MELANIE WALSH

Assistant Professor
Information School
University of Washington, Seattle

Website: www.melaniewalsh.org
Email: melwalsh@uw.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2023-
Present
University of Washington
Assistant Professor, Information School
— Adjunct Faculty, English Department

2021-
2023
University of Washington
Assistant Teaching Professor, Information School

2019-
2021
Cornell University
Postdoctoral Associate and Visiting Lecturer, Information Science

EDUCATION

2019   Ph.D.   **Washington University in St. Louis**, English & American Literature

Dissertation: "Postwar Redux: The Recirculation of Postwar American Literature and the Rise of Networked Readers in the Twenty-First Century"
DOI

Dissertation Committee: William J. Maxwell (Chair), Rachel Greenwald Smith, Long Le-Khac, Steven Meyer, Matthew Erlin

2015   M.A.   **Washington University in St. Louis**, English

2013   B.A.   **Washington University in St. Louis**, English
summa cum laude

2011-
2012
Keble College, **Oxford University**, English
Visiting Student

2019   Additional Training
LaunchCode, Data Science, St. Louis, MO

CURRENT AFFILIATIONS

University of Washington

— Adjunct Faculty, English Department
— Core Faculty, Textual Studies Program
— Affiliate, Humanities Data Lab
— Affiliate, Society + Technology
— Affiliate, eScience Institute

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Note: ♣ indicates a student advised by me.
See footnote for authorship conventions.[1]

BOOK IN PROGRESS

When Postwar American Fiction Went Viral: Protest, Profit, and Popular Readers in the 21st Century
Melanie Walsh

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

The Afterlives of Shakespeare and Company in Online Social Readership
Maria Antoniak*****, David Mimno*****, Rosamund Thalken*****, Melanie Walsh*****, Matthew Wilkens*****, Gregory Yauney***** (*****equal contribution)
Journal of Cultural Analytics♠ and *Modernism/modernity*♦ (crossover issue), May 2024
DOI♠, **DOI**♦, **ArXiv**

The Goodreads 'Classics': A Computational Study of Readers, Amazon, and Crowdsourced Amateur Criticism
Melanie Walsh and Maria Antoniak
Journal of Cultural Analytics♠ and *Post45* (crossover issue), April 2021
DOI♠, **Post45**, **GitHub** (281 stars)

Tweets of a Native Son: The Quotation and Recirculation of James Baldwin from Black Power to #BlackLivesMatter
Melanie Walsh
American Quarterly, 70, no. 3 (September 2018): 531-559
DOI

PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE PAPERS

Does ChatGPT Have a Poetic Style?
Melanie Walsh, Anna Preus, Elizabeth Gronski♣
Computational Humanities Research, December 2024
CHR, **ArXiv**

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[1] In the humanities and digital humanities, first author typically represents the primary contributor and lead researcher, with subsequent authors listed in descending order of contribution. In computing research, the last author often signifies the senior researcher, advisor, or PI.

Sonnet or Not, Bot? Poetry Evaluation for Large Models and Data
Melanie Walsh, Anna Preus, Maria Antoniak
Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: EMNLP, November 2024
DOI, ArXiv

RIVETER: Measuring Power and Social Dynamics Between Entities
Maria Antoniak, Anjalie Field, Lauren Klein, Jimin Mun, Maarten Sap, Melanie Walsh
Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), 2023
DOI, **ArXiv**, **GitHub** (80 stars)

Tags, Borders, and Catalogs: Social Re-Working of Genre on LibraryThing
Maria Antoniak, Melanie Walsh, David Mimno
Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction (CSCW), April 2021
DOI

BOOK CHAPTERS

Not with a Bang But a Tweet: Democracy, Culture Wars, and the Memeification of T.S. Eliot
Melanie Walsh and Anna Preus
Expressive Networks: Poetry and Platform Cultures
Amherst College Press, June 2025 (forthcoming)
DOI

Social and Conceptual Networks in Eighteenth-Century German Periodical Literature
Melanie Walsh and Matt Erlin
Between Network and Narrative: German and European Cultural Histories, 1789-1810
Oxford University Studies in the Enlightenment, Liverpool University Press, January 2024
DOI

The Challenges and Possibilities of Social Media Data: New Directions in Literary Studies and the Digital Humanities
Melanie Walsh
Debates in the Digital Humanities 2023
University of Minnesota Press, July 2023
DDH

OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES & PROJECTS

Responsible Datasets in Context
Project website
A repository of datasets paired with rich documentation, data essays, and teaching resources, all of which draw on context and humanities perspectives and methods.
*Funded by a Mozilla Responsible Computing Challenge Award (2023-2024, 2024-2025)

U.S. National Park Visit Data (1979-2023)
Responsible Datasets in Context
Data essay (co-authored with Os Keyes)

A "data essay" and teaching resources for National Park visitation data from 1979-2023.

