

Eric Gidal

Department of English
University of Iowa

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EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Higher Education

1995 **PhD**, English Language and Literature, University of Michigan
1992 **MA**, English Language and Literature, University of Michigan
1988 **BA**, English and American Literature, Brandeis University

Professional and Academic Positions

2016-Present **Professor**, English, University of Iowa
2002-2016 **Associate Professor**, University of Iowa
2012 **Visiting Professor**, Université Montpellier III
2004 **Visiting Professor**, Université Montpellier III
1996-2002 **Assistant Professor**, University of Iowa
1995-1996 **Lecturer**, University of Michigan
1991-1994 **Teaching Fellow**, University of Michigan
1990-1991 **Course Assistant**, University of Michigan
1989-1990 **Instructor**, Ecumenical Social Action Committee, Boston, MA

Honors and Awards

2025 **Best Essay Prize**, *Studies in Romanticism*
2024 **Hubbard-Walder Award for Excellence in Teaching**, University of Iowa
2024 **Professional Development Award**, University of Iowa
2018 **Career Development Award**, University of Iowa
2012 **Career Development Award**, University of Iowa
2007 **Stanley International Programs – Obermann Center Research Fellowship**, University of Iowa
2006 **Career Development Award**, University of Iowa
2005 **Arts and Humanities Initiative Award**, University of Iowa
2004 **Collegiate Teaching Award**, University of Iowa

Memberships

2011-Present Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment
1996-Present American Society of Eighteenth-Century Studies
1996-Present North American Society for the Study of Romanticism
1994-Present Modern Language Association

TEACHING

Recent Courses Taught at the University of Iowa

- Shakespeare
- Introduction to Environmental Literature
- Bioregionalism in History, Theory, and Practice (graduate)
- Literature and the Environment
- Literature, Culture, and Environment (graduate)
- Plagues, Pestilence, and Pandemics
- Eighteenth-Century British Literature
- British Romanticism
- Romantic Literature (graduate)

SCHOLARSHIP

Articles

1. Gidal, E., Amah, M., Espinosa, J., Frailing, R., Oliver, E., Reynen, C., and St Onge, K. (2024). Fluid Impressions: Connecting Data and Storytelling in Iowa's Watersheds. *Open Rivers: Rethinking Water, Place & Community*, no. 27. <https://doi.org/10.24926/2471190X.11737>.
2. Gidal, E. (2023). Watershed Communities: River Systems in Coleridge and Geddes. *Studies in Romanticism* 62.1: 125-153.
3. Gavin, M., Gidal, E. (2023). Geospatial Semantics: A Textual Perspective. *Literary Geographies* 9.2: 274-78.
<https://literarygeographies.net/index.php/LitGeogs/article/view/396>
4. Gavin, M., Gidal, E. (2023). The Conceptual Structure of Ossianic Space. *Literary Geographies* 9.1: 161-84.
<https://www.literarygeographies.net/index.php/LitGeogs/article/view/327>
5. Baker, S., Dick, A., Gidal, E., McKeever, G., Oliver, S. (2023). "Better Lore" of the Romantic Coast: Maritime Ecologies and Cultural Infrastructure from England, Scotland, and Beyond. *European Romantic Review* 34.3: 303-315.
6. Gidal, E. (2022). Industrial Transport and Political Economy in Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine. *Studies in Romanticism* 61.2: 279-303.
7. Gidal, E. (2020). Romanticism and the Logic of Culture. *Romantic Circles*.
<https://romantic-circles.org/praxis/global/gidal.html>
8. Gidal, E., Gavin, M. (2019). Infrastructural Semantics: Postal Networks and Statistical Accounts in Scotland, 1790-1845. *International Journal of Geographical Information Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13658816.2019.1631454>
9. Gavin, M., Gidal, E. (2017). Scotland's Poetics of Space: An Experiment in Geospatial Semantics. *Cultural Analytics* 2.1 <https://doi.org/10.22148/16.017>
10. Gidal, E., Gavin M. (2016). Introduction: Spatial Humanities and Scottish Studies. *Studies in Scottish Literature* 42.2: 143-150.
<http://scholarcommons.sc.edu/ssl/vol42/iss2/2/>

