

DAVY KNITTLE

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EDUCATION

Ph.D.	English, University of Pennsylvania (anticipated)	May 2020
	Certificate in College and University Teaching	May 2018
	Graduate Certificate in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies	
	Graduate Certificate in Urban Studies	
M.A.	English, University of Pennsylvania	May 2016
M.F.A	Poetry, University of Iowa Writers' Workshop	May 2015
B.A.	English and African American Studies, <i>High Honors</i> , Wesleyan University	May 2011

DISSERTATION

“Queer with the City: Deviance and the Politics of Urban Change”

Chair: Melissa E. Sanchez

Committee: Heather K. Love, Charles Bernstein, Paul Saint-Amour, Francesca Russello Ammon

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Queer and Trans Studies | 20th and 21st Century U.S. Multiethnic Literature
Environmental Humanities | Urban and Planning History | Feminist Theory
Critical Race Theory | Disability Studies | Globalization | Disaster and Crisis

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Publications

“‘Hints that are Revelations’: James Schuyler, Obsolescence, and the Urban Curative Imaginary.” *GLQ: A Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies*, forthcoming in 2021.

“On Allen Ginsberg’s ‘A Supermarket in California.’” *Modern and Contemporary American Poetry: A Critical Anthology*. University of Pennsylvania Press, forthcoming in 2020.

“Lessons from ModPo: Collaborative Close Reading and Global Conversation in the Co-Constitutive Online Classroom.” Co-authored with Al Filreis and Anna Strong Safford. *The MLA Guide to Teaching Literature Online*. Ed. Julie Wilhelm and John Miller. Modern Language Association of America, forthcoming in 2020.

“Public Sexuality and the Feminist Poetics of Redevelopment in Leslie Scalapino and Adrienne Rich.” *Women’s Studies Quarterly*. Vol. 47, No. 3/4, Fall/Winter 2019, 232-250.

“The Disability Politics of Blight: Grappling with Urban Cure in Brenda Coultas’s ‘The Bowery Project.’” *Amodern*. New Disability Poetics Special Issue. (Under Review).

“A Trans Ecology for Harlem: June Jordan’s Poetics of Environmental Design.” *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and the Environment*. (Under Review).

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Fellowships

Benjamin Franklin Fellow, University of Pennsylvania	2015-2020
Dissertation Research Fellowship, School of Arts and Sciences University of Pennsylvania	2019
Graduate Associate, Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies Program University of Pennsylvania	2018-2019
Winchester Fellow, Department of English, Wesleyan University	2017, 2018
Friedman Fellow, University of Iowa Writers’ Workshop	2015
Teaching-Writing Fellow, University of Iowa Writers’ Workshop	2014-2015
Thomas J. Watson Fellow	2011-2012

Awards and Grants

Dean’s Scholar, School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania	2020
Pedagogy Development Award, Alice Paul Center for Research on Gender, Sexuality and Women – for Trans Methods course	2019
Working Group Grant, Alice Paul Center for Research on Gender, Sexuality, and Women – for the Trans Literacy Project	2018-2019
Sweeten Prize for Best Essay in American Literature, University of Pennsylvania Department of English	2018
Phyllis Rackin Graduate Award, Alice Paul Center, University of Pennsylvania	2018
Community Impact Fund Grant, The Graduate Center, University of Pennsylvania – for Poetics Lab Writing Workshop at Institute for Contemporary Art	2018
Best Graduate Student Paper, Greater Philadelphia Women’s Studies Consortium	2018
Arts and Change Grant, Leeway Foundation – for Transcribez Writing Group Chapbook Series	2017
Graduate Research Grant. Mellon Project in Humanities, Urbanism and Design, University of Pennsylvania	2017
Creative Ventures Grant, Kelly Writers House, University of Pennsylvania – for Poetics Lab Writing Workshop at Institute for Contemporary Art	2017
Artist Residency, Millay Colony for the Arts	2013
Camp Prize, Department of English, Wesleyan University	2011
W.E.B. DuBois Prize, Department of African American Studies, Wesleyan University	2011

