

CHRISTINE YAO

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ACADEMIC HISTORY

- current Postdoctoral Fellow, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
Department of English, University of British Columbia
- 2016 PhD, Department of English, Cornell University
Minor Fields: American Studies; Feminism, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Dissertation: "Feeling Subjects: Science and Law in 19th-Century America"
Committee: Shirley Samuels (chair), Eric Cheyfitz, George Hutchinson,
Shelley Wong
- 2013 MA, Department of English, Cornell University
- 2008 MA, Department of English, Dalhousie University
Thesis: "Genre-Splicing: Epic and Novel Hybrids in Neil Gaiman's *The Sandman*
and *American Gods*," directed by Jason Haslam
- 2007 Honours BA, High Distinction, University of Toronto, St. George Campus
English Specialist
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PUBLICATIONS

Articles

"Visualizing Race Science in *Benito Cereno*." *J19: The Journal of Nineteenth-Century Americanists*. 3.1 (2015): 130-137.

Chapters in Edited Collections

"Gothic Monstrosity: Charles Brockden Brown's *Edgar Huntly* and the Trope of the Bestial Indian." *American Gothic Culture: An Edinburgh Companion*. Eds. Joel Faflak and Jason Haslam. Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh Press, 2015. 25-43.

Book Reviews

Mel Y. Chen, *Animacies: Biopolitics, Racial Mattering, and Queer Affect*. *College Literature*. 41.3 (2014): 149-151.

Encyclopedia Entries

The Dictionary of Literary Characters. Ed. Michael D. Sollars. New York, NY: Facts on File Inc., 2010. Entries on *Arms and the Man* by George Bernard Shaw, "Bloodchild" by

Octavia Butler, "The Cloven Viscount" by Italo Calvino, *Maus* by Art Spiegelman, *Middlesex* by Jeffrey Eugenides, "The Minority Report" by Philip K. Dick, "The Nonexistent Knight" by Italo Calvino, *Solaris* by Stanislaw Lem.

Encyclopedia of Comic Books and Graphic Novels. Ed. M. Keith Booker. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 2010. Entries on *Gemma Boverly* by Posy Simmonds, *Ghost World* by Daniel Clowes.

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations

- 2017 "Hostile Intimacies: Reading Sui Sin Far in Jamaica Through Lisa Lowe's *Intimacies of Four Continents*." *Modern Language Association*, Philadelphia, PA. January 5-8.
"Where is Yellow in the Early American Imaginary?" *Society of Early Americanists*, Tulsa, OK. March 2-4.
- 2016 "Unfeeling Aliens: Oriental Inscrutability as Racism and Resistance." *Modern Language Association*, Austin, TX. January 7-10.
"The Doctor and the Lawyer: Affect and Gender in the Modernizing Profession." *C19 The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists*, State College, PA. March 17-20.
"The Mulattoes of Asia." Cornell University: *Annual Global 19th Century Day Colloquium, Publics and (Counter)publics*, April 16.
"Babo's Skull, Aranda's Skeleton: Visualizing the Sentimentality of Race Science in *Benito Cereno*." *American Literature Association*, San Francisco, CA. May 25-28.
- 2015 "Atavism as Nostalgia: Science and Affect in *Benito Cereno*." *Association of Canadian College and University Teachers of English*, Ottawa, ON. May 30-June 2.
"Against White Sympathy: Oriental Inscrutability as Resistance in the Work of Sui Sin Far." *American Literature Association*, Boston, MA. May 21-24.
"Charles Darwin, Affect Theory, and Literary Expressions of Emotion." *North East Modern Language Association*, Toronto, ON. April 30-May 3.
"Feeling Otherwise: Black-Indigenous Coalitions and Transnational Networks in Martin Delany's *Blake*." *American Comparative Literature Association*, Seattle, WA. March 26-29.
"I Feel Somewhat as That Indian Did: Feelings of Black-Indigenous Coalition." Cornell University: *Annual Global 19th Century Day Colloquium, Performance & Poetics*, March 20.
- 2014 "Asian Futurism: Yellow Peril and the Feelings of Futurity." Cornell University: *Annual Global 19th Century Day Colloquium, Sympathies & Circulations*, April 26.
"Professional Women, Amateur Men: Women Doctors and the Reading of Affect." *American Comparative Literature Association*, New York, NY. March 20-23.
"Inscrutable Futures: Sui Sin Far and the Chinese Exclusion Act." *C19 The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists*, Chapel Hill, NC. March 13-16.