AI for Humanists
[Project website](#)
A suite of resources — including tutorials, workshops, guides, and glossaries — that help humanities researchers use, understand, and critique recent advancements in artificial intelligence.
*Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (2021-2022, 2023-2025)

Introduction to Cultural Analytics & Python
[Online textbook](#)
An online interactive textbook that offers an introduction to the programming language Python, specifically designed for students interested in the humanities and social sciences
*Awarded Best Digital Humanities Training Material 2021

IN PREPARATION

Collection Diversity Audits and Vendor Dependencies in Public Libraries
Melanie Walsh, Change Ge, Sabina Tompkins
ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT), 2025

TUTORIALS

2023   **"Large Language Models for FAccT Researchers"**
            Melanie Walsh, Luca Soldaini, Matthew Wilkins, David Mimno,
            ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAccT)
            Chicago, IL
            Recording

2022   **"BERT for Humanists & Social Scientists:**
            Applying Large Language Models to Social Media Data"
            International Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM)
            Atlanta, GA
            Description

2022   **"BERT for Humanists and Social Scientists"**
            Bell Labs Seminars
            Cambridge University
            Invited Workshop
            Seminar series

PUBLIC WRITING & ART

ESSAYS, REVIEWS, INTERVIEWS

What 35 Years of Data Can Tell Us About Who Will Win the National Book Award
Alexander Manshel and Melanie Walsh

Public Books, November 2023 (link)

Where Is All The Book Data?
Melanie Walsh
Public Books, October 2022 (link)

Review: Name That Twitter Community!
Melanie Walsh
Reviews in Digital Humanities, Vol. 1, no. 2, January 2020 (link)

Beautifying *Beale Street*
Melanie Walsh
Los Angeles Review of Books, December 2018 (link)

A Conversation with Cathy Davidson: On the Digital in the Humanities and Her Journey to Revolutionize Higher Ed
Melanie Walsh
Human Ties, September 2018 (link)

FICTION

Unattended Packages
Melanie Walsh
Chicago Reader, December 2018 (link)

EDITORIAL WORK

Echoes: Memes, Art, & Collectives on the Internet
Series edited and solicited by Melanie Walsh
The Spectacle, July 2019 (link)

FILM

The Daily Aesthetics of Alexander Martin
Allison Walsh, Director; Melanie Walsh, Story Consultant
2022 (link)
*Official selection of the PBS Short Film Festival 2022, Barcelona Short Film Festival, Femmie Filmmakers Showcase, and Pride Film Fest

EXTERNAL GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

2024-2025	**PI: Mozilla Responsible Computing Challenge Award** Mozilla Foundation, Omidyar Network, Schmidt Futures, Craig Newmark Philanthropies, Mellon Foundation, and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund

*Grant awarded to support "Responsible Datasets in Context: Expanding Ethical Humanities Data Education," which helps provide richly contextualized datasets for undergraduate computing education.
Melanie Walsh (PI), Anna Preus (Co-PI), Miriam Posner (Co-PI), Amardeep Singh (Co-PI), Sylvia Fernandez (Co-PI)
Total: $49,796

2024-2026   **Co-PI: NEH Digital Humanities Level II Advancement Grant**
National Endowment for the Humanities

*Grant awarded to support "Post45 Data Collective: Enhancing Cultural Data Documentation, Interoperability, and Reach."
Melanie Walsh (Co-PI), Dan Sinykin (Co-PI)
Total: $149,518

2023-2024   **PI: Mozilla Responsible Computing Challenge Award**
Mozilla Foundation, Omidyar Network, Schmidt Futures, Craig Newmark Philanthropies, Mellon Foundation, and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund

*Grant awarded to support "Responsible Datasets in Context: Collaborating Designing for Ethical Humanities Data Education," which helps provide richly contextualized datasets for undergraduate computing education.
Melanie Walsh (PI), Anna Preus (Co-PI), Miriam Posner (Co-PI), Amardeep Singh (Co-PI), Sylvia Fernandez (Co-PI)
Total: $150,000

2023-2025   **Co-PI: NEH Digital Humanities Level III Advancement Grant**
National Endowment for the Humanities

