

BRIAN HOCHMAN

Department of English, Georgetown University
Box 571131, New North 306
Washington, DC 20057
bh296@georgetown.edu - <https://brianhochman.net>

EMPLOYMENT

- 2011-present **Georgetown University**, Washington DC
Director, Program in American Studies (2019-present)
Associate Professor, Department of English (2017-present)
Assistant Professor, Department of English (2011-2017)
- 2009 **University of Massachusetts-Boston**, Boston MA
Visiting Lecturer, Department of English

EDUCATION

- 2011 **Harvard University**, Cambridge MA
Ph.D., History of American Civilization (American Studies)
Fields: American Literatures, Film/Media Studies, U.S. Cultural History
- 2004 **Columbia University**, New York NY
M.A., English and Comparative Literature
- 2003 **Amherst College**, Amherst MA
B.A., English, *summa cum laude with high honors distinction*

PUBLICATIONS

- books *The Shadow Listeners: A History of Wiretapping in the United States* (in progress)
Cambridge and London: Harvard University Press, under contract.
- Savage Preservation: The Ethnographic Origins of Modern Media Technology*
Minneapolis and London: University of Minnesota Press, 2014. 312pp.
--Finalist, Lora Romero First Book Publication Prize, American Studies Association.
--Reviewed in *Afterimage*, *American Ethnologist*, *American Literary History*, *Choice*, *Continuum*,
Journal of American History, *Journal of American Studies*, *MELUS*, *Visual Studies*.
- journal articles "Wiretapping Stuff: Notes on Sound, Sense, and Technical Infrastructure"

Resilience 5.3 (Fall 2018), 96-108.

"Eavesdropping in the Age of *The Eavesdroppers* (or, The Bug in the Martini Olive)"
Post45: Peer Reviewed (February 2016). www.post45.research.yale.edu. 15,000 words.

"Hearing Lost, Hearing Found: George Washington Cable and the Phono-Ethnographic Ear"
American Literature 82.3 (September 2010), 519-551.

"Ellison's Hemingways"
African American Review 42.3-4 (Fall/Winter 2008), 513-532.

book chapters "Language in Motion: The Sign Talk Films of Hugh Lenox Scott and Richard Sanderville"
The Multilingual Screen: New Perspectives on Cinema and Linguistic Difference, eds. Tijana Mamula and Lisa Patti (New York and London: Bloomsbury, 2016), 183-205.

reference works "Nathaniel Mackey"
The African American National Biography, eds. Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham and Henry Louis Gates, Jr. (New York and London: Oxford University Press, 2008).

"Joe Henderson"
The African American National Biography, eds. Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham and Henry Louis Gates, Jr. (New York and London: Oxford University Press, 2008).

reviews *Uncertain Chances: Science, Skepticism, and Belief in 19th-Century American Literature*, by Maurice Lee
Notes and Queries 59.4 (December 2012), 616-617.

Signal and Noise: Media, Infrastructure, and Urban Culture in Nigeria, by Brian Larkin
Callaloo 33.1 (Winter 2010), 356-358.

HONORS/GRANTS

2018-2019 Kluge Fellowship, John W. Kluge Center, Library of Congress.
2017-2019 Galsworthy Criminal Justice Reform Fellowship, The King's College-New York.
2017-2018 Public Scholar Fellowship, National Endowment for the Humanities.
2017 Finalist, New America Foundation Fellowship.
Summer Faculty Academic Grant, Georgetown University.
2016 Summer Stipend, National Endowment for the Humanities.
2015 Finalist, Lora Romero First Book Publication Prize, American Studies Association.
English Department Summer Fellowship, Georgetown University.
College Academic Council Faculty Honors, Georgetown University.
2013 Fall Competitive Grant-in-Aid, Georgetown University.
Junior Faculty Research Fellowship, Georgetown University (Fall Semester).

