

Jennifer L. Lieberman
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of American Literature and Culture, University of North Florida, 2013-present.
National Science Foundation postdoctoral fellow, Department of Science and Technology Studies,
Cornell University, 2011-2013

EDUCATION

Ph.D. **English**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, May 2011
- Graduate minors: gender and women's studies, science and technology studies
M.A. **English**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2006
B.S. **Mathematics**, University of Florida, *Cum Laude*, 2004
B.A. **English**, University of Florida, *Summa Cum Laude*, 2004

PUBLICATIONS

Manuscript in progress (1)

The Technological Imaginary of the American Prison. Expected completion date, June 2019.
-This book manuscript argues that American prisons have invested in technological solutions to social problems. It analyzes the technological fantasies that are built into criminal justice policies, and it suggests that literary and cross-cultural analysis can offer salubrious alternative paradigms.

Books (1)

Power Lines: Electricity in American Life and Letters, 1882-1952. Cambridge, MIT Press: 2017.

Peer-Reviewed Articles (9)

"Women's Power in the American West: Mary Hallock Foote and Honoré Willsie Morrow's Tales of Electrification." *Studies in the Novel* 49.3 (2017): 342-362.

"Finding a Place for Technology." *JLS: Journal of Literature and Science* 10.1 (2017): 26-31.

Lieberman, J. and Ronald R. Kline. "Dream of an Unfettered Electrical Future: Nikola Tesla, the Electrical Utopian Novel, and an Alternative American Sociotechnical Imaginary." *Configurations* 25.1 (January 2017): 1-27.

“Recovering John Trowbridge: A Master of Electricity, Education, and Sentimentality.” *The Eaton Journal of Archival Science Fiction* 4.1 (2016): 4-24.

“The Myth of the First African-American Electrical Engineer: Arthur U. Craig and the Importance of Teaching in Technological History.” *History and Technology* 32.1 (2016): 70-90.

“Ralph Ellison’s Technological Humanism.” *MELUS: Multi-ethnic Literature in the U.S.* 40.4 (Winter 2015): 8-27.

“Electric Sensations and Executions in Gertrude Atherton’s *Patience Sparhawk and Her Times*.” *Demands of the Dead: Executions, Storytelling, and Activism in the United States*. Ed. Kathleen Ryan. University of Iowa Press, 2012: 162-180.

“Hank Morgan’s Power Play: Electrical Networks in King Arthur’s Court.” *The Mark Twain Annual* 8 (2010): 61-75.

Lieberman, J. and Bruce Edwards, “The Convergence of the Hyperbolic Function of the CORDIC Algorithm,” *Hellenic European Research on Computer Mathematics and its Applications* 6 (2003): 3-5.

Reviews (3)

Grant Bollmer, *Inhuman Networks: Social Media and the Archaeology of Connection*. *Screen Bodies*, forthcoming.

Lauren Rabinovitz, *Electric Dreamland: Amusement Parks, Movies, and American Modernity*. *American Studies Journal* 53.1 (2014): 225-6.

Lawrence I. Berkove and Joseph Csicsila’s *Heretical Fictions: Religion in the Literature of Mark Twain*. *American Studies Journal* 52.1 (2012): 185-6.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS, AND INTERVIEWS

Media Coverage (4)

Academic Minute “STEM and the Humanities,” 2017
 < <https://academicminute.org/2017/11/jennifer-lieberman-university-of-north-florida-stem-and-the-humanities/> >

Michael Lindgren, “Shock of the New Jennifer L. Lieberman, Power Lines, and Science and Technology Studies,” *Empty Mirror*, 2017.

<<https://www.emptymirrorbooks.com/reviews/jennifer-l-lieberman-power-lines-sts>>
 -Early nonacademic book review

Boyer, Dominic and Cymene Howe, “Episode 83 – Jennifer Lieberman.” Audio blog post. Cultures of Energy. Center for Energy & Environmental Research in the Human Sciences at Rice University. August 3, 2017. <<http://culturesofenergy.com/ep-83-jennifer-lieberman/>>
-This podcast, hosted by professors of anthropology at Rice University, is a one-hour interview of Dr. Lieberman, discussing her book and other projects.

