

KATY L. CHILES

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

Associate Professor of English, University of Tennessee, August 2014-present

Assistant Professor of English, University of Tennessee, August 2008-July 2014

EDUCATION

Northwestern University, Ph.D., English, 2008

Northwestern University, M.A., English, 2002

University of Kentucky, B.A., English, 1998
Summa Cum Laude

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Transformable Race: Surprising Metamorphoses in the Literature of Early America.
New York: Oxford UP, 2014.

Articles and Book Chapters

“What Could Have Happened to Farmer James?” for *The New Crèvecoeur*, editor Dennis Moore. (under review)

“Tribal Sovereignty, Native American Literature, and the Complex Legacy of Hendrick Aupaumut.” In *Stories of Nation: Fiction, Politics, and the American Experience*, eds. Martin Griffin and Christopher Hebert. University of Tennessee Press, 2017. 199-223.

“From Writing the Slave Self to Querying the Human: The First 25 Years of *The Signifying Monkey*,” solicited for symposium on Henry L. Gates’s *The Signifying Monkey* for *Early American Literature*. 50.3 (2015): 873-890.

“Becoming Colored in Occom and Wheatley’s Early America.” *PMLA* 123.5 (2008): 1398-1417.
[Reprinted in print, digital, and e-format in *Poetry Criticism (PC)*, published by Gale/Cengage.]

“Within and without Raced Nations: Intratextuality, Martin Delany, and *Blake; or the Huts of America*.” *American Literature* 80.2 (2008): 323-52.

“Blackened Irish and Brownfaced Amerindians: Constructions of American Whiteness in Dion Boucicault’s *The Octoroon*.” *Nineteenth Century Theatre and Film* 31.2 (Winter 2004): 28-50.

Reviews and Entries

- Book review of *The Press and Slavery in America, 1791–1859: The Melancholy Effect of Popular Excitement*, by Brian Gabriel. *Journal of American History* (June 2017): 31.
- “[Discovering ‘Theresa’](#)” short essay for “Just Teach One: Early African American Print” feature in [Common-place](#), an online publication sponsored by the American Antiquarian Society and the University of Connecticut Department of History. June 2015.
- “[How to do Things with Indian Texts](#),” solicited article for “Notes on the Text” feature in [Common-place](#), an online publication sponsored by the American Antiquarian Society and the University of Connecticut Department of History. 15.2 (Winter 2015).
- Book review of *Empowering Words: Outsiders and Authorship in Early America*, by Karen Weyler. *The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*. 112.3 (Summer 2014): 497-499.
- Book review of *Early African American Print Culture*, eds. Lara Langer Cohen and Jordan Alexander Stein. *Modern Language Review* 109.3 (July 2014): 783-784.
- Entry on [Martin Delany’s Blake; or the Huts of America](#). Encyclopedia Virginia (www.encyclopediavirginia.org), published by the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities in partnership with the Library of Virginia and the University of Virginia and supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities.
- “The Law and Black Folk.” Book Review of *Disturbing the Peace: Black Culture and the Police Power After Slavery*, by Bryan Wagner. *Criticism* 55.2 (Spring 2013): 339-344.
- Book Review of *Removable Type: Histories of the Book in Indian Country, 1663-1880*, by Phillip Round. *Early American Literature* 47.2 (2012): 499-504.
- Book Review of *A Hideous Monster of the Mind: American Race Theory in the Early Republic*, by Bruce Dain. *Early American Literature* 43.2 (2008): 511-16.
- “John Marrant.” *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of African American Literature*. Eds. Hans Ostrom and J. David Macey. Vol. 3. Westport: Greenwood Press, 2005. 1034-35.
- Book Review of *Spiritual Interrogations: Culture, Gender, and Community in Early African American Women’s Writing*, by Katherine Clay Bassard. *Tulsa Studies in Women’s Literature* 21.2 (Fall 2002): 411-14.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Essays

- “The Demands of Early African American Literature” for *African American Literature in Transition, Volume 1, 1750-1800*, editor Rhondda Robinson Thomas, Cambridge University Press.

Book Manuscript

- Raced Collaboration in Antebellum America: The Idea of Authorship in Early African American and in Native American Literatures*

HONORS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Stipend. 2016.

