

# SHARRONA PEARL

University of Pennsylvania • Annenberg School for Communication • 3620 Walnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19104 • 215-279-8826 • [spearl@asc.upenn.edu](mailto:spearl@asc.upenn.edu) • [@sharronapearl](https://www.sharronapearl.com)  
• [www.sharronapearl.com](http://www.sharronapearl.com)

## EMPLOYMENT

---

### UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

**Assistant Professor, Annenberg School for Communication** 1 July 2008-present  
Core Faculty, Gender, Sexuality, & Women's Studies at Penn  
History Graduate Group Member  
History and Sociology of Science Graduate Group Member

### HARVARD UNIVERSITY

**Lecturer, Committee on Degrees in History and Literature** Fall 2005-June 2008  
**Lecturer, Department of the History of Science** Spring 2006-June 2008

## EDUCATION

---

Graduate: HARVARD UNIVERSITY November 2005  
**Ph.D.** History of Science  
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE 2002-2003  
Visiting Student, History and Philosophy of Science (Supervisors: Simon Schaffer  
and Jim Secord)  
GENERALS FIELDS  
Modern British History (Harriet Ritvo)  
History of Psychiatry and the Mind Sciences (Anne Harrington, doctoral  
supervisor)  
Science and Popular Culture (Mario Biagioli)  
DISSERTATION  
*As Plain as the Nose on Your Face: Physiognomy in Nineteenth Century England*  
Undergraduate: YORK UNIVERSITY June 1999  
**B.A.** (hons.) *Summa Cum Laude* in Humanities and Science Studies  
HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM 1997-1998  
Junior Year Abroad Programme

## PUBLICATIONS

---

### BOOKS

- *Face/On: Face Transplants and the Ethics of the Other*, University of Chicago Press, 2017.
- *Images, Ethics, Technology*, edited volume, Routledge, October 2015.
- *About Faces: Physiognomy in Nineteenth-Century Britain*, Harvard University Press, February 2010.

### REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- "A Super Useless Super Hero: the Positive Framing of Super Recognition," *Semiotic Review*, forthcoming.
- "Saving Faces," *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, 190:16 (23 April 2018) E511-E512.
- "#sorrynotsorry: racialized forgiveness in police shootings of black men in the US," under review
- "Not tiptoeing gently: feminist pedagogy in a large lecture course," under review
- "Deglamming as Estrangement: Ugly in *Monster*, *The Hours*, and *Cake*," under review

- “Victorian Blockbuster Bodies and the Freakish Pleasure of Looking,” *Nineteenth-Century Contexts*, 38:2 (2016) 93-106.
- “Bodies of Digital Celebrity,” with Dana Polan, *Public Culture*, 27:175 (January 2015) 185-192.
- “The Image is (Not) the Event: Negotiating the Pedagogy of Controversial Events,” with Alexandra Sastre, *Visual Communication Quarterly*, 21:4 2014, 198-209.
- “Exceptions to the Rule: Chabad-Lubavitch and the Digital Sphere,” *Journal of Media and Religion*, 13:3, 2014.
- “Teaching Atrocity Without Images” *AfterImage*, 40:6 (May/June 2013) 16-20.
- Visual Studies Section Guest Editor, special edition on “The Queer in the Clinic,” *Journal of Medical Humanities* 34:2 (June 2013) 299-300.
- “Invictus as Coronation: Creating and Exporting a King,” in *Safundi: The Journal of South African and American Studies*, 12:1(January-April 2012), 138-145.
- “Neither Black Nor White: Drawing Irish-Americans,” *Éire-Ireland*, 44:3&4 (Fall/Winter 2009) 171-199.
- “Through a Mediated Mirror: The Photographic Physiognomy of Dr. Hugh Welch Diamond,” *History of Photography*, 33:3 (August 2009) 288-305.
- “Building Beauty: Physiognomy on the Gas-Lit Stage,” *Endeavour*, 30:3 (September 2006) 84-89.

#### BOOK CHAPTERS

- “Facing the Weight of God’s Glory: Exodus 33 and the Face-to-Face,” *Reading Exodus*. Beth Kissileff, ed. London: Bloomsbury Press, forthcoming.
- “Watching While (Face) Blind: Clone Layering and Prosopagnosia,” *Orphan Black: Performance, Gender, Biopolitics*. Andrea Goulet and Robert Rushing, ed. London: Intellect Books, forthcoming.
- “Dazed and Abused: Gender and Mesmerism in Wilkie Collins’ *A Woman in White* and *The Moonstone*,” *Victorian Literary Mesmerism*. Martin Wills and Catherine Wynne, ed. New York and Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2006, 163-182.

#### WORKS IN PROGRESS

- *Superrecognizers to the Rescue*, book manuscript on the history and politics of face recognition diagnoses, from prosopagnosia (face blindness) to superrecognizers; explores how media consumption and interpersonal relationships can lend insight into face recognition and the workings of the brain from a humanistic perspective; situated in history of medicine, neuroscience, disability studies, media studies, and critical social analysis
- *Changing Faces: Communicating Character On Screen*, book manuscript on the use of stage makeup, prosthetics, and non-visual cues to communicate character information; situated in critical race, gender, and disability studies with a focus on film and television
- *#sorrynotsorry: the power dynamics of mediated apologies*, book manuscript on the role that print and television news media plays in Christian-style forgiveness requests for violence done on black and cis- and trans-feminine bodies as a way to remove their rights to vengeance and anger; situated in journalism studies, critical race and gender studies, and religious studies
- *Our Blogging, Ourselves: Religious Parenting Online*, essay manuscript on the ways in which religion helps frame parent blogging communities both in terms of readership and in terms of paid blogging, asking in particular about the role that religious organization plays in notions of parenting; draws on my own experiences as a social justice “mommy blogger”

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS AND WRITINGS

- “Why uterus transplants are a bad idea for women,” *Aeon Magazine*, 11 May 2018, <https://aeon.co/ideas/why-uterus-transplants-are-a-bad-idea-for-women>
- Book review of *Televised Redemption: Black Religious Media and Racial Empowerment* (NYU Press: New York, 2016), *The Revealer*, forthcoming.

- Book review of *The Face of Britain* (Oxford University Press: New York, 2016), *Journal of British Studies*, 56:4 (October 2017) 923-924.
- Two entries in the *Cambridge Guide to the Eighteenth-Century Novel, 1660-1820*, Cambridge University Press, forthcoming.
- “Changing Faces?” *Aeon Magazine*, 14 November 2017: <https://aeon.co/essays/what-do-face-transplants-say-about-identity-and-wellbeing>
- “Should Our Faces Define Who We Are?” *The Globe Post*, 2 July 2017: <http://theglobepost.com/2017/07/01/should-our-faces-define-who-we-are/>
- “The Importance of Talking Explicitly about Race” *Chronicle Vitae*, 18 October 2016: <https://chroniclevitae.com/articles/1577-the-importance-of-talking-explicitly-about-race>
- “Masked and Anonymous,” *Real Life*, 18 July 2016: <http://reallifemag.com/masked-and-anonymous/>
- “What’s in a Face,” Book review of *The Face* in *Public Books*, 11 May 2016: [http://www.publicbooks.org/briefs/whats-in-a-face?utm\\_content=buffer02705&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter.com&utm\\_campaign=buffer](http://www.publicbooks.org/briefs/whats-in-a-face?utm_content=buffer02705&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer)
- “Renée Zellweger, Isabelle Dinoire, and the Stakes for Changing the Face,” *Nursing Clio*, 20 September 2017: <https://nursingclio.org/2017/09/20/renee-zellweger-isabelle-dinoire-and-the-stakes-for-changing-the-face/>
- Blog posts on [romper.com](http://romper.com), [huffingtonpost.com](http://huffingtonpost.com), [scary mommy](http://scarymommy.com), [Lilith Magazine](http://lilithmagazine.com), and [kveller.com](http://kveller.com):
  - <https://www.romper.com/p/putting-a-tracker-on-my-kids-lovey-was-genius-nearly-triggered-emergency-protocol-in-the-airport-8926207>
  - <https://www.lilith.org/blog/2018/04/its-past-time-for-the-gun-conversation/>
  - <https://www.lilith.org/blog/2018/03/what-my-dislike-of-book-clubs-taught-me-about-feminism/>
  - <https://www.lilith.org/blog/2018/02/welcome-back-to-the-resistance-mom/>
  - <https://www.lilith.org/blog/2018/02/when-your-child-brings-a-sexist-book-home-from-jewish-day-school/>
  - <https://www.kveller.com/i-just-became-a-u-s-citizen-heres-why/>
  - <https://www.kveller.com/why-do-moms-get-all-the-birthday-party-evites/>
  - <https://www.kveller.com/what-we-really-needed-to-hear-from-mayim-its-not-your-fault/>
  - <http://www.kveller.com/im-dusting-off-my-jewish-star-necklace/>
  - <http://www.kveller.com/the-moment-i-forgot-my-great-grandparents-names/>
  - <http://www.kveller.com/why-has-my-family-stopped-protesting/>
  - <http://www.kveller.com/im-furious-about-the-proposed-budget-and-you-should-be-too/>
  - <http://www.kveller.com/sorry-im-not-going-to-pledge-to-greet-hate-with-love/>
  - <http://www.kveller.com/i-told-my-kid-how-babies-get-made-and-whoops-her-little-sister-heard/>
  - <http://www.scarymommy.com/fight-rise-trump/>
  - <http://www.kveller.com/why-i-couldnt-stay-quiet-about-the-muslim-ban-during-my-kids-kindergarten-class/>
  - <http://www.kveller.com/talking-to-my-daughter-about-her-friends-transgender-parent/>
  - <http://www.kveller.com/as-an-immigrant-i-question-if-i-should-keep-my-family-in-the-u-s/>
  - <http://www.kveller.com/is-it-ok-to-punch-a-nazi/>
  - <http://www.kveller.com/how-i-shocked-myself-by-taking-a-knee-during-the-national-anthem/>
  - <http://www.kveller.com/this-is-the-best-way-to-deal-with-lice-seriously/>
  - <http://www.kveller.com/we-need-to-talk-about-huma-abedin-differently/>
  - <http://www.kveller.com/this-is-what-happened-when-my-3-year-old-got-jet-lag/>

<http://www.kveller.com/when-your-kid-is-traumatized-because-of-her-molloscum-treatment/>  
<http://kveller.com/we-thought-reading-roald-dahl-was-safe-but/>  
[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/why-mommy-blogging-matters\\_us\\_5718f72ee4b0c3a4de1413e1](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/why-mommy-blogging-matters_us_5718f72ee4b0c3a4de1413e1)  
<http://www.kveller.com/im-really-bad-at-saying-no-and-its-stressing-me-out/>  
<http://www.kveller.com/this-is-why-ive-never-cut-my-kids-hair/>  
<http://www.kveller.com/why-no-one-will-be-watching-the-super-bowl-in-my-home/>  
<http://www.kveller.com/we-can-stand-up-to-donald-trumps-call-to-ban-muslims-by-doing-this/>  
<http://www.kveller.com/i-finally-have-more-time-because-of-this-one-miraculous-change/>  
<http://www.kveller.com/after-6-years-of-sleep-deprivation-i-finally-started-dreaming-again/>  
<http://www.kveller.com/when-people-leave-before-the-memorial-prayer-what-message-are-we-sending-to-mourners/>  
<http://www.kveller.com/my-friend-has-chronically-her-cancer-i-couldnt-be-more-grateful/>  
<http://www.kveller.com/why-i-started-putting-up-pictures-of-my-kids-at-work/>  
<http://www.kveller.com/why-i-cook-for-strangers/>  
<http://www.kveller.com/how-a-naked-toddler-wine-soaked-infant-taught-me-motherhood-is-communal/>  
<http://www.kveller.com/i-made-fun-of-a-6-year-old-today/>  
<http://www.kveller.com/dont-ask-where-our-glory-is-ask-what-you-can-do-to-help/>  
<http://www.kveller.com/its-time-to-begin-explaining-anti-semitism-to-my-children/>  
<http://www.kveller.com/blog/parenting/if-you-dont-vaccinate-keep-your-kids-away-from-my-baby/>  
<http://www.kveller.com/blog/parenting/pumping-in-the-amtrak-station-never-felt-so-good/>  
<http://www.kveller.com/blog/parenting/the-day-two-women-at-the-dollar-store-changed-my-way-of-thinking/>

