

# Dr John Wrighton

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## Academic

### Positions

(current & selected)

#### Head of Research

School of Humanities, University of Brighton

**Subject Leader, Literature (2013-14); Course Leader, MA Literature**

College of Arts and Humanities, University of Brighton

#### International Research Fellow, 2011-12

Modern Literature and Culture Research Centre

Ryerson University, Canada

#### Director (South East Region)

Centre for Contemporary Poetry, UK

## Education

**Ph.D. English** Aberystwyth University (2008)

**B.A. Hons. English** University of Southampton (2002)

## Grants and Fellowships

#### Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy

Date of Recognition: 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2014

#### Canada Foundation for Innovation Grant

(CAD 339, 000) Contributing author, SSH Research Council grant, 2012

#### Ryerson University Research Travel Grant

(CAD 700) Archival research at New York Public Library (USA), 2013

#### International Research Fellowship, SSHRC/Ryerson Univ. Grant

(CAD 70, 000) Seconded to Ryerson University (Canada), 2011-13

#### Rose and Sigmund Strochlitz Research Grant

(USD 3, 000) Archival research at University of Connecticut (USA), 2006

#### Aberystwyth University Research Travel Grant

(GBP 1,000), Archival research at Guggenheim Museum, NYC, 2006

## Research

### - Interests

Dr Wrighton's research interests are in modern and contemporary American literature and culture, the study of poetic schools and movements in modernist and avant-garde poetry, literary theory, ethical philosophy, and interdisciplinary textual practice.

### - Publications

***Ethics and Politics in Modern American Poetry* (New York and London: Routledge, 2010) 222pp ISBN 0415801222**

This book examines the relationship between ethics and poetics in modern American poetry. It charts the development of ethical praxis in experimental work from the Objectivists to the "Language" writers, proposing a new way of reading the work of the most prominent American modernist poets.

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### - Publications (continued)

Praise for *Ethics and Politics in Modern American Poetry* (New York and London: Routledge, 2010) —

“Thoughtful and copiously researched.”

**Professor David Gewanter**, Georgetown University,  
**Times Higher Education**, 17<sup>th</sup> Dec., 2009

“This is an important and original piece of scholarly work, both literary and philosophical, and will interest and appeal to a wide audience.”

**Dr William E Cain**, **Mary Jewett Gaiser Professor of English**,  
Wellesley College, USA

“An insightful and nuanced account ... critically engaging ... clear organisational framework ... excellent use of unpublished archival material.”

**Dr Alexander Howard**, University of Edinburgh,  
*Textual Practice* 25:2 (2011)

### *Essays and Articles*

“Reading Responsibly Between Martha Nussbaum and Emmanuel Levinas: Towards a Textual Ethics for the Twenty-First Century” *Interdisciplinary Literary Studies: A Journal of Criticism and Theory*, Vol. 19 Issue 1 (forthcoming, 2017) [accepted: 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2014]

“The Textual Ethics of Dada: A Case Study,” *Textual Practice*, Vol. 30, no. 7 (2016), pp. 1-24.

“Ethnopoetics and the Performativity of Place: Jerome Rothenberg and ‘That Dada Strain’” in I. Davidson and Z. Skoulding. (Eds.) *Placing Poetry* (Rodopi, 2013), pp. 257-281

“‘Arabesque Grotesque’: Toward a Theory of Dada Eco-poetics,” *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment* Vol. 20, no. 4 (2013), pp. 795-816 (with Irene Gammel)

“Archive Matters: In search of that original contribution” *Research Matters*, No. 6 (2006), pp. 5-7

“Expanding the Range of Reference”, in *English* (the journal of the English Association), Vol. 51, no. 208 (Spring 2005), pp. 72-76

“The Poethical Trajectory: Ethical Praxis in Modern American Poetry” in *Rhetoric, Politics, Ethics* Conference Proceedings (2005) 12pp

[http://www.rpe.ugent.be/Wrighton\\_paper.doc](http://www.rpe.ugent.be/Wrighton_paper.doc)

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## - Publications (continued)

### *Reviews*

"Money, Speculation and Finance in Contemporary British Fiction" in *The European English Messenger*, no. XIX/2 (Autumn 2010) 4pp

Bethan Roberts' *The Good Plain Cook* in *New Welsh Review* No. 82 (Winter, 2008), pp. 81-83

Peter Middleton's *Distant Reading: Performance, Readership, and Consumption in Contemporary Poetry* in *Journal of the Midwest Modern Language Association* Vol. 39, No.2 (Fall, 2006), pp. 182-185

## - Guest Lectures

**Denise Levertov: Material Poetics, Counter-Culture in Community, and the Alternative Press, 1969-1971**  
University of Westminster, 2016

