

ROGER MAIOLI

Associate Professor of English | University of Florida

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EDUCATION

- 2015 PhD in English, Johns Hopkins University
- 2011 M.A. in English, Johns Hopkins University
- 2006 M.A. in English Literary Studies, University of São Paulo, Brazil
- 2002 B.A. in Journalism, Anhembi-Morumbi University, Brazil

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2021-24 University Term Professor, University of Florida
- 2021- Associate Professor of English, University of Florida
- 2016-2021 Assistant Professor of English, University of Florida
- 2015-2016 Post-Doctoral Teaching Fellow, Johns Hopkins University

WORK IN PROGRESS

BOOK PROJECT: The Enlightenment Crisis of Values. Combining literary studies and intellectual history, this is the first full-length study of Enlightenment relativism. I trace how a wide range of British and French authors confronted an apparent consequence of Enlightenment thinking: the loss of objective values. The book argues that the responses these authors offered to the problem of relativism – which I trace in novels, plays, essays, philosophical treatises, works of history and criticism, satirical prints, and personal correspondence – shaped both the positive and the negative aspects of the Enlightenment’s legacy. Stanford University Press has expressed interest in the project, and I am currently developing a book prospectus at their request.

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- “Enlightenment Relativism: A Short History,” article in progress.
- “For a New Rise of Fictionality,” article in progress.

REVIEWS

- Francis de Bruyn (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Eighteenth-Century English Thought*, for *The Scriblerian*

PUBLICATIONS

MONOGRAPH

1. *Empiricism and the Early Theory of the Novel: Fielding to Austen* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2017). A reassessment of empiricism's contribution to the rise of the novel, this book argues that British novel theory emerged as a response to the suspicion of fictions expressed by empiricists from Francis Bacon to David Hume. In defending novels as sources of empirical knowledge, novelists from Henry Fielding to Jane Austen anticipated contemporary defenses of the literary humanities, asserting the value of imaginative literature against a rising scientific skepticism.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

7. "Henry and Sarah Fielding: The 2010s in Retrospect," *Literature Compass* 18, 4 (2021).
6. "The First Avowed British Atheist: Lord Hervey?," *Eighteenth-Century Studies* 54, 2 (2021).
5. "The Secularization of Poetic Justice in the Long Eighteenth Century," *English Literary History* 88, 1 (2021).
4. "Between Relativism and Design: The Limits of Hume's Secularity," *Modern Intellectual History*, 2020, 1–25.
3. "Hume's opinion of *Tristram Shandy*," *The Shandean*, Vol. 25, 2014.
2. "Empiricism and Henry Fielding's Theory of Fiction," *Eighteenth-Century Fiction*, 27, 2, Winter 2014-15.
1. "David Hume, Literary Cognitivism, and the Truth of the Novel," *SEL Studies in English Literature 1500-1900*, 54, 3, Summer 2014.

BOOK CHAPTERS

4. "A Common Crisis: The Sciences, the Humanities, and the Contemporary Dismissal of Expertise," in Sidney I. Dobrin and Jason Crider (eds.), *The Humanities Division* (Parlor Press). Collection awaiting review.
3. "Particularity and Virtual Witnessing in the Eighteenth-Century British Novel," in Elizabeth Brogden and Christiane Frey (ed.), *Milieus of Minutiae* (Charlottesville: UVA Press, 2021). Collection awaiting review.
2. "Em defesa das humanidades" [In defense of the humanities], in Rafael Lopes Azize, *O ataque às humanidades* (Salvador: Federal U. of Bahia U.P., 2021).
1. "Introduction" to Henry Fielding, *As Aventuras de Joseph Andrews e seu amigo o pastor Abraham Adams*, trans. Roger Maioli (São Paulo: Ateliê Editorial, 2011)

REVIEWS

7. James Bryant Reeves, *Godless Fictions in the Eighteenth Century. A Literary History of Atheism*, for *The Scriblerian*. Accepted.

6. James Robert Wood, *Anecdotes of Enlightenment: Human Nature from Locke to Wordsworth*, for *The Shandean*. Accepted.
5. Anne M. Thell, *Minds in Motion: Imagining Empiricism in Eighteenth-Century British Travel Literature*, forthcoming in *Eighteenth-Century Studies*.
4. Review of Dennis C. Rasmussen, *The Infidel and the Professor: David Hume, Adam Smith, and the Friendship That Shaped Modern Thought*, forthcoming at *The Scriblerian* (2020).
3. Review of Natalie M. Phillips's *Distraction: Problems of Attention in Eighteenth-Century Literature*, for *The Shandean*.
2. Review of Anton M. Matytsin's *The Specter of Skepticism in the Age of Enlightenment*, at *The Scriblerian*.
1. Review of Sarah Tindal Kareem, *Eighteenth-Century Fiction and the Reinvention of Wonder*, at *Digital Defoe*, Fall 2016.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

