

Phillip A. Lobo  
Assistant Teaching Professor of English

Ball State University  
Indiana Academy  
301 N. Talley Ave  
Muncie, CA 47306

Education

**Ph.D.** Comparative Literature, University of Southern California, January 2019.

Dissertation: *Alternative Realisms: Subjectivity-Production in Novels and Games*

A study of formal realism as a technology of modern subjectivity, tracing its influences and ambitions through the discourses of the novel, games, and probability from the 18<sup>th</sup> century to the present.

Committee: Hilary Schor, chair  
Akira Mizuta Lippit, reader  
Joseph Boone, reader

**B.A.** English, Tufts University *Magna cum laude*, High Thesis Honors. 2008

Research & Teaching Interests

English Literature; History of the English Language Novel; Studies in Formal Realism; Critical Literary Theory and Philosophy; Game Studies; Subjectivity Studies; Intermedia Comparatist Studies; New Media Studies; Gender and Feminist Studies

Fellowships, Awards and Honors

College Doctoral Fellowship 2009-2014

Publications

**Peer Reviewed Articles**

“0. <an intervention into the critical discourse around *Oryx & Crake*>,” Chiasma: A Site for Thought 4:4 (2017), 40-73.

“*Survive Style 5+* and the Ethics of Creative Advertising,” Postmodern Culture. 27:2 (2017)

“Novel Subjects: *Robinson Crusoe* & *Minecraft* and the Production of Sovereign Selfhood,” Game Studies, 19:1 (2019)

“Replaying History: The Statistical Realism of Alternate History Narratives and Games,” Neprikosnovennyy Zapas, 138:3 (2021) (Russian translation)

“Between *Homo* and *Ludens*: The Dichotomy of Subjectivity in *The Snail on the Slope*,” Russian Literature, (2022)

### **Book Chapters**

“Modeling Modernity,” in Critical Insights: Joseph Conrad, ed. Jeremiah Garsha, (Ipswich, MA: Salem Press 2016), 146-161.

### **Reviews & Analyses**

38 articles for Open Letters Monthly: An Arts and Literary Review  
([Link to archive](#))

### Conferences Organized

“Kitsch, Curios and Camp,” Co-organized with Ingrid Leventhal and Christian Lehmann Comparative Literature Graduate Symposium, USC, Los Angeles, February 2011.

### Presentations

“Ontological (W)holes: Science and Humanities in Oryx & Crake,” Comparative Studies in Language and Culture Graduate Symposium, USC, Los Angeles, February 2018.

“Novel Subjects: Realism and Selfhood in Literature and Gaming,” International Society for the Study of Narrative Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands, June 2016.

“Modeling Modernity: World-Building Practices in *Nostramo* and *Tropico*” Global Justice II Seminar, Paris 8 University, San Denis, France, November 2012.

“Play It Again: Variance and Repetition in New Media,” Comparative Literature Graduate Symposium, USC, Los Angeles, February 2010.

### Courses Taught

#### **English Department, Indiana Academy of Mathematics, Science and the Humanities**

*American Literature* (ENGL 176g)

Fall 2019-21

Instructor of Record

A survey course of American literature, with a focus on the development of American identity, cultural values, and the interactions between marginalized voices and hegemonic discourse. Taught in English.

*Creative Writing* (ENGL 176g)

Fall 2019-21, Spring 2022

Instructor of Record

A comprehensive creative writing course including units on short fiction, poetry, play-writing and interactive fiction. Culminates in a final project with an emphasis on revision and workshopping.

*Critical Approaches to Literature*

Spring 2022-22

Instructor of Record

An introduction to major methods of academic literary criticism and scholarship, focusing on representations of monstrosity and otherness. Includes a collaborative film unit. Culminates in a paper written in dialogue scholarly articles.

*Speculative Fiction*

Spring 2020-22

Instructor of Record

A quarter-length elective focusing on the field of speculative fiction, its theory and function, with an emphasis on (but not limited to) contemporary authors. Includes both fiction and critical literature.

*The Short Story*

Spring 2020-22

Instructor of Record

A quarter-length elective exploring a wide range of authors, each renowned for their contributions to the short form, emphasizing diversity of voice and method. Includes the work of Jamaica Kincaid, Angela Carter, Haruki Murakami and Jhumpa Lahiri. Culminates in an interpretive project.

**English Department, University of Southern California**

*Los Angeles: the City, the Novel, the Movie* (ENGL 176g)

Fall 2017

Teaching Assistant

Instructor: Thomas Gustafson

A critical literary history of Los Angeles and its representations. Duties included grading, leading discussions, holding review sessions, and managing group presentations. Taught in English.

*Reading the Heart: Emotional Intelligence and the Humanities* (ENGL 174)

Spring 2018

Teaching Assistant

Instructor: Thomas Gustafson

A course on the discourse of emotion and empathy. Duties same as above. Taught in English.

**East Asian Languages and Cultures Department, University of Southern California**

*Introduction to Chinese Art and Literature* (EALC 145g)

Spring 2017

Teaching Assistant

Instructor: Dominic Cheung

A survey of Chinese art and literature, beginning with the Bronze Age and the Three Dynasties. Duties included grading, leading discussions, holding review sessions, and managing group presentations. Taught in English.

**Comparative Literature Department, University of Southern California**

*Women Writers of Europe and America*(COLT 374)

Spring 2012 & 2013

Teaching Assistant

Instructor: Margaret Rosenthal

A survey of Anglophone female writers, from the medieval mystics to contemporary novelists. Duties included grading, leading discussions, holding review sessions, and the collaborative composition of exams. Taught in English.

*Introduction to Comparative Literature* (COLT 101)

Fall 2011, 2012 & 2018

Teaching Assistant Instructors: William Thalmann ('11), Alicia Garnica ('12),  
Vincent Farenga ('18)

A survey of works drawing from a range of genres and periods (Ancient to 20<sup>th</sup> Century), including plays, poetry, novels and scripture, as well as contemporary adaptations. Duties included grading, leading discussions, and holding review sessions. Taught in English.

### **Writing Composition, University of Southern California**

*Writing Composition and Rhetoric* (WRIT 140)

Fall 2010 & Spring 2011

Instructor of Record

Intensive course on rhetoric and critical argumentation, required by university. Syllabus and assignments composed by instructor. Assignments included socially relevant subjects such as copyright and gentrification. Taught in English.

### Professional Affiliations

Modern Language Association

American Comparative Literature Association