

**ELIZABETH OUTKA**

CURRICULUM VITAE

English Department, University of Richmond  
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**EDUCATION**

- Ph.D. University of Virginia, English. August 2001  
M.A. University of Virginia, English. January 1996  
B.A. Yale University, English, *magna cum laude*, Distinction in the Major. May 1989

**ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**

*Professor of English*, University of Richmond. 2020 to present  
*Associate Professor of English*, University of Richmond. 2008 to present. Tenure, 2012  
*Assistant Professor of English*, Sewanee: University of the South. 2001-2008. Tenure, 2008

**BOOKS**

*Viral Modernism: The Influenza Pandemic and Interwar Literature*. Columbia University Press. Published October 2019, copyright 2020. Modernist Latitudes series. Simultaneous hardcover and paperback.

*Consuming Traditions: Modernity, Modernism, and the Commodified Authentic*. Oxford University Press, 2009. Inaugural volume for Oxford's series, Modernist Literature & Culture. Paperback edition 2012.

**ACADEMIC ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS**

Forthcoming: "Virginia Woolf's Contradictory Voices on Disability, Pain, and Illness." Book chapter in *The Oxford Handbook of Virginia Woolf*. Ed. Anne Fernald. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020.

"Grievability, COVID-19, and the Modernists' Pandemic." *Modernism/modernity* PrintPlus. Vol. 5, cycle 1 (May 2020). <https://modernismmodernity.org/forums/posts/outka-grievability-covid>.

"Teaching the First World War through Community-Based Learning." Book chapter in *Options for Teaching Representations of the First World War*. Eds. Debra Rae Cohen and Douglas Higbee. NYC: Modern Language Association, 2017. 302-307.

"The Transitory Space of *Night and Day*." Book chapter for *A Companion to Virginia Woolf*. Ed. Jessica Berman. New York: Wiley-Blackwell, 2016. 55-66.

"The Wood for the Coffins Ran Out?: Modernism and the Shadowed Afterlife of the 1918-1919 Influenza Pandemic." *Modernism/modernity*, 21.4 (2014): 937-960.

"Consumer Culture." Book chapter in *The Cambridge Companion to Modernist Culture*. Ed. Celia Marshik. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014. 81-95.

"Nostalgia and Modernist Anxiety." Afterword for *Modernism and Nostalgia: Bodies, Locations, Aesthetics*. Ed. Tammy Clewell. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2013. 252-261.

"Dead Men, Walking: Actors, Networks, and Actualized Metaphors in *Mrs. Dalloway* and *Raymond*."

NOVEL: *A Forum on Fiction* 46.2 (2013): 253-274.

"Trauma and Temporal Hybridity in Arundhati Roy's *The God of Small Things*." *Contemporary Literature*. 52.1 (2011): 21-53.

"Crossing the Great Divides: Selfridges, Modernity, and the Commodified Authentic." *Modernism/modernity*. 12.2 (2005): 311-328.

"Buying Time: *Howards End* and Commodified Nostalgia." *NOVEL: A Forum on Fiction*. 36.3 (2003): 330-350.

"The Shop Windows Were Full of Sparkling Chains: Consumer Desire and Woolf's *Night and Day*." Book chapter in *Virginia Woolf Out of Bounds*. Ed. Jessica Berman and Jane Goldman. New York: Pace UP, 2001. 229-235.

## BOOK REVIEWS

Review of Cambridge Edition of Virginia Woolf's *Night and Day*, edited by Michael H. Whitworth. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2018. *Woolf Studies Annual*. 26 (2020): 143-145.

"Violent Ends, Modernist Means." Review of Sarah Cole's *At the Violet Hour: Modernism and Violence in England and Ireland*. New York: Oxford UP, 2012. *NOVEL: A Forum on Fiction*. 48.2 (2015): 313-316.

Review of Jane Elizabeth Fisher's *Envisioning Disease, Gender, and War: Women's Narratives of the 1918 Influenza Pandemic*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012. *Clio: A Journal of Literature, History, and the Philosophy of History*. 43.3 (2014): 37-43.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming: "Reconsidering the 1918-1919 Influenza Pandemic in the Age of COVID-19." Roundtable print essay with scholars Nancy Bristow, Tom Ewing, Joseph Gabriel, Benjamin Montoya, and Elizabeth Outka. In *JGAPE: The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, Cambridge University Press journal. October 2020.

