

MARY LEARNER

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Department of English and Comparative Literature

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EDUCATION

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC
Ph.D., English Literature, expected May 2021

University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC
M.A., English Literature, Aug 2012

University of South Carolina Honors College, Columbia, SC
B.A., English and Psychology, May 2010
Magna cum laude, with honors in English

DISSERTATION

“Material Sampling and Patterns of Thought in Early Modern England”
Co-directors: Megan Matchinske and Mary Floyd-Wilson
Committee: David Baker, Reid Barbour, and Whitney Trettien

Sampling, or the excerpting of media, is evident in 17th-century patterns for sewing, penmanship, ballads, and gardens, all literacies associated with women’s labor. Indeed, sampling expands beyond notions of commonplacings practices to show how media ordering and print design provided models that early experimental scientific fields drew from as they collected and compiled material discoveries. This project revises histories that divide these knowledge domains into gendered categories, examining how sampling ran alongside, and at times, informed, the new science.

ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS

External Awards and Fellowships

- 2019 Folger Shakespeare Library, Grant-in-aid, Book Theory Weekend Seminar, taught by Juliet Fleming
- 2018 Huntington Library, Fletcher Jones Foundation Fellow
- 2018 Harry Ransom Center Research Fellowship in the Humanities
- 2017 Folger Shakespeare Library Grant-in-aid, Researching the Archive Year-Long Seminar taught by Ann Blair and Peter Stallybrass
- 2017 Digital Humanities Summer Institute Tuition Scholarship, Digital Editing with TEI
- 2017 Folger Shakespeare Library Grant-in-aid, Cavendish & Hutchinson Seminar taught by Julie Crawford
- 2016 Digital Humanities Summer Institute Tuition Scholarship, Understanding the Predigital Book
- 2011 Folger Shakespeare Library Grant-in-aid, Mastering Research Seminar taught by Robert Matz

Internal Awards and Fellowships

- 2020 Lindemann Departmental Dissertation Fellowship
- 2019 Erika Lindemann Teaching Award in Specialized Composition, Department of English and Comparative Literature
- 2018 Howell-Voitle Dissertation Award, Department of English and Comparative Literature
- 2018 Summer Dissertation Fellowship, UNC Graduate School
- 2017 Digital Innovation Research and Dissertation Fellowship, Carolina Digital Humanities Initiative

PUBLICATIONS

“Material and Digital Traces in Patterns of Nature: Early Modern Botany Books and Seventeenth-Century Needlework.” BH+DH Collection. Edited by Mark Vareschi and Heather Wacha. University of Wisconsin-Madison Press. [forthcoming]

“Replicating ‘Fake News,’ or, the Memes of *Othello*.” In *Politics and Early Modern Criticism*. Edited by Patricia Palmer and David Baker (Santa Barbara: emcIMPRINT). [forthcoming]

“Interfaces and Ephemerality: Teaching Early Modern Ballads.” In *Early Modern Digital Pedagogy*. Edited by Andrea Silva and Scott Schofield. *New Technologies in Medieval and Renaissance Studies* series. [in press]

David J. Baker, Travis Alexander, Adam Engel, Katharine Landers, **Mary Learner**, and Ashley Werlinich, “‘Dangerous Conjectures’: Ophelia’s Ballad Performance,” *Ballads and Performance: The Multi-Modal Stage in Early Modern England*, ed. Patricia Fumerton. Santa Barbara: emcIMPRINT.

BOOK REVIEW

Review of *The Dynamics of Inheritance on the Shakespearean Stage* by Michelle M. Dowd (2015). *Early Modern Culture* 12, no. 1 (2017): 13.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

“Embroidering the New Science: Seventeenth-Century Florilegia and Botanical Study.” In “Resembling Science: The Unruly Object.” Edited by Meghan Doherty, Dahlia Porter, and Courtney Roby. Under review with *Nuncius*.