- 2013 “Fugitive Speech Acts in Harriet Jacobs’s *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*.” Cornell University: *Annual Global 19th Century Day Colloquium, Possession & Dispossession*, April 20.
 “Knowledge and Narration: Phrenology and the Separate Spheres in Fanny Fern’s *Ruth Hall*.” *American Comparative Literature Association*, Toronto, ON. April 4-7.
 “American Chimeras: Bestiality, Cannibalism, and American Indian Representations in New England.” *8th Biennial Society of Early Americanists Conference*. Savannah, GA. February 28-March 2.
- 2012 “Revolution not Revolt: Heteronormativity and Mary Wilkins Freeman’s ‘Revolt of ‘Mother.’” *Canadian Association of American Studies*, Toronto, ON. October 25-28.
 “Yokes and Nooses: Zeugma and Lynching in Howard Cruse’s *Stuck Rubber Baby*.” *American Comparative Literature Association*, Providence, RI. March 29-April 1.
 “The Adipose Complex: Fat and Gossip.” *North East Modern Language Association*, Rochester, NY. March 15-18.
- 2011 “Homo/Social: Phrenology, Sperm(aceti), and Sexuality in Herman Melville’s *Moby Dick*.” Cornell University: *Annual Global 19th Century Day Colloquium, Location & Dislocation*, April 22.
- 2010 “The Alienating Metropolis: The Poet and the Prostitute in Walt Whitman’s Poetry.” *Canadian Association of American Studies*, Windsor, ON. October 15-17.
 “Black Women, White Guilt in Neil Gaiman’s *The Sandman*.” *New Narrative: Narrative Arts and Visual Media*, Toronto, ON. May 6-7.
- 2009 “Ethical Questions and Literary Merit: Reverse Discourses in Fredric Wertham’s *Seduction of the Innocent*.” *Another New Narrative? Comics in Literature, Film, and Art*, Toronto, ON. May 9-10.
- 2008 “Come to Daddy: The Re-Making of the Lesbian Relationship to Psychoanalysis in Alison Bechdel’s *Fun Home*.” *5th Biannual International Image and Imagery Conference*, St. Catharines, ON. October 10-11.
 “Queen Victoria, Captive Despot: The Dissemination of Image and Power in Alan Moore’s *From Hell*.” *The New Narrative? Comics in Literature, Film, and Art*, Toronto, ON. May 10-11.
 “Orientalist Fantasies and Middle Eastern Realities: Epic and Novel Strategies for Representation in Neil Gaiman’s *The Sandman* and *American Gods*.” Dalhousie University: *MA Colloquium*, May 9.

Conferences and Panels Convened

- 2012- Organizer (President), Americanist Reading Group at Cornell
 2016 Monthly readings of Americanist primary materials; coordinating funding, event planning, publicity for the fall Annual Alumni Lecture (Stephanie Li, Mary Chapman, Bethany Schneider, Peter Coviello) and spring Global 19th-

Century Day Colloquium for humanities graduate students working on the 19th century with keynote speakers (Elizabeth Maddock Dillon, Joselyn Almeida-Beveridge, Amanda Claybaugh)

- 2015 Co-Organizer/Chair, “The Descent of Darwin: Evolutions in Literary Representation” Seminar, North East Modern Language Association
- 2014 Organizer, Conversations in Digital Humanities Series, Cornell University
“Ludus Interruptus: How Digital Games Struggle with Sexuality” by Merritt Kopas
Co-Organizer/Chair, “Uncertain Understanding: Science and Medicine Before the 20th Century” Seminar, American Comparative Literature Association
- 2013 Co-Organizer/Chair, “Queering Science, Queering Technology” Seminar, American Comparative Literature Association
Co-Organizer, University Lecture, Cornell University “The Art of the Queer Counterarchive” by Ann Cvetkovich (UT Austin)
- 2010 Chair, “Style” panel, New Narrative: Narrative Arts and Visual Media
- 2007 Chair, “Post WWII Drama: Frustration and Absurdity” panel, Dalhousie Undergraduate Conference of English

