

LAUREN SHIZUKO STONE

Assistant Professor of German
Curriculum Vitae

University of Colorado Boulder
Department of Germanic & Slavic
Languages & Literatures
lauren.stone@colorado.edu

1505 Pleasant Street
McKenna 229
UCB 276
Boulder, CO 80309

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of German, 2015 – present (Maternity Leave 2017/2018)
University of Colorado Boulder,
Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures
Director, Graduate Certificate Program in Critical Theory

Lecturer, 2014 – 2015
University of Colorado Boulder,
Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures

Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow, 2013 – 2014
New York University,
College Core Curriculum

Teaching Assistant, 2008 – 2013
New York University,
Department of German

Teaching Assistant, 2006 – 2007
Johns Hopkins University,
Department of German

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. German Studies
New York University
Department of German, 2013
- German
Johns Hopkins University
Department of German and Romance Languages & Literatures, 2008
- University of Konstanz, Germany
Graduierertenkolleg, “Die Figur des Dritten,” 2006, 2008
- B.A. Germanic Studies
University of Colorado Boulder
Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures,
Magna cum laude in Germanic Studies, 2004

RESEARCH

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles:

“Rilke’s Kinderstube. Phenomenology in Childhood Spaces” in *The German Quarterly* 90, no. 4 (2017): 476-491 *Awarded the *Max Kade Prize for the Best Article*

“Beilage zum Brief: On ‘Epistolarity’ and Materiality in Bettine von Arnim’s *Die Gündertode*” in *Colloquia Germanica* 47, no. 3 (2017): 287-305

“Approximate Family: The Taxonomy of Motherhood in Theodor Storm’s *Viola Tricolor*” in *The Germanic Review* 92, no. 1 (2017): 1-16

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters:

“The ‘Irreducible Double-Stroke’: Flirtation, Felicity, and Sincerity” In *Flirtations: Rhetoric and Aesthetics this Side of Seduction*, edited by Daniel Hoffman-Schwartz, Barbara N. Nagel, and Lauren Shizuko Stone, 74-81. New York: Fordham University Press, 2015.

“Interlude. Staging Appeal, Performing Ambivalence” in *Flirtations: Rhetoric and Aesthetics this Side of Seduction*, edited by Daniel Hoffman-Schwartz, Barbara N. Nagel, and Lauren Shizuko Stone, 61-63. New York: Fordham University Press, 2015.

Co-Authored, Peer-Reviewed Book Chapter:

“Almost Nothing; Almost Everything”: An Introduction to the Discourse of Flirtation” (with Daniel Hoffman-Schwartz and Barbara N. Nagel) in *Flirtations: Rhetoric and Aesthetics this Side of Seduction*, edited by Daniel Hoffman-Schwartz, Barbara N. Nagel, and Lauren Shizuko Stone, 1-12. New York: Fordham University Press, 2015. [note: all authors participated equally in writing and editing]

Co-edited, Peer-Reviewed Journal (Special Issue):

Höcker, Arne, Franziska Schweiger, and Lauren Shizuko Stone (With co-authored introduction pp. 183-188) *Colloquia Germanica* 47, no. 3 (2017). Special Issue: Material Worlds - Novelistic Matters of the Nineteenth Century

Co-edited, Peer-Reviewed Book:

Hoffman-Schwartz, Daniel, Barbara Natalie Nagel, and Lauren Shizuko Stone (Eds.) *Flirtations: Rhetoric and Aesthetics this Side of Seduction*. New York: Fordham University Press, 2015.

Reviewed in *Monatshefte*, *Modern Language Notes*, *Oxford Literary Review*, and *Culture, Health and Sexuality*

Book Review:

Review of Sarah Vandegrift Eldridge *Novel Affinities: Composing the Family in the German Novel, 1795-1830* in *The Germanic Review* 92, no. 4 (2017): 433-436

Current Works-in-Progress:

The Small Worlds of Childhood: Philosophy, Poetics, and Queer Temporalities of Early Life.

ABSTRACT. This book offers novel readings of nineteenth- and twentieth-century German and Austrian writers (Adalbert Stifter, Rainer Maria Rilke, Walter Benjamin) and argues that literary representations of children are able to shed a unique light on key issues in the history of philosophy, while also engaging with notions of subjectivity and kinship in work by contemporary queer theorists. I show that when writers engage in philosophical storytelling, they show children tarrying in their everyday world. Consequently, the temporality of childhood takes a queer turn: by dislodging childhood from a future-oriented conceptualization, stories of children as philosophical subjects allow them to operate according to their own lingering, backwards, or all together strange sense of time. [Currently under review at Fordham University Press]

“Queering the Pitch: Attachment, Conventionality and Bad Investments.”

