

VALERIE L. STEVENS

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT:

Lecturer in the Department of English and Modern Languages, Shepherd University,
Shepherdstown, WV, 2019-present

EDUCATION:

University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY

Ph.D. in English Literature, 2019

Dissertation: *Nineteenth-Century Pets and the Politics of Touch*

Committee: Jill Rappoport (director), Ellen Rosenman, Marion Rust, Katey Castellano, and Philip Harling

James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

M.A. in English Literature, 2013

King University, Bristol, TN

B.A. *magna cum laude*, English Literature and Performing and Visual Arts, 2009

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Shepherd University:

Writing and Rhetoric I: Writing Place (ENG 101), Fall 2019

Writing and Rhetoric I Studio: Writing Place (ENG 101S), Fall 2019

University of Kentucky:

Instructor of Record:

Composition and Communication II Online (WRD 111 Online), Spring 2019

Introduction to Film: Good Guys and Bad Girls (ENG 280), Fall 2018

Introduction to Literature: Literature of the Apocalypse (ENG 230), Fall 2016

Accelerated Composition and Communication (WRD 112), Fall 2015

Business Writing (WRD 203), Fall 2014 and Spring 2015

Composition and Communication II (WRD 111), Spring 2014 and Spring 2017

Composition and Communication I (WRD 110), Fall 2013

Teaching Assistant:

Great Movies (ENG 180), Spring 2018

Literature and the Arts of Citizenship (ENG 191), Spring 2016

James Madison University:

Teaching Assistant:

Feminist Literary Theory (ENG 369), Spring 2013

Honors Survey of African American Literature (ENG 260H), Fall 2012

PUBLICATIONS:

“Jane Marcet,” *Encyclopedia of Victorian Women Writers*, Palgrave's Major Works Series, 2019.

“Current Perspectives on Olive Schreiner’s *From Man to Man or Perhaps Only—*,” *Journal of Commonwealth Literature*, 2019, pp. 1-17.

“Human-Animal ‘Mother-Love’ in Novels by Olive Schreiner.” *English Literature in Transition, 1880-1920*, vol. 61, no. 2, 2018, pp. 147-171.

Manuscripts in Preparation:

Guest Co-Editor of “Perceptual Encounters: ‘Sensing’ the Field of Human-Animal Studies,” *Society and Animals*. Author of “Embodied Violence and Literary Representation of Animals in Anne Brontë’s *Agnes Grey*” for the Special Issue. Forthcoming 2020.

“Olive Schreiner,” *Encyclopedia of Victorian Women Writers*, Palgrave's Major Works Series. Solicited by editor for anticipated publication 2019-2020.

AWARDS:

Visiting Scholar Fellowship, Armstrong Browning Library, 2019.

The Gabriela Jiskrova Award for Outstanding Service, University of Kentucky, 2018-2019.

Three-Minute Thesis Finalist, University of Kentucky, 2018.

NAVSA Graduate Student Travel Grant, North American Victorian Studies Association, 2018.

Chris Vanden Bossche Graduate Student Travel Award, Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Association, 2018.

Research Award to Travel to the Huntington Library, University of Kentucky, 2018.

Summer Research Fellowship, University of Kentucky, 2018.

Arts & Sciences Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, University of Kentucky, 2017.

NAVSA Graduate Student Travel Grant, North American Victorian Studies Association, 2017.

Summer Research Fellowship, University of Kentucky, 2016.

Ben Wathen Black Memorial Graduate Scholarship in British Literature, University of Kentucky, 2015-2016.

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA:

“Poet as Medium and Spectral Human-Animal Touch in Michael Field’s *Whym Chow: Flame of Love*,” North American Victorian Studies Association, Columbus, Ohio, October 2019.

“Looking Beyond Maternal and Authorial Silence: Elizabeth Keckley’s *Behind the Scenes* and Elizabeth Barrett Browning’s ‘The Runaway Slave at Pilgrim’s Point,’” North American Victorian Studies Association, St. Petersburg, Florida, October 2018.

“Excessive Animals and Crawling, Clawing Human-Animal Sympathy in *The Woman in White*,” Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference, Rome, Italy, June 2018.

“Biting Courtship: Animal Rejection, Acceptance, and the Preservation of the Marriage Plot,” North American Victorian Studies Association, Banff, Canada, November 2017.

Human-Animal Studies Summer Institute, Animals and Society Institute and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL, July 2017.