Pedagogical Presentations

- 2016 “#StayWoke: Social Media/Social Justice in Pedagogy.” Cornell University: *Digital Humanities Graduate Symposium*, 9 April.
- 2014 “Any Person, Any Study: Race and Writing in the First-Year Writing Seminar.” Cornell University: Center for Teaching Excellence. *Classroom Research and Teaching: A Symposium for Current and Future Faculty*, 16 May.
“Beyond Wikipedia: Archives and Wikis in Teaching.” Syracuse University: *THATCamp (The Humanities and Technology Camp)*, 11 April 2014.
“Just-In-Time-Teaching Techniques.” Cornell University: *Center for Teaching Excellence GET SET Workshop*, 13 February.
- 2013 “Listening and Communication Skills for Teaching and Advising.” Cornell University: *Center for Teaching Excellence GET SET Workshop*, 18 October.

Guest Lectures

- 2016 “Cultural Appropriation and Adaptation Across Racial Triangulation”
AAS1100 “Introduction to Asian American Studies”
Cornell University | Professor Chrissy Lau

- 2014 “Sympathy as Remedy: Sarah Orne Jewett’s *A Country Doctor* and 19th Century Women in Medicine” ENGL 2350 “Literature and Medicine: The Science and Fiction of Disease”
Cornell University | Professor Elisha Cohn
The Dr. T Project, Cornell University
Topics: Sui Sin Far/Francis Bacon (artist)/Entrance of Women into Medicine
- 2013 “Will the Revolution Be Televised? Gender and the Illusion of Meritocracy in *The Hunger Games*” Science and Technology Studies 2141 “Science Fiction”
Cornell University | Professor Anindita Banerjee
- 2012 “Contrasting History, Temporality, and Gender in Space Opera and Cyberpunk” ENGL 3555 “Science Fiction Medieval and Modern”
Cornell University | Professor Shawkat Toorawa
- 2011 The Dr. T Project, Cornell University
Topics: Phrenology/Digital Indie Games/Interpellation (Althusser, Fanon, Butler)
“Orientalism and Adaptation in Graphic Novels: Neil Gaiman’s *The Sandman* and Bill Willingham’s *Fables*” Comparative Literature 6723 “Arabian Nights Then and Now”
Cornell University | Professor Shawkat Toorawa
The Dr. T Project, Cornell University
Topics: Alexander McQueen/Legend of Zelda/Jorge Luis Borges
“Women and History in Frank Herbert’s *Dune*” ENGL 3555 “Science Fiction Medieval and Modern” Cornell University / Professor Shawkat Toorawa
- 2007 “Reading Gender in Walter M. Miller’s *A Canticle for Leibowitz*” ENGL 2233 “Science Fiction” Dalhousie University | Professor Jason Haslam

Media

- 2015-Present Co-Host, *PhDivas* Podcast on iTunes and Soundcloud
Academia, culture, and social justice across the STEM/humanities divide
- 2014-Present Blogger, HASTAC.org; *Fugitive Leaves* (Historical Medical Library of The College of Physicians of Philadelphia); *MLA Commons* (MLA Committee on the Status of Graduate Students in the Profession)
- 2015 “PhDivas Discourse Across Disciplines and Differences.” By Daniel Aloï. *Cornell Chronicle*. 5 November 2015. Featured story.

“Graduate Students Talk About Cornell Research.” By Alexandra Chang. *Cornell Research* (website). 1 November 2015.
- 2011 “Tea, Shortbread, and 3 Things Worth Knowing.” By Shawkat Toorawa. *Chronicle of Higher Education*. 13 March 2011.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

- 2011-2012 Research Assistant for Shirley Samuels
 The Cambridge Companion to Abraham Lincoln. Ed. Shirley Samuels.
 Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012.
 Samuels, Shirley. "Sentimentalism and Domestic Fiction," *Oxford
 Bibliographies Online*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, Cornell University

- 2015 English 2880 Expository Writing: "Black Power Yellow Peril" (1 semester)
 Advanced undergraduate writing seminar. African American and Asian American
 comparative racialization in culture and literature from 19th century to present
- 2012-2013 English 1105 Sexual Politics: "Sluts, Spinsters, and Drag Queens" (2 semesters)
 First-year writing seminar. Feminist and LGBT studies through literature, theory,
 and popular culture from 18th century to present
- 2011-2012 English 1134 "Memoir and Memory" (2 semesters)
 First-year writing seminar. Identity and ideology from slave narratives to science
 fiction to graphic novels.

