

HANNAH FREED-THALL

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PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Brown University	William A. Dyer, Jr. Assistant Professor of Humanities, 2017- Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature, 2014-
Princeton University	Cotsen Postdoctoral Fellow in Humanistic Studies, Princeton Society of Fellows in the Liberal Arts, 2011-2014
University of California, Berkeley	James R. Gray Lecturer in Comparative Literature & French, 2010-2011

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley	Ph.D. in Comparative Literature, 2010 “Spoiled Distinctions: Everyday Aesthetics in French Modernism” Committee: Michael Lucey, Ann Smock, Barbara Spackman
Smith College	B.A. in Comparative Literature and French Literature, 2002 <i>summa cum laude</i> , highest honors for thesis on feminist theory directed by Ann Rosalind Jones

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

19th-21st-century French literature; comparative modernisms; aesthetic theory; queer and feminist theory; media and material culture; environmental criticism; the novel

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Spoiled Distinctions: Aesthetics and the Ordinary in French Modernism. New York: Oxford University Press, 2015. (Awarded the Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for French and Francophone Studies and the Modernist Studies Association Prize for a First Book; designated a CHOICE Outstanding Academic Title for 2016; reviewed in *Critical Inquiry*, *Modernism/modernity*, *French Studies*, *Bulletin d'informations proustiennes*)

“Earthbound: Literature, Aesthetics, Ecology” (manuscript in progress)

“‘C’est vraiment dégueulasse’: The Rhetoric of Revulsion from Flaubert to NDiaye” (manuscript in progress)

Articles

“Speculative Modernism: Proust and the Stock Market.” Forthcoming in *Modernist Cultures*.

“‘Prestige of a Momentary Diamond’: Economies of Distinction in Proust.” *New Literary History* 43.1 (Winter, 2012): 159-178. (awarded Malcolm Bowie Prize)

“‘Zut, zut, zut, zut’: Aesthetic Disorientation in Proust.” *MLN* 124.4 (September 2009): 868-900.

“‘Une Répugnante Complicité’: Figuring History in *Le Planétarium*.” *Contemporary French and Francophone Studies*, 10.2 (April, 2006): 173-181.

Essays and Edited Journal Issues in Progress

Introduction (with Dora Zhang) to our edited cluster on “Modernist Setting” for *Modernism/modernity Print Plus*

“Structuralist Narrative Theory.” Chapter under contract for the forthcoming *Cambridge Companion to Narrative Theory*, edited by Matthew Garrett.

“Ecologies of Close Reading.” Chapter under contract for *Modernism and Close Reading*, edited by David James, for Oxford University Press.

“The Modernist Beach.” Article in progress.

Reviews

“Stranger Tongues.” Review of Barry McCrea’s *Languages of the Night: Minor Languages and the Literary Imagination in Twentieth-Century Ireland and Europe*, forthcoming in *NOVEL*, 50.1.

Review of Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick’s *The Weather in Proust* for *MLN* 128.4 (September, 2013): 964-965.

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for French and Francophone Studies, 2016

Modernist Studies Association Prize for a First Book, 2016

Spoiled Distinctions named a CHOICE Outstanding Academic Title, 2016

Artemis A.W. and Martha Joukowsky Postdoctoral Fellow, “Aesthetics and the Question of Beauty,”
Brown University Pembroke Center, 2014-2015

Cotsen Postdoctoral Fellowship, Princeton Society of Fellows, 2011-2014

Malcolm Bowie Prize, for best article in any area of French studies by an early-career researcher, 2013

Princeton University Tuck Fund grant, for research on Proustian tourism in Venice and Normandy, 2013

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, UC-Berkeley, 2009-2010

Chancellor’s Dissertation-Year Fellowship, for outstanding students in the humanities and social sciences,
UC-Berkeley, 2008-2009

INVITED LECTURES & SEMINARS

“Newspaper Modernism: Media Aesthetics from Proust to Woolf.” Harvard Mahindra Center, April, 2016

“Novel Technologies”

Invited roundtable participant, Brown University Department of English, November 2015

“Reading the Modernist Beach”

Invited panelist, “Lifestyle Modernism,” University of Toronto Department of Music, October 2015

“Ways of Knowing”

Invited panelist, "Thinking the Earth," Institute at Brown for Environment and Society, April 2015

"Spoiled Distinctions: Bad Taste in French Modernism"

Invited lecture, Brown University French Department, November 2014

"Proust and Modernist Media"

Keynote lecture, Proust Postgraduate Study Day, University of Durham, UK, January 2014

"Speculative Modernism"

Invited lecture, Comparative Literature Luncheon Series, Penn State, November 2013

"Inestimable Objects: Proust, Modernism, Aesthetics"