“Natural Philosophy and the Fabric of the World in Margaret Cavendish and Lucy Hutchinson.” In “Margaret Cavendish and Lucy Hutchinson,” special issue edited by Julie Crawford. *English Literary Renaissance* (2023). [under consideration]

SELECTED CONFERENCES AND PANELS ORGANIZED

- 2018 “Teaching Early Modern Women’s Work with the Counterarchive” Workshop, with Susan O’Rourke
Attending to Early Modern Women, Milwaukee, WI
- 2017 *Readingwriting in the First-Year Composition Classroom*
The Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC
- 2016 “Old and New Humanism(s),” UNC and King’s College London Collaborative Graduate Student
Conference, co-organizer with Michael Clark, Chapel Hill, NC
- 2015 *Transforming Text and Images in Ovid’s Metamorphoses*, with Katherine Calvin
South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Durham, NC

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

- 2020 “Teaching Early Modern Ephemera through Digital Approaches”
Shakespeare Association of America, Denver, CO [conducted virtually because of COVID-19]
- 2020 “Early Modern Sampling and the Matter of Scientific ‘Net-workes’”
Renaissance Society of America, Philadelphia, PA [conducted virtually because of COVID-19]
- 2019 “Needlework, Sampling, and Science in Early Modern Pattern Books”
Brown Bag Lecture, Huntington Library, San Marino, CA
- 2019 “The Open Secret of Sampling: Women’s Embroidery and Seventeenth-Century Botany”
Shakespeare Association of America, Washington, D.C.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS (continued)

- 2019 “The Fabric of Margaret Cavendish’s Natural Philosophy”
Renaissance Society of America, Toronto, ON
- 2019 “Ballad Resonances in *Much Ado About Nothing*”
International Symposium on Early Modern Songscapes, University of Toronto, Toronto, CA
- 2018 “Sampling Ballads in *Much Ado About Nothing*”
Shakespeare Association of America, Los Angeles, CA
- 2018 “Tending to Seeds in Lucy Hutchinson’s *Order and Disorder*”
Renaissance Society of America, New Orleans, LA
- 2017 “Scientific Knowledge and the Patterns of Creation”
Resembling Science: The Unruly Object Across the Disciplines Workshop
Bibliography Among the Disciplines, Rare Book School, Philadelphia, PA
- 2017 “Tracing the Patterns of Creation in Early Modern Botany Books”
BH&DH: Book History and Digital Humanities, UW-Madison Center for the History of Print and Digital Culture, Madison, Wisconsin
- 2017 “A Search for Apocalypse in the Archives”
The Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing, “Technologies of the Book” University of Victoria, Victoria, BC
- 2016 Invited Panelist for “A Digital Renaissance: Innovating in Medieval and Early Modern Studies”
Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

TRAVEL GRANTS

External Travel Grants

- 2019 Shakespeare Association of America Graduate Student Travel Award
- 2018 Shakespeare Association of America Graduate Student Travel Award
- 2017 Bibliographical Society of America Scholarship for travel to “Bibliography Among the Disciplines”
- 2017 Association for Computers & the Humanities Travel Bursary to the Digital Humanities Summer Institute (DHSI)
- 2016 Jerry Leath Mills Research Travel Grant, *Studies in Philology*

Internal Travel Grants

- 2019 Conference Travel Grant, Medieval and Early Modern Studies
- 2018 Travel Award, Graduate and Professional Student Federation
- 2018 Transportation Grant, Graduate and Professional Student Federation
- 2017 Sara Malone Travel Grant, Medieval and Early Modern Studies
- 2016 UNC Center for Global Initiatives Pre-Dissertation Travel Grant

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Instructor of Record

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|---|-------------------|
| ENGL 105i: Writing in Business | Spring 2019 |
| ENGL 120: Introduction to British Literature | Spring 2018 |
| ENGL 126: Introduction to Drama | Fall 2016 |
| ENGL 105: Writing Across the Disciplines, Instructor, nine sections | Fall 2013-present |

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (continued)

