

CURRICULUM VITAE

Andreas Gailus

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Education:

Columbia University	1989-96	Ph.D. German Literature
Cornell University	1988-89	German Literature
FU Berlin	1984-88	M.A. German Lit, Philosophy

Academic Positions:

University of Michigan	2019-	Professor
University of Michigan	2008-2019	Associate Professor
University of Minnesota	2005-2008	Associate Professor
University of Minnesota	2003-2005	Assistant Professor
University of Chicago	1996-2003	Assistant Professor

Academic Awards:

John Dewey Award, University of Michigan	2019
Fellow, Institute for the Humanities, University of Michigan	2015-2016
Michigan Humanities Award	Winter 2012
Single Semester Leave, University of Minnesota	Spring 2007
McKnight Summer Fellowship, University of Minnesota	2004
Residential Fellowship, Getty Institute, Los Angeles	1997-1998
Humanities Fellowship, University of Chicago	1997-1998 (returned)
Whiting Fellowship, Columbia University	1992-1993
University Fellowship, Columbia University	1989-1990
Exchange Fellowship, Cornell University	1988-1989
Fulbright Travel Fellowship	1988

PUBLICATIONS:

Books:

Forms of Life: Aesthetics and Biopolitics in German Culture (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2020).

- Reviewed in: Goethe Yearbook; German Studies Review; The German Quarterly.

Passions of the Sign: Revolution and Language in Kant, Goethe, and Kleist (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006).

- Reviewed in: MLN, Choice, Seminar, German Quarterly, German Studies Review, Monatshefte, AUMLA [Journal of Australasian Universities Modern Language Association]; Arbitrium [Germany]; Goethe Yearbook

Editorship:

Academic Advisor for volume on Robert Musil, in Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism (Farmington Hills, MI: Gale, 2022), vol. 424: 121-301.

Special issue on Robert Musil, Germanic Review 88.1 (2013)

Special issue on Heinrich von Kleist, Germanic Review 85.1 (2010)

Journal Articles and Chapters in Books:

“Madness and Modernism. Oskar Panizza and the Periphery of Form.” New German Critique (forthcoming)

Chinese translation of “Form and Chance: The German Novella,” in Journal of Modern Chinese Humanities (forthcoming)

“Metamorfosis de la forma (Goethe).” Badebec. Revista del Centro de Estudios de Teoría y Crítica Literaria. 12, no. 24 (2023). <https://badebec.unr.edu.ar/index.php/badebec/article/view/599>. [In Spanish]

“El ángel monstruoso: Sobre la figura de Mignon en Los años de Aprendizaje de Wilhelm Meister de Goethe.” Res Publica. Revista de Historia de las Ideas Políticas, 22.3 (2019): 635-647. [In Spanish]

"Brains: Forms of Life in Gottfried Benn's Rönne Novellas." New German Critique, 134 (August 2018): 1-32.

"How Literature Thinks: Robert Musil and the Writing of Modernity." Germanic Review 88.1 (2013): 1-5.

"Forms of Life: Nature, Culture and Art in Goethe's Wilhelm Meister's Apprenticeship." Germanic Review 87.2 (2012): 138-75.

"Breaking Skulls; Kleist, Hegel and the Force of Assertion." In Heinrich von Kleist and Modernity, ed. Bernd Fischer, Tim Mehigan (Rochester, New York: Camden House, 2011), 243-57.

"Ein Theater des Infinitesimalen: Musil und die Grenzen der Genauigkeit." In Dilettantismus als Wissenschaft, ed. Safia Azzouni and Uwe Wirth (Berlin: Kulturverlag Kadmos, 2010), 65-83.

"Language Unmoored: On Kleist's 'The Betrothal in St. Domingo.'" Germanic Review 85.1 (2010): 20-43.

- Reprinted in: Rebellion and Revolution, ed. Melissa Etzler and Priscilla Layne (Newcastle, UK: Cambridge University Scholars, 2011), 89-120.

"Introduction." Germanic Review 85.1. (2010): 1-2.

