

JEFFREY M. BINDER

[address redacted]

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EDUCATION:

The Graduate Center, City University of New York (New York, NY)

PhD in English

May 2018

Certificate in Interactive Technology and Pedagogy

Dissertation: “Symbols Purely Mechanical: Language, Modernity, and the Rise of the Algorithm, 1605–1862”

Advisor: Alexander Schlutz

New York University (New York, NY)

Master of Arts in English

May 2012

Thesis: “Motivated Romanticism: Rhetoric, Cognition, and Herman Melville's Linguistic Turn”

Washington University in St. Louis (St. Louis, MO)

Bachelor of Arts in English, *summa cum laude*

May 2008

Minor in Mathematics

Honors thesis: “Assertion-Through-Structure: The Degenerated Carnival in Joyce and Pynchon”

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (Troy, NY)

Coursework in Mathematics and Computer Science

Sep. 2003–May 2005

PUBLICATIONS:

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles:

Binder, Jeffrey M. “‘The General Practice of the Nation’: Walt Whitman, Language, and Computerized Search in the Nineteenth-Century Archive.” *American Literature*, vol. 88, no. 3, Sep. 2016, pp. 447-75. 2016

Binder, Jeffrey M., and Collin Jennings. “‘A Scientifical View of the Whole’: Adam Smith, Indexing, and Technologies of Abstraction.” *ELH*, vol. 83, no. 1, Spring 2016, pp. 157-180. 2016

Binder, Jeffrey M., and Collin Jennings. “Visibility and Meaning in Topic Models and Eighteenth-Century Subject Indexes.” *Literary and Linguistic Computing*, vol. 29, no. 3, Sep. 2014, pp. 405-411. 2014

Book Chapter:

Binder, Jeffrey M. “Alien Reading: Text Mining, Language Standardization, and the Humanities.” *Debates in the Digital Humanities 2016*, edited by Matthew K. Gold and Lauren F. Klein, University of Minnesota Press, 2016, pp. 201-217. 2016

Online Writing:

Binder, Jeffrey M., and Collin Jennings. “Cultures of Visualization: Adam Smith’s Index and Topic Modeling.” *Association for Computers and the Humanities*, ach.org/2013/12/30/cultures-of-visualization-adam-smiths-index-and-topic-modeling. 2013

DIGITAL HUMANITIES PROJECTS:

The Distance Machine

2014–

<http://distancemachine.org>

Developer. A Web-based tool to identify words in a text that were uncommon at a given point in time, using data about historical word usage in Google Books; it also provides easy access to information from historical dictionaries.

The Networked Corpus

2011–2016

<http://www.networkedcorpus.com>

Developer, in collaboration with Collin Jennings. A computer program that allows for the visual comparison of multiple condensed representations of a text, including subject indexes and the results of the statistical method known as topic modeling.

bursts

2012

<http://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/bursts>

Developer, maintainer. A package for the R statistical computing environment that implements Jon Kleinberg's burst detection algorithm, which can be used to identify periods of increased activity in a stream of data.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Hunter College, City University of New York (New York, NY)

Instructor

Fall 2014; Spring 2015, 2016, and 2017

Introduction to Writing About Literature (English 220)

Course description (condensed): Analytical writing and close reading in British and American fiction, drama, poetry, and literary criticism, with an emphasis on further development of critical writing and research skills.

Hunter College, City University of New York (New York, NY)

Instructor

Fall 2015 and 2016

Expository Writing (English 120)

Course description (condensed): Through reading, discussions, writing, and rewriting, English 120 teaches students to generate, explore, and refine their own ideas; to analyze and evaluate intellectual arguments; to develop thesis statements and support them persuasively; and to write with standard acceptable grammar and coherence.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (Troy, NY)

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2004–Spring 2005

Course: Data Structures and Algorithms (Computer Science 2300)

This Sophomore-level class is a core part of the Computer Science curriculum. As an undergraduate TA, I assisted students with lab assignments and graded their work.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING EXPERTISE:

Digital humanities; Enlightenment studies; British Romanticism; 19th-century US literature; history of ideas

GRANTS AND AWARDS:

The Robert Adams Day Prize for the Best Dissertation Involving Interdisciplinary Work 2018

CUNY Provost's Digital Innovation Grant for "The Distance Machine" Fall 2016–Spring 2017

