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## Overview

“I never teach my pupils, I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn” wrote Albert Einstein; and that, in my mind, is the point of a university education: to learn how to think not what to think. Learning how to think involves reading challenging material, writing evidence-based arguments, and developing critical, creative and analytical skills, and these are what I emphasize in my classes. I teach courses on the rise of the novel, modernism and contemporary literature, travel writing, posthumanism and literary theory. In terms of research, I am interested in why post-apocalyptic film and fiction are so prevalent and why as a culture we have been so focused on end-of-the-world scenarios, which is the subject of my first book, *Post-Apocalyptic Culture*. I am also interested in the field of posthumanism and how technology has been changing our understanding of what it is to be human; my new SSHRC-funded project is called: “Where Science Meets Fiction: Social Robots and the Ethical Imagination” (see: <http://socialrobotfutures.com/>). I have also long been interested in orientalism, travel literature, Turkey and the Ottoman Empire, and the history of veiling and unveiling, which is the subject of my forthcoming book: *Veiled Figures: Women, Modernity, and the Spectres of Orientalism*.

## Teaching

Engl. 2391.2 Study of Short Fiction  
Engl.3302.1 Literary Theory 1  
Engl. 3303: Literary Theory II  
Engl. 3458.1 History and Theory of the Novel 1  
Engl. 3459.2 History and Theory of the Novel 11  
Engl. 4456.1 The Postmodern Novel  
Engl. 4832.1 The Contemporary Novel  
Engl. 4455.1 The Modern Novel  
Engl.4417. 1 Feminist Literary

## Selected Publications:

*Veiled Figures: Women, Modernity, and the Spectres of Orientalism*. University of Toronto Press (forthcoming: Spring 2016).

*Post-Apocalyptic Culture: Modernism, Postmodernism, and the Twentieth-Century Novel.* University of Toronto Press, 2008.

Editor (with Daniel O'Quinn), Lady Mary Wortley Montagu's, *The Turkish Embassy Letters*, Broadview Press, 2012.

Series Editor (with Reina Lewis): *Cultures in Dialogue*, Piscataway, NJ: Gorgias Press: <http://culturesindialogue.com/main/home> (developed with SSHRC research funding).

Editor (with Jill Didur), *Revisiting the Subaltern in the New Empire for Cultural Studies* 17.1 (2003).

Editor (with Jill Didur and Bart Simon), *Critical Posthumanism for Cultural Critique* 53 (2003)

My articles have appeared in journals such as *Studies in the Novel*, *Eighteenth-Century Studies*, *Arab Journal for the Humanities*, *Subject Matters*, *Canadian Literature*, and *Twentieth Century Literature*, *English Studies in Africa*.