- Book Review of *Species, Serpents, Spirits, and Skulls: Science at the Margins in the Victorian Age* (New York: SUNY Press, 2009) in *Victorian Studies*, 53:1 (Autumn 2010) 141-143.
- Book Review of *Science and Eccentricity: Collecting, Writing and Performing Science for Early Nineteenth-Century Audiences* (London: Pickering and Chatto, 2008) in *Isis*, 100:4 (December 2009) 918-919.
- “Putting Us in the Picture,” Book Review of *Nature Exposed: Photography as Eyewitness in Victorian Science* (The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2005) in *Endeavour*, 30:3 (September 2006) 82-83.
- Book Review of *Shelley and Vitality* (Palgrave, 2005) in *Isis*, 97:2 (June 2006) 373.
- “Introduction,” *Becoming: New Paintings by Joshua Meyer*, New Haven and New York: The Yale Slivka Centre and the NYU Bronfman Center, April 2006.
- Four entries in *Dictionary of Nineteenth Century British Scientists*, 4 vols., Bernard Lightman, ed. Bristol: Thoemmes Press, 2004.
- Book Review of *Phrenology and the Origins of Scientific Naturalism* (Ashgate, 2004) in *Isis* 95:4 (December 2004) 738.
- “A Voyeuristic Vision of Madness,” Book Review of *Customers and Patrons of the Mad Trade: The Management of Lunacy in Eighteenth-Century London with the Complete Text of John Monro’s 1766 Case Book* (University of California Press, 2003) in *Endeavour* 27:4 (December 2003) 144.

## SELECTED HONOURS AND AWARDS

---

• Advertising Education Foundation Visiting Professor Fellowship	2018
• Penn’s Center for Undergraduate Research Mentorship Award, \$1500	2017
• Top Poster Award, Popular Communication Division, ICA	2016
• Trustees Council of Penn Women Summer Research Fellowship, \$5000	2012

- Society for the History of Technology Junior Scholars Travel Grant 2011
- American Association of University Women American Fellowship (alternate) 2011
- Trustees Council of Penn Women Summer Research Fellowship 2010
- John R. Marquand Award for Exceptional Advising and Counseling nominee (student nominated) 2006, 2008
- Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching 2003-2004, 2008
- Caroline and Erwin Swann Foundation for Cartoon and Caricature Post-Doctoral Fellowship 2006-2007
- Harvard University Graduation Marshall 2006  
Peer-selected to be one of four PhD. recipients to lead the procession of graduating students into Commencement. Selection made based on contributions to Graduate Student Life.
- Thomas Temple Hoopes Senior Thesis Advising Award 2006
- National Science Foundation Travel Grant 2007, 2005, 2004, 2002
- Joseph R. Levenson Memorial Teaching Award nominee (student nominated) 2005, 2004
- History of Public Health Dissertation Writing Fellowship 2004-2005
- History of Science Departmental Tuition Waiver 2003-2004
- Yale Center for British Art Fellowship 2003
- Center for European Studies, Krupp Foundation Research Fellowship 2002-2003
- Harvard Graduate Student Council Conference Grant 2003
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Doctoral Fellowship 2001-2004
- Harvard University Tuition Waiver 2001-2002
- Harvard University Tuition and Stipend Fellowship 1999-2001
- York University Humanities Graduation Award 1999
- York University Tuition Scholarship 1995-1999
- York University Science Award 1995
- York University Harry W. Arthurs Alumni Scholarship 1995

## TEACHING

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

### ANNENBERG SCHOOL FOR COMMUNICATION

- Communication 490-301, “Special Topics in Communication: apologies and media ritual”  
undergraduate seminar with weekly discussions and 4 close reading assignments, alongside a collaborative project and final paper. Spring 2018
  - Communication 405-301, “Facing Race: Race and Caricature in the Historical Imagination.”  
Undergraduate honours seminar with weekly discussions and assignments. Also taught Spring 2016, Fall 2013, and Spring 2009. Fall 2017
  - Communication 825-301, “#sorrynotsorry: the power dynamics of mediated apologies” Graduate seminar with weekly discussions and assignments, alongside a collaborative project and final paper. Spring 2017
  - Communication 470-301, “Freaks and Geeks: People on Display.” Twice weekly undergraduate lecture with 60 students and 2 TAs who lead a weekly discussion section. Taught as a lecture in Fall 2015. Taught as an undergraduate honours seminar with weekly discussions and assignments in spring 2014 and Fall 2010. Fall 2016
  - Communication 713-301, “Historical and Visual Culture Methods” Graduate seminar with weekly discussions and assignments. Taught in Fall 2012 and in Fall 2010 as Communication 813. Spring 2016
- Spring 2014

- Communication 509-301, “Directed Readings in Theory” Graduate seminar with weekly discussions and assignments. Co-taught with Professor Carolyn Marvin. Also taught Fall 2012  
Spring 2013
- Communication 731-301, “The Beautiful People? Beauty, Media, and Technology.” Graduate seminar with intensive final research paper. Also taught Spring 2009.  
Fall 2012
- Communication 426, “Communication and the Bible.” Undergraduate seminar with weekly discussions and assignments. Co-taught with Professor Elihu Katz. Also taught Fall 2010.  
Spring 2012
- Communication 108-301, “The Speaking Body and the Marks of the Mind in Modern Western Culture.” Freshman seminar with weekly discussions and assignments.
- Preceptorial 610-001, “Perceptions of Beauty.” Student-invited and organized undergraduate voluntary seminar series.  
Spring 2011
- Communication 501, “(Mis)Communication: The History of a Discipline.” Graduate seminar with weekly discussions and assignments.
- Communication 418, “Seeing Old Media Through New Media Eyes.” Undergraduate seminar with weekly discussions and assignments.

*PhD. Advisees*

Tara Liss-Mariño, *Sell (it) Yourself: Marketing Pleasure in Digital DIY* (2014)

Yoel Roth, *Gay Data* (2015)

Steven Schrag

Rachel Stonecipher

Jonathan Pace

Megan Genovese

*PhD. Dissertation Committee Member*

Brooke Duffy, *From Magazine to Megabrand: Shifting Organizational Identities in the Digital Age* (2011)

Andrew Crocco, *The Philadelphia Experiment: An archaeology of citizenship in the 19<sup>th</sup> century city* (2013)

Alison Perelman, *Political Appetites: Food as Rhetoric in American Politics* (2013)

Heidi Khaled, *Producing and Mediating Street Style* (2013)

Le Han, *Tweet To Remember: Journalism and collective memory in the age of social media in contemporary China* (2013)

Nora Draper, *Reputation Inc.: The Industrialization of Digital Self-Presentation and Online Privacy* (2014)

Rosemary Avance, *Constructing Religion in the Digital Age: The Internet and Modern Mormon Identities* (2015)

Rocio Nuñez, *Woman With a Movie Camera* (2015)

Deborah Lubken, *The Parts Played by Aging Bells in America’s Shifting Media Environments and Soundscapes, 1875-1960*

Lyndsey Beutin

Kevin Gotkin

Sunha Hong

Gretta Moody

John Vilanova

*Gender Studies Certificate Advisees*

Yoel Roth (2015)

Sean Mannis (2015)

Alexandra Sastre (2016)

Kevin Gotkin

Steven Schrage  
Rachel Stonecipher  
Megan Genovese  
Leah Ferentinos

*Graduate Independent Studies*

Jonathan Pace, Elana Maris, Emily Hung, David Berman, “Media and Society” (2015)  
Joshua Becker, “History of the Organization as a Unit of Analysis” (2015)  
Steven Schrag, “Technologies of Memory” (2015)  
Yoel Roth, “‘Studying up’ technology: Readings and critical literature review” (2014)  
Kevin Gotkin, “Revision Workshop” (2014)  
Kevin Gotkin, “Survey of Critical Disability Studies” (2012)  
Kayla Rosen (medical school), “Empathy in the Doctor-Patient Relationship” (2011)  
Shane Mannis, “Queer Theory, Visual Culture, and Body Representation” (2011)  
Andrew Crocco, “Technology and the Built Environment” (2010)

*Undergraduate Senior Theses (in Communication unless otherwise noted)*

Riya Chandiramani, “Big Man on Campus: Contextual Influences on Masculinities at the University of Pennsylvania.” (2017, winner of the University Rose Award for senior thesis research)  
Jaslyn McIntosh, “Identity in the Age of Swiping: An Exploration of Identity Formation on Tinder Social.” (2017)  
Conor Cook, (History, 2017)  
Erica Nicokiris, “Sex Positive Feminism on *Girls* and *Sex and the City*.” (2016)  
Shinhaeng Hur, *From Legality to Morality: The Evolution in the Framing of Same-Sex marriage in The Christian Post from 2012 to 2014*. (2014)  
Elizabeth Daily, *Girls Will Like Boys: Heteronormative Hegemony in Seventeen Magazine* (2013, winner, Lynda Hart Prize in Sexuality Studies, sponsored by the Gender, Sexuality & Women’s Studies Program)  
Christine Alix, *Selling Self-Worth: Advertising in Women’s Fashion Magazines and the Cyclical Communication of Inadequacy* (2012)  
Natalie Franke, *Digital Manipulation or Digital Mutilation?* (Visual Studies, 2012)  
Lisa Barnett, *Runners are not Joggers* (2011, co-winner of the George Gerbner Award for best Communication thesis)  
Caroline Stern, *Branding and Online Social Networking* (2011)  
Gabrielle Olya, *The Development of Celebrity Blog Culture* (2009)

*Undergraduate Independent Studies*

Alex Rosner, *Starbucks, Absolut Vodka and Nike: Three Social Media Success Stories* (2012)  
Danielle Jones, *Black Film Audiences in Britain and the United States* (2010)

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

**Committee on Degrees in History and Literature**

Fall 2005-June 2008

- Design personalized interdisciplinary curricula about modern British History and Literature for one-on-one tutorials. Spring 2007 and Spring 2008
- Freshman Seminar 34q, “Languages of the Body: Physiognomy, Phrenology, and Hysteria in Modern Western History and Literature.” Selected in a competitive process to design and lead a weekly seminar for freshman that introduces them into college-level work. Students receive detailed feedback on all assignments, though the course is graded pass/fail.

**Department of the History of Science**

- Spring 2008

  - Historical Study B-45, “The Darwinian Revolution.” Designed and Led weekly discussion sections, graded assignments, essays, mid-term and final examinations.
- Fall 2006

  - HS90e, “Exhibiting History of Science at Harvard.” Designed and lead a weekly seminar that guides students through reading and research skills, culminating in a student-curated exhibit displayed in the undergraduate library. Edit the museum guidebook written by students. Launch and help students design web museum to accompany the exhibit and to be used as a teaching tool for future courses.
- Spring 2006

  - HS90p, “Dying of Poverty?: Historical Perspectives on the Relationship Between Poverty and Health.” Designed course and led weekly seminar discussions. Set and graded assignments.
- History and Literature Senior Thesis Advisor** Fall/Winter 2006-2007

  - The Politics of Satire in Gilbert and Sullivan’s *The Mikado* and *HMS Pinafore*, graded *Summa Cum Laude*
  - The Maternal Imagination and the Monster in Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein*, graded *Magna Cum Laude*
- Social Studies Senior Thesis Advisor** Fall/Winter 2006-2007

  - Homosexuality in the Conservative Rabbinate, graded *Magna Cum Laude*.
- History of Science Senior Thesis Advisor** Fall/Spring 2007-2008

  - The Founding of the National Institute for Drug Addiction, graded *Magna Cum Laude*
- Fall/Spring 2005-2006

  - The History of American Marijuana Use, 1910-1930, graded *Summa Cum Laude*, awarded Thomas Temple Hoopes Prize (university-wide thesis prize)
- Fall/Spring 2004-2005

  - The Reception of Japanese Medicine into England in the 1700s, graded *Summa/Magna Cum Laude*
- Fall/Spring 2003-2004

  - World War Two Public Health Campaigns in the United States, graded *Magna Cum Laude*
- Fall/Spring 2003

  - Nineteenth Century Vegetarianism in the United States, graded *Summa Cum Laude*
- Fall/Spring 2003

  - Jewish Women’s Ritual Bathing and American Feminism, graded *Summa Cum Laude*
- Head Teaching Fellow** Fall 2003

  - HS177, “Stories Under the Skin: The Mind-Body Connection in Modern Western Medicine,” Professor Anne Harrington. Oversaw course administration and teaching staff, dealt with disciplinary concerns and grading disputes, and assisted in organization of weekly sections, setting assignments and examination questions. Led weekly discussion section, commented on essays, and graded examinations.
- Tutorial Instructor** Fall/Spring 2003-2004

  - HS 97a and 97b Sophomore Tutorial, “History of Science from Antiquity to Present,” Dr. Carl Pearson and Dr. Rena Selya. Designed and conducted weekly two-hour seminars based on intensive reading and weekly lectures. Commented on and graded student essays.
- Spring 2002

  - HS 98r Junior Tutorial, “From Bedlam to the Bedroom: Madness and Literature.” Designed and conducted a weekly seminar course. Set and graded assignments.
- Resident Tutor, Kirkland House** 2000-2002, 2003-2006

  - Academic and non-academic advising in a residential dormitory setting.
- Assistant Senior Tutor, Kirkland House** 2004-2006

  - Oversaw the large non-resident tutorial staff, coordinating academic advising for resident students, organizing welcome week preparations, participating in house administration.

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

**Teaching Assistant and Writing Tutor**

Fall 2001



- 21H342 “The British Royal Family,” Professor Harriet Ritvo. Worked with students on their writing and presentation skills, assisted in leading weekly seminars.

## CONFERENCE PAPERS

---

- “#sorrynotsorry: racialized forgiveness in police shootings of black men in the US”  
ICA Prague, Spring 2018
- “About Face Working Group”  
ASTR Atlanta, Fall 2017
- “The Religious Framework of Forgiveness Without Apology for Survivors of Shootings”  
IAMCR Columbia, Summer 2017
- “Cylons and Clones all the Way Down: Layering in *Battlestar Galactica* and *Orphan Black*”  
Console-ing Passions Greenville, Summer 2017
- “Our Blogging, Ourselves: Jewish Parenting Online”  
Institute for Spirituality and Social Change Workshop New York, Summer 2017
- “Watching while (face) blind: prosopagnosia and *Orphan Black*”  
MeCCSA Leeds, Winter 2017
- “A Very Special Makeover: Face Transplants on Television”  
International Communication Association Fukuoka, Summer 2016  
*Awarded Top Poster for the Popular Communication Division*
- “Clones All the Way Down: Clone Differentiation in *Orphan Black*”  
The American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting Boston, Winter 2016
- “Face Transplants and the Ethics of the Other”  
International Communication Association San Juan, Summer 2015
- “Re-membering Humanity through Appearance: Jekyll, Hyde, Merrick, and the Manipulation of the Face”  
Modern Language Association Vancouver, Winter 2015
- “Facial Transplants: Decoding the Debates”  
History of Science Society Chicago, Fall 2014
- “Facial Modification and Disability Studies: What Looking Different Might Mean”  
UPenn Faculty Working Group Disability Studies Conference Philadelphia, Spring 2014
- “Facing Issues of Identity Transfer: Facts and Fears”  
About Faces Conference Berkeley, Spring 2014  
UPenn History and Sociology of Science Colloquium Philadelphia, Winter 2014  
Appearance/Identity: CHA Clinical Conference Philadelphia, Fall 2013
- “Disability and Feminism at Penn: New Directions”  
The 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference of GSWS at Penn Philadelphia, Winter 2014
- “The Image is (Not) the Event: Negotiating the Pedagogy of Controversial Images”  
International Communication Association London, Spring 2013
- “Ethnography and/of New Media”  
Futures of Visual Anthropology Conference, Temple University Philadelphia, Spring 2013
- “Mesmeric Performances, the Sisters O’Key, and the Celebrity of the Patient”  
National Conference on British Studies Montreal, Fall 2012
- “Orthoprax: Judaism and Accounting”  
International Communication Association Phoenix, Spring 2012
- “Pleasure in Practices of Looking”  
Society for the History of Technology Cleveland, Fall 2011

- “Towards a Definition of Pleasure in Practices of Looking”  
History of Science Society Cleveland, Fall 2011
- “The Ethics of Atrocity Photos in Scholarly Work”  
Visible Evidence 18 New York, Summer 2011
- “The Fading Horror of Atrocity Photos”  
Mediating War and Technology: International Communication Association Preconference  
Boston, Spring 2011
- “Pornography and Pleasure: The Ethics of the Archive”  
Cultural Studies Association Chicago, Spring 2011
- “Pleasingly Grotesque: Looking at Victorian Freaks”  
North American Victorian Studies Association Montreal, Fall 2010
- “Mirror Mirror on the Wall: Who Am I?”  
The United States of the Self: Makeover Television and the American Dream Symposium  
Philadelphia, Fall 2010
- “Blockbuster Titillation: Voyeurism and the Freak Show”  
International Communication Association Singapore, Summer 2010
- “Historical Voyeurism: Critical Spectatorship of the Victorian Freak Body in the Archive”  
Cultural Studies Association Berkeley, Spring  
2010  
Berkeley, Spring 2010
- “Fix Me to Be Unfixed: Retouching Victorian Freaks”  
North American Conference on British Studies Louisville, Fall 2009
- Session Organizer, “Transatlantic Retouchings: Literary and Visual Exchange in C19”  
North American Conference on British Studies Louisville, Fall 2009
- “Closing Plenary Session: Histories of the Body”  
Women’s Studies at Penn 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference Philadelphia, Fall 2009
- “The Victorian Stage: A Time Travel Machine”  
North American Victorian Studies Association and the British Association for Victorian Studies  
Cambridge, UK Summer 2009
- “The Freakish Pleasure of Looking at the Grotesque”  
Performing Science Conference: Science and Theatre in the Modern Age  
Philadelphia, Summer 2009  
History of Science Society
- “Building the Fourth Wall: Victorian Theatrical Realism”  
History and Sociology of Science, The University of Pennsylvania Pittsburgh, Fall 2008  
Philadelphia, Fall 2008  
North American Victorian Studies Association New Haven, Fall 2008
- “Victorian Physiognomy: Sense in the City”  
Cultural Studies, George Mason University Fairfax, Fall 2008  
University of Guelph and the University of California Davis Guelph and Davis, Winter 2007
- “Seeing Clearly: Illumination on the Nineteenth-Century Stage,”  
History of Science Society Washington, DC Fall 2007
- “Victorian Street Physiognomy: Engineering the Self,”  
North American Conference on British Studies San Francisco, Fall  
2007
- “Makeup and the Gas-Lit Stage,”  
Meeting on Rethinking the Nineteenth Century Cambridge, Winter 2006
- “The Technology of Building Beauty on Nineteenth-Century Stages,”  
History of Science Society Minneapolis, Fall 2005
- “Performing Physiognomy: The Manipulation of Faces on the Victorian

- Canvas,” North American Conference on British Studies Denver, Fall 2005
- “Natural Born Beggars: Physiognomy and Determinism in Victorian Britain,”  
History of Science Society Austin, Fall 2004
- “Dramatic Readings: Uses of Physiognomy on the Victorian Stage,”  
Joint Meeting of the BSHS, CSHPS and HSS Halifax, Summer 2004
- “Fashioning Madness: The Insane Women of Dr. Hugh Welch Diamond,”  
Picturing Women Cross-Disciplinary Symposium Bryn Mawr, Spring 2004
- “Face Talking Folk: Physiognomy and Scientific Classification,”  
Southern Association, History of Medicine and Science Durham, Winter 2003
- “Diagnosis – Madness: Photography and Physiognomy in Nineteenth  
Century British Asylums,” History of Science Society Milwaukee, Fall 2002
- “Sensational Science: Gender and Crime in Wilkie Collins,”  
History of Science Society Denver, Fall 2001
- “Art Imitating AfterLife: Death and Display in Victorian England,”  
Social Studies of Science and Society Cambridge, MA Fall 2001
- “Dazed and Abused: Mesmerism and Gender in *The Woman in White* and  
*The Moonstone*,” Dalhousie University Graduate History Conference Halifax, April 2001

## INVITED TALKS

---

- “Face Transplants in Context”  
Drexel University STS Colloquium Philadelphia, Fall 2017
- “Face Transplant Surgery and the Meaning of Identity: A history and case study  
Geddes W. Simpson Distinguished Lecture, University of Maine Orono, Fall 2017
- “Science on Tap: The Face of Truth”  
Philadelphia Science Festival Philadelphia, Spring 2017
- “The Packaging of Face Transplant Recipients”  
UPenn Center For Human Appearance Clinical Conference Philadelphia, Winter 2017
- “Face/Off or On? Face Transplants and the Resistance to Categorization”  
Cornell University Departments of STS and Communication Colloquium Ithaca, Winter 2016  
Drexel University Medical School Grand Rounds Philadelphia, Fall 2015
- “Playing Ugly to Be Taken Seriously: Actresses and the Oscar”  
Bryn Mawr Center for Visual Culture Bryn Mawr, Winter 2015
- “Face/On: The Debates About Isabelle Dinoire”  
ASC Katz Colloquium Philadelphia, Spring 2015
- “Physiognomy, Photography, and the Victorians”  
Morbid Anatomy Museum New York, Winter 2015  
Weeknights at the Wagner Philadelphia, Fall 2014
- “A man without a face is free only when darkness rules the world: Face Transplants in 1960s  
Cinema”  
UPenn Cinema Studies Colloquium Philadelphia, Fall 2014
- “Face Transplants and the New Ethics of the Other”  
PopTech Camden, Fall 2014
- “Facial Allograft Surgery and the Ick Factor: Decoding the Bioethical Debates”  
University of Haifa Department of Communication Colloquium Haifa, Fall 2013  
Hebrew University Department of Communication Colloquium Jerusalem, Fall 2013  
University of Pennsylvania Center for Human Appearance Philadelphia, Spring 2013
- “The Problem of the Week of X, Or: Gender as an Integrated Pedagogical Category”  
Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies at UPenn Pedagogy Seminar Philadelphia, Winter 2013

- Visiting Scholar, Carleton University  
Center for Jewish Studies and School of Journalism and Communication      Ottawa, Winter 2013
- “Constructing Reality: the Socially Mediated Self”  
UPenn Talks With Interesting People Student Series      Philadelphia, Fall 2012
- “Images are Disappointingly Concrete: Teaching with Pornography and Atrocity”  
The GAPSA “Big Ideas” Conference      Philadelphia, Fall 2012
- Invited Discussant of stage play “reasons to be pretty”  
Philadelphia Theater Company      Philadelphia, Summer 2012
- Keynote Speaker, When Images Cause Trouble  
William A. Kern Conference in Visual Communication      Rochester, Spring 2012
- “The Performative Meaning of Mesmerism”  
Seemed Right at the Time?! Scenes from Science Past, Philadelphia Area Center for the History  
of Science      Philadelphia, Spring 2011
- Roundtable discussion on *About Faces: Physiognomy in Nineteenth-Century Britain*  
The Slought Foundation      Philadelphia, Spring 2011
- Visiting Scholar, Faculty Seminar on Representations of the Body  
Whitman College      Walla Walla, Spring 2011
- “Towards an Interdisciplinary Definition of Pleasure”  
Annenberg Colloquium Series      Philadelphia, Spring 2011
- “Blockbuster Freaks: Elephant Man, The Hottentot Venus, and The Hollywood Happy Ending”  
Science and Technology Research Seminars, York University      Toronto, Spring 2011
- “Joseph Merrick: Freakishly Famous”  
Privacy? Sensation! A Panel on Celebrity Patients and Psychoanalysis, Slought Foundation  
Philadelphia, Spring 2011
- “Blockbuster Freaks: Victorian Freaks and the Hollywood Happy Ending”  
UPenn Cinema Studies Colloquium      Philadelphia, Fall 2010
- *About Faces: Physiognomy in Nineteenth-Century Britain* Book Talk  
University of Pennsylvania Bookstore      Philadelphia, Spring 2010
- “Face Facts: A Survey of Physiognomy”  
University of Pennsylvania Interdisciplinary Studies in Medicine      Philadelphia, Spring 2010
- “Psychiatry and early Diagnostic Photography: A Victorian Case Study”  
Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program      Philadelphia, Spring 2010
- “Performing Science: The followup workshop”      Toronto, Fall 2009
- “The Photographic Physiognomy of Dr. Hugh Welch Diamond”  
Richardson History of Psychiatry Seminar, Weill Cornell University      New York, Spring 2009
- Session Chair and Respondent, “History and Identity”  
International Communication Association      Chicago, Spring 2009
- “Victorian Street Physiognomy: Engineering the Self”  
STS Colloquium, Bar Ilan University      Ramat-Gan, Spring 2009  
North American Conference on British Studies      San Francisco, Fall 2007
- “Performing Physiognomy: Imitating Art and Life”  
Delaware Valley British Studies Seminar      Philadelphia, Fall 2008
- “Diagnostic Physiognomy: From Phrenology to Fingerprints”  
Philadelphia Area Center for the History of Science      Philadelphia, Fall 2008
- “Black and White: Drawing the Irish-American Immigrant in Shades of Grey,”  
The Library of Congress      Washington, DC Spring 2007
- “Sense in the City: Physiognomy in Nineteenth-Century London,”

- Harvard University History and Literature Conference Cambridge, Fall 2006
- “Women in the Profession of the History of Science: A Junior Scholar Perspective,”  
History of Science Society Vancouver, Fall 2006
- “Building Beauty on the Victorian Stage,”  
University of South Florida Tampa, Winter 2006
- “Imaging Communities: Caricature Physiognomy of the Irish in Nineteenth Century Britain,”  
University of Guelph and the New School for Social Research New York, Winter 2006

2005

Boston, Spring 2011

*Guest Teaching*

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

21H342: The British Royal Family, “King George III – The Farmer King” 25 September 2007

**University of Guelph**

History 1250: Science and Society Since 1500, “Chemistry and Industry” 6 March 2007

History 2500: Britain and The World, “The Crisis of the First World War” 16 November 2005

**Harvard University**

HS 97b: History of Science from Antiquity to Present, “Science and Colonialism” 14 March 2004

**COMMITTEES AND SERVICE**

**The Annenberg School for Communication**

- Undergraduate Thesis Prize Committee 2016
- Events Committee 2015-present
- Scholars Program Advisory Board 2008-present
- Building and Facilities Committee 2009-2010, 2011-2015
- Graduate Teaching Workshops Organizer and Participant 2009-2014
- IT Committee 2008-2009, 2013-2014
- Graduate Studies Committee 2008-2009, 2010-2011, 2014
- Undergraduate Advisory Board 2010-2013
- Gerbner Post-Doctoral Fellow Selection Committee 2009-2010
- Annenberg Building and Facilities Committee 2009-2010
- Ad Hoc Undergraduate Review Committee 2009-2010

**The University of Pennsylvania**

- The Institute for Contemporary Art Outreach Committee 2017-present
- The Graduate Council of Faculties 2016-2017
- University Council Committee on Diversity and Equity at Penn 2015-2017
- Program on Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism Executive Planning Committee 2015-2017
- University Council Committee on Diversity and Equity at Penn 2015-2017
- Steering Committee, Women, Gender, and Sexuality at Penn 2015-present
- Ad Hoc Committee on Tobacco Divestment 2013-2015
- Faculty Advisory Board, Women, Gender, and Sexuality at Penn 2012-present
- Governing Council, Penn Forum for Women Faculty 2010-present
- Steering Committee, Penn Program in Cinema Studies 2010-2014
- Phyllis Rackin Graduate Fellowship Selection Committee 2015
- Trustees’ Council of Penn Women Fellowship Selection Committee 2014
- Penn Senate Social Responsibility Advisory Committee 2012-2014

- LGBT Center Advisory Council 2010-2013
- Service to the Profession**
- Editorial Board, *Journal of Social Media Studies* 2012-present
- Advisory Editorial Board, *Endeavour* 2010-present
- Price/Webster Prize Committee, History of Science Society (Chair, 2012) 2010-2012
- Book Review editor, *Endeavour* 2008-2010
- Conference Responses and Session Organization**
- Session Chair, “Canadian Science, Commerce, and Public Health”  
History of Science Society Toronto, Fall 2017
- Session Chair, “Gender, Digital Media, and Democratic Development”  
DCC Digital Media Conference Philadelphia, Spring 2016
- Invited Respondent, “Politics Against Reason”  
Katz Center Gruss Conference Philadelphia, Spring 2016
- Moderator, Complicating and Confusing the Image of Muslim Women with Moa Eltahawy  
Fox Conference, Rethinking Leadership from the Bottom Up Philadelphia, Spring 2016
- Session Chair, “Representing deviance and difference”  
International Communication Association Fukuoka, Summer 2016
- “Technology Meets Voice” respondent  
History of the Voice Conference, invited participant Philadelphia, Spring 2015
- “Response to Sharon Marcus”  
Workshop on Celebrity in the Digital Age New York, Fall 2013
- Session Organizer, “Media, Spectacle, and Victorian Female Fame”  
National Conference on British Studies Montreal, Fall 2012
- Invited Respondent, “Bioethics, Sexuality, and Gender Identity: A Queering of the Field”  
The Queer Bioethics Conference Philadelphia, Fall 2012
- Session Chair and Respondent, “Innovative Methods in Communication History”  
International Communication Association Phoenix, Spring 2012
- Invited Respondent, “Consent and Consumption”  
(un)SAFE: UPenn GSWS Graduate Student Conference Philadelphia, Winter 2012
- Session Organizer, “Aesthetics and Politics: Towards Building Relationships Between Media  
Studies and History of Science”  
History of Science Society Cleveland, Fall 2011
- Moderator, “Roundtable Discussion on War and Technology”  
Mediating War and Technology: International Communication Association Preconference  
Boston, Spring 2011
- Session Chair and Respondent, “Design Meets Persuasion; Propaganda in Historical Context”  
International Communication Association  
Boston, Spring 2011
- Session Organizer, “Resized and Reframed: Looking at People as Works of Art”  
North American Victorian Studies Association Montreal, Fall 2010
- Session Chair and Respondent, “Civic Life and Evolving Communications Technology”  
International Communication Association Singapore, Summer 2010
- Respondent, “Can you Hear Me Now”  
Missed Connections: Penn Humanities Forum Graduate Conference Philadelphia, Winter 2010
- Invited Session Chair, “Nineteenth-Century Science and Technological Aims”  
History of Science Society Boston, 2008
- Session Organizer, “Self-Training: The Moral and Practical Stakes of Perception and Decision  
Making,” History of Science Society Austin, Fall 2004
- Invited Session Chair, “1830-1860: Redefining Popular Science,”

