Molly Volanth Hall

Rhode Island School of Design | Literary Arts & Studies Department mhall04@risd.edu | mollyhall.weebly.com | @MollyVolHall

Education

PhD, University of Rhode Island, English Literature and Culture, August 2020

Dissertation: "Ecologies of Materiality and Aesthetics in British Modernist War-Time Literature, 1890-1939"

Advisor: Dr. Jean Walton

Committee: Dr. Ryan Trimm, Dr. Erik Loomis, Dr. Kathleen Davis, Professor Annu Palakunnathu Matthew, Dr. Robert Widell, and Dr. Serpil Oppermann (Cappadocia University)

Diversity and Inclusion Training Program Certification, University of Rhode Island Graduate School, June 2020

[https://uri.badgr.com/public/assertions/rQkWMQH1Ryq9OIdAW-ARPg]

MA, University of New Hampshire, English Literature, 2014

Thesis: "J. R. R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*: Modernist Fantasy, Ecology, Trauma, and the Great War"

Advisor: Dr. James Krasner

Second Reader: Dr. Robin Hackett

MEd, Cambridge College at Boston, Humane Education, 2010

Thesis: "An Indoor-Outdoor Literary Studies Curriculum for Compassionate and Sustainable Choices in Grades 9-12"

Advisor: Dr. Melissa Feldman

BA, University of Massachusetts, English Language and Literature, cum laude, 2007

Capstone: "An Exploration of Heritage and Interdependence in Anita Diamant's *The Red Tent*: Our Bodies, the Earth, and the Ecosystem"

Advisor: Dr. Neil Bruss

Faculty Positions

Lecturer, Literary Arts & Studies Department, Rhode Island School of Design, 2017-2023

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

"Beloved as Ecological Testimony: The Displaced Subject of American Slavery," ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and the Environment 25.3 (2018): 549-565. [Digital access: https://doi.org/10.1093/isle/isy043]

"The Banal Sublime of Postcolonial Bombay and Calcutta: The Embodied Ghosts, Falling Bodies, and Tangled Webs in Chandra's 'Dharma' and Chaudhuri's *A Strange and Sublime Address*," *Journal of Literature and Trauma Studies* 7.1 (2018). [Digital access:

https://muse.jhu.edu/article/745748,

https://www.growkudos.com/publications/10.1353%25252Fjlt.2018.0004/reader, or http://www.jlts.stir.ac.uk/?p=1018]

Books Edited

Hall, Molly Volanth, Kara Watts, & Robin Hackett, Eds. Affective Materialities: Reorienting the Body in Modernist Literature. Introduction co-authored with Kara Watts. University Press of Florida,

2019. ISBN: 9780813057071. [Digital access: https://muse.jhu.edu/book/63971 or https://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctvx073sw]. Reviewed in Modernism/modernity, Studies in the Novel, Forum for Modern Language Studies, Ecozon@: European Journal of Literature, Culture and Environment, and The Modernist Review.

Book Chapters

- "Wollstonecraft—Unnatural Woman: Between the Nature of the Feminine and a Gendered Nature." Romantic Sustainability: Endurance and the Natural World, 1780-1830. Ed. Ben P. Robertson. Lexington Books, 2016. 217-230.
- "Narrating the Missed Encounter with the Loss of a World: *The Lord of the Rings*' Testimony to Modern Ecology." "Something has gone crack": New perspectives on J.R.R. Tolkien in the Great War. Eds. Janet Brennan Croft & Annika Röttinger. Zollikofen, Switzerland: Walking Tree Publishers, 2019. 239-261.

Encyclopedia Entries

"Patrick Anderson," "Charles Brasch," "Jack Cope," "A. R. D. Fairburn," "Robert Finch," "Christopher Tully Hope," "Dan Jacobson," "John Newlove," "Richard Rive," and "Miriam Waddington." *The Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism*. Ed. Stephen Ross. Taylor and Francis, 2016.

