

Carolyn Betensky

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Department of English
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, RI 02881
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Education

Columbia University

Ph.D., Comparative Literature, 1997.
M.Phil., Comparative Literature, 1992.
M.A., French, 1989.

Barnard College

B.A., magna cum laude, French, 1984.

Academic Appointments

University of Rhode Island, Chair, Department of English. Spring 2022-present. Professor of English, Spring 2017–present (Associate Professor of English, Spring 2011–Spring 2017, Assistant Professor, Fall 2004–Spring 2011). Graduate and undergraduate courses in nineteenth-century British literature and culture; literature of protest and dissent; world literature; the novel; literary and cultural theory.

George Washington University, Assistant Professor of English and Honors and Associate Director of the Program in the Human Sciences, Fall 1998–Spring 2004 (term appointment). Graduate and undergraduate courses in nineteenth- and twentieth-century British literature; literary and cultural theory; humanities; composition.

Columbia University, 1988–1998.

September 1995–May 1998: Preceptor and Adjunct Assistant Professor, Literature Humanities; September 1988–May 1995: Preceptor and Teaching Assistant, Department of French. French language and literature courses at all levels.

Honors, Grants, and Fellowships

Established Career Solidarity Award, University of Rhode Island AAUP, 2022.
Center for the Humanities Sabbatical Fellowship, University of Rhode Island, 2011.
Arts and Humanities Seed Funding Grant, University of Rhode Island, 2010.
Center for the Humanities Subvention Grant, University of Rhode Island, 2010.
Grand Challenge Fellowship, University of Rhode Island, 2010.
Kenny Teaching Award, George Washington University, 2001.
University Facilitating Fund Award for Research, George Washington University, 1999.
Alumni Summer Research Fellowship, Columbia University, 1996.
President's Fellowship, Columbia University, 1992–1995.
Graduate Research Institute Fellowship, Paris, 1991.
Reid Hall Fellowship, Paris, 1991.

Publications: books

The Mysteries of Paris, by Eugène Sue [1843]. Translation from the French, annotation, and translators' preface, in collaboration with Jonathan Loesberg. 1,392 pp.

Penguin Classics, 2015.

Feeling for the Poor: Bourgeois Compassion, Social Action, and the Victorian Novel.
University of Virginia Press, Victorian Literature and Culture Series, 2010.

Publications: edited essay collections

Special Cluster: Teaching Psychoanalysis in the College Classroom: Tools and Insights for Engaging the Next Generation. International Journal of Applied Psychoanalytic Studies: Vol. 19, No. 3. Coeditor (341-378); and introduction (338-340). With Christine Maksimowicz. September 2022.

The Fergusonian Field: Essays in Memory of Priscilla Parkhurst Ferguson. Special issue of *The Romantic Review*, Vol.112, No. 2. Coeditor (189-361); and introduction (181-187). With Masha Belenky and Susan Hiner. September 2021.

Special Cluster: Essays in Honor of Elaine Freedgood (co-edited with Mary Mullen). *Victorian Literature and Culture*, Vol. 47, No. 3, Fall 2019 (631-670).

Publications: articles and book chapters

“E Pluribus Unum: The Miscellaneous Mid-Victorian Selves of Sylvanus Urban in *The Gentleman’s Magazine*.” Forthcoming, *Victorian Periodicals Review*. Peer-reviewed.

“It’s Out o’ Sight Out o’ Mind wi’ You’: Seriality, Compartmentalization, and *North and South*.” *Victorian Studies*, Vol. 66, No. 1, Autumn 2024 (59-82). Peer-reviewed.

“Gaskell, Ghosts, and the Common Good.” With Talia Schaffer. *The Past, Present, and Future of Victorianist Activism*. Special issue of *Victorian Literature and Culture*, Vol. 51, No. 4, Winter 2023 (569-576). Peer-reviewed.

“Casual Racism in Victorian Literature.” *Victorian Literature and Culture*, Vol. 47 No. 4, Winter 2019 (723-751). Peer-reviewed.

“The Concept of Class in Victorian Studies.” In *The Routledge Companion to Victorian Literature*, ed. Talia Schaffer and Dennis Denisoff. NY: Routledge, 2020 (319-329).

Introduction to Special Cluster: Essays in Honor of Elaine Freedgood (with Mary Mullen). *Victorian Literature and Culture*, Vol. 47, No. 3, Fall 2019 (629). Peer-reviewed.

