

Matt Poland

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Employment

Lecturer, Department of English, University of Washington (2022-)
Lecturer, Department of English & College of Education, St. Martin's University (2024-)
Assistant Editor, *Modern Language Quarterly* (2018-19, 2023-24)
Pre-Doctoral Teaching Associate, English, University of Washington (2015-22)

Education

Ph.D., English, University of Washington (2015-2022)
Dissertation: "The Global Migrations of George Eliot and Charles Dickens: Books, Newspapers, Archives"
Winner of the Distinguished Dissertation Award 2022 (UW Graduate School)
Winner of the Heilman Dissertation Prize 2022 (UW English Department)
Certificate in Textual and Digital Studies
M.S., Library and Information Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (2013)
M.A. (Hons) (Distinction), English Literary Studies, University of York (2009)
B.A., English, University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) (2008)

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Essays

"G.H. Lewes and the Interior Frontiers of Whiteness in *The Spanish Gypsy*"
(Under review at *Nineteenth-Century Literature*)
"Eliot at Yale." *George Eliot-George Henry Lewes Studies* 75.2 (December 2023), 87-114.
<https://doi.org/10.5325/georelioghlstud.75.2.0087>.
Winner of the NAVSA Donald Gray Essay Prize for 2024
"On Not Mastering Race and Transnationalism in Victorian Periodicals Studies." Co-authored with Lars Atkin. *Victorian Periodicals Review* 56.4 (Winter 2023), 523-47.
<https://doi.org/10.1353/vpr.2023.a937149>.
"Undisciplining through Contemporary Novels: *Re Jane, Jane Eyre, Parasite*."
[*Undisciplining the Victorian Classroom*](#) (2024).
"Middlemarch in Melbourne." Special Issue, *Middlemarch* at 150, *George Eliot-George Henry Lewes Studies* 73.2 (Fall 2021), 134-141.
<https://doi.org/10.5325/georelioghlstud.73.2.0134>.
"Commemorative Print: Serialized Monuments during the Shakespeare Tercentenary Debates." *Journal of Victorian Culture* 26.2 (April 2021), 172-93.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/jvcult/vcaa027>.

Edited Journal Issues

"Race and Transnationalism in Victorian Periodicals Studies." Special issue, co-edited with Lars Atkin. *Victorian Periodicals Review* 56.4 (Winter 2023).

Chapters in Edited Collections

"The Making of *Middlemarch*," *Routledge Companion to George Eliot*, ed. Margaret Harris, Matthew Sussman, and Daniel Tyler (forthcoming 2026)

Works in Progress

- “Novel Migrations: Victorian Provincial Realism and Settler Empire in the Mid-Nineteenth Century Press” (monograph in progress)
- “Serialization Practices and the Circulation of Fiction in 1862” (article co-authored with Troy Bassett)

Book Reviews & Public Writing

- “Uncovering the Contingencies of Archives,” *Journal of Victorian Culture* online (June 2021).
- Review of *Serial Forms: The Unfinished Project of Modernity, 1815-1848* (Clare Pettitt, Oxford UP, 2020). *Review 19* (<http://review19.org>) (March 2021).
- Review of *Colonial Revivals: The Nineteenth-Century Lives of Early American Books* (Lindsay DiCuirci, Penn UP, 2018). *Jahrbuch für Kommunikationsgeschichte* (2020), 173-4.
- Review of *The First Book* (Jesse Zuba, Princeton UP, 2016). *SHARP News* (Winter 2017).

Digital Projects

- Researcher, *Curran Index to Nineteenth-Century Periodicals* (2025-)
- Contributing Editor, *At the Circulating Library: A Database of Victorian Fiction, 1837-1901*. <http://www.victorianresearch.org/atcl/>. 2018-present.