Cori Brosnahan, “Tesla’s Dinner Party,” *PBS: American Experience*, WGBH Educational Foundation, 2017. <<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/tesla-dinner-party/>>

-Dr. Lieberman was interviewed regarding writer Mark Twain’s relationship with inventor Nikola Tesla. The results of that interview—including media coverage of her first book—appear in the above essay that accompanies PBS’ documentary on Tesla.

Blog Posts (2)

“Our reliance on electricity,” The MIT Press Blog, 2017. <<https://mitpress.mit.edu/blog/our-reliance-electricity/>>

“The shocking truth about Mark Twain’s fascination with electricity,” *Center for Mark Twain Studies*, 2017. <<http://marktwainstudies.com/tag/power-lines/>>

Invited Talks (6)

“Power Lines: Electricity in American Life and Letters,” invited book talk, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, 2018.

“Power Lines: Electricity in American Life and Letters,” invited book talk, Michigan State University, Lansing, MI, 2018.

“Power Lines and the Power of Lines: Electricity, Literature, and Interdisciplinary Thinking,” invited to give a book talk and lead an interdisciplinary writing seminar at the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN, 2018.

“What can the humanities teach us about technology—and vice versa,” Joe Berg Seminar Series, Museum of Science and History, Jacksonville, FL, 2017.

Roundtable participant, *BIOS: Life, Death, and Politics*, Seminar sponsored by the Unit for Criticism and Interpretive Theory, UIUC, 2010.

Roundtable participant, *Reflections on Prison Teaching*, Panel sponsored by Education Justice Project and Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities, UIUC, 2010.

Conference Papers Presented (26)

(Invited roundtable presenter.) “*Orphan Black* and Biotech 2.0,” Society of Literature, Science, and the Arts, Tempe, AZ, 2017.

“Pain in the Neck,” creative work in progress, Society of Literature, Science, and the Arts, Tempe, AZ, 2017.

Round table organizer and respondent, “The Genres of the History of Technology,” Society for the History of Technology, Philadelphia, PA, 2017.

“Ralph Ellison: Philosopher of Technology,” International Ralph Ellison Symposium, Oxford University, UK, 2017.

“Electronic Monitoring, Mass Incarceration, and the American Sociotechnical Imaginary,” *Society for the Social Studies of Science (4S)*, Boston, MA, 2017.

“Mark Twain and the Technological Fallacy,” *Mark Twain Quadrennial Conference*, Elmira, NY, 2017.

“Incarceration versus Financialization: Margaret Atwood and John Edgar Wideman’s Representations of Prison Culture,” *MELUS: Multi-ethnic Literature in the US*, Boston, MA, 2017.

“The Intimate Entanglement of Literary and Technology Studies,” *Modern Language Association Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, PA, 2016.

“The Technological Fallacy,” *SLSA: Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts*, Atlanta, GA, 2016.

“Technology and the Performance of Blackness,” *MELUS: Multi-Ethnic Literature in the US*, Charleston, SC, 2016.

“Charlotte Perkins Gilman’s Electric Revolutions,” Society for the Study of American Women Writers, Philadelphia, PA, 2015.

“*The Machine in the Garden Fifty Years Later*,” organizer and roundtable participant, *Annual Meeting of the American Studies Association*. Los Angeles, 2014.

“A Brief History of the Body Electric,” *NeMLA*. Harrisburg, PA, 2014.

“Ralph Ellison, Technology, and the Sanctity of Human Selfhood,” *Annual Meeting for the Modern Language Association*. Boston, 2013.

“Teaching Women Writers to Incarcerated Men,” *Society for the Study of American Women Writers*, Denver, Colorado, 2012.

“Systems and Symbols: Narratives of Technological Choice in the History of U.S. Electrical Power Distribution, 1890-1914,” *Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology*, Copenhagen, Denmark, 2012.

“How the West Was Wired” *C19*, University of California, Berkeley, 2012.

“Charged Words: Metaphor, Electricity, and American History,” *Science and Technology Studies Seminar Series*, Cornell University, 2012.

“Black Body Radiation: Medical Technologies in Afrofuturist Visions.” *Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts*. Kitchener, Ontario, 2011.

“Nuptials and Networks: The Romance of Western Electrification.” *Futures of American Studies Summer Institute*. Dartmouth College, 2010.

“Mark Twain’s Electrical Realism.” *American Literature Association*. San Francisco, CA, 2010.

Forum Co-host, “Blogs and Beyond: Teaching with Technology and Curiosity,” *Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Advanced Collaboratory*, 2010.

“Inventing Electrocutation: Narratives of Electric Innovation and Execution in Late-Nineteenth-Century America.” *National Museum of American History Colloquium Series*. Smithsonian Institution, 2009.

“Affective Telegraphy: Communication Networks and the Body Electric in Edith Wharton’s Work.” *Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture since 1900*. University of Louisville, 2009.

“Erasing Electrically-Literate Women: ‘Progress’ Versus ‘Women’s Progress’ in Late Nineteenth-Century America.” *Women’s and Gender History Symposium*. UIUC, 2008.

“Decoding and Regulating the Body Electric: Bioelectricity in Nineteenth-Century America.” *Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts*. Portland, ME, 2007.

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND CERTIFICATIONS

Awards for Research and Miscellaneous Activities (10)

Kettering Foundation Research Exchange, Kettering Foundation, 2018-2019

Faculty Research Development Grant, University of North Florida, 2018

Presidential Diversity and Inclusion Award, University of North Florida, 2017

-To acknowledge and honor the exemplary efforts of one student, faculty, or staff member who (1) increases the appreciation for, and the awareness of the benefits, importance, and relevance of diversity and inclusion and (2) works to advance the efforts of the university to be more diverse and inclusive, identifies and challenges obstacles, and identifies and builds assets and strengths.

Florida Blue Center for Ethics Fellow, University of North Florida, 2017

-Funding to develop my second book-length project on the literature and technologies of prisons.

Community Scholar, University of North Florida, 2016-2017

-Funding to work with an interdisciplinary group of scholars on developing community-based learning tools for teaching and research.

National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship, Cornell University, 2011 – 2013

-Funding to gain methodological training in Science and Technology Studies (especially including the intersection of STS and African American Studies), which has led to the publication of my book, *Power Lines*, my *History and Technology* article, “The myth of the first African-American electrical engineer,” and other interdisciplinary publications.

R.D. Mullen Research Fellowship, University of California, Riverside, 2011

-Enabled me to travel to UC-Riverside’s science fiction archives, leading to the publication of my article “Recovering John Trowbridge” and to research in my book, *Power Lines*.

Nicholson Fellowship, Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2009 – 2010

-The Nicholson title was created to recognize two graduate students across campus for excellent research in the humanities. IPRH graduate and faculty fellows are released from teaching two courses to participate in a fellows’ writing and research workshop.

Humanities, Arts, Science, & Technology Advanced Collaboratory (HASTAC) Scholar, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2009 – 2011

-Small stipend awarded for participation in this online scholarly network.

Dibner Library Resident Scholarship, Smithsonian Institution, 2009

-Enabled me to travel to the National Museum of American History’s Dibner Library, to complete archival research that informs my book and articles about the history of electricity.

Visiting Research Fellowship, Bakken Library and Museum, Minneapolis, MN, 2008

-Enabled me to travel to the Bakken Library and Museum, to complete archival research that informs my work on medicine and the history of electricity, especially including chapters 2 and 3 from *Power Lines*.

Teaching Honors and Certifications (4)

Finalist, Campus-wide Undergraduate Teaching Award, University of North Florida, 2016

Certified Online Teacher, University of North Florida, 2016

Sigma Tau Delta Award for Teaching Excellence, University of North Florida, 2015

- Awarded to one faculty member for improving the intellectual community of our university.

