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ACADEMIC POSITION

Concordia University Irvine

2012-present Professor, Department of English and Modern Languages

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English with a concentration in 20th-Century Modernism, University of Florida, 2012
Dissertation: Resistance, Revolution, Redemption: Messianic Modernism in the State of Emergency.
Co-Advisors: Phillip Wegner, Brandon Kershner

M.A. in English, University of Central Arkansas, 2005

B.A. in English, University of Transylvania, Romania, 1999

AREAS OF EXPERTISE IN RESEARCH AND TEACHING

Modernist and Utopian Studies; Irish literature; Gothic Studies; Psychoanalysis and Popular Culture

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles and Book Chapters

- 2012 “Molly Bloom and the Comedy of Remarriage.” *FORUM: University of Edinburgh Postgraduate Journal of Culture and Arts*, Issue 15 (2012).
- 2014 “Messianism and the Abject: Reading D. H. Lawrence’s *The Plumed Serpent*.” *Studies in the Novel* 46.1 (2014): 20-43. Print.
- 2015 “History in Ruins: Reading Joseph Conrad’s *Nostramo*.” *Critical Approaches to Joseph Conrad*, ed. Agata Szczeszak-Brewer, University of South Carolina Press, 2015. Print.
- 2015 “The Time That Passes and the Time That Remains: Messianic Voids in Virginia Woolf’s *To the Lighthouse*.” *Great War Modernism: Artistic Response in the Context of War, 1914-1918*, ed. Nanette Norris, Farleigh Dickinson University Press, 2015. Print.
- 2015 “‘Talk of contracts’: Gift-giving vs. Reciprocity in James Joyce’s ‘A Mother’.” *American, British, and Canadian Studies*, 23 (2015). Print.
http://abcjournal.ulbsibiu.ro/volume_23_2014_abstracts/raghinaru.html
- 2015 “‘Better a disaster of fidelity to the Event’: Event and Failure in André Breton’s *Nadja*.” *[sic] - A Journal of Literature, Culture and Literary Translation: Utopia and Political Theology Today*, June 15, 2015. <http://www.sic-journal.org/ArticleView.aspx?aid=311>
- 2016 “Evil as a State of Exception in Roberto Bolaño’s *2666*.” *Altre Modernità*, 15 (2016).
<http://riviste.unimi.it/index.php/AMonline/article/view/7182>
- 2017 “Psychoanalysis and the Production of the New.” *Theory Lessons*, ed. Becky McLaughlin, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, January 1, 2017. Print.
<http://www.cambridgescholars.com/putting-theory-into-practice-in-the-contemporary-classroom>
- 2017 “Masculine Bodies, Effeminate Minds: Mental and Psychosomatic Illness in *The Sopranos*.” “*Psychosomatic*” *Illness in Popular Culture*, ed. Carol-Ann Farkas, Routledge Advances in the Medical Humanities, 2017.
- 2017 “*Mad Men*’s Modernist Utopia.” *Popular Modernisms: Then and Now*, ed. Scott Ortolano, Bloomsbury Academic, 2017.
- 2018 “Recessive Action in Colm Tóibín’s Brooklyn.” *Text Matters: A Journal of Literature, Theory and Culture*, 8.8 (2018).
<https://czasopisma.uni.lodz.pl/textmatters/article/view/3733/3275>
- 2022 “Technological Anxiety in Jonathan Lethem’s *Chronic City*.” *Contemporary American Fiction in the Embrace of the Digital Age*, eds. Béatrice Pire, Arnaud Regnaud and Pierre-Louis Patoine, Sussex Academic Press, 2022.
- 2022 “Joseph Conrad’s *Lord Jim* and the Failure of Empire.” *Re-Reading the Age of Innovation: Victorians, Moderns, and Literary Newness, 1830–1950*, Routledge, 2022.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 “War as a Unifying Experience in Valentyn Vasyanovych’s *Reflection* (2021).” The 2023 *Telos-Paul Piccone Institute* Conference Co-sponsored by the John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, Queens College/CUNY and the International Center for Critical Theory, New York University, New York, April 1, 2023. <https://www.telosinstitute.net/conference2023/>
- 2022 “Kierkegaard and Kafka, Between Faith and Despair.” *PaMLA*, Los Angeles, Nov. 12, 2022.
- 2022 "Deconstructed Nostalgia in Andrei Ujica’s *Autobiography of Nicolae Ceausescu* (2010)." LLC panel: "Making Waves: Two Decades of Experimental Romanian Cinema," *MLA*, Washington, DC. 2022.
- 2021 "*Cinema-19: An Experimental Reflection on the Pandemic.*" ALCF: Confronting the Brave, New World: Science, Politics, Culture & Society in 2021, Concordia University, Texas, Oct. 2, 2021.
- 2021 “Contemporary Gothic Sublime.” AICED 22nd International Conference: Re-writing/Re-imagining the Past, University of Bucharest, June 3-5, 2021 (virtual).
- 2021 “Human Rights Ideals as Founding Principles of the Nation—An Immigrant Perspective.” Azusa Pacific University Lilly Conference: Reckoning and Reimagining: Envisioning a Faithful Presence in the Liberal Arts, May 26-27, 2021 (virtual).
- 2021 “The Plague as Ethical Crisis in *The Iliad*.” ACTC 26th Annual Conference: Crisis and Consolation: Liberal Education in the Age of Covid-19, 2021, April 12-16 (virtual).
- 2021 “Romanian Roots in North American Soil” panel presenter, *MLA* conference, January 2021 (virtual).
- 2020 “Dreams and the Unspoken World of Desire in Alice Munro’s *The Love of a Good Woman*.” ALCF: Using the Past to Inform our Future, Oct. 3, 2020.
- 2020 “Technological Anxiety in Jonathan Lethem’s *Chronic City*.” "Contemporary American Fiction in the Face of Technical Innovation" New Sorbonne University, Paris, Jan. 24-25, 2020.
- 2019 “Ethics of War in Roy Scranton’s *War Porn*.” 2019 ELLAK International Conference on “Nurturing Global Citizens within War and Violence Narratives.” Daejeon, South Korea, Dec. 16-18, 2019.
- 2019 “Post-apocalypse in Ernst Junger’s *Eumeswil*.” 2019 LLHAA International Conference on “JurisApocalypse Now! Law in the End Times.” Southern Cross University, Gold Coast, Australia, Dec. 2-4, 2019.
- 2019 “Liminal Spaces in Alice Munro’s Canadian Southern Gothic.” “Gothic Spaces” International Conference at the University of Tokyo, Japan, Oct. 19-20, 2019.
- 2019 "Representations of Post-Catholic Ireland in Lisa McInerney's *The Glorious Heresies*." 2019 PaMLA Conference Panel on "Representations of Irishness in the 21st Century: Boundaries Between Past & Present." San Diego, Nov. 14-17, 2019.
- 2019 “A Critique of Liberalism.” 2019 ALCF Conference on “Remaking Ourselves: The Impact of Human Creativity on Humanity and the World.” Wittenberg University, Ohio, Oct. 4-5, 2019.
- 2019 “Trauma and Sacrifice in Jonathan Safran Foer’s *Here I Am*.” 2019 AICED Conference on “Trauma, Narrative, Responsibility.” University of Bucharest, Romania, June 6-8, 2019.

