

MIRIAM POSNER

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UCLA Information Studies Department
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Academic Employment

Assistant Professor

Information Studies and Digital Humanities, University of California, Los Angeles, 2017–

Coordinator and Core Faculty Member

Program in Digital Humanities, University of California, Los Angeles, 2012–2017

Education

Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut

Ph.D., Film Studies and American Studies, 2011

Dissertation: *Depth Perception: Narrative and the Body in Medical Filmmaking*

Reed College, Portland, Oregon

B.A., History, December 2001

Publications

Book Manuscript

Seeing Like a Supply Chain: The Hidden Life of Logistics (in preparation; under advance contract with Yale University Press)

Peer-Reviewed Journal and Book Articles

“Supply Chain.” In *Theory and Event*.

“Supply chain.” In *Uncertain Archives: Critical Keywords for Big Data* (Cambridge: MIT, 2021).

Klein, Lauren, and Miriam Posner. “Data.” In *Keywords for American Cultural Studies*, third edition (New York: NYU, 2021).

“Data Trouble: Data and / versus the Humanities,” under review.

“Black Boxes and Breakpoints: Information in Global Supply Chains,” accepted pending revisions.

“The Materials at Hand” (with Alison Booth). *Proceedings of the Modern Language Association (PMLA)* 135, no. 1 (January 2020).

“Digital Humanities.” In *The Craft of Criticism: Critical Media Studies in Practice*, edited by Mary Celeste Kearney and Michael Kackman, 331–46. New York: Taylor & Francis, 2018.

“Khaki Fever, Charity Girls, and *The End of the Road*: Hostile Worlds of Sex and Commerce in an Early Sexual Hygiene Film,” *Communicating Good Health: Movies, Medicine, and the Cultures of Risk in the Twentieth Century* (University of Rochester, 2018)

Posner, Miriam, and Marika Cifor. “Generative Tensions: Building a Digital Project on Early African American Race Film.” *American Quarterly* 70, no. 3 (September 29, 2018): 709–14.

“Tracing a Community of Practice: A Database of Early African-American Race Film” (with Marika Cifor), *Moving Image* 17.2 (Fall 2017).

“The Early African-American Race Film Database” (with Marika Cifor, Hanna Girma, William Lam, and Shanya Norman), *Journal of Open Humanities Data*.

“Data as Media” (with Lauren Klein), *Feminist Media Histories* 3:3 (Summer 2017).

“What’s Next: The Radical, Unrealized Potential of Digital Humanities,” and “Here and There: Building Community in the Digital Humanities,” in Lauren Klein and Matthew Gold, ed., *Debates in the Digital Humanities* (University of Minnesota, 2016).

“How is a Digital Project Like a Film?” in Charles Acland and Eric Hoyt, ed., *The Arclight Guide to Media Studies and Digital Humanities* (REFRAME, 2016).

“No Half Measures: Overcoming Common Challenges to Doing Digital Humanities in the Library,” *Journal of Library Administration* 53:1 (January 2013).

“Think Talk Make Do: Power and the Digital Humanities,” *Journal of Digital Humanities* 1:2 (June 2012).

SPEC Survey on Digital Humanities Services in Libraries (with Tim Bryson, Frances Maloy, Alain St. Pierre, and Stewart Varner), Association of Research Libraries, March 2011.

“Communicating Disease: Germ Theory and Narrative in Thomas Edison’s Red Cross Seal Films,” in Marsha Orgeron et al., *Learning with the Lights Out: An Educational Film Reader* (Oxford, 2011).

Awards

UCLA Society of Hellman Fellows, 2021–2022

Annual Teaching Excellence Award, Information Studies Department, UCLA, 2017–2018

Honorable Mention, Garfinkel Prize for Digital Scholarship, American Studies Association, 2017

Grant Awards

UCHRI Digital Humanities Visualization Grant, \$15,000 (2019-2020, UCHRI, 20% effort)

UCLA Transdisciplinary Seed Grant, UCLA Office of the Chancellor, \$365 (2019-20, 10% effort)

UCLA Faculty Senate Committee on Research Grant, \$8,899 (2019, UCLA)

UCLA Excellence in Pedagogy and Innovation in the Classroom Initiative, \$16,000 (2018–19, UCLA, 50% effort)

Principal investigator, Beyond the Digitized Slide Library Summer Institute on Digital Humanities and Art History, Getty Foundation, \$181,972 (2014, UCLA)

Principal investigator, Beyond the Digitized Slide Library Summer Institute on Digital Humanities and Art History, Getty Foundation, \$185,677 (2013, UCLA)

Co-principal investigator, Advancing Project-Based Learning through Apprenticeships and Capstone Courses in the Digital Humanities Minor, UCLA Office of Instructional Development, \$37,500 (2012, UCLA)

Co-author, *The Digital Scholarship Commons: A New Approach for Digital Scholarship*, Mellon Foundation, \$694,053 (2011, Emory University)

Co-author, *Online Access to the Silent Film Era Collection*, National Endowment for the Humanities, \$250,000 (2008, Museum of the Moving Image)

Teaching Experience

Primary Instructor

University of California, Los Angeles	
Systems and Infrastructures	Winter 2018
Museums in the Digital Age	S18, S19, F20
Selfies, Snapchat, and Cyberbullies: Coming of Age Online	Winter 2015
Digital Labor, Materiality, and Urban Space	Winter 2014
Introduction to Digital Humanities (Undergraduate)	F13, F14, F15, F16, F17
Digital Humanities Capstone: Databases	Spring 2013
Introduction to Digital Humanities (Graduate)	F12, W19, S20, W21
Web Design Intensive	Spring 2012
Yale University	
Writing and Communication	Summer 2009
<i>(Summer Medical and Dental Education Program for underrepresented minorities)</i>	
The Television Sitcom	Summer 2006
University of Rhode Island	
Recent American History through Film	Summer 2008

Selected Invited Presentations

Keynotes

“Head and Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas”

2019 Cassidy Lecture, National Library of Medicine, September 19, 2019.

“Data Trouble”

Utah Digital Humanities Symposium, February 2019

“Data Trouble”

Chicago Colloquium on Digital Humanities and Computer Science, November 2018

“Digital Humanities and the Library”

Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences, Los Angeles, May 2018

“Digital Humanities and the History of Medicine”

Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, March 2018

“Data Trouble”

Netherlands American Studies Association, Middelburg, Netherlands, September 2016

“Data Trouble”

Australasian Association for Digital Humanities, Tasmania, Australia, June 2016

“Data Trouble”

Making Meaning with Data in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Grinnell College, June 2016

“Why We Wrote a Student Collaborators’ Bill of Rights”

Digital Pedagogy Institute, University of Toronto-Scarborough, August 2015

“Seeing Through and with the Interface”

Public Knowledge Project Conference, Simon Fraser University, August 2015

“What’s Next: The Radical, Unrealized Potential of the Digital Humanities”

Keystone Digital Humanities Conference, University of Pennsylvania, July 2015

“Necessary Contradictions: Why Humanists Have Problems with ‘Data’”
Harvard Purdue Data Management Symposium, Cambridge, Mass., June 2015

“Here and There: Creating a Digital Humanities Community”
Digital Frontiers, University of North Texas, September 2014

Recent Invited Talks

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”
Interrogating Global Traces of Infrastructure (workshop sponsored by King’s College London),
November 18, 2021

“Data Trouble”
Middlebury College, November 17, 2021 (remote presentation; repeat performance for larger
group)

“Data Trouble”
Middlebury College, May 10, 2021 (remote presentation)

“Research Update”
Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media at George Mason University, April 12, 2021
(remote presentation)

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”
UC Merced, March 19, 2021: (remote presentation)

“Excavating Silent Film in the Digital Age” + faculty workshop
Washington University in St. Louis, March 8-9, 2021 (remote presentation)

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”
UCLA Information Studies Colloquium, February 11, 2021 (remote presentation)

“Data Trouble” (remote presentation)
UC San Diego, February 7, 2020

“Data Trouble”
University of Nebraska, January 30, 2020.

Invited dialogue participant, Getty Center Conference on Minorities and Women, December 3,
2020.

“Data Trouble”
Invited lecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, October 26, 2020.

“Data Trouble”
Invited participant and speaker, Think-Play-Hack (Southern Methodist University), July 9-13,
2019.

“Reifying or Rectifying?: When is it OK to Impose Binaries?”
Stanford University, May 30, 2019.

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”
Invited lecture, UC Irvine, May 3, 2019.

“Digital Humanities: What It Is, Where We’ve Come & Where We Might Go”; “Understanding
& Evaluating Digital Projects”; “Data Visualization and Mapping with Tableau”

Invited lecture and workshops, Ohio University, March 18, 2019.

“How Did They Make That? Reverse-Engineering Digital Humanities Projects”
UC Riverside, March 5, 2019.

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”
UC Irvine, May 2018

“Digital Humanities in the Actually Existing University”
Ohio University, Athens, March 2019

“Digital Humanities in the Actually Existing University”
University of Colorado, Boulder, February 2019

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”
Albright College, November 2018

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”
University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 2018

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”
Australian National University, Canberra, August 2018

Digital humanities institutional planning workshop facilitation
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, May 2018

“What is Digital Humanities?”
County of L.A. Public Libraries Emerging Technology Think Tank, April 2018

“Digital Humanities in the Actually Existing University”
University of Chicago, March 2018

“Digital Humanities and Natural Language Processing”
University of Southern California, February 2018

Workshop facilitation for Association of College and Research Librarians
UC San Diego, January 2018

“Digital Humanities Pedagogy”
Loyola Marymount University, January 2018

“A Database of Early African-American Film”
University of Shenzhen, China, December 2017

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”
University of Texas at Austin, June 2017

Digital literary studies panel participation
Stanford University, April 2017

“Digital Humanities at the Actually Existing University”
Rochester Institute of Technology, April 2017

“Data Trouble”
University of Colorado, Boulder, February 2017

“Digital Humanities at the Actually Existing University”
Northwestern University, September 2016

“Introduction to Network Analysis”
UC Berkeley, History and Theory of New Media Lecture Series, September 2016

“Framing Digital Humanities”
Claremont College Digital Humanities Symposium, May 2016

Workshop on computer vision for the history of medicine
National Library of Medicine, April 2016

“Head-and-Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas: Walter Freeman and the Visual Culture of Lobotomy”
Reed College, April 2016

“Data Trouble”
University of San Francisco Data Visualization Speaker Series, March 2016

“Head-and-Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas: Walter Freeman and the Visual Culture of Lobotomy”
New York Academy of Medicine, New York, NY, February 2016

“Head-and-Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas: Walter Freeman and the Visual Culture of Lobotomy”
Bard College Experimental Humanities Series, February 2016

“Money and Time”
UC Irvine Data Science and Digital Humanities Symposium, February 2016

“Head-and-Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas: Walter Freeman and the Visual Culture of Lobotomy”
University of Kansas Institute for Digital Research in the Humanities, January 2016

“Digital Humanities at the Actually Existing University”
UC Merced Center for the Humanities, November 2015

“Head-and-Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas: Walter Freeman and the Visual Culture of Lobotomy”
UC Santa Cruz Institute for Humanities Research, November 2015

“Data Trouble”
Yale University American Studies Department, New Haven, CT, May 2015

“Head-and-Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas: Walter Freeman and the Visual Culture of Lobotomy”
New York University Library, May 2015

“Digital Humanities 101”
Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota, November 2014

“Head-and-Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas: Walter Freeman and the Visual Culture of Lobotomy”
Middlebury College, April 2015

“Head-and-Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas: Walter Freeman and the Visual Culture of Lobotomy”
Amherst College, April 2015

“Thinking through and with the Interface”
Fordham University Department of American Studies, April 2014

“How Did They Make That? Reverse-Engineering Digital Humanities Projects”
City University of New York, Graduate Center, April 2014

Recent Conference Presentations

Panelist, “Critical Futures: Exploring the Place and Practice of Critical Informatics Training in iSchools”
iConference, virtual, March 2021

Panelist, “Data and the Archive”
American Studies Association, Honolulu, HI, December 2019

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”
Society for the Social Studies of Science, Sydney, Australia, August 2018

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”
Command and Control Conference, New York University, April 2018

“Labor and the Digital Humanities”
Digital Humanities Annual Conference, Mexico City, July 2018

“Evaluating Digital Projects”
Organization of American Historians, April 2018

“Digital Humanities and Media Studies”
Society for Cinema and Media Studies, March 2018

Related Professional Experience

Emory University Libraries, Atlanta, Georgia
Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Digital Scholarship Commons
June 2010–January 2012
Key in researching, designing, planning, and managing a new center for digital scholarship. Co-wrote successful grant (\$694,053) to the Mellon Foundation to fund the center. Supervised student and full-time employees. Conducted outreach and offered consultations to graduate students and faculty members.

Museum of the Moving Image, Astoria, New York
Associate Curator of the Collection
January 2007–January 2008
Curated, maintained, and developed MMI’s collection of 125,000 artifacts. Organized digital and physical exhibitions. Co-wrote successful \$250,000 NEH grant. Managed interns, researched artifacts, and coordinated incoming donations.

Service

Review Committee, 2021
American Historical Association Roy Rosenzweig Prize for Digital Scholarship

Advisory Board Member, 2021-2023

Sunset over Sunset (Getty Foundation-funded project)

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Editorial Board, 2019-present

KULA: Knowledge Creation, Dissemination, and Preservation Studies

Editorial Board, 2019-present

The Moving Image: Journal of the Association of Moving Image Archivists

Digital Strategy Roundtable, 2019–2022

United States Library of Congress

Digital Visiting Committee, 2019

The Getty Trust

Advisory Board Member, 2018–

American Philosophical Society Center for Digital Scholarship

External Evaluator, Occidental College Library, 2018

Advisory Board Member, *The Eugenic Rubicon: California's Sterilization Stories*, 2016

(NEH-funded digital publication)

Advisory Board Member, *Digging Deeper, Reaching Further: Libraries Empowering Users to Mine the HathiTrust Digital Library Resources*, 2016–2019

(IMLS-funded project based at Indiana University)

Editorial Board, *Digital Project Review*, 2016–2019

American Quarterly

Executive Council member, 2014–2017

Association for Computing and the Humanities

Peer Reviewer, Preservation & Access Research & Development Program, September 2014

National Endowment for the Humanities Office of Preservation and Access

Selection committee member, 2014

Council on Library and Information Resources Dissertation Fellowships

Peer reviewer, 2013–Present

Digital Humanities Annual Meeting

Peer reviewer, current

Routledge, Palgrave Macmillan, and the *Digital Humanities Quarterly*

Special advisor, 2012–2013

National Institute for Technology in Liberal Education

General editor, 2012–2016

The Programming Historian (an open-access resource for teaching programming to historians)

Program committee member, 2012

Society for Cinema and Media Studies

Advisory board member, History Project, 2011–2012

Research Support Services for Scholars (An Ithaka S+R Program)

Peer reviewer, Start-Up Grants, 2011
National Endowment for the Humanities Office of Digital Humanities