

**Jordan W. Rucci**  
Curriculum Vitae

**Education**

PhD Candidate, University of Kentucky  
English Language and Literature

MA, George Washington University, May 2019  
English Language and Literature, with distinction  
Thesis: "[Gendering America and National Identity in Willa Cather's \*O Pioneers!\*,  
\*My Ántonia\*, and \*A Lost Lady\*](#)"

BA, Kenyon College, May 2016  
English Language and Literature, with distinction  
Thesis: "The Language of Sexuality and its Relationship to Gender in D.H.  
Lawrence's *Lady Chatterley's Lover*"

**Teaching Experience**

August 2025 - present: Teaching Assistant, Department of English, University of Kentucky  
Fall 2025: ENG 251: Survey of American Literature I  
Spring 2026: ENG 252: Survey of American Literature II

August 2023 - May 2025: Instructor of Record, Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital  
Studies (WRD), University of Kentucky (WRD 110, WRD 111)  
Spring 2025: WRD Department Mentor to first-year instructors

January 2023 - May 2023: Adjunct Instructor, Department of English, Columbus State  
Community College (ENGL 1100: Composition I, ENGL 0199: Fundamentals of College Writing)

August 2022 - December 2022: Annual Contract Faculty, Department of English, Columbus  
State Community College (ENGL 1100: Composition I, ENGL 0199: Fundamentals of College  
Writing)

August 2019 - May 2022: Adjunct Instructor, Department of English, Columbus State  
Community College (ENGL 1100: Composition I, ENGL 2367: Composition II, ENGL 0199:  
Fundamentals of College Writing)

January 2019 - May 2019: Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Classical Studies,  
George Washington University (part of the Writing in the Disciplines program)

September 2018 - December 2018: Writing Tutor, College of Professional Studies, George  
Washington University

### **Relevant Professional Experience:**

August 2025 - present: Project Assistant, Gaines Center for the Humanities, University of Kentucky

### **Extracurricular Involvement and Service**

May 2025 - present: Co-President, English Graduate Student Organization (EGSO), University of Kentucky

August 2024 - May 2025: Professional Events Coordinator, English Graduate Student Organization (EGSO), University of Kentucky

Spring 2025: Organization and Execution of EGSO Symposium

March 2018: Columbian College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Student Council Organizing Committee, George Washington University

### **Publications**

#### Edited Collections

“Willa Cather’s Mythological Women.” *Frontier Mythology and Poverty, 1885-1923: Reading the Dark Side of the Progressive Era*, edited by Margie Judd, Vernon Press.  
(Forthcoming)

#### Public/Opinion Pieces

“A new Olympic committee should focus on athletes as Americans, not just competitors.” *The Washington Post*. 2 Mar 2018. [https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/a-new-olympic-committee-should-focus-on-athletes-as-americans-not-just-competitors/2018/03/02/8940fdde-1cad-11e8-98f5-ceecfa8741b6\\_story.html?noredirect=on&utm\\_term=.d199a90d3ec1](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/a-new-olympic-committee-should-focus-on-athletes-as-americans-not-just-competitors/2018/03/02/8940fdde-1cad-11e8-98f5-ceecfa8741b6_story.html?noredirect=on&utm_term=.d199a90d3ec1)

“Letter: Study reveals new hurdle for women in the workplace.” *The Columbus Dispatch*. 30 Mar 2018.

### **Conference Presentations**

(Upcoming) April, 2026: Popular Culture Association (PCA) Annual Conference

“Does it Pay to Be ‘The Happiest Girl in the Whole USA’?: Reflections on the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders”

February 22, 2025: Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture (LCLC)

Panel: Capital and its Discontents

“Justifying Resentment in a Post-2016 Political Landscape”

August 31, 2024: University of Kentucky Gender and Women’s Studies Conference: Justice on Trial

Panel: Environmental Injustice, from Kentucky to Alaska

“Environmental Violence and Indigenous Justice in *True Detective: Night Country*”

March 30, 2019: Georgetown University Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference, ANGUISH  
“It’s ok for things to be ugly sometimes’; Women’s Trauma and Cinematic Memory in  
*Big Little Lies*”

**Awards, Certifications, and Funding**

Doty Fund Graduate Summer Award, Department of English, University of Kentucky (May 2025)

Ellershaw Award for an Outstanding PhD Candidate, Department of English, University of Kentucky (May 2025)

Faculty Professional Development Initiative: Effective Online Teaching, Columbus State Community College (July 2020)

George Washington English Department Award for Outstanding Contribution to Seminars (May 2019)