

**WILLIAM P. MURRAY, PHD**  
**POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW BAYLOR UNIVERSITY**  
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2009 Real Drive, Waco, TX 76712

## EDUCATION

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**PHD: UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA** (Tuscaloosa, AL): August of 2019

- Dissertation: Imagining the South: The Function of “Dixie” in the United States from 1960-2017 – Under Consideration at University of Georgia Press
- Chair: Trudier Harris
- Committee: James A. Crank, Fred Whiting, Jolene Hubbs, Philip Beidler

**MA: COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON** (Charleston, SC): May of 2012

- Focus: Literature

**BA: UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI** (Oxford, MS): May of 2009

- Major: English
- Minor: History

## PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

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“A Night Already Devoid of Stars:’ Illuminating the Violent Darkness in Kyle Baker’s *Nat Turner*” *American Studies*. Vol 58 No 1 (2019): 25-47.

“The Roof of a Southern Home: A Reimagined and Usable South in Lorraine Hansberry’s *A Raisin in the Sun*” *The Mississippi Quarterly* Vol. 68, no. 1/2, Winter/Spring 2015 (Published 2017): 277-293.

“Learning to Listen: The Way a Society Speaks in Eudora Welty’s ‘Where Is the Voice Coming From?’ and ‘The Demonstrators.’” *Eudora Welty Review* 8.1 (2016): 109-122.

“Reimagining Terror in the Graphic Novel: Kyle Baker’s *Nat Turner* and the Cultural Imagination.” *The College English Association Critic* 77 (2015): 329-38.

“The Men Who Don’t Remember: The Fort Sumter Monument and the Collective Forgetting of the Civil War.” *The South Carolina Review* (2014): 177-87.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

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“Mystery and Myth: Friedrich Nietzsche, Flannery O’Connor, and the Limiting Power of Certainty” *Reconsidering Flannery O’Connor*, edited by Alison Arant et al., University of Mississippi Press, (Forthcoming, Under Contract)

“The Persistence of White Denial: Postmodern ‘Innocence’ in Ernest Gaines’ *A Gathering of Old Men*” (Accepted, Contract Pending)

## BOOK REVIEWS

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“A Vocabulary for New Conversations” Rev. of *Keywords for Southern Studies*. *South a Scholarly Journal* (2017): *South Journal*. Apr. 2017.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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- Academic Advisor for the *Contemporary Literary Criticism Series*' section on Harper Lee (Spring 2018)
- State of the Field Essay for *Society of the Study of Southern Literature Newsletter* "Graduate Student Issue" (Summer 2016)

## AWARDS & GRANTS

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- Award for Outstanding Research by a Graduate Student – University of Alabama College of English (2017-2018)
- Graduate Teaching Fellow – University of Alabama (2015, 2016, 2018)
- Emerson R. Loomis Scholarship in English Lit. – University of Alabama (2013-2018)
- NEH Summer Institute Grant – "Ernest Gaines and the Southern Experience" (2016)
- Earned Distinction on Comprehensive Exam – University of Alabama (2016)
- Miriam Austin Locke Travel Award – University of Alabama (2015, 2016)
- The Henry E Jacobs Travel Grant – University of Alabama (2015)
- Best Paper in Section Award – The College English Association (2015)
- Colby Kullman Prize for Conference's Best Critical Paper – (Southern Writers Southern Writing) – University of Mississippi (2015)

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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SAMLA (South Atlantic Modern Language Association) Birmingham, AL 2018

- "Confronting the Fantasy of the Innocent Outsider in *My Name is Earl*"

SSSL (Society for the Study of Southern Literature) Austin, TX 2018

- "The Fantasy of Football in Ernest Gaines's *A Gathering of Old Men*"

SAMLA (South Atlantic Modern Language Association) Atlanta, GA 2017

- "Insider & Outsider: Andy Griffith and the Changing Role of Southerness in the National Imaginary"

SAMLA (South Atlantic Modern Language Association) Jacksonville, FL 2016

"Looking Southward: Searching for a Home in Harlem"

SSSL (Society for the Study of Southern Literature) Boston, MA 2016

- "Violent Cycles: Graphic Depictions of Violence in Southern Comics"

SAMLA (South Atlantic Modern Language Association) Durham, NC 2015

- "Learning to Listen: The Way a Society Speaks in Welty's "Where Is the Voice Coming From?"

SWSW (Southern Writers Southern Writing) Oxford, MS 2015

"Cycles of Violence: American Slavery and the Trouble with Killing" (Awarded the Conference's Best Critical Paper, 2015)

CEA (College English Association) Indianapolis, IN 2015

- "Working to Illuminate the Darkness: Kyle Baker's *Nat Turner* and the Need for Messy Endings" (Awarded "Best Paper in Section")

- SSSL (Society for the Study of Southern Literature) Arlington, VA 2014
- “Yusef Komunyakaa and the Search for Masculinity in the South: A Study of the Unrealized Man in *Magic City*”
- SWSW (Southern Writers Southern Writing) Oxford, MS 2014
- “The Importance of the Southern Home: An Investigation of Southern Themes in Lorraine Hansberry’s *A Raisin in the Sun*”
- SASA (Southern American Studies Association) Charleston, SC 2013
- “White Charlestonians’ Construction of an Ideal Southern Past: A Study of the Society for the Preservation of Spirituals”
- College of Charleston’s GEA Conference Charleston, SC 2011
- “Nella Larsen’s Common Quicksand: An examination of *Quicksand*’s Universal Applicability”

### **CONFERENCE PANELS ORGANIZED**

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- SAMLA (South Atlantic Modern Language Association) Birmingham, AL 2018  
Panel Title: “Queering the US South”
- SAMLA (South Atlantic Modern Language Association) Jacksonville, FL 2016  
Panel Title: “Welty and Intertextuality”
- SSSL (Society for the Study of Southern Literature) Boston, MA 2016  
Panel Title: “Graphic Souths: Violence and Region in Southern Graphic Novels”
- CEA (College English Association) Indianapolis, IN 2015  
Panel Title: “Trauma and History in Graphic Novels”

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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- BAYLOR UNIVERSITY WACO, TX
- Position: Postdoctoral Fellow Fall 2019 – Present
- COURSES TAUGHT:
- EN 2304 – American Literature  
Fall 2019
- UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA TUSCALOOSA, AL
- Position: Junior Blount Fellow Fall 2018 – Spring 2019
- COURSES TAUGHT:
- BUI 102 – Foundations: Possibilities  
Spring 2019
  - BUI 101 – Foundations: Origins  
Fall 2018
- UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA TUSCALOOSA, AL
- Position: Graduate Teaching Instructor Fall 2013 – Spring 2018
- COURSES TAUGHT:
- EN 220 – Honors American Literature: 1865 to Present  
Spring 2015, Spring 2017
  - EN 219 – Honors American Literature: Beginnings to 1865  
Fall 2015, Fall 2016

- EN 210 – American Literature: 1865 – Present  
Fall 2016
- EN 209 – American Literature: Beginnings – 1865  
Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2017, Spring 2018
- EN 102 – Composition and Rhetoric II (Race & Region)  
Spring 2013, Spring 2015, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018
- EN 101 – Composition and Rhetoric I (Introduction to Writing)  
Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Fall 2016

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE CHATTANOOGA

CHATTANOOGA, TN  
Fall 2012, Spring 2013

- Position: Adjunct English Instructor

COURSES TAUGHT:

- English 1020 – Rhetoric and Composition II  
Spring 2013
- English 1010 – Rhetoric and Composition I  
Spring 2013
- English 1011 – Basic Rhetoric and Composition  
Fall 2012

CHATTANOOGA STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE

CHATTANOOGA, TN  
Spring 2013

- Position: Adjunct English Instructor

COURSES TAUGHT:

- English 1020 – Introduction to Writing with Literature  
Spring 2013
- English 1010 – Introduction to Writing  
Spring 2013

TRIDENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE

CHARLESTON, SC  
Spring 2011 - Spring 2012

- Position: Adjunct English Instructor

COURSES TAUGHT:

- English 101 – First Year Writing  
Spring 2012
- English 100 – Basic Writing  
Spring 2011, Fall 2011

**OTHER ACADEMIC AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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CHATTANOOGA STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE

CHATTANOOGA, TN  
Spring 2013

Writing Center Tutor

COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON

CHARLESTON, SC  
Fall 2010 - Spring 2012  
Spring 2011  
Spring 2012  
Fall 2011, Spring 2012  
Fall 2010 - Fall 2011

- Teaching Assistant for Dr. Julia Eichelberger
- Teaching Assistant for Dr. Conseula Francis
- Research Assistant for Dr. Doryjane Birrer
- Research Assistant for Drs. Amy Mecklenburg -  
Faenger and Chris Warnick
- Research Assistant for Dr. Julia Eichelberger

## **SERVICE**

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### **DEPARTMENT SERVICE**

- Invited Speaker “Balancing Life and Work in Graduate School” (Fall 2018)
- Elected to Graduate Studies Committee (Fall 2017 – Spring 2018)
- Black/White Intimacies Conference – Graduate Facilitator (Spring 2017)
- English Graduate Organization Secretary (Fall 2015 – Spring 2016)
- Invited Speaker “Managing Difficult Discussions in the Classroom” EN533 (Fall 2015)
- Graduate Student Association Secretary College of Charleston (Fall - 2011– Spring 2012)

### **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

- University of Alabama Graduate School Ambassador (Fall 2014 - Present)
- Last Lecture Volunteer (Spring 2015, Spring 2016, Spring 2017)
- Night at the Museum Volunteer (Spring 2016)
- Graduate Student Orientation Volunteer (Spring 2016)
- Judge for University of Alabama Honors Research Conference (Spring 2015)
- WISE (Women in Science and Engineering) Volunteer (Fall 2014)

### **DISCIPLINARY SERVICE**

- Elected to Emerging Scholars Organization’s Executive Council: Society of the Study of Southern Literature (2018-2020)
- Editorial Assistant and Bibliographer for the biannual *Society of the Study of Southern Literature Newsletter* (Fall 2015 – Present)
- Editor for *Society of the Study of Southern Literature Newsletter*’s “Graduate Student Issue” (Summer 2016)
- Member of Emerging Scholar Organization: Society of the Study of Southern Literature (2014 - Present)
- Tutor – Crescent East Housing Development (Fall 2015)

## **LANGUAGES**

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### **READING PROFICIENCIES**

- French
- Spanish

## **REFERENCES (DOSSIERS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST)**

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### **Dr. Trudier Harris**

University of Alabama  
University Distinguished Research Professor  
(205) 765-6562  
[tharris13@ua.edu](mailto:tharris13@ua.edu)

### **Dr. James A. Crank**

University of Alabama  
Professor of English  
(919) 280-7359  
[jacrank@ua.edu](mailto:jacrank@ua.edu)

### **Dr. Fred Whiting**

University of Alabama  
Director of Blount Scholars Program  
(205) 348-1706  
[fwhiting@ua.edu](mailto:fwhiting@ua.edu)

### **Dr. Julia Eichelberger**

College of Charleston  
Professor of English  
(843) 953-5646  
[eichelbergerj@cofc.edu](mailto:eichelbergerj@cofc.edu)