

Christopher Pizzino

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University of Georgia
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Associate Professor, Department of English, University of Georgia, 2016-present
Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of Georgia, 2010-2016
Lecturer, Department of English, University of Georgia, 2007-2010
Visiting Instructor, Department of English, Union College, 2004-2007

EDUCATION

PhD, English, Rutgers University, January 2008
M.A., English, Rutgers University, October 1998
B.A., Duke University, May 1994

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Arresting Development: Comics at the Boundaries of Literature. U of Texas Press, 2016.

Articles and Book Chapters

“Retconning Race in the Long 1980s: HBO’s *Watchmen*.” *The Routledge Companion to Global Literary Adaptation in the Twenty-First Century*. Ed. Liz Ho and Brandon Chua. Expected publication 2022, Routledge. (6,000 words)

“Omnipotent Delinquency: The Body of Richard C. Meyer.” Forthcoming conference proceedings from Gesellschaft für Comicforschung. Expected publication 2022, De Gruyter. (6,000 words)

“The Complexities of ‘Closure.’” Forthcoming issue of *Law and Humanities*, 2022. (2,600 words)

“Gutter.” *Keywords for Comics Studies*. Ed. Ramzi Fawaz, Deborah Whaley, and Shelley Streeby. Forthcoming from NYU Press, June 2021. (2,500 words)

“Can a Novel Contain a Comic? Graphic Nerd Ecology in Contemporary US Fiction.” *Novel-Seeming Goods: The Contemporary Novel as Network*. Eds. Tim Lanzendörfer and Corinna Norrick-Rühl. Palgrave, 2020. (8,900 words)

“On Violation: Comic Books, Delinquency, Phenomenology.” Forthcoming in *Critical Comics Studies*. Ed. Thomas Giddens. U of Mississippi Press, 2020. (9,300 words)

“The Cartoon on the Comics Page: A Phenomenology.” *The Oxford Handbook of Comic Book Studies*. Ed. Frederick Luis Aldama. Oxford UP, 2019. (7,000 words)
<<https://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190917944.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780190917944-e-8>>

“When Realism Met Romance: The Negative Zone of Marvel’s Silver Age.” *The Cambridge History of the Graphic Novel*. Eds. Jan Baetens, Hugo Frey, and Stephen Tabachnick. Cambridge UP, 2018: 107-123.

- “Juvenile, Cruel and *MAD*: In Defense of Immature Comics.” *Comics Studies: Here and Now*. Ed. Frederick Luis Aldama. Routledge, 2018: 317-332.
- “Comics History and the Question of Delinquency: The Case of *Criminal*.” *Comics Memory: Archives and Styles*. Ed. Maaheen Ahmed and Benoît Crucifix. Palgrave, 2018: 165-185.
- “Burn After Reading: Animal Terrorism in *Duncan the Wonder Dog: Show One*.” *Studies in 20th & 21st Century Literature* 42.1 (2017).
<<http://newprairiepress.org/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1982&context=sttcl>> (8,900 words)
- “Comics and Trauma: A Postmortem and a New Inquiry.” *ImageText* 9.1 (2017).
<http://www.english.ufl.edu/imagetext/archives/v9_1/pizzino/> (9,500 words)
- “The Doctor Versus The Dagger: Comics Reading and Cultural Memory.” *PMLA* 130.3 (2015): 631-647.
- “Autoclastic Icons: Bloodletting and Burning in Gilbert Hernandez’s Palomar.” *ImageText* 7.1 (Fall 2013). <http://www.english.ufl.edu/imagetext/archives/v7_1/pizzino/> (8,600 words)
- “Utopia At Last: Cormac McCarthy’s *The Road* as Science Fiction.” *Extrapolation* special issue “Post-Apocalyptic Utopias and Dystopias,” 51.3 (2010): 358-375.
- “Art That Goes BOOM: Genre and Aesthetics in Frank Miller’s *Sin City*.” *ELN* special issue "Graphia: Literary Criticism and the Graphic Novel" 46.2 (Fall/Winter 2008): 115-128.
- "A Legacy of Freaks." *Postmodern Culture* 12.2 (January 2002).
<http://pmc.iath.virginia.edu/issue.102/12.2.r_pizzino.html> (4,500 words)

Reference essay

- “Annie Dillard.” *The Wadsworth Themes in American Literature Series: Religion and Spirituality*. Wadsworth, 2009: 59-60.

