

Leah Marie Becker

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Education

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign 2017-Present (2023 expected graduation)

PhD Candidate in Literary Studies – Nineteenth-Century American Literature, Environmental Humanities, and Domestic Literature
Advisor: Justine S. Murison

New York University 2015-2017

MA in English and American Literature
MA Thesis: “Sharing Wounds: How Ishmael’s Narrative Voices Spread the Burden of Testimony in *Moby-Dick*”
Advisor: Dr. Elisabeth Bronfen

University of Portland 2010-2014

BA in English
Senior Capstone: “From Big Brother to Big Scientist: The Effects of the Human Genome Project on Speculative Fiction”
Advisor: Dr. Herman Asarnow

Awards UIUC English Department Undergraduate Teaching Award Fall 2020

Publications “Reconciling Julia Child and Rachael Ray: Is there Room in the Kitchen for Foodies, Convenience-loving Cooks, and Feminists?”
Render: *Feminist Food and Culture Quarterly* Winter 2014

Fellowships And Grants

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Illinois Distinguished Fellowship 2017-Present

President’s Diversity in Research Travel Award 2020

New York University
New York University English Department Scholarship 2015-2017

University of Portland
Roger Joseph Colatorti Scholarship 2010-2014

University of Portland President’s Scholarship 2010-2014

Conference Presentations

- C19: Dissent** Fall 2020
Paper Presented: "Radical Ecofeminist Roots in Sentimental Literature"
- NWSA: Just Imagine. Imagining Justice.** Fall 2018
Paper Presented: "The Fates' Revenge: Violence Against Women and the Environment in David Catlin's *Moby Dick* Adaptation"
- UIUC: HGMS Memory Studies Symposium** Spring 2018
Paper Presented: "Sharing Wounds: How Ishmael's Narrative Voices Spread the Burden of Testimony in *Moby-Dick*"
- Johns Hopkins: VERSUS** Fall 2016
Paper Presented: "Does Melville Hate You? Questioning Dispossession versus Subversion in Herman Melville's *The Confidence-Man: His Masquerade*"
- CUNY: Reading Terror: Representations and Resistance** Fall 2015
Paper Presented: "I am Nothing': Sublime Insanity in Edgar Allan Poe"
- Northwest Undergraduate Conference for Literature** Spring 2014
Papers Presented: "Reading for the Unknowable in *Moby-Dick*" and "Are We Human? The Effects of the Human Genome Project on Speculative Fiction"

Teaching Experience

- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign** 2018-Present
(*Included on UIUC List of Teachers Ranked Excellent)
- Department of English—Literature
ENGL 250: Nineteenth-Century American Fiction (Instructor of Record: Spring 2020*)
ENGL 116: Introduction to American Literature (Instructor of Record: Fall 2019*)
ENGL 255: Early American Literature and Culture (TA: Fall 2018*, Spring 2019*)
- Undergraduate Rhetoric Program
RHET 105: Writing and Research (Instructor of Record: Fall 2018*, Spring 2019*, Fall 2019*, Spring 2020*)
- Austrian-American Educational Commission**
United States Teaching Assistant 2014-2015

**University
Service**

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

LAS Academic Standards Committee, Graduate Representative (elected) 2020-2021

UIUC Graduate Employee Organization, Member 2017-Present

New York University

Graduate English Organization, MA Representative 2016-2017

Theory B****es Reading Group, Co-Chair 2016-2017

Early American Reading Group, Co-Chair 2016-2017

University of Portland

German Culture Club, President 2013-2014

German Culture Club, Secretary 2012-2013

Sigma Tau Delta Chapter, Vice-President and Co-Founder 2013-2014

Writer's Magazine, Editor 2013-2014

Related
Employment
Experience

New York University Press

Web Content Intern Spring 2017

New York University German Department

Student Administrative Assistant 2015-2017

University of Portland

Writing Center, Writing Assistant 2012-2014

(Outstanding Writing Assistant Award, 2014)

Writing Center, Online Scheduling Coordinator 2013-2014