

ELIZABETH WELLS

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EDUCATION

Academic Degrees

PhD, English, Louisiana State University, December 2018

- Specialization: Disability representation in 19th-c. literature (British and American)
- Dissertation Title: "Ethics, Aesthetics, and the Representation of Intellectual Disability in the Realist Narrative"

Master of Arts, English, Louisiana State University, May 2005

Bachelor of Arts, English, University of Dallas, May 2003

Academic Fellowships

Woodress Scholar, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Fall 2019

Fisher Center Fellowship, Hobart & William Smith Colleges, 2019-2020

ENS, Lyon, France, Pensionnaire scientifique internationale, 2008-2009

PUBLICATIONS

British Literature and Transatlantic Essays

"Intellectual Passing and the Co-Authorship of Communal Change in Dickens's *Barnaby Rudge*." *Dickens Quarterly* 38.4, 2021, pp. 365-87.

"Alice the Excrescence: Disability Aesthetics and Sympathetic Form in *The Diary of Alice James*." *Henry James Review*, 42.2, 2021, pp. 152-164.

American Literature Essays in Academic Journals and Edited Volumes

"Cather, Illness, and Disability Studies." In *The Oxford Handbook of Willa Cather*, Oxford, 2028 (invited contribution, forthcoming).

"Reading Disability in the New *Complete Willa Cather Letters* Digital Archive." In *Cather and Letters, Cather Studies* 15, U of Nebraska Press, 2026, pp. 126-54.

"Unsettling Accompaniment: Disability as Critique of Aesthetic Power in Willa Cather's *Lucy Gayheart*." In *Unsettling Cather, Cather Studies* 14, U of Nebraska Press, 2025, pp. 297-330.

"Something Deficient and Great: Disability Aesthetics and Narrative Prosthesis in Willa Cather's *My Ántonia*." *Modern Fiction Studies* 67.3, 2021, pp. 487-516.

Short Essays

- "Pushing Up a Chair: Accommodation's Complex Vision in *My Mortal Enemy*." *Willa Cather Review* 67.1 (invited contribution, forthcoming).
- "America, You've Got It Better: Goethe and the Mirror of Globalized Art in *The Professor's House*." *WCR* 66.3, 2025 (invited contribution).
- "Lost Lading: Freight in Willa Cather's *A Lost Lady*." *WCR* 64.2, 2023, pp. 14-15 (invited contribution).
- "*One of Ours*: Gleaning the Teachings of the Disabled." *WCR* 63.2, 2022, 10-11 (invited contribution).
- "Youth and the Bright Medusae: Cather's Jellyfish." *WCR* 62.3, 2021, pp. 20-27.
- "'Beautiful Talk': Musical Moments in *My Ántonia*." *WCR* 61.2, 2019, pp. 48-9, Creative work/non-refereed.

Works in Progress

"Throwing Nutshells: Idiocy in George Eliot's *The Mill on the Floss*." *Nineteenth Century Studies* [Revise and Resubmit].

Unfit: Disability in Willa Cather's Works. [Monograph in progress].

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Visiting Assistant Professor of English (2026-27)

- ENG 185 From Novel to Film
- ENG 243 Gothic Novel
-

SUNY Cortland, English Dept., Adjunct Lecturer (2021-present)

- ENG 302 Research Methods in Literary Study (Literary and Cultural Theory)
- ENG 261 Introduction to Women in Literature

- ENG 202 Introduction to Fiction
- ENG 203 Introduction to Poetry
- CPN 100, 101 Introductory Writing I & II

HWS, Writing & Rhetoric Dept., Adjunct Professor (2013-15, 2018-20)

- WRRH 100 Writer's Seminar

Louisiana State Univ., English Grad Student Instructor (2004-5, 2015-16)

- EN 1001, -02 English Composition I & II

Wartburg College, Iowa, English Adjunct Instructor (2012)

- EN 111, 112 Introductory and Intermediate Composition

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS & SERVICE

British Literature and Transatlantic Presentations

"*Hope Leslie* as a Source for Dickens's Early Historical Fiction." June 2022, Sedgwick Symposium in Stockbridge, MA.

"Throwing Nutshells: Idiocy in George Eliot's *The Mill on the Floss*." April 2019, Fisher Center lecture at HWS, Research funded by Fisher Center Fellowship.

"Disability and the Radical Aesthetics of the Stretchable in *The Diary of Alice James*." March 2020, Nineteenth Century Studies Association, Rochester, NY (canceled for COVID-19).

"Staring and Staring Back: The Venus de Milo and Cather." Sept. 2019, Invited lecture at University Nebraska-Lincoln, Research funded by Woodress Fellowship.

American Literature and Other Disability Studies Lectures and Presentations

"Disability and Blind Education History in America." May 5, 2024, Sandwich Seminar at SUNY Cortland, Research funded by Disability and Accessibility Programming and Professional Development Award.

NCSA Conference Excursion Organizer, American Printing House for the Blind, March 2024, Louisville, KY.

"Disability in the Writing Classroom." February 9, 2022, HWS Campus, WRRH Professional Development Invited Speaker Series.

"'Bold, Bad, Blind Man': The APH Project as Threshold of Disability Experience in the 19th Century." March 2024, NCSA in Louisville, KY.

"The Ugly Laws and Cather's Path to New York." June 2023, Willa Cather International Seminar at The New School, NYC.

"Shadows on the Ship: Willa Cather's Slave Ship Research." March 2023, NCSA in Sacramento, CA.

"Authorial Loopholes: Comparative Aesthetics of Authorship in Lydia Maria Child and Harriet Jacobs." March 2022, NCSA in Rochester, NY.

"Patent Furniture, Periodical Advertising, and Prosthetics in Willa Cather's Lifetime." June 2021, Willa Cather Spring Conference, Virtual.

"Crip Futures in Harriet Jacobs's *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*." March 2021, NCSA, Virtual

"Youth and the Bright Medusae: Cather's Jellyfish." June 2020, Willa Cather Spring Conference, Virtual.

"Unsettling Performances: Disability as Critique of Aesthetic Power in Willa Cather's *Lucy Gayheart*." June 2019, Willa Cather International Seminar at Shenandoah University, Winchester, VA.

"Ugly Delicious: Fermentation and the Disabled Body in Willa Cather's Works." October 2018, Société d'Analyse de Topiques Romanesques (SATOR) Conference at Hobart & William Smith Colleges.

Professional Service as Adjunct Faculty and Graduate Researcher

- New Course Development, Rhetorics of Disability, HWS, Spring 2020.
- Juror for First-Year Writing Prize, HWS, 2019 and 2020.
- Writing Center Mentor, HWS, Intercultural Affairs, Fall 2015-Spring 2016.
- Co-author NEH Grant Proposal, LSU WGS, Summer 2004.

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND HONORS

2025, 2023 Independent Development Award Grants. Awarded through SUNY Cortland chapter of UUP of NY for academic research travel.

2024 Disability and Accessibility Programming and Professional Development Grant. Awarded for disability research at American Foundation for the Blind.

2022 Red Dragon Recognition Award. Awarded in gratitude for service to SUNY Cortland community through the Composition Program.

2022 Small Grant for Contingent Faculty, SUNY Cortland. Awarded for travel for 2022 Catherine Maria Sedgwick Symposium.

2022 Nineteenth Century Studies Association Faculty Development Travel Award. Prize for best essay by contingent faculty.

2019 James Olney Distinguished Dissertation Award. LSU English award for best dissertation defended in previous calendar year.

2019 Woodress Scholar Grant. Awarded to emerging scholars of Willa Cather studies for research in the Willa Cather Archive in Lincoln, NE.

2019 International Seminar Grant, Willa Cather Foundation. Grant for travel to the 17th International Seminar for Cather Studies.

2018 Dickens Project at LSU Essay Prize. Prize sponsored attendance at the Dickens Universe seminar at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

2003 Frances Marie Manning Award, English Major, University of Dallas.

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Professor Andrea Harbin, Former Chair, English Department, SUNY Cortland,
andrea.harbin@cortland.edu

Professor Sharon Weltman, Chair of English, Texas Christian University (formerly Louisiana State University), Dissertation Committee, sharon.weltman@tcu.edu

Professor Joseph Kronick, Dissertation Advisor, English Department, Louisiana State University,
jkronic@lsu.edu

Professor Amy Green, Associate Dean, HWS, green@hws.edu

Professor Kelly Payne, Senior Associate Dean, HWS, payne@hws.edu

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND SKILLS

Nineteenth Century Studies Association (NCSA)

Willa Cather Foundation

Phi Beta Kappa

Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Knowledge and Practice

Microsoft Suite Proficiency, Web Design/HTML intermediate experience

French: advanced speaking, reading, writing