**"Relearning the Alphabet": Denise Levertov and the Ethics of (Making) Poetry**  
University of Northampton, School of Arts Research Seminar Series, 2015

**Poetry and Revolution**  
University of Surrey, English Research Seminar Series, 2015

**The Ethical Turn: Ethics & Politics in Avant-garde & Modern Poetry**  
Modern Literature & Culture Lecture Series, Ryerson Univ., Canada, 2011

**Ethics and Politics in Modern American Poetry**  
English Literature Visiting Speakers Programme, Edinburgh Univ., 2011

**Technology and the Poetic Cityscape**  
English Literature Research Lecture Series, University of Brighton, 2010

**Environmental Ethics in the Poetry of Gary Snyder**  
Dept. of English Visiting Lecture Series, Aberystwyth University, 2008

## - Conference Papers

**"Underground and Alternative Press Collection: Radical Brighton"**  
(with Lisa Redlinski, Library Manager). Univ. of London, Senate House.

**"The walls of the garden, the first light": Political Emotion in the Poetry of Denise Levertov**  
Northeast Modern Language Association (Ryerson Univ., Toronto) 2015

**Poetic Ecologies in New York Dada: A Case Study in Modernism's Urban Avant-Garde** (with Professor Irene Gammel)  
British Association of Modernist Studies (Institute of English Studies, Senate House, London) 2014

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- **Conference  
Papers**  
(continued)

**The Ethics of Fiction: a three-dimensional model**

Modernist Studies Association (University of Sussex, Brighton) 2013

**Literary Ethics and the New Rhetoric: Jack Kerouac's "Spontaneous Prose" as a "Structure of Knowing"**

Rhetoric as Equipment for Living (Ghent University, Belgium) 2013

**Ecopoetics as Spatial Practice in New York Dada**

Canadian Association of American Studies annual conference (University of Toronto, Munk School of Global Affairs, Canada) 2012

**Modernity's Dialectic**

Literatures of Modernity Symposium (Ryerson University, Canada) 2011

**Maximus Kinesis: Charles Olson and Modernist Women's Poetry**

Charles Olson Centenary Conference (University of Kent) 2010

**The "Turn to Ethics" or, Political Commitment "After Theory"**

English Subject Centre Literature and Politics Study Day (Brighton) 2010

**Ethnopoetics and the Performativity of Place**

Placing Poetry Colloquium (Bangor University) 2009

**Frontier Testing: Re-thinking the Paradigms of Assessment**

Poster presentation, Gwella Launch Symposium: Good Practice in Technology-enhanced Learning and Teaching (Aberystwyth Univ.) 2009

**Authorised Identities: Approaching Charles Olson through the Archive Collection**

Co-authored with Melissa Watterworth, Curator of Literary Collections, Dodd Center, University of Connecticut, "Archive Fervour/Archive Further" (Aberystwyth University) 2008

**Face Work: Bruce Andrews' Poethical Praxis**

British Association of American Studies Annual Conference (University of Kent, Canterbury) 2006

Conference Delegate, "Pressure to Experiment," Centre for Contemporary Writing (University of Southampton) 2006

**Poethical Praxis: Ethics & Politics in "Language Poetry"**

BAAS Postgraduate Conference (University of Sheffield) 2005

**The Poethical Trajectory: Ethics and Politics in Modern and Contemporary American Poetry**

"Rhetoric, Politics, Ethics" (Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium) 2005

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- **Conference  
Papers**  
(*continued*)

**Jerome Rothenberg's Ethnopoetics**

British Association of American Studies Annual Conference (University of Cambridge) 2005

**The Horizon of the Poem and Postmodern Ethics**

University of Wales Colloquium (Gregynog, Newtown, Wales) 2005

**Gary Snyder's Eco-poetics**

Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment Annual Conference (University College Chichester) 2004

- **Conference  
Organiser**

**Contemp. British & American Poetics: Trans-Atlantic Avant-Garde**

Seminar organiser, English Shared Futures, Newcastle Civic Centre, 2017

**Digital Research in the Arts and Humanities (DRHA)**

20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference, with Alan Bolden, Univ. of Brighton, 2016

**Modernist Poetry Criticism and the New Ethics**

Roundtable organiser and moderator. 15th Annual Modernist Studies Association Annual Conference (Sussex University, Brighton) 2013

**Poetry's Public**

International Seminar (featuring Canada's Poet Laureate, Fred Wah; with a trans-Atlantic video link across 5 universities) 2012

**Modernity and Technology**

Panel co-organised & co-chaired with Professor Irene Gammel for Modernist Studies Association annual conference (Buffalo, NY) 2011

