

Sean Weidman

Department of English | Pennsylvania State University
430 Burrowes Building | University Park, PA 16801
(720) 281-3218 | seangweidman@gmail.com

EDUCATION

- Pennsylvania State University (University Park, PA)
PhD, English (Anticipated, Spring 2021)
- *Dissertation*: “Hospitalities: Modern Culture and the Politics of Welcoming”
- *Committee*: Janet Lyon, John Marsh, Kevin Bell, Magalí Armillas-Tiseyra
- Pennsylvania State University (University Park, PA)
MA, English (2016)
- Westmont College (Santa Barbara, CA)
BA, English (2014), *Magna Cum Laude*

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Articles:

- “Suspended Affect and Harlem Renaissance Poetics.” *Modernism/modernity*.
(Forthcoming)
- “Modernism and Gender at the Limits of Stylometry.” Co-authored with Aaren Pastor.
Digital Humanities Quarterly. (Forthcoming)
- “Of Hospitality and Hosting: Tracing Colonial Haunting in W.B. Yeats.” *English
Literary History*, vol. 85, no. 4, 2018, pp. 1025-63.
- “The Limits of Distinctive Words: Re-evaluating Literature’s Gender Marker Debate.”
Co-authored with James O’Sullivan. *Digital Scholarship in the Humanities*,
vol. 33, no. 2, 2018, pp. 374-90.

Book Chapters:

- “English Studies and the Problem of Intradisciplinarity.” *Digital Futures of Graduate
Study in the Humanities*. Edited by Anouk Lang, Gabriel Hankins, and Simon
Appleford. U of Minnesota P, 2021. (Forthcoming)

Book and Project Reviews:

- “Encountering Anew the Ghosts of Modernism.” Review of *Haunting Modernisms:
Ghostly Aesthetics, Mourning, and Spectral Resistance Fantasies in Literary
Modernism*, by Matt Foley. *Journal of Modern Literature*, vol. 43, no. 3,
2020, pp. 190-194.

“Translation Ecologies: A Beginner’s Guide.” Digital Project Review. Co-authored with Thomas Beebee and Dawn Childress. *Interdisciplinary Studies of Literature*, vol. 1, no. 4, 2017, pp. 1-14.

Under Review:

“*L’Accueil* of Edith Wharton.” *American Literature*. (Submitted Oct. 2020)

PRESENTATIONS, TALKS, & PANELS

Presented Papers:

“Decolonial Empathy: Forster, Tagore, and the Politics of Welcoming,” MLA, Seattle, 2020

“Robert Frost: A Liberalist Poet in the Era of High Neoliberalism,” MLA, Seattle, 2020

“‘A House on Fire’: Edith Wharton’s Interwar Hospitality,” MSA, Toronto, 2019

“Hospitality under Siege: Ford Madox Ford and Good English Sociability,” NeMLA, Pittsburgh, 2018

“Ford Madox Ford and the Ends of Hospitality,” Louisville Conference on American Literature and Culture Since 1900, University of Louisville, 2018

“Markers of Modernist Transition: A Computational Approach to Style, Gender, and Modernism” (with Aaren Pastor), Keystone DH Conference, Philadelphia, 2017

“Political and Poetic Liberty: Re-imagining the Fidelities of Robert Frost,” NeMLA, Baltimore, 2017

“‘Distilled of all its coarseness’: Subversive Performance in Friel’s *Philadelphia, Here I Come!*,” American Conference for Irish Studies, Notre Dame, 2016

“Of Hospitality and Hosting: Tracing Ireland’s Colonial Haunting in W.B. Yeats,” American Conference for Irish Studies, Notre Dame, 2016

“Periodization and the (D)evolution of Gender and Literary Style,” Keystone DH Conference, University of Philadelphia, 2015

“Gender Markers: Distinctive Words in Male and Female Authorship” (with James O’Sullivan), Digital Humanities Conference, University of Sydney, 2015

“‘To make us love our country, our country ought to be lovely’: Brian Friel’s Feminist Genealogy,” American Conference for Irish Studies South, Berry College, 2015

Invited Talks:

“Undesirable: Ford Madox Ford and the English Picturesque,” Center for American Literary Studies Graduate Awards Symposium, Penn State University, 2020

“‘A House on Fire’: Edith Wharton’s Hospitality,” Humanities Institute, Penn State University, 2019

“Learning from Digital Approaches to the Humanities,” Liberal Arts Scholarship and Technology Summit, Penn State University, 2015

Organizing & Seminars:

Organizer, *Refuge, Upheaval, and Cultures of Modernist Welcoming*, Modernist Studies Association, Toronto, 2019

Organizer & Chair, *Modernist Hospitalities*, NeMLA, Pittsburgh, 2018

Seminar, *Liberalism and Modernism*, “Robert Frost’s Liberalism,” Modernist Studies Association, Columbus, 2018

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Pennsylvania State University (13 sections of 6 courses)

4 Sections, English 015, “Rhetoric and Composition”

1 Section, English 015, “Rhetoric and Composition,” Global Campus (Online)

- a first-year composition course designed to introduce rhetorical theory, academic research practices, scholarly argumentation, and public advocacy; students write 5 major papers, including close-readings, position arguments, and proposals for civic projects

3 Sections, LEAP Early-Start Program, English 015, “Rhetoric and Composition”

- an early-start version of first-year composition, condensed into an intensive, six-week summer course; students have longer class periods with readings due daily and a major essay due each week

