



Volume 14, Number 1/2 (2021-22)

ISSN 1754-646X

- viii Jay Clayton and Claire Sisco King
Introduction: Problem-Based Collaboration
- 1 Ethan Gibbons, Isaac Stovall, and Jay Clayton
Genetics in Film and TV, 1912-2020
- 23 Cynthia D. Porter
Germans and Genes on Screen: Marvel's *X-Men*
Films
- 39 Lauren Furman and Jay Clayton
Genetics in Television Medical Dramas
- 57 Paul Hamann-Rose
What We Talk About When We Talk About
Cloning: A Literature and Bioethics Perspective
on Genetic Privacy, Consent and the Family
- 78 Terrell Taylor and Claire Sisco King
Monstrous Proletariat: The Racial Chimera in
District 9 and *Sorry to Bother You*
- 94 Zachary B. Feldman and Jay Clayton
Genetics and Ethics in the 'I am Legend' Corpus
- 108 Kendra H. Oliver, Stephanie Higgs, and Jay
Clayton
The End of Genetic Privacy in the Blade Runner
Canon
- 125 Marcie Casey and Jay Clayton
Queer Kinship: Privacy Concerns in *Orphan
Black*
- Article Reviews
- 140 Francesca Battista
Review of Omar Vargas's "The Physicist and His
Ghosts: the Scientific Writing of Ernesto
Sabato."

- 142 Max Laitman Chapnick
Review of Mary Bowden’s “H. G. Wells’s Plant Plot: Horticulture and Ecological Narration in *The Time Machine*.”
- 144 Rosalind Crocker
Review of Rae X. Yan’s “Robert Louis Stevenson as Philosophical Anatomist: The Body Snatcher.”
- 146 Philip Jenkins
Review of Ida Marie Olsen’s “Outlines of Ecological Consciousness in W.H. Hudson’s Environmentalism.”
- 148 Soumya Kashyap and Priyanka Tripathi
Review of Manali Karmakar and Avishek Parui’s “‘These Were Made-to-Order Babies’: Reterritorialised Kinship, Neoliberal Eugenics and Artificial Reproductive Technology in Kishwar Desai’s *Origins of Love*.”
- 150 James Metcalf
Review of Melissa Sodeman’s “Gilbert White, Anecdote, and Natural History.”

About the JLS

The *Journal of Literature and Science (JLS)* is a peer-reviewed academic journal published twice annually in Summer and Winter. The JLS was founded in 2007, and produced its first issue at the beginning of 2008. It was originally hosted by the University of Glamorgan's Research Centre for Literature, Arts and Science (2007-12), before moving to its own independent online site in March 2013, with the support of the University of Westminster. The journal's first, and present, editor is Professor Martin Willis, Professor of English at Cardiff University. The Advisory Board includes leading scholars of literature and science from around the world. The JLS is published in digital format, is entirely open access, and requires no subscription fee.

The journal is dedicated to the publication of academic essays on the subject of literature and science, broadly defined. Essays on the major forms of literary and artistic endeavour are welcome (the novel, short fiction, poetry, drama, periodical literature, visual art, sculpture, radio, film and television). The journal encourages submissions from all periods of literary and artistic history since the Scientific Revolution; from the Renaissance to the present day. The journal also encourages a broad definition of 'science': encapsulating both the history and philosophy of science and those sciences regarded as either mainstream or marginal within their own, or our, historical moment. However, the journal does not generally publish work on the social sciences. Within these confines, essays submitted to the journal may focus on the literary and scientific productions of any nation or group.

All essays should be interdisciplinary in focus, offering an original view of both the literary or artistic subject matter and the science or sciences under consideration. While essays on individual examples of literary and artistic production are welcomed, these should also seek to show the wider significance of their analyses and interpretations. The journal does not publish essays focused exclusively on literature or art, or exclusively on the history and philosophy of science.

Submission and Citation Information

Abstracts and articles for submission should be sent to the Editor, Professor Martin Willis, by email only: WillisM8@cardiff.ac.uk

The *JLS* recommends that an initial email inquiry, including an abstract of the proposed article, should be sent in advance of completed articles in order to ensure that the subject matter is suitable for publication under the *JLS*'s remit.

All articles should be from 6000-9000 words in length, interdisciplinary in focus, and offering an original view of both the literary or artistic subject matter and the science or sciences under consideration. While articles on individual examples of literary and artistic production are welcomed, these should also seek to show the wider significance of their analyses and interpretations. The journal does not publish essays focused exclusively on literature or art, or exclusively on the history and philosophy of science.

All submitted articles should be presented in MLA Style, with notes kept to a minimum. *JLS* articles do not use personal pronouns (e.g. "In this article I will..." is not appropriate, while "This article will..." is appropriate). All spellings should follow British English. All submitted articles should include a short abstract (150 words maximum) below the title and author's name and ahead of the opening sentence.

The *JLS* aims to complete the first stage of peer review (consideration of articles by the editor and advisory board) within 4 weeks of submission and the second stage of peer review (external, blind, double peer-review) within 8 weeks of the completion of the first stage. All authors whose articles reach the second stage of peer review should expect to have a decision on publication within approximately 12 weeks of the date of their original submission of an article

Citing the JLS: the journal's full title is the *Journal of Literature and Science*, and its first issue was Volume 1, Number 1 (2007). All page numbers to individual essays can be found when accessing the PDF file of that essay. The journal's ISSN is 1754-646X. Citations should give Author, 'Title,' *Journal of Literature and Science* Vol, No. (Year): pp., organized according to the specific style guide being used.

The *Journal of Literature and Science* is committed to real and immediate open access for academic work. All of the *JLS*'s articles and reviews are free to access immediately from the date of publication. There are no author charges (commonly known as APCs) prior to publication, and no charge for any reader to download articles and reviews for their own scholarly use. The *JLS* does not, therefore, operate either a Gold or Green model of open access, but is free to all at any time and in perpetuity. To facilitate this the *JLS* depends upon the financial underwriting provided by the University of Westminster's Department of English, the goodwill of its editorial team and advisory board, and the continuing support of its network of peer reviewers.



The *Journal of Literature and Science* also operates under the [Creative Commons Licence CC-BY-NC-ND](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/). This allows for the reproduction of articles, free of charge, for non-commercial use only and with the appropriate citation information. All authors publishing with the *JLS* accept these as the terms of publication. Please note that copyright of the content of all articles and reviews remains with the designated author of the article or review. Copyright of the layout and design of *JLS* articles and reviews remains with the *Journal of Literature and Science* and cannot be used in other publications.

The *JLS* is a member of PILA (Publishers International Linking Association) and submits all articles and reviews, including all works that these cite, to CrossRef for cross-referral. To find *JLS* articles and reviews via their DOI numbers, use the URL [http://dx.doi.org/\[DOI number\]](http://dx.doi.org/[DOI number])

Reviews

The *JLS* reviews articles on literature and science, or relevant articles in cognate fields such as the history of science, cultural studies or sociology, published in academic journals within the last twelve to eighteen months. Reviews are generally commissioned by the Reviews Editor, but potential contributors are encouraged to contact the Reviews Editor to suggest articles for review.

The *JLS* does not, at any time, review books or collections of essays. The editors take the view that books within the field are already well covered by reviewing journals while journal articles, often the publication type that offers the most recent scholarship, are never considered in review processes. By doing so, the *JLS* hopes to offer its readers access to academic dialogue on the most recent advances in literature and science.

Reviews should be approximately 750 words in length, should follow MLA Style (notes generally not allowed), and should aim to describe the content of the article under review as well as offer an analysis of its strengths and weaknesses and conclude by assessing its significance for literature and science scholarship.