Book Reviews

- "Cathy Caruth's Listening to Trauma: Conversations with Leaders in the Theory and Treatment of Catastrophic Experience (2013)." Psychoanalysis, Culture, and Society 22.4 (2017): 452-454.
- "Rick Dolphijn and Iris van der Tuin, New Materialism: Interviews & Cartographies (2012)." Ecozon@: European Journal of Literature, Culture and Environment 8.1 (2017): 229-233.

White Papers

Evelyn, Kim, Molly Volanth Hall, Beth Leonardo Silva, & Kara Watts. "University of Rhode Island, Humanities at Large: Next Generation Humanities PhD planning grant white paper." 2017.

Works in Progress

- "DOING WHAT NATURE DOES': Lewis and Vorticism's New National Nature," *The Journal of Wyndham Lewis Studies* (revise and resubmit in process)
- "Mud and dung': Woolf's Environmental Mattering of War" (invited contribution to Woolf and the Anthropocene, Ed. Peter Adkins, under contract with Edinburgh University Press)
- "Nation and Nature: An Environmental Aesthetics of Nativity in Interwar British Literature" (invited contribution to the scholarly magazine EuropeNow: A Journal of Research and Art)
- Base Matters: Modernist Environments of War and Empire (revision of dissertation into book manuscript) "Virginia Woolf's Sidelong View of English Matters" (article from dissertation being revised for submission to a journal)

Grants and Honors

[*Grants and funding awarded totaling \$137,000, not including assistantships]

- Andrew Mellon-CES Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Council for European Studies, July 2019
 June 2020 (\$27500 + affiliation fees and benefits)
- Graduate Student Research and Scholarship Excellence Award in the Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities, University of Rhode Island, Division of Research and Economic Development, June 2020 (\$500)

Full Tuition Scholarship, URI Graduate School, 2019-20 (\$29311)

Nominee for URI, Summer Institute in Public Humanities, New England Humanities Consortium, 2019 (declined to apply)

Enhancement of Graduate Research Award, URI Graduate School, 2017 and 2018 (\$1000 each)

Subvention Grant (with Kara Watts), for Affective Materialities: Reorienting the Body in Modernist Literature, URI Center for the Humanities, 2018 (\$750)

Graduate School Fellowship AY 2018-19, URI, 2018 (\$19000 + tuition, fees, benefits)

Excellence in the Humanities Award, URI Center for the Humanities, 2018 (\$500)

NeMLA Summer Research Fellowship, 2018 (\$1200)

Teaching Award, Department of English, URI, 2018, 2019

Early Career Humanities Fellows Seminar, URI Center for Humanities, Spring 2018

Center for the Humanities Graduate Research Grant, 2017 (\$1000)

Andrew J. Mellon Junior Fellowship, LuEsther T. Mertz Library, Humanities Institute, New York Botanical Garden, Summer 2017 (\$3500, declined)

NEH Funded Graduate Fellowship, The Coastal Institute, URI, 2016-17 (\$16,000 + tuition, fees, benefits)

Senior Fellow Appointment, The Coastal Institute, URI, 2016-2022

Assistant Project Director, "Memory vs. Representation: Veterans' Homecoming in History, Literature and Testimony," Rhode Island Council on the Humanities Grant Project, 2016 (\$1982)

Nancy Potter Scholarship for Critical Essay Contest, Graduate Category, URI English Department, First Place Award – 2019 (\$100), Second Place Award – 2016, 2018 (\$50, \$50), Third Place Award – 2015 (\$25)

Service Award, URI English Department, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019

Graduate Teaching Assistantship, URI, 2014-18

Graduate Teaching Assistantship, UNH, 2013-14

Full Tuition Scholarship, UNH Graduate School, 2012-13 (\$27, 941 + fees and benefits)

Recognition of Excellence in English, Educational Testing Service, 2009

Eugene M. Lang Scholarship, New School University, 2003

Regis College Book Award, 2002

Conference Travel Funding Awarded

RISD Academic Affairs Conference and Presentation Fund, 2021 (\$93)

Modernist Studies Association Conference Travel Grant, 2017, 2018, 2019 (\$225, \$150, \$200)

Richard Beaupre Hope and Heritage Fund Travel Award, URI, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 (\$750, \$750, \$225, \$300, \$300)

GAU Grant Fund Award, Research and Conference Travel, 2015, 2016, 2017 (\$250, \$400, \$500)

GSA Grant Fund Award for Conference Travel, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019 (\$250, \$200, \$500, \$250)

Glen Goodknight Memorial Scholarship, Mythopoeic Society, 2014 (\$200)

Modern Language Association Conference Travel Grant, 2014 (\$300)

Conference and Seminar Papers

"Longing for Home in the Wilderness of War and Empire: The Migratory Affects of Sassoon and McKay," Modernist Studies Association 22, Portland, October 2022.

