

SHELBY JOHNSON

Department of English
Florida Atlantic University
CU Suite 306, 777 Glades Rd.
Boca Raton, FL 33431

University Contact Information
Culture and Society Building, 351
901.428.2165
shelbyjohnson@fau.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of English, Florida Atlantic University (2018-present)

Lecturer, Vanderbilt University (2017-2018)

EDUCATION

PhD English Literature, Vanderbilt University (2017)

Dissertation: "A Piece of Earth: Political Theologies of Finitude and Futurity in African American and Indigenous Literature, 1770-1840," Committee: Jonathan Lamb and Scott Juengel (co-chairs), Hortense J. Spillers, Mark Schoenfield, and Misty G. Anderson (outside reader)

MA English Literature, Vanderbilt University (2013)

MA English Literature, University of Tennessee, Knoxville (2012)

BA English Literature and History, Union University (2010)

CERTIFICATES

American Studies, Vanderbilt University (2015)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

"The fate of St. Domingo awaits you': Robert Wedderburn's Unfinished Revolution." *The Eighteenth-Century: Theory and Interpretation* (forthcoming 2020)

"An Observance of Silence to the Events': Formal Histories of the Haitian Revolution in Frances Burney's *The Wanderer*." *English Language Notes* 57.2 (Fall 2019): 58-70. Special Issue: "Memory, Amnesia, Commemoration," ed. Ramesh Mallipeddi and Ian Balfour.

"Histories Made Flesh: William Apess's Juridical Theologies." *MELUS* 42.3 (Fall 2017): 6-25.

"Rehearsing Imoinda: Bleaching Black Bodies in Frances Burney's *The Wanderer*." *The Burney Journal* 13 (2016): 59-82.

Book Chapters

“Thresholds of Livability: Climate and Population Relocation in Anna Maria Falconbridge’s *Two Voyages to Sierra Leone*.” *Transatlantic Eighteenth-Century Women Travelers*. Ed. Misty Krueger. Lewisburg, PA: Bucknell UP (forthcoming 2020)

Book Reviews

Indigenous Prosperity and American Conquest: Indian Women of the Ohio River Valley, 1690-1792 by Susan Sleeper-Smith. *Eighteenth-Century Fiction* (forthcoming 2020)

Crossing the Line: Early Creole Novels and Anglophone Caribbean Culture in the Age of Emancipation by Candace Ward. *Journal of American Studies* (forthcoming 2020)

The Eighteenth Centuries: Global Networks of Enlightenment, Edited by David T. Gies and Cynthia Wall. *New Perspectives on the Eighteenth Century* 16.1 (2019): 104-105.

Conference Proceedings

“Retracing our Steps: Or, the Society of Early Americanists Biennial Conference in the Age of Trump.” *Early American Literature* 53.1 (Winter 2018): 292-295.

Bibliographic Essays

“Some Current Publications.” *Restoration: Studies in English Literary Culture, 1660-1700* 36.1 (2012): 71-94.

Works in Progress

Book: *Small Plots: Race and Earthly Belonging in the Atlantic World, 1770-1840*

Article: “‘A stranger and a pilgrim here’: Stranger Sociability and Intimate Estrangement in Ukawsaw Gronniosaw’s *Remarkable Particulars*”

Article: “‘Transported into a cold climate’: Colonial Citizenship and Arctic Marronage in Nova Scotia”

Article: “The Anerotics of Anishinaabe Sovereignty in Jane Johnston Schoolcraft’s Story Worlds”

Encyclopedia Entry: “Anna Maria Falconbridge.” *Encyclopedia of Romantic-Era Women Writers*. Ed. Natasha Duquette. Palgrave Macmillan (Due January 1, 2020).

AWARDS AND HONORS

Edgar Hill Duncan Award, English Department, Vanderbilt University (honors distinguished overall graduate career) (2017)

Robert Manson Myers Dissertation First Chapter Award, English Department, Vanderbilt University (2015)

Rose Alley Press Academic Service Prize, English Department, Vanderbilt University (2013)

John C. Hodges Excellence in Scholarship Award, English Department, University of Tennessee (2012)

Graduate Essay Prize, SEASECS, “Reclaiming Memory’s *Terra Incognitas*: Frances Burney’s Racial Histories” (2012)

Joyce Hemlow Prize in Burney Studies, *The Burney Society*, “Rehearsing Imoinda: Bleaching Black Bodies in Frances Burney’s *The Wanderer*” (2011)

Graduate Essay Prize, SEASECS, “History reduc’d into patches’: Narrating Histories and Bodies in Jane Barker’s *Galesia* Trilogy” (2011)

First-Year Tutor Award, Writing Center, University of Tennessee (2011)

Phi Alpha Theta National History Honor Society (2009)

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

American Studies Fellow, Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities Dissertation Fellowship, Vanderbilt University (2016-2017)

Archival Research at the British Library, British National Archives, and University of Edinburgh Library, funded by a Summer Research Award, College of Arts and Sciences, Vanderbilt University (July 28-August 5, 2016)