**Gwella Symposium: Technology-enhanced Learning and Teaching**  
(Aberystwyth University) 2009

**Writers and Writing**

Universities of Wales Annual Conference (Gregynog, Wales) 2008

*Conference Assistant & Chairperson*

**Fragment: Cultural Histories and Vocabularies of the Fragment in Text and Image.** Aberystwyth University, 2007

**Cityscapes: perspectives from modern & contemporary culture**

Aberystwyth University, 2004

**SKIN: texture/textuality/word/image**

UWA, hosted by Institute of English Studies, University of London, 2004

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## Editorial

*English* ISSN 0013-8215, Peer-Reviewer, 2016-

*Rethinking History* ISSN 1364-2529, Peer-Reviewer, 2016-

Monograph reviewer for **Palgrave Macmillan**, Scholarly and Reference Division, 2015-

*Modernism/Modernity* ISSN 1071-6068 Peer-Reviewer, 2015-**KB Journal: The Journal of the Kenneth Burke Society** ISSN 1930-0026 Peer-Reviewer, 2013-

*Dada/Surrealism* ISSN 00849537 Peer-Reviewer, 2013-

*C21 Literature: Journal of 21<sup>st</sup>-century Writings* ISSN 2045-5216 Editorial Board, 2010-present

**Centre for Contemporary Poetry (UK) On-line Journal**  
[www.contempoetry.com](http://www.contempoetry.com). Editor, 2006-present

*New Welsh Review* ISSN 0954-2116 Assistant Editor, 2007-08

## Peer-Review Committees

(2015-18) Member of the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) Peer Review College

(2015-) Member, Languages & Literature Subject Group panel, Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC) TECHNE Doctoral Consortium

## Consultancy

Panel member for Program Collaboration Approval Event, University of Northampton, with DEI College, Greece.

External examiner, Sussex 2016

## Professional Memberships

- JISC Learning & Teaching Experts Group
- Senior Fellow of Higher Education Academy (awarded 2014)
- The Modernist Studies Association
- British Association of American Studies

## Supervisions

### *Postgraduate Research Supervisions*

- Richard Lyus, BSc (Kings College London), MBBS Medicine (Univ. of London) – Lead Supervisor, "An Autoethnography of Abortion, Ethics, and Fiction", 2016-19
- Sam Cutting, BA (Sheffield Hallam Univ.), MA (Univ. College London), PGCSE (Canterbury Christ Church Univ.) – Lead Supervisor, **AHRC** TECHNE PhD project "Complex Machines: Representations of Technology in Twenty-First Century Fiction," 2015-17
- Joel Roberts, BA (Univ. of Brighton), MA (Univ. of Sussex) – Lead

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## Supervisions

*(continued)*

- Supervisor for **AHRC** TECHNE Associate PhD project 'Textual Ethics, Postmodern Fiction, and the Global City Space,' 2014-16
- Jian Farhoumand, MA (Univ. of Edinburgh), MA (London Film School), MPhil (Univ. of Sussex) – Lead Supervisor for PhD project "Postwar American Poetry and the Cinematic Influence: Charles Bukowski and the Beat Poets," 2014-15.
- [Ahlia Moussa](#), BA (Univ. of Alberta), MA (Univ. of Western Ontario) – **SSHRC** Research Assistant (Ryerson Univ., Toronto), 2012
- [Andrew McEwan](#), BA (Univ. of Toronto) – Research Assistant **SSHRC** (Ryerson Univ., Toronto), 2012 *University of Brighton Committee Membership*

## Academic Citizenship

- University: Research & Enterprise, Research Ethics, Academic Standards, Concordat Steering Group, REF Steering Group
- College of Arts and Humanities: Centre for Research and Development Management Group, Research Ethics (chair), Research Leaders Group (chair)
- School of Humanities: Research Strategy Committee (chair), Board of Study

## Academic Leadership

### *Deputy Director of Research and Development*

College of Arts and Humanities, University of Brighton

- Primary reader for Academic Health Meeting (11<sup>th</sup> Dec., 2014)
- University review of research ethics framework, College of Arts and Humanities representative (2014-15)
- Strategic Research Review, report and assessment of outputs for REF 2020
- MRes Arts and Cultural Research, *viva voce* chairperson
- Arts and Humanities PhD interview, Research Project Approval, and Transfers, School of Humanities representative and panel member
- Chair of School of Humanities Research Committee, Chair of College Research Ethics Committee, and Chair College Research Leaders' Group
- Overview and strategic planning of major programme grants
- Planned development of Research Mentoring Scheme
- Co-ordination of research initiatives & development of PGR environment across constituencies (centers, clusters, academic programme areas)

### *Course Leader, MA Literature*

College of Arts and Humanities, University of Brighton

- Launch, management, and development of MA Literature
- Academic health: collation & reports on module & course evidence
- Admissions Tutor, course marketing, open day talks
- Personal Tutor for all MA Literature students

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## Academic Leadership

(continued)

### *Research Leader, Literature*

- Mentor for early career researchers in Literature
  - Organisation and leadership of Literature research away days
  - Management of Research Initiatives, Annual Activity and Project Fund
  - C21: Centre for Research in Twenty-First Century Literature, steering group member
- Excellence in Facilitating & Empowering Learning Award, 2015 nomination

### *Subject Leader, English Literature (2013-14)*

- Subject strategy and development across campuses
- Literature Team leadership and management
- Recruitment of new faculty and Visiting Lecturers
- Staffing plan and teaching allocations
- Staff-Student Consultative Committee member
- School of Humanities Board of Study member
- Membership on all single and joint honours Literature degree course and exam boards at Falmer and UBH
- BA English Literature course Periodic Review team member
- Academic health: collation & reports on module & subject evidence

## Courses Taught

(selected & recent)

### *Principal Lecturer in English Literature*

College of Arts and Humanities, University of Brighton

- **MA Literature Dissertation Module** (level 7, grad)
- **American Poetry in 20<sup>th</sup> Century: Cultural Practice & Public Space** (level 7, grad)
- **Research Methods** (level 7)
- **Practising Rhetoric** (level 7)
- **Postwar American Literature** (level 6)
- **American Literature, 1850-1960** (level 5)
- **Writing the Contemporary** (level 6)
- **Text, Theory, Culture** (level 5)
- **Literature, Criticism, Theory** (level 4)
- **Poetry in Cultural History** (level 4)
- **Romanticisms** (level 4/5)
- **The 19th c. in Literature** (level 5)
- **Subject Approaches & Practices** (level 4)

### *Visiting Professor (2011-12)*

Department of English, Ryerson University

- **20<sup>th</sup> Century Literature and Culture II** (undergraduate course)



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## **Courses Taught** (continued)

- **Foundations of Modernity** (graduate course)

*Lecturer in English Literature (2010-11)*

College of Arts and Humanities, University of Brighton

- **Narrative & Narratives** (level 4)
- **Subject Approaches and Practices** (level 4)
- **Research Practices** (level 5)
- **The Child in Literature** (level 5)
- **New English Writings & Voices** (level 6)

*Teaching Fellow (2006-08)*

Department of English and Creative Writing

Aberystwyth University

- **Contemporary Writing** (level 6)
- **American Lit. I: From Colonies to the Gilded Age** (level 4)
- **Am. Lit. II: From New Immigration to Multicultural Nation** (L5)
- **Reading Theory / Reading Text 1** (level 5)
- **The USA Since 1945: Cold War to Civil Rights** (level 6)
- **The USA Since 1968: From Vietnam to 9/11** (level 6)
- **Literature of the American West** (level 6)

Department of History and Welsh History

Aberystwyth University

- **The Making of the American Nation, 1783-2000** (level 4)

*Course Leader (2006-08)*

Centre for Widening Participation and Social Inclusion

Aberystwyth University

- **Introduction to English Studies**  
Responsible for design, teaching, assessment and administration for the West Wales Summer University Programme

*Academic citizenship at Aberystwyth University, English Dept.:*

- Maintaining student records; exam invigilation; marking moderation; exam board and module review committees
- Open Days: welcoming of prospective students & parents; introduction to the degree schemes; fielding enquiries
- University induction for new PhD students: presentation and talks exploring the role and responsibilities of postgraduate research study

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## Training

### *Continuing Professional Development*

KMP+ House of Mentoring accredited training (2016): three-day course

Chairing Periodic Review and Validation events: training session (2016)

Professor Development Workshop Programme (2014-15)

- Developing, leading & managing large research projects, strategic choices, delivering impact, understanding & responding to the research landscape, shaping the curriculum via research

Research Leadership Programme (2014-15)

Research Team Leadership, Post-award support & planning, research innovation Higher Education Academy

- Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (awarded 2014)
- HEA Change Master Class – Leadership of Change. Blackboard Collaborate, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2013
- HEA Networking day for Heads of Department/Subject Leaders. University of Oxford (2013), London (2014)

The Future's Bright Early Career Researchers Conference  
University of Brighton, 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2010

The Future of the Student Learner Experience  
HEA Annual Conference, University of Manchester, 2009

Learning Literacies in the Digital Age  
ELESIG and JISC Symposium, Orange Studio, Birmingham, 2009

Centre for Development of Staff and Academic Practice  
Aberystwyth University

- Deterring and Detecting Plagiarism (2009)
- Teaching in Higher Education course (2004)

### *Student Support Training*

**Aberystwyth University, 2002**

- Areas covered: conflict management, disability awareness, listening and communication skills, first aid, health and safety, drugs awareness

## References

*Available on request*