*Grant awarded to support "AI for Humanists," which helps humanities researchers use, understand, and critique recent advancements in artificial intelligence.
David Mimno (Co-PI), Melanie Walsh (Co-PI), Matthew Wilkens (Co-PI)
Total: $349,987

2022   **Team Member: IMLS Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program**
Institute of Museum and Library Services

*Grant awarded to support the TALENT Network to promote the Training of Archival & Library Educators with iNnovative Technologies.
PI Richard Marciano
Total: $399,698 Personal Share: $7,400

2021-2022   **Co-PI: NEH Digital Humanities Level I Advancement Grant**
National Endowment for the Humanities

*Grant awarded to support "BERT for Humanists: Anticipating the Reception of Contemporary NLP in Digital Humanities."
<u>Melanie Walsh</u> (Co-PI), David Mimno (Co-PI)
Total: $39,998

2018   **William J. Hill Visiting Researcher Travel Grant**
Wittliff Collections, Texas State University

2018   **Everett Helm Visiting Fellowship**
The Lilly Library, Indiana University

2017   **National Science Foundation Travel Grant**
"Archives Unleashed" Workshop
Internet Archive, San Francisco, CA

2016-28   **HASTAC Scholar**
Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology
Alliance and Collaboratory

INTERNAL GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

2024   **Co-PI: Collaborative Project Award**
Simpson Center for the Humanities, University of Washington
*Awarded to support *Cultural Analytics Praxis*
<u>Melanie Walsh</u> (Co-PI), Anna Preus (Co-PI)
Total: $9,041

2024   **Co-PI: Collaborative Project Award**
Simpson Center for the Humanities, University of Washington
*Awarded to support *AI, Creativity, and the Humanities.*
<u>Melanie Walsh</u> (Co-PI), Anna Preus (Co-PI), Geoff Turnovsky (Co-PI), and Golden Owens (Co-PI)
Total: $14,096

2024   **PI: Humanities Data Science Summer Institute Fellowship**
Interdisciplinary Minor in Data Science
University of Washington
*Awarded to lead a humanities data science project in summer 2024

2023   **Co-PI: Crossdisciplinary Research Cluster Award**
Simpson Center for the Humanities, University of Washington
*Awarded to support *AI, Creativity, and the Humanities*
<u>Melanie Walsh</u> (Co-PI), Anna Preus (Co-PI), Geoff Turnovsky (Co-PI), and Rich Watts (Co-PI)
Total: $8,500

2023	**PI: Digital Humanities Summer Fellowship**
	Simpson Center for the Humanities, University of Washington
	*Awarded to support work on my book, *When Postwar American Fiction Went Viral: Protest, Profit, and Popular Readers in the 21st Century*

2023	**Data Science Minor Course Development Award**
	Interdisciplinary Minor in Data Science
	University of Washington
	*Awarded funding to develop new course for the Data Science Minor in summer 2023

2023	**PI: Humanities Data Science Summer Institute Fellowship**
	Interdisciplinary Minor in Data Science
	University of Washington
	*Awarded to lead a humanities data science project in summer 2023

2022	**PI: UW iSchool Strategic Research Fund (SRF) Award**
	Information School, University of Washington
	*Awarded to support *Investigating Data-Driven Diversity Audits in Public Libraries*. Total: $5,496

2015, -16, -17	**Humanities Digital Workshop Summer Fellowship**
	Washington University in St. Louis
	*A summer fellowship program where students collaborate with faculty on digital humanities projects.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2025	**AI & Humanities Event**
	Lehigh University
	Bethlehem, PA
	Invited Talk

2025	**Data Science/Computational Social Science Seminar**
	Information School
	University of Michigan
	Ann Arbor, MI
	Invited Talk

2025	**Data Advocacy for All**
	University of Colorado Denver
	Denver, CO
	Invited Talk

2025   **Data Speculations: A National Forum on Library Digital Stewardship for Copyrighted Contemporary Culture**

IMLS-Sponsored National Forum

Invited Presentation (virtual)
Event Description (*archived*)

2025   **Beyond the Hype: Charting a Path for AI in Humanities Research**

Hong Kong Association for Digital Humanities
Hong Kong
Invited Keynote Talk
Event Description (*archived*)

2024   **AI for Humanists**

Final Conference, Digital Humanities and Artificial Intelligence
CNRS AISSAI (AI for Science, Science for AI)
Paris, France
Invited Presentation
Event Description (*archived*)