Interviews

- Interview with Pedro Moura at *The Comics Alternative*, June 2017
<<http://comicsalternative.com/interview-christopher-pizzino/>>
- Interview with Gael Fashingbauer Cooper at New Books Network, March 2017
<<https://newbooksnetwork.com/christopher-pizzino-arresting-development-comics-at-the-boundaries-of-literature-u-of-texas-press-2016/>>
- Interview with Osvaldo Oyola at *The Middle Spaces*, December 2016
<<https://themiddlespaces.com/2016/12/13/the-recollection-agency-1-talking-with-christopher-pizzino/>>
- Interview with Steve Scher, “How Seattle Changed Comics,” segment on KUOW (Seattle Public Radio), January 2012

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- Feeling Southern Cinema* (book manuscript)

AWARDS AND GRANTS

Willson Center Special Funding Award, U of Georgia, 2018
Martha Munn Bedingfield Excellence in Teaching Award, U of Georgia, 2016
Provost's Summer Research Grant, U of Georgia, 2014
President's Venture Fund Grant, U of Georgia, 2014
Willson Center Research Fellowship, U of Georgia, 2012
Sarah Moss Research Grant, U of Georgia, 2012
Student Government Association Professor Recognition Award, U of Georgia, 2012
Career Center Letters of Recognition, U of Georgia, 2012-2019
Michael Rapaport Ethics Grant, Union College, 2006-2007
Employee Scholarship Grants, Union College, 2006-2007
Intellectual Enrichment Grant, Union College, 2006

INVITED LECTURES

"Comics in the Realm of LLE: A Map, with Some Gaps," invited lecturer for pre-conference workshop, *Journal of Language and Literacy Education* conference, U of Georgia, January 2020

"Touching the Comic Book," plenary address, *Northeast Modern Language Association*, Pittsburgh, April 2018

"The Comic Book, the Body, and the Myth of Development," invited lecture at the Center for Cultural Analysis, Rutgers University, March 2018

"Foul Play: Murder and Delinquency in the Comics Debates of the 1950s," invited lecture as part of the series *Aliens, Monsters, and Madmen: The Art of EC Comics*, University of Oregon, June 2016

"Remembering Slumberland," Willson Center Cinema Roundtable, U of Georgia, January 2016

"Responses in US Comics Culture," "*Je Suis*, A Panel on Satire, Islamophobia, and Solidarity in the Wake of the Attack on *Charlie Hebdo*," organized by the Willson Center, the Progressive Student Coalition, the LGBT Resource Center and the English Dept., U of Georgia, February 2015

"The Superhero Movie: Past and Future," Willson Center Cinema Roundtable, University of Georgia, November 2014

"Comics as a Traumatized Medium: An Inquiry," keynote address, *Traumatics: Graphic Narratives of Trauma*, U of Florida Annual Conference on Comics Studies, Gainesville, FL, April 2014

"Atomic Adventures: How Comics Absorbed the Bomb," *Nuclear Anxiety and Civil Defense in Popular Culture*, special event at Russell Library, U of Georgia, January 2014

"Spider-Sense: Comic Book Reading," *Bookwork: A History of the Book Symposium*, U of Georgia, November 2013

"'Dark and Rich and New': The Problem of Innovation in the Comics of Charles Burns," *EGO Graduate Conference*, U of Georgia, March 2013

"Science Fiction Cinema Post-9/11," Willson Center Cinema Roundtable, U of Georgia, October 2011

"On the Importance of a Contemporary Liberal Arts Education," invited lecture, U of Georgia Phi Kappa Society: September 2011

“American Comics as a Space of Trauma,” roundtable presentation, EGO Graduate Conference, U of Georgia, Athens: April 2011

“Scott Pilgrim vs. Scott Pilgrim: Comics and Film,” U of Georgia University Union’s Cinematic Arts discussion, November 2010

“Waste Management: Gender, Sex and Culture in Alison Bechdel’s *Fun Home*,” U of Georgia Institute for Women’s Studies, Friday Speaker Series, September 2010

Invited Lecture for screening of *American Splendor, Modern Marvels: Jewish Adventures in the Graphic Novel*, Athens Public Library, November 2008

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

National and International Conferences

“Comics and the Omnipotent Reader: The Body of Richard C. Myer,” *Comics And Agency*, University of Tübingen, October 2020

“Old Feelings: Decaying Infrastructure and Affective Economies in Twenty-First Century Cinema of the US South,” *The Aesthetics of Decay: Creative Modes of Destruction*, St. Anne’s College, Oxford, February 2020

“Life in the Upside Down: *Stranger Things* and the Eternal 1980s,” *Gate(d) Ways. Enclosures, Breaches, and Mobilities Across U.S. Boundaries and Beyond*, University of Catania, September 2019

“The Cartoon on the Page: A Phenomenology of Comics Reading,” *Drawing Yourself In and Out of It*, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, November 2018

“Doorways and Wounds: The Strange Interiors of Contemporary US Horror Comics,” *Spazi tra le Nuvole/Spaced Out*, University of Cagliari, October 2017

“Comics History and the Question of Delinquency,” *Comics and Memory*, Ghent University, April 2017

“Comics Reading and Social Justice: The Case of Robert Peebles,” *International Comic Arts Forum*, Columbia, SC, April 2016

“Animal Terrorism: Adam Hines and the Crisis of the Animal Fable,” *MLA*, Austin, January 2016

“Sticky Pages: Comic Book Reading,” *MLA*, Vancouver, January 2015

“Alien Stereo: China Miéville’s *Embassytown*,” *MLA*, Chicago, January 2014

“Animal Cruelty: The Cinema of Kathryn Bigelow,” *MLA*, Chicago, January 2014

“Ashes and Masks: Gender According to Gilbert Hernandez,” *MLA*, Boston, January 2013

“Critical Affect: The Spaces of Contemporary Science Fiction Cinema,” *MLA*, Boston, January 2013

“Serial Trauma: Awaiting Charles Burns’s *The Hive*,” *MLA*, Seattle, January 2012

“Comics and the Problem of the *Bildungsroman*: Charles Burns’s *Black Hole*,” *MLA*, Los Angeles, January 2011

“Cultural Literacy in the Nerd Age: Junot Díaz’s *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*,” *American Literature Association*, Boston, May 2009

“Using Fundamentalism: Theodicy and the Secular in Don DeLillo’s *Falling Man*,” *American Literature Association*, Boston, May 2009

“The Marginal in Public: Harvey Pekar’s *The Quitter*,” *MLA*, San Francisco, December 2008

“God in a Box: Indiana Jones and the Archaeological Fantasies of the Secular,” *American Comparative Literature Association Conference*, Boulder, April 2001

Regional Conferences

“Real Fantasy: The Global South in *Miami Vice*,” South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Atlanta, November 2019

“Tijuana Genesis,” *NeMLA*, Baltimore, March 2017

“The Good, the Bad and the *MAD*: Outlaw Comics of the 1950s,” panel featuring Qiana Whitted, U of South Carolina, and Nick Meglin, formerly of *MAD* Magazine, supported by the Willson Center, the President’s Venture Fund and the Department of English, organized as part of the annual meeting of the Southeast Chapter of the National Cartoonists Society, Athens, GA, October 2015 (organizer, chair and participant)

“Vegetable Politics: Environmentalism and Design in Alan Moore’s *Swamp Thing*,” *South Atlantic MLA*, Durham, November 2012

“Utopia At Last: Cormac McCarthy’s *The Road* As Science Fiction,” *South Atlantic MLA*, Atlanta, November 2010

“Pitching High and Low: Teaching Comics Across the Divide,” *South Atlantic MLA*, Atlanta, November 2010

“Against the Present: Futurity in Cuarón’s *Children of Men*,” *South Atlantic MLA*, Atlanta, November 2009

“Reading for the Other: Possible Subjects in Ishiguro’s *Never Let Me Go*,” *South Atlantic MLA*, Atlanta, November 2009

“Science Fiction and the Problem of Form in Richard Linklater’s *A Scanner Darkly*,” *South Atlantic MLA*, Louisville, November 2008

“Secular Scoobies: Trouble at the Boundaries of the Buffyverse,” *Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association Conference*, Albuquerque, March 2005

“White Guys at the Border: Cormac McCarthy and the Culture Wars,” *Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association Conference*, Toronto, March 2002

“Religion as Virus in *Snow Crash*,” *South Atlantic MLA*, Atlanta, November 2001

“Images of Fundamentalism in Cyberpunk Fiction,” *Center for the Critical Analysis of Contemporary Culture Conference*, New Brunswick, NJ, December 2000

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Georgia (2007-Present)

Image Theory and Visual Narrative (graduate seminar)
Postmodernism: History, Theory, Aesthetics (graduate seminar)
History and Theory of the Novel (for both graduate and undergraduate students)
Contemporary American Literature
American Literature 1865-present
Eighteenth-Century English Novel
Multicultural American Literature
Literature and Utopia
Literature and Media
Twentieth Century American Novel
Science Fiction
Films About the South
Comics and Graphic Narratives
Comics Theory and Practice
The Wire
The 1980s
The Comics of Alan Moore
First Year Odyssey: Comics in Context
First Year Odyssey: Living With Big Books
First Year Odyssey: Re-Reading

Union College (2004-2007)

American Literature 1960-present
Twentieth Century American Novel
Science Fiction
The Victorian Novel
Early Victorian Literature
Late Victorian Literature
Major English Authors III, Romanticism to Modernism
Introduction to Literary Study—Fiction
First Year Writing Preceptorial—Globalization
Critical Reading and Writing, Academic Opportunity Program

New Jersey Council for the Humanities (2000-2001)

Religion in American Culture
Ethnic Diversity and Immigration in New Jersey
Literature of Genocide

Rutgers University (1996-2003)

Seminar in 20th C. Literature—Religion and the Secular: Texts in Conflict
Religion and the Secular in Victorian Literature
19th C. British Novel
Principles of Literary Study—Fiction
Expository Writing
Introduction to College Writing, Educational Opportunity Fund

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Contemporary American Literature, Modern and Postmodern Literature, Southern Literature and Film, Media Theory, Genre Theory, Comics and Graphic Narratives, Science Fiction and Cinema, American and World Cinema, Secularity and Religious Studies

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Professional

Reviewer for fellowship applications, European Science Foundation, 2020
Editorial Board, Leuven University Press/Cornell University Press, 2018-present
Executive Committee, Comics and Graphic Narratives Discussion Group, MLA, 2014-2019
Manuscript Referee, Routledge, 2018, 2020
Manuscript Referee, Anthem Press, 2019
Manuscript Referee, *INKS: Journal of the Comics Studies Society*, 2018, 2019
Manuscript Referee, Ohio State University Press, 2018
Manuscript Referee, *PMLA*, 2017, 2018
Manuscript Referee, *ImageText*, 2016, 2017
Manuscript Referee, *ASAP Journal*, 2016
Manuscript Referee, *LIT: Literature Interpretation Theory*, 2014
Manuscript Referee, *Borrowers and Lenders*, 2013, 2014
Manuscript Referee, *Genre*, 2013
Member of Southeast Chapter of National Cartoonists Society, 2014-present
Panel organizer and chair, “Latina/o Comics,” *MLA*, Austin, January 2016
Panel organizer, *Alien Lines: Science Fiction Comics*, *MLA*, Philadelphia, January 2017
Outside reader for dissertation committee: Rob Hutton, Carleton University (2017)

Institutional—University of Georgia (2007-present)

Chair of Ad Hoc Committee on Baldwin Hall, Franklin College Faculty Senate, 2018-2020
Faculty Sponsor for Comics Creators Association, 2014-present
Yearly speaker to visiting high school students, “College Day 1: What To Expect,” 2015-present
Campus speaker organizer, David Heatley, 2019
Invited Participant at the Faculty Affairs Symposium sponsored by the U of Georgia Teaching Academy, Helen, GA, 2011
Regular guest on “Dark Matters,” UGA Radio program devoted to science fiction, 2010
Founding Member, Comics Reading Group, University of Georgia, 2008-2010

Institutional—Union College (2004-2007)

Minerva Film Series organizer (2004-2006)

Departmental—University of Georgia (2007-present)

First Year Writing Committee, 2019-present
Undergraduate Committee, 2012-2014, 2017-2019
Tenure and Promotion Committee, Nancee Reeves, 2019
Search Committee, 2019
Graduate Committee, 2015-2017
Faculty Advisor for Sigma Tau Delta, English Honors Society, 2011-2017
Advisory Committee, 2014-2015
Chair of Committee on New and Emerging Research and Pedagogy, English Department, 2013
Chair of Comprehensive Exam and Dissertation Committee: Laurie Norris (comprehensive exams completed 2015)
PhD Comprehensive Exam and Dissertation Committees: Miriam Brown Spiers (graduated 2014), Lynn Whitaker (graduated 2015), Rajesh Reddy (graduated 2017), Karl Mohn (graduated 2017), Bradley Bazzle (graduated 2017), Stephanie Toliver (Dept. of Education, Lang. & Literacy, graduated 2020), Travis Dular (exams completed 2020), Mike McClelland (exams completed 2020), Zach Perdieu (exams completed 2020), Ben Rutherford (exams completed 2019), Gabrielle Stecher (exams completed 2020), Amy Bonnafons (exams completed 2018), Alyssa Leavell (exams completed 2017), Matthew Elder (exams completed 2016), Anna Allen (exams scheduled for 2021), Colette Arrand (exams scheduled for 2021), Sarah Shermyen (exams scheduled for 2021), Julia Lindsay (exams scheduled for 2021)
Chair of Masters Thesis Committee: Liam Polk (defense held 2018), Carlos Camblor (defense held 2019)

Masters Thesis Committees: Brian Karfunkel (2011), Jacob Watson (2011), Jeremiah Wood (2012), Noah Brewer (2012), Christen Hammock (2014), Kameel Mir (2016), Katie Googe (Dept. of Religion, 2017), Matthew Robinson (2018), Sara Cagle (2020)

Undergraduate Thesis Committee: Daniel LoPilato (2013), Manisha Banga (2017), M. Anteau (2019), Gwen Carpenter (2020)

Independent Reading: Ty Stewart (2015), Lois Songster (2018), Senna Hubbs (2018)

Mentorship for peer-reviewed publication: Lian Peters (2013)

Undergraduate Internship Supervisor: Josh Johns, Marvel Comics, residential internship (2011)

Student mentoring (2007-present)

Departmental—Union College

Hiring Committee, 2006

Web Committee, 2005-2006

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Modern Language Association

Comics Studies Society

National Cartoonists Society, Southeast Chapter

REFERENCES

Jan Baetens, Literary Theory and Cultural Studies, University of Leuven, jan.baetens@kuleuven.be

Hillary Chute, Departments of English and Art & Design, Northeastern University,
h.chute@northeastern.edu

Barbara McCaskill, Department of English, University of Georgia, bmccaski@uga.edu

Adam Parkes, Department of English, University of Georgia, aparkes@uga.edu