

# Lawrence Isaac Evalyn

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*Curriculum Vitae*

February 19, 2024

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Northeastern University Library, Text Mining Specialist, 2024–present.

Northeastern University, Visiting Assistant Professor of English, 2022–2024.

University of Toronto, Teaching Postdoctoral Fellow in English, affiliated with the Data Sciences Institute, 2021–2022.

## EDUCATION

University of Toronto, Ph.D. English, 2022.

Dissertation: *Database Representations of English Literature, 1789–99*.

University of Victoria, M.A. English, 2015.

Thesis: “Reading Gender and Genre from a Distance: Detangling Binaries in the Eighteenth-Century Gothic.”

Duke University, B.A. English, *cum laude* and High Distinction, 2012.

Angier B. Duke Scholar

Thesis: “Ideology and Empiricism: The Knowability of Truth in *Caleb Williams*, *Frankenstein*, and *Sense and Sensibility*.”

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

(In progress) *Literature by the Truckload: A Critical History of Mass Digitization*. Two chapters drafted; proposal in progress.

(In progress) *What Makes a Protagonist? Social Network Analysis and Centrality in British Theatre*. Proposal in progress for the Cambridge Elements in Digital Literary Studies series.

### Refereed Journal Articles

(Under revision) “Measuring the Digitization of Women’s Writing in Eighteenth-Century Databases.” Under revision for *Eighteenth-Century Fiction*.

“One Loveheart Emoji at a Time: The Building of Affective Community in a Digital Medieval Studies Lab.” [Lawrence Evalyn](#), C.E.M. Henderson, Julia King, Jessica Lockhart, Laura Mitchell, and Suzanne Conklin Akbari. *Digital Humanities Quarterly* 14.3 (2020).

### Refereed Conference Proceedings

“Measuring the Uneven Digitization of Historical Literature.” *Digital Humanities 2023: Book of Abstracts*, pp. 361–362. 2023.

“Theatrical Genre Prediction Using Social Network Metrics.” Manisha Shukla, Susan Gauch, and [Lawrence Evalyn](#). *Proceedings of the 10th International Joint Conference on Knowledge*

*Discovery, Knowledge Engineering and Knowledge Management, Volume 1: Knowledge Discovery and Information Retrieval*, pp. 229–236. 2018.

“Analyzing Social Networks of XML Plays: Exploring Shakespeare’s Genres.” Lawrence Evalyn, Susan Gauch, and Manisha Shukla. *Proceedings of the 13th Annual International Conference of the Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations*, pp. 368–371. 2018.

### **Book Chapter**

(Forthcoming) “Ignatius Sancho’s Subscribers.” *Cambridge Companion to Ignatius Sancho*, edited by Nicole Aljoe and Kristina Huang. Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2025.

### **White Paper**

“Gaps in Digital Research Infrastructure for Canadian Digital Humanities Researchers.” Lawrence Evalyn, Elizabeth Parke, Patrick Keilty, and Elspeth Brown, with 37 signatories. For the Canadian federal New Digital Research Infrastructure Organization, December 14, 2020.

### **Book Review**

“Romantic Reconfigurations in the Poetry of Smith, Wordsworth, and Gilbert.” Cluster review of *Charlotte Smith and the Sonnet* by Bethan Roberts, “*The Excursion*” and *Wordsworth’s Iconography* by Brandon C. Yen, and *William Gilbert and Esoteric Romanticism* by Paul Cheshire. *Eighteenth-Century Fiction* 35.3 (2023).

### **Online Writing**

“Opportunities in Cultural Analytics: Have an Expert Do it by Hand.” *Journal of Cultural Analytics* blog. October 27, 2021.

“Troubleshooting an Assignment that Almost Worked.” *Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory*. August 21, 2018.

“Professor Hélène Palma on Lady Hester Stanhope.” Interview in *Cosmopolitanism in the Archive*, with the Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Conference. October 16, 2017.

Review of “The Value of the Non-Evaluative: Rethinking Faculty Observation” by Erica Campbell. *Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory*. May 8, 2017.

## **ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS**

### **Invited Lecture**

“*Pride and Prejudice* and the Hidden Role of Labour.” Public lecture for the Toronto Public Library Great Books Lecture Series: Literature about Labour. May 6, 2019.

### **Invited Campus Presentations**

“The Post-‘Weirdness’ Era of Machine-Generated Jokes: *ubi sunt* LOVE 2000 HOGS YEA?” Northeastern NULab Spring Conference, Generative AI: Creative Potentials and Ethical Responsibilities. April 21, 2023.