ABSTRACT. This essay proposes that the “politics of polyvalence” that characterizes the term *queer* (Chen, 2012) makes the theoretical terrain of Lauren Berlant’s concept of attachment visible as it emerges across their monographs—from *The Queer of America* all the way to the posthumously published *Inconvenience of Other People*. In my reading, attachment—and its companion term, optimism—are queerly polyvalent, straddling normative conceptions of pleasure and belonging, on the one hand, and the ongoing difficulties of ordinary existence, on the other. The latter being what we might think of as a kind of *queer street*, a state of being in which one may be in debt, one’s plans may be ruined, and indeed, an in the mismatch between the good life and the bad, a sense of life’s fraudulence abounds. With Chen’s linguistic theory of animacy, I show that Berlant’s theories are queer—even when the subject material is “straight”—insofar as they attend as much to the relationship to normative conditions as they do to the sense of the word *queer* as “criminals’ slang,” that is, the contemptible and the counterfeit qualities of life. [Manuscript will be submitted for review in February to Alberta University Press as part of the volume *Thinking with Lauren Berlant*, eds. Baer et al.]

“Women Doing Nothing: Slow Death and Unfeeling in Bachmann’s Short Prose.” ABSTRACT.

This article focuses on the use of gender-defying and gender-defining tropes of doing nothing and feeling nothing Ingeborg Bachmann’s short stories, “Probleme, Probleme”(1977) and “Ein Schritt nach Gomorrha”(1961) In the former, Bachmann’s depiction of the protagonist’s refusal to participate in the work of ordinary living can be read as a way of managing what Lauren Berlant has called “crisis ordinariness;” here, sleep appears as the and beauty routines produce the “scene of slow death, a condition of being worn out by the activity of reproducing life” (Berlant, 2011). In the latter story, I show how Bachmann mobilizes scenes of doing nothing as also feeling nothing in the portrayal of lesbian intimacy. Thinking with Wendy Lee on the relationship between “insensibility” and “immobility” and Xine Yao’s reading of the queer woman’s offense as frigidity and

“unfeeling,” I show how Bachmann both challenges and reinscribes stereotypes of women’s desire and emotional lives. [Expected Submission Spring 2024]

“Is that your sister or your husband?”: Literary Realism, Ahmed’s *Queer Phenomenology*, and Döblin’s *Die beide Freundinnen und Ihr Giftmord*.” [Working title]

ABSTRACT. It can happen that *what* we think we see and even *how* we think see the world are subject to error or distortion. What does it mean when literary realism, as a form of reflective representation, is also subject to such unhappy outcomes? If realist writing refers to ordinary perception of objects in the world, then what kind of knowing is possible when things so carefully rendered appear ... wrong? Where the writer, Alfred Döblin, was consumed by a worry about the flattening and simplifying effects of narrative and descriptive strategies in his 1924 novel *Two Girlfriends Commit Murder by Poison*, a queer reading of his prose suggests that even failures still transmit meaningful knowledge. Following Sara Ahmed’s theory of sexual orientation, this article shows how Döblin’s realist writing in his mixed-genre novel tells us a lot about how the world not only *mis*-appears to us, but how such distortions underpin the modern bourgeois marital economy, parallax views of same-gender friendship and desire, and the hegemonic nature of compulsory heterosexuality. [Expected submission Summer 2024]

Presentations:

INVITED SPEAKER

“What is Critical Theory?” *Center for Critical Thought*, University of Colorado, Boulder. November 8, 2022

Book talk with Adrian Daub: *The Dynastic Imagination*, at The Clayman Institute for Gender Research (virtual), January 26, 2022

“Is that your sister or your husband?” Ahmed’s *Queer Phenomenology* and Döblin’s *Two Girlfriends Commit Murder by Poison*” German Studies Lecture Series, June 1, 2021 at Stanford University

PAPERS PRESENTED

“Optimism: Berlant’s Philosophy of Desire” *Thinking with Lauren Berlant*, Banff Centre, Alberta Canada. May 19-20, 2023

“Es gibt nichts Harmloses mehr”: Ingeborg Bachmann’s ‘Cruel Optimism’ for the panel “Beauty (Mis)Treatments: Bodies, Gender, and Aesthetic Judgment,” at the German Studies Association Conference, 2021

“The ‘Queer Phenomenology’ of Döblin’s ‘Two Girlfriends Commit Murder by Poison’” at the seminar “Realism as Theory,” *American Comparative Literature Association*, 2021

“E.T.A. Hoffmann’s Philosophical Poetics of Childhood” at the *Modern Language Association Conference*, On the Panel “Romanticism and Idealism,” Seattle, 2020.