2024   **What Do LLMs 'Know' About Poetry?**

Final Conference, Digital Humanities and Artificial Intelligence
CNRS AISSAI (AI for Science, Science for AI)
Paris, France
Invited Keynote Talk (with Anna Preus)
Event Description (*archived*)

2024   **AI + DEI? Investigating Automated Diversity Audits in Public Libraries**

Critical Data Lab / DataX
UCLA
Los Angeles, CA
Invited Talk
Event Description (*archived*)

2024   **When Machine Learning Meets Cultural Heritage Collections**

CALMA (Center for Advances in Libraries, Museums, and Archives)
Roundtable
University of Washington
Seattle, WA
Invited Speaker
Event Description (*archived*)

2024   **The Meme of the Author**
International Symposium on Reader Studies in the Digital Age

Price Lab for Digital Humanities
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA
Invited Talk
Event Description (*archived*)

2024   **What ChatGPT Poetry Can Teach Us About AI & Language**

Disruptive Innovation: A.I., Language, Arts, and Education, Night of Ideas
Alliance Francaise
Seattle, WA
Invited Keynote Talk (with Anna Preus)
Event Description (*archived*)

2024   **Future Direction in Text Analysis and Social Media Data**
Text Analysis Module Series
Brown University
Invited Talk (virtual)

2023   **Artificial Intelligence: An Overview for the NEH**
National Endowment for the Humanities (virtual)
Invited Presentation (with Matt Wilkens and David Mimno)

2023   **Large Language Models for Humanists:**
A Hands-On Introduction
AI, Creativity, & Humanities Research Cluster
Simpson Center, University of Washington
Seattle, WA
Invited Workshop Presentation (with Maria Antoniak)
Event Description (*archived*)

2023   **Publisher-Platform Data Relationships**
Exploring the Anti-Ownership Ebook Economy
Engelberg Center on Innovation Law & Policy
New York University (NYU)
New York, NY
Invited Panelist
Event Description (*archived*), *Recording*

2023   **The Social Media Lives of Texts:**
Reception in the Age of the Internet
New Horizons in Digital Humanities & Cultural Data Science
University of Hong Kong (HKU)
Hong Kong
Invited Talk
Event description (*archived*)

2023   **Not With a Bang But a Tweet**

The Lucy Family Institute for Data & Society
Department of English
Notre Dame (virtual)
Invited Talk
Event description (archived)

2023   **The Social Media Lives of Texts:**
        Reception in the Age of the Internet
        Digital Humanities Series
        Department of English
        Duke University
        Durham, North Carolina
        Invited Talk
        Event Description (*archived*)

2023   **Not with a Bang But a Tweet**
        The Social Lives of Digitized Culture Research Cluster
        Information School
        University of Illinois Urbana Champaign (virtual)
        Invited Talk (with Anna Preus)
        Recording

2023   **Data and Culture: Understanding Culture Through Data**
        While Protecting Culture From Data
        Colloquium
        Information School
        University of Texas (virtual)
        Invited Talk
        Event Description (*archived*)

2023   **Post45 Graduate Symposium**
        Department of English
        University of Washington
        Seattle, WA
        Invited Respondent

2022   **Not With a Bang But a Tweet**
        Treehouse Computational Linguistics Lab, led by Emily Bender
        University of Washington (virtual)
        Invited Talk
        Event Description (archived)

2022   **Data as Culture**
        "Cultural Analytics" graduate seminar,
        led by Stefano Leonardi and Carlos Castillo
        Sapienza University and Pompeu Fabra University (virtual)
        Invited Talk

2022   **Tracking T.S. Eliot on Twitter**
            Digital Humanities Lecture Series
            Department of Germanic Studies
            UT Austin (virtual)
            Invited Talk
            Event Description *(archived)*

2022   **Social Annotation Strategies for Large Courses**
            Hypothesis
            Invited Panelist (virtual)
            Event Description *(archived)*, *Recording*

2022   **Data as Culture"**
            Women in Data Science Conference
            Claremont, CA
            Invited Keynote Talk
            Event Description *(archived)*

2021   **Teaching with the Twitter API**
            Twitter for Academic Research (virtual)
            Invited Panelist
            Event Description *(archived)*

2021   **Programming in the Humanities**
            MIT Digital Humanities (virtual)
            Invited Talk

INVITED WORKSHOPS

2025   **The Ends of Prosody**
            Princeton University
            Princeton, New Jersey
            Event description *(archived)*

2024   **Responsible Computing Challenge (RCC) Global Conclave**
            Mozilla Foundation
            Kerala, India
            Event description

2024   **Schmidt Workshop on Humanities and AI**
            Schmidt Sciences
            Oxford, England