Review essay: “From the Bottom Up: Chartist Fiction Revisits the Victorian Social Problem Novel.” Rob Breton, *The Oppositional Aesthetics of Chartist Fiction: Reading against the Middle-Class Novel* (Routledge, 2016) and Gregory Vargo, *An Underground History of Early Victorian Fiction: Chartism, Radical Print Culture, and the Social Problem Novel* (Cambridge UP, 2018). *Studies in the Novel*, Vol. 51, No. 3, Fall 2019 (452-457). Peer-reviewed.

“Eugène Sue and *The Mysteries of Paris*” (solicited for *The Palgrave Encyclopaedia of Urban Literary Studies*, edited by Jeremy Tambling). 2018. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3->

319-62592-8

- “Reading Fantasies in *Les Mystères de Paris*.” Special issue of *Médias 19*, edited by Catherine Nesci. August 2017. <http://www.medias19.org/index.php?id=23815>. Peer-reviewed.
- “Notes on Presentism and the Cultural Logic of Dissociation.” *boundary 20*. Special issue on Victorian Studies for the 21st Century. October 2016. <https://www.boundary2.org/2016/10/carolyn-betensky-notes-on-presentism-and-the-cultural-logic-of-dissociation>. Peer-reviewed.
- “Envyng the Poor: Contemporary and Nineteenth-Century Fantasies of Vulnerability.” *Narrating Poverty and Precarity in Britain*. Ed. Barbara Korte and Frédéric Regard. Berlin and Boston: De Gruyter, Culture and Conflict Series, 2014 (19-34). Peer-reviewed.
- “Princes as Paupers: Pleasure and the Imagination of Powerlessness.” *Cultural Critique*, no. 56, Spring 2004 (129-157). Peer-reviewed.
- “Knowing Too Much and Never Enough: Knowledge and Moral Capital in Frances Trollope’s *Michael Armstrong*.” *Novel: A Forum on Fiction* Vol. 36, No. 1, Fall 2002, (61-78). Peer-reviewed.
- “Philanthropy, Desire, and the Politics of Friendship in *The Princess Casamassima*.” *The Henry James Review*, Vol. 22, No. 2, Spring 2001 (147-162). Peer-reviewed.
- “The Prestige of the Oppressed: Symbolic Capital in a Guilt Economy,” in *Pierre Bourdieu: Fieldwork in Culture*, Imre Szeman and Nicholas Brown, eds., Rowman and Littlefield, 2000 (207-214). Peer-reviewed.
- “The Ideological Novel,” in *The Encyclopedia of the Novel*, Paul Schellinger, ed., Fitzroy-Dearborn, 1999 (581-584).
- “When the People are not the People: Populist Paradoxes in Sand and Michelet,” in *Le Siècle de George Sand*, David Powell and Nathalie Datlof, eds., Rodopi, 1998 (103-109). Peer-reviewed.
- Translation of Pierre Bourdieu, “The Role of Intellectuals in the Modern World,” *Telos*, Fall 1989, no. 81 (99-110).

Publications: essays on academic labor

- “A New Contract for the Emerson College LA Chapter of the AAUP.” *Academe Blog*, September 3, 2023. <https://academeblog.org/2023/09/03/a-new-contract-for-the-emerson-college-la-chapter-of-the-aaup/>
- “Chat GPT and Academic Labor.” Co-authored, with Jill Ehnenn. *Academe Blog*, August 22, 2023. <https://academeblog.org/2023/08/22/chat-gpt-and-academic-labor/>

