

Ryan James McGuckin

Department of English · Appalachian State University
227 Sanford Hall · Boone NC 28606-2052
mcguckinrj@appstate.edu · ryanjamesmcguckin.com

Education

- 2019 Ph.D., English, Louisiana State University
- 2013 M.A., English, SUNY New Paltz
- 2011 M.S. Ed., Special Education and Literacy, Long Island University
- 2003 B.A., English, *magna cum laude*, SUNY New Paltz
- 2001 A.A., Sam Draper Mentor-Talented Student Honors, SUNY Rockland

Years of Study

- 1996–98 Mannes College of Music, B.M. degree program
Major Teachers: Ranier DeIntinis, Horn, New York Philharmonic;
David Jolley, Horn, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra

Professional Appointments

- 2024– Teaching Assistant Professor, English, Appalachian State University
- 2022–24 Visiting Assistant Professor, English, Appalachian State University
- 2019–22 Assistant Professor, Languages and Literature, Southern University
and A&M College
- 2014–15 Coordinator of Student Academic Persistence, Writing Center, SUNY
Dutchess

Publications

- 2024 “E. M. Forster’s Female Musicality: Inconclusive Counter-romance in *A Room with a View*.” *Journal of Modern Literature*, vol. 47, no. 4, pp. 107–25.
- 2024 “E. M. Forster’s Nuclear Aesthetics: A Closer Look at *JML* 47.4.” Invited online post for Indiana University Press.

[HTTPS://IUPRESS.ORG/CONNECT/BLOG/E-M-FORSTERS-NUCLEAR-AESTHETICS-A-CLOSER-LOOK-AT-JML-47-4/](https://iupress.org/connect/blog/e-m-forsters-nuclear-aesthetics-a-closer-look-at-jml-47-4/)

- 2019 "Review of Helen Rydstrand's *Rhythmic Modernism: Mimesis and the Short Story*." *Affirmations: of the modern*, vol. 6., no. 1, pp. 125–29.

Manuscripts in Submission

ARTICLES

"Imaginative Listening: Sound and Recorded Music in Virginia Woolf's *Between the Acts* and Kazuo Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go*" (for *Modern Fiction Studies*).

"Kazuo Ishiguro's Queer Heterosexuality: Music and Intimacy on the Stage of *The Unconsoled*" (for *Novel: A Forum on Fiction*).

Manuscripts in Preparation

BOOK, EDITED COLLECTION, ARTICLE

Music and the Making of the New Woman: Aesthetic Modesty, Female Musicality, and the Subtlety of Self-Will in Early Modernism (at 60,000 words).

New Brave New World: Kazuo Ishiguro and the Global Post-Human (proposal and CFP stage).

"Acoustic Intimacies: W. B. Yeats's Poetics of Drinking" (at 3,000 words).

Conference Activity

PANELS ORGANIZED

- 2025 "Ishiguro's Peripheries: (Re)seeing Historical Perspective and Literary Practice." Modern Language Association, New Orleans, Jan. 9–12.
- 2024 "Shifting Worlds: Identity, Memory, and the Word in Kazuo Ishiguro." Modern Language Association, Philadelphia, Jan. 4–7.
- 2023 "Exploratory Waters: Navigating Ecological and Cultural Oppositions in *The Voyage Out*." 32nd Annual International Conference on Virginia Woolf, Florida Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers, June 8–11.

PAPERS PRESENTED

- 2025 "Acoustic Intimacies: W. B. Yeats's Poetics of Drinking." American Conference for Irish Studies–South, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC, Sept. 25–28.
- 2025 "The Brief Intimacy of Song in Kazuo Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go* and Virginia Woolf's *Between the Acts*." Modern Language Association, New Orleans, Jan. 9–12.

- 2024 "Clocked Chaos: Modernist Refrain, Modern Disruption in the Music of Kazuo Ishiguro's *The Unconsoled*." Modern Language Association, Philadelphia, Jan. 4-7.
- 2023 "The Power of Distance: Musical Isolation in *The Voyage Out*." 32nd Annual International Conference on Virginia Woolf, Florida Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers, June 8-11.
- 2023 "Reimagining the Unimaginable: The Inconclusive Music of E. M. Forster's Nuclear Aesthetics." Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric, York University, Toronto, May 30-June 1.
- 2022 "Rethinking Resilience: Music and Isolation in Virginia Woolf's *The Voyage Out*." Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric, University of Alberta, Edmonton, June 1-3.
- 2021 "Disrupted Again: Kenneth Burke and Musical Life in Kazuo Ishiguro's *The Unconsoled*." Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric, University of Alberta, Edmonton, June 2-4.
- 2017 "Site Lines: Beyond Epiphany and Narrative in Hughes, Fauset, and Ellison." Modernist Studies Association, Beurs van Berlage, Amsterdam, NL, Aug. 10-13. (proposal accepted)
- 2015 "Rhetorica Lucida: From the Photography of Reenactment to the Reenactments of Photography." Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric, University of Ottawa, June 3-5.

