

Natalia Aki Cecire

University of Sussex, Arts B B272, Falmer, Brighton BN1 9QN  
n.cecire@sussex.ac.uk

**Education**

- Ph.D., English    University of California, Berkeley, December 2010  
                          “A Sense of the Real: Experimental Writing and the Sciences, 1879-1946”  
B.A., English    University of Chicago (General and Departmental Honors), June 2003

**Academic appointments**

- 2014-present    Lecturer [assistant professor] in English and American Literature  
                          University of Sussex, Brighton, UK  
2012-14        ACLS New Faculty Fellow, Department of English  
                          Postdoctoral Fellow, Whitney Humanities Center  
                          Yale University, New Haven, CT  
2011-12        Postdoctoral Fellow, Bill and Carol Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry  
                          Emory University, Atlanta, GA  
2010-11        Roberta C. Holloway Postdoctoral Fellow in Poetry and Poetics  
                          University of California, Berkeley, CA

**Book manuscript**

“Experimental: American Literature and the Aesthetics of Knowledge, 1880-1950.”  
Theorizes and historicizes the concept of “experimental literature” vis-à-vis the newly professionalizing biological and social sciences of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Examines works by Stephen Crane, Gertrude Stein, Marianne Moore, William Carlos Williams, and others.

**Research areas:**

History and theory of minor knowledge. American literature, history of science, poetics, gender and sexuality, childhood, media, visual culture.

**Awards, fellowships, and grants (selected)**

- Innovating Communication in Scholarship Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of California, Davis, 2014-16 (declined)  
Exploratory Research Grant, Center for the History of Business, Technology, and Society, Hagley Museum and Library, Wilmington, DE, June 2014  
First Book Institute fellow, Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA, June 2014  
NEH Summer Institute *Making Modernism*, Newberry Library, Chicago, Summer 2013  
American Council of Learned Societies New Faculty Fellowship, 2012-14  
Mahindra Humanities Ctr. Postdoctoral Fellowship, Harvard University, 2012-13 (declined)  
Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry Postdoctoral Fellowship, Emory University, 2011-12  
Roberta C. Holloway Postdoctoral Fellowship in Poetry and Poetics, UC Berkeley, 2010-11  
The Bancroft Library Summer Research Fellowship, 2010  
UC Berkeley Graduate Division Summer Research Grant, 2009

**Publications (peer reviewed)**

- “Ways of Not Reading Gertrude Stein.” Forthcoming in *ELH* 82.1 (Spring 2015).
- “Environmental Innocence and Slow Violence.” Forthcoming in *Women’s Studies Quarterly*.
- “Marianne Moore’s Precision.” *Arizona Quarterly* 67.4 (Winter 2011): 83-110. Print.
- under review*: “Experimentalism by Contact.”

**Editor-reviewed publications**

- “Everybody’s Authority.” Forthcoming in *PMLA*, “The Changing Profession” (March 2015).
- “A League of Extraordinary Gentlemen.” *The New Inquiry* 24 (January 2014).
- “Introduction: Theory and the Virtues of Digital Humanities” and “When Digital Humanities Was in Vogue.” *Journal of Digital Humanities* 1.1 (Winter 2011). Web.  
<<http://journalofdigitalhumanities.org/1-1/>>.
- “Sentimental Spaces: On Mei-mei Berssenbrugge’s *Nest*.” *Jacket2* (23 May 2011). Web.  
<<http://jacket2.org/article/sentimental-spaces>>.
- “Evaluation.” In Roland Greene and Stephen Cushman, eds., *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*, 4th edition. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2012.

**Editing**

- Guest editor, special section on digital humanities and theory, *Journal of Digital Humanities* 1.1 (Winter 2011).
- Managing Editor, *Arcade* ([arcade.stanford.edu](http://arcade.stanford.edu)), March 2010-December 2012.
- Contributing Editor, Harriet Elinor Smith et al., eds., *The Autobiography of Mark Twain*, Vol. I. Berkeley: U of California P, 2010. Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, Summer 2007.