2023   **Collections as Data: State of the Field and Future Directions**
            Collections as Data: Part to Whole, Mellon-funded initiative
            Vancouver, Canada
            Event description *(archived)*

| 2017 | **Access**
Text Mining the Novel (NovelTM) Workshop
Montreal, Canada |
|---|---|
| 2017 | **Cultural Analytics**
Computational and Data-Intensive Cultural Studies Symposium
South Bend, IN |
| 2017 | **Archives Unleashed: Web Archive Datathon**
Participant
Web Archiving Workshop for Researchers
Internet Archive, San Francisco, CA
Event description (*archived*) |

GUEST LECTURES

| 2024 | **"Data Visualization & Tweets of a Native Son"**
"Intro to Digital Studies in Arts and Humanities," led by Kristen Mapes
Michigan State University
Guest Lecture |
|---|---|
| 2024 | **"Cultural Analytics: Understanding Culture Through Data While Protecting Culture From Data"**
"Intensive Capstone on 'Digital Remembrance Practices,"
led by Temi Odumosu
Information School
University of Washington
Guest Lecture |
| 2022 | **"Tweets of a Native Son"**
"The Literature of Black Lives Matter," led by Stephanie Li
Department of English
Washington University in St. Louis
Guest Lecture |
| 2022 | **"Not With a Bang But a Tweet"**
"CSE 491: Data Science and Society Seminar," led by Ben Marwick
Data Science Minor
University of Washington (virtual)
Guest Lecture |
| 2022 | **"Computational Approaches to Reading"**
"Reading Culture" MLIS seminar, led by Jennifer Burek Pierce
School of Library and Information Science
University of Iowa (virtual)
Guest Lecture |

2021	**"Reflections on Python & Cultural Analytics"** "Data: A User's Manual," led by Cameron Blevins Department of History University of Colorado Denver (virtual) Guest Lecture
2021	**"Computational Approaches to Reading"** "History of Reading" MLIS seminar, led by Jennifer Burek Pierce School of Library and Information Science University of Iowa (virtual) Guest Lecture
2020	**"Tweets of a Native Son"** "Introduction to Digital Humanities" graduate seminar, led by John Ladd Northwestern University (virtual) Guest Lecture
2019	**"Tweets of a Native Son"** "Hot Takes: Cultural Criticism in the Digital Age," led by Phil Maciak Washing University in St. Louis Guest Lecture

AWARDS

2021	**Best Digital Humanities Training Material 2021, Winner** Digital Humanities Awards 2021 *Awarded for my online textbook *Introduction to Cultural Analytics & Python*.
2020	**Emerging Open Scholarship Award, Honorable Mention** Canadian Social Knowledge Institute *Awarded for exemplary open scholarship carried out by undergraduate students, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and early stage professionals.
2019	**Dean's Award for Teaching Excellence** Arts & Sciences, Washington University in St. Louis *Awarded annually to select Arts & Sciences graduate students for outstanding teaching. Each department nominates one graduate student, and winners are selected from this pool of nominees.
2018	**Dissertation Fellowship** Center for the Humanities, Washington University in St. Louis *Awarded annually to six doctoral candidates in the humanities in support of the dissertation.
2010	**Harriet Schwenk Kluver Prize**

English Department, Washington University in St. Louis
*Awarded annually for excellence in writing.

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, & TUTORIALS

2024   **"Responsible Datasets in Context: Teaching with Data and Emphasizing the Value of Historical Context"**
ADHO Digital Humanities (DH) Conference 2024
Washington, D.C.
Organizer and presenter

2024   **"Reinventions and Responsibilities in the Age of AI"**
ADHO Digital Humanities (DH) Conference 2024
Washington, D.C.

2024   **"Teaching Machine Learning in the Digital Humanities"**
ADHO Digital Humanities (DH) Conference 2024
Washington, D.C.
Co-organizer and presenter

2024   **"What Does ChatGPT Know About Poetic Form?"**
Modern Language Association (MLA) Convention 2024
Philadelphia, PA

2023   **"What Do Readers Value? Manually Tagging and Quantitatively Measuring 'Aspects' in Goodreads Reviews"**
Maria Antoniak, Yujia Gao, Melanie Walsh, David Mimno
Poster at Text as Data (TADA)
Amherst, MA

2023   **"Poetic Authorship in the Digital Age:**
Rupi Kaur, Instagram, and Performing Authenticity in Public"
American Studies Association (ASA) Conference 2023
Montreal, Canada

