

CURRENT RESEARCH

Faculty research interests include

American Literature, Book History & Print Culture, British Aestheticism, Canadian Literature & Culture, Digital Humanities, Experimental Poetry, Gothic & Horror Studies, History of the Novel, literature and Philosophy, Media Studies, Medieval Romance & Arthurian Legend, Modern & Contemporary British Literature, Postcolonial Studies, Queer & Gender Studies, Romantic Literature, Scholarly Editing, Shakespeare, Theories of Literary Criticism, Video Game Studies.

RECENT THESES INCLUDE

Failing at Happiness: Queer Time in *Rubyfruit Jungle*, *Stone Butch Blues*, and *Tomboy Survival Guide*

Kingship and Warfare in Malory's *Morte Darthur*

"A morbid attrait to beauty": Elements of Aestheticism in J.D. Salinger's *Glass Fiction*

CONTACT

Dr. Anne Quéma
Graduate Coordinator
Department of English and Theatre
Acadia University
Wolfville, Nova Scotia
B4P 2R6 Canada
(902) 585-1264
aquema@acadiau.ca



Acadia University is located in Wolfville, NS, a town of 4,200 people about 100 km northwest of Halifax. The university has an annual enrolment of approximately 3,500 full-time students and is situated on one hundred hectares overlooking the dyke meadows of the historic Evangeline country. Central to the university is the Vaughan Memorial Library, which houses more than one million items and which is the repository of a number of special collections. The small-town ambience of Wolfville and the residential character of the university contribute to a strong sense of community. Participation in cultural programs, as well as intramural and intercollegiate activities, contributes to close contacts between students and faculty.



2019-20 English graduate students: Joshua Foote and Samantha VanNorden.

ACADIA UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE STUDIES IN ENGLISH



english.acadiau.ca

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND THEATRE

Acadia's MA program in English draws students from across Canada as well as from such countries as Germany, India, Iran, the Bahamas, and the UK. Typically, we admit between four and six students each year, many of whom go on to pursue doctoral work at first-rate institutions elsewhere in Canada or abroad when they graduate. A number of our recent graduates hold professorial positions at Canadian, US, and UK universities, while others have embarked on successful careers in publishing, creative writing, public relations, information management, journalism, and teaching. The size of our program affords students the opportunity to work closely with faculty members and ensures that strong students receive funding in the form of teaching assistantships, scholarships, and awards.

The MA in English is a 12-month program requiring the completion of

- 4 single-term courses
- An introduction to Scholarly Methods
- An 80-100 page Graduate Thesis

Our program offers close supervision. All MA theses are evaluated by both an Internal Examiner and an External Examiner from another university, and are presented to the broader community at a public oral defence.

Students can apply for conference funding
Students have access to individual office space



MA COURSES FOR 2020-2021

ENGL 5813 X1

Natures, Machines, and Subjectivities in Ernest Hemingway's Short Stories

MA Seminar Instructor: Dr. Lance La Rocque

This course will explore Ernest Hemingway's complex and contradictory depictions of nature, machines, and his various male protagonists. Throughout his many short stories, Hemingway seems to hesitate between humanist existential encounters with machines and nature and what might be seen as his prescient postmodern encounters. In conversation with philosophers and theorists including Heidegger, Adorno, Deleuze and Guattari, and Jameson, we will explore Hemingway's conceptualizations of the intersection between humans, machines, and nature, tracing his various positions, including his environmental ethic and his dismantling of the humanist subject.

ENGL 4033 / 5113 X2

Malory's *Morte Darthur* and Its English Sources

MA-Honours Seminar Instructor: Dr. Kevin Whetter

Sir Thomas Malory's fifteenth-century *Le Morte Darthur* [sic] is notable amongst other things for its intertextual contexts: Malory wrote at the end of a pan-European tradition of Arthurian literature, and Malory himself is the ultimate source for a range of modern Arthuriana from Tennyson and Twain to Mitchison and Zimmer Bradley. This course will explore the *Morte* with a particular eye on Malory's principal English sources, two poems also called *Morte Arthur* (e). With each English *Morte* we shall explore diverse issues, including but not limited to genre, gender, secularity, religion and the transition from a manuscript culture to a print culture.

ENGL 5713/ 4213 X1

A Transnational Sensorium

MA-Honours Seminar Instructor:

Dr. Anne Quéma

This course establishes a dialogue between poets practising in the UK and in Canada. Poets will include C. Bergvall, M. O'Sullivan, E. Moure, M. Dumont, G. Monk, L. Howard, F. Presley, J. Abel, H. Tarlo, and O. Avasilichioaei. We will locate UK and Canadian experimental poetry in their historical contexts. Affect will also constitute the theoretical framework for our discussion of experimental practices of language. Theorists include Puar, Nancy, Balso, Rancière, and Haraway. In this historical and theoretical context, we will compare the ways in which poets in the UK and in Canada generate political critique and resistance by deploying multimedial and multisensorial poetic strategies.

ENGL 5023 X2 Narrative Identity:

Relationships between Story & Selfhood

MA Seminar Instructor: Dr. Jon Saklofski

Current social media practices reveal the potentials and pitfalls of constructing social selves via narrative curation. In this seminar we will explore the foundations of such practice via first person literature examples, dramatic monologue poems, voice-over films, and participatory interactive digital experiences, critically examining the ways that narration can be used to govern, extend, divide, and disrupt one's sense of self in particular social contexts. Narration symbolically distances storytellers from experience via representation, and such externalization can affirm and validate a sense of identity. However, such objectifying processes can also result in the construction of over-simplified personae, preventing narrators from fully understanding themselves, and exposing them to a potential loss of control over their own identity construction.