

Erin Joyce Kappeler

Assistant Professor of English, Tulane University

Academic Employment

Assistant Professor of English, Tulane University	2019–present
Assistant Professor of English, Missouri State University	2016–2019
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Bunker Hill Community College	2016
Adjunct Assistant Professor, Bentley University	2015–2016
Long-Term NEH Research Fellow, Massachusetts Historical Society	2014–2015
Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Maine at Farmington	2013–2014

Education

Ph.D., Department of English, Tufts University	2014
Dissertation: <i>Shaping Free Verse: American Prosody and Poetics, 1880–1920</i> . Committee: Virginia Jackson (chair), Lee Edelman, Katie Peterson, Meredith Martin	
M.A., Department of English, Tufts University	2007
B.A., <i>magna cum laude</i> , Department of English, Princeton University	2005

Publications

Book manuscript

White Space, Black Lines: The Racialization of Free Verse and the Invention of Modernist Poetics. Manuscript will be completed by November 2022.

Free verse is poetry by and for white people. Or at least, that is how white editors and critics pitched free verse to readers when it started to come into vogue in the United States in the 1910s. *White Space, Black Lines* tells the story of how free verse became a weapon wielded by white critics against Black and Indigenous poets in the early twentieth century. These critics defined free verse in textbooks, magazines, and literary anthologies as the formal expression of an emerging white American race, believed to have roots in an imagined Anglo-Saxon past. For Black and Indigenous authors in the modernist era, free verse did not function as a break or an opening, as it seemed to for white poets; it was instead a form of enclosure, used to shore up racial hierarchies within and beyond the world of poetry and poetics. We have many stories about how and why free verse developed in the early twentieth century, but this story of the racialization of free verse as a white form in the United States has consistently been overlooked and edited out of our literary historical accounts of modernism—especially those accounts that focus on how free verse was promoted in modernist little magazines such as *Poetry* and *Others*. This book returns to those little magazines and to their associated anthologies to show that free verse in the modernist era was a racial formation of whiteness and to explore how Black and Indigenous poets navigated this racialization of poetic form. The result is an account of modernist poetics that reckons with the foundational, structural whiteness of the field in order to develop an anti-racist approach to modernist poetry and poetics.

Journal Articles and Book Chapters (peer-reviewed)

- “Unsettling Modernist Poetry,” *Unsettling Poetry Pedagogy*, edited by Caroline Gelmi and Elizabeth LeRud, submitted May 2022.
- “Editors’ Introduction: What’s Genre Got to Do (Got to Do) With It?” (with Ryan Tracy), “*This is What Makes Us Girls*”: *Gender, Genre, and Popular Music*, special issue of *New American Notes Online*, 2022.
- “An Interview with Melissa A. Weber, Curator of the Hogan Archive of New Orleans Music and New Orleans Jazz at Tulane University” (with Ryan Tracy), “*This is What Makes Us Girls*”: *Gender, Genre, and Popular Music*, special issue of *New American Notes Online*, 2022.
- “The Return of the Nineteenth Century,” *Paideuma* vol. 45, 2021, pp. 53–60.
- “Free Verse, Historical Poetics, and Settler Time,” *Historical Poetics*, special issue of *Literature Compass*, vol. 17, no. 7, 2020.
- “Constructing Walt Whitman: Literary History and Histories of Rhythm,” *Critical Rhythm*, edited by Jonathan Culler and Ben Glaser, Fordham University Press, 2019, pp. 128–150.
- “Counting with Crapsey,” *Unsung Masters: Adelaide Crapsey*, edited by Jenny Molberg and Christian Bancroft, Pleiades Press, 2018, pp. 166–183.
- “Editing America: Nationalism and the New Poetry,” *Modernism/modernity*, vol. 21, no. 4, 2014, pp. 899–918.
- “The Georgian Poets and the Genteel Tradition” (with Meredith Martin), *A Companion to Modernist Poetry*, edited by David E. Chinitz and Gail McDonald, Wiley-Blackwell, 2014, pp. 199–208.

Special Journal Issues Edited

- “This is What Makes Us Girls’: Gender, Genre, and Popular Music” (co-edited with Ryan Tracy), special issue of *New American Notes Online*, 2022. For introduction, see 2.3. For editors’ interview with Melissa Weber, see 2.4.

Review Essays

- “*Fair Copy: Relational Poetics and Antebellum American Women’s Poetry* by Jennifer Putzi (book review), *Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers*, forthcoming 2022.
- “Four Approaches to Teaching Poetry,” *College English*, vol. 84, no. 3, 2022, pp. 291–300.
- “*Bodies and Books: Reading and the Fantasy of Communion in Nineteenth-Century America* by Gillian Silverman (book review), *College Literature* vol. 40, no. 1, 2013, pp. 142–144.

Academic Presentations

Invited Talks

- “Mary Austin’s Time Machine: Modernist Poetics and Settler Time,” invited talk at the Clement and Linda McGillicuddy Humanities Center, University of Maine, as part of the “Society, Colonization, and Decolonization” lecture series, Orono, ME, March 2020.
- “A Provocation from an Americanist,” invited talk at the Historical Poetics Now biennial conference, Austin, Texas, November 2019.

