

ALISON JAMES

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PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Current

2020–present Professor, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures and the College,
University of Chicago

Previous

2022–2025 Chair, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, University of Chicago
2013–2020 Associate Professor, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures and the
College, University of Chicago
2005–2013 Assistant Professor, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures and the
College, University of Chicago

EDUCATION

2005 Ph.D. in French Literature, Columbia University. Dissertation with distinction
2003 Diplôme d'Études Approfondies (DEA) in French Literature, Université Paris 8
(Vincennes–Saint-Denis). Mention très bien
2002 M.Phil. in French Literature, Columbia University
2000 M.A. in French Literature, Columbia University
1998 B.A. in Modern and Medieval Languages (French and German), University of
Cambridge, UK. First class honours

PUBLICATIONS

Books

The Documentary Imagination in Twentieth-Century French Literature: Writing with Facts. Oxford University Press, 2020

Reviewed in *Acta fabula* 22.3 (2021); *Journal of European Studies* 51.1 (2021), *MLN* 136.4 (2021); *French Studies* 76.2 (2022), *The Romanic Review* 113.2 (2022), *H-France* (2023)

Constraining Chance: Georges Perec and the Oulipo. Northwestern University Press, 2009

Reviewed in *French Studies* 63.4 (2009); *The French Review* 84.3 (2011); *Modern Language Notes* 125.4 (2010); *Roman* 20–50 51 (2011); *The Romanic Review* 103.3–4 (2013)

Edited and co-edited volumes

- Co-editor (with Anne Duprat), *Figures of Chance II: Chance in Theory and Practice*. Routledge, 2024.
 French version : *Le Hasard: littératures, arts, sciences, philosophie* (Part II), CNRS Éditions, 2025.
- Co-editor and Introduction, with Corinne Grenouillet and Maryline Heck, *Écrire le quotidien aujourd'hui*. Collection “La Licorne,” Presses Universitaires de Rennes, 2024.
- Co-editor and introduction (with Akihiro Kubo and Françoise Lavocat), *The Routledge Handbook of Fiction and Belief*. Routledge, 2023.
- Co-editor and introduction, with Akihiro Kubo and Françoise Lavocat, *Can Fiction Change the World?* “Transcript” series, MHRA/Legenda, 2023.
- Co-editor and Introduction, with Christophe Reig, *Frontières de la non-fiction: littérature, cinéma, arts*. Presses Universitaires de Rennes, 2013.
- Reviewed in *The French Review* 89.4 (2016): 224–25.

Edited and co-edited journal issues

- Co-editor and Introduction, with Emmanuel Bouju, “Fiducia II: Question de confiance/Matter of Trust.” *Fabula/Les Colloques* (January 2025). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.58282/colloques.12647>
- Co-editor and Introduction, with Alison Rice, “Déplacements de la fiction,” *Revue critique de fixxion française contemporaine*, no. 28 (June 2024), <https://journals.openedition.org/fixxion/13472>.
- Co-editor and Introduction, with Akihiro Kubo and Françoise Lavocat: “Fictions impossibles/Impossible Fictions.” *Fabula/Les Colloques* (December 2023). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.58282/colloques.11070>
- Co-editor and Introduction, with Dominique Viart: “Littératures de terrain/Field Literatures.” Special issue of *Revue critique de fixxion française contemporaine* 18 (2019), <http://www.revue-critique-de-fixxion-francaise-contemporaine.org/rcffc/issue/view/28>.
- Reviewed in *Acta fabula* 21, no. 2 (2020).
- Co-editor and Introduction, with Olivier Dubouclez: “Valère Novarina: une poétique théologique?” Special issue, *Littérature* 176 (2014).
- Editor and introduction, “Forms of Formalism.” Special issue, *L'Esprit créateur* 48.2 (2008).

Journal articles

- “Oulipian Feelings: On the Emotional Effects of Constraints.” *Contemporary French & Francophone Studies: Sites* 25.5 (2021): 557–565.
- “False Documents and Fragile Fictions in Contemporary French Literature: Convergences, Configurations, Conversions.” *L'Esprit créateur* (Summer 2021): 10–23.
- “Nothing that is So is So”: Fiction and Detachment in Philippe Lançon’s *Le Lambeau*.” *Contemporary French & Francophone Studies: Sites* 24.2 (2020): 168–76.
- “‘Ismail, lui aussi.’ Le romanesque du témoin dans *La Disparition*.” *Cahiers Georges Perec*, no. 13 (2019): 113–26.
- “Re-reading Emmanuel Bove.” *Revue critique de fixxion française contemporaine* 18 (2019): 246–53.

