

Sean Fischer

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EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania Annenberg School for Communication, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Doctoral Program (PhD) in Communication Aug 2016 – May 2021

- Prospective Research Areas: Network Science, Digital Culture, Social Group Formation
- Fully supported through a fellowship from the Annenberg School

SUNY Geneseo, Geneseo, New York

- Cumulative GPA: 3.74

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in English

Aug 2011 – May 2016

- Thesis: "Making Criticism Great Again"
- Adviser: Professor Ken Cooper
- Research areas: Quantitative Methods, Digital Humanities, History of Literary Criticism, Literary Theory
- Major GPA: 3.88

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Mathematics

Aug 2011 – May 2016

- Areas of Study: Differential Equations (Ordinary and Partial), Numerical Methods, Probability and Statistics, Mathematical and Statistical Programming
- Major GPA: 3.57

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

The Canonicity Project, SUNY Geneseo

Lead Researcher, Project Founder

Sep 2014 – Present

- Project: We applied quantitative methods and digital tools, including text mining and analysis, to the question of why certain texts are canonical. In particular, we explored how standards of taste shifted over time, creating a stratified sense of what should and should not be read. Additionally, we studied the ethical nature of literary criticism and developed a theoretical approach for how literary criticism should approach canonical inclusivity. The project generated a 40+-page co-written paper and a corresponding presentation. The paper was presented in segments at the Sigma Tau Delta 2015 Convention. Additionally, we leveraged the R programming language to analyze and then visualize the similarity between texts.
- Supervisor: Dr. Gillian Paku
- Research areas: Quantitative Methods, History of Literary Criticism, History of Genre, Literary Canon Formation.

Intro to Comp, SUNY Geneseo

Lead Researcher, Project Founder

Jan 2015 – Present

- Project: The Intro to Comp project originated out of a desire to create an Internet space where students of all levels, in school and out, could become better writers. The project began with a review of current best practices in regards to flipping classrooms and teaching over the Internet. Based on our limited findings, we decided to take what general results we could from science and mathematics classrooms and put together an alpha and then beta build of a writing education platform on Versal. The beta build was then released to a group of 70 high school juniors. Currently, we are gathering feedback and preparing to institute a new round of updates.
- Supervisor: Dr. Gillian Paku
- Research areas: Education Design, Writing Instruction, Education Program Implementation, Digital Learning.

COPLAC Distance Mentoring Undergraduate Research, SUNY Geneseo

Student Researcher

Sep 2013 – Mar 2014

- Project: At the end of sophomore year I was accepted to the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges' Distance Mentoring Undergraduate Research program. I was paired with a professor from the University of Virginia - Wise, who helped me to develop some research questions about the notion of genre as a fixed concept. I traced the history of the idea from the Ancient Greeks through to more contemporary scholars like Northrop Frye and I was able to use the products of my research to offer a new perspective on how to consider the concept of genre as a formalist container. I then applied my new conception to the idea of Chivalric Romance and demonstrated how one could still consider the Chivalric Romance tradition to be ongoing in the form of adventure role-playing games like *The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim*. The project ultimately generated a journal article published in COPLAC's *Metamorphosis* journal.
- Research areas: Genre, History of Literary Theory, Chivalric Romance, Chronotopes, Contemporary Literature

PUBLICATIONS

JOURNALS

- 1) S. Fischer, "From Bakhtin to Skyrim: An Examination of Chronotopes, Genre, and the Chivalric Romance," *Metamorphosis*, Spring 2014.

CONFERENCES

- 7) S. Fischer, "Developing Digital Tools to Mediate the Experience of Writing," at **G.R.E.A.T. Day 2016**, Geneseo, New York, Apr 2016.

- 6) S. Fischer, “Making Criticism Great Again: Thoughts on Culture, Society, Art and Criticism in the Age of Twiter from Donald Trump to Kanye West,” at **G.R.E.A.T. Day 2016**, Geneseo, New York, Apr 2016.
- 5) S. Fischer, “The Canonicity Project: The Theory and Quantitative Analysis of What We Choose to Read,” at **G.R.E.A.T. Day 2015**, Geneseo, New York, Apr 2015.
- 4) S. Fischer, “Crisis in Criticism: Classifying without Ethics,” at **Sigma Tau Delta 2015 Convention**, Albuquerque, New Mexico, Mar 2015.
- 3) S. Fischer, “The Chinese Presence in Angola: A Cyberspatial Analysis,” at **Middle States Division, Association of American Geographers 2014 Meeting**, York, Pennsylvania, Oct 2014.
- 2) S. Fischer, “Worship before Morals: The Cause of Modern Misreadings of Malory’s Le Morte D’Arthur,” at **G.R.E.A.T. Day 2014**, Geneseo, New York, Apr 2014.
- 1) S. Fischer “Metaphor or Metonym: Applying Lodge to Realism,” at **Sigma Tau Delta 2014 Convention**, Savannah, Georgia, Feb 2014.

