

**BENJAMIN HOFFMANN**

**Associate Professor**  
 The Ohio State University  
 Department of French and Italian  
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**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**


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<b>Associate Professor of Early Modern French Studies</b> The Ohio State University	2019-present
<b>Assistant Professor of Early Modern French Studies</b> The Ohio State University	2015-2019
<b>Visiting Lecturer</b> École Normale supérieure – Summer School.	July 2011
<b>Lecturer</b> Institut Supérieur d'Interprétariat et de Traduction (Paris).	2009-2010
<b>Language Assistant</b> Amherst College (MA).	2008-2009

**EDUCATION**


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<b>Yale University</b> , New Haven, CT <i>PhD, Department of French</i> (2015) Dissertation: <i>Posthumous America: Literary Reinventions of America at the Turn of the Eighteenth-century.</i> Supervisors: Thomas M. Kavanagh and Christopher L. Miller. <i>M.A. and M.Phil.</i> (2012)	2010-2015
<b>École Normale Supérieure</b> , Paris <i>Diplômé de l'École Normale Supérieure.</i> Primary Specialty: Modern Literature; Secondary Specialty: Philosophy. Supervisors: Déborah Lévy-Bertherat (Department of Literature and Languages); Francis Wolff (Department of Philosophy).	2006-2010
<b>Université Paris-Sorbonne (Paris IV)</b> , Paris <i>Master II de Littérature française.</i> Supervisors: Pierre Frantz and Michel Delon. Thesis: « Le thème du voyage dans la création romanesque de D.A.F de Sade ». Grade: 18/20	2006-2008

*Master I de Littérature française.*

Supervisor: Pierre Frantz.

Thesis: « Bonheur et Liberté dans l’*Histoire de ma vie* de Giacomo Casanova ».

Grade: 17/20.

**Université Bordeaux-III**, Talence 2003-2006

*Licence de Lettres modernes.*

*Licence de Philosophie.*

**Lycée Montesquieu**, Bordeaux 2000-2003

*Baccalauréat littéraire.*

## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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- **Faculty Special Assignment.**  
A Full semester to concentrate on a unique research endeavor.  
The Ohio State University. Spring 2020.
- **Marguerite A. Peyre Prize for Outstanding Dissertation.**  
Yale University. April 2015.
- **Whiting Fellowship in the Humanities.**  
A Fellowship awarded to “advanced graduate students of exceptional merit, nominated by their departments and selected by a faculty committee”. 2014-2015.
- **John D. and Rose H. Jackson Pre-Prospectus Fellowship.**  
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. July-August 2012.
- **Berthe Corr and James Corr Memorial Fellowship.**  
Yale University. 2010-2012.
- **Scholarship for Academic Excellence.**  
Université Paris IV-Sorbonne. 2008-2009.
- **Mention Très Bien (*summa cum laude*).** Master II en Littérature française,  
Université Paris-Sorbonne (Paris IV), 2008.
- **Mention Très Bien (*summa cum laude*).** Master I en Littérature française,  
Université Paris-Sorbonne (Paris IV), 2007.
- **Mention Très Bien (*summa cum laude*).** Baccalauréat littéraire, Lycée Montesquieu,  
Bordeaux, 2004.

## TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

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- Eighteenth-century French literature, culture, and philosophy
- Literary Theory
- Representations of America in French literature
- Travel literature and early ethnographic texts
- Contemporary French Literature
- Creative writing

## PUBLICATIONS

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### BOOKS

#### *Criticism*

- ***Les Paradoxes de la postérité.***  
Paris: Éditions de Minuit, 2019. 243 p.
- ***L'Amérique posthume : réinventions littéraires de l'Amérique à la fin du XVIIIème siècle.*** Paris: Éditions Classiques Garnier, 2019. 396 p.
- ***Lezay-Marnésia. Lettres écrites des rives de l'Ohio.***  
Paris: Éditions Classiques Garnier, 2019, 299 p.