11. Gavin, M., Gidal, E. (2016). Topic Modeling and the Historical Geography of Scotland. *Studies in Scottish Literature* 42.2: 184-197.
<http://scholarcommons.sc.edu/ssl/vol42/iss2/6/>
12. Gidal, E. (2016). Ossianic Telegraphy: Bardic Networks and Imperial Relays. *Studies in Scottish Literature* 41.1: 129-142. <http://scholarcommons.sc.edu/ssl/vol41/iss1/13/>
13. Gidal, E. (2011). Conversation, Censorship, and National Literature: Mme de Staël's De l'Allemagne and the British Reviews. *Studies on Voltaire and the Eighteenth Century* 2011.12: 263-276.
14. Gidal, E. (2010). "A gross and barbarous composition": Melancholy, National Character, and the Critical Reception of Hamlet in the Eighteenth Century. *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture* 39: 235-262.
15. Gidal, E. (2010). Melancholy, Trauma, and National Character: Mme de Staël's Considérations sur les principaux événements de la Révolution française. *Studies in Romanticism* 49.2: 261-292.
16. Gidal, E. (2008). "O happy Earth! reality of Heaven!": Melancholy and Utopia in Romantic Climatology. *Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies* 8.2: 74-101.
17. Gidal, E. (2006). British Romanticism in the Museum Age: A Review of Recent Scholarship. *Literature Compass* 3.2: 127-137.
18. Gidal, E. (2003). Civic Melancholy: English Gloom and French Enlightenment. *Eighteenth-Century Studies* 37.1: 23-45.
19. Gidal, E. (2000). Prospect and Form in the Eighteenth-Century Progress Poem. *Ricerche di Storia dell'arte* 72: 21-28.
20. Gidal, E. (1998). Wordsworth's Art of Memory. *Studies in Romanticism* 37.3: 445-475.
21. Gidal, E. (1993). Playing with Marbles: Wordsworth's Egyptian Maid. *The Wordsworth Circle* 24.1: 3-11.

Books

1. Gidal, E. (2015). *Ossianic Unconformities: Bardic Poetry in the Industrial Age* (pp. 240). Charlottesville, VA: University of Virginia Press.
<https://www.upress.virginia.edu/title/4821/>

Reviews of this work:

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| 2020 | Reviewed by Swidzinski, Joshua of <i>The Wordsworth Circle</i> . |
| 2018 | Reviewed by Heringman, Noah of <i>The Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation</i> . |
| 2018 | Reviewed by Davies, Jeremy of <i>Literature Compass</i> . |
| 2017 | Reviewed by Sorensen, Janet of the <i>Journal of British Studies</i> . |
| 2016 | Reviewed by Leask, Nigel of the <i>Journal of Historical Geography</i> . |
| 2016 | Reviewed by Duncan, Ian of <i>Modern Philology</i> . |
| 2016 | Reviewed by Anderson, Scott of <i>Social and Cultural Geography</i> . |
| 2016 | Reviewed by Cox, Jeffrey N. of <i>Studies in English Literature</i> . |
| 2016 | Reviewed by Pionke, Albert D. of <i>Victorian Poetry</i> . |
| 2016 | Reviewed by Kelley, Theresa, Tobias Menely, and Jesse Oak Taylor of <i>Romantic Circles</i> . |

- 2016 Reviewed by Duncan, Ian of *The Bottle Imp* (Best Scottish Books of 2016).
- 2015 Reviewed by Wickman, Matthew of *The Bottle Imp* (Best Scottish Books of 2015).

2. Gidal, E. (2001). *Poetic Exhibitions: Romantic Aesthetics and the Pleasures of the British Museum* (pp. 284). Lewisberg, VA: Bucknell University Press.
<http://www.bucknell.edu/script/upress/book.asp?id=47>

Reviews of this work:

- 2004 Reviewed by Rawes, Alan of *The Yearbook of English Studies*.
- 2003 Reviewed by Leask, Nigel of *History Workshop Journal*.
- 2002 Reviewed by Wood, Gillen D'Arcy of *The Wordsworth Circle*.

Refereed Book Chapters

1. Gidal, E. (2021). Scottish Poetry and Ecology. L. Davis and J. Sorensen, eds. *International Companion to the Scottish Literature of the Long Eighteenth Century*. Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh Press.
2. Gidal, E. (2010). Museum Elegies. K. Weisman, ed. *The Oxford Handbook to the Elegy*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
3. Gidal, E. (2008). Mme de Staël and the Sociology of Melancholy. G. Colburn, ed. *The English Malady: Enabling and Disabling Fictions*. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Press.

