

JORDAN BROWER

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EMPLOYMENT

University of Kentucky	2019–present
Assistant Professor, English (Film Studies)	
Harvard University	2017–2019
Lecturer, History and Literature	
Yale University	2016–2018
Lecturer, English	

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Yale University	2010–2016
English and Film & Media Studies, with Distinction	
Dissertation: “A Literary History of the Studio System, 1911-1950”	
B.A., Amherst College	2003–2007
English, <i>Summa cum Laude</i>	
Phi Beta Kappa	

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Classical Hollywood, American Modernism: A Literary History of the Studio System, Cambridge University Press, 2024

American Literature in the World: A Web and Print Anthology, co-edited by Wai Chee Dimock, Jordan Brower, Edgar Garcia, Kyle Hutzler, and Nicholas Rinehart, Columbia University Press, 2017

The Cambridge Companion to American Literature and Film

Manuscript in preparation, contract offered 10/24/2023

Edited collection comprising an introduction, eighteen original essays, and an appendix
Orders of Chaos: Capitalizing on Crisis in Contemporary Hollywood

Manuscript in preparation

Preliminary arguments appear in *Los Angeles Review of Books* and are forthcoming in
JCMS: Journal of Cinema and Media Studies

Academic Essays

Forthcoming

“A24’s Academic Style; or, Coming of Age in an Era of Student Debt,” *JCMS: Journal of Cinema and Media Studies*, June 2025

Published

[“I’m a Vampire’: Cage’s Career Circa 2000,”](#) *Post*45: Contemporaries* (~4,000 words)

Coauthored with Scott Ganz, [“One Finch, Two Finch, Red Finch, Blue Finch: Measuring Concentration and Diversity in the Humanities, a Response to Wellmon and Piper,”](#) *Critical Inquiry*, July 24, 2017

- Editor’s Choice, *Digital Humanities Now*, July 27, 2017

“Written with the Movies in Mind’: Twentieth Century Literature and Transmedial Possibility,” *Modern Language Quarterly* 78.2 (June 2017)

“*The Mill on the Floss*, Riparian Law, and the Difficulty of Judgment,” *English Literary History* 83.1 (Spring 2016)

“An Immodest Proposal: The Politics of the Portmanteau in *Ulysses*,” *James Joyce Quarterly* 51.2 (Winter 2014)

Coauthored with Josh Glick, “The Art and Craft of the Screen: Louis Reeves Harrison and *The Moving Picture World*,” *Historical Journal of Film, Radio and Television* 33:4 (2013)

Criticism and Public Writing

Coauthored with Sarah Gleeson-White, [“We Need to Talk About *Camille*,”](#) *Modernism/modernity* “Visibilities” forum, October 2024

Coauthored with Palmer Rampell, [“How Harold Bloom Misunderstood the Fall of the Humanities,”](#) *The Washington Post*, October 24, 2019.

[“Hacking It: *Blade Runner 2049*,”](#) *Los Angeles Review of Books*, November 24, 2017

[“Will You Be as Gods?: On *Silicon Valley*,”](#) *Los Angeles Review of Books*, July 17, 2017

[“What We’ve Got Here: *Arrival*,”](#) *Los Angeles Review of Books*, December 12, 2016 (~2500 words)

- Named one of “Our Picks” by the *New York Times*, December 18, 2016
- Most-read Film/Television/Music essay in the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, 2016

Reviews

Review of Michael Szalay, *Second Lives: Black-Market Melodramas and the Reinvention of Television*, University of Chicago Press, 2023, *ALH Review* (forthcoming)

Review of Jan Baetens, *Novelization*, Ohio State University Press, 2018, *Modern Language Quarterly* 81.3 (September 2020)

Review of Jonathan Foltz, *The Novel After Film: Modernism and the Decline of Autonomy*, Oxford University Press, 2018, *Modernism/Modernity* (January 2019)

Review of Joshua L. Miller, *The Cambridge Companion to the American Modernist Novel*, Cambridge University Press, 2015, *Journal of American Studies* (January 2018)

Public Engagement

Curator of [*The Best of Billy: Four Classic Films by Billy Wilder*](#), a program at the Kentucky Theatre, Lexington, KY, October 2024

[“2024 Great Teacher Spotlight,”](#) *Behind the Blue* podcast, June 18, 2024

Appearances in *Kentucky Life* segments on [Irene Dunne \(May 7, 2022\)](#) and [Patricia Neal \(June 11, 2022\)](#), Kentucky Educational Television

Interview with author Dan Chiasson, [“The Math Campers: A Conversation,”](#) *Amherst Reads*, May 2021.

[“The Great Gatsby,” Radio Interview](#), “Deep Focus” hosted by Tom Breen, WNHH 103.5FM, New Haven, CT, June 23, 2016

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND HONORS

2025: University of Kentucky College of Arts and Sciences Excellence in Teaching Large Courses Award

2024: University of Kentucky Alumni Association “Great Teacher” Award

- Highest teaching prize at the University; student nominated

2021: University of Kentucky Cooperative for the Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS) Book Manuscript Workshop Grant

2017: Tsinghua-Michigan Society of Fellows (declined)

2016: Modernist Studies Association Travel Grant

2016: Yale English Departmental Prize for Best Dissertation of the Year for “A Literary History of the Studio System, 1911-1950”

2015: Yale English Departmental Prize for the Best Essay Accepted for Publication for the essay “*The Mill on the Floss*, Riparian Law, and the Difficulty of Judgment”

2013-2014: HASTAC scholar

2013: Archibald Hanna, Jr. Fellowship in American History – Research Fellowship at the Beinecke Rare Books and Manuscripts Library

2012: Yale English Departmental Prize for Excellence in Coursework for the essay “Faulkner’s (Critique of) Corporate Authorship”

2011: Yale English Departmental Prize for Excellence in Coursework for the essay “*The Mill on the Floss*, Riparian Law, and the Difficulty of Judgment”

2011: Henry P. Field Fellowship (Amherst College fellowship for graduate study)

2010-2013: Amherst Memorial Fellowship (Amherst College fellowship for graduate study)

2008: Amherst College Writing Fellowship

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

Conferences Organized

“Modernism, World Literature, and Totality.” With Joe Cleary and Seo Hee Im. Yale University, November 3, 2017

“Auteurs of the 21st Century.” Graduate Student Conference in Film Studies. Yale University, April 7, 2012

Sessions Organized

“Revisiting Exploitation in Contemporary Film and Media.” With Katherine Fusco (University of Nevada-Reno). Society for Cinema and Media Studies. Boston, MA, March 15, 2024

“The University as Media Institution.” With Jeff Menne (Oklahoma State University). Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference. Denver, Colorado, April 12-15, 2023

“Authorship Beyond and Against the Individual.” Modernist Studies Association Conference 15. University of Sussex, August 30, 2013

Invited Talks

“New Histories of Modernism and Film,” Modernist Studies Association conference, Chicago, IL, November 7-10, 2024

“Literature and Film after the New Modernist Studies; or, What We (Literary Critics) Talk About when we Talk About Film.” Center for Cultural Analysis, Rutgers University, April 24, 2024

“Film Studies/Modernist Studies: Debates, Methods, Beginnings.” Modernist Studies Association conference, Brooklyn, NY, October 28, 2023

“What ‘Can You Teach Our Students’ Really Means.” Left Literary Studies Working Group, Yale University, October 25, 2023

“A24’s Academic Style; or, Coming of Age in an Era of Student Debt.” Visual Culture Seminar, California Institute of Technology, May 30, 2023

Invited Speaker on Industrial Allegory, Corporate Authorship, and J.D. Connor’s *Hollywood Math and Aftermath* (2018). Left Literary Studies Working Group, Yale University, November 28, 2018

Conference Papers

“Paramount’s Properties: Film Adaptation and Intellectual Property Management across the History of a Hollywood Studio.” Society of Cinema and Media Studies conference, Chicago, IL, April 3, 2025.

“Margot’s Meta-exploitation; or, *I, Tonya*, #MeToo.” Society of Cinema and Media Studies conference, Boston, MA, March 15, 2024

“The Motion Picture Industry’s Coming of Age.” Modernist Studies Association Conference, Portland, OR, October 28, 2022

“The Big Picture.” Discussed at “Modernist Scenes” seminar, Modernist Studies Association online conference, April 11, 2022

“The Disaster Film after the End of History.” Association for the Study of Arts of the Present 11, University of Maryland, October 12, 2019

“*Mad Max: Fury Road* and the Post-Cold War Climate Change Disaster Film.” American Comparative Literature Association conference, Georgetown University, March 8, 2019

“Classical Hollywood’s Literary Legacy: Moviegoing and Identity Formation in the American Postwar.” Modernist Studies Association Conference, The Ohio State University, November 8-11, 2018

“The Great Transformation: Or, Pascale Casanova Goes to Hollywood,” Modernism, World Literature, and Totality: A Symposium, Yale University, November 3, 2017

“The Golden Bough Right in the Hollywood Bowl: Parker Tyler’s Mythological Movie Business.” Modernist Studies Association Conference, Pasadena, CA, November 17-20, 2016

“‘Written with the Movies in Mind’: Twentieth Century American Literature and Transmedial Possibility.” American Comparative Literature Association Conference, Harvard University, March 17- 20, 2016

“Hollywood Precarity.” Modernist Studies Association, Boston, MA, November 20, 2015

“Post-Apocalyptic Solutions,” What a Lovely Day: A Conference on *Mad Max: Fury Road* and *Interstellar*, Yale University, September 12, 2015

“American Fiction at the Dawn of Multimodality; or, What’s Haunting *The Great Gatsby*?” Americanist Colloquium, Yale University, December 5, 2014

“Malcolm Lowry’s Film-Industry Epic.” American Comparative Literature Association conference, New York University, March 22, 2014

“Faulkner’s (Critique of) Corporate Authorship.” Modernist Studies Association Conference, University of Sussex, August 30, 2013

“Artist, Critic, Auteur: A Provisional Case for a Recent Turn in Creative Curation.” Auteurs of the 21st Century, Graduate Student Conference in Film Studies, Yale University, April 7, 2012

“‘Change the Angle and the Image Decomposes...’: Truth-Telling, False Knowledge, and the Photographic Image in the Novels of J.M. Coetzee.” Yale Media Theory and History Graduate Student Conference, Yale University, April 23, 2011

TEACHING

University of Kentucky

Graduate

Classical Hollywood (ENG 781/ENG 681)

Contemporary Hollywood (ENG 681)

Literature Teaching Seminar (ENG 611)

Undergraduate

Great Movies: Digital Cinema (ENG 180)

Introduction to Film (ENG 280)

Film History II (ENG 285/ENG 382)

Film and Genre: Movies about Movies (ENG 380)

Literature and Film: Awkward Ages (ENG 384)

Topics in Film Studies: Some Like it Hot: The Films of Billy Wilder (ENG 480)

Topics in Film Studies: Theories of Film and Media (ENG 480)

Advising

Doctoral

B. Bailey (PhD committee)

Richard Halkyard (PhD committee)

Justin Roberts (PhD Committee)

Amanda Salmon (PhD committee)

Masters

Daniel Collins (MFA exam)
Rachel McCoy (MA committee)
Julie Wrinn (MFA exam)

Bachelors: International Film Studies Certificate Capstone

Katie Sam Gaither Smith (Spring 2021)
Alyssa Harkness (Fall 2021)
Jessica Miller (Fall 2023)

Harvard University

Sophomore Tutorial: Media, Work, and Culture in Twentieth Century America (HL 97)
Sophomore Tutorial: The Art and Politics of Public Life in the Transatlantic 20thC (HL 97)
Seminar in History and Literature: Global Hollywood (HL 90)

Senior Tutorial (HL 99)
Junior Tutorial (HL 98)

Yale University

Writing Seminars (ENG 114)
 “Hollywood, the Dream Factory”
 “Basketball and Contemporary Society”
Readings in American Literature (ENG 127)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

International Film Studies Certificate Advisory Board, University of Kentucky, 2024–
Manuscript Reviewer for Cambridge University Press, October 2024
Manuscript Reviewer for *PMLA*, September 2024
Manuscript Reviewer for Oxford University Press, October 2023
Graduate Studies Committee, University of Kentucky, 2023–24
Job Placement Co-Coordinator, University of Kentucky, 2019–2021
Committee on Instruction, Harvard University History and Literature, 2018–2019
Humanities Adviser and Grant Writer, The Mastheads Project, May 2019

Received \$87,600 “Community Conversations” grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities for public humanities education in Pittsfield, Massachusetts

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Modern Language Association

Modernist Studies Association

Society for Cinema & Media Studies