“Playing Games with Poetry,” keynote address, second annual Undergraduate Literature Conference at Missouri State University, Springfield, MO, April 2016.

“Nineteenth-Century Modernisms,” keynote address, “Modernisms and Manifestos” undergraduate conference, University of Maine at Farmington, March 2015.

“Everyday Laureates,” invited talk at the Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, February 2015.

“Out of the East: Philology, Ethnology, and the Struggle to Define Modern Poetry,” Center for the Humanities at Tufts, Fellows Seminar Series, Medford, MA, December 2011.

Papers Read

“Unsettling the Modernist Classroom,” paper to be delivered at the annual meeting of the Modern Language Association, San Francisco, January 2023.

“Reexpressed from the Originals: Locating Voice in Late-Nineteenth-Century Native American Poetry Collections,” paper delivered at the biennial meeting of C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists, Coral Gables, FL, April 2020.

“Indigenous Challenges to Transnational Feminisms,” paper accepted for the annual meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association, Chicago, March 2020 (cancelled).

“Staging Native American Poetry,” paper delivered at the annual conference of the Space Between Society, Brookings, SD, 2019.

“Modernism’s Settler Poetics,” paper delivered at the annual conference of the Modernist Studies Association, Toronto, Ontario, October 2019.

“‘Nostalgia for those happy states’: Mary Austin’s Communal Poetics,” paper delivered at the annual conference of the Modernist Studies Association, Columbus, OH, November 2018.

“Lana Del Rey, Poetess,” paper delivered at the biennial meeting of C19: The Society of 19th-Century Americanists, Albuquerque, NM, March 2018.

“The Anglo-Saxonist Academy,” paper delivered at the annual meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association, Los Angeles, March 2018.

“Poetic Form and Racial Formation,” paper delivered at the annual conference of the Modernist Studies Association, Amsterdam, Netherlands, August 2017.

“National Meters and Global Rhythms,” paper delivered at the annual meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association, Utrecht, Netherlands, July 2017.

“Mary Austin’s *American Rhythm*,” paper delivered at the annual meeting of the Modernist Studies Association, Boston, November 2015.

“Illuminating Parodies: Club Poetry in Postbellum America,” paper delivered at the annual meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association, University of Washington, Seattle, March 2015.

“The New Poetry in Black and White,” paper delivered at the annual meeting of the Modernist Studies Association, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA, November 2014.

“Translating the Native,” paper delivered at the annual meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association, New York University, New York, March 2014.

“Against Whitman,” paper delivered at the annual meeting of the Modernist Studies Association, Pasadena, CA, November 2016.

“Harriet Monroe’s Museum,” paper delivered at the annual convention of the Modern Language Association, Chicago, January 2014.

Other Conference and Symposium Participation

Workshop participant, “Collaborative Insights through Digital Annotation,” MIT, Cambridge, MA, January 2015.

“The Problem of Occasional Verse.” Seminar Participant: “Expendable Pieces: Ephemera and Modernism,” Modernist Studies Association annual meeting, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA, November 2014.

“Harriet Monroe Against *The World*.” Seminar Participant: “Public Domains: Print and the Commons in the 19th Century U.S.,” C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists biennial convention, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, March 2014.

Teaching

Courses Taught at Tulane University, 2019–present

Fall 2019	ENLS 2000: Literary Investigations ENLS 5010: Capstone Seminar (Native Modernism)
Spring 2020	ENLS 2000: Literary Investigations ENLS 7760: Seminar in Modern American Literature (Native Modernisms)
Fall 2020	ENLS 2000: Literary Investigations ENLS 4390: Topics: Race and Inclusion in US Literature (Native American Modernisms)
Spring 2021	ENLS 2000: Literary Investigations ENLS 7760: Seminar in Modern American Literature (Living the Apocalypse)
Fall 2021	Research Leave (external ACLS fellowship)
Spring 2021	Research Leave (external ACLS fellowship)
Fall 2022	ENLS 2000: Literary Investigations ENLS 7850: Seminar in Modern Literature (Modernism Now!)

Student Advising

Fall 2022 Honors thesis reader
Major advisor to 2 students

Other University Teaching

Assistant Professor, Missouri State University, 2016–2019

Fall 2016	English 235: Critical Approaches to Literature English 289: Literature, Culture, and Conflict (“Frontier Modernism: Writing the American West”) English 711: Graduate Seminar in Poetry (“Shaping Free Verse”)
Spring 2017	English 235: Critical Approaches to Literature (2 sections) English 351: Survey of American Literature II, 1870 to Present
Fall 2017	English 235: Critical Approaches to Literature English 351: Survey of American Literature II, 1870 to Present

	English 758, “Graduate Seminar in 20th-Century American Literature: Contemporary Indigenous Poetry”
Spring 2018	English 235: Critical Approaches to Literature (2 sections) English 580/682: Gender Issues in Language and Literature (“Feminism Without Gender”)
Fall 2018	English 235: Critical Approaches to Literature (2 sections) English 351: Survey of American Literature II, 1870 to Present
Spring 2019	English 235: Critical Approaches to Literature (2 sections) English 554/654, “Topics in Ethnic American Literature: Contemporary Native American Poetry”

