

# JESSICA DeSPAIN

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## EDUCATION

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Ph.D., English, May 2008, University of Iowa

British and American literature from 1820 – 1920 and History of the Book

Graduate Certificate, Center for the Book, May 2008, University of Iowa

Coursework in book history, bookbinding, printing, and papermaking

B.A., 2001, Mount St. Clare College, Clinton, IA

Liberal arts, concentration in language arts, secondary education endorsement

## EXPERIENCE

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Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Associate Professor, July 2014 – Present

Assistant Professor, August 2008 – July 2014

The University of Iowa

English Department Instructor, August 2007 – August 2008

General Education Literature Instructor, August 2004 – May 2007

Rhetoric Instructor, August 2002 – May 2004

Research Assistant, August 2001 – August 2002

## RESEARCH

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### Books

*Nineteenth-Century Transatlantic Reprinting and the Embodied Book*. Routledge, 2014.

Jennifer Travis and Jessica DeSpain, edited with introduction, *Teaching with Digital Humanities: Tools and Methods for Nineteenth-Century American Literature*. U of Illinois P, November 2018. ISBN: 9780252042232.

### Digital Projects

Lead Editor, *The Wide, Wide World Digital Edition*, 2005 – present <http://widewideworlddigitaledition.siu.edu>

Curriculum Director, *Digital East St. Louis*, 2015 – 2018

<http://www.eaststlouisculture.org>

Faculty in the humanities worked alongside STEM experts and middle school teachers to develop a comprehensive after-school program for middle school students. Over the three-year program, students built a website showcasing their research into the history and culture of the city.

Digital Humanities Clubs, Mannie Jackson Center for the Humanities, 2017 – 2018

An evolution of *Digital East St. Louis*, digital humanities clubs serve twenty middle school students in Madison and Venice, Illinois with the support of the Mannie Jackson Center for the Humanities.

### Selected Articles

"Transatlantic Book Distribution." *Walt Whitman in Context*. Ed. Joanna Levin and Edward Whitley, Cambridge, 2018.

Lora Smallman and Jessica DeSpain, "Informal Learning Teams and the Digital Humanities: A Case Study of Faculty/Librarian Collaboration." *Undergraduate Research and the Academic Librarian: Case Studies & Best Practices*. Ed. Stephanie Davis-Kahl and Merinda Kaye Hensley. American Library Association, 2017.

"Women's Roles in Antislavery and Civil War Literature" *Teaching the Literatures of the American Civil War*. Ed. Colleen Glenney Boggs. New York: Modern Language Association of America, 2016.

"A Feminist DH Pedagogy Beyond the Classroom." *Transformations: The Journal of Inclusive Scholarship and Pedagogy* 26.1 (2016): 64-73.

"Personal Interface and Feminist Pedagogy at *The Wide, Wide World Digital Edition*, or What Jane Manages Before Afternoon Tea." *Polymath: An Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences Journal* 3.3 (2013): 27-34.

"Ellen's English Dress: Women's Religious Practice in America and the British Reprints of Susan Warner's *The Wide, Wide World*." *Symbiosis: a Journal of Anglo-American Literature Relations* 16.1 (2012): 113-134.

"On Building Things: Student-Designed Print and Digital Exhibits in the Book History Classroom." *Transformations: the Journal of Inclusive Scholarship and Pedagogy*. 23.1 (2011): 25-36.

### Selected Grants and Contracts

National Endowment for the Humanities, Humanities Connections Grant, "Digital Community Engagement Pathway," primary investigator with Kristine Hildebrandt, Howard Rambsy, and Connie Frey-Spurlock, awarded \$35,000, 2018.

SIUE Meridian Award, "Goshen Market on Wheels," awarded \$5,000, 2018.

SIUE, Excellence in Undergraduate Education, Co-Investigator with Connie Frey-Spurlock, "Sustainability Food Consortium," awarded, \$15,000, 2018.

National Endowment for the Humanities, Humanities Access Grant, "Conversation Toward a Brighter Future," primary investigator with Jill Anderson, Kristine Hildebrandt and Katie Knowles, awarded \$100,00 from NEH and \$100,00 match from Mannie Jackson Center for the Humanities to develop a program on aging, intergenerational communication, and digital storytelling.

National Science Foundation, ITEST Grant, Digital East St. Louis, co-investigator with Sharon Locke, Howard Rambsy, and Liza Cummings, awarded \$846,000 to collaborate with the STEM Center on program for middle-school students in East St. Louis to create a website about the city's history and culture.

### Selected Conference Presentations

"Creating a Digital Recovery Hub." Society for the Study of American Women Writers, 2018.

"Digital Community Engagement at a Regional University." Digital Frontiers, 2018.

Panel Respondent, *Digital Pedagogy and Nineteenth Century American Literature*. MLA, 2017.

Panel Respondent, *Unsettling Pedagogy: Digital Humanities and C19*. C19, 2016.

Co-Authored with Jill Anderson, "*The Wide, Wide World Digital Edition*: A Digital Humanities Feminist Collective." Society for the Study of American Women Writers, 2015.

"Transatlantic Reprinting Networks." New Media in American Literary History, 2013.

"*The Wide, Wide World* on the World Wide Web." Society for the Study of American Women Writers, 2012.

"Remixing the Transatlantic in *The Wide, Wide World Digital Edition*." C19, 2012.

"Southern Illinois University Edwardsville's Interdisciplinary Research and Informatics Scholarship (IRIS) Center." Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing Conference, 2011.

"Capitola the British Sensation: The British Serialization of E.D.E.N. Southworth's *The Hidden Hand, or Capitola the Madcap*." The Society for the Study of American Women Writers, 2009.