

ELAINE AU YOUNG

207 Church Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55415

Email: eauyoung@umn.edu

EDUCATION

2011 Ph.D., Harvard University, English
2003 B.A., Stanford University, English, with Honors and with Distinction

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2019–present Associate Professor of English, University of Minnesota
2018–2020 McKnight Land-Grant Professor, University of Minnesota
2016–present Affiliate Faculty, Center for Cognitive Sciences, University of Minnesota
2013–2019 Assistant Professor of English, University of Minnesota
2011–2013 Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Associate, Rutgers University

PUBLICATIONS

Books

When Fiction Feels Real: Representation and the Reading Mind (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018).
Reviewed in *Times Literary Supplement*, *Choice*, *Review of English Studies*, *Modern Philology*,
Studies in English Literature, *Nineteenth-Century Literature*, *V21 Collations: Book Forum*

Articles

"What We Mean by Reading," *New Literary History* 51 (2020), forthcoming.
"On the Unspoken Intimacy of Aesthetic Experience: Hardy and Degas," *Poetics Today* 41 (2020),
forthcoming.
"Phantoms and Fictional Persons: Hardy's Phenomenology of Loss," *Victorian Studies* 59 (2017): 399–
408.
"Standing Outside *Bleak House*," *Nineteenth-Century Literature* 69 (2013): 180–200.
"The Sense of Something More in Art and Experience," *Style* 44 (2010): 547–65.

Book Chapters

"Narrative Theory," in *The Routledge Companion to Victorian Literature*, eds. Dennis Denisoff and Talia
Schaffer (New York: Routledge, 2019), 217–25.
"Rethinking the Reality Effect: Detail and the Novel," in *The Oxford Handbook of Cognitive Literary
Studies*, ed. Lisa Zunshine (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015), 581–92.

"Partial Cues and Narrative Understanding in *Anna Karenina*," in *Stories and Minds: Cognitive Approaches to Literary Narrative*, eds. Lars Bernaerts, Dirk de Geest, Luc Herman, Bart Vervaeck (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2013), 59–76.

Short Essays and Encyclopedia Entries

"Human in the Humanities," *Victorian Literature and Culture* 47.3 (2019): 657–61.

"Reading," *Victorian Literature and Culture* 46.3/4 (2018): 823–26.

["On Reading Bleak House," b2o: an online journal 1.2 \(2016\)](#)

"Cognitive Studies and Victorian Literature," *The Encyclopedia of Victorian Literature*, eds. Dino Felluga, Pamela K. Gilbert, Linda K. Hughes (Chichester, UK: Wiley-Blackwell, 2015).

Reviews

The Victorian Novel Dreams of the Real by Audrey Jaffe, *Nineteenth-Century Literature* 71.3 (2016): 415–19.

How to Do Things with Fictions by Joshua Landy, *Modern Language Notes* 127.5 (2012): 1253–56.

FELLOWSHIPS AND PRIZES

| | |
|---------|--|
| 2019 | Ruth Christie Distinguished Teaching Award for Faculty in English, University of Minnesota |
| 2019 | Certificate of Appreciation, Thank a Teacher Program, Center for Educational Innovation, University of Minnesota |
| 2018–20 | McKnight Land-Grant Professorship, University of Minnesota |
| 2017–18 | Imagine Fund Annual Award, University of Minnesota |
| 2017 | Single-Semester Leave, College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota |
| 2014 | Faculty Fellow, Institute for Advanced Study, University of Minnesota |
| 2011–13 | Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Humanities, Rutgers University |
| 2011 | Harper-Schmidt Fellowship, Society of Fellows in the Liberal Arts, University of Chicago (declined) |
| 2011 | Mellon Fellowship to attend Summer Workshop on Cognitive Science and the Humanities, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University |
| 2011 | Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University |
| 2009–10 | Graduate Fellow, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University |
| 2009 | Nominated for the Joseph R. Levenson Memorial Teaching Prize, Harvard University |
| 2008 | Arthur Lehman Scholarship, Harvard University |
| 2008 | Graduate Society Merit Fellowship, Harvard University |