"Fall und Form: Die deutsche Novelle im 19. Jahrhundert." In Form. Verhandlungen eines ästhetischen Grundbegriffs in Wahrnehmungslehre und Kunsttheorie, ed. Armen Avanessian, Franck Hofmann, Susanne Leeb, Hans Stauffacher (Berlin: Diaphanes Verlag, 2009), 43-65. [Revised German translation of "La forma e il caso," listed below]

"Form and Chance: The German Novella." In The Novel, ed. Franco Moretti (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2006), 1053-1123. [Revised English translation of "La Forma e il Caso," listed below]

Response" to Eric Denton: "Children on Stage" Monatshefte, 98.3 (Fall 2006): 365-9.

"Anton Reiser, Case History, and the Emergence of Empirical Psychology." In New History of German Literature, ed. David Wellbery (Harvard: Harvard University Press, 2004), 409-414.

"Energetic Signs: Autonomy and Innovation in the Age of Revolution." Problemi, no. 3/4 (2004): 109-147. [In Slovenian]

"Poetics of Containment: Goethe's Conversations of German Refugees and the Crisis of Representation." Modern Philology 100 (2003): 436-474.

“Über die plötzliche Verwandlung der Geschichte durchs Sprechen: Kleist und das Ereignis der Rede.” Kleist-Jahrbuch (2002): 154-164.

“La forma e il caso: La novella tedesca dell’ Ottocento,” In Il Romanzo, ed. Franco Moretti (Torino: Einaudi, 2002), 505-536.

- Korean translation: Seoul: New Wave, 2005.
- Turkish translation: Istanbul: Everest, 2005.
- English translation: Princeton: Princeton UP, 2006 [see above].
- German translation: Berlin: Diaphanes, 2009 [see above].
- Chinese translation: Journal of Modern Chinese Humanities (forthcoming)

“Lessons of the Cryptograph: Revelation and the Mechanical in Kafka’s ‘In the Penal Colony.’” Modernism/Modernity 8, no. 2 (2001): 295-303.

- Reprinted in: Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism, 126 (2003): 334-39.

“A Case of Individuality: K. Ph. Moritz and the Magazine for Empirical Psychology.” New German Critique 79 (2000): 67-105.

- Reprinted in Literature Criticism from 1400 to 1800, vo. 162 (2009): 306-321.

"Of Beautiful and Dismembered Bodies: Art as Social Discipline in Schiller's Letters on the Aesthetic Education of Man." In Impure Reason, ed. W. Daniel Wilson and Robert C. Holub (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1993), 146-165.

Reviews:

Edgar Landgraf: Nietzsche’s Posthumanism. The German Quarterly 97, no. 3 (Summer 2024): 443-45.

Moritz Baßler: Deutsche Erzählprosa 1850-1950. Eine Geschichte literarischer Verfahren. Seminar: A Journal of Germanic Studies 54, no. 1 (February 2018): 106-8.

Christoph Menke: Die Gegenwart der Tragödie. Versuch über Urteil und Spiel. Zeitschrift für deutsche Philologie 125 (Winter 2006): 609-13.

Franco Moretti: Modern Epic. The World System from Goethe to Garcia Marquez. Modernism/Modernity 4, no.3 (1997): 175-77.

"Internationales Heine-Symposium: Ein Bericht," Monatshefte 81 (1989): 226-230

LECTURES:

Invited Lectures and Keynotes:

“On the Periphery of Forms of Life: Modernism and Madness,” Northwestern University, April 2022.

“Kleist and the Logic of Hybridity,” Indiana University, February 2020.

“The Monstrous Angel: On Mignon.” University of Barcelona, June 2018 [Keynote, conference on “Goethe and Femininity”].

“Forms of Life.” Workshop devoted to book manuscript. University of Barcelona, June 2018.

“Kleist and the Logic of Hybridity,” and “Gottfried Benn, Modernism, and the Writing of Life.” Lecture and seminar. University of Colorado at Boulder, February 2018.

“Gottfried Benn’s Modernism.” Dartmouth University, February 2017.

“Forms of Life.” Humanities Institute, University of Michigan, October 2016.

“Brains: Forms of Life in German Modernism.” Cornell University, February 2016.

“The Infinite Specificity of Life: On Robert Musil’s Man without Qualities.” University of Berkeley, October 2013.

“Family Resemblance: Nature and Culture in Goethe’s Wilhelm Meister’s Apprenticeship,” University of Toronto, April 2009.

“Language Unmoored: Sign and Revolution in Kleist’s ‘The Betrothal in St. Domingo,’” UC Berkeley, March 2008 [Keynote, graduate conference on “Rebellion and Revolution”].

“Family Resemblance: Nature and Culture in Goethe’s Wilhelm Meister’s Apprenticeship,” Harvard University, October 2007.

“Family Resemblance: Nature and Culture in Goethe’s Wilhelm Meister’s Apprenticeship,” University of Michigan, January 2007.

“Satanic Verse: Robert Musil and the Mystical Language of Incest,” University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, November 2003.

“Satanic Verse: Robert Musil and the Mystical Language of Incest,” Johns Hopkins University, November 2003.

“Kleist’s Bodies,” University of Chicago, October 2003.

“Modernity and Incest,” Indiana University, February 2003 [Keynote, graduate conference on “Modernism and Modernity”].

“Autonomy and Innovation in the Age of Revolution,” Columbia University, October 2002

“Enthusiasm: Kant’s Concept of History,” Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles, April 1998

“Case Histories and Novellas,” University of Chicago Humanities Center, February 1995.

Conference Presentations:

“The Human Condition in the Anthropocene.” GSA, September 2025.

“Madness and Modernism.” German Studies Colloquium, University of Michigan, 2023.

“Aesthetics after Kant.” GSA, October 2020.

“Kleist and the Logic of Hybridity.” GSA, October 2019.

“Problems of Vitalism.” Paper presented at seminar *Philosophy in Literature, Literature in Philosophy* at GSA, October 2016.

“Brains: Forms of Life in German Modernism.” German Studies Colloquium, University of Michigan, March 2016.

“Vitalism and German Culture.” Midwest Symposium in German Studies, Indiana University, April 2016.

“Kant on Aesthetic Vitality.” Paper presented at seminar *After Critique* at GSA, October 2014.

“Schreiben und Wissen in Gottfried Benns früher Prosa.” Conference on Transplantation/Transkulturation, Justus Liebig Universität Gießen, August 2014.

“Breaking Skulls: Kleist, Hegel and the Force of Assertion.” Conference on Kleist: Ancient/Modern, University of Michigan, October 2011.

“Common Relations: Wittgenstein on Ordinary Language and Wonder,” GSA, Louisville, September 2011.

“Breaking Skulls: Kleist, Hegel and the Force of Assertion.” University of Otago, New Zealand, October 2010.

“Imaging Man: Kant’s Anthropological Turn,” GSA, Washington D.C., 2009.

“Kleist and Hegel,” GSA, October 2008.

“Dead Signs: Kleist, Haiti, and the Writing of World-History,” workshop, Harvard University, October 2007.

“Theater des Infinitesimalen: Musil und die Grenzen der Genauigkeit.” Conference on “Dilettantismus als Beruf,” Zentrum für Literaturforschung, Berlin, July 2006.

“Metamorphoses of Form: On the Disunity of Biological and Human Form in Goethe’s Wilhelm Meister’s Apprenticeship.” Conference on “Re-Thinking Form,” Johns Hopkins University, April/May 2006.

“Musil and the Limits of Reason.” Conference on “Robert Musil: Literature, Science, Politics,” University of Chicago, March/April 2006.

“A Theater of the Infinitesimal: Musil and the Limits of Exactitude,” Conference on “Dilettantism and Innovation,” University of Minnesota, April 2005

“Goethe’s Wilhelm Meister and the Metamorphosis of Desire,” ACLA, Ann Arbor, April 2004.

Official Respondent at GSA, panel on “Childhood in the 18th Century,” New Orleans, September 2003.

“Sibling Incest and the Problem of Self-Formation,” GSA, San Diego, October 2002.

“Crisis: Foundation and Transgression around 1800,” 18th century workshop, University of Chicago, May 2002.

“Narrative Aspects of the Consciousness/Communication Distinction: Systems Theory and Psychoanalysis.” Conference “Narrative Systems/Narratology of Systems”, University of Chicago, March 2002.

“Ausnahmestand: Kleist and the Emergence of History.” Conference “New Research on Kleist,” University of Chicago, February 2002.

“Lessons of the Cryptograph: Revelation and the Mechanical in Kafka’s ‘In the Penal Colony,’” Kafka Symposium, University of Chicago, December 2000.

Official Respondent at MMLA, panel “Lessings Frauenbilder,” November 1994.

"Of Beautiful and Dismembered Bodies: Art as Social Discipline in Schiller's Letters on the Aesthetic Education of Man," Conference on "The Dialectic of Enlightenment," University of California, Berkeley, October 1991.

"Male Survivors in New York: Saul Bellow's *Mr. Sammler's Planet* and Edgar Hilsenrath's Bronskys Geständnis," Conference on the work of Edgar Hilsenrath, Cornell University, April 1988.

TEACHING AND ADVISING **[University of Michigan only]**

Undergraduate Courses:

German Culture and French Revolution (Fall 2008)
New Thinking: Wittgenstein and Heidegger (Winter 2009, Fall 2014)
Introduction to German Literature (Fall 2009)
19th Century Intellectual History (Fall 2009)
Modernism (Fall 2010)
Romanticism (Winter 2010, Fall 2012)
The Family in German Literature (Winter 2011)
Novellas and Case Histories (Winter 2011)
Styles of German Narrative (Fall 2013)
German Culture and Arts (Winter 2013)
20th Century Prose (Winter 2017, 2018)
Marx, Nietzsche, Freud (Winter 2018)
Humans and Animals (Fall 2020)
Freud and Psychoanalysis (Winter 2023)
20th Century German Thought (Winter 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2026)
Fairy Tales (Fall 2026)

Graduate Courses:

Subjectivity Unmoored: Musil's *The Man without Qualities* (Fall 2008)
Sovereignty (Winter 2010)
Literature and Violence: Kleist (Introduction to German Studies) (Fall 2010)
Goethe's Novels (Fall 2012)
Modernism and the Aesthetics of Life (Fall 2013)
Graduate Colloquium (Winter 2014, 2019)
Modernism and Life (Fall 2016)
Introduction to German Studies (Fall 2017)
Modernism and the Discourse of Life (Winter 2020, Winter 2022)
Prelim Seminar (Fall 2020, 2021)
Interdisciplinary Studies (co-taught, Institute for the Humanities, Fall 2020, Winter 2021)

Prelim Seminar (2022, 2023)
Freud and Psychoanalysis (2023)
Literature and Madness (2025)

Directed Study:

Literary Modernism (Solveig Heinz; Spring 2009)
Heidegger: Being and Time (Esteban Kreierman; Winter 2018)

Chair, Dissertation Committee:

Michael André (2008-2011)
Spencer Hawkins (co-chair) (2011-2014)
Landon Little (2013-2015)
Sam Heidepriem (2013-2017)
Vincenzo Salvatore (co-chair) (2017-2019)
Naomi Vaughan (co-chair) (2018-2020)
Elizabeth McNeill (co-chair) (2019-2022)
Elizabeth Sokol (co-chair) (2022-2025)
Sarah Lime (2023-)
Kelsi Morefield (co-chair) (2025-)
Meghan Looney (co-chair) (2025-)
Jean Pieterse (2026-)

Member Dissertation Committee:

Jonah Johnson
Solveig Heinz
Kathryn Sederbergh
Richard Pierre
Jennie Cain
Hannah McMurray
Megan Torti
Tugce Kayaal
Naomi Vaughan
Domenic DeSocio
Esteban Kreierman
Duygu Ergun
Scott Reel
David Campbell
Parks Mason
Caroline Sullivan

SERVICE
[University of Michigan only]

Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures:

2025-

- Director of Graduate Studies
- Faculty mentor (Ella Wilhelm)

2018 – 2024

- Department Chair

2018-19:

- Chair, Lecturer I Major Review (Vera Irwin, 2019)

2017-18:

- Associate Chair
- Chair, Curriculum Committee
- Member, Executive Committee
- Chair, Lecturer IV Major Review (Annemarie Toebosch)
- Chair, Lecturer IV Review (Johanna Eriksson)