**Conference papers and invited talks (selected)**

- “Historicizing Experimentalism.” Modernist Studies Association (MSA). Pittsburgh, PA, November 2014.
- “Distant Reading and Women’s Work.” Digital Humanities Symposium, Bates College. Lewiston, ME, May 2014 (invited).
- “Experimentalism by Contact.” Sciences and Fictions. Center for the Study of the Novel, Stanford University. Stanford, CA, May 2014 (invited).
- “Experimentalism and the Abstraction of Method.” American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA). New York, NY, March 2014.
- “The Bean Machine: Probability and Puerility in the Gilded Age.” Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists (C19). Chapel Hill, NC, March 2014.
- “Distributed Knowledge and the Digital.” Critical Approaches to Digital Humanities MATX Symposium. MATX Program, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, March 2014 (invited).
- “Experimental Writing in the Age of Big Science” and “Publics and Counterpublics and Reddit.” Modern Language Association (MLA). Chicago, IL, January 2014.
- “Distributed Knowledge and the Digital.” American Studies Association (ASA). Washington, D.C., November 2013.
- “Stein’s Difficulty, Women’s Work.” MSA. Las Vegas, NV, October 2012.
- “Stephen Crane and the Aesthetics of Knowledge.” C19. Berkeley, CA, April 2012.

**Colloquium and seminar presentations of precirculated works in progress**

- “Contact.” Modernism Working Group, English Department, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, March 2014.
- “Raised by Wolves.” C20/C21 Colloquium, English Department, Yale University, New Haven, CT, November 2013.
- “Experimental.” Newberry Library Seminar on American Literature, Chicago, IL, October 2013.
- “Seeing Clear: Gertrude Stein’s Objectivity.” History of Science and Literary Form Working Group, Duke University, Durham, NC, 13 September 2011.

**Teaching****Graduate seminars**

- “International Modernisms, 1840–present: Shock, Electricity, Invention,” Fall 2014, University of Sussex

**Advanced undergraduate seminars**

- “The Novel” (convener), Spring 2015, University of Sussex
- “American Literary Realisms since 1880,” Spring 2014, Yale University.
- “Modernism and Childhood,” Spring 2013 and Fall 2013, Yale University.
- “Modern Female Automatisms,” Spring 2012, Emory University.
- “Didactic Modernism: American Poetry 1915-1945,” Spring 2011, UC Berkeley.

**Introductory undergraduate courses**

- “Literature 1860-1945,” Fall 2014, University of Sussex.
- “Readings in American Literature,” Fall 2012 and Fall 2013, Yale University.

**Intermediate reading, composition, and research methods (UC Berkeley)**

- “Text and Medium,” Spring 2010. Textual editing and new media.
- “Funny and/or Offensive: Reading the American Archive,” Summer 2008. Humor and political interventions in nineteenth-century American fiction.
- “Ghostly Women,” Spring 2007. Female spectrality in British and American literature, 1800-present.

**Introductory reading and composition (UC Berkeley)**

- “The Modest Witness,” Fall 2009. Impersonality in modernist poetry and fiction.
- “Poetry and Science,” Spring 2009. Science and British and American poetry, 1800-present.
- “Poetry and Language,” Fall 2008. Poetic language, 1650-present.
- “Marrying the Master,” Fall 2007. The Cinderella plot in British and American literature, 1740-present.

**Teaching assistant (UC Berkeley)**

- “Literature in English, 1700-1850,” Prof. Kent Puckett. Spring 2006.
- “Literature in English, 1850-present,” Prof. Dorothy J. Hale. Fall 2005.