- 2019 “Sacrifice and Representation in Jonathan Safran Foer’s *Here I Am*.” 2019 ELTE Conference on “Performativity in Contemporary Culture,” Budapest, Hungary, May 24-25, 2019.
- 2018 The Ethics of Minimal Realization in Colm Tóibín’s *Brooklyn*,” 2018 ICLLC Conference on “Mapping Cultural Identities: Translations and Intersections,” Dimitrie Cantemir University, Bucharest, Romania, May 25-26, 2018.
- 2009 “Subjectivity and the Social Other in Judith Butler’s *The Psychic Life of Power*,” EGO Conference on “Home/sickness: Desire, Decay, and the Seduction of Nostalgia,” University of Florida, November 2009.
- 2009 “Writing the ‘Degree Zero of Resentment in Twentieth Century Fiction’: Nationalism and the Rationalization of Violence in Joyce’s *Ulysses*.” Conference on “Metropolis and Colony,” University of Florida, March 2009.

Conference Panel Organizer:

- 2022 *MLA* panel co-organizer: "Acculturation or Transnationalism? Two Faces of the Same Multilinguistic Experience," RSAA, *MLA*, Washington, DC. 2022.
- 2023 *MLA* panel organizer: “The Aesthetic Sphere of the Pandemic,” San Francisco, 2023.