

Alainya Kavaloski

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2015- present Assistant Professor of English, State University of New York-Canton

EDUCATION

2015 Ph.D. University of Wisconsin-Madison, English

2005 M.A. Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel, Literary Studies

1999 B.A. Edgewood College, Madison, Wisconsin, English

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Digital media poetics, digital game design, twentieth and twenty-first century American literature, transnational American Studies, diaspora, transmedial narratology, critical security studies, graphic narratives

PUBLICATIONS

“Diffractive Games: The Structures and Logics of Playable war.” *Critical Studies on Security*, forthcoming 2017.

“Digital Jews.” *MLA Approaches to Teaching Jewish-American Literature*. Edited by Roberta Rosenberg and Rachel Rubenstein. New York: Modern Language Association, forthcoming 2017.

“Contested Spaces in Graphic Narrative: Refiguring Intersecting Homelands through Miriam Libicki’s *jobnik!: an american girl’s adventures in the israeli army*.” *Studies in Comics* 6.2 (2015), 231-51.

“Digital Literary Experiences: Place-based Game Design in University Courses,” 9 mss pp. *Pioneers in Digital Teaching Practices*. Carnegie Mellon Press, forthcoming, fall 2016.

“Territorializing the Good Life: Fetishism of Commodity and Homeland in Nicole Krauss’s *Great House*.” *The Good Life and the Greater Good in a Global Context*, Laura E. Savu, ed. New York: Rowman and Littlefield, 2015.

"Bernard Kops: *Fantasia, London Jew, Apocalyptic Humorist.*" Review. *Comparative Drama* 48.3 (2014), 315-18.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

The In/Security of New Media: Network, Palimpsest, Procedure

This book project argues that rhetorical infrastructures in emerging media forms are creating an alternate conception of territoriality/colonial topography. That is, the structures themselves, the networks, palimpsests, and procedures that constitute these forms are significantly shifting conventional perceptions of bounded territory and in doing so reshape feelings of belonging, military processes, and modes of resistance in areas of conflict. In particular, the media forms in this project focus on the relationship between discourses of contemporary homeland and increasingly militarized and bounded spaces of imagined return and redemption in the US, Israel/Palestine, and beyond. A comparative media method structures *The In/Security of New Media* to place contemporary writers such as Nicole Krauss into conversation with emerging literary forms such as a graphic novel by Miriam Libicki, the Israeli activist site *Zochrot.org*, digital games such as *PeaceMaker* and *Middle East Gaming Challenge*, and the US-designed ISIS recruitment tool *Grand Theft Auto: Salil al-Sawarem*. Transmedial representations of increasingly global conflict reveal that representations of homeland have become tied to militarized and often sacralized processes of possession and retaliation.

StudioLab Manifesto: Critical Design for Liberal Arts (with Jon McKenzie, Cornell University)

StudioLab argues for the cultural, historical, and philosophical need for the liberal arts to embrace media forms and collaborative processes drawn from popular culture, avant-garde arts, indigenous media, human-computer interaction, and philosophy. Examining the evolution of ideational media from Plato to Descartes to Turing, we argue for the need of higher education to embrace Twentieth-century media forms and creative processes as the building blocks of 21st-century thought by utilizing digital forms and practices to reshape knowledge, public discourse, and community engagement. These shifts entail new modes of post-ideational thought and action, described as "collide-o-sopic" by Marshall McLuhan and theorized as "flash reason" by Gregory Ulmer. Post-ideation moves us beyond fundamental Western assumptions about thinking and doing: the image of distinct ideas, stable subjects and objects, and clear separations between theory and practice, experts and amateurs, writing and media. Designed for higher education audiences, as well as for communication professionals, it introduces dynamic new ways to use media to connect people with themselves, others, and the world.

ACADEMIC AWARDS and HONORS

2015 Chancellor's Dissertation Fellowship Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison (declined)

- 2015 Innovation in Teaching Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison Campus -Wide Teaching Award (4 given, out of 2,000 TAs on campus)
- 2014 HASTAC Scholar: Humanities, Arts, Science and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory, Duke University
- 2013 English Department Summer Dissertator Fellowship Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2013 Dartmouth Futures of American Studies Scholarship Award, Department of English, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2013 Hermes World Literature Consortium Fellowship Award, Hermes Symposium, Madison, Wisconsin
- 2013 Natelson Award for the Best Jewish Studies Student 2012-2013, Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2012 Lipton Essay Award for Best Graduate Essay in Jewish Studies, Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison,
- 2012 Robert and Lynn Berman Scholarship Award for Travel, Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2011 Chair's Essay Prize for Best Essay by a PhD student in English, Department of English, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2011 Bernice D. Kuney Scholarship Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2002 Lafer Scholarship Prize for Outstanding Thesis Research, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel

SELECT CONFERENCE and PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

- "Fragmentary Returns: Object Fetishism in Post-Holocaust Literature." Modern Language Association Convention. Austin, Texas, January 2016.
- "Intimate Activist Technologies: Universities, Surveillance and Participatory Mapping." Performance Philosophy Conference, University of Chicago, April 10-13, 2015.
- "Digital Homelands: Refiguring Landscapes and Belonging in *Zochrot.org*." Modern Language Association Convention, *MLA Presidential Theme Session*, Vancouver, Canada, January 2015.
- "Inquiry and Learning Through Mobile Game Design." Games and Learning Society Conference, Madison, Wisconsin, June 10-13, 2014.
- Panel Co-organizer, American Studies Association Conference, "The Politics and Practices of Exuberant Homecomings." Los Angeles, CA, November 6-9, 2014.
- "Digital Homelands: Co-Territorialism in Israel and Palestine." American Studies Association Conference, Los Angeles, CA, November 6-9, 2014.
- "Contested Spaces in Graphic Narrative: Refiguring Bordered Homelands through Miriam Libicki's *jobnik!* and Sarah Glidden's *How to Understand Israel in 60 Days or Less*." Graphic Details: Communities of Experience Conference. London, UK, November 11-13, 2014.
- "Messianic Architectures: Fetishism of Territory and Commodity in Nicole Krauss's *Great House*." Dartmouth Futures of American Studies Institute, Dartmouth College, NH June 17-22, 2013.
- "Performing Violence and Victory: Kairos and the Politics of Memorial Narratives in Israel." *The Arts of Jewish Memory Symposium*, University of Chicago, February 2013.

RESEARCH AND GRANT WRITING EXPERIENCE

- 2014-2015 Project Assistant (Professor Jon McKenzie), Digital Humanities Initiative, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Assist with the development of digital studies infrastructure in the university and the English Department, including Grant applications (Proctor and Gamble; Adobe; Mellon); build support across sciences and humanities at UW-Madison for an interdisciplinary Design Center that addresses real-world problems through design thinking and interdisciplinary design solutions; and develop English Department collaboration with local communities to develop transmedia storytelling projects.
- 2014-present Project Assistant on Global Midwest Mellon Grant, an interdisciplinary collaboration between UW-Madison, U of Iowa, and U of Minnesota to create community storytelling infrastructures in juvenile justice programs and VA hospitals and other groups.
- 2013-present ARIS (Augmented Reality Interactive Storytelling) International Instructional Development Group. Compiling and creating materials for the accessible learning and teaching of ARIS games for communities, museums, and schools.
- 2011- 2013 Research Assistant to Professor Susan Friedman, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Assisted with editing, research, and administration for *Comparison: Theories Approaches Uses* (Johns Hopkins UP, 2014); *Provocations: A Planetary Modernist Studies for the Twenty-First Century* (Columbia UP, 2015); and *Sisters of Scheherazade: Muslim Feminisms and Diasporic Women's Writing* (forthcoming).
- 2011-2012 Editorial Assistant to Susan Stanford Friedman, editor, *Contemporary Women's Writing* Journal, Oxford University Press.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2015 Assistant Professor of English, SUNY-Canton.
English 270 Writing, Games, and New Media
English 350 Digital Graphic Narratives
- 2013-2014 Teaching Assistant and Consultant at UW- DesignLab, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Consulted with students and faculty at DesignLab, a writing center for media projects that supports design arguments and experience design in multimedia platforms using image, text, sound, and data. Led several media design and media assignment workshops for faculty.
- 2010- 2015 Teaching Assistant, English Department, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Eng 571 Remix, Mash up, and Digital Design in Literature
Eng 550 Studies in Criticism: Smart Media and Critical Information Design

Eng 177 Stories, Maps, Media: Designing the Wisconsin Experience
Eng 177 The Graphic Novel
Eng 169 Violence in Modern American Literature

2004-2010 Lecturer, English Department and Women's and Gender Studies Program,
Edgewood College, Madison, Wisconsin
Eng 259 Comics, Politics, and Death
Eng 259 Faulkner and Morrison
Eng 250 Contemporary Caribbean Writers
Eng 210 Introduction to Literature
WGS/Eng 159 Literature and Gender Studies
INS 150 The Fairy Tale in our Cultural Consciousness
WGS/Eng 150 Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies
Eng 110 College Composition
Eng 101, 102 Research Writing

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2015-present Professional Development Committee, SUNY-Canton
2013-2015 Co-director of Contemporary Literature Colloquium, UW-Madison
2011-2014 Graduate Student Committee, Department of English, UW-Madison
2011-2012 Vilas Research Grants Committee, UW-Madison
2010-2013 Chair of the Jewish Caucus, National Women's Studies Association

LANGUAGES

Hebrew (fluent speaking and reading)
French (proficient reading)

DIGITAL MEDIA PRODUCTION

"UW-Madison's Graphic Novels," Collaboratively created website with 60 students in English 169, "The Graphic Novel". Digital assignments included leading students to create a UW-Madison graphic novel website with interactive timelines, splash page, book reviews, film clips, and live links

"Remembering a Future: A Digital Performance of Memorial Narratives in Israel," Smart media project for public presentation using Keynote, Garage Band, and iMovie. Presented at the National Women's Studies Association, Atlanta, November, 2011.

"All Aboard: *Wisconsin Death Trip*," collaborative, interactive Prezi museum project using Information Architecture, Information Design, and Experience Design concepts. Based on *Wisconsin Death Trip* by Michael Lesy, 2011.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2014-Present Games Learning Society
2014-Present HASTAC
2012-Present American Studies Association

2012-Present Association of Jewish Studies
2008-Present Modern Language Association
2008-Present National Women's Studies Association

REFERENCES

Susan Stanford Friedman
Director, Institute for Research in the Humanities
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