Invited conference presentation, "1913: The Year of French Modernism," Princeton University, April 2013

"Gender and Pleasure"

Invited response to Tey Meadow, Sociology/Gender Studies, Princeton University, November, 2012

"Nuance/Nuage/Proust"

Invited lecture, Princeton University Department of French and Italian, February 2012

SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS

"Balbec and Beyond: Reading the Beach at the Fin-de-Siècle." Nineteenth-Century French Studies

Conference, Brown University, October 2016

"Making Do: Dickinson's Scraps"

"Labor/Making/Matter." American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Harvard University, March 2016

"Roland Barthes's Ecological Imagination"

"Modernist Queer Ecologies." Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference, Boston, November 2015

"Scrap Poetry"

"Environmental Afterlives." Association for the Study of Literature and Environment Biennial Conference, Moscow, Idaho, June 2015

"Modernist Camp"

"Camp: the Seminar." Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, October 2014

"The Modernist Awkward"

"The Aesthetics of Modernism." American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, NYU, March 2014

"Proust and the Stock Market"

"Forms of Capital in Proust." 20th/21st-century French & Francophone Studies International Colloquium. New York, March 2014

"What is Queer Ecology?"

"Eco-cosmopolitanism." Transnationalism & Minority Cultures: Mid-America Conference, University of Oklahoma, September 2013

“Testing Taste in *Un Amour de Swann*.”

“*Swann Centenaire: Reading Proust, Then and Now.*” Society for French Studies Annual Conference, Nottingham, UK, July 2013

“Heart-Sick: Strange Intimacies in Jean-Luc Nancy and Marie NDiaye.”

American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Toronto, April 2013

“Bad Taste in French Modernism.”

Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference, Las Vegas, October 2012

“Weak Theory”

American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Providence, March 2012

“From the Sublime to the Sickly-Sweet: Spoiled Distinction in 1930s France”

Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference, Victoria, November 2010

“‘Prestige of a Momentary Diamond’: Proust and the Lemoine Affair”

“Proust and His Era/Proust et son époque.” University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, April 2010

“The Modernist Hoax”

Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference, Montréal, November 2009

“Sarraute’s Theory of Distinction”

20th & 21st-century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium, Minneapolis, March 2009

“Reading the Newspaper in Proust”

“Modernism and Global Media.” Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference, Nashville, November 2008

“‘Zut, zut, zut, zut’: Affirming the ‘Whatever’ in Proust”

American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Long Beach, March 2008

“‘Cette voix étrange’: Haunting Language in Poe and Mallarmé”

American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Princeton, March 2006

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Brown University, Department of Comparative Literature

Fashion and Power, Spring 2017, Fall 2014

Commodity fetishism, capitalist aesthetics, subcultural style. Marx, Freud, Simmel, Barthes, Stallybrass & Jones, Hebdige, Butler, hooks, Steele, Ngai, Cheng, Huysmans, Baudelaire, Woolf, Stein, Bechdel, Hitchcock, Livingston, RuPaul, Van Gogh, Warhol. Organized class trip to the RISD costume and textiles collection. *Cross-listed in Gender and Sexuality Studies.*

Theory of the Novel, Spring 2017

Focus on the production of novelistic interiority and its historical, political, and philosophical stakes. Novels by Madame de Lafayette, Defoe, Flaubert, Woolf, Puig, Morrison, and Bechdel; novel theory by Watt, Lukács, Bakhtin, Genette, Barthes, Bender, and others.

Ecological Thought, Fall 2016

Investigation of concepts such as “slow violence”; “Anthropocene”; wilderness; queer ecology; garbology; and the political use of ecological nostalgia, disgust, grief, and wonder. Works by Haraway, Tsing, Guha, Nixon, Crary, Rilke, Berger, Beckett, Woolf, Walcott, Carson, Roy, Herzog, Varda, and others.

20th-century Experiments, Fall 2016

Focus on politics of literary form, relation between avant-garde and high modernism, connections between literature, music, visual cultures, philosophy. Méliès, Lumière, Wiene, Vertov, Stravinsky, Dalí and Buñuel, Varda, Proust, Rilke, Shklovsky, Freud, Woolf, Larsen, Faulkner, Beckett, Barthes, Merleau-Ponty, Puig.

Proust and Woolf, Fall 2015

Everyday life, media aesthetics, class distinction and servitude, feminism, critiques of colonialism, and the representation of same-sex desire in *Swann's Way*, *Within a Budding Grove*, *Mrs. Dalloway*, *To the Lighthouse*, *Orlando*, *A Room of One's Own*, *The Waves*. Critical works by Benjamin, Genette, Sedgwick, and others.

