



Kym Weed Curriculum Vitae

Teaching Assistant Professor
Co-Director, HHIVE Lab
Associate Director of MA Concentration in LMC
Department of English & Comparative Literature
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

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EDUCATION

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Ph.D., English and Comparative Literature, 2018

University of Maryland, College Park

M.A., English Language & Literature, 2011

Lebanon Valley College

B.S., Biochemistry & Molecular Biology with minor in English Literature, *summa cum laude*, 2006

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Department of English & Comparative Literature

Teaching Assistant Professor, 2019-present

Co-Director of HHIVE Lab, 2019-present

Associate Director of English & Comparative Literature MA concentration in Literature,
Medicine, and Culture (LMC), 2019-present

Associate Director of English & Comparative Literature Dual Degree BA/MA concentration in
Literature, Medicine, and Culture, 2020-present

Associate Director of English & Comparative Literature Graduate Certificate in Literature,
Medicine, and Culture, 2020-present

Vanderbilt University

Center for Medicine, Health, and Society

Senior Lecturer, 2018-2019

Assistant Director of Graduate Studies, 2018-2019

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

- 2019 [“Microbial Perspectives: Mark Twain’s Imaginative Experiment in Ethics,”](#) *Literature and Medicine*, vol. 37, no. 1, 2019, pp. 219-240.
- 2017 Sarah Ann Singer, **Kym Weed**, Jennifer Edwell, Jordynn Jack, and Jane F. Thraillkill. [“Advancing Pre-Health Humanities as Intensive Research Practice: Principles and Recommendations from a Cross-Divisional Baccalaureate Setting.”](#) *Journal of Medical Humanities*, vol. 38, no. 4, 2017, pp. 373-384.

Book Chapter

“Microbe,” *Keywords for Health Humanities*, edited by Sari Altschuler, Jonathan Metzl, and Priscilla Wald, New York University Press, forthcoming

In Progress

“Our Microbes: Imagining Human Interdependence with Bacteria in American Literature, Science, and Culture, 1880-1920,” book manuscript in progress.

“Alice James’s Alternative Influenza Etiology: Emulating Microorganisms in the Midst of Epidemic Disease,” article in progress.

Digital Work

- 2020 [“COVID-19 and the Outbreak Narrative,”](#) conversation with Priscilla Wald, *Southern Cultures*, May 2020.
- 2017 [“Rev. Dr. William J. Barber’s Diagnosis and Treatment of American Democracy,”](#) *HHIVE Lab Blog*, October 2017.

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND HONORS

- 2021-2022 Equity in Teaching Fellow, Center for Faculty Excellence, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2020 Summer Online Course Design Grant (\$2,500) awarded by Summer School and Digital and Lifelong Learning, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2020 Collaboration Grant (\$500) awarded by the Institute for the Arts and Humanities, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2019 Programming Grant (\$750) awarded by the “Countering Hate: Overcoming Fear of Difference” Initiative, College of Arts & Sciences, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2018 Dissertation Research Fellowship (\$5,000) awarded by the Department of English & Comparative Literature, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

- 2017-2018 Senior Teaching Fellowship awarded in recognition of teaching excellence by the Department of English & Comparative Literature, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2017 Thomas F. Ferdinand Summer Research Fellowship (\$4,000) awarded by the Graduate School, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2017 Rebekah F. Kirby Dissertation Fellowship (\$11,900) awarded by the Department of English & Comparative Literature, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2016 Nannerl Keohane Visiting Professorship Graduate Student Award (\$1,000) presented by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Duke University in recognition of substantial scholarly contributions in the areas represented by the visiting Keohane Professor, Susan Lederer
- 2016 Eliason Dissertation Fellowship (\$5,000) awarded by the Department of English & Comparative Literature, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2016 Summer Research Fellowship (\$4,000; declined) awarded by the Graduate School, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2016 Erika Lindemann Award for Excellence in Teaching Literature awarded by the Peer Mentoring Committee in recognition of teaching excellence in literature, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2016 Future Faculty Fellowship Award, Center for Faculty Excellence, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2015 Engaged Instructor Award for outstanding contributions to professional development awarded by the Writing Program, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2011-2012 Jackson Fellowship awarded by the Department of English & Comparative Literature, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2011-2012 Powell Graduate Support Fund awarded by the Graduate School, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

PRESENTATIONS & CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Invited Talks, Campus Talks, and Guest Lectures

- 2021 “Language Matters,” invited talk in the Patient Centered Care: Health Equity Curriculum, University of North Carolina School of Medicine
- 2020 “Pandemic Stories,” invited guest lecture for Dr. Jacqueline Lawton and Martha Moreno Linares’s Digital Imagination and Isolation course, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2020 “Disability Studies & Health Humanities,” invited guest lecture for Dr. Jane Thrailkill’s Health Humanities Practicum (graduate) and Medicine, Literature, and Culture (undergraduate) courses, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