- “Legacy Admissions and Privilege Laundering.” *Academe Blog*, July 18, 2023.
<https://academeblog.org/2023/07/18/legacy-admissions-and-privilege-laundering/>
- “And Meanwhile, Back in Florida...” *Academe Blog*, Sept. 1, 2021.
<https://academeblog.org/2021/09/01/and-meanwhile-back-in-florida/>
- “My University Mandates Exposure to the Virus but Does Not Mandate Vaccination: Part III, the Mississippi Edition.” *Academe Blog*, August 31, 2021.
<https://academeblog.org/2021/08/31/my-university-mandates-exposure-to-the-virus-but-does-not-mandate-vaccination-part-iii-the-mississippi-edition/>
- “Adding to the Already Egregious.” *Academe Blog*, August 18, 2021.
<https://academeblog.org/2021/08/18/adding-to-the-already-egregious/>
- “My University Mandates Exposure to the Virus but Does Not Mandate Vaccination: Part II.” *Academe Blog*, August 16, 2021. <https://academeblog.org/2021/08/16/my-university-mandates-exposure-to-the-virus-but-does-not-mandate-vaccination-part-ii/>
- “My University Mandates Exposure to the Virus but Does Not Mandate Vaccination: Part I.” *Academe Blog*, August 13, 2021. <https://academeblog.org/2021/08/13/my-university-mandates-exposure-to-the-virus-but-does-not-mandate-vaccination-part-i/>
- “An Achievement to Celebrate.” *Academe Blog*, August 11, 2021.
<https://academeblog.org/2021/08/11/an-achievement-to-celebrate/>
- “Mergermania in Pennsylvania.” *Academe Blog*, July 27, 2021.
<https://academeblog.org/2021/07/27/mergermania-in-pennsylvania/>
- “A Very Stable and Secure Position: Prove It!” (co-authored with Aaron Barlow, Rachel Buurma, Seth Kahn, and Talia Schaffer). *Inside Higher Ed*, April 30, 2020.
<https://www.insidehighered.com/views/2020/04/30/covid-19-shows-how-precarious-positions-contingent-faculty-actually-are-opinion>
- “Exclusion of NTT Faculty from Travel and Research Funding.” *Academe Blog*, October 23, 2019. <https://academeblog.org/2019/10/23/exclusion-of-ntt-faculty-from-scholarly-research-and-travel-funding/>
- “Common Good, Not Common Despair” (co-authored with Seth Kahn, Maria Maisto, and Talia Schaffer). *Profession*, Fall 2018. <https://profession.mla.org/common-good-not-common-despair/>
- “Tenured Allies and the Normalization of Contingent Labor.” *Academe*, September-October 2017.
- “Tenure for the Common Good.” *Academe Blog*, September 14, 2017.
<https://academeblog.org/2017/09/14/tenure-for-the-common-good/>

“The No-Jobs Myth.” *Inside Higher Ed*, June 28, 2016.

<https://www.insidehighered.com/views/2016/06/28/tenured-faculty-should-help-battle-opportunities-graduate-students-and-adjuncts>

Publications: reviews

Review of Eliza Jane Smith, *Literary Slumming: Slang and Class in Nineteenth-Century France* (Lexington P, 2021), in *French Forum* Vol. 48, No. 1, Fall 2023 (119-120).

Review of Alistair Robinson, *Vagrancy in the Victorian Age: Representing the Wandering Poor in Nineteenth-Century Literature and Culture*. Cambridge Studies in Nineteenth-Century Literature and Culture (Cambridge UP, 2022), in *Modern Language Quarterly* Vol. 84, No. 1, 2023 (71-73).

Review of *Philanthropic Discourse in Anglo-American Literature, 1850-1920*, edited by Frank Q. Christianson and Leslee Thorne-Murphy (Indiana UP, 2017), in *Victorian Studies* Vol. 61, No. 3, Spring 2019 (526-529).

Review of Barbara Leckie, *Open Houses: Poverty, the Novel, and the Architectural Idea in Nineteenth-Century Britain* (U Penn P, 2018), in *Studies in the Novel*, Vol. 51, No. 2, Summer 2019 (322-324).

Review of Rae Greiner, *Sympathetic Realism in Nineteenth-Century British Fiction* (Johns Hopkins UP, 2012), in *Nineteenth-Century Contexts*, Vol. 36, No. 1, 2014 (73-75).

Review of Rebecca N. Mitchell, *Victorian Lessons on Empathy and Difference* (Ohio State UP, 2011), in *Victorian Studies*, Vol. 55, No. 4, Summer 2013 (738-740).

Review of Herman Westerink, *A Dark Trace: Sigmund Freud on the Sense of Guilt* (Leuven University Press, 2009), in *Psychoanalysis, Culture and Society*, Vol. 15, No. 4, 2010 (429-431).

Review of Jason B. Jones, *Lost Causes: Historical Consciousness in the Victorian Novel* (Ohio State UP, 2006) in *Psychoanalysis, Culture and Society*, Vol. 14, No. 3, September 2009 (313-315).

Review of Christopher Prendergast, *For the People By the People? Eugene Sue's Les Mystères de Paris: A Hypothesis in the Sociology of Literature* (Legenda, 2003), in *Nineteenth-Century French Studies* 34, Nos. 1&2 Fall-Winter 2005-2006 (153-154).

Review of Ross Chambers, *Loiterature* (U Nebraska P, 1999), in *Comparative Literature Studies*, Vol. 38, No. 2, Spring 2001 (186-189).

