

SAMUEL AFTEL

Samuel.Aftel@uky.edu

631-495-9919

EDUCATION

University of Kentucky, M.A. in English, 2021–2023 (expected)

Princeton University, A.B. in History, 2016–2020

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Lonely and Hateful: Modernity, Misogyny, and the Rise of the Incel.” Popular Culture Association National Conference, April 16, 2022 (virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic).

“The Infinite Wound: American Men at War with Themselves in *Apocalypse Now*.” University of Kentucky English Graduate Student Organization (EGSO) Symposium, March 4, 2022 (virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic).

TEACHING

University of Kentucky, August 2022–Present

Graduate Instructor

- Primary instructor of two first-year composition courses in the Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies.

University of Kentucky, Robert E. Hemenway Writing Center, August 2021–August 2022

Writing Tutor

- Provided faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates feedback on their writing projects—including dissertations, professional statements, and conference papers—through one-on-one tutoring sessions, in-person and virtually.

AmeriCorps (Newark, NJ), August 2020–June 2021

Teaching Fellow at Great Oaks Legacy Charter High School

- Taught four English Language Arts tutorials every day to Newark students from underserved and minoritized backgrounds; designed weekly lesson plans; held office hours and provided academic guidance to students after school; completed weekly phone calls to the parents of my primary students, updating them on their child’s academic progress; served as a teaching assistant to a 12th-grade honors English class and an 11th-grade U.S. history class.

Breakthrough Miami (An Affiliate of Breakthrough Collaborative), June 2019–August 2019
Teaching Fellow

- Taught English language arts to ninth-grade students from underserved South Florida communities; emphasized the close reading of literary texts, audiovisual works, and broader sociocultural discourses. Taught an elective class on the intersections of hip-hop, race, and politics; facilitated discussions about the impact of structural oppression on the production and consumption of American pop culture.

FELLOWSHIPS, ASSISTANTSHIPS, AND AWARDS

Full-Tuition Scholarship and Graduate Teaching Assistantship

Departments of English and Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies, University of Kentucky, August 2021–May 2023.

Robert E. Hemenway Writing Center Excellence in Consulting Award

University of Kentucky, May 2022.

AmeriCorps Teaching Fellowship

Great Oaks Legacy Charter High School, Newark, NJ, August 2020–June 2021.

- **Ninth-Grade English Language Arts Teaching Fellow of the Year**, June 2021.

The Daily Princetonian Allen Levoy Furniss '67 Memorial Award

Given to the senior editor who most inspires the paper's development, May 2020.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Kentucky, Department of English

M.A. Thesis (in progress)

“‘No, Not There’: The Literary Precarity and Profundity of Queer Spatiality”

- Examining the social and physical geographies of queerness, relationality, and (post)colonialism in E. M. Forster's *A Passage to India* and James Baldwin's *Giovanni's Room*, assessing the broader implications of queer, anticolonial spatiality for contemporary struggles against capitalist hegemony.

Princeton University, Department of History

Senior Thesis, September 2019–May 2020

“‘The Place Where Rape Happens’: Contestation, Compliance, and Institutionalized Violence on Campus, 1972–Today”

- Analyzed the origins and sociopolitical impacts of the anti-rape movement on American college campuses; investigated the history of sexual-misconduct adjudication in the U.S. academy; dissected primary sources related to the drafting and implementation of universities' sexual-misconduct policies.

Spring-Term Junior Research Paper, January 2019–May 2019

“Impossible Violence: A Legal History and Feminist Contextualization of Marital Rape in the United Kingdom and the United States”

- Comparatively explored the common-law history and ultimate illegalization of marital rape in the United Kingdom and the United States; examined the feminist political and literary discourses condemning—as well as the misogynistic ideologies upholding—marital rapists’ legal impunity.

Fall-Term Junior Research Paper, September 2018–January 2019

“This Close to Liberty: Seeking Freedom Along Missouri’s Slavery Frontier”

- Evaluated the political, legal, and economic consequences of the porous frontier between antebellum Missouri, a slave state, and adjacent free territory; assessed 11 representative freedom petitions submitted to local courts by enslaved people who had labored in Missouri but then escaped, or were forcibly transported, to neighboring free territory.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Twentieth-century British and American literature, gender and sexuality studies, queer theory, postcolonialism, affect theory, Marxism, film and media studies, Jewish studies, Holocaust studies, critical theory.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Manhattan Beach Education Foundation (Manhattan Beach, CA), June 2020–August 2020

Education Affairs Advocate

- Rendered visible, through digital advocacy, the financial deprivation of public education in Manhattan Beach and throughout the State of California; advocated for more equitable fiscal policies, including the expansion of special-education funding and public aid for socioeconomically disadvantaged families; culminated in the organizing of an Instagram-based advocacy campaign addressed to California lawmakers.

Princeton University, Sexual Harassment/Assault Advising, Resources and Education

(SHARE), September 2018–May 2020

SHARE Peer

- Served as an advocate for survivors of sexual violence at Princeton University. Facilitated institutional resources to survivors, such as University Health Services and the Title IX Office; led educational workshops on bystander intervention for Princeton students.

The Daily Princetonian, January 2019–January 2020

Managing Editor

- Worked alongside the editor-in-chief and managed the day-to-day affairs of the paper; provided mentorship and guidance to fellow editors, reporters, and columnists; edited the paper’s articles on a near-nightly basis for finalization and publication; contributed columns to the paper’s opinion section; served on and drafted op-eds for The Daily Princetonian Editorial Board; supervised various long-term journalistic projects, including two special-

edition issues about the legacy of Black activism at Princeton (March 8, 2019) and the one-hundredth anniversary of Princeton's Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program (November 15, 2019).

Princeton University Summer Journalism Program, June 2018–August 2018

Program Coordinator

- Planned a journalism-education program on Princeton's campus for 40 high-school seniors from underserved communities throughout the United States; provided college-admissions guidance to the program's students; created weekly homework assignments tasking the students to analyze journalistic discourse in preparation for the program.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Popular Culture Association

LANGUAGES

- Spanish (reading proficiency)