

Employment

2020–Present Postdoctoral Scholar, DataLab, University of California, Davis

Education

2020 Ph.D. English, University of California, Santa Barbara

- Dissertation: “Literalism: Reading Machines Reading,” directed by Alan Liu and Rita Raley (co-chairs), Jeremy Douglass, Wolf Kittler

2016 M.A. English, University of California, Santa Barbara

2013 B.A. English, University of Iowa

Publications

Journal Articles

“Error Aligned,” *Textual Cultures: Texts, Contexts, Interpretations* 12.1 (Spring 2019): 155–182.
doi.org/10.14434/textual.v12i1.27153

“Fugue States,” *Journal of Sonic Studies* 16: “Materials of Sound,” ed. Caleb Kelly (May 2018).
researchcatalogue.net/view/380109/380110

Book Chapters

“Sonic Materialism and/as Method,” *The Bloomsbury Handbook of Sonic Methodologies*, eds. Michael Bull and Marcel Cobussen, London: Bloomsbury (December 2020)

Essays and Reviews

Review of *Eavesdropping: A Reader*, eds. James Parker and Joel Stern, *Journal of Sonic Studies* (January 2021). <https://www.researchcatalogue.net/view/558982/1115318>

“A Font of Fonts,” with Fred Benenson, *The Future of Text: A 2020 Vision*, ed. Frode Hegland (November 2020). <https://doi.org/10.48197/fot2020a>

“The Unfamiliar,” with Jeremy Douglass, Caterina Lazzara, and Rita Raley, *Los Angeles Review of Books* (June 2015). lareviewofbooks.org/article/the-unfamiliar

Digital Projects

An extensive portfolio of these digital projects may be found at tylershoemaker.info/research.

Digital Humanities, Media, and Programming Specialist, English Broadside Ballad Archive, 2015–

- The English Broadside Ballad Archive digitizes, transcribes, and creates analytical tools for over 9,000 seventeenth-century ballads. My responsibilities to the project have included developing web interfaces for computational text analysis, constructing ballad metadata in accordance with linked open data standards, testing methods for machine vision processes, project management, grant writing, ballad transcription, cataloguing, and training and supervising research assistants.

Website: ebba.english.ucsb.edu

Technical Lead, Disease BioPortal, 2021

- BioPortal tracks disease outbreaks in livestock, providing geo-tagged data of epidemiological sampling to academic researchers, veterinarians, and farmers. As part of a DataLab startup program, I extended BioPortal’s data collection and modeling to social media, using text classification methods to determine whether a given social media post is about a past, ongoing, or yet-to-be-identified outbreak event.

Website: bioportal.ucdavis.edu

Technical Lead, waterReview, 2020–2021

- waterReview is a corpus exploration platform for a data-driven literature review about water management in the Caribbean and South and Central America, titled “Bright and Blind Spots of Water Research in Latin America and the Caribbean.” I designed and built the platform, along with its many interactive visualizations (a multi-faceted topic model viewer, network graphs, chord diagrams, and more).

Website: watereview.ucdavis.edu

Research Assistant, The Maker Lab, 2017–2020

- The Maker Lab integrates centuries of text technologies—from recreations of early modern inking balls to 3D-printed ‘woodcuts’—to investigate the history and making of print. I assisted in the installation of a replica nineteenth-century Albion printing press, fabricated type for printing workshops, replicated seventeenth-century printing tools, and held trainings for faculty and graduate students.

Website: emc.english.ucsb.edu/maker-lab

Research Assistant, WhatEvery1Says, 2017–2020

- WhatEvery1Says studies public discourse about the humanities, using topic modeling to analyze a corpus comprised of several hundred thousand news articles. My individual contributions to the project include corpus design, data preparation experiments, optimizing topic models for human readability, and developing outlets for research dissemination.