Publication: pedagogy

Undisciplining the Victorian Classroom: Africa, Diaspora, and the British Empire. Under lead developer Sophia Hsu. Lesson plan cluster and introduction co-authored with Melissa Free, Sophia Hsu, and Ji Eun Lee. Single-authored section, “Slavery and

Victorian Theories of Sexuality, Desire, and Family.” https://undiscipliningvc.org/html/lesson_plans_Africa_diaspora_empire_introduction.html

Work in Progress

The Alumnus (translation from the French of *Le Bachelier*, by Jules Vallès [1881]).
Currently in preparation.

Victorian Culture and the Compartmentalization of Experience (book project).

Editorial Positions

Contributing Editor, *Academe Blog* (AAUP), June 2021-present.

Book Review Editor, *Psychoanalysis, Culture & Society* (Palgrave journal), 2010-2015.

Managing Editor, *Romantic Review*, 1997-1999.

Invited Lectures and Panel Appearances

Invited discussant, Nineteenth-Century French Studies Unbound Series, virtual session on Eliza Jane Smith’s *Literary Slumming: Slang and Class in Nineteenth-Century France*, May 2022.

Invited panelist, “Africa, Diaspora, and the British Empire: Undisciplining the Victorian Classroom.” Colonial, Postcolonial, and Decolonial Research Cluster, Institute for Humanities Research (Arizona State University), April 2021.

Invited plenary panelist, “Organizing in Higher Education.” Virtual session, North American Victorian Studies Association, October 2020.

Guest lecturer, Rhode Island Romance Writers. “Badass Women Writers and the Nineteenth-Century Novel.” June 2020.

Invited plenary panelist, “The Shift away from Tenure: Consequences for Academic Freedom, Faculty Governance, and the Future of the Profession.” Massachusetts AAUP Conference, Merrimack College, November 2019.

Invited panelist, round table discussion, “The Way We Write Now.” V21 (Victorian Studies for the 21st Century) Inaugural Conference, University of Chicago, October 2015.

“The Spectral Working-Class Reader in *Les Mystères de Paris*,” “Urban Mysteries: from the *Mysteries of Paris* to the American Noir” Conference at the University of California, Santa Barbara, February 2014.

“Envyng the Poor,” faculty lecture series, Department of English, University of Rhode Island, September 2013.

“Envyng the Poor,” Keynote Address, “Precarious Lives” Conference, University of Freiburg, Germany, June 2012.

“Dickens’ Chickens,” Modern Language Association Conference, Dickens and France panel, January 2012.

“Feeling for the Poor,” Center for the Humanities, University of Rhode Island, April 2011.

“*Felix Holt* and the Radicalization of Feeling,” Victorian Seminar, Harvard University Humanities Center, October 2008.

“The Spectral Working-Class Reader,” Nineteenth-Century Cultural Studies Seminar, George Washington University, May 2005.

“The Politics of Friendship in *The Princess Casamassima*,” Seminar in the Human Sciences, George Washington University, November 1999.

Conference Papers and Presentations

“Ezra Jennings’s Intractable Pain.” North American Victorian Studies Association conference, Indiana University, November 2023.

“*The Moonstone’s* Unsettled Business: Psychic Fragmentation and Seriality.” North American Victorian Studies Association conference, University of British Columbia, March 2022 (virtual session, due to COVID-19).

“Fighting Exploitation of Contingent Faculty from Within: How Tenure-Stream Allies Can Help to Create Equity on Campus.” Co-organizer and speaker. MLA Convention, January 2020.

“Decorporatizing the Corporate Author: or, Victorian Periodicals in Pieces.” North American Victorian Studies Association conference, University of Ohio, October 2019.

“Gaps in Pleasure: Seriality and Compartmentalization.” Research Society for Victorian Periodicals conference, Brighton, UK, July 2019.

Organizer and participant in Discussion Session, “Organizing Around Contingency,” AAUP National Conference, June 2019.

“Time Out: On Seriality and Not (Necessarily) Looking Forward.” North American Victorian Studies Association conference, University of Florida, October 2018.

“What Tenured Professors Can Do About Adjunctification.” Special session. Organizer of and participant in roundtable discussion. Session selected for Presidential Theme, “States of Insecurity.” Modern Language Association Conference, New York, January 2018.