"Mud and dung': Woolf's Environmental Mattering of War," Virginia Woolf and the Anthropocene: A Roundtable, 31st Annual International Conference on Virginia Woolf, Online Format due to COVID-19, June 2022.

- "Base Matters: Modernist Environments of War and Empire," Elemental Ecology in Modernism's Time of Crisis Seminar, Between the Acts: Modernist Studies Association Online Conference, April 2022.
- "Virginia Woolf's Sidelong View of Stony English Matters," 30th Annual International Conference on Virginia Woolf, Online Format due to COVID-19, June 2021.
- "Nation and Nature: An Environmental Aesthetics of Nativity in Interwar British Literature," 27th International Conference of Europeanists, Online Format due to COVID-19, June 2021.
- "Making White Supremacy Legible on the Land: Excavating the Environmental Rhetorics of Empire in Nancy Cunard's Anti-imperialist Writings," Spectacles of Decline: A Symposium on the Waning British Empire (U of Chicago), Online Format due to COVID-19, March 2021.
- "Modernist Lessons for the Anthropocene: An Environmental History of the Present," for "Modernism and Ecology 2: Eco-Catastrophe" Roundtable, Modernist Studies Association, Toronto, Canada, October 2019.
- "Modernist Matters on the Western Front," for "Material Modernisms: Making and Remaking Things" Seminar, Modernist Studies Association, Toronto, Canada, October 2019.
- "Anxieties of Empire in No Man's Land: Mud, Soil, Land, and Stone," Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment 13th Biennial Conference, Davis, CA, June 2019.
- "Situating the Modernist Ground of England's Pasts: T.S. Eliot's Poetic Landscaping," American Literature Association 30th Annual Conference, Boston, MA, May 2019.
- "The Grace of Grass: Transformative Materiality in David Jones's *In Parenthesis*," David Jones Research Center Seminar: "David Jones: Theory of Art; Theory of Culture," Booth Family Center for Special Collections, Georgetown University Library, March 2019.
- "Lithic Landscapes of David Jones's War-Time Poetry," Modernist Studies Association, Columbus, Ohio, November 2018.
- "British Nation and English Nature: War, Modernism, and Literary Studies," WWI and Disciplinarity Seminar, Modernist Studies Association, Columbus, Ohio, November 2018.
- "Commemorating War in Landscapes of Environmental Affect: David Jones' Syntactic Subject of the Great War," Modern Language Association Convention, New York City, January 2018.
- "Occupying Temporary Space in an Endless War," Modernist Studies Association, Amsterdam, Netherlands, August 2017.
- "Radclyffe Hall's Queering of the Modernist Garden," Modernist Gardens Seminar, Modernist Studies Association, Amsterdam, Netherlands, August 2017.
- "The Stain of War on the Surfaces of the Domestic: Relocating England in Rebecca West's *The Return of the Soldier*," Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment 12th Biennial Conference, Detroit, MI, June 2017.
- "Humanities in the Undergraduate Curriculum," Roundtable Participant, URI Graduate Conference, Kingston, RI, April 2017.
- "Modernist Spaces in a Time of Rupture: The Strange Matter and Queer Fantastic in Woolf and West," North American Conference on British Studies, Burlington, VT, October 2016.
- "Trench, Garden, Park, and Field: Temporalizing Landscapes of Heritage in Virginia Woolf's Interwar Britain," 26th Annual International Conference on Virginia Woolf: Virginia Woolf and Heritage, Leeds, UK, June 2016.
- "Towards a Benjaminian Environmental Historiography: Shattering the Anthropocene," Climate Change: Views from the Humanities [Almost Carbon Neutral Conference], Environmental Humanities Institute, UC Santa Barbara (online), May 2016.
- "Biopolitical Sacrifice and Consumption in Padmanabhan's *Harvest*," American Comparative Literature Association, Cambridge, MA, March 2016.