"How Pandemics Seep into Literature." *The Paris Review Daily*. April 2020: <https://www.theparisreview.org/blog/2020/04/08/how-pandemics-seep-into-literature/>

"Zombie Flu: How the 1919 influenza pandemic fueled the rise of the living dead." October 2019. *The Conversation* (picked up by 90 outlets). <https://theconversation.com/zombie-flu-how-the-1919-influenza-pandemic-fueled-the-rise-of-the-living-dead-123960>

## SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, 2016-2017.

Distinguished Educator Award, University of Richmond, 2015.

Faculty Travel Grant, University of Richmond, 2016 (declined); 2018 (accepted).

Faculty Research Summer Fellowships, University of Richmond, 2014-2016, 2018, 2019.

Enhanced Sabbatical Grant, University of Richmond, 2015-2016.

Faculty Research Grant, University of Richmond, 2011.

Fellowship, Bonner Center for Civic Engagement, University of Richmond, 2009.

James D. Kennedy III Endowed Faculty Fellowship, University of the South, 2006-2008.

John B. Stephenson Fellowship, Appalachian College Association, 2004.

Academic Initiative Grant, University of the South, 2004.  
Elizabeth Garret Fellowship, University of Virginia, 2000.  
William B. Christian Fellowship, University of Virginia, 2000.  
All-University Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award, University of Virginia, 1998.  
Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award, English Department, University of Virginia, 1997-98.  
Governor's Fellowship, University of Virginia, 1994-96.

#### **EXHIBITION WORK**

Collaborating Scholar. "Pandemic: Richmond." Museum exhibition at the Valentine Museum, Richmond, Virginia. Exhibition traced how seven contagious diseases shaped the city's history. May 10, 2018 to February 24, 2019. Wrote "Archive Dive," tie-in article for *Discover Richmond: Richmond Times-Dispatch* magazine. June/July 2018: 8.

#### **SELECTED PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS**

Invited Speaker. "What Rough Beast? Pandemic Trauma in Modernist Literature." University of Buckingham, England. June 2020.

Invited Speaker. "Double Vision: Rereading Modernism through a Pandemic Lens." Modern and Contemporary Seminar Discussion Series. Oxford University, England. May 2020.

Presenter. "The Viral Catastrophe: Influenza in 1919." The Modernism of 1919 Roundtable. Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference. Toronto, Canada. October 2019.

Presenter. "this monster, the body, this miracle, its pain?: Virginia Woolf's Contradictory Voices on Disability, Pain, and Illness." The Temporalities of Disability Panel. Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference. Columbus, Ohio. November 2018.

Organizer and Chair. Modernist Terror, 1890-1930 Panel. Modern Language Association Annual Conference. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. January 2017.

Organizer and Presenter. "Twin Disasters: Rereading Yeats's 'The Second Coming.'" Reimagining the Great War Panel. Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference. Pasadena, California. November 2016.

Invited Speaker, "Modernist War, Modernist Plague." Columbia University. New York City. February 2015.

Organizer and Presenter. "War Bodies/Plague Bodies." The Damaged and the Dead: Visualizing the Body after WWI Panel. Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. November 2014.

Invited Speaker. "Raising the Dead: The First World War and the Influenza Pandemic." University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. October 2014.

Co-Organizer. "1914/2014: Body of War." Special Session panel at the Modern Language Association Annual Conference. Chicago, Illinois. January 2014.

Organizer and Presenter. "The Body Problem: War, Flu, and Zombies." Zombie Modernism II panel. Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference. Las Vegas, Nevada. October 2012.

Organizer and Presenter. “‘The wood for coffins ran out’: The Traumatic Afterlife of the 1918-1919 Flu Pandemic.” Trauma, Revisited panel. Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference. Buffalo, New York. October 2011.

Presenter. “Violent Magic: Dismemberment Remembered.” University of Maryland Regional Modernist Conference. College Park, Maryland. March 2011.

Presenter. “‘Sawing thro’ a Woman’: Violence, Magic, and Performative Memory.” Materializing Memory in the Early Twentieth Century panel. Modern Language Association Annual Conference. Los Angeles, California. January 2011.

Organizer and Chair. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Woolf panel. Modern Language Association Annual Conference. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. December 2009.

Organizer and Presenter. “Darkness Visible: Materialized Grief in Rebecca West and Oliver Lodge.” Haunted Bodies/Material Bodies panel. Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference. Montréal, Canada. November 2009.

Presenter. “Dead Man Walking: Literalized Metaphor and Traumatic Experience in *Mrs. Dalloway*.” Annual Conference of the International Society of Virginia Woolf, New York City. June 2009.

Seminar participant. “Landscape and Location: English Modernism & Rural England.” Circulated paper “‘The first complete small holding under glass’: Selling the British Landscape.” Modernist Studies Association Conference, Nashville, Tennessee. November 2008.