- “Interlingual Oulipo.” *Modern Language Notes* 131.4 (2016): 864–76.
- “History-Forms: Jacques Jouet’s Documentary Poems.” *Contemporary French & Francophone Studies: Sites* 20.3 (2016): 444–452.
- “Distention et dispersion: temporalités dans le théâtre de Valère Novarina.” *Littérature* 176 (2014): 108–118.
- “Thinking the Everyday: Genre, Form, Fiction.” *L’Esprit créateur* 54.3 (2014): 78–91.
- “Poem-Walking: The Survival of Paris in Jacques Roubaud’s *La Forme d’une ville*.” *Modern Philology* 111.1 (2013): 107–131.
- “After Fiction? Democratic Imagination in an Age of Facts.” *Revue critique de fiction française contemporaine*, no. 6 (2013): 26–37.
- “Le fait divers aux frontières de la fiction: la rhétorique documentaire d’André Gide.” *Gide à la frontière, Actes du colloque de Granville. Bulletin des Amis d’André Gide* 177–78 (2013): 75–86.
- “Nobody’s Animals: Language, Limits, and Forms of Life in Queneau and Roubaud.” *Contemporary French & Francophone Studies: Sites* 16.4 (2012): 487–95.
- “Transatlantic Oulipo: Crossings and Crosscurrents.” *Formules* 16 (2012): 249–62.
- “The Surrealism of the Habitual: from Poetic Language to the Prose of Life.” *Paragraph: A Journal of Modern Critical Theory* 34.3 (2011): 406–22.
- “Beyond the Book: François Bon and the Digital Transition.” *SubStance*, issue 125, 40.2 (2011): 37–51.
- “Paysages de la mémoire: Proust, Aragon, Perec.” *Théorie, littérature, épistémologie* 26 (2009): 163–83.
- “Mètre, contrainte, procédé: quelques problèmes de la forme poétique en France et aux Etats-Unis.” *Formules: revue des créations formelles* 13 (2009): 153–67.
- “Jacques Roubaud and the Ethics of Artifice.” *French Studies* 63.1 (2009): 53–65.
- “Grids and Transparencies.” *L’Esprit créateur* 48.2 (2008): 74–85.
- “The Maltese and the Mustard Fields: Oulipian Translation.” *SubStance*, issue 115, 37.1 (2008): 134–47.
- “Reflets et représentations: Richard Rorty et Clément Rosset face à la littérature.” *Littérature* 147 (2007): 99–114.
- “Automatism, Arbitrariness, and the Oulipian Author.” *French Forum* 31.2 (2006): 111–25.
- “Pour un modèle diagrammatique de la contrainte: l’écriture oulipienne de Georges Perec.” *Théorie, littérature, enseignement* 22 (2004): 55–81. Prix de l’Association internationale des études françaises, 2005; repr. in *Cahiers de l’Association internationale des études françaises* 58 (May 2006): 379–404.

Selected book chapters

- “Autodécollation, documentaire, fiction. Le soi et ses semblables dans les homobiographies de Liliane Giraudon.” In *Liliane Giraudon. Fragments polyphoniques*, Les Presses du réel, forthcoming 2025.

- “Counterfactual Biofictions: Writing Against History.” In the *Routledge Companion to Biofiction*, edited by Lucia Boldrini, Laura Cernat, Alexandre Gefen, and Michael Lackey. Routledge, 2025, 128–146.
- “Modern Figures of Chance: Accidents and Procedures.” Co-edited with Sébastien Wit, with co-authors, in *Figures of Chance I: Chance in Literature and the Arts (16th–21st Centuries)*, edited by Anne Duprat, Fiona McIntosh Varjabédian and Anne-Gaëlle Weber, Routledge, 2024, 324–390.
- “Fictions du quotidien.” *Contes, mondes et récits*, edited by Mireille Besson, Catherine Courtet, Françoise Lavocat, François Lecercle, éditions CNRS, 2023, 261–272.
- “Le tournant documentaire et les déplacements de la fiction.” *P.O.L: futur, ancien, actuel*, edited by Stéphane Bikialo, Maryline Heck and Dominique Rabaté, Les Presses du réel, 2023, 365–379.
- “The Exalting Alliance: Pre-Socratic Poetics in Postwar France.” In *Brill’s Companion to Classical Reception and Modern World Poetry*, edited by Polina Tambakaki, Brill, 2023, 174–206.
- “The Fictional in Autofiction.” *The Autofictional*, edited by Alexandra Effe and Hannie Lawlor, Palgrave Macmillan, 2022, 41–60.
- “Return to Form? Expanded Formalism and the Idea of Literature.” *Continental Theory Buffalo: Transatlantic Crossroads of a Critical Insurrection*, edited by David R. Castillo, Jean-Jacques Thomas, and Ewa Plonowska Ziarek, SUNY Press, 2021, 93–108.
- “‘Qui dit ça?’: Problèmes d’énonciation dans le roman non fictionnel.” *La Non-fiction: un genre mondial*, ed. Alexandre Gefen, Philippe Daros and Alexandre Prsotojevic, Peter Lang, 2021, 169–80.
- “Randomizing Form: Stochastics and Combinatorics in Postwar Literature.” *Palgrave Handbook of Literature and Mathematics*, edited by Alice Jenkins, Robert Tubbs, N. Engelhardt, Palgrave Macmillan, 2021, 207–225.
- “Puissances de la littérature potentielle: la dé-création oulipienne.” *Pouvoir de la littérature (De l’energeia à l’empowerment)*, edited by Emmanuel Bouju, Yolaine Parisot, and Charline Pluvinet, Presses Universitaires de Rennes, 2019, 315–16.
- “Potentialité et performance: poétiques oulipiennes de la liste.” In *Poétiques de la liste et imaginaire sériel dans les lettres*, edited by Nathalie Dupont and Éric Trudel, Nota Bene, 2019, 109–134.
- “Dans la caverne de Platon ou de la fiction comme ‘réalité augmentée.’” *Régis Jauffret: éclats de la fiction*, edited by Christophe Reig, Presses de la Sorbonne Nouvelle, 2017, 101–117.
- “Perec and the Politics of Constraint.” *The Afterlives of Georges Perec*, edited by Rowan Wilken and Justin Clemens, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2017, 157–70.
- “Perec aux marges de la fiction.” *Relire Perec*, edited by Christelle Reggiani, Presses Universitaires de Rennes, 2016, 59–72.
- “Écritures en collaboration.” *Oulipo mode d’emploi*, edited by Christelle Reggiani and Alain Schaffner, Paris: Éditions Honoré Champion, 2016, 303–16.
- “La Force des faits dans l’écriture du présent.” In *Pour un récit transnational: la fiction au défi de l’histoire immédiate*, edited by Yolaine Parisot and Charline Pluvinet, Presses Universitaires de Rennes, 2015, 311–23.

