

Ashley M. Williard

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Education

- 2015 **City University of New York (CUNY) Graduate Center**, New York, New York
Doctor of Philosophy, French
Dissertation: *Engendering Islands: Representations of Difference in the Seventeenth-Century French Caribbean*
Director: Domna C. Stanton
Readers: Herman L. Bennett, Francesca C. Sautman
- 2010 Translation Studies Concentration
- 2007 **Hampshire College**, Amherst, Massachusetts
Bachelor of Arts, Liberal Arts

Professional Appointments

- 2022- **University of South Carolina (USC)**, Columbia, South Carolina
Associate Professor, French Program, Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (DLLC)
- 2015-2022 Assistant Professor, French Program, DLLC
- 2024- Affiliate Faculty, Department of Women's and Gender Studies
- 2023- Core Faculty, Comparative Literature
- 2018- Core Faculty, Global Studies
- 2016- Faculty Associate, Walker Institute for International and Area Studies

Book

- 2021 *Engendering Islands: Sexuality, Reproduction, and Violence in the Early French Caribbean*. Women and Gender in the Early Modern World Series, University of Nebraska Press.

Reviews

- Alesi, Danielle. *Renaissance Quarterly* 86, no. 1 (2023): 289-90.
- Egger, Emily. *Synopsis* (August 2021).
- Ems-Bléneau, Virginie. *The French Review* 96, no. 4 (2023): 222-23.
- Moitt, Bernard. *New West Indian Guide* 96, no. 3-4 (2022): 363-64.
- Staidum Jr., Frederick C. *William and Mary Quarterly* 80, no. 1 (2023): 192-97.
- Vidal, Cécile. *H-France Review* 22, no. 93 (2022).

Interviews

- Kleiser, R. Grant. *New Books Network Podcast*, May 2022.
- Seck, Fatima. *Conversations in Atlantic Theory Podcast* episode 29, May 2022.

Articles and Chapters

- 2021 "Black Melancholy in the Early French Atlantic." *Esprit Créateur* 61, no. 4 (2021): 87–100.
- 2020 "Insolent Visions: Gender and Mental Distress in the Salpêtrière." *Early Modern Women: An Interdisciplinary Journal* (2020): 73–83.
- 2018 "Ventriloquizing Blackness: Citing Enslaved Africans in the French Caribbean, c.1650–1685." *Early Modern Black Diaspora Studies: A Critical Anthology*, edited by Cassander L. Smith, Nicholas Jones, Miles P. Grier. Palgrave Macmillan, 2018. 83–105.
- 2017 "Un remède contre les débauches : Le mariage et le salut religieux des esclaves aux Antilles au XVIIe siècle." In *Les élites en Amérique coloniale*, edited by Bernard Grunberg, Cahiers d'Histoire de l'Amérique Coloniale vol. 7. L'Harmattan, 2017. 209–23.
- 2015 "Islands of Enclosure and Exclusion: Representations of *Débauchées* in the French Caribbean, c.1660–1700." In *Networks, Interconnection, Connectivity: Selected Essays from the 44th North American Society for Seventeenth-Century French Literature Conference, University of North Carolina & Duke University May 15-17, 2014*, edited by Ellen R. Welch and Michèle Longino, Biblio 17 vol. 210. Narr, 2015. 121–33.
- 2015 "Mapping French: A First-Semester Project for Communication and Culture." *The French Review* 88, no. 3 (2015): 53–69.

Work in Progress

Article under review (submitted July 2024): "Suzanne Amomba Paillé: Disability, Dispossession, and Contestation in Eighteenth-Century French Guiana," *William & Mary Quarterly*.

Invited chapter (due November 2025): "Furious Winds: Madness and Natural Disaster in the Eighteenth-Century French Caribbean," *Cambridge History of Colonialism and Decolonization*, volume II, edited by Stephanie Smallwood and Evelyn Hu-Dehart, general editors Kris Manjapra and Christopher Lee.

Book in progress: *Disruptive Minds: Madness and Slavery in the Early French Atlantic*

Articles in progress: "'Folle dans son corps': Madness and White Womanhood in Blessebois' *Le Zombi du Grand-Pérou* (1697)," and "Rewriting an Early Modern South: Servitude and White Womanhood in Huguenot Migration"

Book Reviews

- 2024 Review of Julia Prest, *Public Theatre and the Enslaved People of Saint Domingue*

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(Palgrave Macmillan, 2023), *H-France Forum* 19, no. 5 (2024).

- 2021 Review of Michael Harrigan, *Frontiers of Servitude: Slavery in Narratives of the Early French Atlantic* (Manchester University Press, 2018). *H-France Review* 21, no. 55 (2021).
- 2020 Review of *The Spanish Caribbean & and the Atlantic World in the Long Sixteenth Century* (University of Nebraska Press, 2019), edited by Ida Altman and David Wheat. *Renaissance Quarterly* 73, no. 3 (2020): 1067–68.

Research Awards and Grants

- 2024-2025 Excel Funding Program, Office of the Vice President for Research, USC
- 2024 Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Race4Race Second Book Institute
- 2023 Summer Stipend, National Endowment for the Humanities (deferred from 2022)
- 2019, 2023 Faculty Research and Scholarship Grant, College of Arts and Sciences, USC
- 2021 Women’s Caucus Intersectional Award, American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies
- 2020 Book Manuscript Finalization Support, College of Arts and Sciences, USC
- 2019 Advanced Support for Innovative Research Excellence (ASPIRE-I.1), Office of the Vice President for Research, USC
- 2018, 2020 Faculty Travel Support, College of Arts and Sciences, USC
- 2014-2015 Fellowship, Institute for Research on the African Diaspora in the Americas and the Caribbean, CUNY Graduate Center
- 2014 Provost's Summer Research Award, CUNY Graduate Center
- 2014 Third Level French Doctoral Student Dissertation Travel Support, Henri Peyre French Institute
- 2013-2014 Graduate Center Dissertation Fellowship, CUNY Graduate Center
- 2013-2014 Bourse Jeanne Marandon dissertation year fellowship, Société des Professeurs Français et Francophones d'Amérique, *declined*
- 2012 CUNY Doctoral Student Research Grant, CUNY Graduate Center
- 2007-2012 Enhanced Chancellor’s Fellowship, CUNY Graduate Center
- 2008 Bourse Jeanne Marandon graduate student travel grant, Société des Professeurs Français
- Williard November 2024

Invited Talks and Guest Lectures

- 2024 "Madness, Slavery, and Disposability," *Uncommon Bodies: Symposium on Disability and Race in the Early Modern World*, Macalester College and University of Minnesota, February 15-16
- 2022 "Fits of Frenzy: White Women, Madness, and Race in the Eighteenth-Century Antilles," CUNY Graduate Center, November 11
- 2022 "Atlantic Epistemologies," Bowdoin College, April 27
- 2022 "Rewriting an Early Modern South: Servitude and Whiteness in Huguenot Migration," *Early Modern Intersections in the American South*, Folger Institute Symposium, University of Alabama, February 16-18
- 2021 "Black Melancholy in the French Atlantic" and "Representing Enslaved African Women in the French Caribbean," Bowdoin College, February 18 and 25
- 2020 "Reading against French Archives of Racism, Ableism, and Sanism," Department of French and Italian, University of Minnesota, October 19
- 2017 "Performances of Race and Gender in the Early Caribbean Archive," *Performance and Resistance in the Francophone Circum-Atlantic World*, Tulane University, October 19-20

Conference Papers

- 2024 "'Folle dans son corps': Madness, Sorcery, and Subversion in Blessebois' Le Zombi du Grand-Pérou (1697)," *Society for Interdisciplinary French Seventeenth-Century Studies Annual Conference*, Chicago, October 17-19
- 2024 Roundtable participant, "Disability in the Vast Early Americas," *Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture Annual Conference*, Poitiers, France, June 19-21
- 2023 "Mad White Exile: Policing and Contesting French Atlantic Manhood," *Disability in the Vast Early Americas Conference*, Omohundro Institute and University of Notre Dame, October 20-21
- 2023 Roundtable participant, "Malady and Coloniality," *Modern Language Association Annual Convention*, San Francisco, CA, January 5-8
- 2022 "Madness, Disposability, and Mobility in the Eighteenth-Century Caribbean," *Annual Meeting of the French Colonial Historical Society*, Charleston, SC, May 12-14

- 2022 Roundtable participant, "Remaking Worlds: French Disability Studies," *Modern Language Association Annual Convention*, Washington, DC, January 6-9
- 2021 "Teaching French Slavery on a Campus Built by Enslaved People," *Society for Interdisciplinary French Seventeenth-Century Studies Annual Conference*, October 14-15, 22-23
- 2021 "Madness and Slavery in the French Caribbean," *American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies*, April 7-11
- 2021 Roundtable participant, "Critical Race Studies and the Eighteenth Century," *Modern Language Association Annual Convention*, January 7-10
- 2021 Roundtable participant, "Transnational Perspectives on Early Modern Race," *Modern Language Association Annual Convention*, January 7-10
- 2019 "Interrogating Madness: Gender, Disability, and the Archive," *Society for Interdisciplinary French Seventeenth-Century Studies Annual Conference*, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, October 10-12
- 2019 "Melancholy Captives: Psychological Affliction in French Atlantic Slavery," *American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies*, Denver, March 21-23
- 2018 "Examining Maternity along a Cultural-Corporeal Continuum," *(En)Gendering the Atlantic*, New York University, April 20-21
- 2017 "Enclosing *Femmes Folles* in the Colonial French Caribbean," *National Women's Studies Association*, Baltimore, November 16-19
- 2016 "'Black Devils': Enslaved Men Fighting for and against the French," *Triangle French Culture and Literature Seminar*, National Humanities Center, December 4
- 2016 "Race, Gender, Intersectionality: An Anachronistic Approach to the 17th Century?," *Society for Interdisciplinary French Seventeenth-Century Studies Annual Conference*, Dartmouth College, November 10-12
- 2016 "Sacred Encounters: Transatlantic Journeys of Seventeenth-Century Women Religious," *Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting*, Boston, March 31-April 2
- 2016 "'Frightening as Demons': Representations of Black Masculinity in the Early French Caribbean," *Modern Language Association Annual Convention*, Austin, January 7-10
- 2015 "*Cannibales Généreux?* Missionaries' Representations of Island Carib Violence," *Society for Interdisciplinary French Seventeenth-Century Studies Annual Conference*, Rutgers University, November 5-7

- 2015 “Inscribing Racist Discourse into Enslaved Women's Bodies, 1672-1707,” *French Colonial Historical Society Annual Meeting*, Binghamton, May 7-9
- 2015 Roundtable participant, “History through Literary Eyes,” *Modern Language Association Annual Convention*, Vancouver, January 8-11
- 2014 “Servants, Masters, Slavers: Flibustiers and Servitude in the Seventeenth-Century French Caribbean,” *Society for Interdisciplinary French Seventeenth-Century Studies Annual Conference*, University of Western Ontario, October 16-18
- 2014 Heroic Sisters and *Honnêtes* Brides: La Fayolle on Mission and Marriage in the Seventeenth-Century Caribbean,” *Margot Conference on Women and Community in the Ancien Régime: Traditional and New Media*, Barnard College, June 18-20
- 2014 “Islands of Enclosure and Exclusion: *Les Filles à Marier* in the Seventeenth-Century Atlantic,” *North American Society for Seventeenth-Century French Literature Conference: Networks, Interconnection, Connectivity*, Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, May 15-17
- 2013 “Vertu héroïque et vice hideux : Représentations des femmes esclaves aux Antilles françaises au XVIIe siècle,” *Séminaire d'Histoire de l'Amérique Coloniale*, Université de Reims, France, December 4
- 2013 “Devouring Words: Breton’s Representation of Island Carib Food and Drink,” *Northeast Modern Language Association*, Boston, March 21-24

Teaching and Service Awards and Fellowships

- 2023 Excellence Grant, supporting visit of Senegalese griot Boubacar Ndiaye and musicians, Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, USC
- 2022 Teaching Development Award, supporting visit of Senegalese griot Boubacar Ndiaye and musicians, DLLC, USC
- 2021 Professor for Student Affordability, nominated and selected by Student Government, USC
- 2020 South Carolina Open Educational Resources Award, University Libraries and Student Government, USC
- 2019-2020 Teaching Development Award, for a French and Global Studies cross-listed advanced undergraduate course, “Disability in the French-Speaking World,” DLLC, USC
- 2014-2015 Instructional Technology Fellowship, Macaulay Honors College at Queens College, CUNY

2011-2012 Writing Across the Curriculum Fellowship, York College, CUNY

Courses Taught

- 2015- **University of South Carolina**, Columbia, SC
Assistant Professor, Associate Professor
French 209: Reading and Written Expression
French 311: Advanced Grammar and Composition
French 398/450/796/Global Studies 391: Disability in the French-Speaking World*
French 400/595: French Cultural History*
French 450/796: Wives, Witches, Writers: Women and Gender in Early Modern France*
French 451: Literature and Culture before 1800: Travel, from the Exotic to the Utopian*
French 453/595: History and Memory of Slavery*
French 595: La folie*
French 760: Representations of Elsewhere in Seventeenth-Century Texts*
**new or significantly redesigned courses*
- 2012-2013 **College of Staten Island, CUNY**, Staten Island, New York
Full-time Lecturer, Adjunct Lecturer
Basic French I and II, Continuing French I
- 2012, 2008-2010 **York College, CUNY**, Queens, New York
Graduate Teaching Fellow, Adjunct Lecturer
Beginning French I and II
- 2011 **Medgar Evers College, CUNY**, Brooklyn, New York
Adjunct Lecturer
Beginning French II
- 2011 **CUNY Graduate Center Language Reading Program**, New York, New York
Instructor
French for Reading I and II
- 2010-2011 **Académie de la Guadeloupe**, Le Moule, Guadeloupe
English Language Assistant

Theses, Dissertations, and Exams

Aix-Marseille Université

2023 Jury member, French Literature PhD Thesis, Mathilde Mougin, "De l'expérience des corps aux prémices d'une anthropologie dans la littérature de voyages (XVIe-XVIIe siècles)," *Aix-Marseille University*, defended December 22

University of South Carolina

- 2022-2023 Second Reader, Honors Thesis Paper, Charlotte Pollack, "Childbirth and related practices from the decline of the Black Death to the Enlightenment (1348-1637)"
- 2020-2023 Reader, Comp. Lit. PhD Dissertation, Rokhaya Dieng, "The Supernatural in Senegalese Migration"
- 2021-2022 Reader, Media Arts MA Thesis, Hannah Shikle, "Voyageur du temps: Gérard Depardieu and French Identity"
- 2019-2020 Director, Honors Thesis Paper, Michelle St John, "Developing a French for Healthcare Professionals Course"
- 2019-2020 Second Reader, Honors Thesis Paper, Hope Manninen, "Translations of Malagasy Poet Flavien Ranaivo"
- 2018-2019 Director, Honors Thesis Paper, Wanda Felsenhardt, "Visual Autobiographies: Zeina Abirached and Riad Sattouf"
- 2018-2019 Second Reader, Honors Thesis Paper, Gabrielle Amos, "Discussing Muslim Presence in France and Belgium"
- 2018 Second Reader, French MA Thesis, Rokhaya Dieng, "De la captivité à la mobilité: Représentations littéraires de la migration féminine de l'Afrique francophone vers la France"
- 2016-2017 Committee Member, Comp. Lit. PhD Comprehensive Exams, Claudia Y. Heinemann-Priest
- 2016-2017 Second Reader, Honors Thesis Paper, Michael Arin, "Nobility v. Nation: Conflicting Justices in the Early French Revolution Trials of Lambesc, Besenval, and Favras"

Pedagogy Training

- 2021 Mental Health and Well-being Competency Certificate of Completion, USC Center for Teaching Excellence
- 2018-2019 Teaching Toward Inclusive Excellence Certificate of Completion, USC Center for Teaching Excellence and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion
- 2012-2014 Interactive Technology and Pedagogy Certificate, CUNY Graduate Center

Academic Service

University of South Carolina

University

- 2024 Member, Excel Funding Program Review Committee
- 2021-2023 Senator, Faculty Senate
- 2020-2021 Member, Top Scholar Selection Committee, Admissions Office
- 2020 Member, ASPIRE I Review Committee, Office of the Vice President for Research
- 2016-2017 Participant, Welcome Table, South Carolina Collaborative for Race and Reconciliation

College of Arts and Sciences

- 2021-2020 Member, Humanities Collaborative Steering Committee
- 2020 Member, Humanities Collaborative Director Search Committee
- 2019-2020 Member, Humanities Research Working Group
- 2016-2017 Organizer, Caribbean studies research collaborative

Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures

2024-2025 Member, LLC Humanities task force
2024-2025 Member, Tenure and Promotion Committee
2021-2023 Member, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee task force
2022 Member, ASL GFL Committee

French Program

2020-2023 Chair, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
2016- Editor, newsletter, "Gamecoq Ouikly"
2016- Co-chair, Events Committee
2015- Member, Awards and Scholarships Committee
2015- Member, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
2015- Member, Graduate Faculty
2015-2016 Member, FrenFair Planning Committee
2015-2016 Member, French Literature Series Editorial Board

Service to the Profession

2022-2027 Member, LLC-French Seventeenth-Century Forum Executive Committee, *Modern Language Association*

2025 Session Organizer and Presider, "Whiteness in and Beyond Early Modern France," *Modern Language Association Annual Convention*, New Orleans, January 9-12

2021-2025 Co-Officer of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA), *Society for Interdisciplinary French Seventeenth-Century Studies*

2022 Member, 2023 Conference Program Committee, *Renaissance Society of America*

2022 Session Co-organizer, "Francophonie and the Early Modern: Intertextual Connections," *Modern Language Association Annual Convention*, Washington, DC, January 6-9

2020-2021 Member, Diversity and Inclusion Task Force, *Society for Interdisciplinary French Seventeenth-Century Studies*

2020-2021 Project Organizer and Session Chair, "Creating a Collaborative Antiracist Syllabus in French Early Modern Studies," *Society for Interdisciplinary French Seventeenth-Century Studies*

2020 Session Organizer and Presider, "Early Intersectionalities," *Modern Language Association Annual Convention*, Seattle, January 9-12

2019 Session Co-organizer, "New Directions in Seventeenth-Century Studies," *Society for Interdisciplinary French Seventeenth-Century Studies Annual Conference*, University of North Carolina, Charlotte, October 10-12

2017 Ad hoc peer reviewer for an article, *SX: Archipelagos*, a Small Axe Project publication

2017 USC Host to visiting University of Florida Faculty and Southeastern Conference Faculty Travel Grantees Dr. Elizabeth Dale, Dr. Leah Rosenberg, and Dr. Laurie Taylor in the areas of Caribbean studies, digital humanities, and humanities graduate education

2016 Beta tester and participant, Early Caribbean and the Digital Collaborative Research Cluster, *Northeastern University Humanities Center*

2014-2015, **Graduate Center, City University of New York**
2012-2013 Student representative, French Program Faculty and Membership Committee
2012 Panel moderator, French Program Student Conference
2010 Assistant reader and organizer, French Program Student Conference
2008-2010 Student representative, French Program Executive Committee

Professional Affiliations

American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies

French Colonial Historical Society

Modern Language Association

Renaissance Society of America

Society for Interdisciplinary French Seventeenth-Century Studies