

JESSE ROSENTHAL

The Johns Hopkins University Department of English

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- Assistant Professor, English, Johns Hopkins University, 2010–.
- Postdoctoral Fellow, English, Johns Hopkins University, 2009–10.

EDUCATION

Columbia University

- PhD in English and Comparative Literature (with Distinction). 2009.

Swarthmore College

- B.A. in English and Mathematics, with High Honors. 1998.

BOOKS

- *Good Form: The Ethical Experience of the Victorian Novel*. (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2017).

Reviewed by the *Times Literary Supplement*, *The Wordsworth Circle*.

- In Progress: *The Idea of Tradition: Developmental Narrative and the Logic of the Humanities*.

OPEN-SOURCE SOFTWARE PROJECTS

Pandoc (core developer)

Pandoc (<http://pandoc.org>) is one of the most popular plain-text document preparation systems and markup converters. I maintain an open-source reader for Microsoft Word files, and collaborate with other principal developers to add new features. I am currently doing work sponsored by RStudio, a leading statistical software system, to add Microsoft Powerpoint output to pandoc.

Notmuch

Notmuch (<https://notmuch.org>) is an email indexer and client. I contributed code both to the back-end indexing program and the front-end.

mlbviewer

mlbviewer (<https://sourceforge.net/projects/mlbviewer>) is a suite of programs developed to allow subscribers to the mlb.tv service to watch Major League Baseball games on a Linux computer. I wrote the initial implementation and maintained the project for a year.

EDITORIAL WORK

- “Narrative against Data in the Victorian Novel.” Special Issue of *Genre* 50.1 (March 2017). Co-edited with Adam Grener.

PUBLICATIONS (IN PEER-REVIEWED OUTLETS)

- “The Untrusted Medium: Open Networks and Secret Writing in *Little Dorrit*.” *Victorian Studies* 59.2 (Winter 2017). 288–313.
- “Introduction: ‘Narrative against Data.’” *Genre* 50.1 (March 2017). 1–18.
- “Some Thoughts on Time Travel.” *Victorian Studies* 59.1 (Autumn 2016). 102–104.
- “Maintenance Work: On Tradition and Development.” *b2o* (2016). Online.
- “Humor and Wit.” in the *Blackwell Encyclopedia of Victorian Literature* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2015). Vol 2. 739–47.
- “The Newgate Novel.” in the *Blackwell Encyclopedia of Victorian Literature* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2015). Vol 4. 1186–92.
- “Being in the Plot: Action, Intuition, and Trolleys.” *boundary 2*. 40.2 (Summer 2013). 25–39.
- “The Large Novel and the Law of Large Numbers, or Why George Eliot Hates Gambling.” *ELH* 77.3 (Fall 2010). 777–811.

REVIEWS

- Review of Caroline Levine and Mario Ortiz-Robles, *Narrative Middles* (Ohio State, 2011), in *RAVON* 64 (October 2013)
- Review of Vanessa Ryan, *Thinking Without Thinking in the Victorian Novel* (Johns Hopkins, 2012) in *The Wordsworth Circle* 44.4 (Autumn 2013)
- Review of John R. Reed, *Dickens’s Hyperrealism* (Ohio State, 2010), in *Victorian Studies* 54.2 (Winter 2011)

HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- Honorable Mention, Donald Grey Prize for Best Essay in Victorian Studies, for “The Large Novel and the Law of Large Numbers, or Why George Eliot Hates Gambling.” (Only one prize and one honorable mention awarded.) Awarded by the North American Victorian Studies Association. 2011.
- Post-Doctoral Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University English Department. 2009–10.
- M. C. Cohen Prize for Best Dissertation. Columbia University Department of English. 2009.
- Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation Dissertation Fellowship. 2007–08.
- Honorable Mention, Best Graduate Student Paper, for “Gambler’s Fallacies: Materialism, Realism, and *Daniel Deronda* at Play.” Awarded by the North American Victorian Studies

Association. 2007.

- Peter D. Shamonsey Memorial Fellowship. 2006–07.
- Best Paper by a Graduate Student at the Narrative Conference, for “Pip’s Choices: Ethics, Autonomy, and Narrative Desire.” Awarded by the Society for the Study of Narrative Literature. 2005.
- Miron Cristo-Loveanu Prize for Best M.A. Essay, for “Using Other People: The Function of Spousal Death in *Middlemarch* and *David Copperfield*.” Awarded by the Columbia University Department of English and Comparative Literature. 2003.
- Mellon Summer Research Fellowship. 2005, 2007.
- Columbia University Travel Grant. 2005, 2006.
- Marjorie Hope Nicolson Doctoral Fellowship. 2000–05.

INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

- “If You Touch Yourself, You Will Explode.” Part of Plenary Panel on “Strategic Presentism.” 2016 Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference. Asheville, NC. Invited Talk.
- “Maintenance Work: On Development and Tradition.” 2015 V21 Symposium. Chicago, IL.
- Respondent on Panel on Jane Austen, on the occasion of the Peabody Institute’s staging of *Mansfield Park*, an Opera by Jonathan Dove and Alasdair Middleton.
- “Cosmopolitanism and Transgression.” Johns Hopkins University Women and Gender Studies Panel in Honor of Judith Walkowitz’s *Nights Out*. Invited Talk.
- “Realism, Readability, and Other Inside Jokes.” Princeton University. December 2011. Invited Talk.

WORK PRESENTED AT CONFERENCES

- “‘The Bondswoman’s Due’: Broken Contracts in *The Egoist*.” 2017 Form and Reform Conference. Santa Cruz, CA.
- “Broken Contracts: *The Egoist* and the Relation to the Past.” 2017 Narrative Conference. Lexington, KY.
- “Why *The Egoist* is not a Perfect Novel.” 2016 Northeast Victorian Studies Conference. New Brunswick, NJ.
- “How to Tell Secrets in Public.” 2015 Northeast Victorian Studies Conference. Providence, RI.
- “Cryptographic Realism.” 2014 North American Victorian Studies Conference. London, ON.
- “The History of the Present, or, What’s in a Classic?” 2013 North American Victorian Studies Conference. Pasadena, CA.

- “Being in the Plot: Action, Intuition, and Trolleys.” 2011 Modern Language Association Special Panel on “The Philosophical Example.” Seattle, WA.
- “Not Funny Ha-Ha: Dickensian Humor and the Sense of Others.” 2011 North American Victorian Studies Conference. Nashville, TN.
- “Large Novels about Lots of People: Why Population Statistics were Important to George Eliot.” 2010 North American Victorian Studies Conference. Montréal, QC.
- “Getting *David Copperfield*: Humor and *Sensus Communis* in Novel Structure.” 2010 Narrative Conference. Cleveland, OH.
- “Gamblers’ Fallacies: Materialism, Realism, and *Daniel Deronda* at Play.” 2007 North American Victorian Studies Association Conference. Victoria, BC.
- “Moral Sense and the Sense of Narrative: *Hard Times*.” 2006 Narrative Conference. Ottawa, ON.
- “What Feels Right: Moral Sense and the Internal Argument.” 2006 Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference. New Brunswick, NJ.
- “Pip’s Choices: Ethics, Autonomy, and Narrative Desire.” 2005 Narrative Conference. Louisville, KY.

WORK WITH GRADUATE STUDENTS

PhD Advising

- Patrick Fessenbecker (Secondary reader). “Novels and Ideas: Conceptions of Agency in Nineteenth-Century Fiction.” PhD 2014. Currently employed at Bilkent University.
- Nan Zhang (Secondary reader). “Solemn Progress: Modernism, Social Constitution, and Cosmic Life.” PhD 2014. Currently employed at University of Hong Kong.
- Matthew Flaherty (Secondary reader). PhD 2017. “Many-Sided Lives: Liberal Judgment and the Realist Novel.”
- Samreen Kazmi (Co-Secondary reader)
- Sungmey Lee (Secondary reader)

Field Examination

- Samreen Kazmi. Victorian Literature. 2016.
- Sungmey Lee. Victorian Literature. 2016.
- Kevin Roberts. Nineteenth-Century British Literature. 2013.
- John Sampson. Nineteenth-Century British Literature. 2013.
- Grant Shreve. Nineteenth-Century British Literature. 2012.
- Matthew Flaherty. Nineteenth-Century British Literature. 2012.
- Rebecca Pekron (Humanities Center). Rosetti and Swinburne. 2011.