Technical Assistant and Online Course Consultant

ENGL 283: Life Writing: “Black” Memoirs, Music, Movement and Faith Summer 2020
 ENGL 105: Writing Across the Disciplines, Remote Teaching Online Shell Summer 2020

Teaching Assistant

ENGL 120: Introduction to British Literature Fall 2019
 ENGL 225: Shakespeare Fall 2015

University of South Carolina

Instructor of Record

ENGL 101: Reading and Writing about Dystopia Fall 2012
 ENGL 102: Rhetoric and Composition, six sections Spring 2012-Spring 2013
 ENGL 101: Critical Reading and Composition Fall 2011

Teaching Assistant

ENGL 283: Introduction to British Literature, Teaching Assistant, four sections Fall 2010-Spring 2011

SELECTED GUEST LECTURES AND INVITED TALKS

UNC Medieval and Early Modern Society Jan 2019
 From Ensample to Sample: Rethinking the New Science in the Early Modern Period (invited talk)

UNC Writing Program Graduate Student Training Workshops Dec 2018
 Introduction to Unusual Genres: Using Digital Methods in Composition

ENGL 827: Shakespeare’s Digital World (graduate-level seminar) Apr 2018
 Early Modern Ballads and Digital Mediations

UNC Writing Program Graduate Student Training Workshops Aug 2017
 Digital Approaches to Teaching ENGL 105: Writing in the Disciplines

WMST 695: Principles of Feminist Inquiry (undergraduate thesis research course) Sept 2015
 Working with an Archive in Feminist Research

DIGITAL HUMANITIES EXPERIENCE

Digital Humanities Research

Apr 2015-present Project Assistant, *The William Blake Archive*
 Marked up and tagged illustrations in Blake Archive Documents (BADs) using XML for publication on *The William Blake Archive*; assisted image processing and journal-wide spellcheck for *Blake: An Illustrated Quarterly*; contributed posts for the public-facing blog, “Hell’s Printing Press: The Blog of the Blake Archive & Blake Quarterly.” Trained incoming project assistants to use in-house markup language; created instructional videos to teach future assistants.

Digital Humanities Projects

Apr 2016-present “Sampling Ballads in *Much Ado About Nothing*: A Digital Prototype”
 Edition prototype that facilitates reading Shakespeare’s comedy alongside a network of ballads with textual, lyrical, musical, or visual resonances. Text correspondences found with the help of my collaborator, who ran a C++ text analysis software to find matching short strings between the playtext and thousands of early modern ballads.

Digital Humanities Pedagogy

- Summer 2020 Online Course Design Support Grant, ENGL 105: Writing Across the Disciplines Online Shell Development
Individual, competitive university-wide grant to develop course material for my remote composition course. Designed all online modules for the course in the two-week session, and worked with UNC's Digital and Lifelong Learning department to follow best practices. Contributed all materials developed to the online shell developed by the Writing Program to provide more options in the online shell to be used by all composition courses in Fall 2020 (83 sections of ENGL 105, including hybrid and remote classes).
- Summer 2020 Technical Assistant, ENGL 283: Life Writing: "Black" Memoirs, Music, Movement and Faith with Dr. Meta DuEwa Jones
Designed the online component of the class in the Learning Management System (Sakai) by consulting with Dr. Jones and developing Lesson modules for her remote literature and writing course. Uploaded and organized resources, media, assignments, and quizzes based on best practices for online instruction. Communicated and clarified digital components with students in the course.
- Summer 2020 Teaching Assistant, ENGL 105: Writing Across the Disciplines Online Shell Development
Worked with the UNC Writing Program as the sole graduate student assistant to create an instructional shell for all ENGL 105 summer sessions instructors [14 courses of ENGL 105] to use for emergency remote teaching due to the novel coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). Designed using best practices for online instruction to teach rhetoric and composition. Developed reading quizzes, activities, and exercises as part of a course template within the university's Learning Management System (Sakai). Intended for Summer 2020 courses and for remote and hybrid/face-to-face classes in Fall 2020.
- Fall 2018 "Early Modern Ballads: A Digital Curation"
First-year composition course blog on WordPress curating 17th-century broadside ballads.
- Spring 2017 "Searching for Apocalypse in the Archives"
First-year composition course blog on WordPress curating printed broadsides about or related to apocalyptic thinking around the year 1666.

