

WHITNEY SPERRAZZA

Department of English
Rochester Institute of Technology
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Academic Appointments

2019-present Assistant Professor, Department of English, Rochester Institute of Technology
2017-2019 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas

Education

PhD Indiana University Bloomington, English, November 2017
MA University of Chicago, Humanities, *summa cum laude*, 2011
BA University of Albany, English, *summa cum laude*, 2009

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

2021 “Mary Sidney’s Postmortem Poetics.” *Shakespeare Studies*. [Forthcoming Fall 2021]
2019 “Knowing Mary Wroth’s Pamphilia.” *Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies* 19.3 (Summer 2019): 1-35.
2019 “Intimate Correspondence: Negotiating the Materials of Female Friendship in Margaret Cavendish’s *Sociable Letters*.” *Women's Writing* 26.4 (2019): 456-472.

Peer-Reviewed Digital Scholarly Editions and Articles

2021 “Invocation of the Elements.” By Hester Pulter (Poem 41, Amplified Edition). *The Pulter Project: Poet in the Making*. Eds. Leah Knight and Wendy Wall. <https://bit.ly/2X8kP3Z>.
2021 “Pulter’s Garden” (Poem 118, Curation). *The Pulter Project: Poet in the Making*. Eds. Leah Knight and Wendy Wall. <https://bit.ly/2VtHOpo>.
2020 “The Snail, the Tulip, and the Bee.” By Hester Pulter (Poem 118, Amplified Edition). *The Pulter Project: Poet in the Making*. Eds. Leah Knight and Wendy Wall. <https://bit.ly/3kl6IhD>.

Essays in Edited Collections

2019 “Granular Reading: Texture, Language, and Surface Marks in *Titus Andronicus*.” *Titus Andronicus: The State of Play*. Ed. Farah Karim-Cooper. Bloomsbury Arden Shakespeare, 2019. 179-99.
2018 “Feminist Queer Temporalities in Aemilia Lanyer and Lucy Hutchinson.” Co-authored with Penelope Anderson. *Gendered Temporalities in the Early Modern World*. Ed. Merry E. Wiesner-Hanks. Amsterdam University Press, 2018. 159-84.

Review Essays

- 2020 “Early Modern Manuscripts Online.” *Early Modern Digital Review* 3.2 (Summer 2020).
<https://bit.ly/3ovBGW6>.

Editorial Work

- 2019-present Co-Editor (with Penelope Anderson), Civil War and Interregnum Section, *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Early Modern Women Writers*. Gen. Eds. Patricia Pender and Rosalind Smith.

Public Humanities Writing

- 2021 “Reading Anatomy Texts Like Poetry (and why we should do it more often).” *The Collation*, Folger Shakespeare Library. <https://bit.ly/3ltu7By>.
- 2021 “The Algorithm’s Needlework Origins.” *The Sundial*, Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies. <https://medium.com/the-sundial-acmrs>.
- 2020 “Before Lovelace.” *Lady Science*. <https://bit.ly/3pxhYua>.
- 2019 “Digital Feminist Archives.” *The Recipes Project*. <https://bit.ly/362m9nF>.
- 2019 “Physical/Digital Archives: Teaching with Spencer Manuscripts.” Kenneth Spencer Research Library Blog. <https://bit.ly/32eiJwf>.

Fellowships, Honors, and Awards

- 2021 Seed Grant, Sponsored Research Services, Rochester Institute of Technology (funding for prototype project, “The Craft of Computation: A Digital Exhibit of *Les Laboueurs*”)
- 2021 Working Group Startup Award, Central New York Humanities Corridor, collaboration with Kristin Doughty (University of Rochester), Kathryn Mariner (University of Rochester), and Kirin Makker (Hobart William Smith)
- 2020 Short-Term Fellowship, Folger Shakespeare Library and Wellcome Library (funding for monograph archival research)
- 2019 Franklin Research Grant, American Philosophical Society (funding for monograph archival research)
- 2018 Robin Bayer Research Seed Grant, Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas (funding for “Feeling Violation” digital project prototype)
- 2017 Dissertation Completion Fellowship, College of Arts and Sciences, Indiana University (declined to accept postdoctoral position at University of Kansas)
- 2016 Graduate Research Travel Grant, College Arts & Humanities Institute, Indiana University (funding for dissertation archival research)
- 2016 Shirley Jean McRoberts-Cox Fellowship, Summer Research/Writing Award, English Department, Indiana University (funding for dissertation writing)
- 2016 Conference Travel Award, College Arts & Humanities Institute, Indiana University (funding to attend Shakespeare Association of America conference)