Areas of Research Interest

Public Humanities
 Environmental Humanities
 Digital Humanities
 Spatial Humanities
 Eighteenth-Century British Literature
 European Romanticism

Grants and Contracts

Funded

- Sept 2022 – Aug 2024 *Blue-Green Action Platform* (Senior Personnel)
 Funded by National Science Foundation. Award amount: (\$5,000,000.00). Number of Months: 24. Investigator/s Maya Trotz (Principal), Maya Burke (Co-Principal), Rebecca Zarger (Co-Principal), David Cwiertny (Co-Principal), Tiara Moore (Co-Principal).
- Jun 2015 – May 2016 *Mapping Scotland: Cartography, Literature, and Environment*
 Funded by University of South Carolina. Award amount

(\$14,695.00). Number of months: 12. Investigator/s Jeanne Britton (Co-Principal), Michael Gavin (Co-Principal), Eric Gidal (Co-Principal), Anthony Jarrells (Co-Principal).
May 2015 – Nov 2015 *Mapping Ossian*
Funded by The Digital Studio for Public Arts and Humanities.
Award amount: (\$3000) Number of months: 6. Investigator/s Eric Gidal (Principal Investigator).

Recent Invited Lectures and Conference Presentations

Invited Lectures / Plenary Addresses

- 2024 University of Edinburgh (invited lecture), “Textual Ecologies: Information and Environment from Sir John Sinclair through Ian McHarg”
- 2018 Colloque 2018, “Infrastructural Semantics,” Centre de recherche interuniversitaire sur les humanités numériques, Université de Montréal, Canada.
- 2017 Environments and Societies Colloquium, “Eco-Philology: Literary Studies in a Collapsing World” University of California, Davis, CA.
- 2017 Material Texts Colloquium, “Eco-Philology: Literary Studies in a Collapsing World” University of Washington, Seattle, WA.
- 2016 “Spatial Humanities and the Scottish Environment in History,” University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC.

Conference Presentation

- 2024 Iowa Water Conference, “Blue-Green Action Platform,” Coralville, IA.
- 2024 Climate and Crisis, 1660-1820, “Textual Ecologies: Sir John Sinclair’s Environmental Statistics.” University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, IL.
- 2023 Reclaiming the Commons: Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, “Blue-Green Action Platform: Humanities, Hydrology, and the Blue Economy,” Portland, OR.
- 2023 Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, “Blue-Green Action Platform: Humanities, Hydrology, and the Blue Economy,” Portland, OR.
- 2023 American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies, “Watersheds and Communities: Coleridge’s ‘Brook’ and the Origins of Bioregionalism,” St. Louis, MO.
- 2022 British Association for Romantic Studies, “River Systems in Coleridge and Geddes,” Edge Hill University, Ormskirk, UK.
- 2022 Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies, “River Systems in Coleridge and Geddes,” Salt Lake City, UT.
- 2019 International Congress on the Enlightenment, “Infrastructural Inversion at Clarens: St. Preux in the Garden” Edinburgh, UK.
- 2019 Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment, “Historical

- Philology and Physical Geography: George Perkins Marsh's Lectures on the English Language," University of California, Davis, CA.
- 2019 American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, "Infrastructural Inversion at Clarens: St. Preux in the Garden," Denver, CO.
- 2018 Eighteenth-Century Scottish Studies Society, "Statistical Accounts and Environmental Change," University of Glasgow, UK.
- 2017 Mediating Climate Change, "Climate and Character in the English Essay," University of Leeds, UK.
- 2017 2nd World Congress of Scottish Literatures, "Mapping Scottish Literatures: Experiments in Eco-Philology," Vancouver, BC.
- 2017 American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, "Biblio-stratigraphy: Notes towards an ecocritical book studies," Minneapolis, MN.
- 2017 Johnson Society of the Central Region, "Biblio-stratigraphy: Notes towards an ecocritical book studies," Washington University, St. Louis, MO.
- 2016 North American Society for the Study of Romanticism, "'Mourning untimely consumes the sad': Ecological Discontent and Thoreau's Debt to Ossian," University of California, Berkeley, CA.
- 2016 American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, "Deep Mapping Ossian: Geographic Information Systems and Environmental History in Scotland, 1790-1807" Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2015 Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment, "Underground Cities and Telegraphic Villages in the Carbon Age: Jules Verne's Scottish Novels," University of Idaho, Moscow, ID.
- 2014 American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies, "Ossianic Telegraphy: Bardic Networks, Imperial Relays, and the Superfluity of Devolution," William and Mary College, Williamsburg, VA.
- 2014 Chicago Colloquium on Digital Humanities & Computer Science, "Ossianic Telegraphy: Notes towards a Digital Archive" Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.
- 2013 Consuming Passions, Economies of Desire in French Literature and Arts, 1100-1815, "Consuming Passion, Staging Culture: Macpherson's Ossian and Rousseau's La Nouvelle Héloïse," Washington University, St. Louis, MO.
- 2013 North American Victorian Studies Association, "The Testimony of the Rocks: Speculative Geology, Industrial Archaeology, and the Search for Ossian," Pasadena, CA.
- 2013 North American Society for the Study of Romanticism, "Ossianic Telegraphy: Bardic Networks and Imperial Relays," Boston, MA.
- 2012 British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, "Ossianic Unconformities," University of Oxford, UK.

