

# Nigel Lepianka

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## Education

Ph.D. in English, Texas A&M University, candidacy achieved May 2016.

**Dissertation: “Yet of Books There Are A Plenty: The Bibliography of Data”**

This dissertation explores the idea that “big data” or aggregated collections of material are not new to the fields of literary studies and have informed the ways in which literary research is conducted. Using the *Wright American Fiction* bibliography as a case study, this dissertation traces the evolution of an American literature dataset from its origins as a print bibliography that becomes the basis of a digital project that enables distant reading approaches. This project examines the way a literary “dataset” that is used for text mining and cultural analytics is compiled and explores the ultimately human and interpretive claims and questions that informs the composition of datasets, including both their inclusions and exclusions.

**Committee:** Amy Earhart (chair), Laura Mandell, Andrew Pilsch, and Sarah Potvin

M.A. in English, University of Maryland, 2013

B.A. in English, University of Kentucky, 2011

Summa cum laude

## Honors and Awards

Senator Phil Gramm Doctoral Fellow, Texas A&M University, Spring 2018

Andrew W. Mellon Fellow, Huntington Library, Spring 2018

Dissertation Fellowship, Texas A&M English Department, Spring 2018

Professional Development Award, Texas A&M English Dept., Summer 2017

Dissertation Enhancement Award, Texas A&M English Dept., Summer 2017

Modern Language Association Travel Grant, Winter 2017

Summertime for Advancement in Research (STAR) Grant, Summer 2016

Digital Humanities Summer Institute Tuition Fellowship, 2014

Merit Scholarship, Texas A&M English Dept., 2014

Recruitment Fellowship, Texas A&M English Dept., 2013-2014

## Publications

### Critical Edition

**H. G. Wells’ *Little Wars*. A digital critical edition of the 1913 publication, including an introduction and revised set of streamlined rules.** Co-edited with Deanna Stover. Word count: 15,915. *Scholarly Editing* 38 (2017).

<http://scholarlyediting.org/2017/editions/littlewars/intro.html>.

### Public Writing

**“Collaborative Bibliographic Data Production: AAS and Lyle Wright’s *American Fiction, 1851-1875.*”** *Past is Present: The American Antiquarian Society Blog*. August 21, 2017. Co-authored with Molly Hardy. <http://pastispresent.org/2017/digital-humanities-2/collaborative-bibliographic-data-production-aas-and-lyle-wrights-american-fiction-1851-1875/>.

#### Reviews

**“‘It is finished’ can never be said of us”:** **The New Dickinson Electronic Archives**, *Common-place* 13.4 (Summer 2013), Web. August 15, 2013. <http://www.common-place-archives.org/web-library/2013-08.shtml>.

#### White Papers

**“Toward the Design of a DH Track or Specialization at UMD: White paper authored by ENGL 888D: Digital Studies Colloquium participants.”** University of Maryland English Department and Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities, Spring 2013.

#### Conference Presentations

**“Editing the Aggregate, or Beyond TEI.”** Modern Language Association Annual Convention, New York City, Winter 2018.

**“Bibliographic Concerns about Non-Consumptive Data.”** Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Philadelphia, Winter 2017.

**“Irving and His Narrators: Using Quantitative Methods to Study Authorship and Style.”** American Literature Association Annual Conference, Boston, MA, Spring 2015.

Poster Presentation, **“H. G. Wells’ *Floor Games* and *Little Wars*: Encoding Games and Their Rules.”** Text Encoding Initiative Conference and Members Meeting, Northwestern University, Fall 2014.

**“‘Helplessly Open’: Marginalia, Texts, and Privacy.”** Presents of the Past, Texas A&M University, Spring 2014.

Lightning Talk: **“Achievements as Personal Archives of Memory and Experience in Open World Video Games.”** Personal Digital Archiving Conference, Maryland Institute for the Technology in the Humanities, Spring 2013.

#### Employment

##### Research Assistantships

Graduate Research Assistant, *Novel™*, *Text Mining the Novel: Establishing the Foundations of a New Discipline*, Texas A&M Initiative for Digital Humanities,

Media, and Culture in conjunction with the .txtLAB at McGill University. Funded by SSHRC. August 2014- May 2016. <http://novel-tm.ca/>.

Graduate Research Assistant, *White Violence, Black Resistance: The Millican Project* with Amy Earhart, Texas A&M Initiative for Digital Humanities, Media, and Culture, May-July 2014. <https://millican.omeka.net/>.

#### Teaching

**ENGL375- American Novel before 1900, Fall 2017**

A survey of the American novel in the early Republic and nineteenth-century, including both canonical and non-canonical texts.

**ENGL376- American Novel after 1900, Summer 2017**

A survey of the American novel in the times of the worker's rights movement, Harlem Renaissance, modernism, and postmodernism.

**ENGL203- Writing about Literature, Spring 2017**

An introduction to literary and media analysis, featuring a wide range of genres, including poetry, novels, popular music, and games.

**ENGL104- Rhetoric and Composition, Fall 2016**

An introduction to academic writing, with a specific focus on audience awareness and the research process.

**ENGL301- Technical Writing- Online, Fall 2013, Spring 2014**

Course stressed an awareness of tone and format, and their relationship, expected of technical documents, as well as presentation of research and argument in technical genres.

**ENGL394- Topics in Genre: Narrative and Digital Media, Fall 2013, co-taught with Laura Mandell**

Course explored various new media narratives, including graphic novels and games, alongside emerging new media theory (e.g. Bogost, Baudrillard) and classical narrative theory (e.g. Barthes).

#### Graduate Assistantship

Undergraduate Academic Advisor, University of Maryland Department of English, 2011-2013.

#### Professional Development and Workshops

"The American Book in the Industrial Era, 1820-1940." Rare Book School, University of Virginia. Summer 2017.

"Python For Humanists." Programming4Humanists, Texas A&M University Continuing Education Program, Spring 2017.

"Digital Scholarly Publication." Programming4Humanists, Texas A&M University Continuing Education Program, Spring 2016.

"Digital Research and Publication." Programming4Humanists. Texas A&M University Continuing Education Program, Fall 2015.

“Advanced TEI Customization.” Digital Humanities Summer Institute, University of Victoria, BC, Canada, Summer 2014.

The Technology and the Humanities Camp Prime, Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media, George Mason University, Summer 2013.

The Technology and the Humanities Camp Prime, Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media, George Mason University, Summer 2012.

## Professional Service

### Departmental Service

Co-President, English Graduate Student Association, Texas A&M University English Department, August 2016-Present.

Graduate Student Representative, Graduate Studies Committee, Texas A&M University English Department, August 2015-May 2016.

Graduate Student Representative, Undergraduate Committee Representative, Texas A&M University English Department, Spring 2015.

THATcamp DH Collaborate Advisory Board Member, Texas A&M Institute for Digital Humanities, Media, and Culture, Spring 2014.

Master’s Representative, Graduate Studies Committee, University of Maryland English Department, 2012-2013.

### Digital Project Contributions

XML Textual Encoding, *Shelley-Godwin Archive*, Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities. Funded by the NEH and Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, Spring 2012.

### Conference Panels Chaired

New Developments in Digital Americanist Studies, organized by the Digital Americanist Society. American Literature Association Conference, 2015.

### Organizations

Modern Language Association (MLA)

Member, Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations (ADHO).

Member, Textual Encoding Initiative (TEI).

Member, Society for Nineteenth-Century Americanists (C19).

Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory (HASTAC) Fellow, 2014-2015.