Presenter. “Trauma and Narrative Disruption in Arundhati Roy’s *The God of Small Things*.” Narrative Conference. Austin, Texas. May 2008.

Presenter. “War and Window Shopping in Woolf’s *Night and Day*.” Twentieth-Century Literature and Culture Conference. Louisville, Kentucky. February 2007.

Presenter. “Lustrous Behind Glass: Virginia Woolf and the Commodified Authentic.” Modern Language Association Annual Conference. Washington, DC. December 2005.

Organizer and Leader. “Modernism and Authenticity” seminar. Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference. Birmingham, England. September 2003.

Presenter. “No Purchase Necessary: Selfridges’ Advertising Campaign and Modernist Victorianism.” Monuments and Dust Conference. Regent’s College, London, England. July 2003.

Organizer and Chair. “Architectural Modernisms” panel. South Atlantic Modern Language Association Conference. Baltimore, Maryland. November 2002.

Organizer and Presenter. “Sanctified Space: Forster and the Domestic Architecture Movement.” Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference. Rice University, Houston, Texas. October 2001.

## **PUBLIC TALKS, WEBINARS, AND INTERVIEWS**

Video Interview. “Viral Modernism: A Conversation with Elizabeth Outka and Sarah Cole.” Columbia Global Centers-Paris, France, in collaboration with Columbia University Press, the Institute for Ideas and Imagination, The Columbia Maison Française, and the Alliance Program. July 2020.

<https://globalcenters.columbia.edu/events/viral-modernism#/top>.

Webinar Speaker. “Art, Pandemic, and Protest: A Conversation with Artists, Community Leaders, and Writers.” Host William Danaher, guests Rochelle Riley, Director of Arts & Culture for Detroit; Wayne Brown, President and CEO of Michigan Opera Theater; Sabrina Nelson, multi-media artist, and Elizabeth Outka. June 2020.

Print Interview by Molly Schwartz. “The 1918 Flu Pandemic Changed Literature More than You Think.” *Mother Jones*, May 2020: <https://www.motherjones.com/coronavirus-updates/2020/05/the-1918-flu-pandemic-changed-literature-more-than-you-think/>.

Podcast. “The Unprecedented Challenge of Grieving 100,000 Americans.” *Mother Jones Podcast*. Hosted by Jamilah King. May 2020. Section of Molly Schwartz interview at 17:45: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/the-unprecedented-challenge-of-grieving-100-000-americans/id1386408605?i=1000475882002>.

Print Interview by Rebecca Onion. “The 1918 Flu Pandemic Killed Millions. So Why Does Its Cultural Memory Feel So Faint?” Feature story. *Slate*. May 2020. <https://slate.com/human-interest/2020/05/1918-pandemic-cultural-memory-literature-outka.html>.

Radio interview by Marco Werman. *The World* radio show: “How the 1918 Influenza Pandemic Shaped Art and Culture.” Broadcast on BBC/Public Radio International and NPR stations in US. May 15, 2020. <https://www.pri.org/file/2020-05-18/how-1918-influenza-pandemic-shaped-art-and-culture>.

Video interview by Evan Kindley. “The Literature of Pandemic: Modernism and Influenza.” Humanities Studio at Pomona College. Host, Kevin Dettmar. “Texts for These Times” series. May 28, 2020. <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=295292478304608> and <https://www.pomona.edu/events/virtual-event-humanities-happy-hour-literature-pandemic>.

Radio interview by Matt Galloway. *The Current*: national morning show for Canadian Public Radio. April 30, 2020. <https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/1731841091644/> (interview at 35:00).

Documentary interview. “A Public Calamity.” Episode for PBS series *The Future of America’s Past*. Narrated by Ed Ayers. Filmmakers Hannah Ayers and Lance Warren, May 2020. Aired on PBS and audio on NPR: <https://futureofamericaspast.com/a-public-calamity>.

Webinar. Co-leader with Laura Browder, “Radical Transformations: Pandemics in Richmond.” University of Richmond Faculty Excursion. Featuring Deirdre Johnson, HIV Activist, and Ajena Rogers, Park Ranger for Maggie L. Walker Historic Site. May 2020.

Podcast. “Elizabeth Outka on the Influenza Pandemic of 1918-1919.” *One True Podcast*. Host Mark Cirino. The Hemingway Society. May 2020. <https://www.hemingwaysociety.org/node/860>

Webinar. Valentine Museum Ambassador Academy. Host Liz Reilly-Brown, with Kim Chen, Gary Flowers, and Elizabeth Outka. May 2020.