#### *Criticism (in Translation)*

- ***The Paradoxes of Posterity.***  
Translation by Alan J. Singerman. University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press. Forthcoming in 2020.
- ***Posthumous America. Literary Reinventions of America in French Literature at the End of the Eighteenth-Century.***  
Translation by Alan J. Singerman. University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2018. 256 p. Paperback edition, 2019.
- ***Lezay-Marnésia. Letters Written from the Banks of the Ohio.***  
Translation by Alan J. Singerman. University Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2017, 222 p.

#### *Creative Writing*

- ***American Pandemonium.***  
Novel. Paris: Éditions Gallimard, 2016, 378 p.
- ***Père et fils.***  
Récit. Paris: Éditions Gallimard, 2011, 118 p.
- ***Anyà Ivanovna.***  
Novel. Bordeaux: Éditions Bastingage, 2011, 127 p.
- ***Le monde est beau on peut y voyager.***  
Novel. Bordeaux: Éditions Bastingage, 2008, 126 p.

### ARTICLES

#### *Peer-Reviewed Articles*

- ***A Poetics of Confusion: Casanova's Story of My Life as Bildungsroman Eighteenth-Century Fiction.*** Forthcoming in the Spring of 2020.
- ***Diderot et l'introduction du bouddhisme en Occident.***  
*Recherches sur Diderot et sur l'Encyclopédie*, n°53, 2018, p. 113-128.

- **Du mémoire aux Mémoires. Exils et politique chez Leclerc de Milfort.**  
*Orages. Littérature et culture (1760-1830)*. 2018, p. 42-56.
- **Chateaubriand and the Mourning of (New) France.**  
*French Forum*, vol. 42, n°2, Fall 2017, p. 201-215.
- **L'Empreinte des œuvres et le réseau des mémoires.**  
*Fabula – Atelier de théorie littéraire*, March 2017, 4 p.
- **Chateaubriand, Crèveœur, and the Twilight of Native American Civilizations.**  
*Loxias*, n°56, March 2017, 14 p.
- **L'Esthétique de la condensation chez Villiers, Huysmans et Mallarmé.**  
*Études Stéphane Mallarmé*, November 2016, n°4, p. 63-75.
- **Le Site d'auteur : un nouvel espace d'investigation critique.**  
*French Studies*, October 2016, n°76, p. 565-580.
- **Bâtir des châteaux en Amérique : utopie et retraite dans les *Lettres écrites des rives de l'Ohio* (1792).**  
*Dix-Huitième siècle*, n°48, juin 2016, p. 311-324.
- **Posthumous Louisiana: Literary Reinvention of Louisiana in *The Saint Ybars Plantation* (1881).**  
*Southern Quarterly*, vol. 53, n°2 (Winter 2016), p. 164-181.
- **Sade et le vacillement des Lumières.**  
*Revue des Chantiers de la création*, Université de Provence, n°5, June 2012, 12 p.
- **Le non-dit dans *Point de Lendemain* de Vivant Denon.**  
*Loxias*, n°34, September 2011, n°34, 13 p.

#### *Articles in Collective Volumes*

- **Crèveœur ou les ambiguïtés**  
*Versailles and the American Revolution*. Under the direction of Valérie Bajou.  
Montreuil: Gourcuff Gradenigo, 2016, p. 147-149.

#### *Conference Proceedings*

- **Ruptures, silences et neutralité dans les *Lettres* de Crèveœur**  
*Bulletin du Centre de recherche du château de Versailles*, 2017, 14 p.
- **Casanova et les allers-retours du désir**  
*Corps et Séduction*, Christian Delporte et Audrey Hermel (dir.), Paris, Éditions Nicolas Malais, 2014, p. 139-149.
- **La scène du vol dans l'enfance de Rousseau et Casanova.**  
*Revue Littératures*, n°27, Université McGill, December 2012, p. 93-115.