“Poetic Form and the Crisis of Community: Revisiting Rancière’s Aesthetics.” In *Thinking Poetry: Philosophical Approaches to Nineteenth-Century French Poetry*, edited by Joseph Acquisto, Palgrave Macmillan, 2013, 167–83.

“Citation, mythe, mémoire: formes et fonctions du détournement oulipien.” In *Pratiques et enjeux du détournement dans les discours littéraire et critique des XXe et XXIe siècles*, edited by Nathalie Dupont and Éric Trudel, Presses de l’Université du Québec, 2011, 59–74.

Encyclopedia and dictionary articles

“Mute Speech.” *Understanding Rancière, Understanding Modernism*, edited by Patrick M. Bray. Bloomsbury, 2017, 251–254.

“Aleatory Poetics.” *Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*, 4th ed., edited by Roland Greene and Stephen Cushman, Princeton University Press, 2012, 31–34.

Book and film reviews

Marc Allégret, dir., *Avec André Gide* (documentary film). *H-France Review* 22.80 (May 2022).

The Play of Light: Jacques Roubaud, Emmanuel Hocquard, and Friends, by Ann Smock. *H-France Review* 21.207 (November 2021).

Poétiques oulipiennes: la contrainte, le style, l’histoire, by Christelle Reggiani. *The French Review* 90.3 (2017): 266.

Les Mythologies individuelles. Récit de soi et photographie au XX^e siècle, by Magali Nachtergaele. *The French Review* 88.1 (2014): 239.

Délit de fiction: la littérature, pourquoi? by Luc Lang. *The French Review* 87.3 (2014): 271–72.

L’Éternel et l’éphémère: temporalités dans l’œuvre de Georges Perec, by Christelle Reggiani. *The French Review* 86.4 (2013): 832–33.

Subversions of Verisimilitude: Reading Narrative from Balzac to Sartre, by Lawrence R. Schehr. *Modern Philology* 110.3 (2013): E197–E200.

Écrire ses mémoires au XXe siècle, by Jean-Louis Jeannelle. *French Studies* 65.3 (2011): 413–14.

Mémoires du quotidien: les lieux de Perec, by Derek Schilling. *The French Review* 83.4 (2010): 876–77.

Accident: A Philosophical and Literary History, by Ross Hamilton. *Romanic Review* 100.4 (2009): 575–79.

Romans à contraintes, by Jan Baetens. *Romanic Review* 100.3 (2009): 403–4.

Georges Perec ou le dialogue des genres, by Michel Sirvent. *The French Review* 82.4 (2009): 857–58.

The Violence of Modernity: Baudelaire, Irony, and the Politics of Form, by Debarati Sanyal. *Modern Philology* 106.2: 332–36.

Genetic Criticism, Texts and Avant-Textes, edited by Jed Deppman, Daniel Ferrer, and Michael Groden. *Romanic Review* 95.4 (2004): 480–82.

Literary Memory, Consciousness, and the Group Oulipo, by Peter Consenstein. *Romanic Review* 93.3 (2002): 474–78.

AWARDS, GRANTS AND HONORS

2024–2027	Faculty grant, University of Chicago International Institute for Research in Paris (for “Problems and Practices in Contemporary Life Writing”)
2022–2024	Faculty grant, University of Chicago International Institute for Research in Paris (for “New Directions in Fiction Studies”)
2022	Elected as Member of the Academia Europaea
2022	CNRS mobility grant: 2-month residency in Paris for collaboration with THALIM research group
2021–2022	Faculty Residential Fellowship, Franke Institute for the Humanities, University of Chicago
2021–2022	Neubauer Collegium Faculty Research Award (project, “Possible and Impossible Fictions”), University of Chicago
2017–2020	Humanities Visiting Committee Faculty Research Grant, University of Chicago.
2017	Faculty Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching and Mentoring, University of Chicago
2016	Chevalier dans l’Ordre des Palmes Académiques
2016–2017	Neubauer Collegium Faculty Research Award (project, “Fact and Fiction: Creations, Forms, Boundaries”), University of Chicago
2012	Center for Disciplinary Innovation: selection of co-taught graduate seminar: “Philosophy and the Poetics of Presence in Postwar France,” with Mark Payne (Classics/Social Thought)
2010	Center for Disciplinary Innovation: selection of co-taught graduate seminar, “Seeing/Writing the Everyday in 20 th -Century France, with Jennifer Wild (Cinema and Media Studies)
2008–2009	Faculty Residential Fellowship, Franke Institute for the Humanities
2005	Prix de l’Association internationale des Études françaises (prize for article in French/Francophone studies by an early-career scholar)
2003–2004	Whiting Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, Columbia University

PANELS, CONFERENCES AND EVENTS ORGANIZED

2024–2025	Co-organizer of online seminar on “New Approaches to Life Writing” (5 sessions), with Alexandre Gefen
2024	Conference co-organizer (with Akihiro Kubo and Françoise Lavocat), “Degrees of Fictionality (2).” 3 rd Colloquium of the Association for Studies In Fiction and Fictionality /Société internationale des recherches sur la fiction et la fictionnalité (ASIFF/SIRFF), Kwansei Gakuin University, Japan, October 18–20
	Research seminar, co-organizer (with Akihiro Kubo and Françoise Lavocat), “Degrees of Fictionality.” University of Chicago Center in Paris, June 4-7

- 2023 Conference co-organizer (with Emmanuel Bouju): “Question of Trust/Question de confiance.” University of Chicago Center in Paris, November 16–17
- Conference co-organizer (with Charlotte Krauss, Akihiro Kubo, and Françoise Lavocat): “New Directions in Fiction Studies.” University of Poitiers, June 9
- 2022 Conference co-organizer: “Impossible Fictions/Fictions impossibles.” 2nd Colloquium of the Association for Studies In Fiction and Fictionality/Société internationale des recherches sur la fiction et la fictionnalité (ASIFF/SIRFF), Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society, University of Chicago, March 2–5
- Workshop series on “Fiction and Belief”: 3 remote workshops (Dec. 2021–March 2022) and one in-person workshop at University of Chicago Center in Paris (June 28–29, 2022), in preparation for publication of *Routledge Handbook on Fiction and Belief* (published 2024)
- 2021 Conference co-organizer (with Chiara Nifosi): “Marcel Proust: Contested Legacies.” University of Chicago (remote event), May 14
- 2020 Study day co-organizer (with Sébastien Wit): “Chance and its Controversies in the Twentieth Century.” ALEA project event (remote event), June 17
- 2019 Conference co-organizer: “Does Fiction Change the World/La fiction change-t-elle le monde”? Founding Colloquium of the Association for Studies In Fiction and Fictionality /Société internationale des recherches sur la fiction et la fictionnalité (ASIFF/SIRFF), November 27–30
- 2017 Participant in Paris “Nuit Blanche” event/performance: “Le procès de la fiction” (Fiction on Trial), organized by the curatorial collective *Le Peuple qui manque*, October 7
- Conference organizer: “Fact and Fiction: Creation, Forms, Boundaries.” Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society, University of Chicago, May 19–20
- Conference Co-organizer (with Daisy Delogu): “*Querelles des femmes*, or The Long History of Feminism.” Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality, University of Chicago, April 21–22
- Organizer and participant: “Back to Facts,” a conversation with Alexandre Gefen and Françoise Lavocat. Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society, “Fact and Fiction” project, April 4
- 2016 Panel organizer and Chair: “French Literature and the Archive,” MLA Annual Convention, Austin, TX, January 9.
- 2015 Conference Organizer: “Fiction/Non-Fiction: The Uses and Truths of Literature.” University of Chicago, November 13–14.
- Member of Program Committee: “Faire le point: quand la littérature fait savoir,” 20th and 21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium, Baton Rouge, LA, February 26–March 1.
- Panel organizer and Chair: “L’Institution de l’Oulipo” and “Forms of Erudition in Contemporary Experimental Writing.” 20th and 21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium, Baton Rouge, LA, February 27.

- 2014 Panel organizer and Chair: “Literature and/as Ethnography,” MLA Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, January 9.
- 2013 Conference co-organizer (with Olivier Dubouclez): “Littérature et théologie: autour de Valère Novarina.” University of Chicago Center in Paris, Université Paris VII-Denis Diderot and Université Paris IV-Sorbonne, March 15–16.
- 2012 Conference co-organizer (with Christophe Reig): “Frontières de la non-fiction: l’esthétique documentaire et ses objets.” University of Chicago Center in Paris, February 24.
- 2012 Panel organizer and Chair: “Who’s Writing in French? Language and Identity Formations.” MLA Annual Convention, Seattle, WA, January 7.
- 2008 Symposium organizer (with Diane Eberhard): “Le qui et le quoi du paysage littéraire contemporain français.” Event on contemporary French literature with writers Arno Bertina, Mathieu Larnaudie, Claro, and Oliver Rohe. Alliance Française de Chicago, November 1.
- 2006 Conference organizer: “Forms of Formalism: Poetics, Play, and Prescription in Modern and Contemporary French Literature.” University of Chicago, May 12.

INVITED TALKS

- 2024 “Fact into Fiction in Contemporary Literature.” Institute of Comparative Literature and Comparative Culture, Peking University, China (online presentation), May 22
- 2023 “Imaginaires et rhétoriques du document en littérature.” Master’s seminar (Prof. Christelle Reggiani), Sorbonne Université, Paris, December 4
- Creative Writing Workshop and lecture on Creativity and Translation, Miranda House, Delhi, India, March 15
- “La machine aux marges de l’écriture oulipienne.” Seminar of THALIM research group, Paris (online presentation), March 11.
- 2022 “Fact into Fiction in Contemporary France.” France and the World Seminar, Mahindra Humanities Center, Harvard University (online event), November 18
- “Fictions du quotidien,” Rencontres recherche et création, Agence nationale de la recherche (ANR) and Festival d’Avignon, France, 12 July
- “Perec Across the Disciplines.” Study Day on Georges Perec, France-Florida Research Institute, March 31 (remote presentation)
- “L’imaginaire documentaire: du réalisme au surréalisme.” Kansai Realism Research Group and Surrealism Study Group, Japan, February 26 (remote presentation)
- 2021 “Récit documentaire et les effets de la fictionnalisation.” Seminar on “Narratologies contemporaines,” École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS), Paris, November 30 (remote presentation)
- “Factual Writing and the Photographic Paradigm.” La Maison Française, Wellesley College, October 21 (virtual event)

- 2021 Poetry Symposium, University of Chicago Delhi Center, episode 3: Conversation with Chinmoy Guha, May 22 (virtual event)
“From Human Documents to Documentary Narrations: Reflections on a Non-Genre.” Oxford Modern French Research Seminar, February 25 (virtual event)
- 2018 “Documentary Postures in Recent French Literature.” Michigan State University, East Lansing, October 13
“Facts and Counterfactuals in Recent French Literature.” University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, April 26
- 2017 “Assembling the Infinite: Lists and Limits in Experimental Writing.” University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, February 24
- 2016 “Paper Witnesses: Voices and Documents in Contemporary French Literature.” Keynote Address, Cincinnati Conference on Romance Languages and Literatures, Cincinnati, Ohio, April 7
- 2015 “Enumeration and Potential Knowledge: Oulipian Lists.” Bucknell University, Pennsylvania, September 16
- 2010 “The Quotidian and the Limits of Fiction.” Indiana University Bloomington, October 29
- 2009 “Myth and the Ordinary: Proust, Aragon, Perec.” University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, April 29
“Jean Hatzfeld’s *La Stratégie des antilopes*.” Alliance Française, Chicago, February 7
- 2006 “The Twentieth-Century French Novel: Crisis and Invention.” Emeritus Club of the University of Chicago, March 29
- 2005 “Inevitable Accidents and Arbitrary Necessity: Chance in Proust and Perec.” Franke Institute for the Humanities, University of Chicago, October 26

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PANEL PRESENTATIONS

- 2025 “Mediating Fictions.” 20th and 21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium, Greensboro, NC, March 28
“Troubled Exemplarity in Contemporary Biofictions.” MLA Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA, January 10
- 2024 “Where is Fiction? Hybrid Genres and Sites of Fictionality in Contemporary Literature.” SIRFF/ASIFF 3rd Colloquium, Kwansei Gakuin University, Japan, October 20
“Deprogramming the Literary *Enquête*: Evasions and Deviations.” 20th and 21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium, Philadelphia, PA, February 24
- 2023 “Colette and Modernist Autofiction.” Plenary panel on “Inventing French Modernism,” Association of Literary Scholars, Critics, and Writers (ALSCW) Annual Meeting, Houston, TX, October 14