Proposals for review and completed reviews should be sent to the Reviews Editor, Dr Michelle Geric by email only: m.geric@westminster.ac.uk

Editorial Board

Editor: Martin Willis

Reviews Editor: Michelle Geric

Editorial Assistants: Rebecca Spear & Jim Scown

Advisory Board: Tim Armstrong, Gowan Dawson, Folkert Degenring, John Holmes, Lisa Hopkins, William Hughes, Kelly Hurley, Meegan Kennedy, Leah Knight, Sharon Ruston, Eleanor Sandry, Jonathan Sawday, Carol A. Senf, Andrew Smith, Laurence Talairach-Vielmas, Jeff Wallace, Alexandra Warwick and Catherine Wynne.

Web design: Martin Callanan

Logo: Joel Cooper

Francesca Battista obtained her Ph.D. in Quantum Physics at the University of Lund, Sweden in 2013. She worked as a researcher and instructor in Germany and Argentina. In 2018 she completed a Master's in Public Communication of Science and Technology at the University of Buenos Aires. She is currently a Ph.D. student in Science and Technology Studies at Virginia Tech University, USA. She has published two books of original poems *La mujer in-visible* (2019) and *Lovefracking* (2021).

Marcie Casey is a writer, researcher, and PhD Candidate at Vanderbilt University. Her work focuses on uplifting marginalized individuals by exploring the intersections of race, gender, sexuality, and technology.

Max Chapnick is a PhD candidate at Boston University, working on a dissertation "Wild Science: Radical Politics and Rejected Knowledge in Nineteenth-Century Fiction". He has taught courses on science in literary modernism, environmental literature, and science fiction.

Jay Clayton is William R. Kenan Professor of English and Director of the Curb Center for Arts, Enterprise, and Public Policy at Vanderbilt University. He is author of numerous books and articles on topics ranging from Victorian literature to digital media and literature and technology. His latest book, *Literature, Science, and Public Policy: From Darwin to Genomics*, is forthcoming from Cambridge University Press.

Rosalind Crocker is a doctoral researcher in the School of English at the University of Sheffield, funded by the AHRC through WRoCAH. Her thesis looks at depictions of the 'medical man' in neo-Victorian fiction, and his place in modern and historical narratives of clinical practice.

Zachary B. Feldman is a joint-PhD candidate in Comparative Media Analysis and Practice and German, Russian and East European Studies at Vanderbilt University. His dissertation, *Art or Artifice: The Role of Documentary in Contemporary Art*, analyzes the state of contemporary documentary media. Additionally, Zachary has worked at art institutions and museums such as the Light Art Space, the Frist Art Museum, Center for Art und Media, and the National Gallery of Art.

Lauren Furman works as the Assistant Managing Editor of the *Colorado Review* and is an MFA candidate in fiction at Colorado State University. She holds degrees in English and Medicine, Health, and Society from Vanderbilt University, where she worked as a research assistant on the GetPreCiSe project. Her work explores the connection between art and science, as well as Caribbean anthropology and ecology.

Ethan Gibbons is a PhD Candidate in Sociology at Vanderbilt University and a research fellow with The Center For Genetic Privacy and Identity in Community Settings. His research areas include environmental sociology and public understanding of science with particular interests in genetics, media, and agriculture. Recent and forthcoming publications utilize a wide range of methodologies to explore these topics.

Paul Hamann-Rose is Assistant Professor in the Department of English Literature and Culture at the University of Passau, Germany. He received his PhD from the University of Hamburg and is an alumnus of the Cardiff Science Humanities Summer School. As visiting scholar, he pursues research at Vanderbilt University, USA, working on the NIH-funded transdisciplinary GetPreCiSe project on genetic privacy. He has published articles in the *Journal of Literature and Science* and *Medical Humanities*, as well as book chapters in *Representations of Science in Twenty-First-Century Fiction* (Engelhardt and Hoydis, eds.) and *Empowering Contemporary Literature* (Hertel and Windberger, eds.). He is currently preparing for publication a book on life, genetics, and the novel.