“Women’s Writing and the ‘Great Unscanned’ of Literary Databases.” Lightning Talk. University of Toronto Digital Humanities Network Lightning Lunch on Digital Literary Archives. January 26, 2021.

“Generating Social Network Graphs from TEI Plays.” Lightning Talk. University of Toronto Annual Conference of the Digital Humanities Network. August 30, 2018.

“The Book of Fame.” Lightning Talk. University of Toronto Digital Humanities Network Lightning Lunch on 3-D Modelling for Humanist Inquiry. November 17, 2016.

“Network-Mapping in Search of the Gothic.” Lightning Talk. University of Toronto Annual Conference of the Digital Humanities Network. August 24–26, 2016.

### Conference Papers

(Under consideration) “Subscribing to the ‘Sons of Africa’: Olaudah Equiano and Ottobah Cugoano’s Fundraising Audiences.” North American Society for the Study of Romanticism. Washington, DC, August 15–18, 2024.

(Under consideration) “Modelling the Audience in Theatrical Social Networks: A New View of Heroines in Eighteenth-Century English Drama.” Digital Humanities. To be conducted virtually and in Arlington, VA, August 6–9, 2024.

(Under consideration) “How Large Language Models (Don’t) Handle the Uneven Digitization of Historical Literature.” Lawrence Evalyn and Hunter Moskowitz. Boston Digital Humanities Symposium. Boston, MA, April 12, 2024.

“Measuring the Uneven Digitization of Historical Literature.” Digital Humanities. Conducted virtually and in Graz, Austria, July 10–14, 2023.

“Who Financed Black Books? Ottobah Cugoano, Ignatius Sancho, and Publishing by Subscription in the Eighteenth Century.” Lawrence Evalyn and Chinma Nnadozie-Okananwa. Society for the History of Authorship, Reading & Publishing. Conducted virtually, June 26–29, 2023.

“Finding Hope in the Ledger of Failure and Hatred: Dysphoria and Dysthymia in *Disco Elysium*.” Lawrence Evalyn and C.E.M. Henderson. Northeast Modern Language Association. Niagara Falls, NY, March 23–26, 2023.

“Ignatius Sancho’s Subscribers: Monetary Networks in Eighteenth-Century Publishing and Slavery.” American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. Saint Louis, MO, March 9–11, 2023.

“Commercial Pragmatism in Mass Digitization: The Death and Afterlives of Microsoft Live Search Books.” Critical Digital Humanities International Conference. Conducted virtually and in Toronto, ON, September 30–October 1, 2022.

“Random Sampling in the Digital Archive.” Modern Language Association. Conducted virtually and in Washington, DC, January 6–9, 2022.

“Material Histories of the Database in Eighteenth-Century Studies.” University of Toronto Annual Conference of the Digital Humanities Network. Conducted virtually, October 21–22, 2021.

“Playing with the Truth: The Artfully Dishonest Narrator of *Tom Jones*.” Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. Conducted virtually, October 13–16, 2021.

“Project Gutenberg’s Textual Selection and Editing.” Modern Language Association. Conducted virtually, January 7–10, 2021.

- “The 1790s in the Digital Archive: A Meta-Analysis of Holdings.” Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. Niagara Falls, ON, October 10–14, 2018.
- “Analyzing Social Networks of XML Plays: Exploring Shakespeare’s Genres.” Digital Humanities. Mexico City, Mexico, June 26–29, 2018.
- “‘Grete auctoritee’: Chaucer and Gamification.” Modern Language Association. Philadelphia, PA, January 5–8, 2017.
- “Distant-Reading Genre in the Popular Eighteenth-Century Gothic.” Southwest Popular/ American Culture Association. Albuquerque, NM, February 11–14, 2015.
- “Distant-Reading Gendered Gothic Motifs.” Pennsylvania College English Association. State College, PA, October 3–4, 2014.
- “Searching for The Female Gothic in Ann Tracy’s Index.” University of Victoria English Graduate Colloquium. Victoria, BC, September 18, 2014.

### Conference Posters

- “Women’s Writing in the Eighteenth Century: Evaluating ‘Representative’ Corpora.” *Proceedings of the 15th Annual International Conference of the Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations*. 2020. [Abstract appears for poster that was cancelled due to COVID-19.]
- “Tabula Famae: Rebinding 2-D Manuscript Images into 3-D Virtual Books.” Lawrence Evalyn, Adriano Pasquali, Chris Chianelli, Julianna Chianelli, and Victoria Macfarlane. Digital prototype demo and poster. International Image Interoperability Framework conference. New York City, NY, May 12, 2016.

