

Michelle M. Taylor

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— *Appointments* —

University of South Florida, 2019–Present

Assistant Professor of Instruction, English Department
Coordinator for LIT 2000 (Introduction to Literature), 2019–2023

Director of The Wesley Works Digitization Project, 2020–Present

Interinstitutional collaboration with Duke University, Emory University, Southern Methodist University, and Vanderbilt University. Secondary collaboration with Boston University and Drew University. Appointment by the Wesley Works Editorial Board.

Vanderbilt University, 2018–2019

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Digital Cultural Heritage Research Cluster

— *Education* —

University of Iowa, Doctor of Philosophy in English

May 2018

Specializations: 19th c. British literature; animal studies; bibliography/textual studies; book history; digital humanities

Other credentials: University of Iowa Center for the Book graduate certificate

Dissertation: *From Sentiment to Sagacity to Subjectivity: Dogs and Genre in Nineteenth-Century British Literature* (Director: Teresa Mangum)

University of Virginia, Master of Arts in English

May 2011

Specialization: Victorian literature

MA thesis: “‘Even a Dog Feels a Difference’: Dogs and Sympathy in Eliot and Dickens”

Miami University, Bachelor of Arts, *summa cum laude*, with Honors in English

May 2009

Majors: English Literature & Creative Writing

Other specialization: Spanish

— *Book Project in Progress* —

Mongrel Genres: The Victorian Pedigree of the Literary Dog. Proposal under review.

Even before the publication of *On the Origins of Species*, the Victorians were obsessed with crafting the dog’s physical appearance with selective breeding practices. Simultaneously, they

took to crafting the dog's interior life in literature. Neither preoccupation has shown signs of slowing down since. The word "mongrel" in my title thus functions in two ways: it offers a general image of the dog in transition and, as an adjective, encapsulates the book's argument that this transition played out in genre as well as genes. The first half contends that, by the nineteenth century, literary genres which once only represented humans were under pressure to represent animals, as well: a shift made possible by dissenting theologians who made space for the idea that animals might have souls. These chapters examine how primarily lesser-known authors tweaked popular subgenres to challenge the basic principles of anthropocentrism. The second half turns to the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, when so-called "literary"—what we might even call purebred—genres by more prominent authors took up the ethical questions about petkeeping and ventriloquism initially raised by the dog literature of the long nineteenth century. In these texts, matters of animal ethics replace the matters of doctrine that had dominated two hundred years before. This secular shift emphasizes both the practical role religious belief played in human-animal relationships in the nineteenth century and the continuity between doctrine and the modern concept of "ethics-as-religion."

— *Articles & Book Chapters* —

- "The Passion of Whym Chow: Michael Field's *Whym Chow: Flame of Love* and the Sacrifice of Conversion." *Nineteenth-Century Transatlantic Women Writers and Religious Identity*. Eds. LuElla D'Amico and Lindsay Katzir. Under review with Edinburgh UP.
- "The Srophé Data Model for Historical Geography: A Case Study of TEI XML Description in *The Syriac Gazetteer*." Co-authored with David Michelson. Manuscript in preparation for *The Journal of the Text-Encoding Initiative*.
- "How Well Did Morris Recreate 15th Century Paper for the Kelmscott Press?" *Useful and Beautiful: The William Morris Society of America Magazine*. Winter 2022.
- "The Curious Case of 'Epitaph to a Dog': Byron and *The Scourge*." *The Byron Journal* 43:1 (June 2015), 43–56.

— *Other Publications* —

- "Learn How to Encode Documents and Contribute to the Wesley Works Digital Edition." *Atla Summary of Proceedings* 2021. Chicago: American Theological Library Association, 8–10.
- "Proposing a TEI Encoding Project for the Wesley Works." *Atla Summary of Proceedings* 2020. Chicago: American Theological Library Association, 228–233.

— *Edited Journal Issues* —

- "(Un)disciplining *Within* the Nineteenth Century: Historical Hybridity in Self-Reflective Writing by Women." Co-edited with Shuhita Bhattacharjee. Special issue of *Nineteenth-Century Gender Studies*. In preparation for Summer 2024.