Print Interview by Harry Kollatz, Jr. “Out of the Past.” *Richmond Magazine*. April 2020. <https://richmondmagazine.com/arts-entertainment/out-of-the-past/>.

Radio show with Valentine Museum. *The Valentine Presents: Richmond Stories*: “Pandemic.” WRIR 97.3 FM. Host William Martin and Eric Steigleder. April 2020.

<https://soundcloud.com/valentinerichmondstories/the-valentine-presents-richmond-stories-episode-05-pandemic-april-10-2020>.

Talk for graduate students on job market. University of Virginia, English Department. November 2019.

Radio interview by Rhod Sharp, *Up All Night* show on BBC Radio 5Live. October 30, 2019.

Invited Speaker. "The Influenza Pandemic: History and Ethics (and a Little Poetry)." Virginia Commonwealth University, Department of Nurse Anesthesia. January 2019.

Invited Lecturer. "The Great Pandemic: 1918-1919." Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. University of Richmond. November 2018.

Panelist, "Raising the Dead: Richmond and the 1918-1919 Influenza Pandemic." RVA Literary Crawl Series. Richmond, Virginia. April 2018.

#### SELECT MEDIA COVERAGE, *VIRAL MODERNISM*

Elizabeth Winkler, "Through the Smudged Pane: Pandemic Consciousness in *Mrs. Dalloway*." *Times Literary Supplement*. May 29, 2020. <https://www.the-tls.co.uk/articles/pandemic-consciousness-mrs-dalloway-essay-elizabeth-winkler/>

Emily Kasriel, "What Plague Art Tells Us About Today." *BBC Culture*. May 18, 2020: <https://www.bbc.com/culture/article/20200514-how-art-has-depicted-plagues>

Guillermo Altares, "La memoria borrada de la grip española." *El País*. May 9, 2020. <https://elpais.com/ideas/2020-05-09/la-gripe-espanola-la-tormenta-de-silencio-de-la-gran-pandemia.html>

Zachary B. Woolf, "Here's How Italians 'Quaranteamed' 700 Years Ago." *CNN*. May 3, 2020. <https://www.cnn.com/2020/05/03/politics/what-matters-may-3/index.html?fbclid=IwAR0tfnSfowArJ98bzKe1bzuZWao7viesfcExroGOUTWg4EuU8dbAPiOMtWc>.

Evan Kindley, "Why Anxious Readers under Quarantine Turn to Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway*." *The New Yorker*. April 10, 2020. <https://www.newyorker.com/books/page-turner/why-anxious-readers-under-quarantine-turn-to-virginia-woolfs-mrs-dalloway>.

Rosemary Neill, "Art of Forgetting." *The Weekend Australian*. April 11-12, 2020. <https://www.theaustralian.com.au/arts/review/a-pandemic-good-for-art-the-spanish-flu-tells-a-different-story/news-story/61eb16765fbb34ba49d4bad97dfbc7b4>

Giulio Meotti, "Per chi suonò la campana." *Il Foglio*. April 6, 2020: <https://www.ilfoglio.it/cultura/2020/04/06/news/per-chi-suono-la-campana-311426/?underPaywall=true>.

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department of English, University of Richmond, 2008-present

*Modernisms*: Upper-level course for majors.

*Twentieth-Century British and Irish Literature*: Upper-level course for majors.

*Modernist British Fiction*: Upper-level course for majors.

*Politics, Social Change, and Modern Drama*: Upper-level course; cross-listed with WGSS.

*Art Amidst Adversity: Resistance, Resilience, Recovery*: Intensive seminar for advanced majors.  
*Radical Voices: James Joyce and Virginia Woolf*: Intensive seminar for advanced majors  
*Radical Voices: Virginia Woolf and Katherine Mansfield*: Intensive seminar for advanced majors; cross-listed with WGSS.  
*The Modern Novel*: Introductory course for majors and non-majors.  
*Women in Literature*: Introductory course for majors and non-majors; cross-listed WGSS.  
*Sensing Place: Art, Literature and the Environment*: Co-taught First Year Seminar.  
*Literatures of War*: Co-taught Community Based Learning course for majors.  
*Modernism and Post-Modernism*: Co-taught introductory course for majors.  
*The Literary T*: Co-taught introductory course for majors.  
*'Give Sorrow Words': Trauma and Recovery in Literature*: First Year Seminar.  
*Core 101 and 102*: Introductory courses for first year students.  
*Honors Thesis Research and Writing*.