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Bunker Hill Community College, 2016

Spring 2016	ENG 112: College Writing 2 (2 sections)
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Adjunct Assistant Professor, Bentley University, 2015–2016

Fall 2015	EXP 101: Expository Writing 1: Critical Thinking and Writing COM 210: Effective Speaking
Spring 2016	EXP 101: Expository Writing 1: Critical Thinking and Writing COM 210: Effective Speaking

Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Maine at Farmington, 2013–2014

Fall 2013	English 181: Literary Analysis and Interpretation
Spring 2014	English 100: Writing Seminar: Poetry and Popular Culture English 272: American Texts and Contexts

Graduate Instructor, Tufts University, 2007–2011

Courses Taught as Sole Instructor

Fall 2007	English 001: Expository Writing
Spring 2008	English 002: Freshman Writing Seminar (Differences)
Fall 2008	English 001: Expository Writing
Spring 2009	English 002: Freshman Writing Seminar (Love and Sexuality)
Fall 2009	English 001: Expository Writing
Spring 2010	English 002: Freshman Writing Seminar (Conformity and Rebellion)
Fall 2010	English 001: Expository Writing
Spring 2011	English 002: Freshman Writing Seminar (Love and Sexuality)

Service

Service to the Profession

Panel and Symposium Organization

“Poetics Without Modernism,” seminar co-organizer (with Ben Glaser), Between the Acts: A Digital Modernist Studies Association Conference, April 2022.

“Workshop: Labor Solidarity,” workshop co-facilitator and presenter, Between the Acts: A Digital Modernist Studies Association Conference, April 2022.

“Mary Austin: Rhythm, Indigeneity, Literature,” panel co-organizer (with Sharon Kunde) and presenter, annual convention of the Modern Language Association, Chicago, January 2019.

“The Global Lives of Poems,” panel co-organizer (with Sarah Ehlers), annual meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association, Seattle, March 2015.

“Whitmanian Modernism,” panel co-organizer (with Tim Robbins) and presenter, annual conference of the Modernist Studies Association, Pasadena, CA, November 2016.

“Historical Poetics: New Directions,” panel organizer, annual conference of the Modernist Studies Association, Boston, November 2015.

Governance

Membership and Elections Chair, Modernist Studies Association, 2020–2023

Review Work

Editorial Board Member, *New American Notes Online*, February 2015–present

Referee for *American Literary History*

Referee for *The Journal of Modern Periodical Studies*

Referee for *Modernism/modernity*

Referee for *Oxford Bibliographies*

Mentoring

Faculty Facilitator, ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellows Seminar, “Preparing for the Academic Job Market,” American Council of Learned Societies, Atlanta, GA, August 2018.

Invited speaker, ACLS faculty information session, Tulane University, September 2021 (cancelled due to Hurricane Ida).

Service to English Department, Tulane University

Ad Hoc Committee on Salary, 2021–present

Ferguson Lecture Series Committee member, 2019–present

Emerging Writers Lecture Series Committee member, 2019–present

Other Professional Service

Outreach and Recruitment Committee chair, Missouri State University, Department of English, 2018–2019.

Recruitment and Retention Committee member, Missouri State University, College of Arts and Letters, 2018–2019.

Interim Course Coordinator for English 289, Missouri State University, College of Arts and Sciences, Committee on General Education and Intercollegiate Programs, Fall 2017.

Student Advisor, Michael D. Wilson Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of Maine at Farmington, April 2014.

Teaching mentor, Department of English, Tufts University, 2009–2010.

Academic Programming at Tulane

Faculty Facilitator and Interviewer, Arons Poet Reading, 2020

First-Year Faculty Fellow, 2020–2021

Research Support

Tulane University Sources

Faculty Research Award, School of Liberal Arts	\$5,000	2020–2021
Carol Lavin Bernick Faculty Grant	\$6,519.50	2020–2021

External Sources

ACLS Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies	\$60,000	2021–2022
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Other Awards and Fellowships

Classroom Enhancement Grant, Center for Engaged Learning and Teaching, Tulane University	\$400	2020
New Faculty Summer Research Award, College of Arts and Letters, Missouri State University	\$6,000	2016
NEH Summer Institute Fellowship, “Making Modernism: Literature and Culture in Twentieth-Century Chicago,” Newberry Library	\$1,200	2015
NEH Long-Term Fellowship, Massachusetts Historical Society	\$38,000	2014–2015
Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies	\$25,000	2012–2013
Dissertation Fellowship, Center for the Humanities at Tufts University	\$18,000	2011–2012
Graduate Institute for Teaching Fellowship, GSAS, Tufts University	\$1,500	2007–2008
Provost Fellowship, GSAS, Tufts University	\$5,000/year	2006–2008

Professional Affiliations

American Comparative Literature Association
C19: The Society of 19th-Century Americanists
Historical Poetics Working Group
Modern Language Association
Modernist Studies Association