2. "Reading Eighteenth-Century Literature," public talk for the Rotary Club of Gainesville.
1. "Agribusiness against the Amazon," op-ed on *Dissent Magazine*, September 5, 2019.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2021 University Term Professorship, University of Florida (\$15,000)
- 2020 Humanities Scholarship Enhancement Grant, University of Florida (\$12,000).
- 2018 Daiches-Manning Memorial Fellowship, Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, University of Edinburgh (residency in Spring 2019)
- 2018 Lewis Walpole Library Fellowship, Yale University (residence in Spring 2019).
- 2017 Humanities Scholarship Enhancement Grant, University of Florida (\$12,000).
- 2015 Post-Doctoral Teaching Fellowship. The Expository Writing Program at Johns Hopkins.
- 2015 The Modern Language Association Travel Grant, Spring 2015.
- 2013 Graduate Student Travel Grant, Johns Hopkins University, 2013.
- 2012 Dean's Teaching Fellowship, The Johns Hopkins University, Fall 2012.
- 2011 Johns Hopkins Graduate Fellowship, September 2011–June 2012.
- 2010 Allen Grossman Teaching Fellowship. Johns Hopkins University, 2010–11.
- 2008 Johns Hopkins Graduate Fellowship, September 2008–June 2009.

PRESENTATIONS

INVITED TALKS

- 2019 "The Problem of Relativism in the Enlightenment," Wuhan University (China), November 2019.
- 2019 "Fiction and Knowledge in Eighteenth-Century Britain," Wuhan University (China), November 2019.

- 2019 “The Enlightenment Crisis of Values.” University of Edinburgh, The Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, May 2019.
- 2019 “The Rise of the Novel and the Knowledge of Particulars,” The Institute for Cultural Inquiry (Berlin), May 2019.
- 2019 “Relativism in the Eighteenth Century.” Yale University, The Lewis Walpole Library, February 2019.
- 2019 “The Enlightenment Crisis of Values.” Yale University, The Yale Center for British Art, February 2019, February 2019.
- 2017 “Maps of Worlds Unseen. Empiricism and Knowledge in the Novel.” Stanford University, Division of Literature, Cultures, and Languages, November 2017.
- 2017 “Empiricism and the Early Theory of the Novel.” Harvard University, The Harvard Center for History and Economics, October 2017.
- 2015 “Laurence Sterne and the Experience of Reading Fiction.” University of Florida, Department of English, March 2015.

SESSION CHAIR

- 2018 “The Humanities in the Eighteenth Century.” 2018 Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, April 2018.
- 2016 “What Was a Miracle?” 2016 Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, April 2016. Co-chaired with Will Miller.
- 2011 “Poetry on the Page: The Eye of the Beholder and the Mind’s Ear,” with J. Paul Hunter. ELH Colloquium, Johns Hopkins University, April 2011.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- 2020 “In Defense of the Humanities.” Virtual Congress of the Federal University of Bahia, Brazil, May 2020.
- 2020 “England’s First Atheistic Manifesto.” Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, April 2020.
- 2019 “Realism and Providence in Eighteenth-Century Fiction.” 2019 Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, April 2019.
- 2018 “Literature and Knowledge in the Age of the Novel.” Annual Meeting of the British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Oxford University, January 2018.
- 2016 “David Hume and the Specter of Relativism.” Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, April 2016.
- 2016 “Empiricism in Fact and Fiction.” Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, April 2016.
- 2013 “Empiricism and Fielding’s Theory of Fiction.” Journal Club Talk. The Johns Hopkins University (November 2013).
- 2013 “Henry Fielding and the Knowledge of the Characters of Men.” Friends of English Southland Conference on “Surfaces,” UCLA (May 2013).

- 2012 “Narratives and Hume’s Suspension of Skepticism.” Graduate Student Conference “States of Suspension,” University of Chicago (November 2012).
- 2010 “Disagreement in Translation, and whether there is such a thing.” Graduate Student Conference on “Disagreement,” New York University (March 2010).
- 2007 “Defoe and Swift: New Prospects for Prose Fiction.” Graduate Student Conference at the University of São Paulo (2007).

TEACHING

GRADUATE COURSES

- 2020 “Narrating the French Revolution.” Online graduate seminar, the Department of English at the University of Florida, Fall 2020.
- 2019 “Rakes, Vixens, and Savages: Human Nature in the Long Eighteenth Century.” Graduate seminar, the Department of English at the University of Florida, Fall 2019.
- 2018 “Secularism and Its Discontents.” Graduate seminar, the Department of English at the University of Florida, Fall 2018.
- 2017 “Versions of Enlightenment.” Graduate seminar, the Department of English at the University of Florida, Fall 2017.
- 2016 “Rethinking the Rise of the Novel.” Graduate seminar, the Department of English at the University of Florida, Fall 2016.