#### *Literary Essays*

- **La Relecture des épreuves.**  
*Les Écrits*, Montréal, n°150, June 2017, p. 33-42.
- **Écrivain cavalier, écrivain géomètre.**  
*Les Écrits*, Montréal, n°148, November 2016, p. 45-58.
- **Portrait du romancier en escaladeur.**  
*L'Atelier du roman*, Paris, June 2016, n°86, p. 171-181.
- **Lettres à un jeune écrivain.**  
*Les Écrits*, Montréal, n°144, November 2015, p. 293-310.

*Other Articles*

- **A Genealogy of Staël’s Political Concepts.**  
Response to Aurelian Craiutu’s “How to Combat Fanaticism and the Spirit of Party: Germaine de Staël’s Lesson”. Liberty Matters Forum, Online Library of Liberty. 2019.
- **Failure and Fantasy on the Banks of the Ohio** (with Julia Lewandoski).  
*Blog of the Journal of the History of Ideas*. April 2017, 7 p.
- **Vingt leçons pour notre temps**  
*La Règle du jeu*, March 2017, 2 p.
- **De quoi Facebook est-il le nom ?**  
*La Règle du jeu*, February 2017, 5 p.  
Article translated in English and Chinese and re-published under the title “The Meaning of Facebook” and “脸书的真正意义” by the *Paris Innovation Review* (June 2017).
- **Ohio as Paradise during the French Revolution**  
*Wonders and Marvels*, February 2017, 2 p.
- **Cette Amérique qui triomphe en silence**  
*La Règle du jeu*, November 2016, 4 p.
- **Crossroads – roman interactif**  
*La Cause littéraire*, March 2016.
- **L’Éthique au temps des catastrophes.**  
*Contreligne*, September 2015, 5 p.
- **L’Amuse-Bouche ouvre ses pages : la tendresse en héritage.**  
*L’Amuse-Bouche*, May 2014, 2 p.
- **La Postérité des écrivains à l’ère du numérique.**  
*Bulles de Savoir*. August 2013, 7 p.
- **Le Rêve français en Amérique.** Interview with Alice Kaplan about *Dreaming in French: the Paris Years of Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy*, Susan Sontag, Angela Davis. *Bulles de Savoir*, July 2013, 8 p.
- **« You can see a lot by just looking ».** Interview with John Strauss, psychiatrist. *Bulles de Savoir*, April 2013, 8 p.

*Encyclopedia articles*

- **Letters Written from the Banks of the Ohio (1792).**  
*The Literary Encyclopedia*, Ed. Jenny Mander. April 2016, 4 pages.
- **Claude-François-Adrien de Lezay-Marnésia (1735-1800).**  
*The Literary Encyclopedia*, Ed. Jenny Mander. December 2015, 6 pages.

**CONTRIBUTION TO EDITED VOLUMES**

- **French in Action – The Capretz Method, Volume II.** New Haven: Yale University Press. Forthcoming, 500 pages in manuscript.  
Editorial contribution to the textbook and workbook of the third edition.
- **French in Action – The Capretz Method, Volume I.** New Haven: Yale University Press, 2013, 496 p. Editorial contribution to the textbook and workbook of the third edition.

## TRANSLATIONS

### *English/French (Articles)*

- **La traite des esclaves, la françafrique et la mondialisation du français** [*The Slave Trade, la Françafrique and the Globalization of French*], article by Christopher L. Miller in *French Global – Une nouvelle perspective sur l’histoire littéraire*. Paris: Éditions Classiques Garnier, 2014, 15 p.
- **D’une guerre l’autre : les privés dans le roman noir américain selon Donald E. Westlake** [*The Hardboiled Dicks*], article by Donald E. Westlake. *Revue Contreligne*, July 2014, 24 p.
- **Où sont les poètes-soldats de 14-18 ?** [*Where are the Soldier-Poets of The First World War?*], article by Nichole Gleisner, *Revue Contreligne*, April 2014, 4 p.
- **La Télévision est un existentialisme : réflexions sur *Breaking Bad***. [*Television Is An Existentialism: on Breaking Bad*], article by Veronica Armstead. *Revue Contreligne*, March 2014, 5 p.
- **Camus et le cinéma**. [*Camus and Film*], article by Philip Watts. *Revue Contreligne*. September 2013, 10 p.
- **Le scandaleux destin d’Amanda Knox**. [*Truth or Management. Amanda Knox, Waiting to be Heard: A Memoir*], article by Alice Kaplan. *Revue Contreligne*, May 2013, 9 p.

