

Tolonda Henderson

tolondahenderson.org

Curriculum Vitae

Education

PhD	in progress	English, University of Connecticut Dissertation: Reclaiming Their Time: Anxiety, Blackness and Subjectivity in Contemporary Young Adult Literature Major Advisor: Anna Mae Duane, Professor of English, University of Connecticut. anna.duane@uconn.edu
MA	2020	English, University of Connecticut Graduate Certificate: American Studies
MLIS	2006	Library and Information Science, Dominican University (River Forest, IL) Independent Study: The Implications of Paulo Freire's Pedagogy of the Oppressed for Information Literacy Instruction
MA	2003	Religious Studies, Chicago Theological Seminary Thesis: "Love Ain't Worried": Amplifying the Lesbian Voice of Womanist Theology through the Blues
BA	1999	Sociology-based Human Relations, Connecticut College Honors Thesis: "Some of Us are Still Brave": Black Lesbian Self-Concept Formation

Teaching Experience (Instructor of Record)

Undergraduate Courses, University of Connecticut

Fall 2024	Seminar in Academic Writing and Multimodal Composition (First Year Writing course)
Fall 2023-Spring 2024	Women, Gender and Film (2000-level; four sections)
Spring 2023	Young Adult Literature (3000-level)
Spring 2023	Disability in American Literature and Culture (2000-level)
Fall 2020-Fall 2022*	Seminar in Academic Writing and Multimodal Composition (First-Year Writing course) *2020-2021 was entirely online
Fall 2018-Spring 2020	Seminar in Academic Writing (First-Year Writing course)

Publications

Accepted for Publication

"'I have never been a man that much enjoyed flirting, or chatting, or indeed talking at all': The Ontological Paradox of the Duke of Hastings's Stutter." *Bridgerton and Philosophy*, The Blackwell Philosophy and Pop Culture Series, ed. Jessica Miller.

Peer Reviewed

"The Unbibliography: When Failure Is Not a Waste of Time." *Prompt: A Journal of Academic Writing Assignments*, Vol. 8 No. 1 (2024).

"Chosen Names, Changed Appearances, and Unchallenged Binaries: Trans-Exclusionary Themes in Harry Potter," *Harry Potter and the Other: Race, Justice, and Difference in*

the Wizarding World, eds. Sarah Park Dahlen & Ebony Elizabeth Thomas. University Press of Mississippi, 2022, 164-178.

“Harry Potter and the Management of Trauma” and “A Coda: She-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named.” *Open at the Close: Literary Essays on Harry Potter*, ed. Cecilia Konchar Farr. University Press of Mississippi, 2022, 212-226.

Co-authored with Rebecca Rowe and Tianyu Wang. “What’s in a Name?: Text Mining, Hermione Granger, and Fan Fiction.” *Transformative Works and Cultures*, no. 36, 2021, [doi:10.3983/twc.2021.1997](https://doi.org/10.3983/twc.2021.1997).

Other Scholarship

“I Don’t Think You’re a Waste of Space’: Activity, Redemption, and the Social Construction of Fatness,” in *Inside the World of Harry Potter: Essays Exploring the Potterverse*, ed. Christopher E. Bell. McFarland Press, 2018, 33-43.

Co-authored with Amy M. Von Lintel. “More than Moving Images: The Visual Culture of Harry Potter,” in *From Here to Hogwarts: Essays on Harry Potter Fandom and Fiction*, ed. Christopher E. Bell. McFarland Press, 2016, 140-158.

Co-authored with Dorinne Banks. “Think Before You Flip: Using Fink’s *Taxonomy of Significant Learning* to Design Flipped Library Instruction.” *College & Research Libraries News* [Online], 80.3 (2019): 169.

“Honey, This Shug Is Feeling Fine: The Blues Woman as Theologian.” *American Theological Library Association Summary of Proceedings* 60, (2006): 145-151.

“What Is to Prevent Me From Being Baptized?: Reading Beyond the Readily Apparent.” *Chicago Theological Seminary Register* 93, no. 3: 14-22 (2003).

Conference Presentations

Upcoming

“Refusing to Wait: Black Disabled Adolescents in African American Literature,” Modern Language Association, New Orleans, LA. January 2025.

Past

“Anxious Interruptions: Kairos Time in *You Should See Me in a Crown*,” Children’s Literature Association, Bellevue, WA. June 2023.

“Develop This! Adolescence, Blackness, and Disability in YA Literature,” Roundtable on Race and Disability in Children’s and Young Adult Literature, Children’s Literature Association, Bellevue, WA. June 2023.

“I Still Do It Even Now’: Anxiety, Developmentalism, and Young Adult Literature,” Young Adult Studies Association, Virtual. November 2022.

“They Could Never Carry What I Do’: Black and Mad Subjectivity in Young Adult Literature,” Northeast Modern Language Association, Baltimore, MD. February 2022.

“Disability and Narrative Prosthesis in Netflix’s *Bridgerton*,” Northeast Popular Culture Association, Virtual. October 2021.

