

DEBORAH WEISS  
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### Academic Positions

Fall 2014-Present

Associate Professor, Department of English, The University of Alabama

Fall 2008- Spring 2014

Assistant Professor, Department of English, The University of Alabama

Fall 2004-Spring 2008

Senior Fellow, Blount Scholars Program, The University of Alabama

### Education

Ph.D. December 2004, English Literature, The University of Chicago

Dissertation Committee: James K. Chandler (Chair) and Sandra Macpherson

B.A. May 1988, *Summa Cum Laude*, English Literature; second major in History

Washington University in St. Louis

### Monographs

*Women and Madness in the Early Romantic Novel: Injured Minds, Ruined Lives*

Under contract, Manchester University Press

*The Female Philosopher and her Afterlives: Mary Wollstonecraft, The British Novel, and the Transformations of Feminism, 1796-1811*, Palgrave Studies in the Enlightenment, Romanticism and the Cultures of Print, 2017

### Articles

"Domestic Intelligence: *Leonora and National Security*," *European Romantic Review*, 32.1 (Winter 2021): 1-21, <https://doi.org/10.1080/10509585.2020.1865164>

"Maria Edgeworth's Infant Economics: Capitalist Culture, Goodwill Networks, and 'Lazy Lawrence,'" *The Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies*, 37: 3 (Fall 2014): 395-408, <https://doi-org.libdata.lib.ua.edu/10.1111/1754-0208.12129>

"*Sense and Sensibility*: Uncertain Knowledge and the Ethics of Everyday Life," *Studies in Romanticism*, 52:2 (Summer 2013): 253-273, <https://doi.org/10.1353/srm.2013.0017>

"The Form of Social Class and the Reformation of Ireland: Edgeworth's *Ennui*," *Studies in the Novel*, 45:1 (Spring 2013): 1-19, <https://doi.org/doi:10.1353/sdn.2013.0001>

“Sarah Scott’s ‘Attick School’: Moral Philosophy and Ethical Agency in *Millenium Hall*,” *Eighteenth-Century Fiction*, 24:3 (Spring 2012): 459-486, <https://doi.org/10.3138/ecf.24.3.459>

“The Extraordinary Ordinary Belinda: Maria Edgeworth’s Female Philosopher,” *Eighteenth-Century Fiction*, 19:4 (Summer 2007): 441-462, <https://doi.org/10.1353/ecf.2007.0027>

“Suffering, Sentiment, and Civilization: Pain and Politics in Wollstonecraft’s *Short Residence*,” *Studies in Romanticism*, 45:2 (Summer 2006): 199-221, <https://doi.org/10.2307/25602044>

### Research Companion Articles and Encyclopedia Entries

“Maria Edgeworth” in *The Routledge Research Companion to Romantic Women Writers*, eds. Ann R. Hawkins and Catherine Blackwell, Routledge, 2023

*The Cambridge Guide to the Eighteenth-Century Novel*, ed. April London. Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2023

Judith Alexander, *The Young Lady of Fortune, Or, Her Lover Gained by Stratagem* (1789)

Mrs. Johnson, *Francis, The Philanthropist: An Unfashionable Tale* (1786)

Mrs. Johnson, *The Innocent Fugitive; Or Memoirs of a Lady of Quality* (1789)

Mrs. (Emma) Hamilton, “*I Can’t Afford It*” *And Other Tales* (1813)

### Reviews

Lissa Paul, *Eliza Fenwick: Early Modern Feminist, Nineteenth-Century Literature*. 74(3): 400-402, 2019

*Mary Shelley and the Rights of the Child: Political Philosophy in Frankenstein*, by Eileen Hunt Botting and *Material Enlightenment: Women Writers and the Science of the Mind, 1770-1830*, by Joanna Wharton. *European Romantic Review*. 31 (1): 116-122, Feb 2020.