- "Rhetorics of War, Poetics of Fragmentation: Inscribing the Trench into Modern Ecological Subjectivity," Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment 11th Biennial Conference, Moscow, ID, June 2015.
- "Anne Locke's *Meditation:* Traversing the Physical and the Immaterial in English Renaissance Protestant Humanism," Northeast Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Toronto, ON, April 2015.
- "The Body Interred: Excessive Subject of King and Country in *Hamlet*," URI Graduate Conference, Kingston, RI, April 2015.
- "J. R. R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*: Modernist Fantasy, Ecology, Trauma, and the Great War," Mythcon 45: Where Fantasy Fits, Norton, MA, August 2014.
- "Literary Activism in Academia: Ecocriticism's Role in Reviving the Relevancy of Literary Studies," Modern Language Association Convention, Chicago, IL, January 2014.
- "Wollstonecraft—Unnatural Woman: Between the Nature of the Feminine and a Gendered Nature," Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Vancouver, WA, October 2013.
- "Ethical Animal Aesthetics and Speciesism in Olive Schreiner's *The Story of An African Farm*," Forms of Life: Reading Humans, Animals, and Machines in a Posthuman World, University of Alabama, Huntsville Graduate Conference, Huntsville, AL, April 2013.
- "Comic Books in the Classroom, Not Such a Comical Idea Anymore: The Graphic Novel in Humane Literary Studies Curricula," Comic Arts Conference, Anaheim, CA, March 2013.

Teaching Experience

RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN (2017-2019, 2020-2024)

Lecturer, Literary Arts & Studies Department (LAS)

LAS E250: Racialized Environments: Black Britain in the Twentieth Century (1 section)

LAS E249: Hostile Environments: Writing War in the Long Twentieth-Century (1 section)

LAS E248: Queer Modernisms: On Reading Slantwise Between the Wars (1 Section)

LAS E348: Remaking the World: Anglo-American Modernisms (2 Sections)

LAS E101: First-Year Literature Seminar

- 1. Nature, Trauma, and Selfhood in Modernity (1 section)
- 2. Landscape, Myth, and Britishness (1 section)
- 3. What's the Matter with Language? (5 Sections)

Independent Study Projects Supervised

Nina Gregg (Senior, Industrial Design), "Eco-Futures" (LAS), Wintersession 2021

BENTLEY UNIVERSITY (2022)

Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of English and Media Studies

EXP101: Expository Writing I (1 Section)

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND (2014-2018, 2021)

Replacement Instructor (Faculty Medical Leave)

English 383: Modernist Literature 1900-1945: World War I (1 Section, 13/15 Weeks)

Instructor of Record (TA), Department of English

English 201: Principles of Literary Study (2 Sections)

English 110: Introduction to Literature

English 243: The Short Story (Theme: War Stories in the Long Twentieth Century)

Writing 104: Writing to Explain and Inform (3 Sections)

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE (2013-2014)

Instructor of Record (TA), Department of English

English 401: First Year Writing—Special Topics: Ecology and Subjectivity

English 401: First-Year Writing

Service to the Profession, University, and Department

PEER REVIEWING

Peer Reviewer, Journal of Literature and Trauma Studies, 2 MSS, 2021, 2022

Peer Reviewer, Ecocene: Cappadocia Journal of Environmental Humanities, 2 MSS, 2021

Peer Reviewer, Ecozon@: European Journal of Literature, Culture and Environment, 1 MSS, 2019

EDITORIAL COMMITTEES

Editorial Assistant, Ecocene: Cappadocia Journal of Environmental Humanities, September 2020-Present Member, Editorial Committee, EuropeNow: A Journal of Research and Art, September 2019 – June 2020 Submissions Reader, Ocean State Review, 2014

WORKSHOPS ORGANIZED

Literature Teaching Assistant Trainer (Peer Mentor/Workshop Co-Organizer), English Department, URI, 2017-2019