2023   **"David Foster Wallace Bros on Reddit"**
Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present (ASAP)
Seattle, WA

2023   **"Rupi Kaur and Reception Data"**
Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present (ASAP)
Seattle, WA

2022   **"Toward a Critical Data Pedagogy: American Studies Perspectives in the Digital Humanities Classroom"**
American Studies Association (ASA) Conference 2022

New Orleans, LA
Co-organizer and presenter

2022 **"Online Readership and Perception of Genre Over Time"**
ADHO Digital Humanities (DH) Conference 2022
Virtual

2022 **"Computational Reception and Readership Studies"**
The Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP)
Conference
Amsterdam, Netherlands

2021 **"Multilingual NLP as Interface"**
Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities (DARIAH)
Conference
Virtual

2021 **"Social Textworking: Books, Readers, and Online Media"**
The Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP)
Conference
Virtual

2021 **"Computational Approaches to Book Reviews"**
Association for Computers and Humanities (ACH) Conference
Virtual

2021 **"BERT for Humanists: Uses, Challenges, Translations"**
Association for Computers and Humanities (ACH) Conference
Virtual

2021 **"Library Circulation Histories Workshop"**
Discussant
National Endowment for the Humanities Workshop
Virtual

2021 **"New Histories of Quantitative
and Computational Methods"**
Modern Language Association (MLA) Annual Convention
Toronto, Canada (virtual)

2020 **"The Crowdsourced 'Classics' and the Revealing
Limits of Goodreads Data"**
ADHO Digital Humanities (DH) Conference 2020
Ottawa, Canada (virtual)

2019 **"Documenting Twitter Protest"**
American Studies Association (ASA) Conference
Honolulu, HI

2019	**"Working with Twitter Data"**
	Day of Data – Cornell University Library
	Ithaca, NY

2019   **"The Crowdsourced 'Classics'"**
Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present (ASAP)
College Park, MD

2019   **"New Horizons in Network Analysis"**
Association for Computers and Humanities (ACH) Conference
Pittsburgh, PA
Co-organizer and presenter

2019   **"Mapping the Librotraficante Movement"**
Global DH Symposium
East Lansing, MI

2019   **"Between Readers: A Short Methodological
History of Networked Reading"**
Modern Language Association (MLA) Annual Convention
Chicago, IL

2018   **"James Baldwin, #BlackLivesMatter,
and Networks of Textual Recirculation"**
Digital Humanities Conference 2018
Mexico City, Mexico

2018   **"Kurt Vonnegut Unstuck in Time for $1.99:
Amazon Kindle Worlds and the Readerly
Reimagination of Postwar American Fiction"**
Post45 Graduate Symposium
New Haven, CT

2017   **"Stories of Dissent: Rereading #Ferguson"**
American Studies Association Conference
Chicago, IL
Panel organizer and presenter

2017   "**Geospatial Workshop"**
Participant
Text Mining the Novel (NovelTM) Workshop
South Bend, IN

2017   **"James Baldwin's New Media Readers"**
Global Digital Humanities Symposium
East Lansing, MI

2017	**"Tweets of a Native Son: James Baldwin and the Literary-Critical Use of a Social Media Archive"**
	Midwest Modern Language Association
	St. Louis, MO

TEACHING

Courses Taught as Primary Instructor

| WI 2025 | **TXTDS 321: AI, Text Reuse, & the Art of Stealing** |

Cross-listed with Textual Studies, Informatics, and English
University of Washington

This course explores the various ways that texts have been reused throughout literary history, including allusion, quotation, remix, parody, and plagiarism. We examine the concept of "text reuse" through both qualitative methods, such as the comparison of two poems through close reading, and quantitative methods, such as the computational analysis of similarity across a corpus of texts. The motivating framework and methodological approach of the course are both inspired by recent advances in artificial intelligence and natural language processing (NLP). Large language models (LLM) like ChatGPT, which can now generate texts in a wide range of styles and genres, have sparked intense public debates about art and intellectual property, authorship and originality, and the way we value human creativity. We aim to contextualize these important cultural questions and conversations by exploring a longer history of text reuse in literature, ranging from famously allusive poetry like T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land*, to postmodern avant-garde works like Theresa Hak Kyung Cha's *Dictée*, and ephemeral texts like nineties Riot grrrl zines. We also contextualize the technologies that have mediated these textual expressions, from letterpresses to photocopiers, from word processors to social media and AI.

| SP 2020, SP 2021 AU 2022, SP 2023 | **INFO 498A: Introduction to Cultural Analytics: Data, Computation, & Culture** |

Cornell University, Information Science / American Studies / English
University of Washington, Information School

This course prepares students to analyze, interpret, and visualize cultural data—such as books, movies, and tweets—with computational methods. After a basic introduction to the programming language Python, we cover topics such as web scraping, text mining, network analysis, and mapping. We survey and discuss how these computational tools are applied in humanistic

research. We also reflect on the specific problems, challenges, and ethical dilemmas posed by the computational study of culture. This course was specifically designed for students in the humanities who have no previous programming background.