University of Tennessee Humanities Center Faculty Fellow. 2016-17.

Faculty Teaching Award, University of Tennessee English Department Graduate Students in English. 2015-16.

Professional Development Award, University of Tennessee Graduate School. 2015-16.

University of Tennessee Research and Creative Achievement—Professional Promise Award. UT Chancellor's Office. 2014-15.

University of Tennessee Alumni Association Outstanding Teacher Award. 2014-15.

Newberry Library Short Term Fellowship for Individual Research, Newberry Library. 2014-15.

Stephen Botein Short-term Visiting Academic Research fellowship, American Antiquarian Society. 2014-15.

Chancellor's Grant for Faculty Research, University of Tennessee Office of Research. Spring 2014.

Faculty Teaching Award, University of Tennessee English Department Graduate Students in English. 2012-13.

Professional Development Award, University of Tennessee Graduate School. 2011-12.

National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Stipend, "We the People" designation. 2010.

Hodges Excellence in Teaching Award for Assistant Professors, University of Tennessee English Department. 2009-10.

Edward C. Carter Library Resident Research Fellowship, American Philosophical Society. 2009-10.

Chancellor's Grant for Faculty Research, University of Tennessee Office of Research. Spring 2009.

Mellon Foundation Grant, Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University. Fall 2007.

University Fellowship, Northwestern University Graduate School. 2006-07.

Jacob K. Javits Fellowship, U.S. Department of Education. 2001-03; 2004-06.

Phi Beta Kappa, University of Kentucky. 1997-98.

TEACHING

Associate Professor, University of Tennessee English Department

Graduate Courses

Antebellum Authorship (ENG 660). Spring 2014.
Critical Race Theory (ENG 590). Fall 2015, Fall 2012.
Early Black Writing (ENG 552). Spring 2012.

Undergraduate Courses

The Antebellum Black Atlantic (ENG and AFST 443). Fall 2015, Spring 2013, Spring 2012, Fall 2009, Fall 2008.
Black American Literature and Aesthetics (ENG and AFST 333). Spring 2016, Fall 2014, Fall 2013, Fall 2011, Spring 2011, Spring 2010, Fall 2009, Spring 2009.
Colloquium in Literature (ENG 376). Spring 2013, Spring 2010.
Junior-Senior Honors Seminar (ENG 398). Fall 2012.
Major Black Writers (ENG and AFST 233). Spring 2015, Fall 2014, Fall 2013, Fall 2008.
UT Chancellor's Honors Program (UH 257). Fall 2011.

Visiting Assistant Professor and Lecturer, Northwestern University English Department

Speaking Out: Early Black Writing (ENG 366). Summer 2008.
Introductory Seminar in Reading and Interpretation (ENG 298). Spring 2008.
Native American Literature and Ways of Reading (ENG 378). Spring 2008.
The Antebellum Black Atlantic (ENG 366). Winter 2008.
Changing Race in American Literature (ENG 101-6). Winter 2008.

GRADUATE RESEARCH ADVISING

Doctoral Committee Member, University of Tennessee English Department.

John Stromski; LaRonda Sanders-Senu; Michael Modarelli

Doctoral Committee Member, University of Tennessee Anthropology Department.

Eleanor Breen

Masters Committee Chair, University of Tennessee English Department.

Rachel Dunsmore

Masters Committee Member, University of Tennessee English Department.

Royce Best; Joel Cox; Kelly Masterson; Matthew Bryant Chaney; Adam Coombs; Shelby Johnson; Jessica Hoover

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Chair, University of Tennessee English Department.

