

Sierra Eckert

Center for Digital Humanities
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2020-present Postdoctoral Research Associate and Perkins Fellow, Center for Digital Humanities,
Princeton University

EDUCATION

2020 PH.D. in English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University
Dissertation: *The Research Aesthetic: Information and the Form of the Victorian Novel*
Committee: Nicholas Dames (chair), Sharon Marcus, James Eli Adams, Dennis Tenen

2017 M.PHIL. in English and Comparative Literature, High Pass, Columbia University

2015 M.A. in English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University
Masters Thesis: "Synoptical Tabulation, Research Quarries, and Realist Fiction: Reading
Research in George Eliot's *Middlemarch*"
Sponsor: Nicholas Dames

2014 B.A. in English Literature with Highest Honors, Phi Beta Kappa, Swarthmore College
Honors major in English literature, honors minor in interpretation theory

PUBLICATIONS

MANUSCRIPTS IN SUBMISSION

(under review) "George Eliot's Tabulations," under review at *Representations*

(under review) "Arresting Clarissa: Realism and Legal Ritual in Samuel Richardson's *Clarissa*," under
review at *Eighteenth-Century Fiction*

ARTICLES IN PROGRESS

(in progress) "Marx's Gothic Data."
An essay on Karl Marx's empirical data for *Capital* (1867) that shows how the work's
diagrams, tables, and formulae use abstract spatial form to visualize the effects of
abstraction itself.

- (in progress) “The Way We Quote Now: A Quantitative Approach to Disciplinary History” (co-author)
A study of literary-critical quotations in hundreds of 20th-century JSTOR-held articles on George Eliot’s *Middlemarch* (1872), analyzed with the aid of a text-reuse algorithm. Co-authored with Milan Terlunen (Columbia).
- (in progress) “Footnotes in Fiction” (co-author)
A study of thousands of footnotes in 18th-century novels derived from applying machine learning processes to the ECCO corpus. Co-authored and in collaboration with Rachel Buurma (Swarthmore College), Andrew Piper (McGill University) and the McGill txtLab, Nick Allred (Rutgers University), Yumi Shiroma (Rutgers University)

DIGITAL PROJECTS

- 2016-present [Middlemarch Critical Histories Project](#), with Jonathan Reeve and Milan Terlunen
- 2016-2017 Victorian Metadata: Reading the Review Column, 1866-1900
- 2015-2016 [The Shape of Time](#), with Allison Chaney (Princeton University)

AWARDS, HONORS & GRANTS

- 2020-2021 Mellon-CES Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Council for European Studies (*declined*)
- 2019-2020 Columbia Core Preceptorship in “Literature Humanities,” Columbia University
- 2019-2020 Kluge Graduate Student Mentor Fellowship, Columbia University (*declined*)
- 2018-2019 Teaching Scholars Award, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University
- 2018-2019 Sarah G. Lubin (M.S. ’72 Library Service) Fellowship, GSAS, Columbia University
- 2018 Archival Research Grant, Dept. of English & Comparative Literature, Columbia University
- 2017, 2019 NAVSA Graduate Student Travel Grant, North American Victorian Studies Association
- 2016-2017 Digital Humanities Center Fellowship, Columbia University
- 2015, ’17, ’18 GSAS and Departmental Conference Travel Grants, Columbia University
- 2015 Miron Cristo-Loveanu Prize for Best M.A. Essay in English (co-recipient), Columbia University
- 2014-2020 Marjorie Hope Nicolson Fellowship, Columbia University
- 2014 Lang Award, Swarthmore College, awarded to “a graduating senior in recognition of outstanding academic accomplishment”

CONFERENCE PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

- 2021 “Making a ‘History of English Literature’ in Victorian Scotland.” North American Victorian Studies Association, Vancouver, Canada, Nov 4-7, 2021 (rescheduled from Nov 2020)
- 2019 “The Way We Quote Now: Reading *Middlemarch*, 1960-2015.” North American Victorian Studies Association. The Ohio State University (Columbus, OH), Oct 17-19, 2019.
- 2018 “‘Veracious Imagining’: Archival Reading and the Aesthetics of the Fact in Eliot.” North American Victorian Studies Association, University of Florida (St. Petersburg, FL), Oct 11-14, 2018