WORKSHOP

- 2015 "Give Writing a Body That Moves: Embodied Performance in the Writing Classroom." Conference on College Composition and Communication, Mar. 18-21.

PANELS CHAIRED

- 2025 "Ishiguro's Peripheries: (Re)seeing Historical Perspective and Literary Practice." Modern Language Association.
- 2024 "Shifting Worlds: Identity, Memory, and the Word in Kazuo Ishiguro." Modern Language Association.
- 2023 "Inter-action and Assemblage." 32nd Annual International Conference on Virginia Woolf.
- 2023 "Anger, Forgiveness, and Reconciliation." Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric.
- 2022 "Musical Rhetorics." Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric.
- 2021 "Rhetoric and Nature." Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric.

Campus and Departmental Talks

- 2026 "Arrows and Fire: From James Baldwin's *The Fire Next Time* to Carl Phillips' 'As from a Quiver of Arrows.'" Black History Month Concerts, Rosen Concert Hall, Hayes School of Music, Appalachian State University, date TBA.
- 2024 "No Escape: Against Indifference in Carl Philips's 'As from a Quiver of Arrows.'" Black History Month Concerts, Hickory Campus Atrium, Hayes School of Music, Appalachian State University, Feb. 29 (read by Leon Lewis, Professor Emeritus, Department of English).
- 2023 "Opaque and Evocative Streets: Gary Soto's 'What Now' and Octavio Paz's 'The Street.'" National Hispanic Heritage Month Concerts, Rosen Concert Hall, Hayes School of Music, Appalachian State University, Oct. 1.
- 2023 "The Paradox of Expression: Stereotypes, Folk Musicality, and Toi Derricotte's 'Black Boys Play the Classics.'" Black History Month Concerts, Rosen Concert Hall, Hayes School of Music, Appalachian State University, Feb. 19.
- 2023 "On Langston Hughes and the Literary Blues: 'Lenox Avenue, Midnight' and 'Harlem Night Song.'" Black History Month Concerts, Rosen Concert Hall, Hayes School of Music, Appalachian State University, Feb. 5.
- 2021 "Disrupted Again: Kenneth Burke, Musical Rhetoric, and Kazuo Ishiguro's *The Unconsoled*." First Thursdays Symposium, Department of Languages and Literature, Southern University, Oct. 7.
- 2020 "Neither Rebel nor Slave: E. M. Forster's Female Musicality." First Thursdays Symposium, Department of Languages and Literature, Southern University, Nov. 5.

Graduate Conferences and Workshops

- 2014 "Revealing Identities: The Body as an Analytic Tool." 24th Annual Mardi Gras Conference, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Feb. 27–28.
- 2014 "Transforming the Mien: Portrait Photography and the Embedded Motifs of Masks." 24th Annual Mardi Gras Conference, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Feb. 27–28.
- 2013 "Misreading the World: The Cross-Pollination of Dante's *Inferno* and Cognitive Literary Poetics." 25th English Graduate Symposium, SUNY New Paltz, Apr. 25.

University Teaching

**hybrid/online offerings*

APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY, ENGLISH

- 2025– “Art and Identity in Early Modernist Fiction”
- 2024–25 “Art and Service in Henry James, Franz Kafka, and Kazuo Ishiguro”
- 2023– “Imperiled Rhythms: Music and Memory in American Fiction”
- 2023– “Constructions: Modern Identity and Discourse” *
- 2022–23 “Vernacular Fluidity”

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY, LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

- 2021–22 “Human Positions: The Bio-humanities and Writing”
- 2021 “Post-Covid: Rethinking Wandering in World Literature” *
- 2020 “Absurd Desire in Literature and Film” *
- 2018–19 “Writing Essentials”
- 2019 “Gender, Color, and Modern Intimacy”
- 2018–22 “Modes of Writing”

LSU, ENGLISH AND UNIVERSITY WRITING PROGRAM

- 2018 “Human Positions: The Bio-humanities and Writing”
- 2017 “Epiphany, Künstlerromane, and Modernist Fiction”
- 2017 “Literary Exchange, Modern Thought”
- 2017 “Language, Identity, and the Literary Arts”
- 2016 “Verbal Surfaces: Production, Reception, and Text”
- 2015 “Multimodal Analysis: Text, Image, and Sound”
- 2014–16 “Writing Argumentatively”
- 2013 “Writing Analytically”

Supervised Students

THESIS COMMITTEE

- 2025 Dugan Lentz, Creative Writing, ASU (fall semester B.A. honors thesis capstone, TBA)

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP

- 2022 Gabrielle Troutman, M.A. Student, English-Rhetoric and Composition (fall semester research on E. M. Forster's *A Room with a View*, essays, and other non-fiction writing), ASU.