Kendall Jagers (Anne Hight Gore Prize for Best Honors Thesis 2015); Grant Anderson (Anne Hight Gore Prize for Best Honors Thesis 2014); Ronald Walters (Anne Hight Gore Prize for Best Honors Thesis 2013)

PRESENTATIONS**Invited Lectures and Talks**

- “Phillis Wheatley, Ta-Nehisi Coates, and the African American Literary Response to Systemic Racism.” Invited lecture, City of Knoxville Equity Committee, Knoxville, TN, 13 January 2017.
- “Phillis Wheatley, Ta-Nehisi Coates, and the African American Literary Response to Systemic Racism.” Invited lecture, YWCA Phillis Wheatley Center, Knoxville, TN, 2 and 4 February 2016.
- “African-American Poetics, Then and Now.” Invited lecture, Haslam Scholars Program Speaker Series, University of Tennessee, 24 October 2014.
- “A Calendar, a Book, and a Folder: Reflections from the Probationary Period.” New Faculty Orientation, hosted by the Provost. University of Tennessee, 13 August 2014.
- “Teaching Phillis Wheatley.” Invited talk, University of Tennessee English Department, Teaching Brownbag Series, 19 February 2014.
- “Transformable Race and the Literatures of Early America.” Invited lecture, Africana Studies Faculty Symposium. University of Tennessee, 18 April 2013.
- “Passing into the Native: Reading Race in Early American Literature.” Invited lecture, University of Tennessee Humanities Center Symposium, “Heredity and Racial Theory: 1700-1900.” 16 March 2012.
- “Writing Race in Early America: The Power of Phillis Wheatley’s Poetry.” Invited lecture, University of Minnesota-Morris African-American Writers speaker series. 13 September 2010.
- “Race and Early American Literature and Culture.” Invited lecture, University of Tennessee College of Arts and Sciences Scholarly Exchange program. Knox County Public School teachers in-service and a Knox County Public School’s Black History Month event. 15 March 2010.
- “The Power of Language: Reading and Writing the American Revolution and the Civil War.” Invited lecture, Avery Coonley Middle School. Downers Grove, IL, 27 May 2004.

Professional Presentations

- “Alternative Black Authorship.” Mellon Foundation & Rare Book School “Bibliography among the Disciplines” conference. Philadelphia, PA, 12-15 October 2017.
- “The Trope of the Inscribed Back.” American Comparative Literature Association conference. Universiteit Utrecht, Netherlands, 7 July 2017.
- “Tribally Centered Research Methodologies for Early Native American Literature.” Native American and Indigenous Studies Association conference. University of British Columbia, 22 June 2017.
- “Historical Forms of African American Personhood and Authorship.” New Directions in Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Scholarship Conference. University of Tennessee, 29 April 2017.
- “Locating Native American Archives.” Society of Early Americanists conference. University of Tulsa, 2 March 2017.
- “William Apess’s Last Laugh.” Native American and Indigenous Studies Association conference. University of Hawaii, 21 May 2016.
- “Black Hawk’s Representations.” Native American and Indigenous Studies Association conference. Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian, 5 June 2015.

