

Jacob K. Nielsen
PhD Candidate—University of Pennsylvania
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EDUCATION

English, PhD

University of Pennsylvania, expected 2026

Dissertation: The Anti-Marriage Plot in the Age of Informal Empire (1850-1930)

Committee: Emily Steinlight [*Chair*], Jed Esty, Ericka Beckman

English, MA

Brigham Young University, 2019

Thesis: “Yup, So-Jeer”: Interlanguage and Ruptured Translation in Charles Dickens’s *The Perils of Certain English Prisoners*

Committee: Jamie Horrocks [*Chair*], Emron Esplin, Evan Ward

International Relations, BA

Brigham Young University, 2017

Concentration: Latin American Studies

Minor: English

Distinctions: Magna Cum Laude, Phi Kappa Phi, Pi Sigma Alpha

RESEARCH INTERESTS

19C/20C British Literature + 19C Latin American Literature + Empire Studies + Transatlanticism + Comparative Literatures
+ History & Theory of the Novel

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

2025 “Thomas Hardy’s Brazil.” *Victorian Literature and Culture* [forthcoming]

2020 “‘Yup, So-Jeer’: Interlanguage and Ruptured Translation in Charles Dickens and Wilkie Collins’s *The Perils of Certain English Prisoners*.” *Dickens Studies Annual*, vol. 51, no. 2, pp. 339-361.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2024 **Restoration to Victorian Studies Reading Group** *Philadelphia, PA*
Paper: Thomas Hardy’s Brazil

2019 **Victorians Institute: Transatlantic Connections** *Charleston, SC*
Paper: A “most notorious rascal”: Charles Dickens, Literary Borrowing, and the Dreaded “Sambo”

2019 **Dickens Symposium** *Salt Lake City, UT*
Paper: “Partly South American and Partly English”: Interlanguage and Ruptured Translation in Charles Dickens’s *The Perils of Certain English Prisoners*

2018 **Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies: Series, Cycles, Suspensions** *San Francisco, CA*
Paper: Dickens, Pirates, and the Purse: Double-Edged Economic Colonialism in Central America

2016 **Brigham Young University English Symposium**
Provo, UT
Paper: Beyond Reason—Ophelia’s Quest for Truth

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND HONORS

2025-2026 Auerbach Dissertation Fellow in Victorian Studies

University of Pennsylvania, Department of English

2025	Dean's Award for Distinguished Teaching by a Graduate Student <i>University of Pennsylvania School of Arts and Sciences</i>
2024	William Patrick Day Essay Prize (for "Thomas Hardy's Brazil") <i>University of Pennsylvania, Department of English</i>
2020-2025	Benjamin Franklin Fellow <i>University of Pennsylvania, Department of English</i>
2018	Research Presentation Award <i>Brigham Young University, College of Humanities</i>
2017	Harold B. Lee Library Research Grant <i>Brigham Young University</i>
2016	Phi Kappa Phi Research Paper Prize (for "Beyond Reason: Ophelia's Quest for Truth") <i>Brigham Young University</i>
2015-2016	Study Abroad Grants <i>BYU Jerusalem Center Grant (2015), BYU London Center Grant (2016), Kennedy Center for International and Area Studies Grant (2016-17)</i>
2011-2019	Scholarships for Academic Excellence <i>Brigham Young Scholarship (2011-12, 2015-16), Elva Pedersen Jorgenson Scholarship (2014-15), Spring/ Summer Scholarships (2015-16), Karl G. Maeser Scholarship (2016-17), Parley Christensen Scholarship (2017-19)</i>

TEACHING

University of Pennsylvania

Instructor of Record:

2024	ENGL 4510: <i>David Copperfield</i> and the "Social-Problem" Novel (<i>Fall</i>)
2024	ENGL 4508: <i>Jane Eyre</i> and its Afterlives (<i>Spring</i>)
2023	Pre-1 st Year Program Writing Seminar: Place and Belonging (<i>Summer</i>)

Teaching Mentee/ Assistant:

2023	CIMS 1020: World Film History, 1945-Present (<i>Fall; Meta Mažay</i>)
2022	ENGL 100: Shakespeare (<i>Spring; Zachary Lesser</i>)
2021	ENGL 055: Victorian Fiction (<i>Fall; Emily Steinlight</i>)

Brigham Young University

Instructor of Record:

2020	ENGL 251: Introduction to English Studies (<i>Spring</i>)
2020	ENGL 202: Masterpieces of World Literature 2 (<i>Winter</i>)
2019	ENGL 292: British Literary History 2, 1789-Present (<i>Summer</i>)
2019-2020	ENGL 315: Writing in the Social Sciences (<i>4 sections</i>)
2017-2020	WRTG 150: Writing and Rhetoric (<i>8 sections</i>)

Teaching Mentee/ Assistant:

2018	ENGL 251: Introduction to English Studies (<i>Fall; Jamie Horrocks</i>)
2018	ENGL 315: Writing in the Social Sciences (<i>Fall; Jill Larsen</i>)
2018	ENGL 295: Writing Literary Criticism (<i>Spring; Jamin Rowan</i>)
2018	ENGL 374: British Romantic Literature, The Rise of the Novel (<i>Winter; Paul Westover</i>)
2017	REL A 212: Acts-Revelation (<i>Spring; Gaye Strathearn</i>)
2016-2017	REL A 250: The Four Gospels (<i>Fall-Winter; Gaye Strathearn</i>)
2016	POLI 328: Statistical Analysis (<i>Winter; Jay Goodliffe</i>)

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

University of Pennsylvania

2024	Graduate Student Instructor, Department of English
2023	Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Cinema and Media Studies
2023	Pre-1 st Year Program, Writing Instructor
2021-2022	Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of English

Brigham Young University

2019-2020	Visiting Assistant Instructor, Department of English
2018-2019	Program Assistant, University Writing
2017-2018	Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of English
2017-2019	Graduate Instructor, University Writing
2016-2017	Teaching and Research Assistant, Department of Religious Education
2016	Teaching Assistant, Department of Political Science
2015-2017	Research Assistant, Department of Political Science

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

2015-2017	Editor & Data Analyst: David Magleby, Jay Goodliffe, Joseph Olsen <i>Who Donates in Campaigns? The Importance of Message, Messenger, Medium, and Structure</i> . Cambridge UP, 2018.
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LANGUAGES

Spanish	Fluent: Reading + Writing + Speaking
Portuguese	Reading

REFERENCES

Emily Steinlight, Associate Professor of English
University of Pennsylvania
 emily.steinlight@english.upenn.edu

Jed Esty, Vartan Gregorian Professor of English
University of Pennsylvania
 esty@sas.upenn.edu

Ericka Beckman, Associate Professor of Spanish & Portuguese
University of Pennsylvania
 ebeckman@sas.upenn.edu