Stephanie Higgs, Ph.D., received her doctoral degree in English literature from Vanderbilt University. Her research focuses on 19th-century British and American literature, specifically representations of the cotton industry, exploring how Victorians on both sides of the Atlantic mitigated or suppressed their awareness of race-, gender-, and class-based exploitation in order to justify participation in consumer culture. She is currently a Managing Editor at Dissertation Editor.

Philip Jenkins is an early career researcher in English Literature. He is a life member of Clare Hall, University of Cambridge. His interests are in the literary reception of early modern science, antiquarianism and collecting between 1592 and 1743. He received his PhD from the University of Salamanca in October 2019.

Soumya Kashyap is a Research Scholar (PhD) in the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Patna (India). For her PhD dissertation, she is working broadly in the field of Medical Humanities. She intends to analyse issues of infertility, maternal health with special reference to Indian women's writing.

Claire Sisco King is associate professor in Communication Studies and Cinema & Media Arts at Vanderbilt University. She is the author of *Washed in Blood: Male Sacrifice, Trauma, and the Cinema* (Rutgers University, 2011). She has published in such journals as *Feminist Media Studies*, *Communication and Critical/Cultural Studies*, and *Critical Studies in Media Communication*, and her forthcoming book project explores celebrity culture, metonymy, and subjectivity in US media.

James Metcalf is a Lecturer in Eighteenth-Century Literature at King's College London and is currently writing his first monograph, *Written in the Churchyard: Place and Poetics, 1720–1820*. His new research project concerns the meeting points of poetry, geology, antiquarianism, and landscape aesthetics in the long eighteenth century.

Kendra Helen Oliver, Ph.D., is an assistant professor of pharmacology at Basic Sciences School of Medicine and an adjunct professor in the communication of science and technology (CSET) program within the College of Arts and Sciences at Vanderbilt University. As an experienced scientist, she is passionate about science communication, multi-disciplinary projects, and digital media. Her scholarship focuses on science-based artworks, resources to support science communication, cross-disciplinary programming, and virtual engagement strategies.

Cynthia D. Porter is completing a joint degree in German and Comparative Media Analysis and Practice from Vanderbilt University. She received her B.A. in German Studies from Denison University in 2010 before transitioning to Bowling Green State University, where she completed a M.A. in German Studies and a subsequent M.A. in Popular Culture. Porter's research interests include cross-media studies with a focus on the depiction of the body in German canonized literature and contemporary film, the cultural investment of tattoos in Germany's past, the presentation of German history and heritage in American film, and Afro-German Studies. As of August 2022, Porter will be an Assistant Professor at The Ohio State University.

Isaac Stovall is a Master's in Public Health candidate at the Boston University School of Public Health with a focus in Health Policy and Law. As an undergraduate at Vanderbilt University, he served as a research assistant for GetPreCiSe where he worked on literature reviews, searched databases for films that depict genetics, and coded descriptions of those films and television shows.

Terrell Taylor is a PhD candidate in the English department at Vanderbilt University. His dissertation, tentatively titled "Gave Me Life: The poetics of vitality in Black literature and culture," analyzes themes of life, vitality, and energy within twentieth century black writers. Terrell is also interested in questions concerning new media, specifically film, digital culture, and video games.

Priyanka Tripathi is an Associate Professor of English, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Patna. She has published extensively with *Indian Literature* (Sahitya Akademi), *English: Journal of the English Association* (Oxford Academic), *Journal of Graphic Novels and Comics* (Taylor & Francis), *Feminist Theory* (SAGE), *Economic and Political Weekly* amongst others. She is also the Book Reviews Editor of *Rupkatha Journal on Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities*. Currently she is also working on an ICSSR funded project entitled, "Mapping Domestic Violence in the times of Covid-19: A Study from Bihar". She works in the area of South Asian Fiction, Gender Studies, Place and Literature and Graphic Narratives. Her email id is priyankatripathi@iitp.ac.in. Her ORCID iD is <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9522-3391>.