- 2023 “Générativités oulipiennes.” Centre Culturel International de Cerisy-la-Salle, France, July 27
- “Métamorphoses du document et usages de la fiction.” Conference on “Métamorphoses du réel,” Regensburg University, July 6
- Panelist at Canto Poetry Festival, University of Chicago Center in Delhi and Bengal Club, Kolkata, India, March 15–20
- “Fiction as Resignation.” MLA Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA, January 5
- 2022 “P.O.L, le tournant documentaire et les déplacements de la fiction.” Conference “P.O.L: futur, ancien, actuel,” Université Paris-Cité, 2–3 June
- “Shared Speech? The ‘Parlement sensible’ Project and the Limits of Language.” 20th and 21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium, Pittsburgh, PA, March 24
- 2021 “Modernities of Chance: Accidents and Procedures.” ALEA Conference (“Figures of Chance”), May 20–22 (virtual event)
- “New Forms, New Benchmarks: Aesthetics, Politics, and Form in 1956–1957.” Reading group discussion. 20th and 21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium (virtual event), March 12
- 2019 “Oulipian Feelings: On the Emotional Effects of Constraints.” Australian Society for French Studies 2019 Conference, University of New England and Western Sydney University, Sydney, Australia, December 11
- “Projet ALEA: XXe siècle.” Conference of the International Society for Fiction and Fictionality Studies/Société internationale des recherches sur la fiction et la fictionalité (ISFFS/SIRFF), November 30
- “What’s Fictional in Autofiction?” Conference on “Autofiction – Theory, Practices, Cultures – a Comparative Perspective.” Wolfson College, Oxford, UK, October 19
- “Audible Architectures: Encountering Voices in Contemporary French Literature.” MLA International Symposium, Lisbon, Portugal, 24 July
- Participant in plenary round table on Philippe Lançon’s *Le Lambeau*. 20th and 21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium, Oklahoma City, OK, March 16
- 2018 “From Potential Literature to Eventual Literature: Oulipian Futures.” Conference, “Maybe: Forms of Literary Eventuality,” Berlin, Germany, November 10
- “French Theory and the (New?) Idea of Form.” Conference, “Buffalo: Transatlantic Crossroads of a Critical Insurrection,” Buffalo, NY, October 19
- “Contraintes documentaires et esthétiques de l’empreinte dans la littérature française contemporaine.” Study day, “Aux frontières du réel,” University of London Institute in Paris, June 8
- 2017 “‘ Qui dit ça?’ Problèmes d’énonciation dans le roman non-fictionnel.” Conference, “Territoires de la non-fiction,” Université Sorbonne Nouvelle – Paris 3, France, December 7

- 2017 “French Modernism and the Documentary Imagination.” ACLA Annual Meeting, Utrecht, Netherlands, July 7
- “From Human Documents to Fiction as Alibi: Modes of Reference in the French Novel.” Conference on “Fact and Fiction: Creation, Forms, Boundaries,” Neubauer Collegium for culture and Society, University of Chicago, May 19
- “Voicing Vision: Narrative Authority and Documentary Evidence in Postwar France.” 20th–21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium, Bloomington, Indiana, April 7
- “Contraintes oulipiennes et poésie sonore.” Conference on “Les Oulipiennes,” University of Toronto, Canada, March 31
- “Generic Categories: ‘Fictions’ in Recent French Theory, Criticism, and Practice.” Narrative Conference, Lexington, Kentucky, March 26
- 2016 “Gide, Ciné-Ethnography, and Documentary Modernism.” Transnational French Modernisms Conference, Durham University, UK, July 8
- 2015 “Speaking Facts: Paradoxes of the Literary Document.” Conference on “Fiction/Non-Fiction: The Uses and Truths of Literature,” University of Chicago, November 14
- “Perec aux marges de la fiction.” Conference “Georges Perec : nouvelles approches,” Centre Culturel International de Cerisy-la-Salle, France, July 15
- “Pouvoir et potentialité de la littérature.” Conference “Pouvoir, puissance, force de la littérature, de l'*energeia* à l'*empowerment*,” Université Rennes 2, France, 26 June
- “History-Forms: Jacques Jouet’s Documentary Poems.” 20th–21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium, Baton Rouge, LA, February 26
- 2014 “Interlingual Oulipo.” Conference on “Translating Constrained Literature,” Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, October 11
- “Imaginary Capitals: The Urban Fantastic and the Edges of Fiction.” ACLA Annual Meeting, New York, March 23
- “Disappearing Debts: Economic Crisis and Narrative Possibility in Contemporary French Literature.” 20th and 21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium, New York, March 6
- 2013 “Soif de réel, crise de la fiction ? La force des faits dans l’écriture du présent.” International Comparative Literature Association (AILC/ICLA), 20th Conference, Paris IV-Sorbonne, July 19
- “Distension et dispersion: temporalités dans le théâtre de Valère Novarina.” Conference on “Littérature et théologie: autour de Valère Novarina,” Université Paris IV-Sorbonne, March 16
- 2012 “Beyond the Book: French Literature Online.” Humanities Day, University of Chicago, October 20

