

# MATTHEW T. LEVAY

**Idaho State University**  
**Department of English and Philosophy**  
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**matthewlevay.com**

## EMPLOYMENT

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Associate Professor, Idaho State University, Department of English and Philosophy, 2019-present  
Director of Graduate Studies in English, Fall 2018-present  
Assistant Professor, Idaho State University, Department of English and Philosophy, 2014-2019  
Instructor, Harvard Summer School, 2017-present  
Head Preceptor, Harvard University, Harvard College Writing Program, 2013-2014  
Preceptor, Harvard University, Harvard College Writing Program, 2009-2013

## EDUCATION

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### **University of Washington**

Ph.D., English, June 2009

Dissertation: "Modernism's Crimes: Violence, Degeneracy, and Detection" (awarded departmental honors)

M.A., English, June 2004

Thesis: "Lucky Falls: Samuel Beckett, Buster Keaton, and Slapstick's Pliable Bodies"

### **Vanderbilt University**

B.A., English, May 2002

*Magna cum laude* and departmental honors in English

Vanderbilt-in-England, University of Leeds, Spring 2001

## PUBLICATIONS

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### **Book**

*Violent Minds: Modernism and the Criminal* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2019).

Reviewed in the *Times Literary Supplement* (April 2019).

### **Edited Journal Issue**

Editor, "Seriality," a special issue of the *Journal of Modern Periodical Studies* 9.1 (2018).

### **Articles**

"Modernism's Opposite: John Galsworthy and the Novel Series." *Modernism/modernity*. In press.

"On the Uses of Seriality for Modern Periodical Studies: An Introduction." *Journal of Modern Periodical Studies* 9.1 (2018): v-xix.

“Repetition, Recapitulation, Routine: *Dick Tracy* and the Temporality of Daily Newspaper Comics.” *Journal of Modern Periodical Studies* 9.1 (2018): 101-122.

“Remaining a Mystery: Gertrude Stein, Crime Fiction and Popular Modernism.” *Journal of Modern Literature* 36.4 (Summer 2013): 1-22.

“The Entertainments of Late Modernism: Graham Greene and the Career Criminal.” *Modernist Cultures* 5.2 (October 2010): 315-339.

### **Book Chapters**

“Crime Fiction and Criminology.” *The Routledge Companion to Crime Fiction*. Ed. Janice M. Allan, Jesper Gulddal, Stewart King, and Andrew Pepper (London: Routledge). Forthcoming.

“Preservation and Promotion: Ellery Queen, Magazine Publishing, and the Marketing of Detective Fiction.” *The Centrality of Crime Fiction in American Literary Culture*. Ed. Alfred Bendixen and Olivia Carr Edenfield (New York: Routledge, 2017), 101-122.

### **Reviews and Review Essays**

“Comics and Cultural Capital.” Review essay on *We Told You So: Comics as Art*, by Tom Spurgeon with Michael Dean, *The Greatest Comic Book of All Time: Symbolic Capital and the Field of American Comic Books*, by Bart Beaty and Benjamin Woo, and *Arresting Development: Comics at the Boundaries of Literature*, by Christopher Pizzino. *Journal of Modern Periodical Studies*. Under review.

Review essay on Bloomsbury’s “New Modernisms” book series, edited by Sean Latham and Gayle Rogers. *Modernism/modernity* Print Plus (14 August 2018).

<https://modernismmodernity.org/forums/posts/bloomsbury-s-new-modernisms>

Review of Jared Gardner, *Projections: Comics and the History of Twenty-First-Century Storytelling*, and Bart Beaty, *Comics Versus Art*. *Journal of Modern Periodical Studies* 4.1 (2013): 111-118.

Review of Fiona Peters, *Anxiety and Evil in the Writings of Patricia Highsmith*. *Modernism/modernity* 19.2 (April 2012): 402-404.

“Modernism, Periodically.” Review essay on *The Oxford Critical and Cultural History of Modernist Magazines: Volume I, Britain and Ireland 1880-1955*, edited by Peter Brooker and Andrew Thacker, and *Modernism in the Magazines: An Introduction*, by Robert Scholes and Clifford Wulfman. *Modern Language Quarterly* 72.4 (December 2011): 521-535.

“Criminal, Political, Surreal.” Review essay on *Surrealism and the Art of Crime*, by Jonathan P. Eburne. *Twentieth-Century Literature* 56.1 (Spring 2010): 99-106.

### **Other Publications**

“Can Crime Fiction Be Modernist?” *Cambridge Core Blog: Cambridge University Press* (1 April 2019). <https://blog.journals.cambridge.org/2019/04/01/can-crime-fiction-be-modernist/>

Omnibus essay on “Modern Literature.” *The Year’s Work in English Studies* 98 (2019). In press.

Omnibus essay on “Modern Literature.” *The Year’s Work in English Studies* 97 (2018): 889-902. <https://academic.oup.com/ywes/article/97/1/889/5146379>

Omnibus essay on “Modern Literature.” *The Year’s Work in English Studies* 96 (2017): 916-928.

<https://academic.oup.com/ywes/article/doi/10.1093/ywes/max016/3831322/Modern-Literature>

Omnibus essay on “Modern Literature.” *The Year’s Work in English Studies* 95 (2016): 949-958.

<https://academic.oup.com/ywes/article/95/1/949/2224457/XV-Modern-Literature>

### **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

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*Time and Again: Twentieth-Century British Fiction and the Form of the Novel Series*. Book manuscript.

“Highsmith’s Advice.” Article.

“The Anachronistic Aesthetic: Seth and the Contemporary Forms of the Past.” Article.

## **GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS**

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### **Research**

Modernist Studies Association Research Travel Grant, Winter 2019

Faculty Course Release for Scholarly Advancement, Idaho State University, College of Arts and Letters,  
Fall 2018, Spring 2016

Faculty Development Travel Grant, Idaho State University, College of Arts and Letters, Fall 2018, Fall  
2017, Fall 2016, Spring 2015

Idaho Humanities Council Research Fellowship, Spring 2016

Faculty Travel Grant, Idaho State University, Office of Research, Spring 2016, Fall 2015

Fuerbringer Summer Faculty Grant, Harvard University, Summer 2013, Summer 2012, Summer 2011,  
Summer 2010

Harry Ransom Center Research Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin, Summer 2011

Awarded through the Erle Stanley Gardner Endowment for Mystery Studies

Walter Chapin Simpson Center for the Humanities, Society of Scholars Fellowship, University of  
Washington, 2008-2009

Graduate School Fund for Excellence and Innovation Travel Grants, University of Washington, 2008,  
2006, 2005

Modernist Studies Association Graduate Student Travel Grant, 2007

Joseph Conrad Society of America Young Scholar Travel Award, 2007

Graduate Student Recruitment Fellowship, University of Washington, Department of English, 2002

### **Teaching**

Faculty Course Release for Pedagogical Development, Idaho State University, College of Arts and Letters,  
Spring 2019

Harvard University Certificate of Teaching Excellence, Fall 2013, Spring 2013, Spring 2012, Fall 2011, Fall  
2010, Spring 2010

Joan Webber Prize for Distinguished 200-level Teaching, University of Washington, Department of  
English, 2007

## **CONFERENCES**

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### **Conference Presentations**

“A Series of Tangents: Knausgaard, Modernism, Plot.” Modernist Studies Association. Toronto, ON.  
October 2019.

“Horrorific Anachronism: Al Columbia and the Violence of Early Animation.” Modernist Studies  
Association. Columbus, OH. November 2018.

Workshop presenter for “Advancing the Field: Connecting Humanities Graduate Education and  
Community College Teaching.” Modern Language Association. New York, NY. January 2018. (Paper  
read in absentia)

“The Anachronistic Aesthetic: Seth and the Contemporary Forms of the Past.” International Comic Arts