- “Tenure for the Common Good,” AAUP National Conference, Washington, DC, June 2017.
- “Casual Racism in Victorian Literature,” Northeast Victorian Studies Association conference, Georgetown University, April 2017.
- “A Portfolio of Paradoxes: Social Documentary Photography in G.B. Shaw’s *An Unsocial Socialist*,” North American Victorian Studies Association conference, Arizona State University, November 2016.
- “Affluenza,” Poverty, and Cultures of Criminality in *Les Mystères de Paris*,” Nineteenth-Century French Studies Conference, Princeton University, November 2015 (paper accepted for presentation; not presented due to illness).
- “On Getting Sick of Ideas: Failure in the Academic Field,” Panel on Failure Studies. Modern Language Association conference, Chicago, January 2014.
- “The Will to Know in *The Life and Adventures of Michael Armstrong, Factory Boy*: Trollope contra Foucault,” North American Victorian Studies Association conference, University of Southern California, October 2013.
- “The Jolly Roast Beef of England: Satire, Slaughterhouses, and the Cultural Logic of Dissociation in Dickens’s ‘Monument of French Folly,’” Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies, University of Virginia, March 2013.
- “The Fergusonian Field” (panel in celebration of work of Priscilla Parkhurst Ferguson), Nineteenth-Century French Studies, Raleigh, NC, October 2012.
- “Dickens’ Chickens: Meat, Slaughterhouses, and the Cultural Logic of Dissociation,” North American Victorian Studies Association, University of Wisconsin, September 2012.
- “Oliver’s Two Families: the Middle-Class Do-Over in *Oliver Twist*,” Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference, University of Texas at Austin, April 2010.
- “Middle-Class Subjectivity and the Suffering Poor in *Mary Barton*,” Association for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society Conference, Rutgers University, October 2009.
- “The Stigma of Good Intentions,” Good Intentions Panel, American Comparative Literature Association Conference, Harvard University, March 2009 (also co-organizer of panel).
- “‘Happy’ and ‘Unhappy’: Affect and Economics in *Mary Barton*,” Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference, Skidmore College, April 2009.
- “The Problem with Getting it Right,” Revisiting Historicisms Panel, American Comparative Literature Association Conference, Long Beach, April 2008 (also co-organizer of panel).

- “Object Relations and the Victorian Social-Problem Novel,” Association for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society Conference, Rutgers University, November 2007.
- “Transformational Objects? Object Relations Theory and the Victorian Social-Problem Novel,” North American Victorian Studies Association, Purdue University, September 2006.
- “Affective Conversion in Sturges’ *Sullivan’s Travels*,” American Comparative Literature Association Conference, Princeton University, March 2006.
- “Narratives of Conflict and Conflicting Narratives in the Victorian Social-Problem Novel,” Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference, Rutgers University, March 2006.
- “Wishful Collaborations: *Les Mystères de Paris*, Victorian Social-Problem Novels, and their Imaginary Working-Class Readers,” Northeast Victorian Studies Association Conference, April 2005.
- “Tourism vs. Altruism,” American Comparative Literature Association Conference, Penn State University, March 2005.
- “The Spectral Working-Class Reader,” International Association for Philosophy and Literature Conference, Syracuse University, May 2004.
- “Is Liberal Guilt Guilt?” Association for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society Conference, University of Pennsylvania, October 2002.
- “Knowing and Showing Who Knows in Frances Trollope’s *Michael Armstrong*,” Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century British Women Writers Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison, April 2002.
- “Knowing Too Much and Never Enough: Knowledge and Moral Capital in Frances Trollope’s *Life and Adventures of Michael Armstrong, the Factory Boy*,” Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference, George Mason University, April 2002.
- “The Pleasures of ‘Powerlessness’: Bourgeois Subjectivity and its Others,” Association for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society Conference, Rutgers University, November 2001.
- “Performing the Female Domestic Laborer: Middle-Class Fantasy, “Self,” and “Other” in Ehrenreich’s *Nickel and Dimed*,” American Literature Association Conference, Santa Fe, October 2001.
- “Princes as Paupers: Slumming in Sue, W. Besant, and James,” British Comparative Literature Association Conference, University of Swansea, UK, July 2001.

- "Embodied Analogies: Sickness and Health in Gaskell's *North and South*," Victorians Institute, University of South Carolina-Columbia, October 2000.
- "Disinterestedness and Hysteresis in James's *The Princess Casamassima*," International Association for Philosophy and Literature Conference, SUNY Stony Brook, May 2000.
- "The Politics of Friendship in James's *The Princess Casamassima*," Program in the Human Sciences Seminar, George Washington University, November 1999 (invited presentation).
- "Proust's Bourdieu," Globalization and Multiculturalism in Twentieth-Century French Studies Conference. Center for European Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, March 1999.
- "On Teaching BS," American Cultural Studies: Theory, Practice, and Pedagogy Conference, University of Tulsa, February 1999.
- "Working Children," response paper, "Working Children" panel, MLA, San Francisco, December 1998.
- "The Family State Model on the Eve of the Second Republic," Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, University of Kentucky, April 1998.
- "Babying the Parent: Mixed Metaphors in the Family State Model," Private Lives, Public Meanings: Constructions of Childhood Conference, University of Pittsburgh, September 1997.
- "Paradoxes of *Peuple* in Sand and Michelet," George Sand: History, Politics, and Society Conference, Hofstra University, November 1996.
- "Literacy, Conscience, and the Redistricting of Class in *Les Misérables*," Colloquium in Nineteenth-Century French Studies, University of Toronto, October 1996.
- "The Hero as Heroine: Feminization as Narrative Strategy in Sand's *Le Compagnon du Tour de France*," Literature as Social Critique Conference, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, February 1996.
- "The Wet-Nurse Cure in Eugène Sue's *Martin l'enfant trouvé*," Colloquium in Nineteenth-Century French Studies, University of Delaware, October 1995.
- "The Prestige of the Oppressed: Symbolic Capital in a Guilt Economy," Pierre Bourdieu: Fieldwork in Art, Literature, and Culture, Conference at Duke University, April 1995.
- "Reading Rich, Reading Poor in *Les Mystères de Paris*," Colloquium in Nineteenth-Century French Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara, October 1994.

"Wasted Time: the Interplay of Art-Worship and Procrastination in *A la recherche du temps perdu*," Conference on Romance Languages and Literatures, University of Cincinnati, May 1991.

"Compensatory Culture: Looking the Gift-Horse in the Mouth," Cultural Studies Conference, City University of New York, Graduate Center, May 1991.

Teaching, University of Rhode Island: undergraduate courses

- English 121: OUTRAGE! The Literature of Protest and Dissent
- English 160: Literature of the World: Perspectives on Perspective
- English 160: Literature of the World: Migrants and Migration
- English 201: Principles of Literary Study
- English 252: Introduction to British Literature II
- English 265: Introduction to Literary Genres: The Novel
- English 265H: Introduction to Literary Genres: The Novel: Social Justice and the Novel
- English 350: Introduction to Literary Theory
- English 375: British 19th-Century Texts: The Idea of a Career in British Literature and Culture
- English 375: British 19th-Century Texts: "Woman," Women, and Men in the Time of Victoria
- English 375: British 19th-Century Texts: The Realist Novel in Britain and France
- English 376: Topics in Victorian Literature and Culture: The Sensation Novel
- English 376: Topics in Victorian Literature and Culture: Victorian Sex and Sexuality
- English 376: Model and Alternative Families in Victorian Literature and Culture
- English 376: Victorian Constructions of Race
- English 376: Victorian Popular Fiction
- English 410: Capstone in English Literature: Victorian Families
- English 469: The Novel: Nineteenth-Century Novels of Protest and Engagement
- English 469: The Novel: Badass Women and the Nineteenth-Century Novel
- English 486: British Authors: George Eliot
- English 486: British Authors: The Brontës and their World
- English 486: British Authors: Charles Dickens
- English 486: British Authors: Anthony Trollope
- English 486: British Authors: Thomas Hardy
- English 499: Senior Seminar: Dirty, Disgusting, Sick, and Evil
- GCH 102: Grand Challenges (first-year interdisciplinary university seminar): Careers, Jobs, and Joblessness in Modern Literature and Culture

Teaching, URI: graduate courses

- English 514: History of Theory and Criticism
- English 555: Nineteenth-Century British Texts: The Victorian Social-Problem Novel
- English 555: Undisciplining Nineteenth-Century British Literature and Culture
- English 555: Nineteenth-Century British Texts: Historicisms
- English 555: Nineteenth-Century British Texts: The Cultural Work of Emotion
- English 555: Nineteenth-Century British Texts: Victorian Outliers
- English 605: Seminar in Genres: Psychoanalysis and the Victorian Novel

English 605: Seminar in Genres: Victorian Constructions of Race
 English 610: Seminar on Historical Periods: Nineteenth-Century Discourses of Class
 English 610: Seminar on Historical Periods: Victorian Blind Spots
 English 610: Seminar on Historical Periods: Victorian Sex and Sexuality

