

ROBERT NGUYEN

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EDUCATION

- PhD English & Visual Studies
The Pennsylvania State University, 2023
Dissertation: “Silicon Valley Stories: Repetitions, Recursions, and Infinite Loops.”
- MA English
The Pennsylvania State University, 2019
- MA English
Fordham University, 2006
- BA English, *magna cum laude in corsu honorum*
Fordham University, 2005

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2023–2024 Post-Doctoral Teaching Fellow
Department of English, Pennsylvania State University

PUBLICATIONS - REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2022 “Cybernetics and Ancillary Justice: Embodiment, Crisis, and Resistance.” *Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts* 33, no. 2 (December 2022): 10–32.
- 2022 “Middle-out from Bottom-up: Engineering and Close Reading Code in HBO’s *Silicon Valley*.” *Configurations*, vol. 30, no. 4, Fall.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2023 College of the Liberal Arts Raymond E. Lombra and Roberta Lombra Outstanding Graduate Research Award, Penn State
- 2022 Henry Luce Foundation grant, Global Asias: Methods, Architecture, Praxis book series
- 2022 Ebbitt Rhetoric Fellowship, Penn State
- 2022 Graduate Student Scholar in Residence, The Humanities Institute, Penn State
- 2021 David G. Hartwell Emerging Scholar Award, International Association for the Fantastic in the Arts
- 2021 Milton B. Dolinger Graduate Fellowship in Writing Award, Penn State
- 2019 Kelly Graduate Fellow in Literature, Penn State
- 2019 Milton B. Dolinger Graduate Fellowship in Writing Award, Penn State
- 2018 Nominee, Teaching Excellence Award, Program in Writing and Rhetoric, Penn State

2005 Claire Hahn Becker Award, Fordham University

INVITED TALKS

- 2024 “Tech Giants on Screen: Power, Cinematography, and User Interfaces in *Devs* and *The Circle*.” Tucson Hard-Science SF Writers and Artists Group. Mar. 2.
- 2013 “Walking Merchandise: Child Trafficking and the Snakehead Trade Film Screening & Panel Discussion.” Fordham University, Institute of International Humanitarian Affairs. Jan. 30.
- 2013 “Walking Merchandise: A Film about Chinese Human Trafficking in the United States – Film Screening and Discussion.” LaSalle University, Diplomat-in-Residence Program. Feb. 21.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

PAPER PRESENTATIONS

- 2024 “Zing!: Adaptation and Social Media in *The Circle*,” Modern Language Association, Philadelphia, Jan. 4–7.
- 2023 “‘Who are these people?’: The White American and the Exotic Asian Tech Factory,” Association for Asian American Studies, Long Beach. Apr. 6–9.
- 2023 “Silicon San Francisco: The Technology Industry and Urban Space in Alex Garland’s *Devs*,” Modern Language Association, San Francisco. Jan. 5–8.
- 2022 “New Internets and Infinite Loops: *Ready Player One*, *Silicon Valley*, and *Infinite Detail*,” Northeast Modern Language Association, Baltimore. Mar. 10–13.
- 2021 “Cybernetics and *Ancillary Justice*: Embodiment, Crisis, and Resistance,” International Conference on the Fantastic in the Arts, Online. Mar. 18–21.
- 2020 “Silicon Valley Sexism: Founding Stories, Ideology, and Action,” Cultural Studies Association, Online. May 28–30.
- 2020 “Metaverse, OASIS, Web: The Imagined Internets of *Snow Crash* and *Ready Player One*,” The Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture since 1900, Louisville. Feb. 20–22.
- 2019 “iPhones, Labor, and Lies: Mike Daisey’s *The Agony and the Ecstasy of Steve Jobs*,” Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts, Irvine. Nov. 7–9.
- 2019 “Don’t Tell the Grown-Ups: *Stranger Things* and Nostalgic Returns to 1980s Aesthetics and Politics,” Cultural Studies Association, New Orleans. May 30–Jun. 1.
- 2018 “*The Tempest*’s Tempest: 400 Years of Hypermediation,” Literature/Film Association, New Orleans. Nov. 29–Dec. 1.

ROUNDTABLE

- 2022 “‘We need it to say hello’: Intermediality, Recursion, and the Macintosh in *Steve Jobs*,” Northeast Modern Language Association. Roundtable Presentation, Baltimore. Mar. 10–13.

DEPARTMENT ROUNDTABLES (SELECTED)

- 2022 Interpreting Student Evaluations Workshop. English Mentoring Program. Apr. 20.

2021 “Things I wish I knew before teaching in person.” Program in Writing and Rhetoric, Rhetoric and Composition Instructor Tutorial. Apr. 29.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY PARK RESIDENTIAL COURSES, INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD

Asian American Literatures (assigned for Spring 2024)

Business and Literature (Spring 2022)

Race, Ethnicity, and Magical Realism (Fall 2023)

Rhetoric and Composition (Fall 2017, Spring 2018)

Rhetoric and Composition, linked with Mass Media and Society (Summer 2019)

Technical Writing (Spring 2019, Summer 2019, Fall 2023)

WORLD CAMPUS ONLINE COURSES, INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD

Rhetoric and Composition (Summer 2021)

Technical Writing (Summer 2020, Summer 2023)

WRITING CENTER

Tutor, Rhetoric and Composition & Technical Writing (Fall 2019, Spring 2020)

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

2022–2023 Global Asias Initiative, Project Manager

2021–2022 Penn State Digital English Studio, Studio Assistant

2018–2022 Studies in American Jewish Literature, Managing Editor

2018–2021 Digital Culture and Media Initiative, Graduate Assistant, Advisory Board member

SERVICE

2022–2024 Channels: Asian Diasporas in Film, Art, and Media Initiative, Founding Co-Organizer

2023 Bloom by Plastic Labs, generative AI in education classroom pilot program

2022–2023 Asian American Reading Group, Co-Organizer

2023 The Center for American Literary Studies, “SERIAL, True Crime, and Podcasting’s ‘Golden Age,’” webinar with special guest Sarah Koenig. Moderator. Jan. 20.

2022 Proposed Adobe education classroom pilot program in digital multiliteracies

2020–2022 English Department Mentoring Program, Mentoring Group Coordinator

2018–2020 English Department Mentoring Program, Mentor

2019 Program in Writing and Rhetoric, Grade Appeal Reader

2018–2019 The Center for American Literary Studies Spring Symposium, Organizing Committee Member

CREATIVE PROJECTS

2009–2012 “Walking Merchandise: Child Trafficking and the Snakehead Trade”
documentary short film. Producer. Film funded in part by the Advanced Consortium on Cooperation, Conflict, and Complexity (Columbia University, Earth Institute). Official Selection: Rhode Island International Film Festival

LANGUAGES

French Intermediate