- Forum. University of Washington. Seattle, WA. November 2017.
- “Highsmith’s Advice.” Modern Language Association. Philadelphia, PA. January 2017. (Paper read in absentia)
- “Highsmith’s Advice.” Modernist Studies Association. Pasadena, CA. November 2016.
- “Never-Ending Stories: Modernism, Serial Form, and *The Human Age*.” American Comparative Literature Association. Harvard University. Cambridge, MA. March 2016.
- “The Endless Parade: Ford Madox Ford and the Novel Series.” Modernist Studies Association. Boston, MA. November 2015.
- “The Books That Never Were: Seth and the Comics Canon.” American Comparative Literature Association. Seattle, WA. March 2015.
- “Making a Reputation: *The Forsyte Saga* and the Reading Public.” Modernist Studies Association. Pittsburgh, PA. November 2014.
- “Accumulating Modernism: Seriality and *Parade’s End*.” International Society for the Study of Narrative. Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Cambridge, MA. March 2014.
- “Endless Plot: Modernism’s Sequel Problem.” Modern Language Association. Chicago, IL. January 2014.
- “The Opposite of Modernism: John Galsworthy’s Repeated Success.” Modern Language Association. Chicago, IL. January 2014.
- “Pulp Boston.” Modern Language Association. Boston, MA. January 2013.
- “Wyndham Lewis and the Modernist Potboiler.” Modernist Studies Association. Las Vegas, NV. October 2012.
- “‘Rather a Turn for Corpses’: Dorothy L. Sayers, Detective Fiction, and the Evidence of Death.” Modern Language Association. Seattle, WA. January 2012.
- “Capital Destruction: Art and the Crowd in James’s *The Princess Casamassima*.” Modern Language Association. Seattle, WA. January 2012.
- “Marketing Respect: Ellery Queen, American Publishing, and the Business of Detective Fiction.” American Literature Association. Boston, MA. May 2011.
- “Personville: Dashiell Hammett and the General American City.” Modernist Studies Association. Victoria, BC. November 2010.
- “The Business of Respectability: Marketing Ellery Queen.” For peer seminar “Modernism and Administration.” Modernist Studies Association. Victoria, BC. November 2010.
- “Remaining a Mystery: Gertrude Stein and the Ambiguous Crime.” Modern Language Association. Philadelphia, PA. December 2009.
- “The Detective’s House.” Modern Language Association. Philadelphia, PA. December 2009.  
\*Abstract published in *The Edgar Allan Poe Review* 10.2 (Fall 2009): 156.
- “Anarchists Everywhere: G.K. Chesterton and Conspiracy.” Modernist Studies Association. Nashville, TN. November 2008.
- “Bad in a Good World: Graham Greene’s Criminal Landscape.” Modernist Studies Association. Long Beach, CA. November 2007.
- “Modernizing the Detective Novel: Dorothy L. Sayers and the Whimsical Crime.” For peer seminar “Modernisms and Cultures of Entertainment.” Modernist Studies Association. Long Beach, CA. November 2007.
- “Accidental Terrorism: Criminality and Chance in Conrad’s *The Secret Agent*.” The Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture since 1900. University of Louisville. Louisville, KY. February 2007.
- “Jack the Writer.” Midwest Modern Language Association. Chicago, IL. November 2006.
- “Crime without Reason: Gertrude Stein and the Irrational Detective Novel.” For peer seminar

“Collaborations and Collisions: Modernism and the Intersections of Genre.” Modernist Studies Association. Chicago, IL. November 2005.

### **Public and Community Lectures**

- Presentation on *Violent Minds: Modernism and the Criminal*, College of Arts and Letters Dean’s Advisory Board, Idaho State University. April 2019.
- Presentation on preparing to write a dissertation, English Graduate Student Writing Group, Idaho State University. May 2018.
- Presentation on managing time as a graduate student, English Graduate Student Association, Idaho State University. April 2018.
- Public presentation on academic publishing as a graduate student, Intermountain Graduate Conference, Idaho State University. April 2017.
- “CV Writing 101.” Graduate Research Symposium, Idaho State University. April 2017.
- “Never-Ending Stories: Modernism and the Aesthetics of Serial Form.” Department of English and Philosophy, Idaho State University. October 2016.
- “W.G. Sebald and the Pain of Things,” Holocaust Memorial Project, Idaho State University, April 2016.
- Public presentation on applying for research grants, College of Arts and Letters, Idaho State University. March 2015.

### **Conference Panels Organized and Chaired**

- Panel organizer, “Seriality Now and Then: Modernism and the Contemporary Novel Series.” Modernist Studies Association. Toronto, ON. October 2019.
- Panel organizer, “Modernist Aesthetics in Contemporary Visual Media: Photography, Comics, Film.” Modernist Studies Association. Columbus, OH. November 2018.
- Panel chair, “Modernism in/and Newspaper Comics: McCay, Futurism, Herriman.” Modernist Studies Association. Columbus, OH. November 2018.
- Panel chair, “‘A Revelation of Some Order’: Chaos and Control in Modern Fiction.” Modernist Studies Association. Pasadena, CA. November 2016.
- Panel organizer, “Modernist Series and Serials.” Modernist Studies Association. Boston, MA. November 2015.
- Panel chair, “Quiet Innovations in the Modernist Novel.” Modernist Studies Association. Boston, MA. November 2015.
- Panel organizer, “Modernism’s Boundaries: Genre, Reception, Reputation, and the Popular.” Modernist Studies Association. Pittsburgh, PA. November 2014.
- Panel chair, “Theorizing Modernism.” International Society for the Study of Narrative. Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Cambridge, MA. March 2014.
- Panel chair, “Narrative in the Comics.” International Society for the Study of Narrative. Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Cambridge, MA. March 2014.
- Peer seminar co-organizer, with Jonathan P. Eburne, “Modernism and Seriality.” Modernist Studies Association. Buffalo, NY. October 2011.
- Panel organizer, “Modernist Crime Scenes.” Modernist Studies Association. Victoria, BC. November 2010.
- Panel organizer, “Modernist Violence: Aesthetics, Politics, Agency.” Modernist Studies Association. Nashville, TN. November 2008.
- Panel chair, “Auto-Ethnography, Evolution, and Estrangement at Modernism’s Peripheries.” Modernist Studies Association. Nashville, TN. November 2008.
- Panel organizer, “Modernism and Crime.” Modernist Studies Association. Long Beach, CA. November