### Papers and Presentations

“Lady Delacour’s Disease,” American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, St. Louis, March 2023

“A Book’s Story: A Database Research Project” (Roundtable), American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Virtual, April 2021

“*Leonora* and the Rights of Marriage,” American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Denver, March 2109

“The Eighteenth Century in the Undergraduate Classroom: Give the People what they Want” (Roundtable), American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Denver, March 2109

“The Experimental Girl: *Harry and Lucy* and Science,” Edgeworth at 250 Conference, Dublin, December 2018

"Through Edgeworth's Eyes: Mme. de Staël and *Mme. de Fleury*," Reputations, Legacies, Futures: Jane Austen, Germain de Staël, and their Contemporaries, 1817-2017, Chawton House Library, England, July 2017

"Education, Economics and Anti-Revolutionary Activism in *Mme. de Fleury*," American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Minneapolis, March 2016

"Maria Edgeworth and the Scientific Education of Girls" (Roundtable), American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Minneapolis, March 2016

"The Tribute of Critique: Amelia Opie and Mary Wollstonecraft," (Women's Caucus Panel), American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Los Angeles, March 2015

"Maria Edgeworth's *Fable of the Bees*," American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Los Angeles, March 2015

"Maria Edgeworth's Infant Economics: Capitalist Culture, Good Character and 'Lazy Lawrence,'" Women's Writing of the Long Eighteenth Century, Chawton House Library, England, July 2013

"The Form of Social Class and the Reformation of Ireland: Edgeworth's *Ennui*," Locating Revolution, Aberystwyth, Wales, July 2012

"Truth and Kindness in *Sense and Sensibility*," Jane Austen Society of Alabama, June 2011 (invited speaker)

"New Approaches to Teaching the Great (and not-so-great) Texts of the Eighteenth Century" (Roundtable), American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Vancouver, March 2011.

"Feeling and the Female Philosopher: Philosophy and Methodology in *Sense and Sensibility*" New Directions in Jane Austen, Chawton House Library, England July 2009

"Sarah Scott's Moral Philosophy: Ethics and Virtue in *Millenium Hall*," American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Richmond, March 2009

"Typology and the Female Philosopher," Modern Language Association, Chicago, December 2007

"The Making of a Monster: Science and Society in *Frankenstein*," Alabama Humanities Foundation: Teaching Science Fiction in the Secondary Schools, University of West Alabama, July 2006 (invited speaker)

"The Idea of Woman: Belinda's Conceptual Revolutions," American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies, Boston, March 2004

### **Conference Panels, Organizer and Chair**

“Finding Majors,” American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, St. Louis, March 2023

“The Place of Poetry/The Poetry of Place,” American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Orlando, March 2018

“Beyond the Didactic: Children’s Literature in the Long Eighteenth Century,” American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Los Angeles, March 2015

“Early Austen,” American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Williamsburg, March 2014

“Pedagogy and Poetic Form,” American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, San Antonio, March 2012

“Enlightenment and Its Discontents,” American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Albuquerque, March 2010

“Translation and Conceptual Transformations,” American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Richmond, March 2009

### **Courses**

#### Graduate Seminars

- Human Clay: Enlightenment and Education
- From Defiance to Despair: The Post-Revolutionary Feminist Novel
- Women and the Rise of the Novel
- Jane Austen and the Critical Tradition
- Fictions of Enlightenment
- Jane Austen and the Art of the Novel
- Gender and Sexuality in the Eighteenth-Century Novel
- Philosophy and the Novel in the British Enlightenment

#### Undergraduate Seminars (400-level)

- Mad Women of Romanticism
- Jane Austen and the Injured Body
- Human Clay?: Educational Theory and Children’s Literature in the Enlightenment
- Frightful Transitions: The British Gothic Novel
- Wollstonecraft’s Generation: British Women Writers of the Romantic Period
- Gender and Sexuality in the Eighteenth-Century Novel
- Jane Austen
- From Behn to Jane: Women and the Novel
- Knowledge and the Novel in the English Enlightenment
- Bad Characters in British Literature
- Honors Thesis in English (independent study, multiple semesters)

#### Undergraduate Courses (300- and 200-level)

Women and Fiction (300-level seminar)  
 Major Authors: Jane Austen (300-level seminar)  
 English Literature in the Enlightenment (300-level seminar)  
 The British Novel to 1900 (300-level seminar)  
 British Literature I, Honors (200-level survey)  
 British Literature I, Large Lecture (200-level survey)