Instructor of the Summer, Upward Bound, Office of Minority Student Affairs, 2007

- Awarded to one instructor for excellence in teaching and service

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Courses Designed and Taught, University of North Florida (5)

Graduate Seminar on Creative Approaches to Literary Criticism (LIT 5934), 2017

Graduate Seminar on Grant Writing (LIT 5934), 2017 (Summer B and Fall)

Graduate Seminar on Magic and Realism (AML6507), 2017

Graduate Seminar on Literary Criticism and Interpretive Theory (ENG 6019), 2014 and 2015

Graduate Seminar on Education and American Identity (LIT 6017), 2014

Undergraduate Courses Designed and Taught, University of North Florida (19)

Survey of American Literature I, delivered online / distance learning (AML 2010), 2016, 2018

Freshman Writing Seminar on Climate Change (ENC 1143), 2018

Immigration and Citizenship in American Fiction (AML 3102), 2017

Senior Seminar on Grant Writing (ENC 4930), 2017 (Summer B and Fall)

Medicine and Society (Honors section of ENC1143), 2017

Senior Seminar on Women Writers (LIT 4930, LIT 4934), 2015, 2017, 2018

Technical Writing Seminar on Grant Writing (ENC3250), 2016

Senior Seminar on Prison Literature (AML 4242), 2016

Junior Seminar on Detective Fiction (LIT 3930), 2016

Sophomore Writing Seminar, Writing about Climate Change (ENC 2450), 2016

Senior Seminar on Creative Approaches to Literary Criticism (ENG 4930), 2015, 2017

Technology and Culture (ENC 1143), Honors Program, 2015

Early American Literature (AML 2010/3031), 2014

Senior Seminar on the American Technological Sublime (LIT 4225), 2014

Engineering and Society (ENC 1143), Honors Program, 2014

Senior Seminar on Magical and Realism (LIT 4934), 2014

Later American Literature (AML 3041), 2013

American Fiction (AML 3102), 2013 and 2015

Writing About Monsters (ENC 2443), 2013

Other University Courses Designed and Taught (6)

Science and Technology Studies: Historical Perspectives on Body, Mind, and Health, Cornell University, Summer 2015

African American Literature and Culture: 1850 – present, Cornell Prison Education Program, 2011

Introduction to American Literary and Cultural Studies, University of Illinois, two sections, 2009-2010

Introduction to Fiction, Advanced Composition, University of Illinois, 2009

Advanced Composition: “Eureka! The Culture of Language and Invention,” University of Illinois, 2009

Principles of Composition and Rhetoric, University of Illinois, seven sections, 2004-2009

Independent Studies and Mentorships at the University of North Florida (6)

Teaching practicum in freshman writing, 2017

Gender and Society (special emphasis on transgender issues), senior capstone independent study, 2016

Teaching practicum in advanced composition, 2016

Teaching practicum in critical theory, 2015 (2 sections)

Video Game Studies, graduate-level independent study, 2015

Not-for-Credit Outreach Courses (5)

Modern Multi-ethnic literature, Duval County Department of Corrections, Jacksonville, FL, Fall 2016

African American literature, Duval County Department of Corrections, Jacksonville, FL, Spring 2016

Poetry Therapy, Department of Juvenile Justice, Jacksonville, FL, 2015

Writing Workshop, Co-Instructor, Education Justice Project, Danville Correctional Center, 2009-2011

- focused on advanced methods for technical and analytical writing

Introduction to Geometry, Upward Bound College Prep Academy, UIUC Minority Student Affairs, 2008

- Designed to prepare disadvantaged students to excel in mathematics, this course focused on proof-writing, the principles of geometry, and basic logic

Teaching Assistant, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (3)

Aerospace Engineering Systems Design I – II, Advanced Composition, 2010-2011

- Developed instructional materials and presented lectures on writing for scientists and engineers

Survey of American Literature I: beginning – 1870, 2006-2007

- Led four discussion sections
- Presented a guest lecture on American Romanticism

Introduction to Gender and Women’s Studies in the Social Sciences, 2006

- Led two discussion sections that introduced students to feminist theory, critical race studies, sports studies, and queer theory
- Presented a guest lecture on medicine, technology, and women’s health

HUMANITIES ADVOCACY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

External Manuscript Reviewer

Bulletin of Science, Technology, and Society

Broadview Press (book proposal)

Configurations

Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and the Environment

MELUS: Multi-ethnic Literature in the US

Penn State University Press (book manuscript)

Plenum: The South Carolina State University Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies

Service and Advocacy outside of UNF

Moderator, “How should We Convey the History of Jacksonville,” deliberative dialogue event sponsored by city council, Jesse Ball DuPont Center, Jacksonville, FL 2018.