Fellowships, Awards, and Distinctions

- NAVSA Donald Gray Essay Prize: annual prize for best essay published in the field of Victorian studies. 2024.
- NAVSA Travel Grant. To present at NAVSA conference, Washington, DC, Nov. 2025.
- Project Based & Research Funds, Simpson Center for the Humanities, University of Washington College of Arts and Sciences. Dec. 2024.
- Maddock Research Fellow, Marsh’s Library, Dublin, IE. 2024-5.
- Visiting Fellow, University of Galway, IE. 2024.
- Distinguished Dissertation Award. UW Graduate School. 2022.
- Heilman Dissertation Prize. UW Department of English. 2021-2022.
- Hermione and Louis Brown Publication Prize. UW Department of English. 2022.
- Society of Scholars Fellowship. Simpson Center for the Humanities, UW. 2021.
- Hermione and Louis Brown Publication Prize. UW Department of English. 2021.
- Chester Fritz International Research and Study Fellowship. UW Graduate School. Full stipend to fund archival research, living expenses, and travel to Britain for spring quarter 2020. [Delayed to 2021 by COVID-19.]
- Raimonda Modiano Graduate Student Research Award. UW Textual Studies Program. To help fund archival research in Britain in Spring Quarter 2020.
- NAVSA Graduate Student Travel Grant. To present at the annual meeting of the North American Victorian Studies Association, Columbus, OH, October 17-19, 2019.
- RSVP Graduate Student Travel Grant. To present at The Body and the Page in Victorian Culture International Conference (RSVP/VSAWC), Victoria, BC, July 26-28, 2018.
- Mícheál F. Vaughan Scholarship. UW Humanities Division. Annual award to support archival research in textual studies. December 2017.

British Association for Victorian Studies Postgraduate Bursary. British Association of Victorian Studies Lincoln, UK, Aug. 22-24, 2017.
UW Textual Studies Program Graduate Research Award. To fund research/conference travel to Britain in August 2017. June 2017.
Modern Language Quarterly Travel and Research Funding. To fund research/conference travel conducted between June 2016-July 2017. December 2016.
RSVP Graduate Student Travel Grant. Research Society for Victorian Periodicals, Kansas City, MO, Sept. 9-11, 2016.
RBMS Conference Scholarship. For attendance of Rare Books and Manuscripts Section (RBMS) of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) conference, "Opening Doors to Collaboration, Outreach, and Diversity," Coral Gables, FL, June 21-24, 2016.
Research Intern in Book History, UW Libraries Special Collections, 2015-2017.
Graduate Recruitment Scholarship. English Speaking Union. September 2015.
Margaret Kalp Fellowship. UNC School of Information and Library Science. June 2012.

Grants

Graduate Research Cluster Award. UW Simpson Center for the Humanities. For UW Eighteenth/Nineteenth Century Graduate Research Cluster, AY 2020-21. [With Laura Griffith, Nolie Ramsey, and Francesca Colonnese]
Graduate Research Cluster Award. UW Simpson Center for the Humanities. For UW Eighteenth/Nineteenth Century Graduate Research Cluster, AY 2019-20. [With Laura Griffith and Nolie Ramsey]
Graduate Research Cluster Award. UW Simpson Center for the Humanities. For UW Eighteenth/Nineteenth Century Graduate Research Cluster, AY 2018-19. [With Sarah Faulkner and Eric Morel]
Graduate Research Cluster Award. UW Simpson Center for the Humanities. For UW Eighteenth/Nineteenth Century Graduate Research Cluster, AY 2017-18. [With Sarah Faulkner and Anna Wager]

Invited Presentations

Roundtable speaker, "Cultures of Correspondence" symposium, Armstrong Browning Library, Waco, TX, Feb. 7-8, 2025.
Plenary panelist, "Victorians and the Pacific," EVENT 2024 Seattle Hub.
Roundtable speaker, "Pacific Victorian Studies," EVENT 2024 Seoul Hub.
"Lalla Rookh and the Last of the Mohicans," Indigenous Nineteenth Century symposium, University of Kent, UK, June 2024.
"George Henry Lewes's Tan," Victorian Diversities Research Network workshop, University of Bristol, UK, July 3, 2023.
"Dickens as Media Theorist," *Das Gebrauchte Buch* (The Used Book) Conference, Herzog August Bibliothek, Wolfenbüttel, DE, Sept. 24-26, 2018.
"Our Mutual Friend Theorizes Victorian Print Culture," English Department Graduate Colloquium, University of Washington, January 2018.