Invited Lectures

- 2019 “Tangible Digital Humanities,” Digital Humanities Pedagogy Summer Institute, Arizona State University (institute co-leader and featured presenter)
- “Renaissance Skins: Translating Dissection to the Page in Early Anatomical Texts,” Medical Humanities Seminar, University of Kansas School of Medicine
- “(In)Tangible Violence: Poetry, Touch, and Critical Making,” Digital Humanities and Social Engagement Program, Dartmouth College
- 2018 “Modeling Absence: Digital Text Analysis and Sexual Violence in Shakespeare’s Drama,” University of Victoria
- “Knowing the Early Modern Female Form” (research presentation) and “Uncommon Commonplacings” (teaching presentation), Renaissance Studies NOW Symposium, Indiana University

Select Conference Presentations**Panels and Seminars Organized**

- 2021 “Science Without Shakespeare” (seminar, co-organized with Liza Blake), *Shakespeare Association of America*, Virtual Conference
- 2018 “The Making of Knowledge: Experimental Texts and Textual Experiments in Early Modern Women’s Scientific Writing” (workshop, co-organized with Alice Brooke, Elizabeth Crachiolo, and Julia Reed), *Attending to Early Modern Women*, Milwaukee
- 2015 “Feminist Queer Temporalities.” *Attending to Early Modern Women* (workshop, co-organized with Penelope Anderson and Bronwyn V. Wallace), Milwaukee

Papers Presented (*Invited)

- 2022 “Microscopic Anatomy and Hester Pulter’s Manuscript Experiments,” *Modern Language Association*, Washington DC (accepted paper)
- 2021 “Hacking Time with Hester Pulter,” *Teaching with The Pulter Project*, Northwestern University, Virtual Symposium
- “Making Poetry with Margaret Cavendish,” *Renaissance Society of America*, Virtual Conference*
- “Mary Sidney’s Postmortem Poetics,” Next Generation Plenary Panel, *Shakespeare Association of America*, Virtual Conference
- 2019 “Perverse Intimacy,” *Shakespeare Association of America*, Washington, DC
- “Points of Insertion: Hester Pulter and the Early Modern Blazon,” *Modern Language Association*, Chicago
- “Digital Making and the She/Her/Hers of Early Modern Poetry,” *Modern Language Association*, Chicago
- 2018 “Blazonic (Un)making: Margaret Cavendish’s Recipe Poems as Early Modern Maker Labs,” *Symposium: Puzzles, Bots, and Poems*, University of Virginia*

“Dusty Death: Anne Sexton’s Scrapbook *Macbeth*,” *Shakespeare Association of America*, Los Angeles

“A ‘Course Peice’ of Writing: Textured Poetics in Margaret Cavendish’s *Poems and Fancies*,” *Modern Language Association*, New York

2017 “Building a Feminist Future: On (Digital) Pedagogical Praxis,” *HASTAC Conference*, Orlando

Roundtable Discussant

2021 “A Conversation about Data Feminism,” Virtual Roundtable, Mellon Digital Humanities Program, University of Rochester*

2020 “Positioning Yourself on the Academic Job Market,” Virtual Roundtable, Society for the Study of Early Modern Women and Gender*

“Collective Close Reading as Critical Making,” Digital Creative Making in the Literature Classroom Roundtable, *Modern Language Association*, Seattle*

2018 “Conflict and Resolution in the Early Modern World,” Medieval and Early Modern Seminar, Hall Center for the Humanities, The University of Kansas*

Campus and Departmental Talks

2019 “Perverse Intimacies: Poetry, Anatomy, and the Early Modern Female Form,” Hall Center for the Humanities, The University of Kansas

“Maker Spaces: Ideas, Questions, Possibilities,” Institute for Digital Research in the Humanities, The University of Kansas

2018 “The Eve Problem in Early Women’s Devotional Poetry,” Gender Seminar, Hall Center for the Humanities, The University of Kansas

2017 “Touching on Archival Absence: Early Modern Women and the Digital Humanities,” Digital Humanities Seminar, Hall Center for the Humanities, The University of Kansas

Digital Research and Projects

2021-present Principal Investigator, *The Craft of Computation: A Digital Exhibit of Les Laboueurs*, Digital Humanities Project

The Craft of Computation will be a digital exhibit on the relationship among book making, textile work, and computer programming. The exhibit focuses on the first book made by an automated machine, a silk woven edition of *Les Laboueurs (The Laborers, 1883)* by Alphonse de Lamartine, held at the Cary Graphic Arts Collection.