- 2020 “Interdisciplinary Collaboration,” invited workshop facilitator at Health Humanities 2020: Narrative and Counter Narrative Summer Seminar, Hiram College (Cancelled due to COVID-19)
- 2020 “Health Humanities in a Public Health Crisis,” invited guest lecture for Dr. Rachel F. Seidman and Dr. Ross Simpson’s Preventing Broken Hearts in North Carolina course, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2019 & 2020 “From Germ Theory to the Outbreak Narrative: How Cultural Narratives Shape Responses to Epidemic Disease,” invited guest lecture for Dr. Miranda Welsh’s Communicating Science in Sickness and in Health course, Duke University
- 2018 “Microbe Fictions: Narrating Ecocentrism in Turn of the Century American Literature,” Center for Medicine, Health, and Society Colloquium, Vanderbilt University

Conferences Convened

- 2015 Boundary: KCL/UNC Nineteenth Century Studies Conference, UNC Conference Convener, King’s College London, United Kingdom
- 2015 UNC-King’s College London Nineteenth Century Studies Partnership, Symposium Chair, Chapel Hill, NC

Conference Panels Organized

- 2020 “Being Human in a Microbial World,” panel presider and co-organizer with Melissa Wills (UC-Davis), Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Seattle, WA
- 2019 “Microbial Futures” Panel Stream (includes one roundtable discussion and four traditional panels), co-organized with Melissa Wills (UC-Davis), Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts Conference, Irvine, CA

Conference Papers Presented

- 2021 “Our Microbiota, Ourselves: Imagining Communal Health in a Pandemic,” Health Humanities Consortium conference, Hershey, PA (virtual)
- 2019 “Toward a Literary History of Microbes,” part of “The Future of Microbe/Microbiome Scholarship” roundtable discussion, Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts Conference, Irvine, CA
- 2018 “Thinking with Our Microbes: Human Autonomy and Microbial Agency in Late-Nineteenth Century Fiction,” Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts Conference, Toronto, Canada
- 2018 “Horizontal Exchange in Health Humanities,” part of the “Possibilities of Public Humanities” roundtable, Modern Language Association Annual Convention, New York City, NY
- 2016 “Microbial Allies: Opening up to Microbes in Alice James’s Diary,” Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts Conference, Atlanta, GA

- 2016 “The Falls Narrative Study: Writing, Health, and Interdisciplinary Research” with Molly Brewer, Sue Coppola, and Manisha Mishra, Health and Humanities Exchange, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NC
- 2016 “The Falls Narrative Study” with Jane F. Thraikill on “New Formations in the Humanities: International, Transdisciplinary Collaborations” panel, CHCI Annual Meeting, University of London, United Kingdom
- 2016 “Two Perspectives: Learning from the Falls Narrative Study as Students in English and Occupational Therapy” with Molly Brewer, CHCI Health Humanities Summer Institute, King’s College London, United Kingdom
- 2016 “Imagined Ecologies: Mark Twain and the Human-Microbe Relationship,” European Society for the Study of Literature, Science, and the Arts Conference, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2016 “Health Humanities Interdisciplinary Research: The HHIVE Falls Study,” Critical Juncture Conference, Emory University, Atlanta, GA
- 2015 “Passing Germs: Imagining Interconnectedness through Microbes,” South Atlantic Modern Language Association Convention, Durham, NC
- 2015 Respondent, “Across Disciplines: Literature and Science,” Boundary: KCL/UNC Nineteenth Century Studies Conference, King’s College London, United Kingdom
- 2014 “From Ether to 23andMe: Learning from Breast Cancer in the Nineteenth Century,” The UNCommon: UNC’s Interdisciplinary Conference for Nineteenth-Century Americanists, Chapel Hill, NC
- 2014 “Race, Gender, and the Medical Underpinnings of W. E. B. Du Bois’s Double Consciousness,” Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Chicago, IL
- 2013 “Cancer, Mendacity and Containment: Duplicitous Diagnosis in Tennessee Williams’ *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*,” College English Association Convention, Savannah, GA
- 2011 “Encounters and the Metaphorics of Disease in Aimé Césaire’s *Notebook of a Return to the Native Land*,” Northeast Modern Language Association Convention, New Brunswick, NJ
- 2011 “The Race for Hysteria in Pauline Hopkins’ *Of One Blood: Or, the Hidden Self*,” Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture since 1900, Louisville, KY

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Department of English & Comparative Literature

Instructor of Record

2022-present Narrative, Literature, and Medicine

Graduate-level seminar that examines diverse narrative representations of illness, disability, and healthcare.

- 2020 Introduction to Disability Studies
200-level course that introduces students to key critical concepts and debates in disability studies by drawing on multiple disciplinary perspectives.
- 2020 Healers & Patients
First-year Honors seminar that examines multiple facets of illness and healing through memoirs, poetry, film, fiction, and oral history.
- 2020 Major American Authors: Protest & Dissent
Online 100-level American literature course that examines American author's engagement with protest and dissent from 1850-1950.
- 2019-2020 Introduction to Methods in Health Humanities
Graduate-level seminar that uses interdisciplinary readings to define the scope, methods, and values that constitute the field of health humanities.
- 2019-2020 Writing in Health & Medicine
First-year specialized writing in the disciplines course that introduces students to professional and popular genres common in health and medical fields.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
School of Medicine

Co-Instructor

- 2020-Present Social Health Systems (SHS4) Humanities Seminar
Year-long application-phase course that provides a forum in which students can reflect upon and discuss their clinical experiences from various perspectives.

