

MAGGIE O'LEARY

Department of Literatures in English | Cornell University
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. **Cornell University**: Literatures in English | Anticipated January 2023
Dr. Shirley Samuels, Dr. Naminata Diabate, committee co-chairs; Dr. Caroline Levine,
Dr. Gregory Londe, committee members

M.A. **Cornell University**: Literatures in English | 2019

M.A. **Portland State University**: English | 2017
Dr. Sarah Lincoln, Thesis Advisor

B. A. **University of North Dakota**: English, with departmental honors | 2015
Minor: Women and Gender Studies
Minor: Political Science
Dr. Rebecca Weaver-Hightower, Advisor

Primary fields of specialization: 20th and 21st century Irish and Northern Irish fiction and poetry; postcolonial literature and theory; body politics and body studies; disability studies; feminist, gender, and sexuality studies; human rights and political theory; pop culture

DISSERTATION

“Disorder, Digestion, and Metabolic Futures: Disabled Bellies in Contemporary Global Fiction”: Supported by readings of Han Kang, Carmen Maria Machado, and J.M. Coetzee; argues that the acquisition and production of medical knowledge is challenged by embodied displays of disordered eating and disrupted digestion, and that any future divorced from the violence inherent in medical logics of containment, knowability, and diagnosis is in part metabolically-determined

PUBLICATIONS

2022 | “Cut Guts: ‘Eight Bites’ and Loving Fat,” *Literature and Medicine*, Volume 40, Issue 1, 55-76
2017 | “Heritage of Hunger: Famine, Self-Starvation, and Narrative Building in Eavan Boland’s ‘Anorexic,’” in *Colloquy: Text, Theory, Critique*, Issue 33, 5-29

AWARDS, HONORS, AND APPOINTMENTS

- 2021 | Semi-finalist, Provost’s Diversity Fellowship, Cornell University
- 2020 | Humanities Research Grant, Cornell University
- 2020 | Sage Dissertation Fellowship, Cornell University
- 2019 | Truman Capote PhD Writer’s Fellowship, Cornell University
- 2017 | Sage Graduate Summer Fellowship, Cornell University (4 years)
- 2017 | Sage Graduate Fellowship, Cornell University
- 2017 | Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Portland State University: Funded, full tuition remission and monthly stipend (2 years)
- 2017 | Student Educational Travel Grant, Portland State University
- 2014 | Dru Sjodin Memorial Scholarship, University of North Dakota
- 2014 | Myrtle McCrea Duncan Memorial Scholarship, University of North Dakota
- 2013 | William Budge Award, University of North Dakota

PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 | “Gut Orientations: Michael K, Disabled Time, and Metabolic Futures”: British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, virtual presentation due to COVID-19
- 2021 | “Cut Guts: ‘Eight Bites’ and the Global Circulation of Fat: Graduate Student Organization Annual Conference, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
- 2017 | “You’re Calling it Suicide, I’m Calling it Murder’: Themes of Starvation and Passive Masculinities in Steve McQueen’s *Hunger*”: British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, GA
- 2016 | “‘Like a Dog’: The Precarious Status of Human and Human Rights in J.M. Coetzee’s *Disgrace*”: Pacific Ancient and Modern Languages Association, Pasadena, CA
- 2016 | “Vomiting Hungers: Forms of a Slow and Traumatic Famine”: Annual English Department Student Colloquium, Portland State University, Portland, OR

PROFESSIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2018-22 | **Graduate Instructor, Cornell University**

- ENGL 2880 Expository Writing, “Having a Body, Having a Disability”: Upper-division expository writing course confronting how the body is a controlled, normative figure and disability’s role in challenging the prevailing conceptualization of a “whole,” “healthy” body
- ENGL 1168 “Cultural Studies: Gut Feelings” (2 semesters): Freshman writing seminar exploring how marginalized bodies feel and think, and what the gut can communicate about disability, gender, racial politics, and power in contemporary fiction, poetry, memoir, and public writing

- ENGL 1168 “Cultural Studies: The Global Body Politics of Hunger” (2 semesters): Freshman writing seminar exploring the global implications of hunger as a form of political expression through postcolonial literature, poetry, and writing on the radical body acceptance movement
- ENGL 1147 “Mystery in the Story” (2 semesters): Freshman writing seminar examining crime and criminality in contemporary fiction and the “traditional” mystery canon

2022 | **Graduate Teaching Assistant, Cornell University**

- Summer 2022: STS 1451 “Body, Mind, and Health: Historical Perspectives for Future Professionals” with Dr. Jennifer Lieberman
 - Accelerated summer course in Science and Technology Studies department
 - Grading and responding to student writing

2018-19 | **Graduate Reader, Cornell University**

- Spring 2020: Literature and Medicine with Dr. Elisha Cohn
 - Grading and responding to student writing
- Fall 2020: Icelandic Family Sagas with Dr. Thomas Hill
 - Grading and responding to student writing
- Spring 2020: Femininity as Masquerade with Dr. Masha Raskolnikov
 - Grading and responding to student writing
- Fall 2019: Comic Books and Graphic Novels with Dr. Greg Londe
 - Grading and responding to student writing
- Spring 2019: Literatures in English 1750-Present with Dr. Greg Londe
 - Grading and responding to student writing
- Spring 2018: Culture and Politics of the 1960s with Dr. Paul Sawyer
 - Grading and responding to student writing
 - Leading one weekly sectional discussion

2018 | **Writing Center Tutor, Cornell University**

- Assisted summer session students with generating, drafting, and revising academic writing

2017 | **Teaching Assistant, Portland State University**

- Assisted tenured faculty in grading and discussion facilitation for ENG 300 (introduction to the major)

2015 | **Teaching Assistant, Portland State University**

- WR 323 Writing as Critical Inquiry, “Writing Human Rights” (2 quarters): Advanced undergraduate writing course with an emphasis on developing creative non-fiction essays and creative research essays examining the exercise and conceptual parameters of human rights
- WR 121 College Writing (2 quarters): Introductory composition course

- Independently developed syllabi and lesson plans; individually taught introductory and advanced writing and composition courses; participated in a weekly course addressing professional development and teaching instruction

2015 | **Writing Center Consultant, Portland State Writing Center**

- Met with students of all disciplines for weekly individual consultations assisting with grammar, style, and mechanics' research and citation difficulties; and thesis and dissertation revision

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2017 | **Research Assistant, Portland State University**

Supervised by Professor Leni Zumas, project consisted of compiling research bibliographies and contributing to course development for a University Studies class on experimental fiction written by women

SERVICE AND PARTICIPATION

2018-22 | Representative for the department of Literatures in English to the Graduate and Professional Student Assembly, Cornell University

2019-22 | Co-Organizer, Disability Theory graduate reading group

2019 | Participant, Olin Library Humanities & Social Science Doctoral Immersion Program, Cornell University

2018 | Secretary for English Graduate Student Association, Cornell University

2018 | Mentor, Peer Mentorship Program for the Department of Literatures in English, Cornell University

2017 | Participant in a graduate student session of the Intergroup Dialogue Project, Cornell University

2017 | Organizer for the Annual Graduate Student Departmental Colloquium, Portland State University

2015 | Member of the President's Committee on Sexual Violence Prevention, University of North Dakota

2015 | Member of the President's Advisory Council on Women's Issues, University of North Dakota

2015 | Student intern for the Center for Human Rights and Genocide Studies, University of North Dakota

TEACHING DEVELOPMENT

2022 | Inclusive Teaching Institute, Cornell University Center for Teaching Innovation