

Yelizaveta Barros Santos

Ph.D. Candidate in English Language & Literature, ABD
University of Michigan • Department of English Language & Literature
ytishch@umich.edu

EDUCATION

2020 - present: Ph.D. English Language and Literature, University of Michigan
2018 - 2019: M.A. Twentieth and Twenty-First Century Literary Studies, Durham University
2014 - 2018: B.A. English, Johns Hopkins University

TEACHING AND RESEARCH SPECIALIZATIONS

- Digital media & communication
- Twentieth & twenty-first century U.S. literature and culture
- Material culture studies
- Experimental media
- Literary form, affect, and object-oriented theories

PUBLICATIONS

Articles & Book Chapters

“Backrooms Fiction: Teaching *The Factory* in the Age of Infinite Work.” (Forthcoming, *Teaching Twenty-First Century Literature*, ed. Mitch R. Murray).

“Whole Earth, Porous Memory: Scientific Discourse and the Technological Sublime in the *Whole Earth Catalog*.” (Forthcoming, *Variations* 28).

Other Academic Publications

“Surface Tension: *Jacob’s Room* and the Material Imagination of Woolf’s Modernity.” *Em-dash* (Fall 2025).

Public-Facing Writing

Fault State. Substack. (2025-)
A digital newsletter exploring the intersections of technology, labor, and culture.

RESEARCH & EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Editorial Assistant, Norton Critical Edition *Absalom, Absalom!* (Guest Editor: Susan Scott Parrish)
University of Michigan, 2021-2022

- Designed original visual maps to assist in analyses of the novel’s complex chronological/spatial breadth, to serve as interdisciplinary aids for students.
- Integrated media studies perspectives into literary analysis.
- Assisted in curating, editing, and condensing selections to meet publication requirements.
- Generated and fact-checked textual annotations and footnotes accompanying the novel text.
- Contributed to discussions of pedagogical framing for student audiences, integrating literary, historical, and media studies perspectives.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor – Instructor of Record (2021 – 2024)

“*Writing and Academic Inquiry*” • Undergraduate Seminar

- Designed and conducted a foundational composition and rhetoric course in the English department, emphasizing critical thinking, rhetorical analysis, and effective written communication skills.
- Offered in-class workshop sessions and independent support to guide students through the writing process, from initial inquiry to peer-review and revision, focusing on evidence-based reasoning and structural clarity.
- Evaluated and provided feedback on diverse writing genres to help students adapt their skills to diverse audiences.

“*Working Writers and Works of Literature*” • Undergraduate Seminar

- Designed a robust, cross-disciplinary syllabus exploring the evolving and conflicted relationship between writing, labor, and technological modernity in modern and contemporary societies.
- Conducted seminar sessions exposing students to a diverse array of technical, professional, and creative writing genres to explore questions related to the material conditions of authorship.
- Incorporated multimodal media case studies to investigate how technological and capitalist systems influence modern communication and literary production.

“*Modernist Objects*” • Undergraduate Seminar

- Lectured and conducted seminars on the intersections of material culture, written form, and communication.
- Challenged students to engage with complex media histories and material artifacts to explore how objects mediate human experience and historical memory.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & INVITED LECTURES

Mar 2023: *‘Thus hides the parts’: Reconsidering Labour in the Shadow of the Machine.*
 Panel: “No Longer ‘Low and Dishonest’? A Reassessment of the 1930s.”
 NeMLA 54th Annual Convention, University at Buffalo SUNY.

May 2022: *Pedagogy and the Making of the Norton Critical Edition of Absalom, Absalom!*
 Roundtable Participant. American Literature Association, 33rd Annual Conference.

May 2021: *‘The Complete Householder’: Rent as Narrative Scaffolding in Faulkner’s Wild Palms.*

“Faulkner’s Fetishized Words” International Zoom Symposium, University of Picardy Jules Verne & University of Richmond.

- Jan 2021:** *‘Four walls to get inside of’: The Narrative Economies of Rented Rooms in Faulkner’s Wild Palms.*
Faulkner Studies in the U.K. Colloquium.
- Nov 2020:** *‘Tied up in real estate’: Faulkner, Caldwell, and the Trouble in the House.*
South Atlantic Modern Language Association.
- May 2020:** *‘We got to go somewheres’: Navigating Space, Mediating Historical Narrativity in Soldiers’ Pay and The Sound and the Fury.*
Faulkner Studies in the U.K. Colloquium.
- May 2019:** *‘Smoldering hiatus’: Silences and Hysterias in Faulkner’s Flags in the Dust.*
Faulkner Studies in the U.K. Colloquium, Royal Holloway, University of London.
- Mar 2019:** *‘Coloured, labelled, mounted’: Social Liminality as Artistic Exchange in Henry James’ Late Novels.*
“Inventions of the Text” Postgraduate Panel, Durham University.

LANGUAGES

Russian: Fluent reading, writing, and speaking ability.

Latin: Translation experience.

REFERENCES

Susan Scott Parrish • Professor of English Language and Literature
University of Michigan
sparrish@umich.edu

John Whittier-Ferguson • Professor of English Language and Literature
University of Michigan
johnaw@umich.edu