- “Topographic Childhood: An Epistemology of Childhood in Stifter’s *Der Nachsommer* and *Kalkstein*” on the panel “Family and Science (Family & Kinship Network)” *German Studies Association Conference*. Pittsburgh, 2018.
- "Freud's Human and Non-Human Bodies." On the panel series: “Corpus Humanum” *German Studies Association Conference*. San Diego, 2016.
- "As if we weren't girls': Translating Female Same-Sex Desire After Romanticism." At the seminar, “Translation and/as Literary Theory.” *American Comparative Literature Association Conference* at Harvard University, 2016.
- “Reading and/or Translating: Romantic Hermeneutics.” On the panel, "Sites of Translation, Tropes of Translation." *Modern Language Association Conference*. Austin, 2016.
- “Beilage zum Brief: On ‘Epistolarity’ and Materiality in Bettine von Arnim’s *Die Gündelode*.” On the Panel, “Material Worlds: Approaches to the German Novel (1): Narrating Things.” *German Studies Association Conference*. Washington DC, 2015.
- “Approximate Family: Organizing Matrilineal Space in Theodor Storm’s *Viola Tricolor*.” On the panel, “Containment in Realism and Beyond (2).” *German Studies Association Conference*, Kansas City, 2014.
- “Love Letters. Translation and Adele Schopenhauer’s ‘Nachleben’” on the “Improvisational Language: Friendship, Dissimulation and Coded Language” panel at the *German Studies Association Conference*, Denver. 2013
- “Love Letters: Freundschaft and Frauenliebe between Romanticism and Freud” on the “Gendered Networks” Panel at *Thinking Gender* 23rd Annual Graduate Student Research Conference, UCLA Center for the Study of Women. February 2013
- “An ‘Irreducible Double-Stroke’: Thomas Mann and J. L. Austin” at *Flirtations: Rhetoric and Aesthetics this Side of Seduction* New York University/Humanities Initiative, New York, NY. March 2012
- “Rilke’s Kinderstube: The Space of Poesis” at *Problems III* Graduate Student Conference. In collaboration with Universität Zürich, New York, NY. March 2012

CONFERENCE & EVENT ORGANIZATION

- Co-Organizer, Epidemic Empire: Panel Discussion with Anjuli Fatima Raza Kolb (with Nabil Echchaibi and Nishant Upadhyay) April 26, 2021
- Co-Organizer *Flirtations: Rhetoric and Aesthetics this Side of Seduction* The Program in Poetics and Theory, the Department of Comparative Literature, and the Humanities Initiative, New York, NY. March 2012

TEACHING

COURSES TAUGHT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, BOULDER

- Gothic Horror and Fantasy (Fall 2023) Lower-division undergraduate seminar introduces students to genre literature and genre theories, with an emphasis on German Romanticism, Realism, and modernist writing from the early twentieth century.
- Invention of Sexuality (Spring 2023, Spring 2024) This undergraduate seminar explores the shifting representations of sexuality in literature, philosophy, and film in the German-speaking context. Course also introduces students to a range of feminist and queer theory.
- The Critical Theory of the Frankfurt School (Spring 2024) Graduate seminar surveys key texts from Frankfurt School theorists, as well as selected contemporary interlocutors.
- Utopia and Queer Poetics (Spring 2022, Fall 2023) Graduate seminar covers German-language literature, poetry, and film from around the Weimar era.
- Theory and Practice of German Studies (Spring 2017, Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2022) Graduate seminar covers major literary and theoretical movements. Includes material from classical rhetoric to current literary-theoretical debates. Includes introduction to scholarly research and writing. Readings in English and German, conducted in English.
- Uncertainty in Literature, Philosophy, and Film (Spring 2017, Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020) First Year Seminar that examines a range of texts and films to show how definitions of reality and humanity have been shaped by the limits of knowledge, and introduces students to college-level analytical essay writing. Conducted in English.
- Politics and Literature (Fall 2016) Undergraduate seminar focused on 19th, 20th-, and 21st-century literary and theoretical representations of the body as critiques of economy, violence, sexuality, gender, etc. Conducted in German.
- Miniatures of Modern Life (Fall 2016) Lower-division seminar surveying short prose works from the late 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries. Conducted in English.
- Sex, Love, and Marriage in Literature and Philosophy (Spring 2016, 2020) Upper-division/graduate seminar covers a range of texts from Antiquity to the 20th century that address cultural, philosophical, and scientific attitudes toward gender, sexuality, and marriage. Conducted in English.
- The Foundations of Critical Theory (Fall 2015, Fall 2018, Fall 2019) Graduate seminar surveying philosophical and literary-theoretical texts ranging from the Enlightenment and Romanticism to Marxism and Decadence. Conducted in English
- German Literature from the Enlightenment to Expressionism (Fall 2015) Texts this semester interrogate “modern life” through depictions of the undead and insane. Conducted in German.