SP 2022, AU 2022 SP 2023, AU 2023 SP 2024, AU 2024	**LIS 572: Introduction to Data Science (MLIS Program)** University of Washington, Information School

This graduate-level course offers students with little to no technical background a solid grasp of basic data science methods, techniques, and challenges, as well as an introduction to the programming language R. Students also engage with ethical questions related to data science in research and the world at large. Specific focus is given to applications of data science in academia and library science.

WI 2022, SP 2022 WI 2023	**INFO 201: Foundational Skills for Data Science** University of Washington, Information School

This course introduces fundamental tools, technologies, and skills necessary to transform data into knowledge, including the manipulation, analysis, and visualization of data, as well as version control and the programming language R. Students learn to work with real data and reflect on the power and peril of data in the world at large.

AU 2021, WI 2022 AU 2022, WI 2023	**INFO 350: Information Ethics & Policy** University of Washington, Information School

This course examines ethics and policy issues surrounding information technologies, systems, and industries. We emphasize in particular the social, cultural, and political dimensions of these issues. We discuss topics including privacy, intellectual property, online speech, misinformation, algorithmic inequality, and the environmental consequences of information technology. By the end of the course, students are able to critically analyze information issues and develop a project that makes a demonstrable impact beyond the classroom.

Course website: https://melaniewalsh.github.io/Intro-Cultural-Analytics/

SP 2018	**Humanities by the Numbers:** **Essential Readings in the Digital Humanities** Co-taught with Professor Matt Erlin

Washington University in St. Louis, Comparative Literature / Interdisciplinary Project in the Humanities

This graduate-level seminar introduced doctoral students to current discussions and debates in the digital humanities. Through a weekly hands-on technical lab, we also introduced digital tools for text mining, network analysis, data visualization, and geospatial mapping.

AU 2017   **American Fiction in the Social Media Age**

Washington University in St. Louis, English

This advanced undergraduate course explored how twenty-first-century American writers represent and incorporate forms of new media, mostly focusing on the novel but also considering works that experiment with new media platforms and expand our sense of what literature is and can be. We examined the evolving shape of contemporary American fiction by reading both established writers and new emerging voices — Ruth Ozeki, Jonathan Franzen, Ben Lerner, Chimamanda Adichie — and by considering novels published by major publishing houses as well as self-published novels and Twitter fiction.

Course website: www.AFSMA17.com

AU 2015, SP 2016   **College Writing 1**

Washington University in St. Louis, College Writing Program

This introductory writing course for freshmen helped students find their writerly voice and prepared them to enter conversations in a wide range of disciplines with confidence and clarity. We covered a broad spectrum of reading material that ranged from James Baldwin's *Notes of a Native Son* to academic research about anti-aging science. We tackled an equally broad number of writing genres that ranged from personal essays to a cumulative final research project. Together we learned to analyze texts, ask meaningful questions, conduct research, cite responsibly, and build complex arguments.

Courses Taught as Teaching Assistant

2016   **American Fiction From 1945 to the Present**

Washington University in St. Louis, English Department
Teaching Assistant with Professor Long Le-Khac

This advanced undergraduate course surveyed American fiction from 1945 to the present with special emphasis on how a rapidly diversifying U.S. gave

voice to gendered, classed, and racialized groups that were struggling for inclusion. As teaching assistant, I lectured on Ralph Ellison's *Invisible Man*, Vladimir Nabokov's *Lolita*, Ishmael Reed's *Mumbo Jumbo*, and Junot Diaz's *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*. I also graded student papers and held weekly office hours.

External Teaching

2022   **Working with Twitter Data**
The Text Analysis Pedagogy (TAP) Institute
JSTOR Labs
June 2022

This workshop prepared students to collect, analyze, and visualize Twitter data. Students will learn how to work with the Twitter API and with the Python library twarc, one of the most popular tools for Twitter data. We will also introduce basic text analysis methods that are appropriate for short documents like tweets. Participants who are eligible for the Academic Research Track of the Twitter API will have the opportunity to work with the entire historical archive of tweets (2006-2022).