### *Spanish/French (Books)*

- **Proses apatrides** [*Prosas apátridas*] by Julio Ramón Ribeyro. Bordeaux: Éditions Finitude, 2010, 176 p. Co-translator, under the direction of François Géal.
- **L’Homme et les gens** [*El hombre y la gente*] by José Ortega y Gasset. Paris: Éditions rue d’Ulm, 2008, 278 p. Co-translator, under the direction of François Géal.

## MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

- ***Enlightenments. Buddhism and the Philosophes***.  
Book manuscript, in progress.
- ***Ce qui se passe avec Iris***.  
Novel, in progress.
- **“Voltaire’s Understanding of Buddhism”**.  
Submitted for initial review.

## PRESENTATIONS

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### INVITED LECTURES

- **Enlightenments. Diderot et l’introduction du Bouddhisme en Occident**.  
Johns Hopkins University. March 2018.
- **Le Site d’auteur : objet littéraire non identifié**.  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, April 2017.
- **Les Voyageurs français en Amérique au XVIIIème siècle**.  
International conference organized by the Château de Versailles. “Versailles and the American War of Independence”. July 2016.

- **Building Castles in the Air. Colonial Projects and Utopian Dreams in *Letters Written from the Banks of the Ohio*.**  
University of California – Santa Barbara. February 2015.
- ***Père et fils et les problèmes de l'autobiographie.***  
Alliance Française de New Haven. December 2011.
- ***Anya Ivanovna et le roman philosophique.***  
MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale. November 2011.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- **A Poetics of Confusion. Casanova's *Story of My Life* as Bildungsroman.**  
“The Bildungsroman: Form and Transformations”. International Conference at the University of Sydney. November 2018.
- **Diderot et la philosophie des Japonais.**  
Northeast Modern Language Association, Pittsburgh, April 2018.
- **Writing the Truth about America at the Time of the French Revolution.**  
Americas Before 1900 Working Group. The Ohio State University, March 2016.
- **Headed to the Promised Land: The United States in Lezay-Marnésia's *Letters Written from the Banks of the Ohio*.**  
American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. Williamsburg, VA. March 2014.
- **Chateaubriand cosmographe.**  
Yale University Working Group in French. March 2012.
- **Sade et le vacillement des Lumières.**  
Conference organized by the French Department at Yale University: “Ethics and Literature”. February 2012.
- **Casanova au deuxième acte de sa vie : langages du corps et détours de la séduction**  
International conference organized by the Department of Cultural History of Versailles/Saint Quentin University. “Corps et séduction : du charme à la manipulation”. December 2011.
- **Fascination et répulsion : la femme indienne dans l'*Histoire d'un voyage fait en la terre du Brésil*.**  
Conference organized by the Department of French at New York University: “La bête noire”. March 2011.
- **Les enjeux d'une réécriture : la scène du vol dans l'enfance de Rousseau et Casanova.**  
Conference organized by the Department of French Language and Literature at McGill University, Canada: “[Ré]écrire l'histoire”. November 2011.

## GUEST LECTURER

- **Rewriting Casanova's *Story of my Life* in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century** for Prof. Guido Furci's course: *Casanova's Variations* (Johns Hopkins University, March 2018).
- **Romantic Paris** for Prof. Audrey Bourriaud's course: *Global Paris* (OSU, March 2018).
- **Versailles: A Contradictory Site of Memory** for Prof. Audrey Bourriaud's course: *Global Paris* (OSU, February 2018).
- **A French Utopia on the Banks of the Scioto** for Prof. Alice L. Conklin's course: *Introduction to the Discipline of History* (OSU, October 2017).