Co-Organizer, Humanities at Work in the World, Undergraduate Career Training Workshop, 2017

CONFERENCE SESSIONS ORGANIZED

- Seminar Leader and Organizer, "Elemental Ecology in Modernism's Time of Crisis," with Laura Winkiel as invited participant, Between the Acts: Modernist Studies Association Online Conference, April 2022.
- Session Chair and Organizer, "Ecological and Postcolonial Belonging in British Literature of the Diaspora, 1940-2020," American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, Online Format due to COVID-19, April 2021
- Roundtable Co-moderator and Co-organizer, "Affective Materialities: Reorienting the Body in Modernist Literature," Modernist Studies Association 21, Toronto, Canada, October 2019
- Panel Chair and Organizer, "Representing Empire in British Modernism—A Crisis of Environmental Aesthetics," ASLE 13th Biennial Conference, June 2019, Davis, CA
- Panel Organizer, "Planetary War and Modernist Ecologies of Ruin," Modernist Studies Association 20, Columbus, Ohio, November 2018
- Session Co-Chair and Organizer with Dr. Gülşah Göçmen, "Modernist Resilience at the End of the World(s)," ASLE 12th Biennial Conference, June 2017, Detroit, MI
- Panel Organizer, "Repurposing the Grounds of War: Modernist Environments," Modernist Studies Association 19, Amsterdam, Netherlands, August 2017
- Sessions Co-Chair and Organizer with Kara Watts, "Touching the Body in Pieces: Affective Ecologies of the Modern Body" (I) and (II), NeMLA Annual Convention, Hartford, CT, March 2016
- Session Co-Chair and Organizer with Michael Haselton, "Food and Sustainability: Towards a Culinary Ecology," NeMLA Annual Convention, Toronto, ON, April 2015

EXTRA-DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES

Senator, Graduate Student Association, URI, 2019-20

Member, Constitution and Finance Committees, Graduate Student Association, URI, 2020

Member, Constitution and By-Laws Committee, Graduate Assistants United, URI, 2017

Committee Member: Core Committee, Coastal Environments Subcommittee, Collaboration and Development Committee; NEH Next Generation Humanities PhD Planning Grant, URI English Department, 2016-17

Student Advisory Board Member, URI Center for the Humanities, 2016-17

Evaluation Committee, URI Foundation Staff Excellence Awards, 2016, 2017

Department Steward, English, Graduate Assistants United, URI, 2014-17

Marketing and Logistics Coordinator, AAUP Sponsored "Climate Change Science in an Age of Misinformation," Featuring Cornelia Dean, Kenneth Kimmell, J. Timmons Roberts, Lee McIntyre, and Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, Kingston, RI, April 2016

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES

Founding Member and Co-chair, URI English Graduate Professionalization Committee, January 2015-2019

Founder and Moderator, URI English Graduate Writing Group, January 2015-May 2020

Graduate Liaison to English Department Meetings, URI, 2015-16

English 110 for Secondary Schools Curriculum Development Committee, URI, 2016

Graduate Representative, English Department Graduate Committee, URI, 2014-15

Co-Chair of Professionalization, English Graduate Organization, UNH, 2013-2014

CONFERENCE PANELS MODERATED

Panel Chair, "Ecocritical Variants," 30th Annual International Conference on Virginia Woolf, Online Format due to COVID-19, June 2021

Panel Moderator, "Understanding Femininity," URI Graduate Conference, April 2017

Panel Moderator, "Transforming Perspectives in Military and Political History at the Eve of WWI," URI Graduate Conference, April 2016

Panel Moderator, "Global and Local Traumas: From WWI to Today," URI GradCon, April 2015 Session Chair, Guaranteed Session: British Eighteenth Century Literature, RRMLA Annual Convention, Vancouver, WA, October 2013

Professional Affiliations

Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment, 2009-Present

Modern Language Association, 2012-Present

Modernist Studies Association, 2014-Present

American Comparative Literature Association, 2016-Present

Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts, 2018-Present

Space Between Society, 2022-Present

Other Relevant Employment

Section Instructor, THAD-H101, "Architecture and Design," Grading and Discussion Section of Large Lecture Course, Rhode Island School of Design, Spring 2022 and 2023