TALKS

Conference Presentations

- “A Black Trans Grammar for Harlem: June Jordan’s Environmental Design” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. March 2020.
- “Environmental Deviance at the Gowanus Canal: Notes on a Trans Urban Ecology” Modern Language Association Annual Conference, Seattle, WA. January 2020.
- “Public Sexuality and Feminist Redevelopment Poetics in Leslie Scalapino and Adrienne Rich” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Washington, DC. March 2019.
- “Dynamic Access: James Schuyler’s Urban Disability Poetics” Modern Language Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL. January 2019.
- “Toward a Queer, Crip Urban History: Reimagining Community in Urbanist Scholarship.” University of Michigan Annual Graduate Student Conference in U.S. History, Ann Arbor, MI. May 2018.
- “‘Impersonal / Street Is a Lover / to Me’: Queer Contact in Eileen Myles’s Hot Night.” American Comparative Literature Association Conference, Los Angeles, CA. March 2018.
- “‘World Cities?: Queering the Geographic Imaginary in Juliana Spahr’s Oakland and Simone White’s New York.’” National Women’s Studies Association Conference, Baltimore, MD. November 2017.
- “Urgent Locality: Levitsky and Willis, Neighborhood and Nation” Poetics (the Next) 25 Years Conference. SUNY Buffalo, Buffalo, NY. April 2016.
- “City Machine: Poem as Plan in Williams and Mackey.” American Comparative Literature Association Conference, Cambridge, MA. March 2016.

Invited Lectures

- “Philadelphia’s Fertile Edge.” Philadelphia: Inventing a City Seminar. Haverford College. Haverford, PA. April 2019.

Colloquia and Campus Talks

- “Queer and Trans City Planning.” “City Planning History and Theory.” (Graduate Lecture Course.) University of Pennsylvania, December 2019.
- “Forms of Urban Knowledge.” “Environmental Humanities: Theory, Method, Practice. (Graduate Seminar.) University of Pennsylvania, November 2019.
- “Deviance as Urban Strategy.” Urban Studies Undergraduate Advisory Board “Cities in Crisis” Lecture Series. University of Pennsylvania, April 2019.
- “Toward a Trans Theory of Gentrification with Eileen Myles.” Gender and Sexuality Working

Group, Department of English, University of Pennsylvania, January 2019.

“Urban Obsolescence and Queer Time: James Schuyler’s Assembled New York.” Gender, Sexuality and Women’s Studies Work-in-Progress Series, University of Pennsylvania, February 2018.

“Getting Soma(tic) Exercise: CA Conrad and the Queering of Urban Boundaries” Urban Studies Program Graduate Colloquium Series, University of Pennsylvania, February 2017.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Graduate Instructor, Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies Spring 2019-Spring 2020

- Design syllabus for advanced undergraduate seminars and introductory course
- Introduce students to feminist, queer, and trans theory with a focus on intersections with critical race theory, transnational American studies, disability studies, and immigration
- Teach approaches to the interdisciplinary study of the global city with a focus on urban development, globalization, labor and workers’ rights, and legal and carceral justice
- Teach case studies focused on cities in Southeast Asia, West Africa, South America and the United States and Canada
- Courses taught:
 - *Gender and Society*
 - *Gender, Sex, and Urban Life* (cross-listed with Urban Studies)
 - *Trans Method* (co-taught with Ava L.J. Kim)

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Kelly Writers House Fall 2016-2019

- Hold weekly online office hours accessible to more than 15,000 students enrolled annually in the course
- Participate in ten weekly live webcast sessions for each ten-week fall season of the course
- Comment on student posts, respond to student questions, and moderate discussions between students in online forums
- Course taught:
 - *Modern and Contemporary Poetry*

Instructor, Pre-Freshman Program Summer 2018, Summer 2019

- Collaboratively design syllabus and write supplementary materials for writing intensive
- Work with first generation and low income students to provide writing support, study skills and an introduction to university library resources
- Teach poetry, fiction, and criticism from the U.S., the Caribbean, and the U.K.
- Introduce students to strategies for argumentation, persuasion, and structuring critical essays at the university level
- Course taught:
 - *Place and Belonging*

Graduate Lecturer, Urban Studies Spring 2018

- Design syllabus for large lecture course on American urban history from 1945-present

- Introduce students to the study of urban inequality, poverty, homelessness, immigration and carceral and environmental justice through a focus on the built environment
- Teach approaches to the interdisciplinary study of the American city with a focus on urban development, globalization, and labor and workers' rights
- Design midterm exam and historical and ethnographic assignments
- Supervise and collaborate with graduate teaching assistant
- Courses taught:
 - *The Transformation of Urban America*