Vanderbilt University
Center for Medicine, Health, and Society

Instructor of Record

- 2018-2019 Health Humanities
300-level course that trains students to apply the critical reading and analytical practices of the humanities to a range of issues and texts related to human health.
- 2018-2019 Interdisciplinary Writing
Graduate-level writing workshop designed to support students as they develop and write a thesis, practicum, or other capstone project in Medicine, Health, & Society.
- 2018 Narratives of Contagion // Contagious Narratives
Graduate-level seminar that explores how narratives of contagion impact individual and public health; social, environmental, and health justice; and cultural belonging.

Independent Study

- 2019 "Public Health Education in Cape Town, South Africa," Kylie Henne, Spring & Summer 2019

ADVISING

PhD Student Supervision

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

- 2021-Present Committee Member, Mindy Buchanan-King, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2021-Present Committee Member, Savannah Foreman, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2021-Present Committee Member, Elisabeth McClanahan Harris, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Master's Student Supervision

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

- 2020-2021 Director, Austin Hopkins, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Capstone Project: "The Harms of a Single Story: The Medicalization of Trauma and *A Little Life*"
- 2018-2019 Committee Member, Megan Swartzfager, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Capstone Project: "A motherly affection for them all': Rhetorical Domesticity and the Legitimization of Woman Nurses During the American Civil War (and Beyond)"
- 2019-2021 Director, Savannah Bateman, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Capstone Project: "Medically Contested Illnesses: A Comparative Epistemology of Chronic Lyme"
- 2019-2020 Director, Rabab Husain, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Capstone Project: "Muslim Medical Humanitarianism"

Vanderbilt University

- 2018-2019 Director, Summer Brown, Vanderbilt University
Thesis: "Illness Memoirs: Implementing and Expanding Narrative Medicine as Part of the Medical School Curriculum"
- 2018-2019 Director, Qianhui "Loro" Pi, Vanderbilt University
Thesis: "Doctors with Borders: Medical Brain Drain Through the Ethical Lens"
- 2018-2019 Director, Elsa Young, Vanderbilt University
Practicum Project: "Structural Violence and Chronic Malnutrition in Guatemala"
- 2018-2019 Director, Kylie Hardin, Vanderbilt University
Non-Thesis Project: "Media and Health Care Environments"
- 2018-2019 Committee Member, Erik R. Henning Ander, Vanderbilt University
Thesis: "A Change in Structure: Perceptions of Mental Health and Illness at the University"

Undergraduate Student Supervision

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

- 2021 Faculty Mentor, Caroline Womack, Honors Carolina faculty-mentored research, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Research Project: “Humanities Methods & Health Disparities”
- 2019-2020 Research Advisor, Undergraduate Research Consultant Team (URCT) including Mehal Churiwal, Lauren McCormick, Annika Alicardi, Hannah Feinsilber, and Najjha Nsehti, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Research Project: “Diarrhea in Bokaro, Jhakarhand”

UNIVERSITY & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**Profession**

- 2019-Present Reviewer, Palgrave Macmillan Major Reference Works

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

- 2021-Present Hardison Award Committee, Department of English & Comparative Literature
- 2021 Shape of the Major even co-organizer, 225th Anniversary Celebration, Department of English & Comparative Literature
- 2021-2022 Faculty Mentor, The Health Humanities Journal of UNC-Chapel Hill
- 2021-Present Faculty Mentor, Abolition Medicine student organization
- 2020-Present Founding Associate Director, BA/MA Dual Degree Program in Literature, Medicine, and Culture, Department of English & Comparative Literature, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2020-Present Founding Associate Director, Graduate Certificate in Literature, Medicine, and Culture, Department of English & Comparative Literature, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2020-Present Curriculum Committee, Science, Medicine, and Literature concentration representative, Department of English & Comparative Literature, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2020-Present Walker Percy Prize Board of Judges, *Health Humanities Journal*, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2019-Present Co-Convener, Carolina Seminar: Health Humanities Grand Rounds, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2019-Present Member, Carolina Seminar: Arts Across Ages, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- 2019-Present Advisory Board, *Stories to Save Lives*, Southern Oral History Program, Center for the Study of the American South, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

2019-Present Disability & Access Initiative, Duke University

Vanderbilt University

2018-2019 Graduate Curriculum Committee, Center for Medicine, Health, and Society, Vanderbilt University

2018-2019 M.A. Thesis Seminar Committee, Center for Medicine, Health, and Society, Vanderbilt University

2018-2019 M.A. Student Advising Oversight Committee, Center for Medicine, Health, and Society, Vanderbilt University

2018-2019 Student Advisory Board Committee, Center for Medicine, Health, and Society, Vanderbilt University

2018-2019 Student Awards Committee, Center for Medicine, Health, and Society, Vanderbilt University

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists

Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes, Health and Medical Humanities Network

Health Humanities Consortium

Modern Language Association

Society for Disability Studies

Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts