

# Mary Borgo Ton

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## Education

*Ph.D. in English with a concentration in Literature and a minor in Victorian Studies*

Indiana University, September 2019

Dissertation: “[Shining Lights: Magic Lanterns and the Missionary Movement, 1839—1868](#)”

Committee: Steve Watt and Ellen Mackay (co-chairs), Lara Kriegel, Monique Morgan

*Graduate Certificate in Digital Arts and Humanities*

Indiana University, September 2019

Capstone Project: “[The Magic Lantern Introduces Us to New Friends](#)”: Exploring *A Million Pictures Data*

*B.A. in Comparative Literature with Honors and English*

University of North Carolina, May 2009

## Digital Humanities and Project Management Experience

Assistant Professor and Digital Humanities Librarian (March 2023—Present)

*Scholarly Communication and Publishing, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Library*

- Support digital approaches to cultural heritage materials through consultations, workshops, and asynchronous teaching materials
- Lead workshops on digital humanities tools, methods, and approaches
- Provide reference support for text mining projects
- Mentor graduate students in the iSchool and humanities departments
- Collaborate with colleagues to design, build, and preserve digital-born scholarship

Tech Team Member (July 2020—Present)

*[AFRO Publishing Without Walls 2 Initiative](#), Department of African American Studies, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*

- Design downloadable platform guides for Scalar with Black Studies content
- Record and edit video material for outreach and educational efforts
- Lead workshops on the digital publishing process for project participants
- Serve as a consultant for projects in progress
- Review publication proposals for potential feasibility and accessibility issues

Digital Publishing Specialist (July 2020—March 2023)

*Illinois Open Publishing Network, Scholarly Communication and Publishing, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Library*

- Supported authors, editors, and collaborators in all stages of the publication process via consultations and correspondence

- Developed and conducted workshops related to digital publishing tools, writing workflows, and digital approaches to text
- Collaborated with colleagues in Scholarly Communication and Publishing to shape policies and craft documentation
- Reviewed long-form publications according to IOPN's accessibility and technical standards

Project Scholar (July 2019—Present)

[\*One More Voice\*](#), *University of Nebraska*

- Transcribe and encode archival documents according to TEI P5 Guidelines
- Update XSLT to improve the site's accessibility

CLIR Postdoctoral Fellow in Data Curation for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (July 2019—July 2020)

[\*Archivo Mesoamericano\*](#), *Digital Collection Services, Indiana University Libraries*

- Created collection finding aids and teaching materials in Spanish and English
- Supervised quality control specialists to caption videos
- Monitored hourly worker budget

Project Scholar (August 2015—July 2019)

[\*Livingstone Online\*](#), *University of Nebraska*

- Transcribed and encode archival documents according to TEI P5 Guidelines
- Reviewed coding, project documentation, and supporting critical materials
- Promoted the project's continued growth through grant applications

Managing Editor (August 2010—May 2014)

[\*Victorian Women Writers Project\*](#), *Indiana University Libraries*

- Developed partnerships through outreach, conference presentations, and publications
- Facilitated undergraduate contributions to the project
- Managed an undergraduate student worker

Photographer (May 2011—May 2013)

*David Francis Collection, Bloomington, Indiana*

- Developed best practices for photographing magic lantern slides
- Documented photography workflow and file naming practices
- Trained new personnel how to use camera rig and project documentation
- Prepared the collection for its relocation to the [Kent Museum of the Moving Image in Deal, UK](#)

## **Pedagogy and Curriculum Development Experience**

Digital Pedagogy Specialist (August 2017—July 2019)

*Institute for Digital Arts and Humanities, Indiana University*

- Developed workshops for scholars with broad disciplinary backgrounds and skill levels
- Coordinated and led in-class activities for History, English, and Religious Studies
- Created sample data sets, step-by-step guides, and teaching materials for in-class use
- Performed educational research to refine the implementation of digital tools in classroom settings in preparation for phase two of NetCreate's development

HASTAC Program Coordinator (August 2017—July 2019)

*Services for Digital Humanities and Creative Activities & the Institute for Digital Arts and Humanities, Indiana University*

- Crafted strategic plan for the program in collaboration with Tassie Gniady (Manager, Services for Digital Humanities and Creative Activities), Kalani Craig and Michelle Dalmau (Co-directors, IDAH)
- Created application guidelines, evaluation criteria, timeline, and applicant review workflow
- Designed, implemented, and refined a modular curriculum to promote measurable progress on HASTAC projects
- Mentored individual HASTAC scholars as they build their professional portfolio
- Gathered quantitative and qualitative data from scholars to identify the program's strengths and future growth opportunities
- Facilitated dispersal of grant funds through IDAH's account

Associate Instructor of English (August 2011—May 2017)

*Department of English, Indiana University*

- Designed syllabi, in-class activities, and assignments for composition, professional writing, and literature courses
- Supported student growth through skills-based training
- Assessed student progress through creative assignments, critical essays, and exams

Volunteer English as a Foreign Language Instructor (January 2015—May 2016)

*ViTAL Writing Workshops, Monroe County Public Library*

- Created interactive grammar and vocabulary activities for members of the community
- Provided one-on-one conversation practice and writing consultations for EFL learners

## **Digital Projects and DH Publications**

*Shining Lights: Magic Lanterns and the Missionary Movement, 1839-1868*

A digital monograph (in development) that studies the global dissemination of projection equipment in the hands of British missionaries through curated exhibits of digitized lanterns, slides, letters, journals, and periodical literature

- Manage multimedia content through [Scalar](#), [Youtube](#) and [Sketchfab](#)
- Build custom page layouts with HTML and CSS
- Preserve cultural heritage objects with Photoscan and Adobe Photoshop

- Map key locations with Esri Story Maps

[Archivo Mesoamericano / Mesoamerican Archive](#)

A digital archive of annotated videos created in collaboration with the Center for Research and Advanced Studies in Social Anthropology (CIESAS) in Mexico, the Institute of History of Nicaragua and Central America (IHNCA) in Nicaragua, and the Museum of the Word and the Image (MUPI) in El Salvador

- Led team of quality control specialists to correct mechanically-generated captions with Kaltura
- Modified metadata through Avalon, *Archivo's* content management system
- Created bilingual content for homepage with HTML and Github

Badirli, Sarkhan, Mary Borgo Ton, Abdulmecit Gungor, and Murat Dundar. "Open Set Authorship Attribution Toward Demystifying Victorian Periodicals." Document Analysis and Recognition – ICDAR 2021, Springer International Publishing, 2021, pp. 221–35. Crossref, [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-86337-1\\_15](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-86337-1_15).

- Classified authors according to gender, occupation, and background
- Contextualized model results within biographies of authors
- Reviewed paper for grammar issues and clarity

"Magic lanterns through a macroscopic lens: topic modelling and mapping as methods for media archaeology." *Early Popular Visual Culture*, vol. 17, no. 3, 2020. DOI: [10.1080/17460654.2019.1705651](https://doi.org/10.1080/17460654.2019.1705651)

An article that identifies literary tropes across 2,000 published eyewitness accounts of magic lantern shows through a multi-method digital analysis; based on [my capstone project for the Digital Arts and Humanities Certificate](#); pre-print version published open access via [IU Scholarworks](#)

- Mined data from [Lucerna](#) with SQL
- Cleaned data with Excel
- Topic modeled documents with MALLET
- Mapped paratextual metadata with Carto

[Livingstone's Manuscripts in South Africa: A Critical Edition](#). Adrian S. Wisnicki and Jared McDonald, directors. University of Maryland Libraries. 2018.

A critical edition of archival material from South African institutions that received the MLA Committee on Scholarly Editions seal of approval

- Transcribed and encoded approximately 20 letters according to the project's TEI guidelines
- Managed versions of xml files via GitHub
- Revised coding practices based on project documentation in Google Spreadsheets
- Reviewed [supporting scholarly essays](#)

*Snap-dragons; a tale of Christmas eve, and Old Father Christmas : an old fashioned tale of the young days of a grumpy old godfather.* by Juliana Horatia Ewing. London: Society for Promoting

Christian Knowledge, 1888. [Critical edition](#) hosted by the *Victorian Women Writers Project*.  
Angela Courtney and Michelle Dalmau, editors. Indiana University Libraries. 2011.  
A TEI edition of Julia Horatia Ewing's children's novella with supporting scholarly essays

"Strategies for Sustainable Growth: Lessons Learned through the Victorian Women Writers Project."  
Digital Studies/Le champ numérique, 7(1), 4. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.16995/dscn.276>  
A white-paper on project growth through pedagogy

## Other Publications

### *Peer-Refereed*

["Lasers and plastics and slides, oh my!"](#)

A blog post about a series of laser-cut and 3D printed mechanical magic lantern slides for Magnetic North's production of *Erewhon* at the 2018 Edinburgh Fringe Festival

"Reverend Smithurst's Wishlist" *The Magic Lantern*. Journal for the Magic Lantern Society of the UK. Fall 2018, p 14.

A short piece for a broad readership about an Anglican missionary who lived in Red River, Canada who requested magic lantern slides

### *Educational Resources*

*DIY-gitize: A Grassroots Guide to Preserving Sources*. With Jacob Bell and Rhiannon Hein.  
Champaign: Windsor & Downs Press, Illinois Open Publishing Network, 2023.  
(Forthcoming)

*Twenty-First Century Drama: The First Ten Years*. Angela Courtney, editor. Detroit: Gale Cengage Learning, 2012. Authored critical introductions to the following plays: *Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of God*, *Afterimage*, *In Flagrante Gothico*, *The Rubenstein Kiss*, *wAve*

## Select Research Grants and Scholarships

Mellon Innovating International Research, Teaching and Collaboration—Office of the Vice Provost for Research, Indiana University, November 2015

HASTAC Scholar—Institute for Digital Arts and Humanities, mentor, 2015-2016

Tuition Scholarship for a course on crowdsourcing at the Digital Humanities Summer Institute—University of Victoria, June 2015

Tuition Scholarship for a course on database design at the Digital Humanities Summer Institute—University of Victoria, June 2012

## Keynotes and Invited Papers

["Topical places, textual spaces."](#) Keynote for "Space is the Place: Mapping Visual Media & the Geospatial Turn," Center for Urban Studies, University of Antwerp, November 2019.

- “‘This is a big proverb,’ or the adventures of a slipper in Sierra Leone.” Magic Lantern Society of the US and Canada Convention, Victoria, British Columbia, April 2018.
- “Locating Lanternists: Tools for Geographic Analysis.” *A Million Pictures* Project workshop, Exeter, UK, January 2018.
- “Rev Smithurst’s Wish List.” Magic Lantern Society of the UK International Conference, Birmingham, UK, April 2017.
- “Shining Lights: Magic Lanterns in the hands of LMS missionaries, 1839-1890.” Christian Missions in Global History Seminar Series. School of Oriental and African Studies, London, UK, May 2017.

### Conference Presentations

- “Seeing through Lantern Slides” (with Kelli Trei and Sarah Christensen). International Visual Literacy Association. Champaign, Illinois. October 2019.
- “‘Duckfat Makes All the Difference:’ Conspicuous Consumption and Codes of Conduct.” The World(s) of *John Wick*. Bloomington, Indiana. November 2019.
- “‘Coffee’ and Other Coding Challenges: Lessons Learned through David Livingstone’s Manuscripts in South Africa (1843-1872).” Poster presentation. Text Encoding Initiative Annual Conference, Tokyo, Japan. September 2018.
- “Social Lights: Mapping Magic Lantern Shows and Local Performance Practices.” Panel on the digital spatial turn. North American Victorian Studies Association, Phoenix, AZ, November 2016.
- “‘The oxyhydrogen light of civilization’?: the Untold Story of Livingstone’s Lantern.” The Victorians Institute: Victorian STEAM, North Carolina State University, October 2016.
- “Missionaries, Local Peoples, and the Screen Experience: Then and Now.” Panel on Livingstone Online. Nineteenth-Century Studies Association: The New and the Novel, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, April 2016.
- “Teaching with TEI: The Victorian Women Writers Project and Virtual Learning Environments.” Digital Humanities Summer Institute, June 2015.
- “Building the Virtual Museum: Nineteenth Century Scholarship and the VWWP.” co-authored with Angela Courtney, director of the IU Scholars’ Commons. Digital Diversity 2015: Writing \* Feminism \* Culture, University of Alberta, May 2015.
- “Terms of Engagement: Words, Weapons, and Weddings in *As You Like It*.” Consent: Terms of Agreement, Department of English, Indiana University, March 2013.
- “Voyeur-istically Viewing Middlemarch: Visualization Tools and Traditional Literary Scholarship.” Digital Humanities Summer Institute, University of Victoria, June 2012.

### Workshops

*“A Gentle Introduction to the Digital Humanities,” University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Library, Fall 2023*

- Digital Humanities
- ChatGPT

- Images, AI, and Copyright (with Siobhan McKissic)
- Text Mining (with Cadence Cordell)
- Network Analysis
- Mapping

*Savvy Researcher Series, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Library*

- Introduction to Scalar: Working with Media (April 2021, October 2021, February 2022, September 2022, February 2023)
- Introduction to Scalar: Visualizing Your Argument (April 2021, October 2021, February 2022, September 2022, March 2023)
- Introduction to Topic Modeling (November 2020)
- Introduction to Scalar (October 2020)

*The Institute for Digital Arts and Humanities' Marking the Arts and Humanities Series, Indiana University*

- [Project Management through Poster Design](#) (March 2019)
- [Intro to Network Analysis](#) (January 2019)
- [FrankensTEIn: Teaching Archival Material through Mark-up](#) (October 2018)
- [The Franken-Assignment: Going Beyond the Essay](#) (October 2018)

