 15, 2010.
— "Order on Display: The Aesthetics of Soviet Data Visualization." Paper presentation at the AAASS Conference in Boston, MA on November 12, 2009.
— "The Birth of Non-Fiction." Lecture at the Slavic Languages and Literatures Colloquium, Harvard University in October, 2006.

Service & Community Development

Department

— Personnel and Policy Committee, 2023 – 2025.
— Associate Chair, 2020 – 2021. Responsible for curriculum planning in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
— *Group for Experimental Methods in the Humanities*, founding member. A research collective specializing in literary modeling and visualization, spatial humanities, and knowledge design. Weekly lab meetings, monthly workshops, and lecture series. 2014 –
— Committee for Graduate Education: 2012 – 2015, 2019 – 2020, 2023 – 2024.
— Associate Director of Graduate Studies, 2018 – 19.
— Dissertation Prize Committee, 2017 – 18.
— Committee for Undergraduate Education, 2016 – 18.
— Senior essay advising and undergraduate prize committee participation, yearly since 2012.

University

— Co-Director, Center for Comparative media, 2023 –
— Undergraduate Writing Program Faculty Advisory Committee, 2025 –
— Provost's Advisory Committee on the Libraries, 2022 –
— Hiring Committee, Film and Media Studies, 2023 – 24.
— Postdoc Committee, Harriman Institute, Spring 2024.
— Senior Job Search Committee, Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, 2022 – 23.
— Executive Committee, Institute for Comparative Literature and Society, 2016 –
— Harriman Institute Executive Committee, 2021 –
— Dean Search Committee, School of Professional Studies, AY 2020/21.
— *Studio at Butler*, founding member, faculty advisor. Planning, specification, and programming of the Butler Studio, a maker/lab space at the center of Butler Library. Hosting lectures, training workshops, and open labs. 2013 –
— Faculty Working Group on Computational Humanities and Social Science, 2016 –
— Collaboratory Proposal Selection Committee, Spring 2016 and 2019.
— Data Science Taskforce, 2015 – 2017.
— Ad-hoc Exploratory Committee for the Center for Culture and Computation, AY 2014/15.
— Jury member, annual Breakthroughs in Storytelling Awards, School of the Arts, 2015 –
— Founding Member. Digital Storytelling Lab, 2013 –
— Member of "Literary Theory" and "Theory and History of Media" University Seminars 2013 –
— Multiple contributions to the "Strategic Plan for Humanities in the Arts and Sciences," AY 2016/17.
— Principal convener (along with Manan Ahmed and Roosevelt Montas) of the "Connected Core" pilot program as part of the university-wide "Core to Commencement" campaign, funded by the College Dean's office, AY 2016.
— Advisory Board. Studio at Butler Library (maker space), 2013 –

Professional Service

— Book manuscript reviews for Cambridge, Columbia, Duke, MIT, University of Michigan, Palgrave Macmillan, Princeton, Stanford, Ubiquity, and W.W. Norton presses.
— Article manuscript review for *archipelagos journal*, the *Association of Computational Linguistics* (ACL); *Computational Culture*; *Communication Theory*; *Critical AI*; *Digital Humanities Quarterly* (DHQ); *Digital Scholarship in the Humanities* (DSH); *Digital Studies / Le champ numérique*; *Endeavour*; *History of Humanities*; *International Journal of Humanities and Arts Computing*; *Modernism/Modernity*; *Narrative*; *Post45*, *PMLA*, *Project Information Literacy*; and *Science, Technology & Human Values*.
— Multiple (2–3 per year) promotion reviews for peer institutions, including Dartmouth,
— Member of editorial board, *Narrative* (the International Society for the Study of Narrative). Toronto, Berkeley and others.
— Grant review for The American Academy in Berlin, National Endowment for the Humanities, and the National Science Foundation.
— Program Committee, International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING), Workshop on Trolling, Aggression and Cyberbullying, 2018, 2022.
— Program Committee, Association for Computational Linguistics, Abusive Language Workshop, 2017 – 18.
— Member of A. Owen Aldridge Prize Committee, American Comparative Literature Association, 2017 – 2019.
— Advisory Board member, *Critical AI*.
— Design consulting for Diller Scofidio + Renfro, 2017.
— 2 years as a managing editor of *Modernism/Modernity*, 2010 – 12.
— 10+ years software development and user interface design, with employees including Microsoft, General Motors, The Greening of Detroit, MRI, MSU Libraries and Computing Provost 1996 – 04.
— 2+ years desktop publishing as assistant editor/researcher for Physician's Press, 1998 – 00.