2016-17:

- Associate Chair
- Chair, Curriculum Committee
- Member, Executive Committee
- Chair, Lecturer I Major Review (Mary Rodena-Krasan)
- Charged with reorganizing departmental website (together with Kerstin Barndt)

2015-2016

- On leave (Fellow at the Institute for the Humanities, University of Michigan)

2014—2015:

- Associate Chair & Director of Graduate Studies
- Chair, Curriculum Committee
- Member, Executive Committee
- Member, Search Committee for Assistant Professor

2013-14:

- Associate Chair & Director of Graduate Studies
- Chair, Curriculum Committee
- Member, Executive Committee
- Chair, Search Committee for Visiting Assistant Professor

- Chair, Lecturer II Major Review (Ramona Uritescu-Lombard)
- Member, Lecturer II Review (Stacy Swennes)

2012-13

- On leave
- Respondent, Manuscript Workshop, Silke Weineck

2011-2012

- Member, Executive Committee
- Chair, Search Committee for Assistant Professor

2010-11

- Member, Executive Committee
- Chair, 3rd year review of Lecturer III (Andrew Mills),
- Member, Review of Lecturer IV (Janet Valckenburg), Winter 2010
- Development Liaison (in charge of outreach and communication with GDS alumni)
- Member, Graduate Certificate Committee

2009-10

- Member, Executive Committee
- Member, Fulbright Campus Evaluation Committee, October 2009
- Member, Search committee for Lecturer III position
- Development Liaison

2008-9

- Member, Executive Committee
- Member, Review of Lecturer IV (Kalli Federhofer), Spring 2008
- Development Liaison

University Service:

- Member, SACUA, Tenure, Promotions and Professional Development Committee (2015-2018)
- Member, LSA Nominating Committee (Winter 2018)
- Member, Committee for Selection of Graduate Fellows, Institute for the Humanities, (2017)
- Member, Fulbright Campus Evaluation Committee (2011-14)
- Academic Director, Alumni Cruise on River Elbe, April 24 to May 2, 2008

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES:

Editorship:

Executive Editor (with Julia Hell and Johannes von Moltke), Germanic Review, Spring 2008 to 2014

Conferences and Panels organized:

Panel organizer, “Hannah Arendt in Dark Times,” GSA 2025.

Panel organizer, “Aesthetics after Kant,” GSA 2020.

Panel organizer, “Re-Reading Kant’s Critique of Judgment,” GSA 2016.

Conference co-organizer (with Silke-Marie Weineck), “Kleist: Ancient/Modern,” September 16, 2011

Conference co-organizer (with Silke-Marie Weineck and Mika LaVaque-Manty), “Idealism Matters,” September 17-19, 2009.

Conference co-organizer (with Patrizia McBride and Rembert Hüser), “Dilettantism and Innovation,” University of Minnesota, April 8-9, 2005.

Book, Journal, and Fellowship Referee:

Book manuscripts: Stanford University Press (2), Fordham University Press (2), Routledge, Camden UP (2), Bloomsbury Press (3), Cornell University Press (2)

Journal articles: German Quarterly, Configurations, Women in German Yearbook, Cultural Critique, Criticism, Seminar, Goethe Yearbook, New German Critique

Reviewer: ACLS Dissertation Fellowships (2010 to 2015); American Academy in Berlin (2015, 2016, 2018, 2019)

Member of Advisory Board: Goethe Society of North America Book Series, Bucknell University Press

Tenure and Promotion Reviews:

Harvard University (2026)
University of Texas, Austin (2025)
University of Missouri (2023)
Penn State University (2022)
Duke University (2022)
Brown University (2021)

University of Kansas (2021)
Northwestern University (2019)
Tufts University (2018)
Brigham Young University (2013)
Columbia University (2012)
Ohio State University (2012)
University of Wisconsin, Madison (2009)
Cornell University (2008)

Professional Organizations

German Studies Association
Modern Language Association
Heinrich-von-Kleist-Gesellschaft
Goethe Society of North America
American Comparative Literature Association
American Psychoanalytic Association