2 Sections, English 202A, “Writing in the Social Sciences”

- an upper-level writing course focused on the methodologies and research practices necessary for an academic or professional career in the social sciences; coursework culminates in a formal, 20-page research study and 20-minute presentation on a topic of their choosing

1 Section, English 202D, “Business Writing”

- an advanced writing and professionalism course that equips students with professional communication strategies for business; students develop feasible business plans as volunteer consultants for local businesses, as well as a business portfolio, for which they design personal websites and workshop cover letters, resumes, CVs, and other job materials

1 Section, English 262, “Reading Fiction”

- a literature course I developed in which students grapple with the representational work of literary fiction; students turn in weekly one-page close readings, and they submit two research essays that pair a critical model or theoretical lens with explications of a course text

1 Section, Honors English 030, “Ideology and American Culture”

- a freshman honors course, also of my own design, that uses objects in contemporary US culture to teach the critical methods of cultural studies; each week centers a keyword or topic—e.g. “Environmentalism and Poverty”—and students present on everyday cultural artifacts, write short analyses, and complete a 10-page research essay

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Pennsylvania State University

Milton Bryer Dolinger Graduate Fellowship (2020-2021)
Research and Graduate Studies Office Dissertation Award (Spring 2020)
Humanities Institute Graduate Scholar in Residence (Fall 2019)
Raymond E. and Roberta Lombra Outstanding Graduate Research Award (2019)
Summer Graduate Fellow, Center for American Literary Studies (Summer 2019)
George and Barbara Kelly Travel Award (2018, 2016, 2014)
Department of English Award for a Graduate Student Publication (2017)
Superior Teaching and Research Award, College of the Liberal Arts (2015)
Wilma Ebbitt Fellowship (Spring 2015)
McCourtney Family Distinguished Graduate Fellow (Fall 2014)
University Graduate Fellow (2014-2015)

Awards from Outside Institutions

Modern Language Association Conference Travel Grant (2019)
Modernist Studies Association Conference Travel Grant (2019)
T.S. Eliot International School, Tuition Scholarship (2019)
The Folger Institute, Visualizing English Print Fellowship (2016)

ADMINISTRATIVE & RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Pennsylvania State University

- Graduate Intern, University Fellowships Office (2017)
 - helped students apply for competitive inter/national scholarships and fellowships; guided and edited student cover letters, research statements, personal philosophies, and writing samples; led weekly writing and professionalism workshops with students and faculty from varied disciplines and stages of academic careers; developed those workshops into a curriculum now used at Penn State’s satellite campuses

- Research Assistant, Hemingway Letters Project (2016-2017)
 - researched and annotated volumes 4 and 5 of *The Letters of Ernest Hemingway* (ed. Sandra Spanier, Cambridge UP); coordinated daily workflow with archives, libraries, editors, scholars, and the Hemingway Letters Project team

Digital Humanities Projects

- Contributing Member, *Network Ecologies* (2016-2018)
 - wrote project grants for ODH and Penn State’s Center for Humanities and Information; led a team of graduate assistants working on data collection/curation as well as an interactive graph database for exploring translation networks of the Anglo-literary marketplace
- Participant, *Digital Humanities Summer Institute* (University of Victoria, 2017)
 - enrolled in Maciej Eder’s weeklong “Stylometry with R” course, which provided a collection of introductory lessons, best practices, and digital materials for utilizing and teaching stylometric methods for research
- Research Assistant, Department of Comparative Literature (2016)
 - led a small team of students investigating Nobel literary styles; collected and analyzed a substantial corpus of Nobel Prize-winning literature from the past 100 years to assess commonalities and divergences with various controls (genre, nationality, committee makeup, etc.)
- DH Research Assistant, Pennsylvania State Libraries (2015)
 - assisted the Digital Humanities Research Designer with departmental outreach; collected data and ran text analyses for several small proof-of-concept digital projects

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Pennsylvania State University

- Invited Visitor, Program in Writing and Rhetoric
 - Article-Writing Workshop (2019)
 - Pedagogy Panel (2019)
- President, Modernist Studies Graduate Student Organization (2018-2019)
- Grade Appeals Committee, Program in Writing and Rhetoric (2016-2019)
- Graduate Mentor, English Graduate Program (2015-2018)

Scholarly Peer Review

- Referee, *Digital Humanities Quarterly* (2019-2020)
- Referee, *Digital Scholarship in the Humanities* (2020)
- Referee, *Digital Humanities Conference* (2016-2020)
- Referee, *The Explicator* (2020)

MEMBERSHIPS TO PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Modern Language Association (MLA)
Modernist Studies Association (MSA)
Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations (ADHO)

LANGUAGES & TECHNICAL SKILLS

Languages English (native speaker), French (reading comprehension)
Proficiencies R, Gephi, Tableau, Markdown, HTML, Adobe Design Suite,
Microsoft Office Suite

REFERENCES

Janet Lyon
Associate Professor of English and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Faculty-in-charge, Disability Studies Minor
430 Burrowes Building, University Park, PA 16802
lyon@psu.edu | (814) 865-9681

John Marsh
Professor of English
Associate Head, English
430 Burrowes Building, University Park, PA 16802
jem55@psu.edu | (814) 863-2627

Kevin Bell
Associate Professor of English
430 Burrowes Building, University Park, PA 16802
kmb47@psu.edu | (814) 865-2831

Magali Armillas-Tiseyra
Associate Professor of Comparative Literature
442 Burrowes Building, University Park, PA 16802
marmillas@psu.edu | (814) 863-0589