2021   **Pandas for Data Analysis**
The Text Analysis Pedagogy (TAP) Institute
JSTOR Labs
June 2021

This workshop introduced students to a popular Python package known as Pandas, a tool for data analysis and manipulation that is widely used among data scientists. Participants learned how to work with CSV files and JSON files, how to filter and aggregate data, how to make bar charts and time series plots, how to merge datasets with common values, and more. All case studies and examples featured data relevant to the humanities, including library circulation data.

EXTERNAL SERVICE

2022-Present   **Post45 Data Collective**
*Peer-reviewed, open-access repository for post-1945 literary/cultural data
Co-Editor

2024-Present   ***Computational Humanities Research* journal**
*Peer-reviewed journal focused on computational humanities research
Advisory Board

2023-Present   **U.S. AI Safety Institute Consortium, Modern Language Association (MLA)**
Task Force Member

| 2025 | **The North American Summer School in Logic, Language, and Information (NASSLLI)** |
| | Local Organizing Committee |

2020-2021	**Post45 Data Collective**
	*Peer-reviewed, open-access repository for post-1945 literary/cultural data
	Emory's Center for Digital Scholarship
	Editorial Board

Summer 2020	**Research Experience for Undergraduates, National Science Foundation**
	Cornell University
	Faculty Mentor

INTERNAL SERVICE

2024-Present	**Center for Advances in Libraries, Museums, and Archives (CALMA), Executive Council**
	Information School
	University of Washington
	Executive Council Member

2023-present	**Humanities Data Science Summer Institute**
	Data Science Minor
	University of Washington
	Co-Founder and Steering Committee Member

2024-2025	**Faculty Search Committee (LIS)**
	Information School
	University of Washington
	Member

2024	**Faculty Search Committee (Software Design and Development)**
	Information School
	University of Washington
	Member

2023, 2024	**Digital Humanities Summer Fellowship**
	Simpson Center for the Humanities
	University of Washington
	Reviewer

2023-2024	**Center for Advances in Libraries, Museums, and Archives (CALMA), Task Force**
	Information School
	University of Washington

Member

2023-2024   **MLIS Program Committee**
Information School
University of Washington
Member

2021-2023   **Peer Teaching Committee**
Information School
University of Washington
Member

2022-2023   **Communications Review Board**
Information School
University of Washington
Member

2022   **Social Justice & Social Impact
Capstone Award — Judging Panel**
Information School
University of Washington
Member

2021-Present   **Textual Studies Program**
University of Washington
Core Faculty

2020-2021   **Cornell Data Journal**
Cornell University
Faculty Advisor

2019-Present   **Digital Humanities Club**
Cornell University
Faculty Advisor

2018   **Redesigning Doctoral Education,
Curriculum Innovation Committee**
Center for the Humanities
Washington University in St. Louis
Member

2017-2018   **Digital Humanities Drop-in Clinic for Graduate Students**
Humanities Digital Workshop
Washington University in St. Louis
Founder and Consultant

2017-2018   **Graduate Advisory Panel**
English Department

Washington University in St. Louis
Convener

| 2015-2018 | **Digital Approaches Reading Group**
Washington University in St. Louis
Co-founder and Co-convener |

| 2017 | **"Responsible Teaching Under a Trump Administration"**
English Department
Washington University in St. Louis
Co-coordinator |

| 2016 | **Faculty Search Committee,
Assistant Professor in English Literature
with Specialty in Computational Approaches**
English Department
Washington University in St. Louis
Member |

| 2014-2016 | **Peer Mentor**
English Department
Washington University in St. Louis |

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Python
Programming language

- ❖ data analysis with **pandas**
- ❖ natural language processing with **spaCy**
- ❖ web scraping with **BeautifulSoup** and **Selenium**
- ❖ quantitative network analysis with **networkX**

R
Programming language

- ❖ data analysis with **dplyr**
- ❖ natural language processing with **tidytext**

JavaScript
Programming language

**Website development
and maintenance:**

- ❖ raw HTML & CSS
- ❖ static-site generators, e.g., Jekyll
- ❖ content management systems, e.g., WordPress

Software packages:

❖ network analysis and visualization with **Gephi**
❖ data visualization with **Tableau**
❖ mapping with **QGIS**
❖ data cleanup with **OpenRefine**
❖ graphic design with **Adobe Photoshop** and **Adobe Illustrator**

LANGUAGES

Spanish, Advanced reading and writing, basic speaking