Section Instructor, THAD-H101, "Global Modernisms?: Decolonizing Contemporary Art," Grading and Discussion Section of Large Lecture Course, Rhode Island School of Design, Fall 2021 and 2022

Digital Coordinator, ASLE 14th Biennial Conference - Online Format due to COVID-19, July - August 2021

Accessibility Transcription Work/Video Subtitling, ASLE 14th Biennial Conference - Online Format due to COVID-19, July 2021

History 142 (Native American History Since 1877) and 180 (Introduction to Latin American Civilization) Tutor, Dr. Judith Gamble, Talent Development Program, URI, 2020

Associate Editor, Empire Studies Magazine: Topics in the Rise and Fall of Empires, May-August 2019

Teaching Assistant, Gender & Women's Studies 220: Women and the Natural Sciences, Nursing BS Accelerated Online Course, Dr. Karen Stein, URI, Spring 2018

Joint Coordinator, Marketing and Website Rebranding Project, English Department, URI, 2017-19 Teaching Assistant, English 160: World Literatures, Dr. Carolyn Betensky, Fall 2017

English 110 Tutor, Dr. Gititi, Talent Development Program, URI, 2017

Teaching Assistant, FLM 100 Nursing BS Accelerated Online Course, Marina Shron, Summer 2017 AP Exam Reader, English Language Responses, Kansas City, MO, June 2016

ETS Scorer, rSAT Online Tests, Essay Writing Section, December 2015-July 2017

Administrative Assistant, Center for Humanities, URI, Kingston, RI, 2015-16

Writing 100 Tutor, Dr. Hagen, Talent Development Program, URI, 2015

Language Proficiencies

French – Reading and Writing, Basic Latin – Reading, Basic

In the Media

- "Book Review: Affective Materialities." The Modernist Review 29 (2021), book review by Isabelle Jenkinson, [https://modernistreviewcouk.wordpress.com/2021/04/29/book-review-affective-materialities/#more-2922]
- "Anthropocene Anxieties: Toward an Affective Ecocriticism," *Ecozon@: European Journal of Literature, Culture and Environment* 12.1 (2021): 220-226, review essay by Caitlin McIntyre, including review of *Affective Materialities:* Reorienting the Body in Modernist Literature,

 [https://ecozona.eu/article/view/3759]
- "Affective Materialities: Reorienting the Body in Modernist Literature. Ed. Kara Watts, Molly Volanth Hall and Robin Hackett," Forum for Modern Language Studies 46.4 (2021): 481-2, book review [https://doi.org/10.1093/fmls/cqaa032]
- "ISLE Responds to the Call for Social and Environmental Justice," ISLE/OUP Curated Collection featuring my "Beloved as Ecological Testimony: The Displaced Subject of American Slavery" alongside other articles responding to recent call for anti-racist progress, [https://academic.oup.com/ISLE/pages/social-and-environmental-justice]
- "How Modernism Provisions Us for the Future," *Studies in the Novel* 52.2 (Summer 2020): 209-214, review essay by Tim Weintzen, including review of *Affective Materialities: Reorienting the Body in Modernist Literature*, [https://muse.jhu.edu/article/756945]
- "Review of Affective Materialities: Reorienting the Body in Modernist Literature, ed. Kara Watts, Molly Volanth Hall, and Robin Hackett by Marta Figlerowicz," Modernism/Modernity, January 2020, [https://muse.jhu.edu/article/751800]
- "Doctoral Candidate Wins Coveted Fellowship for Dissertation on Landscape Representation in Modernist Literature," *URI Today*, July 2019, [https://today.uri.edu/news/doctoral-candidate-wins-coveted-fellowship-for-dissertation-on-landscape-representation-in-modernist-literature/].
- "Episode 7: Modernism at War," *Modernist Podcast*, July 2017, [https://modernistpodcast.org/episode-seven/].

"I am a Humane Educator: Molly Volanth Hall," *Humane Education Blog*, September 2016, [https://humaneeducation.org/blog/2016/humane-educator-molly-volanth-hall/].