- **La Controverse sur la postérité dans la correspondance de Diderot et Falconet** for Prof. Laurence Mall's course: *Critique et sentiment au XVIIIème siècle* (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, April 2017).
- **Contingence et déterminisme dans *Jacques le Fataliste*** for Prof. Patrick Bray's course: *Mapping Movement* (OSU, September 2017).

## PANEL ORGANIZER

- **The Enlightenment's Encounter with Asian Religions**  
American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. Saint-Louis, MO. March 2020.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

#### Graduate Seminars

- *French 8202*: Eighteenth-Century Literary Experiments.
- *French 8202*: Enlightenment and Desire.

#### Undergraduate Classes

- *French 2101*: Introduction to French and Francophone Studies.
- *French 2101-01H*: Honors Introduction to French and Francophone Studies.
- *French 4401*: Creative Writing in French.
- *French 5101*: Advanced French Grammar.
- *French 5202*: French Literature in the Age of Discovery.
- *French 5401*: The Sun King to World War I.

#### Study Abroad Programs

- *French 1802*: Global May in Paris – Resident Director.
- *French 1802*: Global May in Paris – Co-Resident Director.

### YALE UNIVERSITY

- *French 110*: Beginning French Language. Fall 2012
- *French 120*: Intermediate French Language. Spring 2013
- *French 195b*: Creative Writing in French. Sole instructor. Spring 2014.
- *French 240*: The Modern French Novel in Translation. Teaching Fellow for Professors Alice Kaplan and Maurice Samuels. Fall 2013.
- *French 362*: Autobiography and Autofiction. Grading assistant for Prof. Alice Kaplan. Spring 2013.

### ÉCOLE NORMALE SUPÉRIEURE (SUMMER SCHOOL)

- *Français pour débutants et faux débutants : imaginer, jouer, raconter*. July 2011



**INSTITUT SUPÉRIEUR D'INTERPRÉTARIAT ET TRADUCTION (PARIS)**

- *Maîtrise de la langue française.* (Licence II). Fall 2009/Spring 2010
- *Stylistique et linguistique.* (Licence III). Fall 2009/Spring 2010
- *Synthèse de documents.* (Licence II). Fall 2009/Spring 2010
- *Correction et révision de texte.* (Licence II/III). Fall 2009/Spring 2010

**AMHERST COLLEGE**

- *French 01.* Beginning French Language. Fall 2008/Spring 2009
- *French 03.* Intermediate French Language. Fall 2008/Spring 2009

**ADVISING (OSU)****Dissertation Committee**

- Joseph White (with Prof. Jennifer Willging and Prof. Patrick Bray). (2019)
- Mackenzie Leadston (with Prof. Patrick Bray and Prof. Maggie Flinn): “Theorizing the Comic Object in Classic French Cinema.” (2019)
- Caroline Noble (with Prof. Patrick Bray and Prof. Maggie Flinn): “Mediterranean Seascapes in Contemporary French Cinema: Between Myth and Reality.” (2018)

**Qualifying Paper Advisor**

- Mike Moshman: “The Eighteenth-Century on Screen” (2019).
- Brian J. Troth: “#Voltaire: The Modernization of the French Tradition of Anti Fanaticism.” (2016).

**Candidacy Examination Advisor**

- Christy Camp (2017).
- Caroline Noble (2016)

**Senior Thesis Advisor**

- Troy Weider: “The Alsatian Connection: Defending a French Regional Identity in Central Texas” (Senior Thesis, 2018). With Prof. Jennifer Willging.
- Jessica Lahote: “Psychothérapie à la française: Le statut de la psychanalyse dans la France contemporaine par rapport aux États-Unis” (Honors Thesis, 2017). With Prof. Jennifer Willging.

**International Affairs Scholar Advisor**

- Karchen Lathoo: “Lettres tibétaines” (2019).