Assistant, Cornell University

- 2016 Asian American Studies 1100: "Intro to Asian American Studies" (1 semester)
 Professor: Chrissy Lau
- 2014 Co-Facilitator, Knight Institute for Writing in the Disciplines, Cornell University
 Writing 7100 "Teaching Writing" (summer semester)
 Co-Facilitator: Kelly King-O'Brien
 Co-led intensive summer program for introducing graduate students to teaching
 undergraduate writing, designing courses and assignments
- 2013 Science and Technology Studies 2131 "Science Fiction" (1 semester)
 Professor: Anindita Banerjee

Assistant, Dalhousie University

- 2007-2008 English 2233 "Science Fiction" (2 semesters)
 Professor: Jason Haslam

Pedagogical Training

- 2014 ALS 6016 "Teaching as Research in Higher Education"
 Center for Teaching Excellence, Cornell University

- 2013 ALS 6015 “Teaching in Higher Education”
Center for Teaching Excellence, Cornell University
- 2011 WRIT 7100 “Teaching Writing”
Knight Institute for Writing in the Disciplines, Cornell University
- Mentoring**
- 2012-2016 Graduate Resident Fellow, Hans Bethe House, Cornell University
Mentoring, leadership, academic support, intellectual and social programming,
community building between undergraduates and faculty across disciplines
- 2012-2016 Mentor, Mentorship Program, English Department, Cornell University
Advising graduate students in the earlier stages of the PhD program
- 2015 Facilitator, Teaching Support Group for Women of Color, Cornell University
Coordinating a teaching support group for graduate instructors who are women of
color, supported by the Knight Institute
- 2013 Graduate Research Mentor, Office of Academic Diversity Initiatives, Cornell
University
Supporting the research projects of undergraduates from underrepresented
backgrounds interested in pursuing graduate school in the humanities

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

- 2016-2018 Postdoctoral Fellowship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of
Canada
- 2016-2017 HASTAC Scholar Mentor, Humanities, Arts, and Science Technology Alliance
and Collaboratory
- 2016 Dean’s Prize for Distinguished Teaching, College of Arts and Science, Cornell
University
PhD Degree Marshal for Commencement, Graduate School, Cornell University
Outstanding Graduate Student Award, Celebr(Asian): Annual Cornell Asian
American Community Gala, Cornell University
- 2015-2016 Humanities Dissertation Writing Group Grant, Society for the Humanities,
Cornell University, “Emergent Modernities” interdisciplinary group
HASTAC Scholar, Humanities, Arts, and Science Technology Alliance and
Collaboratory, Society for the Humanities, Cornell University
Instructor of Patrick Casey, recipient of the Expository Writing Prize, Knight
Institute for Writing in the Disciplines, Cornell University
Instructor of Stephanie Parker, recipient of the Honorable Mention for the

Expository Writing Prize, Knight Institute for Writing in the Disciplines,
Cornell University

- 2015 Travel Research Grant, Francis Clark Wood Institute for the History of Medicine
M.H. Abrams Summer Graduate Fellowship, Cornell English Department
Recognition of Achievement in Teaching Award, Knight Institute for Writing in
the Disciplines
Graduate Research Grant, American Studies Program, Cornell University
Archive: Historical Library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia
Graduate Research Grant, American Studies Program, Cornell University
Archive: Massachusetts Historical Society
- 2014-2015 Sage Fellowship, Graduate School, Cornell University
HASTAC Scholar, Humanities, Arts, and Science Technology Alliance and
Collaboratory, Society for the Humanities, Cornell University
Humanities Dissertation Writing Group Grant, Society for the Humanities,
Cornell University, “Sensuous Science” interdisciplinary group
Reading Group Grant, Institute for Comparative Modernities, Cornell University
“Hyphens: Asian America Across Time, Space” interdisciplinary group
- 2014 Graduate Research Grant, American Studies Program, Cornell University
Archive: American Antiquarian Society
Moses Coit Tyler Essay Prize for American Studies, Cornell University
“Gothic Monstrosity: Charles Brockden Brown’s *Edgar Huntly* and the
Trope of the Bestial Indian”
Hsien and Daisy Wu Memorial Award, Graduate School, Cornell University
Public Humanities Fellow, New York State Council for the Humanities
Project: “Montage Histories: Tompkins County, NY through Photographs,
1864-2014” photo exhibit and catalog
International Women’s Day Leadership Award, Graduate School and Women’s
Resource Center, Cornell University
Festival Graduate Fellow, Finger Lakes Environmental Film Festival
- 2013-2014 Doctoral Fellowship, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of
Canada
Graduate Research and Teaching Fellowship, Teagle Foundation Grant
Center for Teaching Excellence, Cornell University
Humanities Dissertation Writing Group Grant, Society for the Humanities
Cornell University, “Feeling and Place” interdisciplinary group
- 2013 John S. Knight Award for Writing Exercises and Handouts, “Using Quotations”
Knight Institute for Writing in the Disciplines, Cornell University
- 2012 John S. Knight Award Honorable Mention, “Writing Collaborative Paragraphs”
Knight Institute for Writing in the Disciplines, Cornell University

- 2011-2012 Reading Group Grant, Institute for Comparative Modernities, Cornell University
“Dislocating the Postcolonial” interdisciplinary group
- 2010-2011 Sage Fellowship, Graduate School, Cornell University
Ontario Graduate Scholarship (declined)
- 2008 James DeMille Essay Prize, Dalhousie University
“Alienating Metropolis: The Poet and the Prostitute in Walt Whitman”
- 2007-2008 Canada Graduate Scholarship for Master’s Program, Social Sciences and
Humanities Research Council of Canada
Ontario Graduate Scholarship (declined)
- 2006-2007 Chancellor’s Gold Medal in the Arts, Trinity College at the University of Toronto
Arthur Barker Prize for English, Trinity College at the University of Toronto
Provost Scholar, Trinity College at the University of Toronto

ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND EDUCATION

- 2014 Participant, “The Art of Science and Technology, 1750-1900” Summer Seminar
Center for American Visual Culture, American Antiquarian Society
Participant, Futures of American Studies Institute, Dartmouth College
Participant, LGBT Leadership Academy, Cornell in Washington
- 2013 Participant, Futures of American Studies Institute, Dartmouth College
- 2012 Participant, Humanities Immersion Program for Doctoral Students, Cornell
University

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2015-2018 Member, Committee on the Status of Graduate Students in the Profession
Modern Language Association
- 2015-2016 Humanities Voting Member, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly,
Cornell University
6th Year Cohort Officer, Graduate Policy and Curriculum Committee, Cornell
English Department
- 2015 Social Media Correspondent, Feminist Scholars Digital Workshop
Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory
- 2014-2015 Humanities Voting Member, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly,
Cornell University

- President, Graduate Policy and Curriculum Committee, Cornell English Department
Member, Faculty Teaching, Advising, and Mentorship Awards Committee, Cornell University
- 2013-2014 Vice President of Operations, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, Cornell University
Humanities Voting Member, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, Cornell University
4th Year Cohort Officer, Graduate Policy and Curriculum Committee, Cornell English Department
- 2012-2013 Vice-President, English Graduate Student Organization, Cornell University
Member, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly Finance Commission, Cornell University
Field Representative for English, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, Cornell University
- 2011-2012 Field Representative for English, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, Cornell University
Organizer, English Department Roundtable Planning Committee
- 2008-2009 Managing Editor, *Hart House Review*, University of Toronto
2007-2008 Assistant, Department of English Friday Speakers Series, Dalhousie University

MEMBERSHIPS

American Comparative Literature Association
Association of Canadian College and University Teachers of English
C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists
Modern Language Association
Northeast Modern Language Association
Society of Early Americanists
Society for the Study of American Women Writers

REFERENCES

Shirley Samuels, Professor
Department of English, Department of the History of Art and Visual Studies
Cornell University | shirley.samuels@cornell.edu

Eric Cheyfitz, Ernest I. White Professor of American Studies and Humane Letters
Department of English, American Indian Program
Cornell University | eric.cheyfitz@cornell.edu

George Hutchinson, Newton C. Farr Professor of American Culture
Department of English, Cornell University | gbh33@cornell.edu

Shelley Wong, Associate Professor
Department of English, Asian American Studies Program
Cornell University | ssw6@cornell.edu

Elizabeth Maddock Dillon, Professor
(Futures of American Studies at Dartmouth)
Department of English, Northeastern University | e.dillon@neu.edu