

ACADEMIC FOCUS

“Spooky literature,” considered broadly. This includes Gothic literature and its emergence out of the early modern period, ghost stories, weird fiction, horror literature, and folklore.

My dissertation, “Excavating the Castle: Toward a New Historiography of the Gothic” explores the reception of the Gothic through various major historiographic consolidation points, such as major literary histories, encyclopedias, and dictionaries, charting the rise in awareness of the Gothic in these classes of knowledge products as early as 1812, its solidification as a critical category by the mid-nineteenth-century, disappearance in the late nineteenth century, and its familiar emergence in the twentieth century, which, my project demonstrates, is in fact a *re*-emergence. The careful study of these consolidation points reveals that this lost critical awareness and appreciation, while certainly subject to the historical forces of the period, is also a very human story, progressing in slow motion as individual editors in long-running series of knowledge-products clash and eventually overtake one another in authority. Beyond charting an as-yet untold narrative, my project gives a close-in view to the processes by which our understanding of the past develops.

In a future project I hope to show how the Gothic was renegotiated, re-mediated, and taken up in the context of tabletop roleplaying games beginning in the late twentieth century. This participatory process of generic and conceptual negotiation, my research suggests, becomes ever more diffuse over time.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., English (in progress). The Pennsylvania State University.

Expected defense date: January 2024.

M.A., English. The Pennsylvania State University, 2019.

B.A., English (Literature & Writing tracks), 2017. Whitworth University, Spokane, WA

Minors in Editing & Publishing and Computer Science.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Literature Courses, The Pennsylvania State University

English 131 (Weird Literature)

New addition to Penn State’s course catalog.

Course Website: <https://sites.psu.edu/weirdpalelegends/>

English 192 (Literature of Fantasy)

Program in Writing and Rhetoric Courses, The Pennsylvania State University

English 202B (Advanced Writing in the Humanities)

English 30H (Honors Rhetoric and Composition)

Special Course Theme: Rhetoric of Plague Time — Spring 2021

Course Website: <https://sites.psu.edu/plagueyear/>

English 15A (Rhetoric and Composition, diversity emphasis)

Special Course Theme: Diversity in a Divided Time — Fall 2020

English 15 (Rhetoric and Composition)

Special Course Themes:

American Nationalism & Populism — Summer 2019 (LEAP Program)

Navigating Disagreement Across Difference — Fall 2019 & 2023, Spring 2020

English 5 (Rhetoric and Composition Tutoring)

Restorative Justice Initiative, The Pennsylvania State University

Creative Writing (Benner State Correctional Institution in Bellefonte, PA)

Other Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant, EL 281 Introduction to Literary Editing, Whitworth University, 2016.

Teaching Assistant, EL 210 Writing II, Whitworth University, 2016.

Writing Workshop Instructor, EL 319 Writing in the Community Practicum, Whitworth University, 2016.

Information Technology Guest Lecturer, Whitworth Computer Science Community Outreach Program, Rogers High School, Spokane, WA, 2014.

EDITORIAL WORK

Associate Editor, *Pseudopod: a Horror Podcast*, Escape Artists Foundation, 2020 – present.

Creative Nonfiction Editor, *Script*, Whitworth University, 2016 – 2017.

Assistant Fiction Editor, *Rock & Sling: A Journal of Witness*, Whitworth University, 2016 – 2017. (Poetry & fiction reader, 2014 – 2016.)

Editor, *Vox Vol. 1*. Whitworth University, 2016 – 2017. Special issue of *Rock & Sling* in response to the 2016 election.

Fiction Reader, *Willow Springs*, Eastern Washington University, 2016 – 2017.

Founding Editor, Inkslinger Vol. 1. Whitworth University, 2016.

Creative writing anthology compiled from four writing workshops in the Spokane community.

Reviewer, The Review Review, thereviewreview.net, 2015 – 2017.

Wrote reviews of literary magazines.

ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Research Assistant, Dr. John Gastil, The Pennsylvania State University 2021.

Worked with Dr. Gastil to research and outline a paper applying deliberative democracy theory to current debates within RhetComp scholarship, with a co-authored article to follow. (Co-authored manuscript completion projected May 2022.)

Archives Assistant, Whitworth University, 2016.

Processed archival collections, fielded research questions from faculty. Most significant project was the re-processing of the entire print collection of *The Whitworthian*, the university's student newspaper, from 1905 to present.

Research Assistant, Dr. LuElla D'Amico, Whitworth University 2016.

Worked with Dr. D'Amico to organize the Harriet Beecher Stowe Society 20th Anniversary Conference.

Research Assistant, Dr. James Deutsch, Program Curator, Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, Washington, D.C., 2016.

Performed archival research for Dr. Deutsch relating to the WWII Allied bombing campaign against the Ploesti oil fields in Romania. Primary collection was the Veterans History Project, which is part of the Library of Congress.