— *Invited Book Reviews* —

- Review of *Postsecular Theory: Texts and Contexts* by Shuhita Bhattacharjee. Forthcoming in *Victoriographies*.
- Review of *Victims of Fashion: Animal Commodities in Victorian Britain* by Helen Louise Cowie. Forthcoming in *Victorian Studies*.
- Review of *Minor Creatures: Persons, Animals, and the Victorian Novel* by Ivan Kreilkamp. *Humanimalia*, 12:1 (Fall 2020), 241–48.
- Review of *Victorian Dogs, Victorian Men: Affect and Animals in Nineteenth-Century Literature and Culture* by Keridiana W. Chez. *Journal of Nineteenth-Century Gender Studies* 15:1 (Spring 2019).

— *Awards & Honors* —

- University of South Florida Professional Development Leave Award, 2023–2024
- University of South Florida Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award, 2020–2021
- University of Iowa Graduate and Professional Student Government Travel Award, 2015
- University of Iowa English Department Malone Dissertation Fellowship, 2015
- Midwestern Victorian Studies Association (MVSA) William and Mary Burgan Prize for the Outstanding Presentation by a Graduate Student, 2013
- Phi Beta Kappa, 2010

— *Conference Presentations* —

- “Demonstration of the *Wesley Works Digital Edition*.” Wesley Theological Society Conference. Held over Zoom, March 2022.
- “Mongrel Genres: Loosening the Leash on Generic Conventions.” North American Victorian Studies Association Conference. Held over Zoom, March 2022.
- “Learn How to Encode Documents and Contribute to the *Wesley Works Digital Edition*.” American Theological Library Association Conference. Held over Zoom, June 2021.
- “Proposing a TEI Encoding Project for the *Wesley Works*.” American Theological Library Association Conference. Held over Zoom, June 2020.
- “Queen Victoria, Lord Melbourne, and the Romance Plot.” Victorians Institute Conference. Asheville, NC, November 2018.
- “Hydrophobia, Heroism, and Hermits: Dogs and Class in the Periodical Press.” North American Victorian Studies Association Conference. London, Ontario, Canada, November 2014.
- “The Curious Case of ‘Epitaph to a Dog’: Byron and *The Scourge*.” North American Society for the Study of Romanticism Conference. Bethesda, Maryland, July 2014.
- “Vivisection and Victorian Fiction.” Midwestern Victorian Studies Association Conference. Ann Arbor, Michigan, April 2014.
- “God Spelled Backwards: Dog as Divinity in Michael Field’s *Whym Chow: Flame Of Love*.” Midwestern Victorian Studies Association Conference. Cleveland, OH, April 2013.

- “The Limits of Man’s Best Friend: Autobiographies of Sporting and Show Dogs.” Interdisciplinary Nineteenth Century Studies Conference. Charlottesville, VA, March 2013.
- “Byron’s ‘Attachment to Quadrupeds’: The Satirical Implications of ‘Epitaph to a Dog.’” International Byron Student Conference. Messolonghi, Greece, June 2011.
- “Hardy’s Wessex, Then and Now: The Evolution of Hermann Lea’s Guidebooks.” Hardy at Yale II Conference. New Haven, CT, June 2011.
- “Hardy’s Wessex, Then and Now: The Evolution of Hermann Lea’s Guidebooks.” Midwestern Victorian Studies Association Conference. Topeka, KS, April 2011.
- “Death and Dogs in Dickens.” Interdisciplinary Nineteenth Century Studies Conference. Claremont, CA, March–April 2011.
- “Hagiographical Horror: M. R. James’s ‘A Warning to the Curious.’” University of Virginia English Graduate Student Association Conference. Charlottesville, VA, April 2010.

