

12/28/2025

*Curriculum Vitae*  
**Dan Sinykin**

Emory University  
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Atlanta, GA 30322

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**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

Winship Distinguished Research Professor of English, Emory University, 2025-  
Associate Professor of English, Emory University, 2024-  
    Courtesy Appointment in Quantitative Theory and Methods  
Assistant Professor of English, Emory University, 2019-2024  
    Courtesy Appointment in Quantitative Theory and Methods  
Postdoctoral Fellow in Digital Humanities, University of Notre Dame, 2017-2019  
Visiting Assistant Professor of English, College of Wooster, 2016-2017  
Visiting Assistant Professor of English, Grinnell College, 2015-2016

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**EDUCATION**

Ph.D., Cornell University, English (2015)  
B.A., St. Olaf College, English, Mathematics, Philosophy, *summa cum laude* (2005)

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**BOOKS**

*Close Reading for the Twenty-First Century* (with Johanna Winant)  
Princeton University Press (2025) — 288 pages  
  
*Big Fiction: How Conglomeration Changed Book Publishing and American Literature*  
Columbia University Press (2023) — 328 pages  
  
*American Literature and the Long Downturn: Neoliberal Apocalypse*  
Oxford University Press (2020) — 185 pages

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**REFEREED PUBLICATIONS**

“Sufficient Passion: An Epistemology of Historicist Close Reading”  
*New Literary History* (2025): TBD

“Sociology and Allegory”

*Internationales Archiv für Sozialgeschichte der deutschen Literatur* (2025): 342-349

“BookReconciler: An Open-Source Tool for Metadata Enrichment and Work-Level Clustering” (second author, with Matt Miller first and Melanie Walsh third)

*Joint Conference on Digital Libraries* (2025): np

“International Bestsellers: The Dataset” (third author, with Sean DiLeonardi first and Becca Cohen second)

*Post45 Data Collective* (2025): np

“Brand Management: International Bestsellers and the Death of the Author, Again” (third author, with Sean DiLeonardi first and Becca Cohen second)

*Studies in the Novel* (2024): 451-459

“Publishing American Literature, 1945-2020” (co-author with Lee Konstantinou)

*American Literary History* (2021): 225-243

“Against Conglomeration: Nonprofit Publishing and American Literature after 1980” (first author, with Edwin Roland, second)

*Cultural Analytics & Post45* (2021): 1-32

“Economics, Race, and the Postwar US Novel: A Quantitative Literary History,” (first author, with Richard Jean So, second, and Jessica Young, third)

*American Literary History* (2019): 775-804

“Apocalypse: An Introduction” (co-author with Jessica Hurley)

*ASAP/Journal* 3.3 (2018): 451-466

“The Conglomerate Era: Publishing, Authorship, and Literary Form, 1965-2007”

*Contemporary Literature* 58.4 (2018): 462-491

“Microfinance Lit: Jhumpa Lahiri’s ‘Sexy,’ the Grameen Bank, and Kiva”

*Genre: Forms of Discourse and Culture* 50.2 (2017): 201-217

“Evening in America: *Blood Meridian* and the Origins and Ends of Imperial Capitalism”

*American Literary History* 28.2 (2016): 362-380

## **AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

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Arts & Humanities Inquiry Fund (2025), \$12,000

Awarded for Symposium on *Close Reading for the Twenty-First Century*

Emory University

National Endowment for the Arts (2024-2026), \$150,000  
Co-PI, Post45 Data Collective  
Emory University

Andrew W. Mellon Grant (2023-2026), \$1,300,000  
Steering Committee, Atlanta Interdisciplinary Artificial Intelligence Network  
Emory University

Program to Enhance Research and Scholarship (2023), \$10,000  
Awarded toward Developing the Post45 Data Collective  
Emory University

Advanced Collaborative Support (2019-2020)  
Awarded toward Research on *Big Fiction*  
HathiTrust Research Center

## EDITORIAL WORK

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Special Issue: Evaluating Close Reading (with Johanna Winant)  
*Modern Language Quarterly* (2026)

Section Editor, “Culture Industries,” *Public Books*, 2022-

Reviews Editor, *Critical AI*, 2022-2024

Founder and Editor, Post45 Data Collective, 2021-2025  
*Assembled an editorial board; developed peer review criteria for humanities data and instituted a system of peer review; registered with the Library of Congress to assign DOIs to publications so others can cite them*

Editor, *Post45: Contemporaries*, 2018-2021

Special Issue: Contemporary Literature and Publishing (with Lee Konstantinou)  
*American Literary History* (2021)

Special Issue: Apocalypse (with Jessica Hurley)  
*ASAP/Journal* 3.3 (2018)

## SELECTED PUBLIC WRITING

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“The Invention of Close Reading” (12 May 2025)  
*The Nation*—A Lit Hub “10 Best Book Reviews of 2025”