2007.

Panel chair, “Fin de Siècle.” The Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture since 1900. University of Louisville. Louisville, KY. February 2007.

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

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### **Idaho State University**

Studies in a Literary Period: “British Modernism: Audiences and Institutions” (graduate)

*Spring 2015*

Seminar in Teaching Literature: “Teaching Difficult Literature” (graduate)

*Spring 2017*

Careers in English (graduate)

*Spring 2019, Fall 2018*

Introduction to Graduate Studies in English (graduate)

*Fall 2016, Fall 2015*

Proseminar in a Major Literary Figure: Virginia Woolf (graduate/undergraduate; online)

*Spring 2020*

Studies in Contemporary Literature: “The Twenty-First-Century British Novel” (graduate/undergraduate)

*Fall 2018, Fall 2014*

Studies in Early Twentieth-Century Literature: “British Modernism” (graduate/undergraduate)

*Spring 2019*

Special Topics in Genre: “Comics”

*Spring 2018*

Genre Studies in Fiction: “The Functions of the Novel”

*Fall 2017*

Literary Criticism and Theory

*Fall 2017, Spring 2017*

Survey of British Literature II: The Eighteenth Century to the Present

*Spring 2018, Spring 2016*

Introduction to Literary Analysis

*Fall 2019, Fall 2016, Fall 2015, Spring 2015, Fall 2014*

Honors Humanities II: The Nineteenth Century to the Present

*Spring 2017*

Honors Humanities I: The Classical Age to the Enlightenment

*Fall 2019*

Writing and Rhetoric II

*Spring 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2016, Fall 2015*

### **Harvard University**

Intro to Graduate Research Methods & Scholarly Writing in the Humanities: “Modernist Periodical Studies”

*Spring 2014, Spring 2013; Harvard Extension School*

“Being Modern: The British Novel since 1900”

*Fall 2013; Harvard Extension School (offered in person and online)*

Expository Writing: “Obsession”

*Spring 2014, Fall 2013, Spring 2013, Fall 2012, Spring 2012, Fall 2011*

*Summer 2019; Summer 2018, Summer 2017*; Harvard Summer School (online)  
Expository Writing: “The Art of Crime”  
*Spring 2011, Fall 2010, Spring 2010, Fall 2009*  
Writing about Literature: “From Hard-Boiled to Noir: The Aesthetics of Crime in Fiction and Film”  
*Summer 2013*; Harvard Summer School  
The Essay  
*Summer 2014, Summer 2013, Summer 2012, Summer 2011, Summer 2010*; Harvard Summer School  
Undergraduate Reading and Research (Film Studies)  
*Fall 2010*; Harvard Extension School

### **University of Washington**

Reading Fiction: “Crime and Criminality in Modern Fiction”  
*Spring 2007*  
Reading Fiction: “The Modern Novel”  
*Spring 2006*  
Modern and Postmodern Literature: “Early Modernism”  
*Winter 2007*  
Modern and Postmodern Literature: “Introduction to Modernism and Postmodernism”  
*Fall 2006*  
Reading Literature: “Modern Minds: Private Life in 19<sup>th</sup>- and 20<sup>th</sup>-Century Literature”  
*Winter 2006, Fall 2005*  
Interdisciplinary Writing: Humanities: “Writing Art History”  
*Fall 2007, Winter 2008, Spring 2008*  
Composition: Exposition: “Writing for the Humanities”  
*Summer 2006*  
Composition: Exposition: “Art and Expectations”  
*Fall 2003, Winter 2004, Spring 2004*  
Composition: Literature: “Alienation and Connection in Modern Literature”  
*Fall 2004, Winter 2005, Spring 2005*  
Visiting Instructor, Educational Outreach Program, Online Learning Courses  
*Spring 2007*  
Reading Literature  
The English Novel – Early and Middle Nineteenth Century.