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

- 2020 “The English Novel in Context.” Online upper-level undergraduate course, UF English, Fall 2020.
- 2020 “Thinking Through Fiction: The Novel of Ideas, 1700-1820.” Upper-level undergraduate course, UF English, Spring 2020.
- 2020 “Theorizing Education in the Eighteenth Century.” Upper-level undergraduate course, UF English, Spring 2020.
- 2019 “*Candide’s* Eighteenth Century.” Upper-level undergraduate course, UF English, Fall 2019.
- 2018 “Before Jane Austen: Eighteenth-Century Women Novelists.” Upper-level undergraduate course, UF English, Fall 2018.
- 2018 “Writing the Self.” Advanced seminar, UF English, Spring 2018.
- 2018 “Secularism and Literature in the Long Eighteenth Century.” Upper-level undergraduate course, UF English, Spring 2018.
- 2017 “From Romance to the Novel.” Upper-level undergraduate course, UF English, Spring 2017.
- 2017 “Literary Nonfiction: Classics of Eighteenth-Century Prose.” Upper-level undergraduate course, UF English, Spring 2017.
- 2016 “Literature and Ethics in the Long Eighteenth Century.” Upper-level undergraduate course, UF English, Fall 2016.
- 2014 “Literature and Knowledge.” Summer seminar, Johns Hopkins English, Summer 2014.

- 2013 “The Novelty of the Novel.” Upper-level undergraduate course, Johns Hopkins English, Spring 2014.
- 2013 “Reading Fiction in the Eighteenth Century.” Upper-level undergraduate course, Johns Hopkins English, Fall 2013.
- 2012 “Science and Innovation in Germany.” Study abroad lecture course, the Department of History of Science at Johns Hopkins, Winter 2012. (Co-instructor with Patrick Bonner)
- 2010-6 “The Power and Perils of Irony.” Lower-level composition seminar, Johns Hopkins EWP, Spring 2016, Fall 2015, Fall 2014, Spring 2013, Fall 2012, Spring 2011, and Fall 2010.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

Director (graduate):

- 2019- Claire Karnap, “Domesticity and Mental Well-Being in Romantic Fiction.” Doctoral Research, Department of English, University of Florida.
- 2016- Satit Leelathawornchai, “Sentiment and Utility in Eighteenth-Century British Abolitionist Writing,” Doctoral Research, Department of English, University of Florida.

Director (undergraduate):

- 2020 Meghan Wollenhaup, “*Candide* and *The History of Rasselas*: A Comparative Study,” Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Department of English, University of Florida.
- 2019-20 Amber Bowes, “Gothic Fiction and Gender Representation,” Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Department of English, University of Florida.
- 2017-8 Lillian Dunaj, “Religion and Literature in *Jane Eyre*,” Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Department of English, University of Florida.
- 2017-8 Anna Burbano, “‘A Frivolous Distinction’: Self-Fashioning in Austen’s *Northanger Abbey*,” Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Department of English, University of Florida.

Committee Member (graduate):

- 2018- Elizabeth Lambert, “Architectural Encounters and the Creation of the Artist in *In Search of Lost Time*”
- 2018- Heather Hannaford, “A sort of national property”: Perceptions of the Lake District from Wordsworth to Potter”
- 2016-8 Kelly Beck, “In Pursuit!: Investigating Performance and Theatricality in British Crime Fiction,” Doctoral Research, Department of English, University of Florida.
- 2016- Claire Karnap, “A Journey Towards Freedom in Charlotte Brontë’s *Jane Eyre*,” MA Thesis, Department of English, University of Florida.

Committee Member (undergraduate):

- 2018- Jessica Ramos, “Frame Narratives in *Frankenstein*.” Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Department of English, University of Florida.

SERVICE

TO THE DEPARTMENT

2017-	Graduate Studies Committee, Department of English, University of Florida
2016-20	Faculty Council, Department of English, University of Florida
2017-18	Search Committee, Department of English, University of Florida
2017	Graduate Student Orientation for Literature 2000
2017	Dissertation Writing Workshop, Leader
2017	MarketWise Interview Workshop, Leader
2016-18	Evaluator for UF English Teaching Assistants
2015-16	Orientation for the Johns Hopkins Expository Writing Program, mentor
2015	Symposium on Opportunities and Post-Undergrad Options for Writing Majors, speaker
2012-14	Department Representative for the JHU Graduate Representative Organization.

TO THE UNIVERSITY

2020-23	Faculty Senate
2020-23	Academic Assessment Committee.
2020-22	University Libraries Committee.
2020-	Advisory Board for the Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere.
2018-2019	Selection Committee for the UF Humanities Scholarship Enhancement Fund
2015-16	Advisory Council for “Becoming a Woman in the Age of Enlightenment.” Exhibition at the Harn Museum of Art.

TO THE PROFESSION

2018	Proposal Selection Committee for the 2018 NAVSA annual meeting.
2019	External reader for <i>Eighteenth-Century Theory and Interpretation</i>

ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

2015	Preparing Future Faculty Teaching Academy. Johns Hopkins University.
2012	The School of Criticism and Theory. Cornell University.

LANGUAGES

- *Fluency:* Portuguese, English
- *Reading proficiency:* French, German, Spanish, Italian