- “From Indian Country to the Metropole: Framing the War of 1812 through Native Print Publication.” Society of Early Americanists “London and the Americas, 1492-1812” conference. Kingston University, London, 19 July 2014.
- “Artists Formerly Known as Authors.” Fellow’s Talk, American Antiquarian Society. 26 June 2014.
- “Authorship as Activism: Native-White Collaboration and Print Publication.” Native American and Indigenous Studies Association conference. University of Texas-Austin, 31 May 2014.
- “The Women of Steve McQueen’s *12 Years a Slave*.” University of Tennessee Africana Studies Film Series. Talkback discussion leader, Knoxville, TN, 16 April 2014.
- “Authorship as Commons: Native-White Collaboration and Print Publication.” C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists conference. University of North Carolina, 13 March 2014.
- “Hendrick Aupaumut: An Eighteenth-Century Mohican Diplomat.” Native American Institute of the Hudson River Valley’s 12th Annual Algonquian Peoples Seminar. Albany, New York, 15 September 2012.
- “Phillis Wheatley’s Periodical Performance.” Society of Early Americanists “‘Triumph in my Song’: Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century African Atlantic Culture, History, and Performance” conference. University of Maryland, 31 May 2012.
- “Early African-American Literature in the Native American South.” Society for the Study of Southern Literature. Invited paper for roundtable on “Native African Southern Multicultures: Canons and Contexts.” Vanderbilt University, 31 March 2012.
- “Doubting Transformable Race: Hugh Henry Brackenridge and the Textuality of Natural History.” Modern Language Association. Seattle, 5 January 2012.
- “Hendrick Aupaumut’s Mistakes.” Modern Language Association. Bibliography and Textual Studies Discussion Group: Indigenous Textual Cultures Panel. Seattle, 7 January 2012.
- “Equiano’s ‘One Blood.’” University of Maryland conference “Bloodwork: The Politics of the Body, 1500-1900.” College Park, MD, 7 May 2011.
- “Transforming into Natives: Crèvecoeur and Marrant on Becoming Indian.” Modern Language Association, MELUS Panel. Los Angeles, 7 January 2011.
- “Black on the Inside: *The Algerine Captive*’s Language of Sympathy.” C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists Inaugural Conference. Pennsylvania State University, 21 May 2010.
- “‘Of our own colar’: Racing Native Alliances in Hendrick Aupaumut’s ‘Short Narration.’” Newberry Library Seminar in Early American History and Culture. Chicago, 15 May 2008.
- “Native Confederation, Pan-Indianism, and Hendrick Aupaumut’s Ohio Valley Diplomacy.” Society of Early Americanists “Prophetstown Revisited: A Summit on Early Native American Studies.” Purdue University, 3 April 2008.
- “Manifesting Color: Samson Occom, Phillis Wheatley, and Transformations of Race.” Society of Early Americanists/Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture. Williamsburg, 7 June 2007. Presenter and organizer.
- “Breakfast on Mentoring.” Guest speaker at the Society of Early Americanists Women’s Caucus. Society of Early Americanists/Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture. Williamsburg, 8 June 2007.
- “Dyeing the Body: Natural History, Environmentalism, and Phillis Wheatley’s ‘Thoughts on the Works of Providence.’” Midwest Modern Language Association. Chicago, 11 November 2006.

- “Representing Black Hawk; or, How Native American Studies Can Re-Imagine Early America.” Early American Matters Caucus panel for the American Studies Association. Oakland, 14 October 2006.
- “Journals and Journeys: Tracing Early Native American Print Narratives.” American Society for Ethnohistory. Santa Fe, 18 November 2005.
- “Speaking the Raced Nation: Looking Back at the First City.” Midwest Modern Language Association. Milwaukee, 13 November 2005.
- “‘These white people was,’ (sic): Reading and Quoting the Native American Archive.” McNeil Center for Early American Studies “Approaching Evidence in Early America.” Philadelphia, 8 October 2005.
- “Racial Formation in the Early National Period.” CIC American Indian Studies Graduate Consortium. University of Wisconsin-Madison, 8 April 2005.
- “Globalization and Early American Studies: Interdisciplinarity in Research and Professional Projects.” Modern Language Association. Philadelphia, 28 December 2004.
- “Trans/National Capital: Olaudah Equiano and Hendrick Aupaumut’s Philadelphia.” Modern Language Association. Philadelphia, 27 December 2004.
- “Racialized Movement and Captivity: Olaudah Equiano’s *Interesting Narrative* and Royall Tyler’s *The Algerine Captive*.” American Studies Association. Atlanta, 11 November 2004.
- “Dear Mr. President: The Public and Private Correspondence of Phillis Wheatley and Elizabeth House Trist.” Illinois Philological Association Annual Meeting. Lewis University. Romeoville, IL, 17 April 2004.
- Graduate Student Roundtable. CIC American Indian Studies Consortium Conference, “Native Peoples and Museums: Building Reciprocal Relationships for the 21st Century.” Newberry Library. Chicago, 11 September 2004.
- “Transnational Nationalisms: ‘American’ Studies, Racial Formation, and Martin Delany’s *Blake; or the Huts of America*.” Modern Language Association. San Diego, 30 December 2003.