### **SERVICE**

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#### **Professional**

Contributor, *The Year’s Work in English Studies*, Modern Literature section, 2016-2019.  
Responsible for an annual omnibus essay on significant monographs in modernist studies.  
Book proposal referee: Palgrave Macmillan (2019), Bloomsbury (2018, 2015), Routledge (2012).  
Manuscript referee: *ImageText* (2019), Open Library of Humanities (2019), *Journal of Modern Periodical Studies* (2017), *Modernism/modernity* (2012).  
Contributor, Routledge Annotated Bibliography of English Studies (ABES), 2011-2012.

#### **Idaho State University**

*University*

Search Committee, Dean of the Graduate School, 2019-present.  
War, Conflict, and Veterans Studies Committee, 2015-present.  
Graduate Council, 2017-2019.

Department of English and Philosophy

Graduate Education Committee, Fall 2015-present (Chair, Fall 2018-present).  
Review Committee for Periodic Performance Evaluation, Fall 2019.  
Teaching Literature Book Award Selection Committee, 2016-2018.  
Review Committee for Tenure and Promotion, Fall 2017.  
General Education Task Force, Spring 2015.  
Professional Development and Publicity Committee, 2014-2015.  
Review Committee for Promotion, Fall 2014.

Graduate Student Supervision (PhD)

Noran Amin, PhD dissertation director, in progress.  
Rachel Balko, PhD dissertation director, in progress.  
Catherine Becker, PhD committee member, in progress.  
Sarah Garelik, PhD committee member, in progress.  
Rita Katsilomedes, PhD committee member, in progress.  
Nicole Wardell, PhD committee member, in progress.  
Corinna Barrett Percy, PhD committee member, Spring 2019.  
Kelly Ricken, PhD dissertation director, 2014-2018.

Graduate Student Supervision (MA)

Heather Summers, MA thesis second reader, Summer 2019.  
Katherine Merrill, MA thesis director, Summer 2018.  
Rebecca Raden, MA paper second reader, Summer 2018.  
Ann Marie Potter, MA thesis director, Spring 2018.  
Caprice DeSpain, MA thesis second reader, Summer 2017.  
Laura Joy Griffith, MA paper second reader, Spring 2017.  
Elise Anderson, MA thesis director, Spring 2016.  
Marc Keith, MA thesis second reader, Summer 2015.  
Patricia Miller Schmidt, MA thesis second reader, Spring 2015.

Undergraduate Student Supervision

Carter Denham, TRIO McNair Scholars research mentor, Summer 2019.

**Harvard University**

Faculty Mentor, Harvard College Writing Program, 2013-2014.  
Co-editor, *Exposé*, the Harvard College Writing Program's magazine of distinguished student writing, 2013-2014. Associate editor, 2010-2013.  
Instructional Support Services Team, Harvard College Program in General Education, 2011-2014.  
Faculty Associate, Harvard Writing Project, 2009-2014.  
Curriculum Development Committee for Expository Writing 30, 2011-2013.  
Evaluator and developer, Harvard Freshman Writing Test, 2011-2012.



**University of Washington**

Co-founder/coordinator, The Modernist Studies Group, University of Washington, 2002-2008.

Crossdisciplinary Research Cluster of the Walter Chapin Simpson Center for the Humanities. 2005-2008.

Representative, Undergraduate Education Committee, University of Washington, Department of English, 2006-2008.

English Instructor and Lead Teacher, University of Washington State GEAR UP Honors Academy, Summer 2007.

Lead Writing Instructor, Fall Bridge Program for incoming student-athletes, Summer 2005. Writing Instructor, Summer 2004.

**Community**

Morningside Montessori School, Fundraising Committee. Pocatello, ID. 2016-2018.

On the Boards: Behnke Center for Contemporary Performance. Seattle, WA. September 2007.

Invited lecturer and book club leader for F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, in conjunction with the Elevator Repair Service's production of *Gatz*.

**RESEARCH AND TEACHING AREAS**

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Modernism; British literature from the late nineteenth century to the present; late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century American literature; history and theory of the novel; popular print culture; periodical studies; genre fiction; comics and graphic narrative.

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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Comics Studies Society

Modernist Studies Association

Modern Language Association

Society for Novel Studies

**REFERENCES**

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Available on request