

Curriculum Vitae

# Trent McDonald

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## EDUCATION

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**WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS** St. Louis, MO Aug 2017—present  
 Doctor of Philosophy in English and American Literature in progress

**WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS** St. Louis, MO Aug 2019  
 Master of Arts in English and American Literature

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND** College Park, MD Jan 2017  
 Master of Arts in English, May 2017

- Capstone project: “David Mitchell and the Contemporary Network Metafiction”

**OHIO UNIVERSITY** Athens, OH May 2014  
 Honors Tutorial College, Bachelor of Arts in English, May 2014

- *Summa Cum Laude*
- Thesis: “Between Artifice and Actuality: The Aesthetic and Ethical Metafiction of Vladimir Nabokov and David Mitchell”

## BOOK REVIEWS

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- Review of *Poet-Critics and the Administration of Culture* by Evan Kindley (Harvard UP, 2017).  
*Time Present*, Number 94, Spring 2018
  - The Newsletter of the T. S. Eliot Society

## CREATIVE PUBLICATIONS

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- “Pining” – *Sphere*, Spring 2014
  - Ohio University undergraduate literary journal
- “The taste of Parliament was Juliette” – *PLACE*, Spring 2014
  - City of Athens non-fiction literary journal

## TEACHING

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- Lectured, graded, and assisted in planning for the course International and Area Studies (IAS) 207: Crossing Borders: An Introduction to Institutions and Concepts in IAS at Washington University St. Louis, MO Fall 2019
- Classics and English Tutor, Academic Advancement Center Athens, OH Nov 2013—May 2014
- Cultural Advisor, Ohio Program of Intensive English Athens, OH Jun 2013—Jul 2013

## GRANTS, AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS

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- Small Change Grant, Gephardt Institute for Civic and Community Engagement at Washington University, 2019
  - For WashU for a Sustainable Puerto Rico panel and benefit

- Mellon Sawyer Dissertation Seminar: Theorizing the Displaced in Asia, Washington University, 2018
- The Dr. Joyce R. Durham Essay Prize in English, Ohio University, 2014
  - Awarded for BA thesis

## **INVITED TALKS**

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- Sunrise Movement Green New Deal Townhall in St. Louis, July 2019
  - “Organized Labor and the Green New Deal”
- Drexel Dialogues at the Washington University Catholic Student Center, February 2019
  - “Wages and the Dignity of Work”

## **CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS**

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- Western Literature Association conference in St. Louis, October 2018
  - Presented essay: “Speculative Migration: The ‘Plausible Desirable Futures’ of Mohsin Hamid’s *Exit West*”
- Washington University World Literature/International Modernisms conference, April 2018
  - Presented essay: “The Flow of Language and Life in J. M. Coetzee’s *Diary of a Bad Year*”
  - Moderated panel: “Minor Traditions and the Aftermath of War”
- Washington University Fall Colloquium, November 2017
  - Presented essay: “Artificial Intelligences, Corporations, and the End of History in William Gibson and Ted Chiang”
- 48<sup>th</sup> Northeast Modern Language Association conference at Johns Hopkins University, March 2017
  - Presented essay: “David Foster Wallace, Boredom, and the Form of Metafiction”
- Local Americanists at University of Maryland, February 2016
  - Presented essay: “Metafiction and Television in Marlon James’s *A Brief History of Seven Killings*” in response to Carter Mathes’s “Abstraction in Dub: Decolonial Aesthetics in Marlon James’s *A Brief History of Seven Killings*”
- University of Maryland Graduate English Organization Conference, March 2016
  - Presented essay: “The Generic Perversions of David Mitchell and the Latourian Network”
  - Moderated panel: “Subverting Gender”
- American Comparative Literature Association conference at University of Toronto, April 2013
  - Presented essay: “Cosmopolitan, Global: Differences in Approaching the Worldly in Nabokov’s *Pale Fire* and Mitchell’s *Cloud Atlas*”
- 33<sup>rd</sup> Medieval and Renaissance Forum at Plymouth State University, April 2012
  - Presented essay: “Proserpyna Reads the Nicene Creed; Chauntecleer Reads Macrobius: The Supernatural Embrace of Authority in Chaucer’s *Tales*”

## **SERVICE**

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- Wash U for a Sustainable Puerto Rico, April 2019
  - Lead Organizer, Grant Author, and Moderator for Benefit Panel to provide Puerto Ricans with renewable energy from the insufficient electrical grid after Hurricanes Maria and Irma
- Crossing the Borders of Creation and Critique conference at Washington University, March 2019
  - Organizing Committee member
- Washington University International Modernisms/World Literature conference, May 2018
  - Organizing Committee member
- Washington University Spring Colloquium, April 2018
  - Organizing Committee member

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

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- Contemporary/Post-1945 Anglophone Literature, Migration, Academic History, Digital Humanities, Experimental Literature, the avant-garde, Labor Studies and History, Postmodernism, Modernism, Speculative Fiction

## **AFFILIATIONS**

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- Western Literature Association
  - Member, 2018—
- Northeast Modern Language Association
  - Member, 2016—2017
- American Comparative Literature Association
  - Member, 2013—
- Honors Community Council
  - Member, 2011—2014
  - Chair of Philanthropy, 2012—2013
- Phi Kappa Phi Honors Fraternity
  - Member, 2012—