- “Packaging Self-Advocacy: Genre in Disability Research Guides,” Society for Disability Studies, Virtual. April 2021.
- “Redemption through Activity: Examining the Social Construction of Fatness in Harry Potter,” Southwest Popular and American Culture Association, Albuquerque, NM. February 2018.
- “History or Propaganda: Memorials in Harry Potter,” Harry Potter Conference, Philadelphia, PA. October 2017
- “The Flipped Library Classroom: Using Digital Objects in Information Literacy Instruction,” with Dorinne Banks. Virginia Library Association Conference. October 2017.
- “Significant Learning: Why Flipped Library Classrooms Work,” with Dorinne Banks, CUA-LIS Bridging the Spectrum. February 2017.
- “The Statue and the Sign: The Origins and Significance of the Memorials to the Potter Family,” Southwest Popular and American Culture Association, Albuquerque, NM. February 2017.
- “Hidden in Plain Sight: Disability Narratives in *Harry Potter*,” Southwest Popular and American Culture Association, Albuquerque, NM. February 2016.
- “Are Flexible Minds a Burden or a Gift? A Disability Studies Perspective on Veronica Roth’s *Divergent* Series,” Mid-Atlantic Popular and American Culture Association, Philadelphia, PA. November 2015.
- “More than Moving Images: The Visual Culture of *Harry Potter*,” with Amy M. Von Lintel, Southwest Popular and American Culture Association, Albuquerque, NM. February 2015.
- “‘Glad of Your Absence,’ Or, Why Nobody Writes about Ron,” Harry Potter Conference, Philadelphia, PA. October 2014.
- “Restricted Access: The Gendered Role of the Library at Hogwarts” Southwest Popular and American Culture Association, Albuquerque, NM. February 2014
- “Shhhh!!: Hermione Granger and the Marginalization of the Hogwarts Library,” Harry Potter Conference, Philadelphia, PA. October 2013.
- “Beyond Madam Pince: Inviting Students into Conversation about Harry Potter,” Shenango Teaching Conference, Sharon, PA. March 2013.
- “Student Driven Library Instruction,” Lilly Conference on College & University Teaching, Bethesda, MD. June 2011.
- “Subjects in Their Own Learning: A Learner Driven Approach to Library Instruction,” Georgia Conference on Information Literacy, Savannah, GA. October 2010.
- “Some of the Best Stuff God Did: The Paradoxical Relationship Between the Erotic and the Divine in the Color Purple,” Mid-Atlantic Regional Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion and the Society of Biblical Literature. New Brunswick, NJ. March 2008.

“Beyond Tokenism: Achieving Genuine Diversity,” Annual Meeting, Illinois Library Association. Chicago, IL. October 2006.

“Honey, This Shug is Feeling Fine: The Blues Woman as Theologian,” Annual Conference, American Theological Library Association. Chicago, IL. June 2006.

“Subjects in Their Own History: Information Literacy Instruction as a Practice of Freedom,” Georgia Conference on Information Literacy, Statesboro, GA. October 2005.

“The More Things Change...: Continuity in Library and Information Science,” Illinois Association of College and Research Libraries. March 2004.

Honors and Awards

American Studies Graduate Student Research Award, University of Connecticut. May 2023.

Conference Participation Award, The Graduate School, University of Connecticut. February 2023.

Best Graduate Student Paper in Science Fiction and Fantasy, Southwest Popular and American Culture Association. February 2017.

Honorable Mention, Best Student Paper Competition, Illinois Association of College and Research Libraries. March 2004.

Invited Appearances and Community Outreach

Invited speaker, “Scholar Tea,” Bates College, October 2023.

Invited speaker, “Black Lives Matter.” Professor Theri Pickens, Bates College, October 2023.

Featured speaker, “From Dr. Strange to Bridgerton: Unexpected Disability Narratives in Popular Culture.” District of Columbia Public Library (virtual), August 2023.

Invited speaker, “Can We Talk About Simon’s Stutter, Though? Bridgerton as a Disability Narrative (Virtual)” West Hartford Public Library, October, 2022.

Invited speaker, Pottiversity podcast. Episode 11: Reading the Signs. July 12, 2021.

Invited speaker, The Deconstruction Workers Podcast (A Bi-Weekly Adventure into Popular Culture), hosted by Dr. Christopher Bell. Season 4 Episode 9, June 2020.

Invited speaker, “Contemporary Fiction: *Harry Potter* and Literary Theory.” Professor Dohra Ahmad, St. John’s University, April 6, 2020.

Invited speaker, Film discussion on *The Hate U Give*, University of Connecticut, October 2019.

Invited pre-performance speaker, “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone – In Concert.” National Symphony Orchestra. July 7, 2017.

Invited speaker, “Harry Potter, Profanity, and the Banned Book,” DC Public Library’s Banned Book Week. September 29, 2016.

Invited radio guest, "The Wizarding World of Harry Potter," HearSay with Cathy Lewis. WHRV/WHRO (NPR/PBS affiliate), Norfolk, VA. August 29, 2016.

Interviewee, "A Curse on Spoilers," *Toronto Star Touch*. July 5, 2016.

Interviewee, "Talking with George Washington University's Harry Potter Scholar," *GW Today*. February 1, 2016.

Professional Service

Co-moderator, "Syllabus Swap: Children's and Young Adult Literature," Facebook group (900+ members). August 2022-Present

Co-facilitator, Pedagogy Workshop, Young Adult Studies Association, Virtual. October 31, 2022.

Co-session Chair, "Ethics of Representing Care." Northeast Modern Language Association, Baltimore, MD. February 2022.

Session Chair, Harry Potter Conference, Philadelphia, PA. October 2017.

Session Chair, Harry Potter Studies Section, Southwest Popular and American Culture Association, Albuquerque, NM. February 2017.

Book Proposal Review, Manchester University Press, May 2016.

Communications in Information Literacy, Review Board. Aug 2007-June 2018.

Relevant Professional Experience

Instruction and Reference Librarian. Gelman Library, George Washington University, Washington, DC. July 2009-July 2018.

Librarian for Reference and Access Services. New Brunswick Theological Seminary, New Brunswick, NJ. September 2006-June 2009.