	Summer Faculty Academic Grant, Georgetown University.
	Spring Competitive Grant-in-Aid, Georgetown University.
	College Academic Council Faculty Honors, Georgetown University.
2012-2013	CNDLS Doyle Faculty Fellowship, Georgetown University.
2012	Summer Faculty Academic Grant, Georgetown University.
	College Academic Council Faculty Honors, Georgetown University.
2010-2011	Charles Warren Center Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Harvard University.
2010	Helen Choate Bell Prize (Best Essay in American Literature), Harvard University.
	Derek Bok Certificate of Distinction in Teaching ("Sound Cinema"), Harvard University.
2008	Derek Bok Certificate of Distinction in Teaching ("Am. Lit. Emergence"), Harvard University.
2007	Graduate Society Pre-Dissertation Fellowship, Harvard University.
	Helen Choate Bell Prize (Best Essay in American Literature), Harvard University.
2003	Elizabeth Bruss Prize (Excellence in Literary Studies), Amherst College.

PRESENTATIONS

invited lectures	"Wiretapping: An All-American History." Ian Potter Museum of Art, University of Melbourne (July 2018). Keynote lecture for <i>Eavesdropping</i> gallery show.
	"To Intercept and Divulge: Electronic Eavesdropping and the Origins of the American Surveillance State." Department of English, University of Pennsylvania (February 2017).
	"Electronic Eavesdropping and National Security: A History Overheard." Center for Humanistic Inquiry, Amherst College (February 2017).
	"Judith Coplon's Telephone: The Origins of National Security, 1934-1978." <i>Secrecy and Publics</i> . Trowbridge Initiative in American Cultures, University of Illinois (October 2016).
	"Shelf Life: The Sound of Race on Wax, 1890/2015." <i>Race+Media Theory</i> . Department of English/African American Studies, Yale University (March 2016).
	"Of Empty Idols and Bugged Martinis: Privacy in the Age of the Transistor." <i>Conversations on the Future of Film and Media Studies</i> . Dept. of Film Studies/English, Yale University (February 2016).
	"The Passamaquoddy Experiment: The Lives (and Deaths) of Ethnographic Recordings." National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution (December 2015).
	"Tapping God's Telephone: Technology and Privacy in Sixties America." Center for Science and Innovation Studies, University of California-Davis (December 2015).
	"The Ethnographic Origins of Modern Media: A Brief History, in Color." Center for Digital Culture and Media, Pennsylvania State University (December 2014).

"Vanishing Red: An Ethnographic History of Color Photography, 1907-1930." Department of American Studies, Vassar College (February 2014).

"Indians, Languages, and the Origins of Modern Media." Department of English, Univ. of California-Santa Barbara (February 2011).

conference papers "Dirty Business: A Short History of Wiretapping in Corporate America." *Seeing Like a Capitalist Histories of Commercial Surveillance in America*. Hagley Museum and Library, Wilmington DE (November 2018).

"Drones in the Sky, Wiretaps in the Water." *Overhear: Eavesdropping Exposed*. Ian Potter Museum of Art, University of Melbourne (July 2018).

"Big Brother Where Art Thou?: The Telephone Tap and the Invention of the American Surveillance State." *New Histories of State Surveillance*. American Historical Association, Washington DC (January 2018).

"Little Brother, Big Brother: The Telephone Tap and the Invention of the American Surveillance State." *Sonic Battlegrounds*. American Studies Association, Chicago IL (November 2017).

"The Wiretap Jitters." *The Paranoid Style*. American Comparative Literature Association, Utrecht ND (July 2017).

"The Wiretapper's Nest." *Sound in Theory, Sound in Practice*. Sound Cluster, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson NY (April 2016).

"The Bug in the Martini Olive: Privacy in the Age of the Transistor." *Media Archaeologies of the Surveillance State*. Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Atlanta GA (March 2016).

Respondent, "Pop after MTV: Music, the Moving Image, and the Politics of Visual Listening." Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Atlanta GA (March 2016).

Respondent, "Public Representations of Misery." American Studies Association, Toronto ON (October 2015).

"Wiretapping Auditory Knowledge." *Auditory Knowledge and the Arts*. Department of German, Georgetown University, Washington DC (September 2015).

"A Nation Overheard: Histories and Technologies of Eavesdropping in the United States." *Media Archaeology in the Digital Age*. University of Maryland, College Park MD (April 2015).

"God's Telephone (and How to Tap It)." *Paleofuturisms*. Department of English, University of Louisville, Louisville KY (April 2015).

"Document and Documentary: The Case of *In The Land of the Headhunters*." *Return to the Land of the Headhunters*. Modern Language Association, Vancouver BC (January 2015).

"Eavesdrop Nation: The Rise of the Wiretap Confessional, 1959-1974." *Surveillance Technologies and Non-private Publics*. American Studies Association, Los Angeles CA (November 2014).

"Record: The Arts, Materials, and Myths of Cultural Permanence." *Keywords for American Cultural Studies*. Department of English, Harvard University, Cambridge MA (October 2014).

Commentator, "Obscured Paths of Coercion in Post-WWII America." *American Circuits, American Secrets*. Canadian Association for American Studies, Banff AB (September 2014).

"Periodizing the Senses." *Critical Senses, Critical Sensibilities*. C19 Americanist Conference, Chapel Hill NC (March 2014).

"The Invention of Tribal Man; or, Life Before Media." *Literature and Media in 19th-Century America*. Modern Language Association, Chicago IL (January 2014).

Moderator, "Assertions: Andes, Mesoamerica, Canada." *Becoming Indigenous, Asserting Indigeneity*. Georgetown University, Washington DC (March 2013).

"Indian, Sign, Cinema: The Ethnographic Films of Richard Sanderville." *Media Empires*. American Studies Association, San Juan PR (November 2012).

"Writing Motion: The Life and Work of Garrick Mallery." *Media Evolution and Language Technologies*. C19 Americanist Conference, Berkeley CA (April 2012).

Moderator, "Racial Impressions and Religious Expressions." *Prospects: A New Century*. C19 Americanist Conference, Berkeley CA (April 2012).

"Plains Indian Sign Language and the Protocinematic Aesthetic." *Cinema and Multilingualism*. Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Boston MA (March 2012).

"Frozen Evanescence: Writing Plains Indian Sign Language, c. 1880." *The Body in Motion*. Modern Language Association, Seattle WA (January 2012).

"Racial Stereoscopy: Robert Flaherty and the Samoan Reality Effect." *Film, Media, and the Powers of the False*. Modern Language Association, Los Angeles CA (January 2011).

"Panchromatic Stock, Stereoscopic Skin: *Moana* Reconsidered." *Filmic Representations of*

Indigenous Peoples. Northeast Historic Film Symposium, Bucksport ME (July 2010).

"Race, Empire, and the Skin of the Documentary Image." *States of American Studies*. Dartmouth Futures of American Studies Institute, Hanover NH (June 2010).

"Lower Frequencies: Audio-Ethnography and the Limits of Cross-Cultural Listening." *Cities, Sounds, Translations*. Modern Language Association, Philadelphia PA (December 2009).

Moderator, "Making New Literary History" (with Bharati Mukherjee, David Treuer). *Writing Cultural History Today*. Harvard University, Cambridge MA (November 2009).

"Teaching with (and without) Technology." Derek Bok Center for Teaching, Harvard University, Cambridge MA (August 2009).

"Inaudible Witness: Nathaniel Mackey's *Bedouin Hornbook*." *Un-Music*. Harvard University Graduate Music Conference, Cambridge MA (March 2009).

"Original and Aboriginal: Race and Mechanical Reproduction in the Phonographic Age." *Connecting America*. Northeast Modern Language Association, Boston MA (February 2009).

"Ghost Notes: Nathaniel Mackey on Miles Davis." *What Jazz Studies Doesn't Hear*. American Studies Association, Albuquerque NM (October 2008).

TEACHING

2011-Present **Georgetown University**, Department of English / Program in Film and Media Studies

Graduate Courses:

The Culture of the Thirties
Mass Media and the American Mind

Undergraduate Courses:

Film and Media Studies Program Capstone
Mass Media/Mass Culture
Reading *Invisible Man*
U.S. Culture: The Depression Era
America Unfinished: U.S. Literature and Culture, 1900-Present
American Emergence: 19th-Century American Literature
Literary History II, 1798-Present
Film and Writing (University Writing Program Seminar)

2009 **University of Massachusetts-Boston**, Department of English

Six American Writers

2007-2009 **Harvard University**, Departments of English/Visual and Environmental Studies
The Art of Film (Head Teaching Assistant)
Sound Cinema (Teaching Assistant)
American Literary Emergence (Teaching Assistant)

2002-2006 **The REACH Program**, Cleveland OH
Teaching Faculty. Taught experimental science to Cleveland-area students entering grade 6.

thesis direction B.A. Theses:

Alex Mitchell, "Behind the Big Desk: How News Parody Restructured the Network Late Night Talk Show and Reinvented an American Art Form" (Georgetown University, American Studies, 2018). Primary Director.

