

Curriculum Vitae

Helen J Burgess
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Education

PhD in English, West Virginia University 2003. Dissertation: "Highways of the Mind: the Haunting of the Superhighway from the World's Fair to the World Wide Web."

MA(Distinction) in English Literature, Victoria University Of Wellington, 1997. Thesis: "A Problem of Coding: Electronic Subjectivity in Cybernetic Societies."

BA(Hons)(First Class) in English Literature, Victoria University Of Wellington, 1994.

Professional Experience

Assistant Professor, English. University of Maryland Baltimore County, 2007-current.

Assistant Professor, Digital Technology & Culture. Washington State University Vancouver, 2003-2006.

Assistant Coordinator, Center for Literary Computing. Department of English, West Virginia University, 1999-2000; also 2002.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of English, West Virginia University, 1997-2000.

Editorial Assistant, The Series on Science and Culture, University of Oklahoma Press, 1997-2000.

Tutor, English Language Institute, Victoria University of Wellington (New Zealand), 1996-1997.

Research Areas

New media theory, rhetorics of code, electronic literature, cultural studies of technology, web authoring, interactive media development, copyright & information ownership, science fiction studies.

Publications – Forthcoming

"<?php>: 'Invisible' Code and the Mystique of Web Writing." In *From A to <A>: Keywords in HTML and Writing*, eds. Bradley Dilger and Jeff Rice. University of Minnesota Press.
Accepted for publication.

Publications – Interactive DVD-ROM

Biofutures: Owning Body Parts and Information. Robert Mitchell, Helen J Burgess, Phillip Thurtle. DVD-ROM. University of Pennsylvania Press, April 2008.

Red Planet: Scientific and Cultural Encounters with Mars. Robert Markley, Harrison Higgs, Michelle Kendrick, Helen Burgess. DVD-ROM. University of Pennsylvania Press, 2001.

Publications – Journal & Book Essays

“Nature without Labor’: Virgin Queen and Virgin Land in Sir Walter Raleigh’s *The Discoverie of the Large, Rich, and Bewtiful Empyre of Guiana*.” *Goddesses and Queens: The Iconography of Elizabeth I*, eds. Lisa Hopkins and Annaliese Connolly. Manchester University Press, 2007. 101-114.

“Road of Giants’: Nostalgia and the Ruins of the Superhighway in Kim Stanley Robinson’s Three Californias”. *Science Fiction Studies* 33.2 (July 2006): 275-290.

“Futurama, Autogeddon: Imagining the Superhighway from Bel Geddes to Ballard.” *Rhizomes: Cultural Studies in Emerging Knowledge* 8 (2004). 1 Nov 2004
<<http://www.rhizomes.net/issue8/futurama/index.html>>

“The Dialogics of New Media: Video, Visualization, and Narrative in *Red Planet: Scientific and Cultural Encounters with Mars*.” With Jeanne Hamming and Robert Markley. In *Eloquent Images: Writing Visually in New Media*, eds. Michelle Kendrick and Mary Hocks. MIT Press, 2003. 61-85.

“The Ghost in the Mechanism: Virtual Bodies, Mechanical Ghosts and Crash Test Dummies.” *West Coast Line* 36.1 (2002): 118-129.

“Mapping Bodies, Mapping Subjects: Missing the Mind’s Eye from the X-Ray to the Human Genome.” *Post Identity* 3.2 (2002): 87-104.

“Looking Back on Virtuality: the Strange Corporeographies of Cyberspace.” *Spectator: The University of Southern California Journal of Film and Television Criticism* 21.1 (2001): 71-81.

Publications – Reviews & Encyclopedia Articles

“Electronic Literature Organization Collection Vol. 1.” (review). *SFRA Review* 283 (2008): 15-16.

Encyclopedia Articles: “Virtual Reality and Artificial Life”, “Information Theory”, “Satire and Humor in Literature and Science”, “Industry”, “George Orwell”, “Colonialism”, “Writing Across the Curriculum.” In *The Encyclopedia of Literature and Science*, ed. Pam Gossin. New York: Garland Press, 2003.

Grants

Summer Faculty Fellowship. 2008.

\$6000 awarded to conduct research and travel for book project *digital/critical: New Media Scholarship in the Humanities*.

Kaufmann/Faculty Innovation Grant. 2008.

\$2,000 awarded by the Alex Brown Center for Entrepreneurship for development of *Hyperrhiz: New Media Cultures* infrastructure at UMBC.

Research Grant Award 2005.

\$38,000 awarded by the North Carolina Biotech Consortium. Awarded to authors to support development of interdisciplinary DVD-Rom entitled *Biofutures: Owning Body Parts and Information*.

Professional Activities

Editor. *Hyperrhiz: New Media Cultures*. Bowling Green: Bowling Green State University. Electronic journal. ISSN 1555-9351.

Technical Editor & Editorial Board. *Rhizomes: Cultural Studies in Emerging Knowledge*. Bowling Green: Bowling Green State University. Electronic journal. ISSN 1555-9998.

Series Editor. Mariner 10 Multimedia Series, University of Pennsylvania Press.

Consulting Scholar. Contracted to Humanities Washington as a consultant for the Smithsonian Museum traveling exhibition, "Yesterday's Tomorrows," 2003-2005.

Honors and Awards

Featured faculty member. Washington State University Vancouver promotional material, *The Columbian*, 2005.

Electronic Dissertation grant, West Virginia University, Summer 2002. (to develop enhanced multimedia version of dissertation).

Award for Outstanding Research, Department of English, West Virginia University, April 2002.

Stephen F. Crocker Dissertation Fellowship, West Virginia University, 2001-2002.

Award for Exemplary Service, Center for Literary Computing, West Virginia University, 2000.

Meritorious Graduate Student Tuition Waiver, West Virginia University, 2000-2001.

Jackson Family Doctoral Fellowship, West Virginia University, 1997-2000.

Conference Presentations

"Futurama Autogeddon." Session on Digital Media, MLA/ADE Summer Seminar East, Morgantown, WV, Jun. 2008.

"re_critique." Codework: Exploring Relations Between Creative Writing Practices and Software Engineering. NSF Workshop. Morgantown, WV, Apr. 2008.

"Steal This Multimedia: Information Ownership and the Anxiety of Genre." Society for Literature, Science and the Arts Conference, Portland, ME, Nov. 2007.

"Selling the Superhighways: A Future History." Society for Literature, Science and the Arts Conference, New York, NY, Nov. 2006. With Jeanne Hamming, Centenary College of Louisiana.

- “Show Me Your BIOS: Technology, Biology and Open Source Media.” BIOS: The Poetics of Life in Digital Media Symposium. Morgantown, WV, Sept. 2006.
- “Whatever Happened to my MOO?” Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC). Chicago, IL, Apr. 2006.
- “Intimate Circuits.” Society for Literature, Science and the Arts Conference, Chicago, IL, Nov. 2005.
- “Eliza, Travesty and the Man in the Elevator.” Society for Literature, Science and the Arts Conference, Chicago, IL, Nov. 2005.
- “New Media in the Academy.” Society for Literature, Science and the Arts Conference, Duke University, NC, Nov. 2004.
- “Imagining the Future, from the World’s Fair to the Design for Dreaming.” Fourth Biennial Preserving the Historic Road in America Conference, Portland, OR, Apr. 2004.
- “Urban Spaces, Highway Spaces: Narrating the Superhighway.” Society for Literature and Science Conference, Austin, TX, Nov. 2003.
- “Imagining the Future.” Smithsonian/Museum on Main Street planning advisory meeting, Seattle, WA, Jun. 2003.
- “Red Planet: DVD Authoring.” West Virginia University Technology and Computing Fair, Morgantown, WV, 2002.
- “Red Planet: Scientific and Cultural Encounters with Mars: Interactive DVD-Rom Technology.” With Robert Markley, Michelle Kendrick, Jeanne Hamming. Mars Society Fourth International Convention, Stanford, CA, Aug. 2001.
- “Doing Multimedia on Mars.” English Department Graduate Student Colloquium, Morgantown, WV, Mar. 2000.
- “AppalachiaMOO Carnival.” Organizer, designer and host of an online carnival to premiere West Virginia University’s graphical MOO. Mar. 2000, online.
- “Multimedia on Mars: A DVD Project on Mars Exploration.” West Virginia Junior Science and Humanities Symposium, West Virginia Wesleyan College, Buckhannon, WV, Nov. 1999. With Jeanne Hamming.
- “Mars: Interactive Technology and Interdisciplinary Education.” West Virginia University Research Horizons Poster Session, Morgantown, WV, Sep. 1999.
- “The Strange Corporeographies of Cyberspace.” English Department Graduate Student Colloquium, Morgantown, WV, 1999.
- “Legible Bodies: Reading Synners and Cyborgs.” Society for Literature and Science Conference, Gainesville, FL, Nov. 1998.
- “Queers in Space: Borg Fantasy and the Limitations of Slash.” Mid-Atlantic Popular Culture Conference, Morgantown, WV, 1998.

“Mars: A Scientific and Cultural History.” The Mars Society Convention, Bolder, CO, Aug. 1998, and the Society for Literature and Science, Gainesville, FL, Nov. 1998. With Robert Markley, Michelle Kendrick and Catherine Gouge.

“Missing the Mind’s Eye: the Cultural Anxiety of the X-Ray.” English Department Graduate Student Colloquium Morgantown, WV, 1998. Panelist in keynote roundtable discussion.

Courses Taught

Seminar: Visual Literacy (English 442). University of Maryland Baltimore County, 2008. Senior seminar on the relationship of visual design to narrative and meaning-making. Combines interpretation of visual media, graphic novel analysis, and practical studio sessions.

Theories of Communication and Technology (English 324). University of Maryland Baltimore County, 2008. This class starts with the study of orality and early sign-making cultures, moves on to a history of print culture, and ends with investigation into forms of electronic communication.

Seminar: The Culture of the Copyright (English 493). University of Maryland Baltimore County, 2007. Senior seminar on the history of copyright and its consequences for media communication and authoring. Covers copyright of various media forms (print, music, film, software, digital media) and the Creative Commons and Open Source movements.

Multimedia Authoring (English 387). University of Maryland Baltimore County, 2007-2008. Analysis and creation of web texts using XHTML and CSS. Students discuss web genres, learn to write for the web, and experiment with layout, color, and interactivity.

Web Scripting (English 499). Washington State University-Vancouver, 2005-2006. This advanced class teaches principles of database-driven design, using the open-source scripting languages PHP and MySQL. Designed and delivered online using Moodle, open source courseware.

Computers In English (Engl 300). Washington State University-Vancouver, 2006. The theory and practice of writing and teaching in online and multimedia environments. Delivered online using Blackboard courseware.

Digital Diversity (DTC/AmSt 475). Washington State University-Vancouver, 2004. Issues of race, class and gender representation and accessibility in digital environments.

Multimedia Authoring (English/DTC 355). Washington State University-Vancouver, 2003-2006. Web authoring and hand coding with XHTML and CSS. Students discuss the different ‘genres’ of web sites, learn to write for the web, and experiment with layout, color, and interactivity.

Usability and Interface Design (Engl/DTC 478). Washington State University-Vancouver, 2003-2005. User experience and human-computer interaction. Students analyze online and interactive media, and work with a client to produce a usability report on a professional site.

New Communications Technologies (COM 420). Washington State University-Vancouver, 2003-2004. The cultural impact of digital technologies on issues such as copyright, privacy and innovation. Electronic environments and hypertext.

Science Fiction and Fantasy (English 175). West Virginia University, 1998-1999.

Literary approaches to science fiction, starting with early works such as *Frankenstein* and ending with cyberpunk short stories.

Scientific and Technical Writing (English 208), Online. West Virginia University, 1998.

First Year Composition (English 1). West Virginia University, 1997-1998.

Writing English (Writ 101). Victoria University of Wellington, 1996-1997.

Academic Service

Honors Committee, Department of English. University of Maryland Baltimore County, 2007-.

Teaching Assessment Committee, Department of English. University of Maryland Baltimore County, 2007-.

Internship Coordinator, Digital Technology and Culture Internship Program. Washington State University Vancouver, 2003-2006.

Committee Member, e-Portfolio Committee. Washington State University Vancouver, 2005-2006.

Search Committee, Digital Technology and Culture. Washington State University Vancouver, 2005-2006.

Committee Member, Campus Arts Committee. Washington State University Vancouver, 2003-2006.

Search Committee, Technical & Professional Writing. Washington State University Vancouver, 2005.

Committee Member, American Studies Committee on Digital Diversity. Washington State University, 2003-2004.

Search Committee, World/Ethnic Literatures. Washington State University Vancouver, 2003-04.

Faculty Advisor, Digital Technology and Culture Club. Washington State University Vancouver, 2003-2006.

Faculty Advisor, Students for Choice Club. Washington State University Vancouver, 2004-2005.

Graduate Student Committees

Sompathana Phitsanouk. American Studies, Washington State University, 2007-.

Professional Memberships

Society for Literature, Science and the Arts.

National Council of Teachers in English.

Science Fiction Research Association.

Electronic Literature Organization.

Modern Language Association.

The Mars Society.

References

Robert M Markley, Professor
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Unit for Criticism & Theory
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
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Urbana, IL 61801
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