— *Other Teaching, Tutoring, & Advising Roles* —

- Instructor of First-Year Writing at the University of Virginia, 2015–2017
- Rhetoric instructor at the University of Iowa, 2012–2013
- Teaching assistant for Introduction to the English Major course at the University of Iowa, 2011–2012
- Staff advisor for the Office of Undergraduate Advising in English at the University of Iowa, 2011–2012
- Tutor for the University of Virginia English Department Writing Center, 2010–2011
- Assistant academic director and writing instructor for 4 Star Camps at the University of Virginia, 2010
- Undergraduate teaching assistant for Laura Mandell’s course on The Later Romantics at Miami University, 2008

— *Courses Taught* —

- British Literature 1780–1900, University of South Florida
- Literature and the Occult, University of South Florida
- Introduction to Literature, University of South Florida
 - Topic: Religion and Sexuality in Literature (3 sections)
 - Topic: Literature and Mental Health (17 sections)
- For course and/or transcript credit, regularly supervise students enrolled in independent studies and/or internships for the Wesley Works Digitization Project (XML/TEI training), University of South Florida
- Special Topics in Digital Humanities: XML/TEI (graduate course), Vanderbilt University
- First-Year Writing, University of Virginia
 - Topic: “The Enduring Magic of Harry Potter”
 - Topic: Animal Ethics (3 sections)
- Rhetoric, University of Iowa (3 sections)
- Introduction to the English Major (as T.A.), University of Iowa (2 sections)

— *Student Success for Wesley Works Interns* —

- Christian Chow Quan: Dean's Advisory Council Award, University of South Florida College of Arts & Science, Fall 2023
- Jenna Gatley: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Library Internship Program Awardee, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Information and Library Science, Spring 2023 (awarded full fellowship for MLIS degree)

— *Digital Humanities Training & Employment* —

- Completed "Coding the X-Files" course at Digital Humanities Summer Institute, June 2023
- Participated in NEH Seminar: "Advanced digital editing: modeling the text and making the edition," University of Pittsburgh, 2022 (postponed from 2020 to 2022 due to COVID-19)
- Completed Intermediate XSLT course, Texas A&M Programming for Humanists (online), 2015
- Employed as Primary Resource Specialist, [Encyclopedia Virginia](#), Virginia Humanities, 2014-2016
- Completed Women Writers Program Seminar, "Taking TEI Further: Transforming and Publishing TEI Data," Brown University, 2013
- Completed Text Encoding Fundamentals course at Digital Humanities Summer Institute, June 2013
- Employed as XML consultant for the [William Morris Archive](#)
- Participated in THATCamp (Technology and the Humanities Camp) "unconference," University of Iowa, 2012
- Employed as research assistant for Herbert Tucker; ["For Better for Verse"](#) project, 2010

— *Service & Professional Development* —

- Participated in MVSA Summer Seminar virtual writing group; Midwestern Victorian Studies Association, Summer 2023 (Group 4, Religion)
- Attended British Women Writers Association conference (Charlottesville, VA), May 2023; was unable to present paper on final day due to illness
- Participated in Midwestern Victorian Studies Association Seminar writing workshop at annual conference (Topeka, KS), March 2023
- Attended "ChatGPT: Re-Imagining Learning and Teaching" Workshop, Center for Innovative Teaching & Learning, University of South Florida, Spring 2023
- Participated in the Center for Innovative Teaching & Learning Faculty Learning Community: Professionalization for English Majors, University of South Florida, 2022–2023
- Served on Faculty Evaluation Committee, University of South Florida, 2022–2023
- Hosted Voyant Tools workshop for English Department's "Friday Focus" series, February 2022
- Completed Online Instructor Certification, University of South Florida, 2020
- Earned Certificate for College Teaching, Vanderbilt University, 2019
- Participated in the graduate writing workshop for the Dickens Universe (Santa Cruz, CA), 2013
- Completed the Professional Development Program, University of Iowa Rhetoric Department, 2012

- Served on the University of Virginia English Graduate Student Association (GESA) Conference Planning Committee, 2009–2011
- Served as program assistant for Victorians Institute Conference, 2010
- Worked as a research assistant for Karen Chase, 2009