Website: wels.ucsb.edu

Awards, Grants, and Honors

Regents Fellowship, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2017–2018; 2014–2015

Multicampus Graduate Working Group Grant for “Cal DH,” University of California Humanities Research Institute, 2017–2018

The William and Marjorie Frost Award for Scholarly Writing for “Fugue States,” Department of English, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2017

Presentations

“Type After the Code Point,” Before and Beyond Typography conference, Stanford University, June 2020 [rescheduled due to COVID-19]

“Plaintext Scrim,” Annual conference, Modern Language Association, Seattle, January 9, 2020

“Script Hacks and Visual Spoofs,” Creative Multilingualism conference: “Scriptworlds,” University of California, Santa Barbara, May 31, 2019

“The Edge of Sense,” International conference, Society for Textual Scholarship, The New School, New York City, March 21, 2019

“The Error that Catches the Eye,” Annual conference, Modern Language Association, Chicago, January 5, 2019

“Scanbed Poetics,” Annual conference, Electronic Literature Organization, Université du Québec à Montréal, August 14, 2018

“Font Futures,” Wireframe Studio symposium: “Future Tripping,” University of California, Santa Barbara, April 24, 2018

“Wordless Labor,” Annual conference, Modern Language Association, New York City, January 6, 2018

“Linotypes and Linotext Minima,” Cal DH work session, University of California, Los Angeles, November 2, 2017

“Fugue States,” Annual conference, American Comparative Literature Association, Universiteit Utrecht, July 6–9, 2017

Digital Arts Practice

“.notyetdef,” with Fred Benenson, October 2019

- This project trains a generative adversarial network on Unicode-enabled font files to create hybrid glyphs from extant script systems. These new glyphs serve as a vantage from which we are able to survey font internationalization and global script representation in computing. A sample is available at tylershoemaker.info/research/notyetdef

Teaching

University of California, Davis

Instructor

Adventures in Data Science (with Carl Stahmer and Pamela Reynolds; Winter 2021)

Workshops and Instructional Support

Course Liaison, Topics in Applied Data Science (with Vladimir Filkov; Fall 2020)

Getting Started with Textual Data (three-part series; January–February 2022)

Introduction to the Command Line (February 2021, November 2021)

Introduction to Version Control with Git (with Carl Stahmer; December 2021, February 2021)

Principals of Natural Language Processing (three-part series; February 2022)

Reproducible Research for Teams with GitHub (May 2021)

University of California, Santa Barbara

Teaching Associate (Instructor of Record)

American Literature from 1900 to Present: Disjunction and Collage (Summer 2019)

Introduction to Literary Study (Summer 2016, Summer 2017)

Media and Information Culture: Mediating Text (with Jeremy Douglass; Spring 2017)

Teaching Assistant

Detective Fiction (Winter 2016, Fall 2018)

Dystopian Fiction (Spring 2019)

Introduction to Literary Study (Fall 2015, Winter 2019)

Literature and the Information, Media, and Communications Revolutions (Spring 2016, Spring 2019)

Proseminar: Scholarships, Fellowships, and Grants Applications Workshop (Fall 2019)

Public Speaking (Winter 2020)

Workshops, University of California

3D Printing and/as Type Design (November 2017)

Research Assistantships

Multi-Scriptworlds and the Visual Imagination, supervised by Sowon S. Park, 2018–2019

- Coordinated a trip to the Getty Research Institute, where undergraduate students examined materials from the Institute’s concrete poetry collection. Taught seminars preparing students for the trip and organized an exhibition of students’ creative responses to their visit. These responses were displayed during the Scriptworlds conference (held at the University of California, Santa Barbara in May 2019).

The Catalyst, supervised by Brian Donnelly, 2018–2019

- Supervised the creation of three issues of an undergraduate literary arts magazine and taught the magazine’s associated Interdisciplinary Writing course.

Transcriptions Center, supervised by Jeremy Douglass, 2016–2017

- Organized visits by speakers and cross-campus reading groups, gave workshops on 3D printing, co-taught an upper division undergraduate seminar (“Mediating Text”), and provided instructional support for English courses.

Machine Reading and Writing, supervised by Rita Raley, 2016–2017

- Produced an annotated bibliography summarizing critical discourses about chatbots for a course on “Machine Reading and Writing”; further work included reviews of experimental literature and background research on Russian Futurism and Dada.

Reviews

Association for Computers and the Humanities
Digital Humanities Quarterly

References

Alan Liu, Distinguished Professor, Department of English, University of California, Santa Barbara, ayliu@ucsb.edu

Rita Raley, Associate Professor, Department of English, University of California, Santa Barbara, ritaraley@protonmail.com

Carl Stahmer, Executive Director, DataLab, University of California, Davis, cstahmer@ucdavis.edu

Wolf Kittler, Professor, Department of Germanic and Slavic Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara, kittler@gss.ucsb.edu

Garrett Stewart, James O. Freedman Professor of Letters, Department of English, University of Iowa, garrett-stewart@uiowa.edu