- 2012 “The *fait divers* at the Frontier of Fiction: Rhetoric and Voice in Gide’s Documentary Texts.” “Gide at the Frontier” Conference, Denison University, OH, June 14
- “Ascending the Archive: Marguerite Yourcenar’s Family Chronicles.” 20th and 21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium, Long Beach, CA, March 30
- 2011 “Boredom and Constraint.” Annual Meeting, Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present, Pittsburgh, PA, October 29, 2011
- “Transatlantic Oulipo: Procedure and Experiment in Contemporary Poetry.” *Oulipo@50* Colloquium, Buffalo, NY, October 6, 2011
- “Nobody’s Animals: Language, Limits, and Forms of Life in Queneau and Roubaud.” 20th and 21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium, San Francisco, CA, April 2
- 2010 “François Bon and the Returns of the Novel.” Society for French Studies 51st Annual Conference, University of Swansea, UK, July 6
- “Citation, mythe, mémoire: formes et fonctions du détournement oulipien.” Congrès de l’Association francophone pour le savoir, Université de Montréal, Quebec, May 14
- “Proust, Benjamin, and the Mysteries of the Everyday.” Conference on “Proust and His Era,” University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, April 9
- 2009 “Surrealism and the Ordinary.” MLA Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA, December 28
- “From Net to Novel: François Bon Online.” 20th and 21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium, Minneapolis, MN, March 28
- 2008 “Contraintes et procédés: formes du formalisme poétique en France et aux États-Unis.” Conference, “La Forme et l’informe dans la création moderne et contemporaine,” Centre Culturel International de Cerisy-la-Salle, France, July 14
- “Escape and Engagement: History in the Works of Georges Perec.” Symposium on “Literature as a Test of History,” University of Chicago, April 18
- “Reading the Streets: Jacques Roubaud’s Poetic Paris.” 20th and 21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium, Georgetown University, Washington, DC, March 6
- 2007 “Zola and the Limits of Form.” Nineteenth-Century French Studies Annual Colloquium, Mobile, AL, October 20
- “Story, Structure, Speech: The Oulipian Author as Scheherazade.” ACLA Annual Meeting, Puebla, Mexico, April 21
- “A Science of Exceptions: the Collège de ‘Pataphysique.’” 20th and 21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium, College Station, TX, March 24

- 2006 “Grids and Transparencies: Forms of Realism.” Conference on “Forms of Formalism,” University of Chicago, May 12
- “Georges Perec, Harry Mathews: Oulipian Translation.” ACLA Annual Meeting, Princeton University, March 25
- “Authenticity and Artifice: Oulipian Autobiographies.” 20th-Century Literature and Culture Conference, University of Louisville, Kentucky, February 25
- 2005 “Mathematics and Machines: New Models for Literary Creation in the 1960s and 70s.” Humanities Open House, University of Chicago, October 22
- 2004 “The Subject of Writing: Potentiality and Meaning.” MLA Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA, December 28

WORKSHOP AND SEMINAR PAPERS

- 2023 “Counterfactual Biofictions: Writing Against History.” Interdisciplinary Workshop on France and the Francophone World, University of Chicago, November 10
- 2022 “On Fictionalization.” Fellows’ Workshop, Franke Institute for the Humanities, January 10
- 2017 “Paper Witnesses: Documentary Literature and Postwar Memory.” Modern France Workshop, University of Chicago, May 26
- 2015 “Exterior Lives: Suspicion of the Self in Contemporary French Autobiography.” Academic Consultation on “Dialogue with the Self: The Quest for Wisdom and the Hazard of Self-Deception,” Chicago Wisdom Research, Hyatt Place Chicago, April 24
- 2014 “Autobiography in the Archive: Marguerite Yourcenar’s Family Chronicles.” French Studies Seminar, University of Pennsylvania, February 28
- 2011 “Transatlantic Oulipo: Procedure and Experiment in Contemporary Poetry.” Poetics Workshop, Stanford University, April 19
- 2010 “Literary Facts: Documenting the Everyday from Naturalism to the Present.” Modern France Workshop, University of Chicago, February 26
- 2009 “Memory and Movement in Jacques Roubaud’s *La Forme d’une ville*.” Poetry and Poetics Workshop, University of Chicago, October 12
- 2007 “A Challenge to Chance: The Poetics of the Oulipo.” Poetry and Poetics Workshop, University of Chicago, January 16

COURSES TAUGHT

University of Chicago

Humanities Core: Human Being and Citizen; Poetry and the Human; Readings in World Literature.

Civilization Core: Civilisation française et européenne III (Paris program); European Civilization II and III (Paris program); Gender and Sexuality in World Civilizations.

Undergraduate courses: Introduction to 19th-Century French Literature; Introduction to 20th-Century French Literature; Introduction to French Autobiography; Introduction to 20th-Century French Poetry, Gender and Work; Memory and Identity in French Literature; Voyages littéraires.