Dissertation Defense Committee

- Matthew Flaherty (English Dept.). “Many-Sided Lives: Liberal Judgment and the Realist Novel.” 2017.
- Roger Maioli (English Dept.). “The Empirical Ambitions of the Eighteenth-Century Novel.” 2015.
- Ren Pepitone (History Dept.). “Legal London: Gender, Space, and the Culture of the Bar, 1850-1940.” 2015.
- Nan Zhang (English Dept.). “‘Solemn Progress’: Modernism, Social Constitution, and Cosmic Life.” 2014.
- Patrick Fessenbecker (English Dept.). “Novels and Ideas: Conceptions of Agency in Nineteenth-Century Fiction.” 2014.
- Katie Hindmarch-Watson (History Dept.). “Dispatches from the Underground: Gender, Labor, and Communications Technology in the remaking of the Liberal City, 1870-1916.” 2013.
- Rebecca Pekron (Humanities Center). “‘Que Rest-t-il?’: Poetic Approaches to Immortality: Baudelaire and After.” 2013.
- Jessica Valdez (English Dept.). “Mediating Englishness: Newspapers and National Identity in the Victorian Novel.” 2012.
- Jessica Clark (History Dept.). “Beauty on Bond Street: Gender, Enterprise, and the Establishment of an English Beauty Industry, 1850-1910.” 2012.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE*Johns Hopkins University*

- Assistant Professor: 2010–

Undergraduate Courses include: “The Nineteenth-Century British Novel”; “Victorian Realisms”; “Hardy, Conrad, James”; “Class and the Nineteenth-Century Novel”; “Theory of the Novel”; “Jane Austen”; “Detective Fiction”; “Rise of the Novel”; “Introduction to Literary Studies”; “Large Novels”; “Time Travel”

Graduate Courses Include: “Narrative and the Unconscious before Freud”; “Realism: Theory and Practice”; “Facts and Fiction”; “The Idea of Tradition”

City College of New York

- Lecturer: “Victorian Literature” 2008.

Barnard College

- Lecturer: “First-Year English Seminar: Legacies of the Mediterranean,” 2008–2009.

Columbia University

- Undergraduate Writing Instructor: “University Writing,” 2003–05.

- Guest Lecturer: “History of the Novel II,” 2007; “History of the Novel II,” 2004; “Nineteenth-Century English Fiction,” 2003.
- Teaching Assistant: “Romantic Poetry,” 2006; “History of the Novel II,” 2004; “Nineteenth-Century English Fiction,” 2003.

MANUSCRIPT REFEREE

Johns Hopkins University Press; *ELH*; *Victorian Studies*; *Victorian Review*; *The Comparatist*.

DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- Director of Undergraduate Studies. 2015–
- Webmaster of department site; oversaw site redesign. 2014–
- Consultant to Editorial Board of Johns Hopkins University Press (consult on uncertain cases on the topic of Victorian literature).
- DURA Fellowships Application Committee. 2016.
- Search Committee and Hiring Committee. Early Modern Senior Hire. 2013–14.
- Search Committee and Hiring Committee. Early Modern Senior Hire. 2011–12.
- Search Committee and Hiring Committee. Anglophone/Post-Colonial Junior Hire. 2011–12.
- Graduate Applications reader (read all applications, along with the Director of Graduate Studies, before a select number was passed along to the rest of the admissions committee). 2011.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Chair, Program Committee for Northeast Victorian Studies Association (NVSA) Annual Conference. 2017–18.
- Indexer for Eileen Gillooly and Deirdre David, *Contemporary Dickens* (Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 2009).
- Web Designer and Administrator, British Studies at Columbia. 2007–09.
- Co-Organizer, Nineteenth-Century Colloquium Lecture Series. 2006–07.
- Co-Coordinator, Columbia University English Department Nineteenth-Century Colloquium. 2005–07.
- Instructor, Dickens Universe. 2006.
- Reader and fact-checker, for Edward Mendelson, *The Things that Matter: What Seven Classic Novels Have to Say About the Stages of Life* (New York: Pantheon, 2006).

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Nineteenth-century British literature and culture; history of the novel; narrative theory; digital

humanities; quantitative textual analysis; Victorian ethics; modern moral and ethical theories; Victorian subgenres; British modernism; mathematics and literature; theories of humor; Dickens; Eliot; Trollope; Great Books.

MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Modern Language Association; North American Victorian Studies Association; Northeast Victorian Studies Association; Society for the Study of Narrative; Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies