

# Brian Severin Matzke

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## Current Position

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Digital Humanities Librarian, Elihu Burritt Library, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT | 2018-present

- Provide reference and instruction related to library research, information literacy, and digital humanities tools and methods.
- Assist with the development and management of digital collections and archives.

## Education

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Master of Science in Information | Winter 2018

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

- Specialization in Library and Information Science (American Library Association accredited program).

Ph.D., English Language and Literature | Fall 2013

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. Prof. Eric Rabkin, dissertation chair.

- Dissertation: *All Scientific Stuff: Science, Expertise, and Everyday Reality in 1926*.

Science, Technology, and Society (STS) Certificate | Winter 2012

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. Prof. John Carson, chair.

- 15 credit hours of coursework in STS; attended workshops, reading groups, and colloquia in the field.

Mellon Dissertation Seminar in the Humanities | Summer 2011

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. Prof. William Paulson, chair.

- Competitive, funded seminar on “Science Studies, Cultural Theory, and Scholarly Writing.”

B.A., English Literature and B.A., Political Science | Spring 2006

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. Prof. Susan Gubar, thesis chair.

- Herman B Wells Scholar (four-year comprehensive, competitive academic scholarship).
- Senior Honors Thesis: *Altered Bodies: Performing Science in Science Fiction and Pornography*.

Overseas Study | Fall 2004 - Spring 2005

University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent, UK. Prof. David Blair, advisor.

Center for the Study of Science Fiction | Summer 2004

University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS. Prof. James Gunn, chair.

- Intensive English Institute for the Teaching of Science Fiction; Science Fiction Writers' Workshop; Campbell Conference.

Collins Living-Learning Center Q299 | Spring 2003

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. Prof. Ellen Dwyer, director.

## Teaching experience

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Elihu Burritt Library, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT.

- “Introduction to Digital Humanities” (DH 100) | Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023
- “Library Research in the Digital Age” (LSC 150) | Spring 2019

Department of Screen Arts and Cultures, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

- “The Art of the Film” (SAC 236), with Prof. Matthew Solomon | Fall 2017, Winter 2018
- “Fascist Cinemas” (SAC 333), with Prof. Markus Nornes | Fall 2016

Honors Program, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

- “The West After 1492” (HON 241), with Prof. Susan Parrish | Winter 2016, Winter 2017

Sweetland Writing Center, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

- Sweetland Writing Workshop | Fall 2014, Winter 2015, Fall 2015, Summer 2016
- “Transition to College Writing” (WRI 100) | Fall 2014, Summer 2015

Department of English Language and Literature, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

- “Writing and Academic Inquiry” (ENG 125) | Fall 2009, Winter 2010, Fall 2012, Summer 2013, Fall 2015
- “Academic Writing and Literature” (ENG 124) | Fall 2008, Winter 2009, Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Winter 2015
- “Academic Argumentation” (ENG 225) | Fall 2011, Winter 2013, Winter 2015
- “Fantasy” (ENG 341) | Fall 2013
- “Writing and Academic Inquiry” (ENG 125), special section for the Health Science Scholars Program | Winter 2012
- “Science Fiction” (ENG 315), with Prof. Eric Rabkin | Winter 2008
- “Literature in English to 1660” (ENG 360), with Prof. Ralph Williams | Fall 2007

University of Michigan-Shanghai Jiao Tong University Joint Institute, Shanghai, China.

- “Writing and Academic Inquiry” (VY 125) | Summer 2014
- “Writing a Thesis” (VG 501) | Summer 2014

Teaching Intern. Department of English, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN.

- “Science Fiction” (LIT 230), with Prof. DeWitt Kilgore | Fall 2005 - Spring 2006

Undergraduate Instructor. Collins Living-Learning Center, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN.

- “Residential Learning Workshop” (Q 199) | Fall 2003, Fall 2005, Spring 2006

## Presentations

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“The CCSU COVID-19 Archive.” Connecticut Digital Archives Virtual Open Meeting  
(<http://hdl.handle.net/11134/10002:67>) | June 18, 2021

“Remembering World War II – 75 Years Later.” The Connecticut Militia Heritage Council virtual presentation (<https://youtu.be/7-THoaeDL0>) | January 25, 2021

“Nothing that I remember happened”: Shirley Jackson’s *Hangsaman* as a weird bildungsroman.” Popular Culture Association Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA. | April 15-19, 2020 (conference canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic)

“Computers aren’t my thing: Teaching an introductory DH course at a small public university.” Connecticut Digital Humanities Conference, Hartford, CT. | February 28-29, 2020

“Designing digital humanities curricula: A collaborative effort between teaching faculty and librarians.” Connecticut Library Association Conference, Groton, CT. | April 29-30, 2019

“Literary Genre in Digital Humanities Research.” HathiTrust Research Center UnCamp 2018. University of California, Berkeley, CA. | January 25-26, 2018

“A hidden race of monstrous beings’: Richard Wright, H.P. Lovecraft, and the Pulp Horror of the 1927 Floods.” 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Pulp Studies Symposium. James Madison University, Harrisburg, PA. | October 7-8, 2016

“One out of Nine.” Neoliberalism and Public Higher Education Conference. Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. | March 27-28, 2015

“What the Shell?: Exploring Concepts of Nature and The Primitive in Early Human Art.” Science, Technology, and Society Mini-Conference. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. | March 20, 2015

“Scientific Properties: *Arrowsmith* and the Ownership of Knowledge.” American Literature Association 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference. San Francisco, CA. | May 24-27, 2012

“Criminals are so damned unscientific’: *Black Mask* and the Epistemology of the Gut.” Popular Culture and American Culture Association Annual Conference. San Antonio, TX. | April 20-23, 2011

“Hardboiled feminism: *Laura* as an Interrogation of the Detective Genre.” The United States Literatures and Cultures Consortium “Decades of the American Century” Graduate Student Conference. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. | April 2, 2011

“Extravagant fiction today... cold fact tomorrow’: Amazing Stories and Familiar Science Fiction.” Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts Annual Meeting. Indianapolis, IN. | October 28-31, 2010

“Visual Pleasure and Graphic Narrative: Identification and Objectification in Viewing Male Comic Book Heroes.” The United States Literatures and Cultures Consortium and the Michigan Comix Collective. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. | October 13, 2008

“Whose ‘Cloacal Obsession’? James Joyce, H.G. Wells and Colonial Obscenity.” 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Northeast Modern Language Association Convention, Buffalo, NY. | April 10-13, 2008

“Genre Evolution Project: Magazine Covers.” ConFusion, Detroit, MI. | January 19, 2008

“Altered Bodies: Scientific and Performative Discourses in Science Fiction and Pornography.” Undergraduate Symposium, Hutton Honors College, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. | March 26, 2006

## Academic Publications

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Matzke B.S. (2022). “A hidden race of monstrous beings”: Richard Wright’s Revision of H.P. Lovecraft’s Ecological Horror. *Americana: The Journal of American Popular Culture*, 21(1).

[https://www.americanpopularculture.com/journal/articles/spring\\_2022/matzke.htm](https://www.americanpopularculture.com/journal/articles/spring_2022/matzke.htm)

Farrington K., Hanford D., Hansen J., Kruey M., Matzke B., Maynard J., Slaga-Metivier S., Vickrey R. (2022). The (Once) Remote Librarian: Reinventing our Role in the Face of a Pandemic. *Systematic Reflections* 2, 51-67.

Bradley D.R., Oehrli A., Rieh S.Y., Hanley E., & Matzke B.S. (2020). Advancing the reference narrative: Assessing student learning in research consultations. *Evidence Based Library and Information Practice*, 15(1), 4-19.

<https://doi.org/10.18438/eblip29634>

Matzke B.S. (2017). Hardboiled Feminism: *Laura* as an Interrogation of the Detective Genre. *The Journal of Popular Culture* 50.1, 109–126.

Matzke B.S. (2017). “The Weaker (?) Sex’: Women and the Space Opera in Hugo Gernsback’s *Amazing Stories*.” *Foundation: The International Review of Science Fiction* 126, 6-24.

## Other Writings

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“Frankenstein’s Afterlife.” [https://blubrory.com/frankensteins\\_afterlife/](https://blubrory.com/frankensteins_afterlife/). | December 2017 - present

- Podcast on the history of Mary Shelly’s *Frankenstein* and related works.

“Mark A. McCutcheon, *The Medium is the Monster: Canadian Adaptations of Frankenstein and the Discourse of Technology*” [Book review]. *Foundation: The International Review of Science Fiction*. 2020.

“A Few Quick Thoughts on the Colonial Adventure Narrative.” *The Writer’s Guide* 2016-2017. The College of the Bahamas.

“How to Interact with Your Instructor: A Guide for Undergrads.” *Duck of Minerva*. 11 April 2014.

<http://duckofminerva.com/2013/04/how-to-interact-with-your-instructor-a-guide-for-undergrads.html>

*Complex*. Feature film. 2012. Story by Brian Matzke and Curtis Matzke. Written and directed by Curtis Matzke.

“Jitters Girl,” Santa Clara Review, Fall/Winter 2004/2005.

## Academic Service

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Spokesperson, Library Faculty, Elihu Burritt Library, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT | 2021-present

- Hold meetings of the library faculty to review and revise the library bylaws and discuss issues related to faculty governance, communicating with the union and Faculty Senate as necessary.

Faculty Senate, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT | 2019-present

- Represent the library in discussions and votes on university policies covered by faculty governance.

Library Liaison, American Association of University Professors, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT | 2021-2022

- Represented the library at union meetings and disseminated information from the union to the library faculty.

Chair, Virtual Participation Committee, Literatures in English Section, Association of Colleges and Research Librarians | 2020-2022

- Organized virtual events on Twitter and other platforms that may be of interest to librarians specializing in English language and literature; write blog posts and other promotional materials; sit on the LES executive committee.

Secretary, Academic Integrity Committee, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT | 2019-2021

- Reviewed and revised university policies regarding academic integrity; created informational materials about these policies for faculty and students. As secretary, kept minutes at all committee meetings.

Curriculum Committee, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT | 2019-2021

- Evaluated university curricula and approved new courses.

Coordinator, Digital Scholarship Collective. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. | 2017-2018

- Organized and attended panels, workshops, and mentoring events pertaining to digital scholarship.

STEM Initiative Work Group. Sweetland Writing Center. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. | 2016

- Developed prompts and rubrics for writing assignments in STEM courses.

First Year Writing Requirement Work Group. Sweetland Writing Center. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. | 2015

- Developed an online course to teach pedagogy to new first year writing instructors.

Word2 Committee. Sweetland Writing Center. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. | 2014

- Organized interviews with guest speakers and events for the National Day on Writing.

Genre Evolution Project. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, Profs. Eric Rabkin and Carl Simon, advisors. | 2007 - 2013

- Provide quantitative and qualitative data analysis on science fiction stories using a relational database. Helped design a database to code science fiction magazine covers.

Coordinator, United States Literatures and Cultures Consortium. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. | 2008-2011

- Organized and attended panels, workshops, and guest lectureships pertaining to scholarship on United States literature and culture. Organized “Decades of the American Century” graduate student conference, featuring presenters from six universities, with keynote speeches from Professors George Cotkin and Alan Wald. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. April 1-2, 2011.

Coordinator, English Graduate Group. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. | 2009-2010

- Organized and attended mentoring events aimed at providing peer support and advice to graduate students regarding coursework, research, and job searches.

Treasurer, Board of Educational Programming. Collins Living-Learning Center, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. | 2005-2006

- Helped select classes to be taught at the Living-Learning Center and advised professors and graduate students submitting course proposals; participated in approving and funding educational programs and events; tracked spending on courses and programs; attended committee meetings; reported the budget at board meetings.

## Work Experience

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Website Consultant, Association for the Study of Connecticut History | 2021-2022

- Designing and building a website for ASCH; training members on how to use and maintain the website.

Researcher, Assessment of Student Learning Lab, University of Michigan Library. Ann Arbor, MI | 2018

- Conducted primary and secondary research into methods of assessing student learning in library instruction.

Marketing and Outreach Intern, University of Michigan Press. Ann Arbor, MI. | Summer 2017

- Wrote blog entries; assembled press kits; created data visualizations; conducted market research by interviewing subject specialist librarians; researched user behavior and promotional opportunities regarding Open Access materials; created promotional materials for the university's bicentennial.

Text and Markup Reviewer, Early English Books Online Text Creation Partnership. Ann Arbor, MI. | 2014

- Reviewed and proofread digital versions of sixteenth- and seventeenth-century documents. Used SGML to mark up these texts for online searching using Text Encoding Initiative-based protocols.

Writing Tutor, Penny W. Stamps School of Art & Design. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. | 2014

- Consulted with students on their senior theses.

Research Assistant for Prof. George Bornstein. | 2010-2012

- Researched primary and secondary sources for several articles and reviews. Proofread two books: *The Colors of Zion: Blacks, Jews, and Irish from 1845 to 1945* and *The Winding Stair and Other Poems: A Facsimile Edition*.

Research Assistant for Prof. Eric Rabkin. | 2007

- Assembled annotated bibliography for a book on visual rhetoric.

Editor. *Michigan Feminist Studies*, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. | 2006-2007

- Selected and edited articles submitted for publication.

Office Assistant. Institute of Public Utilities, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. | 2006

- Provided general office and continuing education program assistance.

Editorial Intern. *Indiana Review* (literary magazine), Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. | Spring 2004

- Read and commented on stories submitted for publication; assisted advertising and soliciting subscriptions.

Columnist. *Indiana Daily Student* (student newspaper), Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. | Spring 2004

- Wrote a weekly column on current events and student issues.

Intern. Lilly Library, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. | 2003-2004

- Entered new acquisitions into a database.

## Volunteer and Extracurricular Experience

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Clerical Assistant. Institute of Public Utilities, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. | 2002-2006

Orientation Assistant. Collins Living-Learning Center, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. | 2003-2005

Usher. Indiana University Auditorium and Musical Arts Center, Bloomington, IN. | 2002-2004

Volunteer. INPIRG, Bloomington, IN. | 2002-2004

Swing Dance Choreographer, Dance Society. University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent, UK. | 2004-2005

- Choreographed two shows: “Decades of Dance” (2005) and “Vayu Naidu Company” (2004).

Member, Creative Writing Society. University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent, UK. | Fall 2004

- Wrote and revised short stories; participated in writing exercises; listened to and commented on the stories of other members.

Member, IU Swing Club. Indiana University, Bloomington, IN. | 2002-2004

## Awards and Recognitions

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Sustaining Humanities through the American Rescue Plan (SHARP) Grant, Connecticut Humanities. | 2022

- \$10,000 grant to support the creation of the Mike Alewitz Archive, a digital archive preserving the work of muralist and CCSU Art Professor Mike Alewitz, as well as the work of his students.

Merit Scholarship, School of Information, University of Michigan. | Fall 2016 – Spring 2018

Rackham Humanities Research Candidacy Fellowship, University of Michigan. | Spring 2010 - Fall 2010

Rackham One-Term Fellowship, University of Michigan. | Winter 2011

Wendell L. Willkie Scholarship. Political Science Department, Indiana University. | 2006

- For academic excellence both overall and in the Political Science major.

Lillie E. Fosbrink Scholarship. Department of English, Indiana University. | 2006

- Recognizing an outstanding undergraduate pursuing the English major.

Herman B. Wells Scholarship. Indiana University. | 2002-2006

- Four-year competitive and comprehensive academic scholarship.

Phi Beta Kappa. | 2005

Teaching Internship Grant. Hutton Honors College, Indiana University. | 2005

Courson-Grievies Prize. Department of English, Indiana University. | 2005

- Best undergraduate essay, “The Power Dynamics of Male Love: Homoerotic Overtones in Caleb Williams.”

Professional Experience Internship Grant. Hutton Honors College, Indiana University. | 2004

National Merit Scholarship. | 2002

## Skills

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Language skills	Intermediate German Basic Spanish
Computer skills	Python3 and R (programming languages) XML and RELAX NG (markup languages) Regular Expressions (search syntax) Microsoft Office and Microsoft Access Wordpress, Omeka, Islandora, Drupal (content management systems) Epson, SilverFast, and Opus FreeFlow (scanning software) GoldenThread and GoldenTouch (image quality software) iMovie, Final Cut Pro, and Adobe Premiere (video editing software) Adobe InDesign
Metadata Standards	Dublin Core, VRA Core, PBCore, Darwin Core, DOI, TEI, RDF, MARC, METS, MODS

## Interests

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Digital scholarship and preservation of information  
Pedagogy for literature, writing, and information literacy  
American fiction, the novel, and twentieth century literature  
Science fiction, popular culture, and genres of popular fiction  
Media, film, and television studies