Mellon Digital Scholarly Publishing Fellowship Fall 2015–Spring 2016

CUNY ARC Student Fellowship for "The Distance Machine" Fall 2014

NYU Digital Commons Initiative Grant for "The Networked Corpus" Fall 2012–Spring 2013

NYU DCI Travel Grant, HathiTrust Research Center UnCamp, Indiana University 2012

Highest Distinction in English, Washington University 2008

Scholarship, James Joyce Summer School, University College Dublin 2007

Thomas H. Eliot Scholarship, Washington University 2005 and 2006

First and third prizes for undergraduate fiction, McKinney Competition, Rensselaer 2005

INVITED PRESENTATIONS:

Panel Participant: "Fuzzy Data: Coding the Humanities." 2017

Hunter College Center for Teaching and Learning (ACERT) Seminar (New York, NY)

Panel participant: "Books Matter: Circulating Digital and Printed Texts." 2015
CUNY GC Friday Forum (New York, NY)

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION:

"Babbage and Poe on the Incomprehensibility of Algorithms." Under Review
Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts (SLSA) 2018 (Toronto, ON)

"Wordsworth, Disciplinarity, and 'Poetical Science.'" Scheduled 2018
North American Society for the Study of Romanticism (NASSR) 2018 (Providence, RI)

"Lord Stanhope, Coleridge, and the Enlightenment Reasoning Machine." 2018
American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) 2018 (Los Angeles, CA)

"'Prejudice' and the Idea of Culture in the Eighteenth Century: Condillac, Maupertuis, Herder." 2018
American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS) 2018 (Orlando, FL)

"The Archaeology of Novelty: Revolution, Neology, and the Politics of Reading." 2017
NEMLA 2017 (Baltimore, MD)

"The Distance Machine: A New Tool for Visualizing Language Change." 2015
ADE STS 2015 Joint Conference (Lincoln, NE)

"'A Talisman of Superstition': Coleridge and the Prophetic Machine." 2015
2015 CUNY English Student Association Conference: Trance (New York, NY)

"Cultures of Visualization: Adam Smith's Index and Topic Modeling." 2014
 With Collin Jennings. *MLA 2014* (Chicago, IL)

"18th- and 21st-Century Genres of Topical Knowledge." 2013
 Written with and presented by Collin Jennings. *DH 2013*, University of Nebraska (Lincoln, NE)

"The Networked Corpus." With Collin Jennings. *THATCamp NYC*, Fordham University (New York, NY) 2012

"Pluralism, Voting, and the Universal." *Strategies of Critique*, York University (Toronto, ON) 2011

ACADEMIC SERVICE:

Member, Website Committee, English Students Association, CUNY Fall 2017–
 Responsible for updating and improving the English Students Association website.

Member, CUNY Graduate Center Digital Fellows Fall 2015–Spring 2016
 Assisted in designing the tentative curricula for the new MA in Digital Humanities and MS in Data Analysis and Visualization degree programs at the Graduate Center. Taught workshops on text analysis, database management, and other topics in digital humanities.

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Rockefeller University Press (New York, NY)
Data Analyst Jun. 2014
 Assisted with cleanup of bibliographic data.

New York University School of Medicine (New York, NY)
Data Analyst Sep. 2010–Aug. 2013
 Created a database tracking articles that cite the institution's research publications, and developed a Web-based system for visualizing the citation and co-authorship networks.

Nature Publishing Group (New York, NY)
Editorial Data Analyst Jan. 2009–Aug. 2010
 Gathered and analyzed data on how people use the navigation features of online versions of journals, and developed an internal Web site with charts of the results.

Spires Literary Magazine (St. Louis, MO)

Staff Editor

Sep. 2005–Dec. 2005

Read submissions of poetry and short fiction and assisted in issue layout.

TECHNICAL SKILLS:

Programming languages: C/C++, Objective-C, Python, R, PHP, JavaScript, Scheme, Haskell

Markup and database languages: HTML, XML, TEI, CSS, SQL, LaTeX

Graphics and audio: Photoshop, Illustrator, Audacity

REFERENCES:

Alexander Schlutz, Associate Professor of English, The Graduate Center, CUNY

Email: aschlutz@jjay.cuny.edu

Matthew K. Gold, Associate Professor of English and Digital Humanities, The Graduate Center, CUNY

Email: mgold@gc.cuny.edu

Joshua Wilner, Professor of English and Comparative Literature, The Graduate Center, CUNY

Email: jwilner@gc.cuny.edu