

## Henry Y. Kirby, PhD

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**Dissertation:** “Unsettling Laughter: Native Humor and Resistance in Nineteenth-Century Native Literature.” Committee Members: Dr. Katy Chiles (Chair), Dr. Dawn Coleman, Dr. Bill Hardwig, Dr. Brooke Bauer

Defended: July 12, 2024

### Research Interests

American Literature before 1900, Native American Literature and Indigenous Studies, African American Literature before 1900, Print Culture Studies, Humor Studies

### Education

2024: Ph.D. Literature, Criticism, and Textual Studies, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

2014: M.A. English, Virginia Tech

2012: B.A. English, Virginia Tech; *summa cum laude*, College Honors, English Honors, and Phi Beta Kappa

### Employment

Teaching Assistant Professor, University of Tennessee, 2024-2025

Graduate Teaching Associate, English Department, University of Tennessee, 2019-2023

Adjunct Instructor, English Program, Southern Virginia University, 2018-2019

Adjunct Instructor of Writing, Department of English, Rhetoric, and Humanistic Studies, Virginia Military Institute, 2014-2019

Graduate Teaching Assistant, English Department, Virginia Tech, 2013-2014

### Editorial Work

Assistant Editor, *Early American Literature*, 2023-24

Assistant Editor for Reviews, *Early American Literature*, 2022-23

### Fellowships and Symposia

UT Humanities Center Graduate Student Fellow, 2023-2024

“Nineteenth-Century African American Print Culture” with Dr. Derrick Spires, The Rare Book School, University of Virginia, Summer 2021

### Institutional and Professional Awards

Jimmy & Ileen Cheek Graduate Student Medal of Excellence (Nominee), 2024

University of Tennessee Humanities Center Fellowship, 2023-24

Shipleigh-Swann Fellowship, 2023-24

Durant da Ponte American Literature Fellowship, 2023-24

W. E. B. Du Bois Fellowship, 2022-23

John C. Hodges Award for Excellence as an Experienced Tutor (Nominee), 2023  
Norman J. Sanders Fellowship, 2022-2023  
Richard Beale Davis Editorial Fellowship with *Early American Literature*, 2022-2024  
John Hurt Fisher Research Assistantship, Spring 2022  
Hodges Award for Excellence in Graduate Student Essay, Fall 2021  
Hodges Grant for Summer Seminars and Workshops, Summer 2021  
University of Tennessee Graduate Teaching Associateship, 2019-present  
Carolyn Pace Chermiside Award for Best Master's Thesis, Spring 2014  
Sharon Messer Award for Excellence in English, Spring 2012  
Robert Chermiside Award for Outstanding Work in Linguistics, Spring 2012

### **Peer-Reviewed Publications**

Kirby, Henry and Katy Chiles. "Martin R. Delany." In *Oxford Bibliographies in African American Studies*. Ed. Gene Jarrett. Oxford University Press, 2023.

### **Published Reviews**

Conference Rev. of Society of Early Americanists Seminar: "Origin Stories and Early American Studies." October 8, 2021. *Early American Literature*, vol. 57, no. 2, 2022, pp. 637-42.

### **Scholarly Presentations**

"Ahab's *Contract with God*: The Transformation of *Moby-Dick* in Will Eisner's Graphic Novels." Thirteenth International Melville Society Conference. Paris, France. June 2022.  
"Unrevised Traits of Indian Character: Reprinting, Recirculating, Rewriting Contingency in the *Cherokee Phoenix*." NEXUS Interdisciplinary Conference, The University of Tennessee: Knoxville, TN. March 2022.  
"Composing Comics: Theory and Practice for Writing Teachers" Roundtable Workshop. CCCC: Houston, TX. April 2016.  
"Visualizing Different Ways of Knowing in *Hawkeye* #11." Presented at the Popular Culture Association in the South and the American Culture Association in the South: Wilmington, NC. October 2015.  
"Reinvigorating History and Fiction in *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen: The Black Dossier*." Presented at (Temp)orary: Time and Temporality and Text. University of Georgia English Graduate Organization, UGA: Athens, GA. March 2014.

### **Departmental Service**

Frederick Douglass Day Planning Committee, 2021-23.  
Tutor Trainer, Judith Anderson Herbert Writing Center at the University of Tennessee, Spring 2023.  
Tutor Training Coach, Judith Anderson Herbert Writing Center at the University of Tennessee, Fall 2022.  
Experienced Tutor, Judith Anderson Herbert Writing Center at the University of Tennessee, 2022-3.  
Canvas Producer for Dr. Urmila Seshagiri, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Spring 2021

GTA Mentor, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 2020-21  
Co-organizer, Stephen King Reading Group, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Fall 2021  
Writing Center Tutor, Virginia Military Institute, 2016-19

### **Professional Service**

Panel Moderator, “Crossing Boundaries, Crossing Identities,” Interdisciplinary Nineteenth Century Studies conference, Knoxville, TN, April 2023.  
Graduate Student Organizer, Dickens Universe, University of California - Santa Cruz, 2022-23.  
Graduate Student Organizer, Frederick Douglass Day, University of Tennessee, 2021-23.  
Volunteer, “In a Speculative Light: The Arts of James Baldwin and Beauford Delaney” Seminar, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, February 2020.

### **Software Proficiencies**

Experience with PC and Mac OS  
Microsoft Office  
Adobe Creative Suite

### **References**

Dr. Katy Chiles	<a href="mailto:kchiles1@utk.edu">kchiles1@utk.edu</a>	(773) 972-9722
Dr. Bill Hardwig	<a href="mailto:whardwig@utk.edu">whardwig@utk.edu</a>	(865) 974-5401
Dr. Anne Langendorfer	<a href="mailto:alangend@utk.edu">alangend@utk.edu</a>	(614) 314-4510