Undergraduate/graduate seminars: Stylistics; Introduction à l'analyse littéraire; Georges Perec and the Oulipo; Oulipo in Context; Realism and its Returns in Twentieth-Century France; Autobiography in the 20th Century; History in the Novel; The Literary Avant-Garde; Littérature et photographie; Jeux littéraires; Existentialism and its Legacies; Literary Play: Oulipo and Onwards.

Graduate seminars: Seeing/Writing the Everyday in 20th-Century France; Philosophy and the Poetics of Presence in Postwar France; Margins of Fiction in Contemporary France; Revising Prose.

Reading and Research courses on Marcel Proust, Maurice Barrès, Albert Camus, Samuel Beckett, modern French poetry, postwar French literature, 20th-century French theatre.

Columbia University

Contemporary Civilization (Core Curriculum); Introductory and Intermediate French language.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

France Chicago Center: Faculty Advisory Committee, 2005–2024; Faculty Council, 2024 to present.

International Institute of Research in Paris, University of Chicago: Steering Committee, 2024–2027.

Chair, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, 2022–2025.

French Section Head and Member of RLL Executive Committee, 2019–2021.

Graduate Advisor, French, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, 2014–2015, 2016–2017, 2019–2020.

Academic Career Advisor, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, 2018–2019.

Chair, Graduate Student Affairs Committee, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, 2014–2015.

Chair, Undergraduate Student Affairs Committee, 2012–2013.

Undergraduate Advisor (French), Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, 2006–2007, 2009–2013.

MAPH Faculty Advisory Board, 2019–2021.

Member, Standing Committee on Academic Fraud, 2019–2022.

Affiliated Faculty, Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality, 2011–present

Faculty Committee, Program in Poetry and Poetics, 2006–present.

Faculty Sponsor for Council on Advanced Studies workshops: Interdisciplinary Workshop on France and the Francophone World (2011–2013, 2016–2017, 2019–2021, 2022–2024); 20th/21st-Century Workshop (2015–2017, 2018–2019); Poetry and Poetics Workshop (2011–2016); Modernisms Workshop (2014–2015).

Humanities Division Policy Committee, 2016–2019.

Humanities Division Dissertation Completion Fellowship Selection Committee, 2014 and 2019.

Humanities Teaching Fellowship Selection Committee, 2019 and 2021.

Selection Committee, Fulbright and Lurcy Fellowships (internal selection), 2015, 2018, 2020, 2022, 2024.

Faculty director and lecturer for Alumni Association trip, Normandy (France), 2019.

Selection Committee, Faculty Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching and Mentoring, 2018.

CGS/ProQuest Dissertation Award Nomination Committee, 2017.

Stuart Tave Selection Committee, 2006, 2016, 2017.

Creative Writing Committee, 2012–2017.

Harper-Schmidt Fellowship Selection Committee, 2009–2010.

Neubauer Fellowship Selection Committee, 2007.

France Chicago Center Fellowship and Travel Grant Selection Committee, 2006–2007.

Aims of Education Colloquium Leader, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

MLA Publications Committee, 2023–2026.

External Review Committee, University of California Berkeley, Department of French, October 2023.

Co-founder and Vice-President, International Society for Fiction and Fictionality Studies/Société internationale des recherches sur la fiction et la fictionalité (ISFFS/SIRFF), instituted 2018.

Member of research network and co-director of 20th-Century team for “ALEA: Figures of Chance,” directed by Anne Duprat, Agence Nationale de la Recherche, France, 2018–2022.

Selection Committee, Aldo and Jeanne Scaglione Prize for French and Francophone Studies, Modern Language Association, 2019–2020, 2022.

Selection Committee, Prix Recherche au Présent, 20th and 21st-Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium, 2018.

PMLA Advisory Committee, 2014–2017.

Member of research group DifdePo: “Différences de potentiel: Histoire, poétique et esthétique de l’Oulipo,” direct by Alain Schaffner, Agence Nationale de la Recherche, France, 2011–2016.

MLA Executive Committee of the Division on Twentieth-Century French Literature, 2011–2016.

Member of Editorial Boards for *Revue critique de fiction française contemporaine* and *Medienkulturwissenschaft* (Brill); *H-France* Book Review Advisory Panel.

Referee for journal articles: *a/b: Auto/Biography Studies*, *Contemporary Literature*, *Études littéraires*, *French Studies*, *Genesis*, *Genre*, *Journal of Religion*, *Journal of Romance Studies*, *Modern Language Notes*, *Modern Philology*, *New Literary History*, *PMLA*, *Poetics Today*, *Revue romane*, *Romanic Review*, *Style*, *Studies in Twentieth and Twenty-First Century Literature*, *Social and Cultural Geography*, *Symposium*.

Reviewer for NIAS Fellowship (Netherlands Institute of Advanced Study), Fonds de la recherche scientifique (Belgium), European Science Foundation.

Press reader for book manuscripts: Northwestern University Press, University of Chicago Press, University of Delaware Press, MIT Press, Oxford University Press, Routledge, Yale University Press.