“Kitsch Kittens and Dedications to Dogs: Animal Biography and Multigenerational Survival,” British Women Writers Conference, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, June 2017.

“Human-Animal Odd Bodies in Representations of Animal Mourning,” Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 2017.

The Dickens Universe, Dickens Project, Santa Cruz, California, July-August 2016.

“*Agnes Grey* and the Violent Performance of Sympathy,” British Women Writers Conference, Athens, Georgia, June 2016.

“19th-Century Pet Parents and (Un)Natural Motherhood in Olive Schreiner’s *The Story of an African Farm*,” Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference, Asheville, North Carolina, March 2016.

“‘I was worm too’: Animals, Classification, and Work in *Aurora Leigh*,” Victorians Institute Conference, Spartanburg, South Carolina, October 2015.

“Giving Maternal Silence Voice: Mobilizing Elizabeth Keckley and Elizabeth Barrett Browning,” Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, April 2015.

“Dissecting and Diagnosing Lives: Charlotte Brontë, Biography, and the Formation of a Real Gothic Heroine,” Society for Comparative Literature and the Arts, St. Petersburg, Florida, October 2014.

“The Gender and Class Politics of Genre in Emily Brontë’s *Wuthering Heights* and Isabel Allende’s *The House of the Spirits*,” Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture, Louisville, Kentucky, February 2014.

“The Artificial Reproduction of Femininity through the Cinematic Look in F. Scott Fitzgerald’s *The Love of the Last Tycoon*,” Midwest Modern Language Association, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, November 2013.

“Women with Power and Overpowered Women: Sexual Agency in Ben Jonson’s *Volpone*,” College English Association, Savannah, Georgia, April 2013.

ORGANIZING AT CONFERENCES:

Panel Organizer and Moderator, “Excessive Animals and Animal Excess,” Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference, Rome, Italy, June 2018.

Moderator, “Saving Life,” North American Victorian Studies Association, Banff, Canada, November 2017.

Moderator, “Something Borrowed: Charlotte Brontë’s Adaptations & Traditions,” British Women Writers Conference, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, June 2017.

Moderator, “Human Bodies/Animal Bodies 2,” Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 2017.

Panel Co-Organizer and Moderator, “Performativity Beyond the Boundaries,” British Women Writers Conference, Athens, Georgia, June 2016.

INVITED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRESENTATIONS:

Recruitment Day Roundtable on Current Advanced Literature Student Projects, University of Kentucky, March 2018.

Jumpstarting the Prospectus Talk for Ph.D. Candidates Tutorial, University of Kentucky, October 2017.

ABD Roundtable for the English Graduate Student Organization Symposium, University of Kentucky, March 2017.

“What Does Women’s Literature Want?” Roundtable Sponsored by the Department of English, Sigma Tau Delta, and the English Peer-Mentor Program, University of Kentucky, March 2017.

Fellowship Application Talk for Ph.D. Candidates Tutorial, University of Kentucky, February 2017.

SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY:

Graduate Student Congress Vice President, 2018-2019
Graduate Student Congress Committee Coordinator, 2017-2018
Provost Panel Infrastructure Subcommittee, 2017
Graduate Student Congress Treasurer, 2016-2017
English Graduate Student Organization Secretary, 2016-2017
English Graduate Student Mentor, 2016-2017
English Graduate Student Organization Representative to the University of Kentucky Graduate Student Congress, 2015-2016, 2017-2018

GRANTS RECEIVED FOR SERVICE PROJECTS FROM THE FOLLOWING:

College of Arts & Sciences, University of Kentucky, 2019
Center for Graduate and Professional Diversity Initiative, University of Kentucky, 2019
Center for Equality and Social Justice, University of Kentucky, 2019
Center for Enhancement in Learning and Teaching, University of Kentucky, 2019

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

The Modern Language Association
North American Victorian Studies Association
Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Association
British Women Writers Association

REFERENCES:

Jill Rappoport, Associate Professor, University of Kentucky (jill.rappoport@uky.edu)
Ellen Rosenman, Professor Emeritus, University of Kentucky (ellen.rosenman@uky.edu)
Marion Rust, Professor, University of Kentucky (marion.rust@uky.edu)
Katey Castellano, Professor, James Madison University (castelkm@jmu.edu)
Michelle Sizemore, Teaching Reference, Associate Professor, University of Kentucky (michelle.sizemore@uky.edu)
Morris Grubbs, Service Reference, Assistant Dean of the Graduate School, University of Kentucky (morris.grubbs@uky.edu)