

JONATHAN R. LACK, Ph.D.

Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

Ph.D., Film Studies, December 2024

Dissertation: *Newtypes: Digital Technology and the Evolution of the Language of Anime*

https://search.lib.uiowa.edu/permalink/f/18gddib/TN_cdi_proquest_journals_3162809598

University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO

M.A., Art History (Emphasis in Film Studies), December 2015

Master's Thesis: *Elegy for a Lost Tomorrow: Representations of Loss in the Works of Isao Takahata*

https://scholar.colorado.edu/concern/graduate_thesis_or_dissertations/8w32r6095

B.A., Film Studies, December 2015 – *summa cum laude* with Distinction

Undergraduate Honors Thesis: *Seeing With Eyes Unclouded: Representations of Creativity in the Works of Hayao Miyazaki*

https://scholar.colorado.edu/concern/undergraduate_honors_theses/mk61rh35j

HONORS AND AWARDS

Ballard and Seashore Dissertation Fellowship, University of Iowa, Spring 2024

Graduate College Summer Fellowship, University of Iowa, Summer 2022, Summer 2023

Stanley Summer Scholarship for Asian Language Study, University of Iowa – Summer 2021

Katherine J. Lamont Scholarship in Arts & Sciences and **Andrea Rhodes & Frederick G. Gluck Film Studies Scholarship**, University of Colorado – 2013, 2014, 2015

Dean's List, University of Colorado – Fall 2011, Spring 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Scholar in Residence, University of Colorado Boulder, Department of Cinema Studies & Moving Image Arts, January 2025 – Present

Courses: Intro to Cinema Studies (CINE 1502, 2 semesters), Animation & Identification (CINE 4043), Ghibli Auteurs: Miyazaki Hayao x Takahata Isao (CINE 3003), Video Game Worlds & Cinematic Expansion (CINE 4004)

Instructor, University of Iowa, Department of Cinematic Arts, Fall 2021 and Spring 2023

Courses: Intro to Film Theory (CINE 2615, 2 semesters), Film Club: Giant Robots on Film (CINE 2627, 1 semester)

Teaching Assistant & Instructor, University of Iowa, Department of Cinematic Arts, Fall 2018 to Fall 2023

Courses: Intro to Film Analysis (CINE 1601, 4 semesters), Intro to Film Studies (CINE 1602, 2 semesters), Contemporary Cinema (CINE 1610, 2 semesters), Video Games and Identity (CINE 1195, 1 semester)

Teaching Assistant, University of Colorado, Boulder, Department of Cinema Studies & Moving Image Arts, Spring/Summer 2015 and Spring/Summer 2018

Courses: Film History II (Film 3061, 1 semester), Contemporary American Cinema 1980-Present (Film 3081, 1 semester), Changing the World: American Film in the 1960s (Film 3001, 1 semester), Women and Film (Film 3013, 1 semester)

Associate Manager of Curriculum, Classroom Instructor, Private Tutor – CollegeDrive Test Prep & Tutoring, 2013 – 2018

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Humanities for the Public Good Consulting Fellow – Fall 2023/Spring 2024, Obermann Center for Advanced Studies at University of Iowa

Humanities for the Public Good (HGP) Summer Internship, Grow Johnson County – Summer 2020, Obermann Center for Advanced Studies at University of Iowa; created 3-part audio documentary for the Johnson County Historic Poor Farm

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Published Commissioned Essay, *The Criterion Collection* – “Thoughts Transcending Time and Distance: Makoto Shinkai’s *Voices of a Distant Star*,” April 24th, 2024 –

<https://www.criterion.com/current/posts/8453-thoughts-transcending-time-and-distance-makoto-shinkai-s-voices-of-a-distant-star>

Conference Presentation, Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference – “Tactility, or, Why We Love the Humanity of Hand-Drawn Images,” April 14th, 2024

Guest Lecture, University of Iowa, “In the Shadow of Cagliostro: Hayao Miyazaki and Lupin the 3rd,” for Professor Andrew Owens in course Intro to Film Analysis, Fall 2023

Author, *200 Reviews by Jonathan R. Lack*, published independently October 2023, collecting existing, new, and unpublished material from past 20 years of written film criticism

Conference Presentation, Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference – “The Starting Line: *Mobile Suit Gundam* and a Newtype Declaration of Anime Fandom,” April 13th, 2023

Conference Presentation, Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference – “Safe and Sound: How Video Games Confer Security and Subjectivity Through the Mechanics of Saving,” April 3rd, 2022

Guest Lecture, University of Colorado Boulder, “The Marvel-ous Mr. T’Challa: Black Masculinity, Black Heroism, and *Black Panther*’s Cultural Imprint,” for Professor Melinda Barlow’s course “Contemporary American Cinema 1980 to the Present: Masculinity in Crisis.” Spring 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023, Spring 2024

Conference Presentation, Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference – “From Silence to Sound: The Evolution of Yasujirō Ozu’s Mise-en-bande in the *Floating Weeds* Duology,” March 17th, 2021

Conference Presentation, San Francisco State University Cinema Conference on ‘Failed Cinema’ – “A Wrinkle in Discourse: Celebrating Normalcy and Weighing Perspective in Ava DuVernay’s *A Wrinkle in Time*,” October 19th, 2018

Guest Lecture, University of Iowa, “Only The Color Remains As It Was Back Then: The Poetic Form of Yasujirō Ozu’s *Late Spring*,” for Professor Steven Ungar and Professor Hayley O’Malley in course Intro to Film Analysis, Fall 2018 and Spring 2022

Guest Lecture, University of Colorado Boulder, “Peeking Through the Keyhole: Bob Dylan and *Dont Look Back*,” for Professor Melinda Barlow’s course “Changing the World: American Film in the 1960s.” Summer 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Fall 2024

Guest Lecture, University of Colorado Boulder, “*Spirited Away*: Journey to the Sixth Station,” for Professor Melinda Barlow’s course “Women and Film,” Fall 2017, Spring 2018

Author, *Fade to Lack: A Critic’s Journey Through the World of Modern Film*. Published independently Spring 2013. A collection of reviews, editorials, and long-form features from my first 10 years of published critical writing.

Thousands of articles on film and television, including reviews and editorials, published online with many syndicated in print, from 2002 - Present, for outlets including *The Denver Post* and its subsidiaries (*YourHub.com* and *Colorado Kids*), *WeGotThisCovered.com*, and my personal website, *Fade to Lack*, in operation since 2011 (www.jonathanlack.com)

EXTRACURRICULAR

Host and Producer, *Japanimation Station*, 2022-Present, A seasonal anime history and review podcast co-hosted with Sean Chapman, currently with five seasons and over 100 episodes

Host and Producer, *The Weekly Stuff Podcast with Jonathan Lack & Sean Chapman*, 2012-2024. A weekly film, gaming, and television discussion podcast running 500 episodes