

James Benson Wirth, PhD

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EDUCATION

University of Washington Seattle, WA

- Ph.D., English Language and Literature
 - Dissertation: *Negative Masculinity: Theories of Freedom in American Literature After 1950.*
- M.F.A., Creative Writing in Prose

American University Washington, DC

- B.A., University Honors in English

Prepared to teach courses in: English Composition, Cultural Studies, Critical Theory, 20th Century American Literature, Creative Writing

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Acting Assistant Professor, English Department, University of Washington September 2023 - present

Part-Time Lecturer, English Department, University of Washington September 2019 – 2023

Predoctoral Instructor, English Department, University of Washington September 2010 – 2019

Adjunct Faculty, English Department, Seattle University September 2018 – 2022

Writing Instructor, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania August 2017 – present

Associate Faculty, English Department, North Seattle College September 2016 – present

Associate Faculty, Humanities, Shoreline Community College September 2017 – present

ADMINISTRATIVE AND SERVICE WORK

Remote Learning Technologist, University of Washington 2021 – Present

Assistant Director of Digital Pedagogies, English Department, University of Washington March 2020 – 2021

Presiding Officer, Western Literature Association / Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association April 2018 - 2021

Project Coordinator, UW Graduate Mentorship Program AY 2015

Executive Officer, Graduate Student Organization AY 2015

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Curator, Castalia Reading Series 2010-2011

Assistant Editor, Amazon.com Breakthrough Novel Award 2010-2014

Staff Reader, Seattle Review 2011

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Modern Language Association – “Put the phone down on the pillow, it will be like I’m there”: The Ethics of Empathy as a Form of Play,” Seattle, January 2020.
- Society of Literature, Science, & The Arts – “Empathy as a Form of Play,” UC Irvine, November 2019.
- Presiding Officer, Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association – Literature of the American West (co-sponsored by the Western Literature Association), San Diego, November 2019.
- Conference on College Composition & Communication – “Identity Performance in Virtual Environments,” Pittsburgh, March 2019.
- Modern Literature Association – “Dybek’s Heterotopic Chicago,” Chicago, 2019.
- Presiding Officer, Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association – Literature of the American West (co-sponsored by the Western Literature Association), Western Washington University, November 2018.
- Society of Literature, Science, & The Arts – “Games, Thirdspace, and Impossible Spaces,” Toronto, 2018.
- American Comparative Literature Association – “Evolving Topologies of Human Connection in Zwigoff’s *Ghost World* and Kurosawa’s *Pulse*,” National Conference at UCLA, March 2018.
- Modern Language Association – “The hard white empty core of the world’: Desituating the Masculinized West in Didion and Morrison,” National Conference in New York, January 2018.
- Society of Literature, Science, & The Arts – “Violence and Fragmented Time in Nietzsche, Husserl, and the Virtualized Space,” National Conference at Arizona State University, November 2017.
- Western Literature Association – “‘We got dealt our hand before we were even born’: Ecophenomenology and Intentionality in Louise Erdrich’s Anishinaabe Novels,” Minneapolis, October 2017.
- American Comparative Literature Association – “Sporting Publics: New Media Narratives of Fandom and Racial Masculinity,” National Conference at Harvard University, 2015.
- Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association – “Racialized Masculinity and American Mythos: John Henry and *John Henry Days*,” Portland State University, 2015.

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

- Presenter, EWP and Critical Classrooms Teacher Talk, “Engaging with Students in Asynchronous Classrooms,” April 2020.
- Presenting Scholar, University of Washington Scholar’s Studio, “Transforming Zones of Conflict in Contemporary War Literature,” Spring 2016.