English Writing Fellow, Writing Studio, Vanderbilt University (2015-2016)

American Studies Futures Fellow, American Studies Program, Vanderbilt University (2015)

Archival Research at the Beinecke and Lewis Walpole Libraries, funded by the Drake Research Fellowship, English Department, Vanderbilt University (June 15-19, 2015)

John C. Hodges Fellowship for Graduate Teaching Associates, English Department, University of Tennessee (2011-2012)

John C. Hodges Fellowship for Incoming Graduate Associates, English Department, University of Tennessee (2010-2011)

LECTURES AND CONFERENCES

Conference Presentations and Public Lectures

“A stranger and a pilgrim here’: Ukawsaw Gronniosaw’s Intimate Estrangements,” C19 (April 3-6, 2020)

“Bone of My Bone’: Samson Occom and Cosubstantial Kinship,” ASECS (March 24-28-2020)

“Sharing deep feeling’: The Erotic as Queerness in Contemporary Reimaginings of Phillis Wheatley” (roundtable), ASECS (March 24-28, 2020)

- “Maroon Pasts and Presents in Robert Wedderburn’s *The Axe Laid to the Root*,” The Eleventh Annual Charles Town International Maroon Conference & Festival (June 20-23, 2019)
- “The fate of St. Domingo awaits you’: Robert Wedderburn’s Unfinished Revolution,” ASECS (March 21-24, 2019)
- “the vocal hills reply’d’: Rewriting Maternal Grief in Phillis Wheatley’s ‘Niobe in Distress for Her Children,’” SEA (February 28-March 2, 2019)
- “Migrant Revolutions: Tracing Radical Insurgencies in Jamaica and Sierra Leone in the 1790s,” ASECS (March 22-25, 2018)
- “A ‘time fast approaching’: The Futures Past of Robert Wedderburn’s Messianic Prophetics,” Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities, Vanderbilt University (April 27, 2017)
- “Like as the wounds’ of Christ: Moravian ‘Blood and Wounds’ Theology in *The History of Mary Prince*,” SEA (March 2-4, 2017)
- “Mary Prince and the Spaces of Moravian Redress,” ASECS (March 30-April 2, 2016)
- “Histories Made Flesh: William Apes’s Juridical Theologies,” C19 (March 17-20, 2016)
- “The earth was given to the children of men’: Spatial Theologies in Robert Wedderburn’s Revolutionary Politics,” SCMLA (October 31-November 3, 2015)
- “Traces of Haiti: Narrating Agonistic Histories in Frances Burney’s *The Wanderer*,” The Burney Society Biennial Meeting (October 9, 2014)
- “Speaking to the Dead: Spiritual Authority and Mediation in *The Remarkable Particulars of the Life of James Albert Ukawsaw Gronniosaw*,” ASECS (March 19-23, 2014)
- “All the rest of my time are given to *France & St. Domingue*: Frances Burney’s Transatlantic Trace Histories,” SCSECS (February 13-15, 2014)
- “To hear the name of Christ without shuddering’: Madness, Methodism, and the Caribbean in *The Journal of West Indian Proprietor and Hamel, the Obeah Man*,” SEASECS (February 27-March 1, 2014)
- “I never appeared to understand their language’: Translation and its Discontents in Leonora Sansay’s *The Secret History; or, the Horrors of St. Domingo*,” SEASECS (February 28-March 2, 2013)
- “Rehearsing Imoinda: Bleaching Black Bodies in Frances Burney’s *The Wanderer*,” ASECS (March 22-25, 2012)
- “Reclaiming Memory’s *Terra Incognita*: Frances Burney’s Racial Histories,” SEASECS (March 1-3, 2012)

“History reduc’d into patches’: Narrating Histories and Bodies in Jane Barker’s *Galesia* Trilogy,” SEASECS (March 3-5, 2011)

Invited Lectures

“Mary Prince and the Matter of Salt,” Johnson Society of the Central Region Conference (April 24-25, 2020)

“Ecocriticism and the Contemporary Academy,” ENG 7/8000: Literary Research, University of Memphis, Guest Lecturer for Don Rodrigues (October 22, 2019)

Conferences Organized

Co-Coordinator (with Terrance Dean, Department of Religion), ICI’s Biennial Symposium: “The African Diaspora in the World,” Vanderbilt University (September 25-27, 2015)

Panels Organized and Chaired

Chair, “Historical African American Criticism,” Comparative Studies Student Association 2018 Conference (October 19-20, 2018)

Chair, “Gender, Race, and Reading the Sensory,” First Year Conference, English Department, Vanderbilt University (September 16, 2016)

Coordinator, Graduate Student Mentoring Session, SEASECS (March 1, 2014)

Coordinator, Graduate Student Reception, SEASECS (February 27, 2014)

TEACHING RECORD

Instructor of Record (Florida Atlantic University)

AML 6938: Seminar in American Literature

Race and Kinship in the Early Atlantic World (Fall 2019)

