

Mariam Wassif

English Department
Carnegie Mellon University
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EDUCATION

- 2018** **Ph.D.** Cornell University (English Literature)
- Advisory Committee: Cathy Caruth (chair), Cynthia Chase,
Jenny C. Mann
- Dissertation: “‘Poisoned Vestments’: Romanticism, Rhetoric, and
Material Culture”
- 2013** **M.A.** Cornell University (English Literature)
- 2007** **B.A.** The University of Georgia (English, French, Comparative
Literature), summa cum laude, Highest Honors

EMPLOYMENT

- 2022-** Assistant Professor of English in Literary and Cultural Studies, Carnegie Mellon
University
- 2021-22** Full-time Instructor (Maître des Langues), The University of Paris 1- Panthéon-
Sorbonne
- 2017-21** Research and Teaching Fellow, The University of Paris 1- Panthéon-
Sorbonne, Paris, France
- 2015-17** Lector, École Normale Supérieure of Lyon, France
- 2008-15** Ph.D. Candidate and Graduate Teaching Assistant, Cornell University,
Ithaca, NY

PUBLICATIONS

Book-in-Progress

“Poisoned Vestments”: Rhetoric, Race, and Material Culture in Britain and France,

1660-1820.

Edited Special Issue

- 2023** *New Essays on The Woman of Colour* (1808), edited by Nicole Aljoe, Kerry Sinanan, and Mariam Wassif, *Eighteenth-Century fiction*, vol. 35, no. 1, Jan. 2023.

Refereed Journal Articles

- 2024** “Distance and Intimacy: Reading *The Woman of Colour* with Hazel V. Carby’s *Imperial Intimacies*,” *Romanticism on the Net* no. 82, Spring 2024.
<https://ronjournal.org/articles/n82/distance-and-intimacy-reading-the-woman-of-colour-1808-with-hazel-v-carbys-imperial-intimacies-2019/>
- 2023** “Introduction” (with Nicole Aljoe and Kerry Sinanan), *New Essays on The Woman of Colour*, special issue of *Eighteenth-Century fiction*, vol. 35, no. 1 Jan. 2023, pp. 1-26.
- 2021** “The Romantic and Contemporary *Woman of Colour*—A Roundtable on *The Woman of Colour* (1808): Pedagogic and Critical Approaches,” *Studies in Religion And the Enlightenment*, vol. no. 2, Spring 2021,
<https://www.srejournal.org/2021/03/16/the-romantic/>
- 2020** “‘Silken Dalliance’: Fashion and Rhetoric in Byron’s Dramas and the *Letter to Murray*,” *European Romantic Review*, vol. 31, no. 1, February 2020, pp. 37-65
- 2019** “Wordsworth’s ‘Poisoned Vestments’: Classical Rhetoric and Material Culture in the Poetry and Prose,” *Philological Quarterly*, vol. 98, no. 4, November 2019, pp. 383-408.
- 2018** “Polidori’s ‘The Vampyre’ and Byron’s Portraits,” *The Wordsworth Circle*, vol. 49, no. 1, February 2018, pp. 53-61.

Chapters in Edited Volumes

- 2025** “Race Theory and Women’s Gothic: Critiquing and Appropriating Monstrosity,” *The Routledge Companion to Gothic Women Writers*, edited by Daniel Cook, Laura Kirkley, and Deborah Russell. Advance contract, essay submitted.
- “Jabarti’s *Muddat* and Imperial Fictions of Egypt,” *Bloomsbury Handbook of Romantic Literature and Culture*, edited by Arif Camoglu, Bakary Diaby, Omar F. Miranda, Gaura Narayan, and Kate Singer. In Press.
- 2024** “British Abolition in Time: Literature and Material Culture circa 1807,”

Nineteenth-Century Literature in Transition: the 1800s, edited by Andrew Stauffer, Cambridge University Press, June 2026, Section A, Chapter 2.

- 2022** “Emma, the Classics, and Empire,” *Austen After 200: New Reading Spaces*, edited by Annika Bautz, Daniel Cook, and Kerry Sinanan, Palgrave, 2022, pp. 157-185.

Translation

- 2020** French to English: Excerpt from *Vie et mort de l’homme qui tua John F. Kennedy* [Life and Death of the Man Who Killed John F. Kennedy] (P.O.L. Éditeur, 2020) by Anne-James Chaton, *a/b: Auto/biography Studies*, vol. 35, no. 2, 2020, p. 1.

Book Review

- 2020** Chiara Rolli, *The Trial of Warren Hastings: Classical Oratory and Reception in Eighteenth-Century England* (Bloomsbury, 2019), invited review for *The British Association of Romantic Studies Review*, no.54, Spring 2020.

Other Publications

- 2021-** “EMMA. in the Age of Colorblind and Color-conscious Casting,” contribution to “Autumn de Wilde’s EMMA.: a Roundtable,” edited by Mariam Wassif, *Keats-Shelley Association of America Blog*, August 3, 2021, <https://k-saa.org/autumn-de-wilde-emma-roundtable/>
- 2020** Race, Pedagogy, and Whiteness in the long 18c: A Teach-In” (summary and reflection), *Keats-Shelley Association of America Blog*, https://ksaa.org/race_pedagogy_whiteness/
- “On This Day: Keats publishes *Lamia* in his last volume,” *British Association of Romantic Studies (BARS) Blog*, July 1, 2020, <http://www.bars.ac.uk/blog/?p=3106>

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

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- 2026** Humanities Center Research Grant (\$10,000), Carnegie Mellon University
- 2024** Falk Research Grant (\$5,000), Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Carnegie Mellon University
- Fall 2023** DEI Microgrant for in-class guest speakers: author Joanna Brown (76341) and Professor Omar F. Miranda (76230), English Department, Carnegie Mellon

University

- 2022/23** DEI Microgrant for in-class guest speakers: Professor Kerry Sinanan (76321, Fall 22) and Professor Nicole Aljoe (76810/76410, Spring 23), English Department, Carnegie Mellon University
- 2017-20** Research Fellowship, the University of Paris 1 (Panthéon-Sorbonne)
- 2015** Provost's Diversity Fellowship, Cornell University Graduate School
- 2013** Graduate School Travel Grant, Cornell University
- 2013** Martin Sampson Teaching Award, Cornell University English Department
- 2013** Michele Sicca Research Travel Grant, Cornell Institute for European Studies
- 2013** International Research Travel Grant, Mario Einaudi Center for International Studies, Cornell University
- 2012-13** Sage Research Fellowship, Cornell University
- 2011** Foreign Language Instruction Grant, Cornell University Graduate School
- 2009-11** Sage Research Fellowship, Cornell University
- 2007** Award for Best Undergraduate Essay, The University of Georgia English Department
- Virginia Rucker Walter Award for Outstanding English Major, The University of Georgia English Department

INVITED TALKS AND WORKSHOPS

- 2024** Byron's 'Warring Elements' and Competing Visions of the East," 2024 Curran Symposium: Performing Politics, Co-hosted by the Byron Society of America and the Keats-Shelley Association of America, New York, NY, 24-25 October.

"More-than-Humanist Approaches to Sedimentation: Early Career Faculty Discuss Current Research," Environmental Humanities Research Seminar, Carnegie Mellon University, 29 March.
- 2023** "A talk on *The Woman of Colour*," *Young Romantics in the City Exhibition*, Keats House, London, 20 July.

"The Disordered Cosmos': Classical Rhetoric in *Mansfield Park* and Phillis Wheatley Peters," The Open Digital Seminar in Eighteenth-Century Studies, 23

May, online.

2022 Keynote Speaker, Teach-In: “Refusals, Redactions, and Divestments,” co-sponsored by The Woman of Colour Facebook Group, UTSA English, the Keats-Shelley Association of America, and Colby College, online.

Workshop facilitator, “Middle Eastern/North African Diaspora in Eighteenth-Century Studies”, Teach-In: “Refusals, Redactions, and Divestments,” co-sponsored by The Woman of Colour Facebook Group, UTSA English, the Keats-Shelley Association of America, and Colby College, online.

2021 “*The Woman of Colour*,” MA guest lecture (Prof. Andrew Bricker), Department of Literary Studies, Ghent University, Belgium, 25 Nov.

Workshop facilitator, “Empire and Identity,” Anti-Racism Teach-In, UT San Antonio, May 26th, 2021

“*Emma* and Empire,” in conversation with Kerry Sinanan, “Romanticism in the Meantime” virtual symposium, organizers Jonathan Mulrooney and Emily Rohrbach, 8 April.

“*Emma*, Empire, and the Myth of Pygmalion,” Keynote address, Historic Joseph Teel House Virtual Regency Retreat, Norwich, CT, 29 Jan.

2020 “*Emma*, Empire, and the Myth of Pygmalion,” Cardiff BookTalks (online), Cardiff University, Wales, UK, 3 Dec., recording at <https://cardiffbooktalk.org/2020/12/08/jane-austens-emma-full-talk-and-qa/>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2024 “Napoleon in Egypt: A View from the ‘Global South,’” “The Eighteenth-Century Global South,” Race and Empire Caucus Panel, American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Annual Meeting, Toronto, Ontario, CA, 4-6 April.

2022 Invited contribution to *Byron’s Stanzas: The 1822 Cantos of Don Juan* (roundtable), Conference of the Modern Language Association, Washington, DC, January 2022 (virtual session)

2021 “The Romantic and Contemporary *Woman of Colour*,” invited contribution to a roundtable, Black Studies and Romanticism Virtual Conference, Mount Holyoke University, June 2021

2016 “Poisoned Vestments: Romanticism and Classical Rhetoric,” The North American Society for the Study of Romanticism, Berkley, CA

“Polidori’s *The Vampyre* and the Many Faces of Byron.” “The Summer of 1816: Creativity and Conflict,” The University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK

- 2015** “Dandy Devices: Dress, Gender, and Theatricality in Byron’s *Sardanapalus*.” Southern Humanities Conference, Athens, GA
- 2013** “The Discomforts of Home: Domestic Relations in Austen’s *Mansfield Park* and Wordsworth’s *Adventures on Salisbury Plain*.” The International Conference on Romanticism, Oakland, MI
- 2012** “Sister Subjects: Sibling Relations and Identity Formation in *Sense and Sensibility*.” “200 Years of Sense and Sensibility,” The University of St Andrews, St Andrews, Scotland, UK

COURSES TAUGHT

Carnegie Mellon University

Spring 2026 76-434/834: Literature and Social Change in the Nineteenth Century
76-392/792: High Seas: Maritime Literature in 19c Britain

Fall 2025 76-341A: The Age of Jane Austen
76-220-A: Mystery! From Detective Fiction to True Crime

Fall 2024 76-434/834: Literature and Social Change in the 19th Century
76-220: Mystery: From Detective Fiction to True Crime

Fall 2023 76230: Literature & Culture in the 19th Century: Literature and Social Change
76341: Race & Gender in the Age of Jane Austen

Spring 2023 76810-A/76410-A: The Long Eighteenth Century
76241: Introduction to Gender Studies

Fall 2022 76221-B: Race and Gender in the Age of Jane Austen
76241: Introduction to Gender Studies

The University of Paris 1- Panthéon-Sorbonne

2017-21 Intermediate English, 5 courses per semester

The École Normale Supérieure of Lyon, France

2015-17 Childhood and Youth From in the 19th and 20th Centuries (MA seminar)
Monks, Monsters, and Madwomen: Gothic Literature (MA seminar)
British Literature: Adventure on the High Seas (MA Seminar)

Research writing workshop for graduate students and faculty (co-instructor)

Cornell University

2010-14. British Literature: Adventure on the High Seas (Freshman Writing Seminar)
British Literature: Dress, Discipline, Desire (Freshman Writing Seminar)
Monks, Monsters, and Madwomen: Gothic Literature (Freshman Writing Seminar)
The Mystery in the Story (Freshman Writing Seminar)

Additional Teaching Experience

2007-8 Americorps (City Year, Washington DC), literacy training, in-class support, after-school program curriculum design

STUDENTS SUPERVISED

Ph.D. Exam Committees

Henry Aceves (external reader)
Laura Deluca (external reader)
Elizabeth Dietrich (committee member)
Catherine Evans (external reader)
Baron Glanville (external reader)
Rachael Mulvihill (external reader)

M.A. Students

Manique Rheanel Johnson
Emma Zuder

Senior Honors Thesis

Ellis Jones

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Professional Activities

- Reviewer for Oxford University Press, Broadview, *ABO: Interactive Journal for Women in the Arts, 1640-1830*, and *Eighteenth-Century Fiction*
- Virtual Events Coordinator, Keats-Shelley Association of America (2024-2025)
 - “The Spirit of Universal Emancipation,” March 2025, speakers: Sarah Marsh and Imani Tucker, chaired by Bakari Diaby
 - “Percy Shelley’s Sacred Geography,” November 2024, speakers: Sarah Copsey Alsader and Suleiman Ramzi Hodali, chaired by Mariam Wassif

- Communications Director, Keats-Shelley Association of America (2022-2024)
- Co-administrator, Woman of Colour Facebook Group (2020-23)
- Communications Fellow, Keats-Shelley Association of America (2020-22)
- Recorded reading of “Three years she grew in sun and shower” by William Wordsworth, for *Wordsworth 250: A Year-Long Celebration of William Wordsworth*, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kOfBWiuRoww> (2021)

University and College Service

- Co-organizer: CMU Reads, Jane Austen’s 250th birthday celebrations: kick-off tea party, campus-wide read-along, live Discord discussions, and birthday ball (Fall 2025)
- Committee to Re-envision the Humanities Center (2022-23)

Department Service

Carnegie Mellon University

- Folger Institute Advisory Council (2026-)
- Co-director of the Center for Print Networks and Performance (2025-present)
- Marketing and Communications Committee (2023)
- Steering committee for the Center for Print Networks and Performance (2023-present)
- Guest speaker, Ph.D. Professionalization Seminar (Prof. Kathleen Newman), Apr 3, 2023
- Guest speaker, Job Market Working Group (Prof. Kathleen Newman), Oct 11, 2022

The University of Paris 1

- Award Committee Member, “Poets’ Spring” student poetry competition, The University of Paris 1 (2020-21)

Cornell University

- Graduate Mentor, Department of English, Cornell University (2012-18)
- Dissertation Writing Group Organizer (2013)

LANGUAGES

English: Native speaker

French: Fluent in speech and writing

Arabic: Heritage speaker

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

The American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies

The North American Society for the Study of Romanticism