Conferences Organized

- Planning Committee, *Middlemarch* 150th Anniversary Symposium, University of Washington, May 21, 2021.
- Planning Committee, Research Society for Victorian Periodicals 2020 Digital Salon, Sept. 10-12, 2020.

Conference Panels Organized

- Organizer/presenter, "Global Victorians in the Aftermath of the Transnational Turn," NAVSA, Washington, DC, Nov. 2025.
- Presentation: "Irish Home Rule and Ugly Colonial Feelings"
- Organizer/moderator, "Practicing Digital Humanities and Periodical Scholarship Roundtable," RSVP 2020 Digital Salon, Sept. 11, 2020.
- Organizer/presenter, "Victorian Archival Mediations," NAVSA, Columbus, OH, Oct. 17-19, 2019.
- Presentation: "Eliot at Yale: Gordon Haight and the Horizons of Victorian Studies"

Conference Presentations

- "Double Vision: Irish Home Rule in the *Court and Society Review* and George Moore's *A Drama in Muslin*," Research Society for Victorian Periodicals, Chicago, IL, July 10-12, 2025.
- "Lalla Rookh and the Last of the Mohicans," RSVP, Stirling, SCT, June 14-15, 2024.
- "Print Networks as Empire Circuits," RSVP, Caen, FR, July 6-9, 2023.
- "Settling into *Middlemarch*: 'Provincial' Realism and Settler Empire," Interdisciplinary Nineteenth Century Studies, Knoxville, TN, April 13-15, 2023.
- "Archives as Disciplinary Prehistory: George Eliot at Yale," The Making of the Humanities X, Nov. 3-5, 2022.
- "Dorothea Down Under: *Middlemarch* in the *Australasian* of Melbourne, 1872-3," RSVP, Sept. 15-17, 2022.
- "Florence Dombey in China: Print Reproduction and a Crisis in Liberal Individualism in Global Modernity," NAVSA, Vancouver, BC (held online), March 3-5, 2022.
- "Realism in Transnational Flow," Research Seminar ("Victorian Studies and Settler Colonialism"), NAVSA, March 3-5, 2022.
- Digital Project Showcase, *At the Circulating Library: A Database of Victorian Fiction, 1837-1901*, NAVSA, March 3-5, 2022.
- "Dickens's Cheap Edition Anticipates Literary Free Trade," RSVP, Philadelphia, PA (held online), Sept. 9, 2021.
- "Multimedia *Middlemarch*," *Middlemarch* 150th Anniversary Symposium, University of Washington, May 21, 2021.
- Roundtable Seminar participant, Ecology & Religion in Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference, Seattle, WA, Sept. 19, 2019.
- "Bodies and Paper Production in *Household Words* and *Our Mutual Friend*," The Body and the Page in Victorian Culture: An International Conference (RSVP/VSAWC), Victoria, BC, July 26-28, 2018.
- "Unbinding Literary Periods with Victorian Books," NAVSA, Banff, AB, Nov. 16-18, 2017.
- "Rags, Waste, Climate: An Obscene History of the Victorian Book," British Association for Victorian Studies, Lincoln, UK, Aug. 22-24, 2017.

- “Monumentality and Shakespearean Print,” NAVSA, Phoenix, AZ, Nov. 2-5, 2016.
“Print Culture and Controversy in the *Reader* during the 1864 Shakespeare Tercentenary,”
RSVP, Kansas City, MO, Sept. 9-11, 2016.

Public Lectures

- [“Archives,”](#) interview on *High Theory* podcast, Oct. 3, 2021.
Presenter/moderator, “Doing Periodicals Research Online: A Graduate-Directed Workshop
on Process and Practice,” Research Society for Victorian Periodicals, Feb. 26, 2021.
“How to Revise a Podcast,” Teacher Talks, University of Washington Expository Writing
Program, Feb. 19, 2021.
Roundtable on Scholarly Publication, University of Washington English Department, Nov.
19, 2020.
“Forms of Engagement for Online Conferences,” Hacking the Academy Program Series,
University of Washington Libraries, May 28, 2020.

Service to the Profession:

North American Victorian Studies Association

Organizing Committee, Empire Caucus (2024-present)

Research Society for Victorian Periodicals

Judge, Committee for Expanding the Field Prize and VanArsdel Prize, 2023.
Board of Directors (elected position), 2021-2023.
Race and Transimperialism in Periodicals Studies Workshops series organizer
[with Fionnuala Dillane, University College Dublin], 2021-2022.
Digital events planning committee, 2020-2021, 2023-2024.
Graduate student representative to the board, 2019-2021.

V21 Collective Summer Symposium

Coordinator for annual Pacific Northwest meeting of concurrent regional Victorian
Studies symposia, attended by faculty and grad students from around Washington and
Oregon. Sept. 2019 [with Megan Ward, Oregon State], Sept. 2018, Sept. 2017.

Service to the University:

UW Eighteenth/Nineteenth Century Graduate Research Cluster. (<http://uw1819.org>)

Key project coordinator for Simpson Center for the Humanities-funded organization, 2018-
2020. Project coordinator, 2017-18, 2020-21.

Organizer [with Sarah Faulkner and Eric Morel], Frankenreads, October 2018.

<https://frankenreads.org/event/frankenreads-at-uw/>

Organizer [with Sarah Faulkner and Anna Wager], JaneFest, November 2017.

<https://janefest17.wordpress.com/>

Facilitator and Host, Guest Lecture by Katherine Anderson (Western Washington), October
2019.

Facilitator and Host, Guest Lecture by Devin Garofalo (U North Texas), January 2020.

Facilitator and Host, Guest Lecture by Priti Joshi (U Puget Sound), May 2019.

Facilitator and Moderator, Publication Discussion with James Mulholland (NC State) and
Marshall Brown (editor, *MLQ*), February 2019.

Facilitator and Host, Guest Lecture by Linda Hughes (Texas Christian U), October 2017.
Facilitator [with Anna Wager], Guest Lecture by Yuri Cowan (NTNU Norway), October 2017.

Classical, Medieval, and Early Modern (CMEMS) Graduate Research Cluster.

Project coordinator, 2016-2017.

Co-Facilitator [with Emily George], Guest Lecture by Scott Trudell (U Maryland), May 2017.

Courses Designed and Taught

St. Martin's University

Instructor of Record

COR120: Critical Reading and Writing (Spring 2026)

COR210YW: Literary Studies – Writing Intensive (Spring 2026)

University of Washington

Instructor of Record

English 330: British Romanticism in Global Context (Spring 2025)

English 282: Multimodal Composition / Imagining Identity (Autumn 2022)

English 200: Reading Literary Forms / Vampires in Literature (Winter 2025)

English 200: Reading Literary Forms / Narrative and Empire (Autumn 2022, Autumn, Winter, Spring 2023, Autumn 2023, Spring 2024)

English 200: Reading Literary Forms / Podcasting Sherlock Holmes (Autumn 2019)

English 182: Multimodal Composition / Imagining Identity (Winter 2021)

English 182: Multimodal Composition / Podcasting Sherlock Holmes (Autumn 2020)

English 111: Composition – Literature / Vampires in Literature (Autumn 2024)

English 111: Composition – Literature / The Material Worlds of the Brontë Sisters (Winter 2020)

English 111: Composition – Literature / Ways of Writing about *Bleak House* (Autumn 2017, Winter 2018)

English 131: Composition – Introduction to Expository Writing
(8 terms, 2015-2017, 2021-2022)

Teaching Assistant

English 202: Introduction to the Study of English Language and Literature (Charles LaPorte)
(Spring 2018)

Memberships

Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Association (INCS)

Modern Language Association (MLA)

North American Victorian Studies Association (NAVSA)

Research Society for Victorian Periodicals (RSVP)

Society for Global Nineteenth-Century Studies

Victorian Studies Association of Western Canada (VSAWC)