Digital Humanities Training

- Jun 2017 Digital Humanities Summer Institute, Digital Editing with TEI: Critical Documentary and Genetic Editing for Manuscripts, taught by Elena Pierazzo and Peter Stokes
- Jun 2016 Digital Mitford Coding School, Survey of TEI-XML, Regex, XPath, and XSLT, taught by Elisa Beshero-Bondar
- Jun 2016 Digital Humanities Summer Institute, Understanding the Predigital Book: Technology & Texts, taught by Matthew Huculak
- Aug 2015-Jul 2016 PhD Lab in Digital Knowledge, Duke University
- Dec 2012-May 2013 TEI-XML Study Group, University of South Carolina

BOOK HISTORY TRAINING

Sept 2017-Apr 2018	Folger Shakespeare Library, Researching the Archive Seminar taught by Ann Blair and Peter Stallybrass
Jun 2016	Rare Book School, The Handwriting & Culture of Early Modern English Manuscripts taught by Heather Wolfe
Spring 2011	Folger Shakespeare Library, Mastering Research Seminar taught by Robert Matz

EXHIBIT CURATION

Apr 2016	“Old and New Humanism(s)” Rare Book Exhibition, co-curated with Michael Clark Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
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SELECTED GUEST BLOG CONTRIBUTIONS

“Evidence of Pouncing in 17th-Century Print” on “Verso: The Blog of the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens.” <https://www.huntington.org/verso/2019/07/evidence-pouncing-17th-century-print>

“Teaching First-Year Composition with the William Blake Archive.” on “Hell’s Printing Press: The Official Blog of the William Blake Archive and Blake/An Illustrated Quarterly.” <http://blog.blakearchive.org/2017/10/16/teaching-first-year-composition-with-the-william-blake-archive/>

“‘Old and New Humanism(s)’ at Wilson Library” on “The Chapel Hill Rare Book Blog.” <http://blogs.lib.unc.edu/rbc/index.php/2016/04/20/old-and-new-humanisms-at-wilson/>

“Reflections on the material consequences of image processing” on “Hell’s Printing Press: The Official Blog of the William Blake Archive and Blake/An Illustrated Quarterly.” <http://blog.blakearchive.org/2016/02/04/reflections-on-the-material-consequences-of-image-processing/>

SERVICE

Aug 2018-May 2019	Recited Verse, Affiliated Scholar for Margaret Cavendish
Apr 2018	Poster Award Review Committee, Celebration of Undergraduate Research
Fall 2017	Office for Undergraduate Research, Graduate Research Consultant for “Modes of Inquiry”
Apr 2017	Alternative Dissertation White Paper Task Force, <i>NEH</i> Grant
Apr 2016	Poster Award Review Committee, Celebration of Undergraduate Research
Fall 2015-Spr 2017	Peer Mentoring Committee, Department of English and Comparative Literature
Fall 2015	Office for Undergraduate Research, Graduate Research Consultant for “Principles of Feminist Inquiry”
Jul 2015-Jun 2016	Mentor Coordinator, English Graduate Student Association
Jul 2014-Jun 2015	Vice President, English Graduate Student Association
Nov 2013-May 2017	Director of Outreach, <i>Ethos Review</i>

UNIVERSITY TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Mar-Apr 2016	Inclusive Teaching Workshops
Mar 2016	Safe Zone Training
Mar 2016	Green Zone Training
Jul 2015	Haven Training

LANGUAGES

Reading proficiency in Latin
Reading proficiency in Italian

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Proficient using Scalar, Omeka, Wordpress; experienced using TEI-XML, HTML, and JavaScript.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations

Bibliographical Society of America

Modern Language Association

Renaissance Society of America

Shakespeare Association of America

The Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing

The Society for the Study of Early Modern Women