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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### DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE (OSU)

- **Member of the Salary Advisory Committee.** 2019-present.
- **Member of the Undergraduate Studies Committee.** 2015-present.
- **Chair of the Awards, Scholarships, and Nominations Committee.** 2017-present.
- **Member of the Translation and Interpretation Studies Working Group.** 2017-present.
- **Member of the Americas Before 1900 Working Group.** 2016-present.
- **Co-organizer of the Lecture Series: “New Interdisciplinary Directions in French, Francophone, and Italian Studies”** (with Prof. Dana Renga). 2017-2018.
- **Member of the Assessment Committee.** Department of French and Italian. 2017.
- **Advisor of *Le Cercle français* – Undergraduate French Club.** 2015-present.
- **Classroom observations.** Dr. Darell Estes (2018); Dr. Kelly Campbell (2018).
- **Junior Faculty Mentor.** Dr. Eric Essono Tsimi; Dr. Guiliano Migliori.
- **Guest Lecture Coordinator.** 2015-present.  
*Guests:* Prof. Aurelian Craiutu (Indiana University, October 2018); Prof. Mary-Anne Lewis-Cusato (Ohio Wesleyan University, November 2017); Prof. Julia Douthwaite (University of Notre Dame, March 2017); Antoine Bello (October 2016); Prof. David Bell (Princeton University, March 2016).

### OTHER

- **Peer Reviewer for *Eighteenth-Century Fiction*.**
- **Peer Reviewer for *Studies in 20th and 21st Century Literature*.**
- **External Faculty Member, Dissertation Defense.**  
Dr. Matthew Irwin, School of Communication. OSU. May 2017.
- **Panel member**, roundtable on professional development, French and Italian Graduate Student Association at The Ohio State University, November 2015.
- **Panel member**, faculty-student panel on mentoring. Yale University, Department of French, February 2014.
- **Graduate Student Representative**, Department of French, Yale University. 2013-14.
- **Co-Organizer of the Graduate Student Conference**, “Ethics and Literature”, Department of French, Yale University. Spring 2012.
- **Graduate Student Representative**, Department of French, Yale University. 2010-11.
- **Graduate Student Representative**, Department of Literature and Languages, École Normale Supérieure. 2007-2008.

### RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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- **Proofreader** (English-French) of *La Liberté d'expression en Révolution. Les mœurs, l'honneur, la calomnie* by Charles Walton, Presses Universitaire de Rennes, 2014.

- **Actor** for *Tu sais quoi ?!*, *Cours de conversation en français* by Annabelle Dolidon and Norma López-Burton. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2012. Recording of the oral part. May 2012.
- **Translator** (English-French) of a talk by Prof. Timothy Snyder: « À propos de *Terre de Sang, l'Europe entre Hitler et Staline* ». April 2012.
- **Translator** (English-French) for *The Forest Dialogue*. Translation of documents and emails in order to facilitate the communication between the team at Yale and local partners in Burkina Faso. July-August 2011.
- **Proofreader** (French-English) of translations from the French in *The Problem of Distraction*, Stanford University Press, 2012, by Prof. Paul North. October 2010.

## PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

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- **Advanced Fundamentals Workshop in Language and Literature. Spring 2013.**  
A workshop designed for experienced language teachers who hope to improve their pedagogy training in teaching foreign language literature.
- **Yale Center for Language Study Pedagogy Workshop. Fall 2012.**  
Week-long training in topics of second-language teaching, including communicative method, task-based activity design, teaching writing, technology-based activities, and students with disabilities.
- **Teaching in the American classroom. Fall 2010-Spring 2011.**  
Yale University Professional training at the Center for Language Study. Two semesters of classes to prepare the OPA2 (*Oral performance assessment*).

## LANGUAGES

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- French – first language.
- English – native fluency.
- Spanish – good speaking, reading, and writing proficiency.
- Italian, Latin, Old French – reading knowledge.

## MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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- American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. 2013–present.
- Modern Language Association. 2014–present.

## PERSONAL INTERESTS

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- CrossFit, Rock-Climbing, Stand-Up Paddle Boarding.
- Travels (Spain, Italy, Czech Republic, Austria, Greece, England, Scotland, Croatia, Tunisia, United States, Canada, Mexico, Costa Rica, Peru, Japan, Australia).