

Rachael DeWitt

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- EMPLOYMENT** Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for the Humanities, Washington University in St. Louis (2024 – present)
- Lecturer, Department of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University (2023 – 2024)
- EDUCATION** Ph.D., English, University of California, Davis (2023)
- Dissertation: "Extra-Domestic Ecologies: Asexual Reproduction in Nineteenth-Century America"*
- Committee: Elizabeth Freeman and Michael Ziser (co-chairs), Hsuan Hsu, Margaret Ronda*
- M.A., Environmental Humanities, University of Utah (2015)
- B.A., Philosophy, Colorado College (2009)
- TEACHING INTERESTS** Nineteenth-century American literature; gender, sexuality and the environment; early American environmental thought; the spinster in American literature; introduction to environmental humanities.
- REFEREED ARTICLES** "Thoreau, Gender, and the Ecology of Housework," *PMLA* (forthcoming).
- "Thoreauvian Disappointment: Losing the Plot in *The Maine Woods*," *ESQ* 68.4 (2022): 487-522.
- WORKS IN PROGRESS** Special issue, "Regionalism's Climates" for *American Literary Realism* (co-editor with Hsuan Hsu and Alison Maas).
- "Losing Queer Time: Black Spinsters and the Labor of Social Reproduction in the work of Alice Dunbar-Nelson."
- "Grandmother Ecologist: Assembling Narratives from the Other 'Climate Generation'"

OTHER PUBLICATIONS “Thoreau and Women’s Writing,” forthcoming, *Oxford Handbook of Thoreau*, Winter 2024.

G19 New Book Forum, series co-convener, co-author of interviews with Brigitte Fielder on *Relative Races*, Xine Yao on *Disaffected*, Juliana Chow on *Nineteenth-Century American Literature and the Discourse of Natural History*, Habiba Ibrahim on *Black Age*, and Michelle Neely on *Against Sustainability*. Available at g19collective.org.

Review of *Techno-Thoreau: Aesthetics, Ecology, and the Capitalocene*, by David Lombard, *The Thoreau Society Bulletin* 311 (Fall 2020).

“Resisting Extinction with Thoreau’s Mystical Empiricism,” roundtable, *The Concord Saunterer* 26 (January 2018).

Review of *Bird Relics: Grief and Vitalism in Thoreau*, by Branka Arsić, *Configurations* 26.1 (Winter 2018).

TEACHING

Columbia University

University Writing: Readings in Gender & Sexuality Studies (Spring 2024, Fall 2023)

University of California, Davis

Instructor

Introduction to Literature: Reading for Resilience (2022)

Introduction to Literature: Love in Times of Pandemic (2020)

Introduction to Literature: Ghosts in the Americas (2019)

Expository Writing (University Writing Program) (2017–18)

Teaching Assistant

Women’s Literature: 1800-1900 (2017)

The American Novel Before 1900 (2017)

Shakespeare (2016)

University of Utah

Writing Composition (2014–15)

AWARDS & HONORS Unhatching Research Award from HATCH (Mellon-funded Feminist Arts & Science Shop), UC Davis, 2021

Environmental Humanities Summer Fellowship, UC Davis, 2018

Thoreau Country Conservation Alliance Graduate Student Fellowship, The Thoreau Society, 2022

Walter & Dianne Harrison Fellowship, UC Davis, 2021

Graduate Student Assembly Travel Award, UC Davis, 2018

Provost's Fellowship in the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, UC Davis, 2015

Environmental Humanities Graduate Fellowship, Univ. Utah, 2013

Harrison Tout Scholarship, Colorado College, 2009

Crown Goodman Presidential Scholarship, Colorado College, 2008

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY "Losing Queer Time: Alice Dunbar-Nelson's Spinster Fiction and the Labor of Social Reproduction" C19 seminar, Pasadena, April 2024

Panel Co-Chair, Means and Ends: Nineteenth-Century Authorship and the Twenty-First-Century Writing Classroom, Pasadena, April 2024

"Thoreau's Domestic Ecology: Thinking Beyond Human Reproduction in *Walden*," Thoreau Annual Gathering, Concord, July 2023

"Regionalism's Decrepit Housewives," Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE), Portland, July 2023

"Decrepit Housewives: Jewett's Realist Heroes at the Margins," C19 seminar, Miami, April 2022

"Old Sailors and Young Ladies: White Pasts, Queer Futures, and Empty Houses in Jewett's *Deephaven*," C19 panel, Miami, April 2022

"Exhilaration, Exhaustion, Elegy: Thoreau's Affective Variations on Biodiversity," MLA, virtual, January 2021

"Thoreau, The Spinster: The Effeminate Celibacy of America's Environmentalist Grandfather," C19, virtual, October 2020

"Punning Pomology: Thoreauvian Resistance to Extinction's Progress," ASLE, UC Davis, June 2019

Panel Co-Chair, Resisting Futurity: Eco-sexual Relations in Nineteenth-Century Literature, ASLE, UC Davis, June 2019

"Of Spinsters and Species: Locating a Bioregionalist Citizenship in Nineteenth-Century American Women's Writing," Landscape Citizenships Symposium, London, November 2018

"Extra-Narrative Excursions: Thoreauvian Resistance to Extinction's Progress," American Literature Association, San Francisco, May 2018

"A Broken Task for a Broken World: Reimagining Extinction with Thoreau's Mystical Empiricism," C19, University of New Mexico, March 2018

"Mystical Empiricism: Reimagining Biodiversity with Thoreau's Cyclical Species," Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies, San Francisco State University, February 2018

"A Broken Task for a Broken World: Reimagining Extinction with Thoreau's Mystical Empiricism," ASLE, Wayne State University, June 2017

"Dialectical Detection: Wild and Urban Frontiers in Poe's 'The Murder of Marie Rôget,'" EcoMaterialisms: Scales of Matter(ing), UC Davis, May 2016

"Dissemination of Wilderness: The Legacy of America's Wild Men of Letters," American West Center at Fifty, University of Utah, September 2014

"Material Oscillations: Arranging the Mind and Body in *Moby-Dick*," Society for Novel Studies, University of Utah, April 2014

SERVICE

Project manager for online course proposals for ENL 3V: Introduction to Literature and its co-course ENL 3AV, UC Davis (2022)

Coordinator of the G19 Graduate Student Collective, C19 Society for Nineteenth-Century Americanists (2020–2023)

Invited speaker on "Writing a Dissertation Chapter," UC Davis (2021)

Symposium convener of "Coping with Climate," UC Davis (2021)

Convener of the Environmental Affect Working Group, UC Davis (2019–present)

Invited speaker on "The Why and How of Teaching Introduction to English," UC Davis (2020-2022)

Member of the Seminars and Special Events Committee, English, UC Davis (2019–2020)

Assistant coordinator for the hosting of the ASLE Biennial Conference, UC Davis (2019)

Panel chair and assistant organizer, “(In)accessible Institutions: A Symposium on Disability,” UC Davis, (2019)

Co-Chair of the English Graduate Student Association’s Women’s Caucus, UC Davis (2016–17)

Convener of the Environmental Humanities Workshop, University of Utah (2014–15)