| | |
|---------|---|
| 2007 | Annie Dexter Summer Fellowship, Harvard University |
| 2005 | Ruskin Prize, Harvard University, for essay entitled "On Beauty, Truth, and Delay" |
| 2004–05 | Mellon Fellowship in the Humanities, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation |
| 2004–09 | English Prize Fellowship, Harvard University |
| 2003 | Highest Achievement in Russian, Middlebury College Russian School |
| 2003 | Robert M. Golden Medal for Excellence in Humanities, Stanford University |
| 2003 | Marie Louise Rosenberg Prize for Outstanding Honors Thesis in the English Department, Stanford University |

INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

| | |
|------|---|
| 2020 | "Joint Attention and the Arts," Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences, California Institute of Technology, November 5 (scheduled) |
| 2019 | "Getting Over Dorothea Brooke," Department of English Language and Literature, University of Haifa, November 12 |
| 2019 | "The Psychology of Literary Experience," Oriel College, University of Oxford, November 7 |
| 2019 | "What Happens When We Read," University of Minnesota Duluth, October 10 |
| 2019 | "Perceiving Something New," Rutherford Aris Seminar Series on Aesthetics, Department of Chemical Engineering & Materials Science, University of Minnesota, September 12 |
| 2018 | "Human in the Humanities," Symposium in Honor of Elaine Freedgood, New York University, September 21 |
| 2018 | Co-Leader, Seminar on Empiricism, Society for Novel Studies, Ithaca, NY, May 31 |
| 2018 | "When Fiction Feels Real," Department of Literatures, Cultures, and Languages, University of Connecticut, March 22 |
| 2016 | "Reading for the World," Victorian Literature and Culture Seminar, Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University, April 21 |
| 2015 | "Austen's Enduring Forms of Life," Princeton University, October 20 |
| 2015 | Participant, Roundtable on " <i>Bleak House</i> Today," V21 Symposium, University of Chicago, October 9 |
| 2013 | "Placing Aesthetic Illusion in the Victorian Novel," CUNY Graduate Center, February 13 |
| 2012 | "Realist Friction," Rutgers University, October 19 |
| 2011 | "Rigorous Thinking about Naive Reading," Symposium on "Literary Studies After Interdisciplinarity," Harvard University, March 4 |
| 2010 | "Something Astir in <i>Bleak House</i> ," Victorian Literature and Culture Seminar, |

Harvard Humanities Center, November 18

- 2010 "What Cognitive Psychology Can Tell Us About Reading *Anna Karenina*,"
Cognitive Theory and the Arts Seminar, Harvard Humanities Center, March 23

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 "How to Write a Reading," American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, March 19–22 (scheduled)
- 2020 "Kestrel and Cathedral: On Beauty and Belief," MLA Convention, Seattle, WA, January 9–12
- 2019 "Absorption, Theatricality, Nonreciprocity," North American Victorian Studies Association, Columbus, OH, October 17–19
- 2019 "Literature and Cognition: The Lay of the Land," MLA Convention, Chicago, IL, January 3–6
- 2018 "What We Mean by Reading," North American Victorian Studies Association, St Petersburg, FL, October 11–14
- 2018 "Rapport with Jane: Social Effects of Austen's Indirect Style," International Conference on Narrative, Montreal, QC, April 19–22
- 2017 Panelist, Roundtable on "Victorian in a Comparative Field" convened by the Victorian and Early-20th-Century Forum, MLA Convention, Philadelphia, PA, January 5–8
- 2016 "Phantoms and Fictional Persons: Hardy's Phenomenology of Loss," North American Victorian Studies Association, Phoenix, AZ, November 2–5
- 2015 "Learning Literary Characters," Society for Text and Discourse Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, July 6–8
- 2015 "Flattering Ourselves, or How to Believe in Mr. Collins," International Conference on Narrative, Chicago, IL, March 6–8
- 2015 Panelist, Roundtable on "The Fictive, the Virtual, and the Counterfactual on the Twentieth Anniversary of *Nobody's Story*," MLA Convention, Vancouver, BC, January 8–11
- 2014 "The Secret History of Victorian Readers," North American Victorian Studies Association, London, ON, November 13–15
- 2014 "Exiting Enchanted Spaces," American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY, March 20–23
- 2014 "Sign, Symbol, Symptom, Cue," MLA Convention, Chicago, IL, January 9–12
- 2013 "Grasping Aesthetic Illusion," Southeast MLA Convention, Atlanta, GA, November 8–10
- 2013 "Partial Magic: The Phenomenology of Realism," MLA Convention, Boston, MA,

January 3–6

- 2012 “Painting Dorothea’s Voice: Languages of Thought in George Eliot,”
North American Victorian Studies Association, Madison, WI, September 27–30
- 2012 “Wistful Reading,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting,
Providence, RI, March 29–April 1
- 2012 “The Architecture of Things in *Bleak House*,” Dickens Society Panel, MLA
Convention, Seattle, WA, January 4–7
- 2010 “An Eye for Such Mysteries: Thomas Hardy and the Art of Inference,” Northeast
MLA Convention, Montreal, Canada, April 7–11
- 2009 “Mostly Empty Canvas: On the Economy of Mimesis,” International Conference on
Narrative, Birmingham, UK, June 4–6
- 2009 “Art, Illusion, and the Childlike Imagination,” American Comparative Literature
Association Annual Meeting, Cambridge, MA, March 26–29
- 2009 “How to Hold a Wallpaper Bird: A Cognitive Approach to Imagination,” Northeast
MLA Convention, Boston, MA, February 26–March 1
- 2007 “The Psychology of Imagination in *Jude the Obscure*,” Hardy at Yale: The Thomas
Hardy Association, New Haven, CT, June 14–17
- 2007 “The Quiz, the Code, and the Anxiety of Reading Austen,” Northeast MLA
Convention, Baltimore, MD, March 1–4
- 2006 “Between the Lines: Narrating a Space for the Reader in *Pride and Prejudice*,”
International Conference on Narrative, Ottawa, Canada, April 6–9

PRESENTATIONS ON PEDAGOGY AND THE PROFESSION

- 2019 Leader, Workshop on Book Publishing, North American Victorian Studies
Association, Columbus, OH, October 20
- 2019 Speaker, Pedagogy Colloquium on Teaching Long Texts, Boston
University, Boston, MA, March 18
- 2018 Speaker, Workshop on Interdisciplinary Careers, University of Connecticut, Storrs,
CT, March 22

COURSES TAUGHT

Undergraduate

Jane Austen’s Afterlives (Spring 2020)

Historical Survey of British Literature II (Spring 2021, Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018, Spring 2017)

Nineteenth-Century British Novel (Fall 2018, Spring 2016, Spring 2015)

Modern Fiction (Spring 2014, Fall 2013)

Textual Analysis: Methods (Fall 2018, Spring 2017, Fall 2016, Spring 2016, Spring 2015, Spring 2014, Fall 2013)

Victorian Literature (Fall 2012, Fall 2011)

Imagining Other Minds (Spring 2012)

Directed Reading: Dickens, Eliot, Dostoevsky, Tolstoy (Spring 2018)

Graduate

Nineteenth-Century Realism (Spring 2021, Spring 2019, Fall 2017)

Reading and Readers (Spring 2018)

ADVISING

Dissertation Reader

Melissa Merte, "Formally Entangled: Plotting Economic and Romantic Desire in Victorian Narratives," English, 2020 (Exam Chair)

Katelin Krieg, "The Victorian Mind's Eye: Perception as Form in Literature and Science," English, 2017

Jennifer Baltzer-Lovato, "Sound, Gender, Individual Will, and the Body in Nineteenth-Century British Literature," English, 2017

Preliminary Doctoral Examination

Alexandra Leong, Cultural Studies & Comparative Literature, 2020

Samantha Crain, English, 2018

Bridget Bergin, English, 2018

Andrew Schumacher Bethke, History, 2017

Melissa Merte, English, 2017

Sungjin Shin, English, 2016

Yon Ji Sol, English, 2016

Katelin Krieg, English, 2014

Leslie Nightingale, English, 2014

Master's Examination

Delaney FitzPatrick, English, 2019 (Exam Chair)

Cole Nelson, English, 2018

John Bliss, English, 2015

SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT, COLLEGE, AND UNIVERSITY

Undergraduate Studies Committee, Department of English, 2019–present

Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of English, 2018–2019
 Faculty Salary Equitization Committee, Department of English, 2018–2019
 Faculty Advisor, Undergraduate Student Group: “Walking on Words,” University of Minnesota, 2018–2019
 Graduate Fellowships Committee, Department of English, Spring 2018
 Faculty Affairs Committee, Department of English, 2016–2017, 2018–2019
 Judge, Marcella DeBourg Summer Fellowship, Department of English, 2016
 Planning & Development Committee, Department of English, 2015–2016
 College of Liberal Arts Assembly, University of Minnesota, 2014–2016
 Graduate Studies Committee, Department of English, 2013–2016
 Placement Officer, Department of English, 2014–2015
 Co-Placement Officer, Department of English, 2013–2014

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Elected Member, MLA Executive Committee on Cognitive and Affect Studies, 2018–2023
 Manuscript Reviewer for Oxford University Press
 Manuscript Reviewer for *PMLA*, *Nineteenth-Century Literature*, *Studies in Romanticism*, *Style*, *Studies in the Novel*, *Nineteenth-Century Contexts*, *Blackwell Encyclopedia of Victorian Literature*
 Member, Textgroup, Center for Cognitive Sciences, University of Minnesota, 2013–2019
 Organizer, Panel on “New Starting Points for Literature and the Mind,” MLA Convention, January 3–6, 2019
 Organizer, Panel on “Ways of Reading,” North American Victorian Studies Association, October 11–14, 2018
 Co-Organizer, Seminar on “Empiricism,” Society for Novel Studies, May 2018
 Organizer, Panel on “Forms of Address in Austen,” International Conference on Narrative, April 19–22, 2018
 Co-Organizer, Panel on “Haunted Victorians,” North American Victorian Studies Association, November 2–5, 2016
 Organizer, Panel on “Varieties of Fictional Belief,” International Conference on Narrative, March 6–8, 2015
 Organizer, Roundtable on “The Fictive, the Virtual, and the Counterfactual on the Twentieth Anniversary of *Nobody’s Story*,” MLA Convention, January 8–11, 2015
 Organizer, Panel on “Degrees of Reality: Categorizing the Experience of Reading George Eliot,” North American Victorian Studies Association, November 13–15
 Organizer, Seminar on “Enchanted Spaces,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, March 20–23, 2014

Organizer, Special Session on “Remote Sensing in Victorian Realism,” MLA Convention, January 9–12, 2014

Invited Participant, Workshop on “Breakthroughs: Creativity Across the Disciplines,” Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University, May 21, 2013

Organizer, Special Session on “The Mechanics of Fictional World-Making,” MLA Convention, January 3–6, 2013

Organizer, Symposium on “The Feeling of Reading,” Center for Cultural Analysis, Rutgers University, October 19, 2012

Participant, Seminar on “Formalisms,” Center for Cultural Analysis, Rutgers University, 2012–2013

Selected Participant, Mellon Summer Workshop on Cognitive Science and the Humanities, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University, July–August 2011

Participant, Cognitive Theory and the Arts Seminar, Harvard Humanities Center, 2004–2011

LANGUAGES

Russian (proficient reading and speaking)

French (proficient reading and speaking)

Chinese (intermediate reading, proficient speaker of Mandarin and Cantonese)

Latin (reading knowledge)

German (reading knowledge)