### GRANTS

- National Endowment for the Humanities American Rescue Plan grant top-up, through Northeastern University Library’s Digital Scholarship Group and the NULab for Texts, Maps, and Networks, for “Ignatius Sancho’s Subscribers.” Northeastern University, 2023. \$1,375 USD.
- NULab for Texts, Maps, and Networks Seedling Grant for “Ignatius Sancho’s Subscribers.” Northeastern University, 2023. \$2,500 USD.
- Department of English Professional Development grant. Northeastern University, 2022–2023. \$10,000 USD.
- Ontario Graduate Scholarship. University of Toronto, 2020. \$10,000 CAD.
- Joseph-Armand Bombardier Doctoral Canada Graduate Scholarship. University of Toronto, 2015–2018. \$105,000 CAD. One of 430 Canadian scholars in the humanities and social sciences — and one of only 41 scholars in literature — awarded the federal government’s highest level of doctoral research funding.
- Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship. University of Victoria, 2014–2015. \$17,500 CAD. One of 1,300 Canadian scholars in the humanities and social sciences awarded the federal government’s highest level of Masters research funding.

## **AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

English Department Doctoral Completion Award. University of Toronto, 2020. \$6,576 CAD.

English Department Summer Thesis Fellowship. University of Toronto, 2019. \$11,000 CAD.

Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory (HASTAC) Scholarship.  
University of Toronto, 2016–2018. \$500 USD.

Faculty of Arts and Science Graduate Admissions Award. University of Toronto, 2015. \$5,000 CAD.

Digital Humanities Praxis Innovation Award. University of Victoria, 2014. Approx. \$2,000 CAD.  
Sponsored attendance at the Digital Humanities Summer Institute.

English Department Fellowship. University of Victoria, 2013–2014. \$5,000 CAD.

## **COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

Primary Investigator for “Patronage by Subscription.” Developed and led research on financial supporters of eighteenth-century Black writers and women writers. Supervised two graduate Research Assistants and one intern. Northeastern University, January 2023–February 2024.

Co-Investigator for the Computational Literature Project (CLiP) at the University of Arkansas Department of Computer Science and Computer Engineering. As sole literary scholar, developed textual analysis projects with Principal Investigator Susan Gauch, coded by five students at Arkansas. University of Toronto, September 2016–July 2018.

Research Assistant for Alexandra Gillespie. “Digital Tools for Manuscript Study” Mellon Foundation project. Contributed game studies expertise to the “Book of Fame” interdisciplinary team applying 3D game technologies to digital manuscript research tools. University of Toronto, January 2016–January 2017.

Research Assistant for Holger Syme. Wrote a program to count the words spoken by each character in a corpus of five hundred Early Modern plays. University of Toronto, July–August 2016.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Instructor of Record**

Topics in Literature: Interactive Fiction (graduate course).

Northeastern University, spring 2024

3-hour weekly meetings for 17 students

Introduction to Digital Humanities (graduate course).

Northeastern University, fall 2023

3-hour weekly meetings for 12 students

Digital Writing

Northeastern University, spring 2023

1.5-hour twice-weekly meetings for 19 students

Topics in Digital Humanities: Where Data Comes From (graduate course)

Northeastern University, spring 2023

3-hour weekly meetings for 10 students

Race, Sympathy, and Women in Eighteenth-Century Literature (graduate course)  
Northeastern University, spring 2023  
1.5-hour weekly directed reading for 1 student

Reading and Writing in the Digital Age  
Northeastern University, fall 2022, summer 2023  
fully asynchronous online course for 19 students

The Digital Text  
University of Toronto, winter 2022  
2-hour weekly lectures for 200 students, 6 tutorial TAs, online synchronous  
University of Toronto, summer 2018  
3-hour twice-weekly lectures for 60 students, 1 grading TA

### **Curricular Design**

Literature and Data  
University of Toronto, fall 2022  
designed and coded eleven weeks of Python lab exercises and homeworks

### **Tutorial Leader**

Introduction to British Literature II (1688 to present)  
University of Toronto, fall 2018, winter 2019, winter 2020  
2 tutorials of 20 students

Writing English Essays  
University of Toronto, winter 2018  
3 tutorials of 15 students

The Digital Text  
University of Toronto, fall 2015  
2 tutorials of 25 students

Great Moments in English Literature (Chaucer to present)  
University of Victoria, fall 2013, winter 2014  
2 tutorials of 20 students

### **Guest Teacher**

“Data Visualization,” Introduction to Digital Humanities  
University of Toronto, fall 2021, fall 2022  
3-hour lecture for 20 students

“Made-Digital Texts and Distant Reading,” Digital Texts  
University of Toronto Scarborough, winter 2021  
1-hour talk for 30 students

“*Persuasion* (1817) and the Navy,” Introduction to British Literature II  
University of Toronto, fall 2018, winter 2019  
30-minute talk for 200 students

“Sentimental Tears in *The Man of Feeling* (1771),” The Rise of the Novel in the 18th Century  
University of Toronto Mississauga, fall 2018  
2-hour lecture for 30 students

### **Course Grader**

Effective Writing. University of Toronto Mississauga, winter 2021.  
Swift, Pope and their Contemporaries. University of Toronto Mississauga, winter 2021.  
Austen and her Contemporaries. University of Toronto, winter 2021, summer 2021.  
British Romanticism, 1770-1800. University of Toronto Mississauga, winter 2021.  
Literature and Film for our Time. University of Toronto Scarborough, fall 2020.  
Queer Writing. University of Toronto, summer 2020.  
Fantasy and Horror. University of Toronto Mississauga, winter 2016.  
English Literature to 1660. University of Victoria, fall 2015.

### **Supervision of Students**

Alisa C. Chen, Research Assistant, summer and fall 2023.  
Grace O'Malley, Undergraduate Honors Interdisciplinary Thesis, summer and fall 2023.  
Felix Oke, intern, Women Writers Project, summer 2023.  
Chinma Nnadozie-Okananwa, Research Assistant, spring and summer 2023.

### **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

Founder. Python Programming Group, Northeastern University department of English. 2023–present.  
Member. ChatGPT and Generative AI Working Group, Northeastern University department of English. Spring 2023.  
Co-Director. Digital Integration Teaching Initiative, Northeastern University. 2022–present.  
Program Assistant. Digital Humanities Network, University of Toronto. July–December 2020.  
Assistant and A/V Liaison. Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Conference. Toronto, Ontario, October 18–21, 2017.  
Social Committee Member. University of Toronto Graduate English Association. 2015–2016.  
M.A. Representative. University of Victoria English Graduate Students Society. 2013–2015.

### **Peer Reviewing**

*Journal of Electronic Publishing*. 2023.  
*Digital Humanities Quarterly*. 2022 and 2023.  
Digital Humanities conference. 2022 and 2023.  
Association for Computers and the Humanities conference. 2018.  
*The Scattered Pelican*, the graduate student journal of Comparative Literature at Western University. 2016, 2018, 2021, and 2022.

## **PUBLIC OUTREACH**

Podcast interview, “The Ecology of Databases,” *The Women’s Print History Project Monthly Mercury*. November 17, 2021.

Wikipedia editor. Improving coverage of women and people of colour, especially in the eighteenth century, and monitoring article deletion. Three designated Good Articles. 2016–present.

Three Minute Thesis Finalist. University of Victoria, 2015.

Contributions to *The Toast*, an anthology, humour, and feminist writing website. Two articles about eighteenth century novels, 2014.

## **PROFESSIONAL DESIGN EXPERIENCE**

Graphic designer. The Book and The Silk Roads Mellon Foundation project, University of Toronto. January 2020–May 2021.

Instructor. The ArtsCenter, Carrboro, North Carolina. Designed and taught six-week course on graphic design in InDesign. 2013.

Co-founder and designer. Evalyn & Fowers Multimedia Production, Durham, North Carolina. Designed for print publications, video production, and web development. 2012–2014.

Multimedia Consultant. Duke University Office of Undergraduate Scholars & Fellows. 2012–2013.

Chief Design Editor. *Unzipped*, the Duke Journal of Gender and Sexuality. 2011–2012.

Consultant. Multimedia Project Studios, Duke University Libraries. 2010–2012.

## **RELATED PROFESSIONAL SKILLS**

Programming languages: Python, R, HTML/CSS.

Software proficiency: Excel, Gephi, Adobe Creative Suite, Tableau, GitHub, MarcEdit, ParseHub, OpenRefine.

Digital Humanities methods: text mining, network analysis, machine learning.

Reading languages (with dictionary): French, Latin, Arabic.

## **Digital Humanities Training**

HathiTrust Research Center UnCamp. Berkeley, CA, 2018.

“Understanding Topic Modelling.” Digital Humanities Summer Institute. Victoria, BC, 2017.

“Stylometry with R.” Digital Humanities Summer Institute. Victoria, BC, 2015.

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Modern Language Association

Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory

Association for Computers and the Humanities

American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies

Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing