

Nineteenth Century Studies

Nineteenth Century Studies is an interdisciplinary journal that has been annually published by the Nineteenth-Century Studies Association (NCSA) since 1987. The journal has been hosted by the Southeastern Louisiana University's Department of English on the behalf of NCSA since 2000/2001. The Department supplies the journal's Editor with one course release in the fall and one in the spring, and dedicates one graduate student to the Editorial Assistant position. The Department gives no direct cash support to the journal, its printing and operating expenses being paid by NCSA and subscription revenue. The Department does, however, substantially help the journal with day-to-day postage, supplies, and computer equipment.

The NCSA is an interdisciplinary association for the study of nineteenth-century cultures. The organization's journal, *Nineteenth Century Studies*, publishes studies of the nineteenth century in America, Britain and the British Empire, and Europe. Topics include literature, history, art, architecture, the history of science and the social sciences, and music. Submissions of cross-disciplinary studies, as well as comparative studies that cross national and temporal boundaries, are especially encouraged. *Nineteenth Century Studies* also publishes reviews of current exhibitions, electronic resource reviews, and review essays on recently published works of interest to scholars in the field.

For nine years after its inception, the journal was edited by Suzanne (Edwards) Ozment of The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina. Patricia O'Hara of Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania followed as Editor for Volumes 10 through 14. In 2000, David Hanson was selected Editor. Dr. Hanson is a professor of English at SLU. He received his B.A. from Earlham College and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. He specializes in British literature of the nineteenth century. His research interests include bibliography and textual criticism (which includes such areas as book history, manuscript study, and textual editing), interdisciplinary approaches to literature (for example, literature and the visual arts, literature and psychology), and especially the nineteenth-century art and social critic, John Ruskin.

The editorial board of *Nineteenth Century Studies* includes individuals from universities across the United States and England. Their varying disciplines reflect the interdisciplinary emphasis of the journal. The members of this board are:

Nancy Fix Anderson (History, Loyola University of New Orleans)
Sarah Lea Burns (Art History, Indiana University)
Susan P. Casteras (Art History, University of Washington)
Robert Craig (College of Architecture, Georgia Institute of Technology)
Deirdre David (English, Temple University)
Tracy C. Davis (Theater, Northwestern University)
Barbara Gates (English, University of Delaware)
Vincent Giroud (Beinecke Library, Yale University)
Thomas Gray (Music, Stanford University)
Elizabeth K. Helsinger (English and Art History, University of Chicago)
Elizabeth Johns (Art History, University of Pennsylvania)

Joseph Kestner (English, University of Tulsa)
James Kincaid (English, University of Southern California)
George Levine (English, Rutgers University)
Anne K. Mellor (English, University of California, Los Angeles)
Walter Benn Michaels (English, John Hopkins University)
Joel Myerson (English, University of South Carolina)
James Olney (English, French, and Italian, Louisiana State University)
Howard Segal (History, University of Maine)
Margaret Stetz (English, University of Delaware)
F.M.L. Thompson (Emeritus Professor of History, University of London)
Michael Wheeler (Emeritus Professor of English, Lancaster University)
Anthony Wohl (History, Vassar College)

Subscriptions

The subscription base of *Nineteenth Century Studies* covers a broad area. University libraries and other institutions in thirty-two states, as well as Washington, D.C., receive the journal annually. Libraries and institutions in thirteen foreign countries subscribe to the journal as well, including Great Britain (Falmouth College of Arts, Staffordshire University, University of London, Cambridge University, Wadham College, Oxford Brookes University, the Wordsworth Trust, University of Southampton, and Bath College of HE), Canada (University of Ottawa, York University in Ontario, University of Toronto, Queens University in Ontario, Malaspina University College in British Columbia, and University College in Nova Scotia), Ireland (University College in Cork), France (Université de Toulon et du Var and Bibliothèque Nationale France), Spain (Universidad de la Coruna), Cyprus (University of Cyprus), Portugal (Universidade Lusiada), Japan (University of Tokyo), Italy (Università degli studi di Macerata), Greece (Université d'Athènes), China (Sunyatsen University), Taiwan (National Chung-Hsin University), and Germany (Niedersaechsishe Staats & Universitaets in Goettingen).

In addition to these institutional subscribers, the journal mails also to all individual members of the NCSA. This membership varies, tending to concentrate in the Southeastern United States because of the NCSA's initial membership base, but now members hail from all around the country and abroad. (We have not attempted to list the members' home states and countries, since the membership changes annually.)

Published Contributions

Contributors and contributions to the journal also reflect the multidisciplinary and geographically diverse reader base. In only the past three years, since *Nineteenth Century Studies* has been housed at SLU, contributors have hailed from universities and institutions across the United States and in Europe, including:

Auburn University (Alabama)	Pennsylvania State University
Ball State University (Indiana)	St. Mary's College (Maryland)
Brown University (Rhode Island)	Stanford University (California)
Cambridge University (UK)	Temple University (Pennsylvania)
Chester College of Higher Education (UK)	Tulane University (Louisiana)
City University of New York	Università degli studi di Macerata (Italy)
Claremont McKenna College (California)	University of Alabama, Huntsville
Columbia College (South Carolina)	University of California, Berkeley
Dominican University (Illinois)	University of Florida
Earlham College (Indiana)	University of Iowa
Georgetown University (Washington, D.C.)	University of London (UK)
Getty Research Institute (California)	University of Notre Dame (Indiana)
Glasgow University (Scotland)	University of San Diego
Hamline University (Minnesota)	University of Southampton (UK)
Harris Manchester College (UK)	University of Tampa (Florida)
Harvard University (Massachusetts)	University of Texas, Arlington
Lancaster University (UK)	University of Washington
Muhlenberg College (Pennsylvania)	University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh
National Portrait Gallery (UK)	Vanderbilt University (Tennessee)
New York University	Wadham College (UK)
Northwestern University (Illinois)	Western Oregon University
Oxford Brookes University (UK)	Wordsworth Trust (UK)
Palmer Museum of Art (Pennsylvania)	

The articles published in *Nineteenth Century Studies* represent not only work conducted in diverse locations of the world but also a wide range of levels of professional experience. While probably the largest number of recent contributions are submitted by younger scholars who are beginning their professional careers, each issue also includes scholars who have achieved distinguished professorships after long careers in nineteenth-century studies. The journal also occasionally publishes articles written by superior graduate students.

Since 2000, the articles published in the four issues of *Nineteenth Century Studies* under the English Department's sponsorship include:

- “The Melodramatic Contract: Breach of Promise and the Performance of Virtue”
- “‘Personation’ and ‘Good Marking-Ink’: Sanity, Performativity, and Biology in Victorian Sensation Fiction”

- “Henry Bacon’s Imaging of Transatlantic Travel in the Gilded Age”
- “Victorian Architectures of Masculine Desire”
- “Dickens’s Newgate Vision: *Oliver Twist*, Moral Statistics, and the Construction of Progressive History”
- “‘Scarcely to be Described’: Urban Extremes as Real Spaces and Mythic Places in the London Cholera Epidemic of 1854”
- “Reproducing Empire: *Moreau* and Others
- “The Seat of Sin, the Site of Salvation: The Shaker Body and the Nineteenth-Century American Imagination”
- “The Wedding Guest as Reader: ‘The Rime of the Ancyent Marinere’ as a Dramatization of Print Circulation and the Construction of the Authorial Self”
- “A Grave with No Name: Representations of Death in Elizabeth Gaskell’s *Mary Barton*”
- “What Is Man? Mark Twain’s Unresolved Attempt to Know”
- “Forum on Jerome Hamilton Buckley’s *The Victorian Temper* and the Shaping of Victorian Studies,” including:
 - “The Dialectical Temper”
 - “The View from Here: How the Nineteenth Century Looks to the Twenty-first”
 - “*The Victorian Temper: A Guide Through the Desert*”
- “Handling the ‘Iron Horse’: Dickens, Travel, and Derailed Masculinity in *The Pickwick Papers*”
- “‘Some World’s-Wonder in Chapel or Crypt’: Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Disability”
- “From Slave Cabin to Windsor Castle: Josiah Henson and ‘Uncle Tom’ in Britain”
- “War, Ekphrasis, and Elliptical Form in Melville’s *Battle-Pieces*”
- “Wagner the Degenerate: Fin de Siècle Cultural ‘Pathology’ and the Anxiety of Modernism”
- “‘Her Director, Her Priest, ...Her God’: Victorian Women Writers on Confession”
- Forum on religion and culture with special guest editor Elisabeth Jay
 - “Looking Beyond ‘The Rumpus about Moses and Monkeys’: Religion and the Sciences in the Nineteenth Century”
 - “Victorian Religion: A Matter of Class or Culture?”
 - “Where Their Treasure Was: Victorian Christianity and Money”
 - “Cultural Studies and the Nineteenth Century: Literature and Religion”
 - “‘A Fresh-Made Garment of Citizenship’: Representing Jewish Identities in Victorian Britain”
- “Monetary Patriotism: *The Letters of Malachi Malagrowther*, *The Antiquary*, and the Currency Question”
- “The Pot Calling the Kettle: White Goods and the Construction of Race in Antebellum America”
- “Going Postal: Mail and Mass Culture in *Bleak House*”
- Essay reviews, including:
 - “Victorian Embodiments”
 - “How Sweet it Was: Bidding Adieu to the Nineteenth Century”
 - “Verdi Scholarship at the Beginning of the Twenty-first Century”
 - “Theater, but Wherefore Politics?”
 - “Remapping and Reframing the Victorian Novel”