Colonial Indigenous Literatures: Questions, Archives, Methodologies (Spring 2019)

AML 4640: Topics in American Indian Literature

“Imagining Otherwise”: Indigenous Studies and Speculative Fiction (Fall 2019)

AML 4604: African American Literature to 1895

Circum-Atlantic Circulations: African American Literature in the World (Spring 2020)

AML 4213: Colonial and Early American Literature

Narrative Experiments in Early American Literatures (Fall 2019)

Discovery and Displacement in the New World (Fall 2018)

AML 4311: Major American Writers of the 19th Century

“I am as God made me”: Gender, Race, and Sexuality in the Americas (Fall 2018)

AML 2010: American Literature to 1865

Visions and Revisions: Fictions of the Americas (Spring 2020)

LIT 2030: Interpretation of Poetry
Poetry of the Environment (Spring 2019)

Instructor of Record (Vanderbilt University)

ENGL 2316W: Representative American Writers
Reprising the American and Haitian Revolutions (Spring 2018)
Imagining a Life: Autobiography in American Literatures (Fall 2017)

ENGL 1260W: Introduction to Literary and Cultural Analysis
Toxic Racism: Environmental (In)Justice in World Literatures (Spring 2018)
Writing Extinction across the Disciplines (Fall 2017)

ENGL 1230W: Literature and Analytical Thinking
Modernity and the Borders of Belief (Spring 2015)
Crime Fiction and Cityscapes (Fall 2014)
Landscapes of the Caribbean Diaspora (Spring 2014)
Science Fiction and the Limits of the Human (Fall 2013)

ENGL 1100: Composition
Persuasion, Parody, and Protest (Fall 2015)

Instructor of Record (University of Tennessee, Knoxville)

ENG 102: Written Composition II
Inquiry into Immigration in the United States (Spring 2012)

ENG 101: Written Composition I (Fall 2011)
Reading the Rhetoric of Popular Culture

Research Assistant

Hortense J. Spillers, Vanderbilt University (January 2015-August 2016)

Misty G. Anderson, University of Tennessee (January 2011-May 2012)

Writing Studio

English Writing Fellow, Vanderbilt University (2015-2016)

Writing Center Tutor, University of Tennessee (2010-2011)

SEMINARS, INSTITUTES, AND WORKSHOPS

Seminar Co-Coordinator (with Stephanie M. Straub, English Department, and Paulo Gabriel Martínez, Philosophy Department), “Derrida’s *The Beast and the Sovereign*, Vol. I and II,” Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities (2015-2016)

Futures of American Studies, Dartmouth College (June 22-28, 2015)

Institute for World Literature, Harvard University (June 24-July 19, 2013)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Florida Atlantic University

Search Committee Member, Early African American Literature

Graduate Committee Member (2018-present)

Sigma Tau Delta Faculty Advisor (2018-present)

Vanderbilt University

Student Representative to the Graduate Program Committee (2016-2017)

Secretary, EGSA (2014-2015; 2015-2016)

Model Instructor, English Department (Spring 2014, ENGL 1230W; Spring 2015, ENGL 1230W; and Fall 2015, ENGL 1100)

Graduate Student Representative (2nd Year Cohort), Academic Committee, EGSA (2013-2014)

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Secretary, Graduate Student Senate (2011-2012)

Graduate Student Senate Liaison, GSE (2011-2012)

Graduate Student Representative, Student Health Advisory Committee (2010-2012)

Academic Organizations

Graduate Student Representative, SEASECS Executive Board (2012-2015)

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Florida Atlantic University

Facilitator, "Understanding Asexual and Aromantic Identities," Ally Week (April 10, 2019)

Vanderbilt University

Co-Facilitator (with Mar Battistella), Ace/Aro Caucus, OUT in Front Conference (February 27, 2016)

Co-Facilitator (with Mar Battistella), Ace/Aro Affinity Group, K.C. Potter House for LGBTQI Life (January 2015-April 2016)

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Assistant Fiction Editor, *Grist: The Journal for Writers* (2011-2012)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Society of Eighteenth Century Studies
Society of Early Americanists
C19: The Society for Nineteenth-Century Americanists
Native American and Indigenous Studies Association
The Society for the Study of Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States
Modern Language Association

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Early American Literatures, African Diasporic and Caribbean Studies, Indigenous Literatures and Native Studies, Transatlantic Slavery and Abolition, Feminist Studies and Queer Theory, Environmental Humanities and Ecocriticism

REFERENCES

Jonathan Lamb
Andrew W. Mellon Professor of the Humanities
Vanderbilt University
Jonathan.lamb@vanderbilt.edu

Hortense J. Spillers
Gertrude Conaway Professor in English
Vanderbilt University
Hortense.j.spillers@vanderbilt.edu

Scott Juengel
Associate Professor in English
Vanderbilt University
Scott.j.juengel@vanderbilt.edu

Misty G. Anderson
Professor in English
Affiliate Professor in Theater and Religious Studies
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
manderson@utk.edu