*Other Workshops*

- Writing with AI (August 2023): Hosted by the AFRO Publishing Without Walls 2 Initiative
- IL SCOERs Grant: Summer Book Accelerator (July 2023): College of DuPage.
- Librarians and Digital Humanities: Getting Started (June 2023): Exploring Digital Humanities Conference, Illinois Wesleyan University
- Generative AI: Current Tools and Services (June 2023): Hosted by the Library Emerging and Immersive Technologies Committee, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Co-taught with Jake Metz
- [Designing Digital Publications](#) (June 2022, 2023): Hosted by the Digital Humanities Summer Institute at the University of Victoria, co-taught with Dan Tracy
- Structuring Digital Monographs (September 2022): Hosted by the AFRO Publishing Without Walls 2 Initiative
- Introduction to FDM 3D Printing (April 2022): For the Society for Hispanic Engineers, hosted by the IDEA Lab at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- [Strategies, Tools, and Best Practices for Digital Publishing](#) (April 2021): Hosted by SourceLab, Department of History at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- [Digital Publishing and Pedagogy in the Humanities](#) (November 2020): Hosted by the IT Pro Forum at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- [Digital Tools for the Humanities](#) (November 2019): Hosted by the Indiana University Journal of Undergraduate Research, presented as part of IU Research Day



- [Multimedia Writing: Poster Edition](#) (September 2019): Hosted by Indiana University Archives, presented as part of an honor's history course on filmmaking and legacy
- [Redesigning the Dissertation for the Web: a Case Study](#) (February 2019): Hosted by the Digital Library Brown Bag Series at Indiana University
- [This is cool, but what can 3D printing do for me?](#) (September 2018): Hosted by the Center for Excellence for Women & Technology at Indiana University
- [Material Cultures of Eighteenth-Century Privilege: Wigs, their Parts and Purposes](#) (May 2018): Hosted by the Center for Eighteenth-Century Studies at Indiana University
- [Code with a Kid: The Circuits Edition](#) (October 2017): Co-sponsored by Institute for Digital Arts and Humanities and the Center for Excellence for Women & Technology

## Courses Taught

### *Undergraduate Literature Courses*

- English L203: Introduction to Drama
- English L390: Children's Literature (Teaching Assistant)

### *Undergraduate Composition Courses*

- English W131: Reading, Writing, and Inquiry
- English W231: Professional Writing

## Professional Contributions and Service

### *Panels*

“Digital Literacy as Professional Development,” faculty workshop, Center of Excellence for Women & Technology, November 2019.

“Novel Form Theses—Student Case Studies,” Beyond the PDF, University of Iowa Libraries, Iowa City, March 2018.

“Digital Horizons for the Dissertation,” moderated by Dr. William Adams, former head of the NEH, Bloomington, Indiana. February 2018.

Discussion of *Hedda Gabler*. Hosted by *Victorian Studies*, Indiana University. October 1, 2015.

Pedagogy and Research in the Digital Humanities Roundtable. *Breaking Futures: Imaginative (Re)Visions of Time*, Department of English, Indiana University, March 2015.

### *Events*

3D Printer, “[Silver Screen Shadows](#),” a Cthulhu Live role playing game, Elder Entertainment, GenCon. August 2023.

Project Participant, “Social Lives of Digitized Culture,” Humanities Research Institute Research Cluster, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. August 2022—May 2023.

Conference Program Committee, DH + BH: An Interdisciplinary Conference on Digital Humanities and Book History, Digital Cultural Studies Cooperative, September 22-24, 2022.



Organizer, “Social Victorians,” mock panels for IU graduate students attending NAVSA, Scholars Commons, Indiana University. October 2016.

Co-organizer, “Common Ground: The Digital Spatial Turn in Victorian Studies,” panel for the North American Victorian Studies Association, Phoenix, AZ. November 2-5, 2016.

Coordinator, actor, and pianist. *Gilbert and Sullivan Variety Show*. Hosted by *Victorian Studies* and *CAHI*. February 2014.

Assistant lanternist, *Dickens Variety Show*, Buskirk-Chumley Theater, Bloomington, IN. April 2012.

### *Reviews and Resource-building*

Editorial Board Member, [SourceLab](#), August 2021—present.

Reviewer, National Endowment for the Humanities, Digital Humanities Advancement Grants. November 2021.

Editor, *New Light on Old Media*. [A monthly publication of the Magic Lantern Society of the UK](#). January 2019—present.

Book reviewer, *Staging the Other in Nineteenth-Century British Drama*. [British Association for Victorian Studies Newsletter 19:1 \(July 2019\)](#).

Article reviewer, *Conrandiana*. January 2015.

Contributor, *Victorian Studies Bibliography*. January 2010, 2011.

### *Committees*

HathiTrust Research Center Advisory Board Member, August 2023—present.

Library Emerging and Immersive Technology Committee, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Library, May 2023—present.

Assessment Committee, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Library, August 2021—present.

Graduate Studies Policies and Curriculum, Graduate Student Advisory Committee, May 2014-May 2015.