2020-present Principal Investigator, *Resistance Mapping*, Digital Humanities Project

Co-leading a regional collaborative team (RIT, University of Rochester, and Rochester community educators and activists) to design and build a digital humanities project on place-based racism and resistance in Rochester, NY.

2019 Institute Co-Leader and Featured Speaker, Digital Humanities Pedagogy Summer Institute, Arizona State University

Co-designed and team-taught a three-day institute on digital humanities pedagogy and graduate student training for faculty, graduate students, and staff in the Tempe, AZ region. Presented two formal talks as part of my institute contribution.

- 2018-2019 “Feeling Violation: Digital Making and the Early Modern Blazon”
Designed and produced 3D models of quantitative data on early modern sonnet sequences using a combination of digital fine arts and computational text analysis methods.
- 2018 “Specters of Sexual Violence,” Haunting Humanities Program, Hall Center for the Humanities
Developed an interactive exhibit to interrogate the relationship between the poetic blazon tradition and real-world violence against women’s bodies. Designed and executed exhibit for large-scale public humanities event.
- 2016-2017 Graduate Assistant, Institute for Digital Arts and Humanities (IDAH), Indiana University
Organized digital arts and humanities programming, including distant reading working group, “Rewiring Consent” workshops, and public humanities events. Advised IDAH faculty fellows and graduate HASTAC scholars on digital research, tools, and resources on and off campus.
- 2015-2017 HASTAC Scholar (Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory)
Collaborated with IDAH faculty fellows and other graduate HASTAC scholars on digital tools workshop sessions. Participated in HASTAC community through digital symposiums, blog posts, and Twitter. Funded through IDAH.
- 2015 National Endowment for the Humanities Institute, “Early Modern Digital Agendas: Advanced Topics”
Earned position (15 faculty and graduate students internationally) to participate in three-week seminar on advanced topics in Digital Humanities and critical digital approaches to early modern studies. Funded through Folger Shakespeare Institute and NEH Institute. For more information on the seminar, see <https://bit.ly/3mkmmfb>.

Teaching

Rochester Institute of Technology

ENGL 210: Literature, Media, and Culture (Spring 2020)

ENGL 215: Text and Code (Spring 2021; Spring 2022)

ENGL 308: Shakespeare (Spring 2022)

ENGL 414 / WGST 414: Women’s Science/Fiction (Spring 2021; Spring 2022)

DHSS 101: Computation and Culture (Fall 2019; Fall 2020; Fall 2021)

DHSS 102: Media Archaeology (Spring 2020; Spring 2021)

Graduate Advising, Master’s Thesis Committee Member, Emily Hawk (2019-2020)

Undergraduate Advising, Senior Capstone Committee Member, Mandy Cameron (2019-2020)

The University of Kansas

ENG 315: Digital Approaches to Early Women’s Writing

ENG 590 / ENG 790: Digital Feminist Archives

Indiana University

ENG-W131: Elementary Composition
ENG-W170: Introduction to Argumentative Writing
ENG-W231: Professional Writing
ENG-L205: Introduction to Poetry (Teaching Assistant)
ENG-L450: Feminist and Queer Theory (Teaching Assistant)

The University of Chicago

HUMA 19100: Media Aesthetics, Humanities Writing Seminar (Teaching Assistant)

Service

Service to Profession

2019-2020 Digital Strategies Subcommittee Member, Shakespeare Association of America
2019 Reviewer, journal articles: *Modern Philology*, *Early Modern Studies Journal*
2016-2017 Graduate Representative, Society for the Study of Early Modern Women and Gender Executive Committee

Department and University Service

Current Curriculum Committee, English Department
Curriculum Committee, Digital Humanities and Social Sciences Program, RIT
2019-2020 Tenure Criteria Evaluation, English Department, RIT
Medical Humanities Working Group, Center for Engaged Storycraft, RIT
2018-2019 Whiting Public Engagement Fellowship, Internal Review Committee, University of Kansas
Advisory Board, Institute for Digital Research in the Humanities, University of Kansas
Public Humanities Roundtable, Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas

Professional Affiliations

Association for Computers and the Humanities
History of Science Society
Modern Language Association
Renaissance Society of America
Shakespeare Association of America
Society for the Study of Early Modern Women and Gender