British Studies at Oxford Program, St. John's College, Oxford University, 2009  
*Modernist British Fiction*: Seminar for abroad students.

Department of English, University of the South, 2001-2008

*Modern British Literature: 1900-1930*: Upper-level seminar for majors.  
*Contemporary British Literature: 1930-present*: Upper-level seminar for majors.  
*James Joyce*: Intensive seminar for majors and non-majors.  
*Origins and Development of the Novel* (cross-listed with Women's Studies): Survey course.  
*World Literature in English* (cross-listed with Women's Studies): Seminar for majors.  
*Modern Drama*: Upper-level seminar for majors and non-majors.  
*Studies in Fiction* (cross-listed with Women's Studies): Introduction to the novel.  
*Writing and Literature*: Intensive introductory writing course for freshmen.  
*Humanities: The Modern World*: Interdisciplinary, team-taught course involving both large lectures and small seminars.

Department of English, University of Virginia, 1994-1997

*Masterpieces of English Literature*: An introductory survey course on the Romantics, the Victorians, and the Moderns.  
*Women in Literature: The New Woman, 1890-1920*: Cross-listed with Women's Studies.  
*Composition*: An intensive introductory writing class for freshmen.  
Discussion leader, *History of English Literature I*: Survey of Medieval-Renaissance literature.

## TEACHING INTERESTS

Twentieth- and twenty-first-century literature and culture; modernism; the history of the novel; medical humanities; disability studies; consumer culture; ecocriticism; postcolonial literature.

## SELECTED ACADEMIC SERVICE

University of Richmond

Co-leader, Faculty Learning Community on Environmental Humanities, 2019-2020  
Nominating Committee, 2018-present; Chair, January 2020-present  
Ad-Hoc Committee on Sabbatical Fellowships, 2018-present; Chair 2019  
Honors Program Coordinator, English Department, May 2010-2015, 2017-present  
Environmental Studies Advisory Board, 2018-present  
Faculty Learning Community, Sustainability, 2018-2019  
Eco-Corridor Think Tank, 2018-2019  
Concept 30 Committee, School of Arts & Sciences, 2017-2018

Hardy Prize Paper Contest Committee, English Department, 2019-present  
Graduate School Advisor, English Department, 2012-2015, 2017-present  
Promotion Committee, Career Profiles, English Department, 2017-2018  
First Year Review Committee for Thomas Manganaro, English Department, 2018  
Admissions Representative, English Department, 2017-2018  
Faculty Learning Community, Environmental Stewardship, 2017-2018  
Distinguished Educator Award Committee, 2017  
Co-supervisor for UR student summer internship at Valentine Museum, 2017  
Promotion Committee for Dr. Bert Ashe, 2016  
Faculty Learning Community, Climate Change, 2016-2017  
Search Committee, Eighteenth Century position, English Department, 2016-2017. Diversity  
Coordinator for the search.  
Co-leader, workshop on book proposals for new faculty, 2016  
New Faculty Mentor, 2016-2019  
One Book, One Campus Committee, May 2013-2015  
First Year Student Advisor, 2009-2010, 2012-2013, 2014-2015, 2017-2018  
Eighteenth-Century Position Proposal Committee, English Department, 2015  
PETE Committee member, 2013  
Director for an undergraduate summer fellowship student, 2010, 2012, 2019  
Committee to assess prerequisites to the English Major, English Department, 2011  
Committee to review research proposals for Bonner Center, 2011  
Committee to reevaluate WGSS introductory course, 2011  
Hiring Committee, Administrative Coordinator for English Department, 2010  
Search Committee, Postcolonial position, English Department, 2009-2010. Diversity  
Advocate for the search.  
Advisory Committee, English Department, 2009-2010  
Board member, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, 2008-2009  
Core Syllabus Committee, 2009

Review articles for the *PMLA*, *Contemporary Literature*, *LIT: Literature, Interpretation, Theory*, and  
*Woolf Studies Annual*.

Elected member, Victorian and Early-20<sup>th</sup>-Century English Forum. Modern Language Association,  
2012-2017. Co-Secretary, 2014-2015. Co-Chair, 2015-2016.

#### University of the South

Minority Affairs Committee, 2006-2008  
Chair, Research Grants Committee, 2006-2007  
Minority Mentor, 2002-2008  
Lectures Committee, 2005-2008  
University literary liaison for the Tennessee Williams' Estate, 2005-2008  
Senior essay advisor, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007  
First Year Student Advisor, 2002-2004, 2006-2007  
Sexual Harassment Committee, 2004  
Rhodes and Marshall Scholarship practice interviews, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006