**Guest teaching and lectures (selected)**

- “Virginia Woolf.” Literature 1860-1945. Fall 2014. University of Sussex.
- “Labor, Gender, and Knowledge.” Graduate seminar, “Topics and Tools in Digital Humanities.” Dr. Stewart Varner, 9 February 2012. Emory University.
- “Feminism and Primitive Accumulation: Silvia Federici’s *Caliban and the Witch*.” Freshman seminar. Prof. Kathleen Simon, October 14, 2011. Georgia College & State University.
- “Gendered Souls in *The Golden Compass*.” Lecture, “Children’s Literature.” Katharine Wright, October 2010, March 2011. UC Berkeley.
- “Jean Toomer” and “Marianne Moore.” Lectures, “Modern Poetry.” Dr. Margaret Ronda, March 2010. UC Berkeley.
- “Marianne Moore.” C20 survey for English majors. Prof. Lyn Hejinian. Nov. 2009. UC Berkeley.
- “Present Day English Morphology, Syntax, and Semantics” and “Old English Prosody.” “History of the English Language.” Prof. Katherine O’Brien O’Keeffe. April and Feb. 2009. UC Berkeley.
- “Language Play in *Tender Buttons*.” C20 survey for English majors. Prof. Colleen Lye. March 2008. UC Berkeley.

**Service (selected)**

- Reviewing: *The Lion and the Unicorn*; *Medical Humanities*.
- Teaching mentor to graduate students, English Department, Yale University, Fall 2012, Fall 2013; English Department, UC Berkeley, AY 2009-10.
- Workshop leader, “Introduction to Digital Humanities,” THATCamp [The Humanities and Technology Camp] Feminisms East, Barnard College, March 2013.
- Coordinator, THATCamp Theory, Rutgers University, Oct. 2012. With Meredith McGill, Andrew Goldstone, and Maria Cecire.
- Invited talks for undergraduates:
- “I, Too, Like It.” Keynote Address, Association of the Students of the University of California Publications Awards Banquet, 28 April 2011.
- “Meet the Professor Night,” Berkeley English Undergraduate Assoc., 29 March 2011.
- Faculty sponsor, “Video Games as an Artistic Medium” student-led course, Spring 2011.
- Co-organizer, Canons of Children’s Literature Conference, University of California, Berkeley, March 2008.
- Coordinator, English Department Graduate Colloquium, Spring 2007-Spring 2009.

**Affiliations**

- Modern Language Association, Member, 2007-present
- Modernist Studies Association, Member, 2009-present
- C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists, Member, 2011-present
- American Comparative Literature Association, Member, 2011-present
- American Studies Association, Member, 2012-present
- Children’s Literature Association, Member, 2007-2011

**References**

Lyn Hejinian  
Professor of English  
University of California  
322 Wheeler Hall  
Berkeley, CA 94720-1030  
lynhejinian@gmail.com

C. D. Blanton  
Associate Professor of English  
University of California  
322 Wheeler Hall  
Berkeley, CA 94720-1030  
cdblanton@berkeley.edu

Mark Goble  
Associate Professor of English  
University of California  
322 Wheeler Hall  
Berkeley, CA 94720-1030  
mgoble@berkeley.edu

Dorothy J. Hale  
Professor of English  
University of California  
322 Wheeler Hall  
Berkeley, CA 94720-1030  
dhale@berkeley.edu

Katherine O'Brien O'Keeffe  
Professor of English  
University of California  
322 Wheeler Hall  
Berkeley, CA 94720-1030  
kobok@berkeley.edu

Katie Trumpener  
Professor of Comparative  
Literature and English  
Yale University  
451 College Street, Room 102  
P.O. Box 208299  
New Haven, CT 06520-8299  
katie.trumpener@yale.edu

Alan Liu  
Professor of English  
University of California  
3431 South Hall  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-3170  
ayliu@english.ucsb.edu

Priscilla Wald  
Professor of English and Women's  
Studies  
Duke University  
Box 90015  
314 Allen Building  
Durham, NC 27708  
pwald@duke.edu

Roland Greene  
Professor of English and Comparative  
Literature  
Stanford University  
450 Serra Mall, Building 260  
Stanford, CA 94305  
rgreene@stanford.edu