

Matthew Helm

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of American Culture and Literature, Bilkent University Fall 2026 –

Visiting Assistant Professor of English, University of Iowa Fall 2024 – Spring 2026

EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of Iowa (Iowa City, IA) May 2024

English

Dissertation Title: “Transmediations: Queer Literature, Media Technology, and the Archive”

Committee: Harry Stecopoulos (advisor), Garrett Stewart (second reader), Doris Witt,

Loren Glass, Paula Amad (at large)

M.A. (en Passant) University of Iowa (Iowa City, IA) May 2020

English

B.A. (Summa Cum Laude) Luther College (Decorah, IA) May 2015

English Major, Communications Minor

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Transmediations: Media Materialism in the Archives of Queer Literature

PUBLICATIONS

“The Goddess in the Machine: The Radiophonics of Audre Lorde’s *Zami: A New Spelling of My Name*.”
differences: A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies. 36.2: 33-64.
<https://doi.org/10.1215/10407391-11788691>

“Orgasm of Nostalgia’: Narrative and Sexual Desire in Aleksandar Hemon’s *Nowhere Man*.” *Studies in the Novel*. 55.2: 167-190. <https://doi.org/10.1353/sdn.2023.a899471>

“Discerning Love, Recuperating Hope: The ‘Search for God’ in Carson McCullers’s *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter*.” *Religion & Literature*. 53.3: 123-144. <https://doi.org/10.1353/rel.2021.0019>

“Nathaniel Hawthorne’s Reframing of That ‘—which Milton tells about’: Literary Influence and Blithedale’s Queer Masque.” *Nathaniel Hawthorne Review*. 47.2: 250-266.
<https://doi.org/10.5325/nathhawtrevi.47.2.0250>

AWARDS & CERTIFICATIONS

English Department Best Essay Prize. “Orgasm of Nostalgia’: Narrative and Sexual Desire in Aleksandar Hemon’s *Nowhere Man*.” Spring 2023.

Graduate Research and Teaching Fellowship in the American Studies Department at TU Dortmund, Germany. Fall 2022-Summer 2023.

Graduate Certificate in College Teaching. The University of Iowa College of Education. Spring 2022.

Ballard and Seashore Dissertation Fellowship. Spring 2022.

Graduate College Summer Fellowship. Summer 2021.

Graduate College Post-Comprehensive Research Fellowship. Spring 2021.

Iowa Tourism Grant. Printing *Food Traditions: A Tour of Food Heritage in the Iowa Valley Scenic Byway Corridor*. Fall 2021.

Obermann Center Humanities for the Public Good Fellow. University of Iowa/Mellon Foundation. Communities Culture & Culinary Traditions Internship at Iowa Valley Resource Conservation & Development, in collaboration with the Iowa Valley Scenic Byway. Summer 2020.
Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award. The University of Iowa Council on Teaching. 2019.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- "Introduction: Heather Love." *The Fate of Professional Reading: Reports from the Field*. The University of Iowa English Department. Fall 2023.
- "Totally Paleozoic!": The Geology of the Media in Tony Kushner's *Angels in America*." *Ruhr PhD Forum in American Studies*. Dortmund and Bochum, Germany. February 2023.
- "The 'Search for God' in Carson McCullers' *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter*." *American Literature Association 33rd Annual Conference*. Chicago, Illinois. May 2022.
- "Radiophonics in Audre Lorde's *Zami: A New Spelling of My Name*." *Craft Critique Culture Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference*, University of Iowa. April 2022
- "Dissemination over the Angelic Network in John Rechy's *City of Night*." *UVa GradCon 2022: Networks*. University of Virginia. April 2022.
- "Narrative and Sexual Desire in Aleksandar Hemon's *Nowhere Man*." *Bridges and Borders: Navigating Problems and Possibilities in Language and Culture*, Carnegie Mellon University. April 2021.
- "Oh, hilloo, darling!": Telephonic Representation in Christopher Isherwood's *Goodbye to Berlin*." [*Crossed Lines: Telepoetics Symposium*](#), Nottingham Trent University. May 2020.
- "To Feed Such Hunger': Queer Appetite and Desire in M.F.K. Fisher's *The Gastronomical Me*." *Craft Critique Culture Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference*, University of Iowa. April 2018.
- "The Failed Promise of Popular Culture in Randall Kenan's *A Visitation of Spirits*." *Craft Critique Culture Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference*, University of Iowa. April 2017.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor. Department of American Literature and Culture. Bilkent University. Current.

Courses Taught : *American Novel to 1900*

Visiting Assistant Professor. Department of English. University of Iowa. Fall 2024 – Spring 2026.

Courses Taught: *Reading and Writing About Short Stories: Gendre, Genre, and American Selfhood, General Education Literature*

Graduate Instructor. American Studies Department. TU Dortmund. Winter 2022 – Summer 2023.

Courses Taught: *Questioning the American Dream: A Conversation between James Baldwin and Audre Lorde, Eating Words: American Literature and Critical Food Studies, California Dreaming: Hollywood and the American Literary Imaginary* (bachelor's level), *Out of the Closet, Into the Archive: The Archival Impulse of Queer Literature* (master's level)

Practicum in College Teaching. Department of English. University of Iowa. Fall 2021.

Courses Co-taught: *City of Literature, Selected Transnational Authors: Chinua Achebe and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie*

Course Instructors: Loren Glass / Doris Witt

Program Assistant. Department of English. University of Iowa. Fall 2021.

Courses Co-taught: *Colloquium: Teaching Literature*

Graduate Instructor. Department of English. University of Iowa. Fall 2019 – Spring 2024.

Courses Taught: *General Education Literature (Memory, Identity, and Discovering the Self [honors section], Gender/Genre Bending and Gothic Domesticity, Dream a Little Dream: Literature and the Dreamscape, The Literary Journey)*

Writing Center Tutor. Department of Rhetoric. Spring 2018 – Spring 2024.

Writing Fellows Commenting Mentor. Department of Rhetoric. Spring 2019 – Fall 2021.

Graduate Instructor. Department of Rhetoric. University of Iowa. Fall 2017 – Spring 2018.

Courses Taught: *General Education Rhetoric*

Peer Co-Leader. Department of Rhetoric. University of Iowa. Fall 2018.

Courses Co-taught: *Colloquium: Teaching Rhetoric*

Graduate Teaching Assistant. Department of English. University of Iowa. Fall 2016 - Spring 2017
Courses Taught: *Foundations of the English Major*
Course Instructors: Blaine Greteman / Harry Stecopoulos

SERVICE

Co-President. Craft Critique Culture Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference, "Justice Framed," Fall 2019 – Spring 2020.

Graduate Peer Mentor. 2019.

Treasurer. Association of Graduate Students in English, University of Iowa, 2018.

Executive Editor. *Iowa Journal of Cultural Studies*, "[Reckoning with Appetite](#)," vol. 19, no. 1, 2019.

Associate Editor. *Iowa Journal of Cultural Studies*, Fall 2017 – Spring 2020.

Gradership. *Shakespeare*. Course Instructor: Adam Hooks. Fall 2016