Director of Finance, Jacksonville Chapter of the Younger Women’s Task Force (subsidiary of the American Association of University Women), 2016-present

Volunteer instructor, Duval County Department of Corrections, 2016-2017

Volunteer and assessment-committee member, Hope at Hand poetry therapy organization, 2015

Peer reviewer for Society for the Study of American Women Writers conference proposals, 2015

Designed and organized panel for Science and Technology caucus of American Studies Association, 2014

Book Club Leader, Ithaca History Center, 2012

Instructor, Cornell Prison Education Program, 2011

Service at UNF (extra departmental)

Digital Humanities minor advisor, 2018

QEP development committee, 2017-present

Committee on Diversity and Inclusion (CODI), 2017-present

Chair, panel on intersectionality sponsored by CODI, 2017

Guest lecture, Writing Intensive Orientation Session, University of North Florida, 2017

Refugee Task Force, University of North Florida, 2017-present

Faculty Curriculum Committee, Digital Humanities Initiative, University of North Florida, 2017-present

Founding member, Faculty Inclusivity Initiative, University of North Florida, 2016-present

Interdisciplinary studies council, University of North Florida, 2016-present

Acting director of the Gender Studies minor, University of North Florida, 2016-2017

Volunteer, International Poetry Week Events, University of North Florida, 2016

Panelist, Banned Books Week Discussion, University of North Florida Library, 2016

Director, Faculty Writing Group, 2013-present

Compensated Service at UNF (extra departmental)

Writing QEP (Quality Enhancement Plan) proposal, University of North Florida, 2017 (compensated \$500)

-The plan I coauthored, Writing Around the Curriculum, was selected as UNF's QEP for the next ten years.

Rater for the Center for Community Based Learning, 2015, 2016, 2017 (compensated \$200)

Service at UNF (departmental)

Faculty advisor, Sigma Tau Delta, English Honors Society, University of North Florida, 2016-present

Chair, Dept. of English By-laws committee, University of North Florida, 2015-present

Department of English Graduate Studies Committee, University of North Florida, 2015-present

Department of English Marketing Committee, University of North Florida, 2015-present

Department of English Undergraduate Studies Committee, University of North Florida, 2015-present

Invited respondent, *Word by Word: Documentary Play Writing about the Incarceration of Juveniles*, University of North Florida, 2015

Relevant Service and Advocacy during Graduate School

Digital Humanities Research Assistant, Institute for Computing in Humanities, Arts, and Social Science: 18th Connect Primary Investigators: Robert Markley and Laura Mandell (Miami of Ohio), 2008 – 2009

- Developing GAMERA optical character recognition software that can recognize Baskerville and Caslon characters from eighteenth-century texts
- Running batch tests of the program's efficiency on the supercomputer at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications

Graduate Assistant, Unit for Criticism & Interpretive Theory, U. of Illinois, 2006-2008

Curriculum Development Committee, College of Engineering, University of Illinois, 2010 – 2011

Tutor and Lecturer, Education Justice Project, Danville Correctional Center, 2009 – 2011

Guest Lecturer, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Adult Learning Facility, Spring 2011

Executive Committee, Program for Science and Technology Studies, U. of Illinois, 2009 – 2011

Assistant to Special Collections Curator, Rare Books and Manuscripts Library, 2009 – 2010

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Association of University Women

American Studies Association

Mark Twain Circle of America

Modern Language Association

MELUS: Multi-ethnic Literature in the US

Ralph Ellison Society

Society for the History of Technology

Society for the Social Studies of Science

Society for the Study of American Women

Writers

Younger Women's Task Force