- Conference on 19<sup>th</sup> Century Popular Science: Toronto, Summer 2004
- Session Organizer, “Talking Heads: Reading the Victorian Body,”  
History of Science Society Milwaukee, Fall 2002
- Panel Discussant, “Work, Class, and Gender: Beyond No Man’s Land,”  
Interdisciplinary Gender Studies Conference Cambridge, MA Spring 2001

### Reviewer

- Grant, Presentation, manuscript and book reviewer for the *International Communication Association History Division, ICA LGBT Interest Group, Victorian Periodicals Review, Isis, Endeavour, Victorians Institute Journal, Victorian Studies, Safundi, Journal of Bioethics Inquiry, Journal of Social Media Studies, Modernism/Modernity, Social History of Medicine, Visual Studies, American Anthropologist, Journalism: Theory, Criticism and Practice, Ethics and Information Technology, Blackwell Encyclopedia of Victorian Literature, Cambridge University Press, The Leverhulme Trust, Journal of Victorian Culture*

### Conferences Organized

- Co-organizer: “Celebrity in the Digital Age” November 2013  
(with Sharon Marcus and Sue Murray)
- Organizer: “Images, Technology, Ethics” Annenberg Scholars’ Symposium November 2012
- Co-organizer: “Mediating War and Technology” ICA CHIG preconference May 2011  
(with Dave Park and Jefferson Pooley)
- Organizer: “Performing Science: Science and Theatre in the Modern Age” July 2009
- Co-organizer: “Beyond No Man’s Land: Harvard’s First Annual Interdisciplinary Graduate Gender Studies Conference” (with JuNelle Harris) March 2001

### Harvard University

- Board of Freshman Advisors 2007-2008
- Search Committee, new Director for the Office of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response summer 2006
- Studies on Women, Gender, and Sexuality Tutorial Board 2006-2008
- History and Literature Tutorial Board 2005-2008
- Coordinator, History of Science Writing Group 2003-2005
- History of Science Departmental Undergraduate/Faculty Committee 2003-2005
- Library Committee 2000-2001
- History of Science Departmental Colloquium Committee 2000-2001
- History of Science Departmental Faculty Committee 1999-2002
- Harvard University Graduate Student Council 1999-2001

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

---

### Memberships

- American Comparative Literature Association 2016-present
- Modern Language Association 2014-2015
- Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Advanced Collaboratory 2012-present
- Disability Studies Faculty Working Group 2012-2013
- Royal Historical Society elected 2011
- International Communication Association 2009-present
- Society for the History of Technology 2011-present
- The Consortium on Bioethics, Sexuality, and Gender Identity 2011-present
- Cultural Studies Association 2010-2012
- American Society for Theatre Research 2006-2010
- North American Conference of British Studies 2003-2011
- Social Studies of Science and Society 2001-2005

- Science and Literary Studies 2000-2002
- History of Science Society 1999-present

## LANGUAGES

---

- Hebrew, high proficiency reading and conversational
- French, reading and conversational
- German, reading

## MEDIA APPEARANCES

---

- podcast with the *Canadian Medical Association* on “The ethics of face transplants: medical versus societal needs”  
<https://soundcloud.com/cmajpodcasts/sets/cmaj-author-interviews> 23 April 2018
- interview on *NursingClio.org* on faces and identity  
<https://nursingclio.org/2017/09/21/face-to-face-with-sharrona-pearl/> 21 September 2017
- radio interview on *BBC 4 Thinking Allowed* on “the meaning of the face”  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b08rrc0k> 31 May 2017
- Interviewed on *The New Books Network* podcast:  
<http://newbooksnetwork.com/sharrona-pearl-faceon-face-transplants-and-the-ethics-of-the-other-u-chicago-press-2017/> 18 May 2017
- Interviewed and quoted in *Philadelphia Neighbourhoods* on LGBTQ body image 11 May 2017
- Q&A in *Penn Current* 22 December 2016
- interviewed and quoted extensively in *The Ringer* on race-swapping selfies 16 August 2016
- interviewed and quoted extensively in *BTRread* on facial symmetry 6 February 2016
- profiled in *The Daily Pennsylvanian* 26 September 2015
- quoted in *The Politic* on international plastic surgery trends 28 March 2015
- newspaper interview in *Newsworks* (NPR magazine) on physiognomy and photography 30 October 2014
- radio interview on *WHYY* (NPR affiliate) “Radio Times” entitled “About the Face” 13 December 2013
- newspaper interview in *The Philadelphia Inquirer* on cosmetic surgery 18 April 2012
- newspaper interview in *The Philadelphia Inquirer* on mesmerism 15 April 2011
- radio interview on *BBC 4 Thinking Allowed* (United Kingdom) on physiognomy 14 July 2010
- television interview on *Fox Good Day Philadelphia* about the history of expression analysis 21 January 2009
- profiled in *Penn Current* 6 May 2010
- radio interview on *WHYY* (NPR affiliate) entitled “The Science behind *Lie to Me.*” 18 February 2009