Panel Organizer, Chair, or Respondent

- “Claiming the Human, Critiquing the Human.” American Comparative Literature Association conference. Universiteit Utrecht, Netherlands, 6-9 July 2016. Seminar Co-organizer.
- “Resistance to Criminal Justice and the Law.” New Directions in Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Scholarship Conference. University of Tennessee, 28 April 2017. Moderator.
- “The Best Early Black Life Stories You Haven’t Read Yet.” Society of Early Americanists/Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture conference. Chicago, IL, 20 June 2015. Organizer.
- “Early Native Activism in Unexpected Places.” Society of Early Americanists/Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture conference. Chicago, IL, 19 June 2015. Respondent.
- “Theatrical Connections of the 17th- and 18th-Century Atlantic World.” Society of Early Americanists “London and the Americas, 1492-1812” conference. Kingston University, London, 19 July 2014. Chair.
- “New World Peregrinations,” Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies conference. Knoxville, TN, 27 February 2014. Chair.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Manuscript Referee, Oxford UP, U of North Carolina P, Northwestern UP, U of Tennessee P, *PMLA*, *African American Review*, *J19: The Journal of Nineteenth-Century Americanists*, *Early American Studies*, *Journal of American History*, *Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies*, *Texas Studies in Literature and Language*. 2008-present.
- Internal Review Panel for the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend program, University of Tennessee College of Arts and Sciences, Fall 2017.
- Africana Studies Advisory Board, University of Tennessee College of Arts and Sciences. 2009-present.
- Administrative Committee, Elected Faculty Representative, University of Tennessee English Department. 2017-2018; Fall 2014.
- Reader and External Participant, Junior Faculty Manuscript Review Workshop, American Studies, Yale University, 9 February 2016.
- Chair, 18th/19th Century Departmental Division, University of Tennessee English Department, 2015-16.
- University of Tennessee Alumni Association Outstanding Teacher Awards selection committee, Spring 2016.
- Selection Committee for the American Antiquarian Society Short-Term Fellowships. 27 March 2015.
- Internal Review Panel for the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend program, University of Tennessee College of Arts and Sciences, Fall 2014.
- National Review Panelist, National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship program, American Literature and Studies panel. NEH, Washington, DC, 5 August 2013.
- Graduate Admissions and Placement Coordinator, University of Tennessee English Department. 2014-2016.
- Planning Committee, Elected Assistant Professor Representative, University of Tennessee English Department. 2011-2014.
- Faculty Research Seminar Member, "The Transatlantic Enlightenment," Tennessee Humanities Center. 2013-present.
- Search Committee (Diversity Advocate), Restoration/Eighteenth-Century Literature position, University of Tennessee English Department. 2013-14.
- Graduate Committee, University of Tennessee English Department. Fall 2013.
- Phi Beta Kappa, University of Tennessee. Members-in-course committee, 2013-17; Acting Historian, 25 April 2013; 27 April 2015; 27 April 2016.
- Internal Review Panel for the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend program, University of Tennessee College of Arts and Sciences, Fall 2012.
- Social Theory Graduate Certificate Faculty, University of Tennessee College of Arts and Sciences. 2012-present.
- American Studies Advisory Committee, University of Tennessee College of Arts and Sciences. 2011-present.
- M.A. Exam Committee, University of Tennessee English Department. 2008-11; 2012-13.
- Graduate Awards Committee, University of Tennessee English Department. 2009-10.
- Americanist Reading Group, University of Tennessee College of Arts and Sciences. 2008-present. Coordinator, Fall 2009; Faculty Director, 2014-15.
- National Day on Writing, Steering Committee, University of Tennessee. 2009.
- Visiting Scholars Program, University of Tennessee Office of Research. 26 March 2009.
- MLA Delegate Assembly, Great Lakes Regional Delegate. 2005-08.

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

African-American studies, Native American studies, early American literatures and cultures, critical race theory, and print cultures.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Rare Book School, "The American Book in the Industrial Era, 1820-1940," University of Virginia, July 24-28, 2017.

“Authors and Indians: Performance, Manuscript, and Print in Nineteenth-Century Native America.” CIC American Indian Studies Graduate Seminar. D’Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian History at the Newberry Library. Led by Professor Phillip Round, University of Iowa. Chicago, January-April, 2005.

“American Indian Literature and Indigenous History.” CIC American Indian Studies Graduate Workshop. D’Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian History at the Newberry Library. Led by Professor Chadwick Allen, Ohio State University. Chicago, 10-12 September 2003.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

African American Literature and Culture Society, American Literature Association, American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, American Studies Association, C19: Society for Nineteenth-Century Americanists, Modern Language Association, Native American and Indigenous Studies Association, and Society of Early Americanists.