Princeton University, Department of French and Italian

Adventures in Contemporary French Thought, Fall 2013 (*graduate seminar, taught in French*)

Analysis of theoretical, literary, and visual works by Latour, Nancy, Rancière, Derrida, Malabou, Glissant, Deleuze & Guattari, Foucault, Augé, Stora, Modiano, NDiaye, Chevillard, Alferi, Varda, Haneke, Hirschhorn, and Claire Fontaine. Topics of investigation include stranger intimacy; lieux de mémoire; non-lieux; hyper-objects; biopower; and the affects of late modernity. Organized class trip to see contemporary French play by Guillaume Vincent.

Taste and Disgust, Fall 2012 (*advanced undergraduate seminar, taught in French*)

Social history of senses, philosophical aesthetics, and sociology of taste in 19th- & 20th-century literature, philosophy, painting, cinema. Kant, Brillat-Savarin, Baudelaire, Flaubert, Huysmans, Proust, Ponge, Cézanne, Merleau-Ponty, Bataille, Sartre, Césaire, Barthes, Kristeva, Elias, Bourdieu, Corbin, Yasmina Reza, Dalí & Buñuel, Varda. Organized class trip to the Barnes Foundation in Philadelphia.

Emotion in Modernity, Fall 2011 (*advanced undergraduate seminar, taught in French*)

Introduction to interdisciplinary field of affect studies, with literary and cinematic case studies drawn from Rousseau, Chateaubriand, Flaubert, Baudelaire, Proust, Sarraute, NDiaye, Méliès, Renoir, Haneke.

Princeton University, Counsel of the Humanities

Interdisciplinary Approaches to Western Culture II, Spring 2013, Spring 2012

Lectured and lead discussions on Petrarch, Erasmus, Rabelais, Montaigne, Shakespeare, Cervantes, Baroque Art, Descartes, Mme de Lafayette, Rousseau, Kant, Hegel, Byron, Marx, Baudelaire, Dickinson, 19th-Century Art, Proust. *Course team-taught with François Rigolot (French), Alan Ryan (Politics), Esther Schor (English), Scott Burnham (Music), and others.*

University of California, Berkeley, Department of Comparative Literature

Literary Experiments in the 20th Century; Shakespeare and the World; Self and Self-Dissolution in the Novel; Aesthetic Experience and Everyday Life; Shock; The Art of Forgetting; Between Reading and the Senses; Mirror Images

University of California, Berkeley, Department of French (*all courses taught in French*)

Adventures in the Contemporary Novel; Writing in French; French I; French II

Advising

Director, Brown-RISD dual degree capstone project on design and ecology (2017); senior theses on Nancy Huston (2015-16); feminist graphic novels (2015-16); dystopian literature (2014-15), Brown University

Reader, senior theses on Marie Ndiaye (2015-16); Eugène Savitzkaya (2015-16); David Foster Wallace and Roland Barthes (2014-15), Brown University

Advisor for junior and senior research projects on Gabriel García Márquez; the sociology of art; Hegel and sculpture; the slow food movement in contemporary France, Princeton University, 2011-2013

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & AFFILIATIONS

Reviewer, *Modernism/modernity; Differences: A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies*

Organizer, with Tamara Chin, "Environmental Humanities Reading Group," Brown University, Spring 2015

Session Chair, "The Russian Revolution and Global Modernism," Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference, Boston, November 2015; "Analogical Modernism," MSA Conference, Las Vegas, 2012

Session Organizer, "Modernist Queer Ecologies," Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference, Boston, November 2015

Session Co-organizer, "Environmental Afterlives," Association for the Study of Literature and Environment Biennial Conference, Moscow, Idaho, June 2015; "Forms of Capital in Proust," 20th & 21st-century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium, New York, March, 2014; "Awkward, Ungrateful, and Strange: Rethinking Hospitality in Literature and Film," American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Toronto, 2013; "Behind-the-Scenes Modernism," MSA Conference, Las Vegas, 2012; "The Scrambled Sensory Networks of Late Modernism," MSA Conference, Victoria, 2010

Event Co-organizer, "European Theory in America," Spring, 2006

Planned two-day event featuring seminars and a campus-wide talk by Rey Chow

Member, American Comparative Literature Association, Modern Language Association, Modernist Studies Association, Association for the Study of Literature and Environment

SERVICE

Organizing Committee, 2018 French & Francophone Studies 20th/21st-century International Colloquium, 2015-

First-Year Advisor, Brown University, 2016-

Concentration Advisor, Brown Department of Comparative Literature, 2015-

Prize Committee, Brown Department of Comparative Literature, Spring 2015, Spring 2017 (Chair)

Lecture Committee, Brown Department of Comparative Literature, Spring 2015

LANGUAGES

French (near-native written and spoken fluency); Spanish (advanced spoken and written fluency); Latin (reading ability)