#### Dissertation Committees

Megan Cole, "Celibate Pleasures: Convents, Asexuality, and Women's Agency in British Literature, 1660-1760"  
 (PhD 2023, University of Illinois)  
 Shannon Dullard, "The Monster and the Other: Reconsiderations of British Imperialism,"  
 (PhD in progress)  
 Micky Mitchell, "The Dreaming Imagination: Dreams and Romantic Skepticism of Science"  
 (PhD, Spring 2020)  
 Clara Busby, "Sound and the Romantic Ear," (PhD, Spring 2020)  
 Natalie Hopper, "Beyond Classicism: The Politics of Romantic Mythmaking" (PhD, Spring 2014)  
 Elizabeth Wade, "Gender and National Identity in the American War Narrative"  
 (PhD, Spring 2012)  
 Susan Reynolds, "Oliver All Over Again: Dickensian Narratives of Orphanhood in the Victorian Novel" (PhD, Fall 2012)

#### MA Thesis Committees

Jordan Green, "The Female Body as Contagion, Commodity, and Cure: Examining Discursive Agency Through Patriarchal Quackery in Elizabeth Inchbald and Mary Robinson"  
 (MA, Spring 2021)  
 Anna McConnell, *Shithead: A Novel*, (MFA, Spring 2020)  
 Lilly Bailey, "Women Discussing Men: Gender as It Is Written in Letters to Vernon Lee"  
 (MA, Spring 2019)  
 Laura Tolbert, "Images of Race and the Influence of Abolition in *Jane Eyre* and *Wuthering Heights*" (MA, Spring 2018)  
 Carson Vines, "Shelly's Sublime" (MA, Spring 2017)  
 Natalie Hopper, "A Re-Vision of Women: Approaching Gender Equality in Prometheus Unbound and Proserpine" (MA, Spring 2009)

#### Departmental Service

Chair, English Department Literature Faculty Committee, 2017- 2022  
 Chair, 200-Level British Literature Survey Committee, 2018- 2019  
 Chair, English Department Retention Review Committee, 2018-2019  
 Chair, English Department Majors & Minors Recruitment Task Force, 2016-2017  
 Member English Department Literature Faculty Committee, 2008-present  
 Member, English Department Graduate Studies Committee, 2017- 2022  
 Member, English Department Literature Faculty Steering Committee, 2014-2017  
 Member, English Department Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2008-2009  
 Member, Ad-Hoc Committee on 200-level General Education Course Development, 2023

Member, English Department Retention Review Committee, 2014-2015; 2017-2018  
Member, British Literature Survey Recommended Reading Subcommittee, Fall 2018  
Member, English Department Executive Committee, Spring 2019  
Member, English Department Romanticism Hiring Committee, 2010-2011  
Co-Coordinator, English Honors Program, 2011-present  
Co-Sponsor, Sigma Tau Delta English Honors Society, 2013-2015  
Sponsor, English Majors & Minors Association, 2016- 2022

### **Divisional/University Service**

Member & Arts and Sciences Representative, Honors College Advisory Committee,  
2020- 2022  
Member & Arts and Sciences Representative, Undergraduate Council-- Curriculum  
sub-committee, 2021-2022  
Member, University Libraries Committee, 2017-2018  
Dramaturg, Department of theater and Dance, Spring 2019  
Senior Fellow, Blount Scholars Program, Fall 2020  
Interviewer, Blount Scholars Program, 2016-2023  
Volunteer, UA Café, 2015-2018

### **Professional Service**

Reader for Journal Submissions: *Eighteenth-Century Fiction*; *Eighteenth-Century Ireland*;  
*The Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation*; *Prose Studies*; *Review of English  
Studies*, *Studies in English Literature*; *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture*; *Studies in  
Romanticism*; *The Lion and the Unicorn*; *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*; *Literature  
and Medicine*  
Reader for Manuscript: Cambridge Studies in Romanticism  
Reader for Edition Proposals: The Broadview Press  
Consultant for Anthology: W. W. Norton *The Restoration and the Eighteenth Century* and *The  
Norton Anthology of English Literature*

### **Professional Membership**

American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies

### **Fellowships and Grants**

CARSCA Research Grant, The University of Alabama (awarded 2016)  
Chawton House Library Research Fellowship (awarded 2015)  
RGC Research Grant, The University of Alabama (awarded 2013)  
Institutional Effectiveness Teaching Grant, The University of Alabama (awarded 2012)  
RGC Research Grant, The University of Alabama (awarded 2011)  
Collaborative Learning Grant, The University of Alabama (awarded 2010)  
RGC Research Grant, The University of Alabama (awarded 2009)  
*Phi Beta Kappa* (awarded 1988)

### **Foreign Languages**

Spanish  
French