

# ROGER MAIOLI

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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, Universidade Anhembi Morumbi, 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

## CURRENT RESEARCH

### BOOK PROJECT

*The Enlightenment Crisis of Values.* Combining literary studies and intellectual history, my current book project traces how a wide range of British and French authors confronted an alleged consequence of Enlightenment thinking: the relativization of all values. The responses eighteenth-century authors offered to the problem of relativism — through genres including novels, plays, essays, philosophical treatises, historical and critical works, satirical prints, and letters — helps to explain how the Enlightenment came to foster both secular values we still cherish and resilient forms of discrimination we are still struggling to overcome. The history of relativism, I argue, sheds light on this fraught double legacy. My central thesis is that in reasserting objective distinctions in the realm of values, Enlightenment thinkers developed the conceptual tools for reasserting old human hierarchies as well (especially between men and women and Europeans and everyone else).

## ARTICLES

“For a New Rise of Fictionality.” In progress.

“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.

## 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

8. “Relativism in the British and French Enlightenment.” *Eighteenth-Century Studies* 57.3 (2024).
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* 18, 4 (2021), pp. 1081–1105.
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

3. “Particularity and Virtual Witnessing in the Eighteenth-Century British Novel,” in Elizabeth Brogden and Christiane Frey (ed.), *Milieus of Minutiae* (Charlottesville: UVA Press, awaiting release).
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

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

- 2022 "Defending the Humanities," public talk at a secondary school in São Paulo, Brazil, 2022.
- 2020 "Reading Eighteenth-Century Literature," public talk for the Rotary Club of Gainesville, 2020.
- 2019 "Agribusiness against the Amazon," op-ed on *Dissent Magazine*, September 5, 2019.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2024 Laurance Rockefeller Fellowship, Princeton, University Center for Human Values (\$90,000)
- 2024 Annual Teaching Prize, British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (£100)
- 2023 Humanities Scholarship Enhancement Grant, University of Florida (\$12,000).
- 2023 Faculty Teaching Award, UF College of Arts and Sciences (\$2,000)
- 2023 Clark Kanner Fellowship, UCLA, William Andrews Clark Memorial Library (\$6,000)
- 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 (£1800).
- 2018 Lewis Walpole Library Fellowship, Yale University.
- 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.

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

### INVITED TALKS

- 2023 "The Legacies of Baron Lahontan," University of Wisconsin, Madison. November 2023.
- 2021 "Relativism and the Enlightenment's Double Legacy," Bilkent University (Turkey).
- 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

- 2023 "Eighteenth-Century Radical Thinkers and Greco-Roman Religion and Mythology." 2023 Meeting of the International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies.
- 2018 "The Humanities in the Eighteenth Century." 2018 Annual Meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies.
- 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

- 2023 “Enlightenment Relativism: An Overview,” presented at the 2023 Meeting of the International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies.
- 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).

## TEACHING

### GRADUATE COURSES (selection)

- 2023 “Writing about Novels.” Graduate seminar, the Department of English at the University of Florida, Fall 2023.
- 2022 “Enlightenment and the End of Ethics.” Graduate seminar, the Department of English at the University of Florida, Fall 2019.
- 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 (selection)

- 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 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.

## ACADEMIC ADVISING

### DIRECTOR (GRADUATE):

- 2019-23 Claire Karnap, “Domesticity and Mental Well-Being in Romantic Fiction.” Doctoral Research, Department of English, University of Florida.
- 2016-22 Satit Leelathawornchai, “Sentiment and Utility in Eighteenth-Century British Abolitionist Writing,” Doctoral Research, Department of English, University of Florida.

### DIRECTOR (UNDERGRADUATE):

- 2021-22 Grace Brand, The Morality of the Family in George Eliot’s *The Mill on the Floss*.
- 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.

## SERVICE

### DEPARTMENT

- 2023- Faculty Council, Department of English, University of Florida
- 2022-23 Associate Graduate Coordinator, Department of English, University of Florida
- 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.

## UNIVERSITY

- 2020-23 Faculty Senate, University of Florida.
- 2020-23 Academic Assessment Committee, University of Florida.
- 2020-22 University Libraries Committee, University of Florida.
- 2020- Advisory Board for the UF Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere.
- 2018-19 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.

## PROFESSION

- External reviewer for James Bryant Reeve’s tenure case at the University of Texas at Austin.
- External reader for journals including *Eighteenth-Century Studies*, *Eighteenth-Century Theory and Interpretation*, *Modern Intellectual History*, and *Aletria*.
- Proposal Selection Committee for the 2018 NAVSA annual meeting.

## 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

### READING COMPETENCE

Dutch, Latin