Instructor, Junior Research Seminar, English Department **Fall 2018**

- Design syllabus for advanced undergraduate course
- Instruct students in library and archival research methods
- Teach literary, feminist, queer, and trans theory with a focus on race and inequality
- Introduce students to multimedia approaches through a collaboration with the Wexler Studio at the Kelly Writers House
- Course taught:
 - *Queer Urbanisms*

Co-Instructor, English Department **Fall 2018**

- Collaborate with Al Filreis, Anna Safford, Amber Rose Johnson and Lily Applebaum to design and teach graduate seminar on innovative pedagogy and U.S. poetry
- Introduce students to online teaching and distance learning methods through Modern and Contemporary Poetry (ModPo) MOOC
- Mentor graduate students and comment on and grade writing including seminar papers
- Course taught:
 - *Modern and Contemporary U.S. Poetry and Pedagogy*

Graduate Teaching Assistant, English Department **Fall 2016, Spring 2017**

- Design materials for and teach weekly recitation section
- Hold weekly office hours and provide students with feedback on writing assignments
- Assist instructor with breakout sessions and small group conversations during class meetings
- Teach both majors and non-majors strategies for close reading texts in all genres
- Course taught:
 - *Monsters in Film and Literature* (TA for Chi-Ming Yang)
 - *Modern and Contemporary Poetry* (TA for Al Filreis)

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Graduate Instructor, Creative Writing Program **Fall 2014, Spring 2015**

- Design syllabus for course on poetry writing
- Lead regular workshops focused on student writing
- Provide multimodal and kinesthetic opportunity for reading and synthesizing poetry
- Instruct students in formal and experimental reading and compositional methods
- Course taught:
 - *Poetry Writing*

Graduate Instructor, Rhetoric Department **Fall 2013, Spring 2014**

- Design syllabus for first year composition course

- Instruct students in expository and analytical writing, and public speaking
- Receive semester of formal instruction in accessible pedagogy
- Teach interdisciplinary course focused on media literacy and the study of inequality in the United States
- Course taught:
 - *Rhetoric*

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS ORGANIZED

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

Co-organizer, The Poetics of Mapping (Graduate Conference), University of Pennsylvania, April 2017. with Sarah Arkebauer.

WORKSHOPS

Supporting Trans Youth, Penn LGBT Center, March 2019.

Teaching Feminist, Queer, and Trans Theory, Penn LGBT Center, October 2018.

Designing Gender-Inclusive Communities, PennDesign, April 2018.

Poetics Lab: A Writing Workshop, Institute for Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, March 2018.

Gender-Inclusive Teaching Workshop, Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Pennsylvania, April and October 2017.

Information Management Workshop, Graduate English Association, University of Pennsylvania, February 2017.

READINGS AND EVENTS

City Planning Poetics Talk Series, Kelly Writers House, Spring 2016-Spring 2020.

Tonya Foster, Kelly Writers House, March 2018.

Michael Gizzi Retrospective, Stan Mir and William Corbett, Kelly Writers House, October 2017.

Co-organizer. MLA Offsite Reading, The Rotunda (Philadelphia, PA), January 2017. with Anna Strong Safford.

SEMINARS AND CONFERENCE SESSIONS: ORGANIZER AND/OR RESPONDENT

Co-organizer, “Queer Pragmatics” Seminar, American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, March 2020. with Adam Sax.

Co-organizer, “Experimental Grammars: Transgender Politics and Poetics” Seminar, Modern Language Association Annual Conference, Seattle, WA, January 2020. with Cole Rizki.

Co-organizer, “Poetry and Urban Transformation” Seminar, American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Washington D.C., March 2019. with Sarah Arkebauer.

Chair for “The Modernist Bookstore: Frances Steloff and Her Contemporaries” session at “Modernism – Materiality – Meaning” Conference, Kislak Center, University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA. March 2019.

PODCASTS

- PoemTalk #143 on Hannah Weiner's *Clairvoyant Journal* (with Al Filreis, Charles Bernstein, and Kate Colby). Kelly Writers House, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, December 2019.
- Alice Paul Center Podcast Series, interview with students in GSWS/URBS 277 – Gender, Sex, and Urban Life, September 2019.
- PoemTalk #130: on Gwendolyn Brooks's "Riot" (with Al Filreis, Amber Rose Johnson and Tonya Foster). Kelly Writers House, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, November 2018.
- PoemTalk #125: on Erica Baum's *Dog Ear* (with Al Filreis, Christine Nelson and Erica Baum), Kelly Writers House, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, June 2018.
- PennSound Podcast #58: Interview with Rachel Levitsky, Kelly Writers House, University of Pennsylvania, April 2017.

INSTITUTIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

CAMPUS:

- Graduate Mentor, Honors Thesis Program, Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies, 2019-2020.
- Pre-Freshman Program (Writing), Coordinator and Liaison to PennCAP, Summer 2019.
- Co-organizer, Trans Literacy Project Event Series, 2018-2019.
- Graduate Associate, Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program, University of Pennsylvania, 2018-2019.
- Graduate Assistant, Humanities and Human Flourishing Project, University of Pennsylvania Department of English and Positive Psychology Center, Fall 2018.
- Graduate Coordinator, Poetry and Poetics Assistant Professor Search, Department of English, University of Pennsylvania, 2018.
- President, Graduate English Association, University of Pennsylvania, 2017-2018.
- Graduate Research Assistant, Urban Studies Program, University of Pennsylvania, 2017.
- Co-convener, Poetry and Poetics Reading Group, Department of English, University of Pennsylvania, 2016-2018.
- First Year Representative, Graduate English Association, University of Pennsylvania, 2015-2016.
- Business Writing Center Tutor, University of Iowa Tippie College of Business, 2014-2015.
- Co-organizer, Contemporary Poetics Working Group, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA, 2013-2015.

PROFESSION:

- Co-editor, *Amodern 11: New Disability Poetics*, with Knar Gavin and Orchid Tierney, 2020.
- Honours Thesis Reviewer, RMIT University (Australia), Department of Media and Communication, 2019.
- Reviews Editor, *Jacket2*, 2016-present.
- Editor, *Speech/Acts* Exhibition Catalogue, Institute for Contemporary Art, 2017.

Adjudicator, Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, Midwest Division, 2016-2020.

COMMUNITY:

Research Consultant, Mural Arts Philadelphia, 2018-2019.

Facilitator, Two-Week Course on Elizabeth Willis's *Address*, Modern and Contemporary Poetry (ModPo) MOOC, April-May 2018.

Co-curator, transcribez chapbook series (for trans/gnc youth), Kelly Writers House, University of Pennsylvania, 2017-2018.

Workshop Leader, transcribez writing group, Kelly Writers House, University of Pennsylvania. March 2017 and February 2018.

Co-organizer, *Speech/Acts* Reading Group, Institute for Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, 2017.

Site Coordinator and Volunteer Poetry Workshop Leader, Tate High School, Iowa Youth Writing Project, 2013-2015.

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP AND WRITING

“Centering Trans Networks for a More Equitable Academia.” *Social Science Research Council. Items: Insights from the Social Sciences*. October 15th, 2019. With Anne Esacove, Kel Kroehle, Ava L.J. Kim, Aylin Malcolm, and Brooke Jamieson Stanley.

Invited commentator at *Jacket2*: series of 10 short essays on the theme of “queer urban poetics” published between May 2017 and January 2018.

“Power in All its Minor Forms”: On Alli Warren’s *I Love it Though* in *Jacket2*. October 2017.

“A New Nation Where Words Line Up”: On Michael Gizzi’s *Collected Poems* in *The Brooklyn Rail*. December 2015.

“Pretty Information”: On Brandon Brown’s *Top 40* in *Jacket2*. June 2015.

POETRY CHAPBOOKS

empathy for cars / force of july. Grand Rapids, MI: Horse Less Press, 2016.

cyclorama. Brooklyn, NY: The Operating System, 2015.

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of Clayton Howard’s *The Closet and the Cul-De-Sac: The Politics of Sexual Privacy in Northern California* in *Planning Perspectives*. Forthcoming 2020.

Review of 2018 reissue of Muriel Rukeyser’s *The Book of the Dead* in *Modern Language Studies*. Forthcoming 2020.

Review of four recent collections of poetry in *Iowa Review*. June 2016.

Review of Julie Carr’s *Think Tank* in *CutBank*. October 2015.

Microreview of Bhanu Kapil’s *Ban En Banlieue* in *Boston Review*. July 2015.

Review of Brendan Lorber’s *Unfixed Elegy* in *Rain Taxi*. December 2014.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)

American Studies Association (ASA)

Modern Language Association (MLA)

National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA)