

KIRSTEN J. SCHUHMACHER

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Visiting Assistant Professor of English, University of Connecticut 2025-present

EDUCATION

- PhD** University of California, Davis 2025
English Literature; designated emphasis in Writing, Rhetoric, and Composition Studies
Dissertation Title: "Sententious Figures: Early Modern English Poesy in Liminal Space"
Dissertation Committee: Dr. Tiffany Jo Werth (advisor), Dr. Frances Dolan, and Dr. Elizabeth Carolyn Miller
- MA** University of Victoria 2019
English Literature; emphasis in MEMS (Medieval and Early Modern Studies)
Thesis: "Wretched man, Wretched tree': Fradubio's (in)humanity in Spenser's *The Faerie Queene*"
Advisor: Dr. Gary Kuchar
- BA** University of Nevada, Reno, English Literature, Anthropology 2017
Graduated Magna Cum Laude
Minored in Environmental Studies

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Publications

"Eroding Narratives: California's Coastlines and the Mythology of Nova Albion." *ISLE*, July 2025.

"Transmoving Galleries: Teaching Britomart in the House of Busirane." (under review).

With Steve Mentz: "Drake's California: Coastal Imaginaries from *Nova Albion* to *Uncharted*."
Upcoming Festschrift for James Muldoon.

"Spenserian Ecologies: Introduction." Special Issue: *Spenser Review: Spenserian Futures* 50, 3, no. 4 (2020). <http://www.english.cam.ac.uk/spenseronline/review/item/50.3.4>.

Book Reviews

Review of *After the Flood: Imagining the Global Environment in Early Modern Europe*, written by Lydia Barnett. *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment* 27, no. 3 (2020), <https://doi.org/10.1093/isle/isaa064>.

“A Look at Familial Colony Collapse.” Review of *The History of Bees*, written by Maja Lunde. *The Goose* 17, no. 1, (2018), <https://scholars.wlu.ca/thegoose/vol17/iss1/8>.

Public-Facing Publications

“UC Davis MEMS Library Event Digital Display,” UC Davis Library, 2024, <https://sites.google.com/ucdavis.edu/worlds-encompassed/home>.

“California Albion,” Bodega Marine Laboratory, UC Davis, 2023, <https://californiaalbion.com>

“Notes from ‘On the sea and coastal ecologies: early modern pasts and uncertain futures’ Virtual Research Share,” *Oecologies* (blog), April, 6, 2021, <https://oecologies.com/2021/04/06/notes-from-on-the-sea-and-coastal-ecologies-early-modern-pasts-and-uncertain-futures-virtual-research-share/>.

With Annette Hulbert and Breanne Weber. "Oecologies at ASLE 2019." *Oecologies*, 2019, <https://oecologies.com/2019/07/18/oecologies-at-asle-2019/>.

With Colin J. Keohane. “The Many Lives of Foxe’s *Actes and Monuments*,” *Omeka*, 2019. <https://omekas.library.uvic.ca/s/english500/page/many-lives>

HONORS AND AWARDS

Allen G. Marr Prize	2025
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Awarded for superior dissertation work

UC Davis Library Graduate Student Prize	2025
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Co-winner with Mikhaila Redovian for [Worlds Encompassed](#)

Award for outstanding, publicly engaged scholarship

Shakespeare Association of America Travel Award	2025
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Graduate Studies Travel Award	2024
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UC Davis campus-wide travel award

Newberry Fellowship	2024
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Funding provided for a short-term fellowship at the Newberry Library

Newberry Consortium

Englund Fellowship	2024
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Competitive grant used to support dissertation research

University of California- Davis

Jack Hicks Award	2024
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Competitive award used to support non-traditional academic work.

University of California- Davis

Harrison Fellowship	2023
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Competitive grant used to support dissertation research.

University of California- Davis

Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski Fellowships at Bodega Marine Laboratory 2022-23

One of ten recipients to receive funding to conduct humanities research in the Bodega Bay Marine Laboratory.

University of California, Davis

Funded by the Bilinski Educational Foundation

Modern Language Association's Summer Teaching Institutes Grant 2020-21

One of nine recipients to take part in a fully funded teaching institute for AOI learning.

Sonoma State University, CA

Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

Canadian Society for Renaissance Studies Erasmus Prize 2019

Co-winner with Colin Keohane. One award available per year.

Title of Paper: "University of Victoria McPherson Library's 1610

Actes and Monuments: A Users' Guide."

University of Nevada, Reno 2017 Department of English Critical

Writing Award 2017

One award available per year.

Title of Paper: "Misrepresentation in Edward Abbey's *Desert Solitaire*"

DIGITAL HUMANITIES PROJECTS

California Albion, University of California, Davis 2022- present

- Research supported by a Bilinski Fellowship on the afterlives of Sir Francis Drake's landing on the west coast of North America culminating in a public-facing website/digital archive
- [Californiaalbion.com](http://californiaalbion.com)

The Code Jumped Over the Moon: Critical Race and TEI, UC Davis 2021- present
Research Partner, Bowen Du

- TEI project focused on William Godwin's *The Man in the Moone*
- Created a TEI encoded edition available upon request

Play On, UC Davis 2019

- Interactive game encouraging players to digitally modify a specific edition of Foxe's *Actes and Monuments*
- <https://playon5.game.blog/>

University of Victoria McPhearson Library's Edition of *Actes and Monuments*: A Users' Guide, University of Victoria 2018- present

Research Partner, Colin J. Keohane

- Omeka-based project that focused on the marginalia of the McPhearson Library's Edition of Foxe's *Actes and Monuments*
- <https://omekas.library.uvic.ca/s/english500/page/manylikes>

TEACHING

University of California- Davis; Davis, CA

Instructor of Record

2020 to Present

- COM 2: Major Works of the Medieval & Early Modern World
 - *Introduction, through class discussion and frequent written assignments, to some of the major works of the medieval and early modern worlds (6th century to the mid-17th century) such as Dante's Comedy, 1001 Nights, The Tale of Genji, and Elizabethan/Jacobean plays. Examined genres include framed narratives, courtly literature, and early modern drama. 25 students*
- ENL 40: Becoming Plant
 - *Topics in Literature course of my own design. Transhistorical survey of representations of "becoming plant" in western literature and culture. 30 students*
- ENL 52: Pop Culture Shakespeare
 - *Teaching Shakespeare and his afterlives. Course was designed to help students make Shakespeare their own by creating adaptations and engaging with adaptations that challenge traditional casting and production. 25 students*
- ENL 3: Introduction to Literature
 - *Introductory course for all majors that fulfills their lower division writing requirement. Focus on English literature and its genres, writing, and critical thinking. 25 students*
- UWP 1: Academic Literacies
 - *Composition, the essay, paragraph structure, diction, and related topics. Frequent writing assignments. 25 students*
- UWP 1y: Academic Literacies (hybrid)
 - *Hybrid course. Composition, the essay, paragraph structure, diction, and related topics. Frequent writing assignments. 25 students*
- UWP 1A: Writers' Workshop
 - *Supplemental course for UWP 1 covering fundamental writing skills. 15 students*

Teaching Assistant

2019-2022

- UWP 12: Writing and Visual Rhetoric
- ENL 115: Topics in 17th- century Literature
- ENL 10A: Survey of English Literature to 1700
- ENL 117: Shakespeare

Graduate Reader

- CLA 20: Pompeii 79 CE

Truckee Meadows Community College; Reno, NV

January 2020-2022

Adjunct Instructor

- ENG 96: Online preparatory course designed to teach skills to prepare students for English 101. Course ranges from 20-25 students.
- ENG 101: Online rhetoric and composition, an undergraduate course that ranges from 20-25 students that focuses on building writing skills.
- ENG 102: Online rhetoric and composition, and undergraduate course that ranges from 20-25 students that focuses on argumentation and research.

University of Victoria; Victoria, BC, Canada

2018-2019

Teaching Assistant

- English 147: Great Works in English Literature

OTHER ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Oecologies

2024-2025

- **Web Developer and Web Master**

- Web developer and web master for the Oecologies website.
- [Oecologies.com](https://oecologies.com).

University of California- Davis, Davis, CA

- **Editorial Assistant**

2023-2024

- **Supervisor:** Dr. Tiffany Jo Werth
- Editorial assistant for Dr. Tiffany Jo Werth's most recent publication *The Lithic Imagination from More to Milton*

- **Graduate Assistant**, Medieval and Early Modern Studies Program (MEMS) 2020-present

- **Supervisor:** Dr. Tiffany Jo Werth
- Graduate assistant for the MEMS major and minor responsible for advertising and recruiting for the major and minor.
- Webmaster for mems.ucdavis.edu

- **Research Assistant**, "On the sea and coastal ecologies: early modern pasts and uncertain futures"

2020-2022

- **Supervisor:** Dr. Tiffany Jo Werth
- Research group founded in the UC system researching the interconnections between medieval/early modern sea and our current ecological crisis. I was in charge of creating digital tools and advertising as well as helping organize events. URL: <https://oecologies.com/earth-sea-sky/>

- **Lead Upper Division Writing Proctor**

2019-present

- Quarterly writing proctor for the Upper Division Writing Exam

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES

As Organizer:

"Oecologies II: Re/Imagining the Commons: Resistance and Rebellion in the Late Medieval and Early Modern England," *ASLE + AESS*, 12 July 2023, Portland, OR.

“Ecogrief and the Premodern Environment,” *Oecologies*, 15 December 2022, Airmeet. Discussion with Dr. Chris Barrett and Dr. Heide Estes.

“On the Sea and Coastal Ecologies: Early Modern Pasts and Uncertain Futures,” UCHRI, 19-20 May 2022, Bodega Bay Marine Laboratory. Symposium.

“Ecologies and Economics: Premodern Extractions,” *Oecologies*, 5 November 2021, Zoom. Discussion with Dr. Elizabeth Carolyn Miller, Dr. Debapriya Sarkar, and Dr. Phillip Usher.

Invited Talks and Seminars:

“Early Modern Skies” Symposium. UCLA Clark Library, 6 February 2026. Invited Speaker.

“Energy Transitions in Long Modernity” Symposium. UCLA Clark Library, 25 April 2025. Invited Speaker.

“Invoking the Spheres: English Poetics of Authority in Mary Sidney’s *Psalmes*.” Renaissance Society of America (RSA), 20-22 March 2025, Boston, MA. Conference Panel. Invited panel contributor.

With Tiffany Jo Werth, “A Long History of Sir Francis Drake in California.” For “Victorians in/and/on the Pacific” Panel for the North American Victorian Studies Association (NAVSA), 27-28 September 2024, Davis, CA. Invited Plenary Speaker.

“Recollecting from the Wat’ry Empire: how to extract meaning in *Pericles*.” Shakespeare Association of America (SAA), 10-13 April 2024, Portland, OR. Conference Seminar. Invited seminar contributor.

“Nova Albion in Bodega Bay.” Invited talk for UC Davis Chancellor and his Board, 11 May 2023, Bodega Bay Marine Laboratory. Elevator pitch.

“Prolepsis in Nova Albion.” On the Sea and Coastal Ecologies: Early Modern Pasts and Uncertain Futures (UCHRI Funded Symposium), 19-20 May 2022, Bodega Bay, CA. Symposium Presentation

As Presenter:

“To the Mighty Giant that Dared to Dream: The Problem of Equality in Shakespeare and Spenser.” Shakespeare Association of America (SAA), 20-22 March, 2025, Boston, MA. Conference Seminar. Contributor.

“Optimism and Apocalypse in *Outer Wilds: Echoes of the Eye*.” PAMLA, 7-10 November 2024, Palm Springs, CA. Conference Presentation.

“Constructing Nova Albion.” UC Davis Library MEMS Event, 2 May 2024, Davis, CA. Poster Presentation.

“Nova Albion: ‘Common’ Narratives and Reimagined Futures.” *ASLE + AESS*, 12 July 2023, Portland, OR. Conference Presentation.

“‘All the forms thou can’st invent’: Transmovement in Marvell’s ‘The Gallery.’” *SCRC* (South Central Renaissance Conference), 27-29 April 2023, UC Berkeley. Roundtable Presentation.

“Imaging Nova Albion Now.” Bodega Bay Friday Forum, 17 February 2023, Bodega Bay Marine Laboratory. Presentation.

“Wastefull emptiness”: Ecological Rhetoric of Transitory Space in *The Faerie Queene*.” SCSC (Sixteenth Century Society & Conference), 28-31 October 2021, San Diego, CA. Conference Presentation.

With Colin Keohane, “Fish, Family, Flowers: Exploring the *Oikos* of Codex Ashmole 61.” International Medieval Conference, 4-7 July 2021, Leeds University, Leeds, EN. Conference Presentation.

With Colin Keohane, “Revisiting the Users of the University of Victoria McPherson Library's 1610 *Actes and Monuments*.” New College Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, 12-14 March 2020, New College, Sarasota, FL. Conference Presentation, postponed.

“Where Terrestrial Poles Meet: The Liminality of World-Building.” ASLE, 26-30 June 2019, University of California, Davis; Davis, CA. Conference Presentation.

With Colin Keohane, “University of Victoria McPherson Library’s 1610 *Actes and Monuments*: A Users’ Guide.” CSRS (Canadian Society for Renaissance Studies), 1-3 June 2019, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada. Conference Presentation.

“Wretched man, wretched tree:’ Navigating Post-Human Reality in *The Faerie Queene*.” PAMLA co-conference with ASLE, 10 November 2018, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA. Conference Presentation.

SERVICE

Co-organizer of MEMS Library Event

MEMS and Shields Library, UC Davis, May 2, 2024

Organizer and Chair of Oecologies Conference: Ecologies and Economics: Premodern Extractions

Oecologies Research Cluster; oecologies.com, Nov. 2021

English Graduate Student Association (EGSA); UC Davis, 2021-22

Scholar Symposium Co-Chair, 2021-22

English Department Representative to UCD Graduate Student Association; 2020-21

Teaching for Experiential Learning Award Adjudication Committee

Graduate Student Society (GSS) Representative; University of Victoria, BC, 2019

UVic English Graduate Student Society, 2018-2019

Vice President and MA Representative

UVic Graduate Student Society, 2018-2019

English Department Representative and Financial Committee Member

UVic Write-In

Set-up Volunteer and Tutor; Victoria, BC, 2018-19

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Online Writing Instruction Certification for First Year Composition, UC Davis, 05/24/22

MLA Teaching Institute, MLA, Summer 2021

Grant Writing 101, UC Davis Grad Pathways, 02/19/21

Indigenous Cultural Acumen Training, UVic LTISI, 03/07/19

Pedagogical Training, UVic LTISI, 2018-2019

Workshop included: Feeling Feedback, Inclusive Classrooms, Playful Pedagogy, Teaching Difficult Topics, Diversity in the Classroom, and Facilitating Discussion

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

MLA, 2020-Present

Oecologies, 2020-Present

Spenser Society, 2018- Present

Renaissance Society of America (RSA), 2018- Present

Shakespeare Association of America (SAA), 2023- Present

Pacific Ancient Modern Language of America (PAMLA), 2018- Present

Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment (ASLE), 2016-Present

LANGUAGES

English: Native Language

Dutch: Advanced Listener, Intermediate Speaker, Advanced Reading and Writing

Spanish: Intermediate Listener, Intermediate Speaker, Advanced Reading and Writing

Classical Latin: Intermediate Listener, Intermediate Speaker, Advanced Reading and Writing