Grace Brennan, "A Journey to the Electric Eden: Advertising Coney Island, 1890-1910" (Georgetown University, American Studies, 2017). Primary Director.

Lauren Sinclair, "Golden Age Heroes: The American Myth of Woodward and Bernstein" (Georgetown University, American Studies, 2016). Primary Director.

Mary Zost, "Phantom of the Operator: The Female Voice of Technology from Operator to iOS" (Georgetown University, American Studies, 2015). Primary Director. *Awarded Mita Prize for Outstanding Thesis in American Studies, Georgetown University.*

Sasha Panaram, "Underground Men: Race and Space in *Invisible Man* and 'The Man Who Lived Underground'" (Georgetown University, English, 2013). Primary Director.

M.A. Theses:

Empeatriz Ung, "Caressing the Noun: Using Natural Language Processing to Read Gertrude Stein's *Tender Buttons*" (Georgetown University, English, 2017). Secondary Reader.

Ryan Leach, "From Cremation to Degradation: Material Representations of Book-Death in the Age of Obsolescence" (Georgetown University, English, 2016). Secondary Reader.

Thomas Lee, "Cyberspace and the Post-Cyberpunk Decentering of Anthropocentrism" (Georgetown University, English, 2016). Secondary Reader.

Wil Norton, "Flying Home: Ralph Ellison's Oklahoma Writings" (Georgetown University, English, 2015). Primary Director.

Dareius Za Gara, "Janelle Monae and Octavia Butler: Sites of Rupture" (Georgetown University, English, 2015). Primary Director.

Harry Burson, "The Audible Future: Dolby Atmos and the Sound of Contemporary Science Fiction Cinema" (Georgetown University, English, 2015). Secondary Reader.

T.J. Erb, "Sticks, Sandboxes, and Stories: L.A. Noire, Journey, and Flower" (Georgetown University, English, 2014). Secondary Reader.

Anne Jefferson, "Determined by an Air Date: The Truman Show's Logics of Utopia, Intimacy, and Subjectivity" (Georgetown University, English, 2014). Secondary Reader.

Colin Dwyer, "The Whos in the Holler: DeLillo's Collective Subject" (Georgetown University, English, 2013). Secondary Reader.

Daniele Yandel, "*Wall-E* and the Cynicism of Computer-Generated Ideology" (Georgetown University, English, 2013). Secondary Reader.

Joel Fineman, "All Business: Fictions of Finance in Nineteenth-Century America" (Georgetown University, English, 2012). Secondary Reader.

Catalina Lupu, "Encountering Histories and Humanities at the Smithsonian" (Georgetown University, English, 2012). Secondary Reader.

Shelby Sleevi, "The Not-So-Short Stories of Raymond Carver and Gordon Lish" (Georgetown University, English, 2012). Secondary Reader.

Doctoral Dissertations:

Brian Becker, "Modern Folks and Folk Moderns: Media, Modernity, and the Migration of Real Americans" (Rutgers University, English, 2015). External Reader.

SERVICE

national

External Peer Review:

African American Review

Atlantic Studies

Literature and Medicine

Post45: Peer-Reviewed

Society for the History of Technology, Dibner Award

Sound Studies

Studies in American Fiction

University of Minnesota Press

Memberships:

American Historical Association
American Studies Association
Modern Language Association
Society for Cinema and Media Studies

university Steering Committee, Program in American Studies (2014-present)
Core Faculty, Program in Film and Media Studies (2012-present)
Affiliated Faculty, Program in African American Studies (2012-present)
Georgetown University Americas Initiative (2011-present)
Co-Organizer, Georgetown Modernities Working Group (2012-2017)
College Dean's Executive Committee (2015-2017)
Prelude Program (2014-2015)

departmental Lannan Committee (2016-2017)
Executive Committee (2015-2016)
Search Committee: Contemporary Literature and New Media (2015-2016)
Intellectual Life Committee (2014-2015)
Graduate Committee (2012-2014)
Merit Review Committee (2013-2014)

RESEARCH FIELDS

American Studies
Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century American Literatures
Sound Studies
Film and Visual Studies
History of Communication
Media Theory/History of Technology
Critical Race Studies, Ethnic Studies
Jazz History, Jazz Saxophone Performance

REFERENCES

Available upon request.