Moral Dilemmas in Literature & Philosophy (Spr 2015) A lower-division course on moral dilemmas since the Enlightenment. The topic this semester focuses on discourses of love, sex, and marriage. Conducted in English.

Nietzsche: Literature & Values (Fall 2014, Maymester 2015, Spring 2016) An upper-division course surveying Nietzsche's thought and reception in philosophy and literature. Conducted in English.

Intensive Intermediate German (Spr 2015) *Kaleidoskop. Kultur, Literatur und Grammatik.*

Intensive Beginning German (Fall 2014) *Kontakte. A Communicative Approach*

COURSES TAUGHT AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY (as a Teaching Assistant)

Texts & Ideas: Antiquity & the 19th Century (Fall 2011, Fall 2013, Spring 2014) A freshman course that surveys the western intellectual history. Conducted in English

Intensive Elementary German (Spring 2013) *Auf Gebt's! beginning German language and culture.*

Elementary German II (Fall 2012) *Auf Gebt's! Beginning German language and culture.*

Summer Intensive Elementary German (Summer 2012) *Auf Gebt's! Beginning German language and culture.* This course covered material for the two-semester sequence in 6 weeks.

Intensive Elementary German (Spring 2012) *Auf Gebt's! Beginning German language and culture.* This course covered material for the two-semester sequence in one semester

Summer Intensive Elementary German (Summer, 2010) *Kontakte: A Communicative Approach* This course covered material for the two-semester sequence in 6 weeks.

Intermediate German I & II (Fall/Spring, 2009-2010) *Stationen. Ein Kursbuch für die Mittelstufe.* This course included a few short 20th century German literary texts.

Elementary German I & II (Fall/Spring, 2008-2009) *Kontakte: A Communicative Approach.*

COURSES TAUGHT AT JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY (as a Teaching Assistant)

German Elements 101 (Fall 2006) *Deutsch Na Klar! An Introductory German Course.*

German Elements 102 (Spring 2007) *Deutsch Na Klar! An Introductory German Course.*

ADVISOR, GRADUATE THESES AT CU BOULDER:

Janine Kennedy, MA in German Studies (in progress, expected 2024)

Stefan Bongers, PhD in German Studies (in progress, expected 2024)

Taylor Budde, PhD in German Studies (in progress, expected 2023)

Trevor Kenny, MA in German Studies (Defended Spring 2023)

Catalina Escalona, Masters Thesis: “‘Die Fußstapfen Des Schauens’: A Physical and Perceptual Theory of Poetic Productions in E.T.A. Hoffmann’s *Des Vatters Eckfenster*” (Defended Spring 2018)

Rohini Chandra, Masters Thesis: “Bait to take the Carp of Truth: Autobiography in Freud and Canetti” (Defended Spring 2019)

GRADUATE THESIS COMMITTEES AT CU BOULDER:

Sean Bray, PhD in German Studies (in progress, expected 2025)
James Carson, PhD in English (in progress, expected 2024)
Charles Wofford, PhD in Musicology, (in progress, expected 2024)
Kun You, PhD in Chinese (in progress, expected 2024)
Matthew Harvey, PhD in Political Science (2023)
Katrin Sharpe, MA in Germans Studies (2022)
Tim MacFarland, MA in German Studies (2021)
Nicholas Mieke, MA in German Studies (2021)
Elisabeth Carter, MA in German Studies (2021)
Kevan Feshami, PhD in Media Studies (2020)
Maggie Rosenau, PhD in German Studies (2019)
Franziska Schweiger, PhD in German Studies (2018)
Kevin Dibb, MA in German Studies (2018)
Giovanni Doveri, MA in German Studies (2017)
Taylor Budde, MA in German Studies (2017)
Susana Fuentes Escalante, MA Comparative Literature (2016)

EXAM COMMITTEES AT CU BOULDER:

Sean Bray, PhD Exams in German Studies (2022)
Trevor Kenny, MA Exams in German Studies (2022) *Chair*
Janine Kennedy, MA Exams in German Studies (2022) *Chair*
Stefan Bongers, PhD Exams in German Studies (2021) *Chair*
Charles Wofford, PhD Exams in Musicology, (2021)
Taylor Budde, PhD Exams in German Studies (2020) *Chair*
Johanna Wilruth, MA Exams in German Studies (expected 2020)
Klara Spechtenhauser, MA Exams in German Studies (2020)
Nicholas Mieke, MA Exams in German Studies (2020)
Kun You, PhD in Chinese (2020)
Kevan Feshami, PhD Exams in Media Studies (2017)
Benjamin Lee Hernstrom, First Year Review, MFA Film Studies (2017)
Kevin Dibb, MA Exams in German Studies (2016)
Rohini Chandra, MA Exams in German Studies (2017) *Chair*
Catalina Escalona, MA Exams in German Studies (2017) *Chair*
Giovanni Doveri, MA Exams in German Studies (2016)
Taylor Budde, MA Exams in German Studies (2016)
Maggie Rosenau, PhD Exam German Studies (2015)
Franziska Schweiger, PhD Exam in German Studies (2015)
Daniel Taylor, MA Exams in German Studies (2015)

HONORS THESIS COMMITTEE AT CU BOULDER

George Matthew Jordan, *Magna cum Laude* in Philosophy (2017)

INDEPENDENT STUDIES CONDUCTED AT CU BOULDER:

Kevan Feshami, PhD candidate, “Do Economic Crises Cause Resurgences of the Far Right?

Or, How to Restructure an Ugly Question Using Materialist Dialectics” (Fall 2016)

Ilena Johnson, undergraduate in Linguistics, “Being-Human Vs. Machine-Being” (Spring 2017)

Kayla Porco, undergraduate in Anthropology, “A Screened Reality” (Fall 2018)

HONORS & AWARDS

- 2023 Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award 2022-23, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2020 Center for the Humanities and Arts Fellow, University of Colorado Boulder [deferred to Fall 2021]
- 2018 Max Kade Prize for the Best Article in *The German Quarterly* for “Rilke’s Kinderstube. Phenomenology in Childhood Spaces.” vol. 90, no. 4 (2017).
- 2017 Germanic & Slavic Languages and Literatures Faculty Teaching Award, CU Boulder
- 2012 Mainzer Summer Fellow, New York University
- 2012 Freie Universität Exchange Scholar for Summer 2011, Berlin
- 2008 Gaststipendiatin in the Graduiertenkolleg “Die Figur des Dritten,” University of Konstanz
- 2006 Stipendiatin, Landesstiftung Baden-Württemberg, Summer, University of Konstanz
- 2005-7 Dean's Graduate Research Award, Johns Hopkins University

SERVICE

DEPARTMENT (GSSL) & PROGRAM (GERMAN)

Chair, GSSL Executive Committee (2022-23)

Chair, GSSL JEDI Committee (2022-23)

Member, PUEC for Berit Jany’s Reappointment and Promotion (2023)

Member, German VAP Hiring Committee (2019)

Member, German Scholarship Committee (2018-present)

Director, Graduate Certificate Program in Critical Theory (2016, 2018-present)

Organizer, Critical Theory Speaker (2018-present)

Member, PUEC for Saskia Hintz’s Promotion to Teaching Professor (2018)

Member, Graduate Recruitment committee (2016, 2017)
Member, Baur/Scherer Travel Scholarship Committee Member (2016)
Member, ARPAC Self-Study Committee (2016)
Member, Grad Travel Award Committee (2015-2016)
Member, GSSL Self-Study Committee (2016)
Member, Committee for "Conversations in the Mountains" Conference (2015-2016)
Organizer, GSSL Wednesday Colloquium Series (2015-2016)

UNIVERSITY

Member, Advisory Board for Proposal for The Center for Critical Thought (2019)

PROFESSION

Editorial Board Member of Peer-Reviewed Journal, *Culture Theory & Critique*
Manuscript Peer-Reviewer, *Culture Theory & Critique*
MLA 19th-Century German Delegate (2021)

GRANTS at CU BOULDER

2019 Arts and Sciences Fund for Excellence Grant for Critical Theory Event
2019 Benson Center Grant for Critical Theory Event
2018 Graduate Committee on the Arts and Humanities Grant for Critical Theory Event
2018 Center for Western Civilization Special Event Grant for Critical Theory Event
2017 CWC Funding of a Visiting Speaker

References available upon request