PhD Dissertations Directed and Committees Headed, URI

Holly Allen (finishing coursework)
 Cherie Rowe (finishing coursework)
 Darcey Lovell (defense expected Fall 2025)
 Youngji Cho, "The (Mis)formation of Identity in Joseph Conrad's Novels: Ideology, Community, and the Self" (Spring 2023)
 Beth Leonardo, "Between Siblings: How the Sibling Metaphor Reimagines Affective Entanglements in the Victorian Novel" (Fall 2021)
 Xinqiang (Cole) Chang, "Fantasizing Reproduction: the Biologization of the Desire for Progress in Victorian Literature" (Spring 2021)
 Ashton Foley, "Reading the Reader: Analyzing Depictions of Male Readers in Serial Victorian Fiction" (Spring 2020)
 Barbara Farnworth, "Female Comic Grotesque Characters in Victorian Novels: Investigating the Possibilities of Liminality" (Spring 2020)
 Anna Brecke, "Widening the Sphere: Mid-to-Late Victorian Popular Fiction, Gender Representation and Canonicity" (Spring 2018)
 Rebekah Greene, "Exquisite Clutter: Material Culture and the Scottish Reinvention of the Adventure Narrative" (Spring 2016)
 Jennifer Kissko, "Homeless Chic: Cultural Contradictions in Contemporary American Literature" (Spring 2010)
 Meredith Krall, "Romance and Realism" (student on leave)

MA Portfolios Directed, URI

Shannon Brennan (2024)
 Brianne Neptin (2023)
 Beth Leonardo (2015)
 Barbara Farnworth (2011)
 Jaime Lang (2010)
 Kereen Welch (2009)
 Mary Fetherston (2008)
 Justine Lutzell (2007)
 Jodi Apicelli (2006)

PhD Dissertations, Committee Member, URI

Zhihua Wang (completing coursework)
 Steven Connors (in progress)
 William Bowden (in progress)
 Rachel Rothenberg (in progress)
 AnnMarie Demichiel (2024)
 Nilton Gomes (in progress)
 Serap Hidir (student on leave)
 Danielle Sanfilippo (2020)
 Kara Watts (2019)

Ryan Engley (2019)
 Kim Wickham (2018)
 Gabriel Romaguera (2017)
 Michele Meek (2017)
 Sarah Kingston (2015)
 Eva Jones (2012)
 Maria Glade (2010)

MA Portfolios and Theses, Committee Member, URI

Eve Potvin (expected 2025)
 Danielle Duseau (expected 2025)
 Wanda Hopkins (expected 2025)
 Michael Grenier (2024)
 Emelia Wilkinson (2021)
 Shay Boisvert (2021)
 Charlotte Kugler (2016)
 Elysia Michaels (2014)
 Ryan LaLiberty (2014)
 Allana Allik (2013)
 Zinovia Canale (2011)
 Erin Vachon (2010)
 Sarah Schneider (2009)
 Sarabeth Grant (2008)
 Evan Schneider (2007)
 Lisa Harrison (2007)

Independent Studies, Undergraduate, URI

Peter LeBeau (Fall 2024)
 Katherine Robbins (Fall 2024)
 Eve Potvin (Summer 2022)
 Patricia Henle (Summer 2022)
 Jason Phillips (Summer 2021)
 Emily Winslow (Spring 2020)
 Sophia Muñoz (Summer 2019)
 Jamie Buscher (Spring 2016)
 Ryan Cesario (Spring 2016)
 Melissa Perez (Fall 2015)
 Meghan Dolan (Fall 2015)
 Rachel Seigel (Fall 2014)
 Billy Bowden (Spring 2014)
 Matthew Ead (Fall 2011)
 Alix Dorgan (Fall 2011)
 Rebecca Arenas (Spring 2011)
 Kristen Drape (Fall 2009)
 Christy Brissette (Fall 2009)
 Kara Cabassa (Spring 2007)

Independent Studies, Graduate, URI

Beth Leonardo (Spring 2014 and Spring 2017)
 Rebekah Greene (Spring 2010)
 Sarah Maitland (Spring 2009)
 Bojana Gligoric (exchange student from France, Spring 2008)

Internships Supervised, URI

Marquis Jones (2009-2010)
 Kimberly Elton (Spring 2010)

Service to English Department, URI: Administrative

Chair (2022-present)
 Co-Director of Undergraduate Studies (2006-2017 and Spring 2018).
 Undergraduate Advisor (2006-2017 and Spring 2018).

Service to English Department, URI: Committee work

Curriculum Committee, chair (Spring 2019-present).
 Graduate Committee (2005-2007 and 2009-2011).
 Graduate Admissions (2011, 2013, 2014-2015).
 Executive Committee (2006-2017 and Spring 2018).
 Long-Range Planning Committee (2008-2011).
 Selections Committee (three searches, 2005-2006, 2007-2008, 2010-2011).
 Publicity and Outreach Committee (2006-2007 and 2011-2015).
 Nominations Committee (2008-2015).