SERVICE

Profession

	<i>Comparative Literature</i> , Reviewer, Publications
	<i>Eighteenth-Century Studies</i> , Reviewer, Publications
	<i>European Romantic Review</i> , Reviewer, Publications
	<i>Genre</i> , Reviewer, Publications
	<i>Literature Compass</i> , Reviewer, Publications
	<i>Nineteenth-Century Contexts</i> , Reviewer, Publications
	<i>Open Rivers</i> , Reviewer, Publications
	<i>Philological Quarterly</i> , Reviewer, Publications
	<i>Society of Antiquities of Scotland</i> , Reviewer, Publications
	<i>Studies in Romanticism</i> , Reviewer, Publications.
	Bucknell University Press, Reviewer, Publications
	University of Chicago Press, Reviewer, Publications
	Rutgers University Press, Reviewer, Publications
	University of Virginia Press, Reviewer, Publications
2013-2024	<i>Philological Quarterly</i> , Editor
2008-2013	<i>Romanticism and Victorianism on the Net</i> , Review Editor (Romanticism)
2023	Louisiana State University, Reviewer, Promotion
2022	George Mason University, Reviewer, Promotion
2022	University of Calgary, Reviewer, Promotion and Tenure
2021	Clemson University, Reviewer, Promotion
2021	Washington University at St. Louis, Reviewer, Promotion
2020	University of Portland, Reviewer, Promotion and Tenure
2019	University of Mississippi, Reviewer, Promotion and Tenure
2019	State University of New York, Buffalo, Reviewer, Promotion and Tenure
2016	Purdue University Northwest, Reviewer, Promotion and Tenure

Department

2024-present	Associate Chair for Faculty
2020-2023	Curriculum Committee, Chair
2015-2023	Exchanges, Director
2022-2023	Executive Committee, Member
2022-2023	Curriculum Revision Committee, Chair
2021-2022	Promotion Review Committee, Co-Chair
2021-2022	Promotion Review Committee, Member
2020	Graduate Placement, Director
2017-2019	Executive Committee, Member
2018-2019	Graduate Admissions Committee, Member
2016-2018	General Education Literature Advising, Member
2017-2018	Promotion Review Committee, Member
2016	Undergraduate Recruitment

2016	English Scholarships Committee, Member
2015	Promotion Review Committee, Chair
2009-2013	English Honors Program, Director
2008-2009	Honors Program and Leadership Task Force, Chair
2007-2008	Graduate Admissions Committee, Member
2007-2008	Undergraduate Advising Committee, Member
2003-2007	Curriculum Committee, Chair
2002-2005	Undergraduate Studies, Associate Chair and Director
2002-2003	Task Force on the Undergraduate Curriculum, Chair
2000-2002	General Education Literature, Associate Director

College

2024-2025	CLAS – Executive Committee, Member
2019-2022	CLAS - Undergraduate Education Policy and Curriculum Committee, Member
2010-2014	CLAS – Scholarship Committee, Member
2006-2009	CLAS – Faculty Assembly, Member
2004-2005	Curriculum Committee, European Studies Group, Member

University

2019 – Present	Sustainability Certificate Advisory Board, Member
2019 – 2023	Humanities for the Public Good Advisory Board, Member
2017	Faculty Senate, Member
2016-2017	General Education in Literature – TA Advising Committee, Member
2014-2015	Honors Executive Committee, Member
2013-2014	Arts and Humanities Initiative Review Panel, Member
2009-2014	Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Interdisciplinary Colloquium, Director
2004-2014	Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Interdisciplinary Colloquium, Advisory Board, Member
2011-2013	Honors Executive Committee, Member
2009-2013	International Programs Executive Committee, Member
2008-2011	Faculty Senate, Member
2006-2007	HLC Self-Study Subcommittee, Education Within the Major, Chair
2006	Obermann / International Programs Stanley Award Fellowships, Reader

Community

2015-Present	CommUnity Food Bank and Crisis Center, Volunteer
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