Writing Consultant, Whitworth Composition Commons (writing center), 2015.

Led writing workshops for undergraduate classes and provided one-on-one writing consultations for undergraduate and graduate students.

LEADERSHIP, SERVICE, AND STUDENT MENTORING

Executive Committee Member, MLA CLCS Gothic Studies forum, 2024 – 2029 (term to begin following MLA 2024 Convention).

Internship Coordinator, *Pseudopod*. Launched an internship program for special project editorial teams.

Initial projects include public domain recovery work, contemporary collections and anthologies. Escape Artists Foundation, 2023 – present.

Committee Member, English Graduate Organization Advocacy Committee. The Pennsylvania State University, 2022 – present.

Conference Technology Assistant, *Conjuring the Past*, hosted by the Penn State Early Period Studies Group, The Pennsylvania State University, 2020.

Grade Appeals Reader. Read confidential grade appeal packets for the Program in Writing and Rhetoric. The Pennsylvania State University, 2019 – present.

Mentor Cohort Member. Provided mentorship and support to first-year grad students through the English Department's mentoring program. The Pennsylvania State University, 2018 – 19.

Mentored three students through the process of submitting (and ultimately publishing) their essays in *Penn Statements*, Penn State's publication showcasing excellence in undergraduate student work in rhetoric and composition classes.

Vice President, Westminster Round, Whitworth University, 2016 – 2017.

Planned readings and mixers for English department club. Facilitated continuity of English department traditions between outgoing and incoming students.

Chairman, Spooky Scary Society, Whitworth University, 2014 – 2017, The Pennsylvania State University, 2017 - present.

Hosted a literary and cinematic horror appreciation and analysis group. Held periodic meetings that combine informal lectures with primary readings in various horror topics. Society Minutes posted at www.spookyscarysociety.com.

Lead Technologist, Spokane Catholic Charities Computer Refurbishment Project, 2013 – 2016.

Planned and led computer refurbishment project hosted by Spokane Catholic Charities. My involvement helped to provide more than one hundred computers to formerly homeless Spokane residents, which allowed them to search for jobs, return to school, and rejoin society at large.

PRESENTATIONS & INVITED SPEAKERSHIPS

“*The Adventures of Ferdinand Count Fathom: A Gothic Story?*” East Central American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Annual Meeting, Williamsburg, VA, 13 – 14 Oct. 2023. (Scheduled.)

“Excavating the Castle; or, A Secret History Untold: the Forgotten Beginning of Gothic Studies.” International Gothic Summer School, Manchester, UK, 6 – 9 June 2023.

“Swords to Dice: Simulationism vs. Instrumentalism in the Evolution of *Dungeons & Dragons*.” Co-authored with Gavin Davis. International Congress on Medieval Studies. Kalamazoo, MI, 11 – 13 May 2023.

“Does anyone remember?": Ineffective Remediation and the Narrative Affordances of Creepypasta.” Roundtable presentation participant for “Gothic Now: Gothic Forms,” MLA Gothic Studies Forum, chaired by Jeffrey Andrew Weinstock. Modern Language Association Convention. San Francisco, CA, 5 – 8 Jan. 2023

“Recovery, Escape, and Consolation in *Wizards and Demons* and *The Magician's Birthday*: Reading Uriah Heep as Fantasy.” Progressive Rock: Geography, Culture, Discourse (Project Network Biennial Conference), Oxford, UK, 2022.

“Why is Fantasy Literature So Essential? A Conversation with Joshua B. Tuttle.” Podcast interview, interviewed by Marissa Cruz, co-coordinator of *Klio's* Sci-Fi and Fantasy initiative. Penn State, 22 Mar. 2022.

“The Mic.” Invited to read original poetry during an intergenerational poetry reading series run by Julia Kasdorf and Carmin Wong. State College, PA, 18 Feb. 2022.

“Lovecraftian Aesthetics.” Guest lecture given for Dr. Chris Castiglia’s upper division horror literature class. Penn State, March 2021.

“Folk Horror: New Media and Uncanny Enchantment.” Remarks given at the Spooky Society. Bellefonte, PA, 29 Oct. 2019.

“Folk Horror vs. Folklore: Bringing Lore and Horror Back Together.” Remarks given at the Spooky Society. Bellefonte, PA, 26 Sep. 2019.

“Communication’s Interpretive Algorithms and Re-Compilation Thresholds: Literature as Engagement Emulator.” International Conference on Romanticism, Clemson University, Greenville, SC, 2018.

“A Conversation with Members of the Spooky Scary Society.” *Schlow Library Podcast* episode 10, Schlow Centre Region Library, State College, PA, 24 Oct. 2018.