**TEACHING
EXPERIENCE**

- SUNY Geneseo Writing Learning Center**, Geneseo, New York
Student Tutor & Research and Development and Design Aug 2012 – Present
- Worked one-on-one with students to improve writing for a variety of assignment types
 - Studied client behavior and preferences in order to build a set of analytic measures for the effectiveness and reach of the Writing Learning Center
 - Implemented and managed online system for student reservations based on data collected in research and student feedback
- English 419: Literary Theory**, SUNY Geneseo
Class TA Jan 2016 – May 2016
- Professor: Dr. Robert Doggett
 - Course is the premier senior elective in SUNY Geneseo’s English Literature major
 - Helped to design course syllabus
 - Assisted student with preparing multiple papers
 - Led multiple film screenings with discussions
 - Organized and managed in class visual and technological aids
- INTD 105: Writing Seminar**, SUNY Geneseo
Class TA Jan 2016 – May 2016
- Professor: Dr. Gillian Paku
 - Course is a first-year critical thinking and writing seminar at SUNY Geneseo
 - Helped to choose course topic, design digital tools for class, and design course syllabus
 - Worked one-on-one with non-traditional student to help her keep pace in class
 - Taught two class sessions on film and cultural criticism
 - Held regular office hours to work one-on-one with students in a support role as they worked on their paper assignments
 - Designed final presentation assignment

**ACADEMIC
HONORS
& AWARDS**

- The Phi Beta Kappa Society, Geneseo, New York
Member 2015 – Present
- Geneseo Foundation Undergraduate Summer Fellowship, SUNY Geneseo Jul 2015
Funded fellowship to conduct summer research as part of the Intro to Comp research project
- Jesse M. Rodgers Memorial Scholarship, Department of English, SUNY Geneseo May 2014
For being an outstanding undergraduate who has demonstrated academic achievement, leadership, and character
- First Place Critical Essays: Theory, Sigma Tau Delta 2014 Convention Feb 2014
For outstanding paper submission in critical theory at international honor society conference
- Sigma Tau Delta, English Honor Society, Geneseo, New York
Member 2013 – Present
- Geneseo Foundation Undergraduate Travel Grants Jan 2014, Sep 2014, Jan 2015
Travel grants awarded based on the merit of several projects and faculty recommendation

Dean's List, Fall 2011, 2013 and Spring 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015
SUNY Geneseo
For attaining a semester GPA of at least 3.50 while carrying 12 or more credits in courses earning quality points

2011 – 2015

OTHER HONORS & AWARDS

Dr. Dan Mullin Scholar-Athlete Award May 2016
Named a finalist for a Geneseo Athletics award recognizing the best combination of athletic and academic achievement by a male student athlete

Fred Bright Outstanding Male Contribution & Leadership Award May 2016
Named a finalist for a Geneseo Athletics award recognizing the extraordinary contributions to the Geneseo community and excellence in leadership of a male student athlete

Academic All-America Nov 2013, Nov 2015
Recognized by the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches' Association as an Academic All-American for having a cumulative GPA of at least 3.30 and having finished in the top 25 percent of finishers at the regional cross country championships

SUNYAC Chancellor's List 2013 – 2015
Recognized for being a varsity athlete, completing the season, and having a cumulative 3.3 GPA over at least 3 semesters.

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

Varsity Cross Country, SUNY Geneseo
Student-Athlete, Captain 2011 – 2015

- Represented SUNY Geneseo in Fall 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015
- Participated in SUNYAC conference championships Fall 2013, 2014, and 2015
- Competed in NCAA Championships in Fall 2013 and 2015 (highest finish 71st, 2015)
- Member of 3rd place podium team in Fall 2015
- Captain Fall 2014 and 2015

Varsity Track and Field, SUNY Geneseo
Student-Athlete 2014 – 2016

- Represented SUNY Geneseo in Winter/Spring 2013-2014, 2014-2015, 2015-2016
- Participated in SUNYAC conference championships Winter 2015 and Spring 2015
- Participated in ECAC Championships Spring 2015
- 10,000 meter personal best of 31:20
- Captain Winter-Spring 2015-2016

LANGUAGES English: Native language

SKILLS L^AT_EX, MATLAB, R (with a variety of packages including ggplot2), ArcGIS, Microsoft Office, HTML/CSS .

[CV compiled on 2016-04-29 for Graduate School Applications]