“Bookselling Out” (16 October 2024)  
*The Baffler*

“Has the DEI Backlash Come for Publishing?” (with Richard Jean So) (19 June 2024)  
*The Atlantic*

“What Was Literary Fiction?” (10 October 2023)  
*The Nation*

“The Man Who Invented Fantasy” (1 October 2023)  
*Slate*

“Cormac McCarthy Had a Remarkable Literary Career” (19 June 2023)  
*New York Times*

“The Sublime Danielle Steel” (3 August, 2022)  
*Los Angeles Review of Books*—Second Most Read *LARB* Essay of 2022

“Data Is Not the Enemy of the Humanities” (29 April 2021)  
*Chronicle of Higher Education*

“How Computational Analysis Is Teaching Us to Read in New Ways” (30 July 2018)  
*Washington Post*

## INVITED TALKS

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“Close Reading and Artificial Intelligence” (25 September 2025)  
Naseeb Shaheen Memorial Lecture at the University of Memphis

“The Sociology of Literature: Big Fiction and the Conglomerate Era” (18 February 2025)  
Michigan State University

“Distinguished Lecture Series: How We Got Our Books” (3 February 2025)  
University of Tennessee at Knoxville

“Big Fiction” (5 December 2024)  
Kenyon College

“Sociology and Interpretation: A Keynote” (14 November 2024)  
Deutsches Literaturarchiv Marbach

“Author Talk with Dan Sinykin” (13 September 2024)  
Aldus Society

“The Epistemologies of Close Reading” (18 April 2024)  
Brown University

“Dan Sinykin in Conversation with Gerald Howard” (12 February 2024)  
National Arts Club

“Nepo Books: The Insider Networks of the Literary Field” (25 January 2024)  
University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill

“*Big Fiction*: A Seminar” (3 November 2023)  
University of Virginia

“Sizing Up the Publishing Industry” (24 March 2022)  
*Los Angeles Review of Books*

“Putting the Historicity Back in *The French Dispatch*” (8 March 2022)  
The American Vandal Podcast

“The Conglomerate Era” (30 October 2021)  
Bucknell University

“A Response to Jill Lepore, ‘The End of Knowledge’” (25 February 2021)  
Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry at Emory University

“Apocalypse: A Warning” (4 February 2021)  
LMU Munich

“The Conglomerate Era” (20 November 2020)  
University of Florida

“Public Writing: A Workshop” (25 October 2019)  
University of Rochester

## **SELECTED CONFERENCES**

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“Close Reading: What, How, Why” (22 November 2025)  
NCTE

“Bad Novels” (6 January 2025)  
MLA

“On Value” (11 June 2024)  
Trust, Value, Judgment at the University of Heidelberg

“Visionary Journals, Editorial Praxis, and Keeping Pace with our Fields” (4 January 2024)  
MLA

“Literature and Publishing: A Conversation” (6 October 2023)  
ASAP/14

“Millennial Editors” (8 January 2022)  
MLA

[COVID hiatus]

“Post45 Data Collective” (12 October 2019)  
ASAP/11

“Women Writers at Random House” (5 January 2019)  
MLA

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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English 789W: Close Reading

English 290W: Jewish American Fiction

English 489W: Very Contemporary Literature

English 370W: Introduction to Digital Humanities

English 485W: Contemporary Publishing

English 210W: Major Authors // William Faulkner and Toni Morrison

English 789W: Literary Institutions and Digital Humanities

Quantitative Theory and Methods 340: Data Science with Text

English 389W: Methods of Literary Study and Research

English 389W: Contemporary Literary Forms

## **SERVICE**

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Director of Graduate Studies (Fall 2025- )

Member of Executive Committee for Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry (Fall 2025- )

Hosted Post45 Conference (Fall 2024)

Member of Graduate English Advisory Committee (Fall 2024)

Member of the Provost’s Distinguished Teaching Award Committee (Spring 2024)

Built Career Paths in Publishing, Media, and Entertainment Speaker Series (Spring 2023)

Member of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (Spring 2023)

Member of Graduate Curriculum Ad Hoc Committee (Spring 2022)

Member of Undergraduate Steering Committee (2021-2022)

Participant on Publishing Panel for English Grad Students (15 November 2021)

Initiated and Designed Publishing Internship for Emory Students (2021)

Member of Search Committee (2020-2021)

Position in Asian American, Pacific Rim, Transnational Asian Literature and Culture

Presentation on Collaboration at Pedagogy Roundtable (11 September 2020)

Member of Committee on Implicit Bias Training (Summer 2020)

Presentation to Grad Students on “How to Survive Job Talks” (canceled due to Covid-19)

Transitioned Post45 from Yale University to Emory University (January 2020)