Professional Service

- 2025– Reader, *PMLA*
2023– Editorial Board, *Rhetor*
2023–25 Annual Student Prize, Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric
2021–24 Advisory Committee, Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric
2015–19 Assistant Webmaster, Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric

Institutional Service

- 2026– Co-organizer, Early-Career Faculty Parent Network Peer Group, ASU
2026– Teaching, Project Kitty Hawk, ASU
2025– Honors Thesis Committee, Department of English, ASU
2024 Foundations of American Democracy, Ad-Hoc Committee, Department of English, ASU
2023–25 Community-Building Committee, ASU, Department of English
2023–25 Faculty Advisor, ASU Pickleball Club
2023– Honors Program Committee, Department of English, ASU
2022–23 Faculty Welfare and Morale Committee, Department of English, ASU
2021–22 Curriculum Committee, Humanities & Interdisciplinary Studies, SU
2020–22 Member, First Thursdays Works-in-Progress, Department of Languages and Literature, SU
2019–22 Coordinator, Assessment, English and Philosophy, SU
2019–20 Composition Committee, English and Philosophy, SU
2019–22 Advisor, Majors/Minors, English and Philosophy, SU
2018–19 Member, Assessment, English and Philosophy, SU
2018 Member, Assessment, University Writing Program and Department of English, LSU
2017 Undergraduate Independent Study “Rhetoric and Architecture,” Ysa-bel Colón, English-Rhetoric and Composition (spring), LSU

- 2014–17 Member, Recruitment, English Graduate Program, LSU
- 2014–16 Communications Chair, Rhetoric Society of America, LSU
- 2014–15 Instructor, Professional Faculty Development, SUNY Dutchess
- 2013–16 Member, Works-in-Progress Group, Department of English, LSU
- 2013 Member, Assessment, University Writing Program and Department of English, LSU
- 2013 Department of English Representative, The Graduate School, SUNY New Paltz

Additional Experience

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, *SANGAM LITERARY MAGAZINE*, SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AND A&M COLLEGE

- 2022 *Sangam*, vol. 2, no. 1, Spring. Pp. vii–78.
“Editor-in-Chief Introduction: War and Art,” pp. vi–viii.
- 2021 *Sangam*, vol. 1, no. 2, Spring/Summer. Pp. vi–114.
“Editor-in-Chief Introduction: Returning/Receding?” pp. vi–vii.
- 2020 Volume 1, Issue 1, Fall/Winter. Editor. Pp. vii–91.
“Editor-in-Chief Introduction: Strange Times,” p. vii.

GRADUATE RESEARCH AND ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE

- 2014 Under J. Gerald Kennedy, Boyd Professor, LSU
“Poe’s Magazines: Glimpses of Antebellum Print Culture”
(Humanities Annotations for the 1837 *Southern Literary Messenger*)
- 2013 Under Benjamin Kahan, Herbert Huey McElveen Professor, LSU
“Toward a Critical Edition of Sherwood Anderson’s *Winesburg, Ohio*”
(Fellowship application for Anderson’s unpublished manuscript drafts)
- 2012–13 Under Nancy Johnson, Chair and Associate Professor
Graduate Assistant to the Department of English, SUNY New Paltz

Courses Prepared to Design

- “Breaking Records: Music Criticism and Journalism”
- “Images of Women: Narrative (Mis)representations”
- “Major/Minors: Rethinking American, British, and Anglophone Voices”
- “Modern Persuasions: Exigency in Picaresque, Circadian, and Absurd Prose”
- “Pièce Unique?: Art, Literature, and the Lure of the Real”

“Narrative Reliability and Autobiographical Fiction”

“Sonic Youth: Engendered Music in the MTV Age”

“The Genders and Genres of Modernism”

Memberships

Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric

International E. M. Forster Society

International Horn Society

International Virginia Woolf Society

Modern Language Association

Modernist Studies Association

References

Mary Carruth
Associate Professor of English
Southern University and A&M College
Baton Rouge LA 70813
2043 Harris Hall
(225) 771-5398 | mary_carruth@subr.edu

Carl Eby
President, Ernest Hemingway Foundation and Society
Professor of English
Appalachian State University
Boone NC 28608
444 Sanford Hall
(828) 262-2156 | ebycp@appstate.edu

Leonardo L. Flores
Professor of English and Chair of English
Chair of the Council of Chairs
Appalachian State University
Boone NC 28608
222E Sanford Hall
(828) 262-2102 | floresll@appstate.edu

Benjamin Kahan
Herbert Huey McElveen Professor

English and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge LA 70803
223-D Allen Hall
(225) 578-3156 | bkahan@lsu.edu

Joshua R. Myers
Assistant Teaching Professor of English
Ball State University, The Indiana Academy
Muncie IN 44460
EL 008 E Classroom Building
(765) 285-7418 | jmyers3@bsu.edu