Service to English Department, URI: Other

Departmental representative to University Welcome Days and Majors Day (Spring 2014-present).
 Judge for student writing contests, creative nonfiction, fiction, critical essay divisions, at undergraduate and graduate levels (2006-present).
 Participant in and organizer of workshops for undergraduates planning to apply to graduate school (2005, 2009, 2010, 2015).
 Participant in workshops for graduate students going on the job market (2018).
 Organizer of social events for undergraduates (Spring 2014 - present).

Service to University, URI: Advising

University College Advisor (2006-2017).

Service to University, URI: Legislative and committee work

Member, AI Task Force (2023-present)
 Member, College of Arts & Sciences Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee on URI 101 (2022-2023)
 Member, Faculty Senate Executive Committee Sub-Committee on Student Outcomes (2020)
 Member, College of Arts & Sciences Dean's Advisory Committee (2019-2022).
 Member, College of Arts & Sciences Curriculum Committee (Fall 2018).
 Faculty Senator (2006-2009, 2010-2011, and 2015-2018).
 Member, College of Arts & Sciences Strategic Plan Ad-Hoc Committee (2017).
 Member, University Advising Assessment Committee and Chair, Subcommittee on Advising Workload (2014-2017).

Member, Library Advisory Committee (2013-2015).
 Member, Committee Appointed to Evaluate Dean of Arts & Sciences (2014).
 Member, Memorial Union Committee (2006-2008).
 Member, Council for Research (2010-2011).
 Member, General Education Committee (2011-2013).
 Member, By-Laws Committee, College of Arts and Sciences (2013-2014).

Service to University, URI: Union work

Member, Grievance Committee, URI-AAUP (2019-present)
 Secretary, URI-AAUP (2019-2023).
 Member at large, Executive Committee, URI-AAUP (2014-2019).
 Editor, URI-AAUP Newsletter (2014-2018).
 Member, URI-AAUP Scholarship Committee (2014-2015, 2017-2018, 2019-2020, 2020-2021).
 Member, URI-AAUP Membership Committee (2016-2020).
 Member, Steering Committee, Climate Change Denialism Conference, URI-AAUP (2016).
 Member, URI-AAUP Executive Director Search Committee (2016).
 Member, URI-AAUP Delegation to AAUP National Convention (2014; 2015; 2016).
 Representative of URI-AAUP, Search Committee for Dean of University Libraries (2015).

Community Service and Outreach, University of Rhode Island

Co-Founder (with Travis D. Williams), The Moveable Feast of Ideas. Outreach project, URI English Department. Book discussions with general public at libraries across the state of Rhode Island (2016-present).

Volunteer Instructor, Changing Lives Through Literature (alternative sentencing project for nonviolent offenders), February-April 2006.

Advocacy: national

American Association of University Professors:

Executive Council, Representative for District X (2018-2022).
 Member, Committee on Contingency and the Profession (2019-present).
 Member, Racial Justice Steering Committee (2020-2022).
 Member, Board of Directors, AAUP Foundation (2021-2022).

Tenure for the Common Good:

Co-founder, Member of Steering Committee, Webmaster (2017-present).

Faculty Network for Student Voting Rights:

Member, Membership and Outreach Committee, Co-Organizer for URI (2020)

Professional Service: external

Mahindra Center, Harvard University:

Co-convener, with Aeron Hunt, of Victorian Literature and Culture Seminar (2022-2024).

Modern Language Association:

Elected Delegate, Academic Freedom Seat (2024-2027).
 Member, Elections Committee (elected for two-year term, 2019-2021).
 Member, Action for Alliances working group (2017).

Northeast Victorian Studies Association:

Member, Diversity Committee (2017-2021).
 Coordinator, "Expanding the Field" Graduate Essay Contest (2017-2021).
 Member, Program Committee (2005-2007; 2013-2016).
 Conference Organizer and Host, Annual Northeast Victorian Studies Association
 Conference, URI Providence, April 2015.

Manuscript Reviewer:

Victorian Studies, Nineteenth-Century Gender Studies, Victorians Journal, Victorian Review, BRANCH, Studies in Gender and Sexuality, Nineteenth-Century Contexts, Palgrave Press, Princeton University Press, Blackwell Encyclopedia of Victorian Literature, Oxford University Press, Routledge Press, SUNY Press, Essays in Romanticism.

Professional Memberships

Modern Language Association, Northeast Victorian Studies Association, North American Victorian Studies Association, Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies, Research Society for Victorian Periodicals, American Comparative Literature Association, Association for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society.