

Katie Brandt Sartain, MA she/her/hers

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL (August 2019-present)

Candidate, ABD, Doctor of Philosophy, Critical English Studies, GPA 4.0

Expected graduation date: Spring 2026

San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA (August 2015-July 2017)

Master of Arts, English Literature, GPA 4.0

Thesis: *"Uneasy Corners of Consciousness": Addiction as Dis-ease in Victorian Realism* (2017)

University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL (August 2008-May 2011)

Bachelor of Arts, English, GPA 3.82, Cum Laude, College Honors

Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, IL (August 2007-May 2008)

Courses in Elementary and Special Education, GPA 3.34

DISSERTATION AND SPECIALIZATIONS

Addictive Practices: Realism and Substance Use in the Nineteenth-Century British Novel

Supervised by Dr. Anna Kornbluh (chair), Dr. Lennard J. Davis, Dr. Nasser Mufti, Dr. Sunil Agnani, and Dr. Matthew Reznicek

Specializing in: Eighteenth and Nineteenth-Century British Literature, Victorian Literature and History, History and Theory of the Novel, Nineteenth-Century American Literature, Disability Studies, Addiction Studies, Medical Humanities, Romantic Literature, Women's Literature, Recovery Narratives, History and Literature of Sex Work

FELLOWSHIPS

HASTAC Scholars Program: 2025-2027 Cohort Inductee

Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University: 2025 Fellowship Recipient

UIC Institute for the Humanities: 2024-2025 Resident Graduate Scholar

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

Emerging Scholars Award, Nineteenth-Century Studies Association: 2024-2025 Honorable Mention

UIC Graduate Student Council Conference Award: 2024 Quarter 1 Recipient

Gloria Fromm Award in British Studies, UIC Department of English: 2024 Recipient

Three-Minute Thesis Competition, UIC Graduate College: 2023 People's Choice Award

Three-Minute Thesis Competition, UIC Graduate College: 2023 Finalist

Chris Vanden Bossche Travel Award, Interdisciplinary Nineteenth Century Studies Association: 2022 Recipient

The Dickens Society Symposium Bursary: 2021 Recipient

Gloria Fromm Award in British Studies, UIC Department of English: 2021 Recipient

Dickens Universe Scholarship, SFSU Department of English: 2017 Recipient

Maurice and Ellanore Bassan Scholarship, SFSU Department of English: 2016 Recipient

Charles Davis Award for Best Graduate Student Presentation, RMMLA: 2016 Conference Recipient

PUBLICATIONS

"'Reader, the violence they did': Employing Metalepsis Towards a Collective Narrative in the Historical Novel." *The Journal of Historical Fictions*, 2025. (Accepted pending revision).

"'A Deeper-lying Consciousness': Lydgate's Descent into Gambling and Narcotics." *George Eliot's Unfortunate Men*. Vernon Press, 2025. (Forthcoming).

“‘To whom shall the outcast prostitute tell her tale!’: Endo/Exo-Writer Perspectives of Nineteenth-Century Sex Workers in *Madeleine, An Autobiography* and *Mary Barton*.” *Victorian Popular Fictions*, 5.1: 142-57, 5 July 2023. ISSN: 2632-4253 (online) DOI: <https://doi.org/10.46911/GUIL7181>

“*Uneasy Corners of Consciousness*”: *Addiction as Dis-ease in Victorian Realism*. 2017. San Francisco State University, Master of Arts Thesis. <https://scholarworks.calstate.edu/downloads/v405sb987>.

“‘The Golden Thread’: Uniting Benjamin and Dickens Through Death and Memory.” *Interpretations* 28, 2016: 42-65.

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

“Louisa’s Spiritual Awakening: Temptation, Abstinence, and the Female Recovery Narrative in *Hard Times*.” Dickensociety.org, *The Dickens Society*, 5 Oct. 2021, <https://dickensociety.org/archives/3364>. Web.

“On Alcoholism and Addiction in Victorian Literature.” Audio Blog Post. Dickens in a Minute. *The Dickens Project*, 25 July 2017, <https://dickens.ucsc.edu/resources/podcast.html>. Web.

ACCEPTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“‘Write for writing’s sake, only to make money’: The Death of the Victorian Novel(ist) in *New Grub Street*.” 46th Annual Nineteenth-Century Studies Association Conference held at the Sheraton New Orleans: March 2025.

“Empire, Emplotment, and Opiates in *The Moonstone*.” Annual Midwest Modern Language Association Conference held at the Hilton Chicago, IL: Insiders and Outsiders English II Panel. November 2024.

“(Re)visionary Women: Scriptural Interpretation, Adaptation, and Prophecy in Eleanor Davies and Samuel Richardson.” 121st Annual Pacific Ancient Modern Language Association Conference held at the Margaritaville Resort Palm Springs, CA: British Literature and Culture, Long 18th Century Panel. November 2024.

“‘The Pen-and-Inkubus’ of Writing’: The Death of the Victorian Novel(ist) in *The Well-Beloved*.” 77th Annual Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Conference held at the Westgate Resort Las Vegas, NV: Thomas Hardy Panel. October 2024.

“‘Where is my knight in white satin armor?’: Reading Tony Soprano as Quixotic Anti-Hero.” Southwest Popular/American Culture Association Annual Summer Salon Conference held virtually: Television Panel. June 2024.

“Conversion and Recovery Narratives in *Hard Times* and ‘Janet’s Repentance.’” “Everything That Makes Us Human”: The British University in Egypt International Symposium on Medical Humanities held virtually: The Periphery and Possibility of Medical Humanities (2) Panel. May 2024.

“‘To Whom Shall the Outcast Prostitute Tell her Tale!’: Endo-Exo Perspectives of Nineteenth-Century Sex Workers in *Mary Barton* and *Madeleine*.” Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference held at the Hilton Salt Lake City, UT: Gender, Sex, and Work Panel. March 2022.

“No, Just One More: Occupation as Opiate and Catastrophic Addiction to the Text in *The Last Man*.” 74th Annual Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Conference held virtually: Nineteenth-Century British Panel. October 2021.

“‘The world’s dust, my home’: Ancestral Anxieties in the Soil Imagery of Hawthorne’s Short Fiction.” 52nd Annual Northeast Modern Language Association Conference held virtually: Soil and Constructing the Gothic Self Roundtable. March 2021.

“A Journal of This Singular Voyage’: Convention as Resistance in Equiano’s *The Interesting Narrative*.” 30th Annual British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference held virtually: Resistance II Panel. February 2021.

“A Deeper-Lying Consciousness’: Lydgate’s Restless Descent into Narcotics and Gambling.” 51st Annual Northeast Modern Language Association Conference at the Boston Marriott Copley Place, Boston, MA: Eliot’s Unfortunate Men Panel. March 2020.

“Cleanse the Leprosy of my Mind’: Figurations of Sin as Disease in the Penitential Psalms.” Multidisciplinary Graduate Student Conference at the Newberry Library Center for Renaissance Studies, Chicago, IL: Madness and Melancholy Panel. January 2020.

“Pamela the Preacher: Richardson’s Leading Ladies and the Language of Conversion.” Midwest Conference on British Studies at the Hyatt St. Louis, St. Louis, MO: Rethinking Religious Texts Panel. September 2017.

“Uneasy Corners of Consciousness’: Addiction as Dis-ease in Victorian Realism.” 114th Annual Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association Conference at the Westin Pasadena, CA: Long 19th Century Panel. November 2016.

“Beyond the Reaches of Our Souls’: Shakespeare’s Haunting Influence on Dickens.” 70th Annual Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Conference at the Hilton Salt Lake City, UT: Charles Dickens Panel. October 2016.

INVITED TALKS

UIC English Department, Chicago, IL

Guest Speaker, Critical Practices Workshop (November 2024)

“The ‘Pen-and-Inkubus’ of Writing: The Death of the Victorian Novel(ist) in *New Grub Street* and *The Well-Beloved*”

UIC English Department Annual Comp Camp, Chicago, IL

Guest Speaker, UIC Writing Center panel (August 2024)

Guest Speaker, Incoming Student FAQ panel (August 2023)

Guest Speaker, UIC Writing Center (August 2023)

Akojopo Virtual Mentorship Program, Nigeria

Guest speaker, Resume and Cover Letter Workshop (June 2023)

UIC English Department, Chicago, IL

Guest Lecturer, HON 121 for Professor Kim O’Neal (October 2024)

Guest Lecturer, ENGL 242 for Dr. Nasser Mufti (October 2022)

Guest Lecturer, ENGL 240 for Dr. Anna Kornbluh (March 2021)

Guest Speaker, UIC English Dept. TeachWrite Series, with Dr. Vainis Aleksa (February 2021)

“New Adventures in Writing Center Practice: Remote Tutoring, Asynchronous Methods, and the Future of the Writing Center’s Services”

ATS Institute of Technology School of Nursing, Chicago, IL

Guest Speaker, Professional Development Workshop (December 2017)

“Teaching Grammar to Adult Learners”

SFSU English Department, San Francisco, CA

Guest Lecturer, ENG 480, ENG 742 for Dr. Wai-Leung Kwok (April 2016-May 2017)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The Engaged Humanities Initiative at UIC, supported by the Mellon Foundation, Chicago, IL

Graduate Teaching Assistant (August 2022-December 2022)

HUM 120 (supervised by Dr. Sara Hall)

University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of English (August 2019-present)

ENGL 105: Understanding Fiction: Fiction and Addiction (instructor of record Fall 2024)
ENGL 159: Academic Writing Workshop: Reflecting on Your Writing (instructor of record Fall 2023)
ENGL 422/GLAS 492: Topics in Postcolonial Literature (supervised by Dr. Sunil Agnani)
ENGL 315: Eighteenth Century Literatures (supervised by Dr. Sunil Agnani)
ENGL 242: British Literature II (supervised by Dr. Nasser Mufti)
ENGL 222: Principles of Peer Tutoring (instructor of record Spring 2019, Fall 2020)
ENGL 160: Academic Writing I: "Treat Yo' Self"–Self Care and Self-Help (instructor of record Fall 2021)
ENGL 161: Academic Writing II: Addiction, Excess, and Vice (instructor of record Spring 2020)

ATS Institute of Technology School of Nursing, Chicago, IL

English Department Chair (April 2019-August 2019)

English Department Course Coordinator (April 2019-August 2019)

Student Services Counselor (December 2017-August 2019)

Full-time English Instructor (August 2017-August 2019)

ENG 0920: Basic English Grammar (instructor of record Fall 2017-Summer 2019)

ENG 0910: Comprehensive Reading and Study Skills (instructor of record Fall 2017-Summer 2019)

San Francisco State University English Department, San Francisco, CA

Graduate Teaching Assistant (January 2016-May 2016)

ENG 610: Literary Theory (supervised by Dr. Wai-Leung Kwok)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

[The Endo/Exo Writers Project](#): Computing Class in U.S. and U.K. Novels, 1880-1940. Led by Dr. Lennard J. Davis.

Graduate Researcher (February 2021-November 2024)

TUTORING EXPERIENCE

Malcolm X College, City Colleges of Chicago, Chicago, IL

English, Reading, and Writing Tutor, Academic Support Center (October 2024-present)

Refugee Community Connection, Chicago, IL

Volunteer College English Tutor and College Mentor (June 2020-present)

UIC Writing Center, Chicago, IL

Graduate Assistant Director (August 2020-present)

ATS Institute of Technology School of Nursing, Chicago, IL

Reading and Writing Tutor (August 2017-August 2019)

San Francisco State University English Tutoring Center, San Francisco, CA

Volunteer English Tutor (January 2016-May 2017)

Campus Academic Resource Program at SFSU, San Francisco, CA

Lead Tutor for Writing, Reading, and Study Skills Unit (September 2016-May 2017)

In-class Writing Fellow: BUS 300, GEOG 300, NURS 300, MKTG 300, NUTR 300

Writing, Reading, and Study Skills Tutor (September 2015-September 2016)

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Fem Films, Inc.

Copy Editor and Proofreader (June 2021-present)

The Charles Dickens Letters Project (dickensletters.com)

Assistant Editor and Web Editor (May 2021-May 2022)

Interpretations Literary Magazine, SFSU, San Francisco, CA

Editor-in-Chief (March 2016-August 2017)

Editor (March 2015-August 2016)

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Duke University Press, Durham, NC

Book Exhibitor, African Studies Association Conference, Chicago, IL (December 2024)

[The Digital Humanities Graduate Student Working Group](#), The Digital Humanities Initiative at UIC.

Co-organizer (September 2021-January 2023)

UIC First-Year Writing Program, Chicago, IL

Placement Essay Grader (April 2021-present)

Classroom Technology Working Group Member (May 2021-August 2021)

“Explications” Literary Conference, SFSU English Department, San Francisco, CA

Lead Co-organizer (Jan 2017-April 2017)

PERFORMANCE GROUPS

[UIC Chamber Choir](#), UIC Department of Theater and Music

Mezzo-Soprano Singer (Jan 2009-May 2011, August 2019-present)

Section Leader (August 2023)

Featured concert soloist (Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2023)

San Francisco State University Chamber Choir, SFSU School of Music

Mezzo-Soprano Singer (August 2015-December 2015)

Loyola University Chicago Chamber Choir, LUC Department of Fine and Performing Arts

Mezzo-Soprano Singer (August 2007-May 2008)

Featured concert soloist (Fall 2007, Spring 2008)

SERVICE POSITIONS

Cook County College Teachers Union, Local 1600, Chicago, IL

Member (October 2024-present)

UIC English Department, Chicago, IL

Peer Mentor (September 2024-present)

UIC English Graduate Student Association, Chicago, IL

Member (August 2019-present)

UIC Graduate Employee Organization, Local 6297, Chicago, IL

Member (2019-present)

SFSU Graduate Literature Association, San Francisco, CA

President (January 2016-May 2017)

Member (August 2015-May 2017)

UAW, Local 2865, San Francisco, CA

Member (August 2015-August 2017)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Modern Language Association, Midwest Modern Language Association, Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association, Pacific Ancient Modern Language Association, Northeastern Modern Language Association, Southwest Popular/American Culture Association, The Dickens Society, International Association of Professional Writers and Editors, Institute for Humane Studies, Nineteenth-Century Studies Association, Society for the Social History of Medicine, Midwest Victorian Studies Association, The Thomas Hardy Society, Society for Novel Studies, Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Association

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Microsoft Office, Zoom, Google, Blackboard, College Office, Engrade, Wordpress, MyWCOnline, Adobe, Pearson MyMathLab, Pearson MyReadingLab, BrightSpace, Navigate

LANGUAGES

English (fluent)

French (reading and writing ability)

REFERENCES

Dr. Anna Kornbluh, kornbluh@uic.edu

Professor, UIC Department of English

Dissertation Chair

312-413-2100

Dr. Lennard J. Davis, lendavis@uic.edu

Distinguished Professor, UIC College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

UIC Department of English

UIC Department of Disability and Human Development

UIC Department of Medical Education

312-413-8910

Dr. Nasser Mufti, nmufti@uic.edu

Associate Professor, UIC Department of English

Dr. Sunil Agnani, sagnani@uic.edu

Associate Professor, UIC Departments of English and History

312-413-2239

Dr. Matthew Reznicek, reznicek@umn.edu

Associate Professor, Medical Humanities, University of Minnesota

Dr. Vainis Aleksa, vainis@uic.edu

Director, UIC Writing Center

312-413-2206