

Literature HT Sem 1, AY24/25: List of Available Faculty and Their Topics

1. Heather Brink-Roby

Topics:

- Nineteenth-century British literature
- Nineteenth-century literature and science/medicine
- George Eliot; Jane Austen; Charles Dickens; Thomas Hardy; Emily Bronte
- The changing ways in which characters' lives are treated as representative of a wider reality
- Theory of the novel
- Art and social justice

2. Yanbing Er

Topics:

- Feminist and queer theory
- New conversations between feminist and literary studies
- Contemporary literature and culture, especially in light of recent debates on race, class, gender, and the environment
- Environmental humanities, especially around the tropics and/or queer ecologies
- Racial and affective politics of refusal

Advising Style:

I value students who are highly independent, accountable, and receptive to feedback. I see my role primarily as a discussant who will work with you to refine the scope of your research, strengthen your existing arguments, and better organize your writing. Please get in touch with me at the earliest opportunity to discuss your preliminary ideas.

3. Irving Goh

Topics:

- Affects
- Race theories
- Queer theory and trans studies
- World Literature
- Contemporary writers (specifically Rachel Cusk and Ali Smith)
- Contemporary antiwork literature

Advising Style:

I see my HT advising role primarily as helping students arrive at their original arguments articulated in their own voices. In my experience, the best supervision moments have been those where I learned something from students. This implies

students taking an active role in reading up on relevant/current scholarship on their chosen topics and thinking through what their intervention in the intellectual conversations would be.

4. Steven Green

Topics:

- Ancient Roman Literature: esp. Ovid, Virgil, Augustan Poetry and Politics
- Reception of the Ancient World in Contemporary Media (esp. 20th and 21st century film, TV, and literature)

Advising Style:

Weekly, 1-hour supervision meeting (Weeks 1 – 9); email consultation for smaller points of guidance; reading and commenting on draft sections of the thesis up until the end of Week 9.

5. Walter Lim

Topics:

- The English Renaissance
- William Shakespeare
- John Milton
- Literature and Religion

6. Tania Roy

Available for supervision. Please check in with her re topics.

7. Chitra Sankaran

Topics:

- Ecocriticism
- Environmental justice
- Postcolonial ecologies
- Ecological feminism
- South Asian & Southeast Asian Literature

Advising Style:

No specific supervision style

8. Anne Thell

Topics:

- Eighteenth-century studies

- Later seventeenth-century literature and philosophy
- Travel literature
- Early fiction and the novel
- Early women authors
- Authors of special interest include Cavendish, Defoe, Swift, Johnson

Advising Style:

I enjoy the ‘big idea’ conversations with students and so usually set up HT meetings as discussions about conceptual frameworks and approaches. I’m fairly flexible about HT meetings—e.g., some students like to have a specific time-slot and meet each week for all 9 weeks; others like to meet a bit less initially when they’re reading or researching, and then more intensely later. Usually, we plot out together what is most useful for each individual student.

9. Valerie Wee

Topics:

- Contemporary film — texts and industry
- Mainstream Hollywood media
- Multi-media conglomeration/multi-media texts

Advising Style:

I see myself as an interested advisor and guide in the HT process. The supervisee is expected to take the lead and be responsible for identifying the research topic, the primary texts, the preferred framework and the theoretical approach(es) to be adopted in the HT before initiating a supervision meeting.

10. John Whalen-Bridge

Available for supervision. Please check in with him re topics.

11. Gilbert Yeoh

Topics:

- Postmodern literature and film
- Postsecular literature
- J. M. Coetzee
- Flannery O’Connor

12. Yong Li Lan

Topics:

- Shakespeare and performance (film, theatre, popular culture, digital media)
- Cross-media/cultural performance
- Digital humanities; digital archiving