“Sentimental Horror: New Interpretations of Stowe’s Gothic Stories.” Harriet Beecher Stowe Society 20th Anniversary Conference, Whitworth University, Spokane, WA, 2016.

“Reversed Causality: An Examination of the Facts Surrounding the Now-Defunct Greenwood Tunnel, the Great Northern Railway Company, and the 1974 World Expo.” Phi Alpha Theta Regional Conference, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA, 2016.

PUBLICATIONS

“Recovery, Escape, and Consolation in *Wizards and Demons* and *The Magician’s Birthday*: Reading Uriah Heep as Fantasy.” *Progressive Rock, Metal, and the Literary Imagination*, edited by Chris Anderton and Lori Burns. Book chapter. (In press.)

“Toward a Practical Definition of Theopoetical Poetry.” *Christianity & Literature*, vol. 71, no. 4.

Book Review, *Anatomy of the Slasher Film: A Theoretical Analysis*, by Sotiris Petridis. *Fantasy/Animation*, 2022.

Book Review, *Slender Man is Coming: Creepypasta and Contemporary Legends on the Internet*, edited by Trevor J. Blank and Lynne S. McNeill. *Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts*. *Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts*, vol. 32, no. 1.

“Dancing in the Ruins: Toward an Affect-Narratology of the Spooky.” *Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts*, vol. 31, no. 3.

Book Review, *Folk Horror: Hours Dreadful and Things Strange*, by Adam Scovell. *Gothic Studies*, vol. 22, no. 3 (Nov. 2020).

“Year in Conferences—2018.” Co-authored with Rachel Linnea Brown, Susanna Compton, Ryan Charlton, and Amy Huang. *ESQ: A Journal of Nineteenth-Century American Literature and Culture* 65.1 (2019).

Book review, *Stephen King’s Contemporary Classics: Reflections on the Modern Master of Horror*. *SFRA Review* 329 (Summer 2019).

“Warrior Ethos.” Creative Nonfiction. *The Main Street Rag* 21.4 (Fall 2016).

“On Call.” Fiction. Third place, “Quarter-Life Crisis” anthology entry contest. *Songs of My Selfie*. Three Rooms Press, 2015.

“The Fabricator.” Poetry. *Script* 2014.

CONFERENCES ATTENDED

International Gothic Summer School, Manchester, UK, 2023.

International Congress on Medieval Studies. Kalamazoo, MI, 2023.

Modern Language Association Convention, San Francisco, CA, 2023.

Progressive Rock: Geography, Culture, Discourse (Progect Network Biennial Conference), Oxford, UK, 2022.

Research Society for American Periodicals Online Symposium, 2022.

Conjuring the Past, Pennsylvania State University, 2020.

The Fourth Biennial Dr. Henry Armitage Memorial Scholarship Symposium of New Weird Fiction and Lovecraft-Related Research, Providence, RI, 2019.

International Conference on Romanticism, Clemson University, 2018.

C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists, University of New Mexico, 2018.

Spokane Intercollegiate Research Conference, Gonzaga University, 2017.

Northwest Undergraduate Conference on Literature, University of Portland, 2017.

Harriet Beecher Stowe Society 20th Anniversary Conference, Whitworth University, 2016.

Society for the Study of Women Writers Northwest Region Study Group, Whitworth University, 2016.

Phi Alpha Theta NW Regional Conference, Western Washington University, 2016.

AWP Conference & Bookfair. Attended as *Rock & Sling* staff, 2015 – 17.

H.P. Lovecraft Film Festival, Portland, OR, or Providence, RI, 2008 – present.

HONORS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

Center for American Literary Studies Research Travel Grant, Pennsylvania State University, 2018.

Nominee, Teaching Excellence Award, Program in Writing and Rhetoric, The Pennsylvania State University, Spring 2018.

Enhanced Graduate Scholar Fellowship, The Pennsylvania State University, 2017 – present.

Weyerhaeuser Younger Scholar Project, Whitworth University, 2016 – 2017.

Yearlong independent research project under the direction of a faculty advisor. Included a research grant.

Ben B. Cheney Foundation Scholarship, Whitworth University, 2016 – 2017.

For graduating seniors who have excelled academically, and exemplify outstanding abilities in leadership in community service both on and off campus and in the greater Spokane area.

Roy and Leona Nelson Foundation Scholarship, Whitworth University, 2015.

“The Value of Glue.” First place, Whitworth University College of Arts and Sciences Essay Contest, 2015.

“The Legends of Saint Augustine: The Myth Illuminates the Man.” Best undergraduate research paper, Whitworth University Writing Awards, 2015.

Herman Oscar Schumacher Scholarship for Worthy Young Men, Spokane, WA, 2014 and 2015.

Army Achievement Medal. US Army, 2009.

Eagle Scout. Boy Scouts of America Troop 400, Cupertino, CA, 2007.