- 2018 “Henry James and the Logic of the Donée.” Northeast Victorian Studies Association, University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, PA), April 13-15, 2018
- 2017 “Frequently Cited Passages Across Time: New Methods for Studying the Critical Reception of Texts.” Written with Jonathan Reeve and Milan Terlunen. Poster Session. DH2017, McGill University (Montreal, Canada), Aug 8-11, 2017
- 2017 “Marx’s Gothic Data.” North American Victorian Studies Association/Australasian Victorian Studies Association, NYU/Purdue (Florence, Italy), May 17-20, 2017
- 2015 “Mining the ‘Quarry for Middlemarch’: George Eliot’s Data-Driven Realism.” British Women Writers Conference, CUNY (New York, NY), June 25-27, 2015
- 2014 “The Interface and the Index: Rewriting Referentiality in the Eighteenth-Century Novel.” Written with Nick Allred and Rachel Sagner Buurma. East-Central American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, University of Delaware (Newark, DE), Nov 6-8, 2014

INVITED TALKS

- 2020 “Trollope’s Fictions of Labor,” The Trollope Society of New York (New York, NY), March 11, 2020.

CAMPUS TALKS

- 2021 Speaker, “Victorian Studies Now or Never,” Victorian Colloquium, Princeton University (Princeton, NJ), March 18, 2021.
- 2019 “George Eliot’s Tabulations,” The University Seminar in Material Texts 787, Columbia University (New York, NY), April 22, 2019.
- 2019 Respondent, “First Books Series: Daniel Wright, *Bad Logic: Reasoning about Desire in the Victorian Novel*,” Department of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University (New York, NY), April 18, 2019.

TEACHING

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

- 2021 Humanities 346: Introduction to Digital Humanities

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY (INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD)

- 2020 Humanities CC1002: Literature Humanities II: Masterpieces of Western Literature & Philosophy
- 2019 Humanities CC1001: Literature Humanities I: Masterpieces of Western Literature & Philosophy
- 2019 English UN3254: Bad Research & the Victorian Novel (seminar, self-designed course)
- 2017 English W3011: Literary Texts, Critical Methods (seminar portion)
- 2018 English GS1010: University Writing: Readings in Data Sciences (General Studies)
- 2016-2017 English CC1010: University Writing: Readings in Data Sciences

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY (TEACHING ASSISTANT)

2016	English W4404: Victorian Poetry
2015	Comparative Literature W4822: The Nineteenth-Century European Novel

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2018-2019	Research Assistant for Sharon Marcus, Columbia University
2016	Research Assistant for James Eli Adams, Columbia University
2015-2016	Graduate Archival Intern, Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University
2014	Project Manager, Early Novels Database, Kislak Center for Special Collections, University of Pennsylvania Libraries

DEPARTMENTAL/UNIVERSITY SERVICE

SERVICE FOR PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

2020-2021	Organizer, "Building Digital Humanities Projects with Rare Books and Special Collections," 6-part workshop and lecture series for graduate students, Rare Book Working Group, Princeton University
2020-present	Organizer, Center for Digital Humanities drop-in hours, Princeton University

SERVICE FOR COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

2019	Co-organizer, "Book Parts: A Conference," Columbia University, The Heyman Center for the Humanities, Oct. 11, 2019
2018	Graduate student liaison, British Romanticism Search Committee, Department of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University
2017-2020	Rapporteur, The University Seminar in Material Texts, Columbia University
2017-2019	Co-organizer, The Nineteenth-Century British Colloquium, Columbia University
2016-2018	Data Sciences curricular working group, University Writing Program, Columbia University
2016-2020	Member, Literary Modeling and Visualization Lab, Columbia University
2014-2020	Member, Group for Experimental Methods in the Humanities, Columbia University

LANGUAGES

French (Graduate proficiency exam, advanced reading skills)
Spanish (Graduate proficiency exam, advanced reading skills)

PROGRAMMING

Python (intermediate), R (intermediate)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

North American Victorian Studies Association
North American Victorian Studies Association - Data Caucus
Northeast Victorian Studies Association
Modern Language Association

REFERENCES

Nicholas Dames, Theodore Kahan Professor of Humanities, Columbia University,
nicholas.dames@columbia.edu
Sharon Marcus, Orlando Harriman Professor of English and Comparative Literature,
Columbia University, sm2247@columbia.edu
James Eli Adams, Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University,
jea2139@columbia.edu
Dennis Tenen, Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University,
dt2406@columbia.edu
Meredith Martin, Associate Professor of English Literature, Director of the Center for
Digital Humanities, Princeton University, mm4@princeton.edu