- “Bread, Roses, and Reason; or, Can Victorian Cultural Criticism Reform Political Economy?”
- “Forging Identities in Nineteenth-Century Art”
- “Making Faces: Changing Modes of Representation in Nineteenth-Century Portraiture”
- “Putting Women in Their (Rightful) Place”
- “Scientific Knowledge in the Nineteenth Century”
- “De-Ciphering the Victorian Child: Childhood, Gender, and Empire in Nineteenth Century Studies”
- “The Shaping of Religious Identity in the Nineteenth Century: Some Recent Perspectives”
- Exhibition reviews, including:
 - “Inspired Eclectics”
 - “1900 and Looking Back” (review of exhibitions of the French printmaker Daumier, of the American photographer Carlton Watkins, of French women artists, and of European art exhibited in the year 1900)
 - “Visionaries, Realists, and Reformers: Exploring the Creative Impulse in Nineteenth-Century Art” (review of exhibitions of the English printmaker and poet William Blake, of Impressionism, and of Art Nouveau)
 - “The World as They Saw It: Embracing, Escaping, Embellishing” (review of exhibitions of Eakins, Signac, and the Victorian Nude)
 - “Disproving Ruskin’s Advice: ‘Don’t Go to Exhibitions’”
- Electronic resource reviews, including:
 - Future Directions for Scholarly Electronic Resources in Nineteenth-Century Studies
 - “Text, Music, and Image as Digital Artifact”
 - “*The Wellesley Index to Victorian Periodicals, 1824-1900*, on CD-ROM”
 - “*Nineteenth-Century Masterfile (Poole’s Plus)*”
 - Digitization and the Museum: New Developments
 - “Putting Museum Collections On-Line: A Case Study”
 - “*Mexico: From Empire to Revolution*”
 - “Digital Audio Tours”

Submissions

The journal receives between fifty and sixty unsolicited submissions per year. In addition to considering unsolicited articles, the journal commissions all review essays (of books, exhibitions, and electronic resources) as well as certain feature essays (for example, contributions to special topics sections of the journal, such as the forum on Buckley’s *Victorian Temper*, and the special section on “Religion and Culture”). The process by which articles are reviewed for acceptance is rigorous and includes thorough peer review. Annually, of the unsolicited submissions, only three to five are accepted with revisions; another five to ten are rejected but with an invitation to resubmit for reconsideration once the essay has been extensively revised; and the remainder are rejected outright.

All submissions receive substantial commentary, even if rejected. The Editor provides suggestions on all submissions; and two-thirds to three-quarters of submissions receive additional reports from at least one reader. These readings are anonymous, with the name, affiliation, and status of the contributor withheld. The readers are drawn from the journal's editorial board, the NCSA board, SLU, and from outside the organization and University. These latter solicitations of readers from other universities and institutions are quite frequent, because the range of disciplines and specialties represented by submissions is so broad that even our two interdisciplinary boards and the home University faculty cannot comprise them all.

Because the journal's core aim is to present a forum for professional-quality interdisciplinary scholarship, peer review is vigorous. At the same time, the NCSA and the journal staff recognize that, in order to bring the future generation of scholars into that conversation, they must take on a pedagogical role as well. Especially in the case of graduate students, as well as in that of younger assistant professors, the journal conceives its mission as instructing young professionals in the art of the journal essay. If rejected, younger scholars are given extensive suggestions for revision. If accepted, younger scholars get the Editor's attention through many weeks of revision, turning what was in effect a dissertation chapter into the very different genre of the journal article. All contributors, in fact, young and old, experienced and inexperienced, are aided with extensive essay development and editing.

Most of the substantive editing is undertaken by the Editor, with some copyediting duties assigned to the Editorial Assistant. The Editor frequently consults with colleagues in the Department on editorial matters of style and substance as well calling on faculty for peer review. The Department as a whole therefore contributes its members' expertise in various ways, as particular needs arise.

Further Departmental Benefits

The SLU English Department, through its housing of *Nineteenth Century Studies*, is afforded obvious academic benefits and prestige. In addition to these benefits, however, the journal provides further interdisciplinary opportunities for SLU graduate students of English. As a part of the English Department, the journal is able to offer students the opportunity for a graduate assistantship serving as the Editorial Assistant under the supervision of Dr. Hanson. This post presents the assistant with exposure to the publishing world. All English graduate students must be familiar with scholarly journals in their research and writing, and the *Nineteenth Century Studies* assistantship gives the chosen student a chance to participate in the inner world of scholarly publishing.

The Editorial Assistant not only gains familiarity with the interdisciplinary fields discussed in the journal, but s/he also is benefited through the experience s/he can obtain in the fields of research, editing, and technical writing. In fact, the graduate assistantship offered through the journal links two important parts of the SLU English graduate program: literary research and criticism, and professional writing. The Editorial Assistant of *Nineteenth Century Studies* has access to the entire process of scholarly publishing under the direction of Dr. Hanson, and this process includes reading and researching the works, both literary and otherwise, presented in the articles

submitted for publication, as well as areas in professional writing such as copy-editing, report writing, correspondence composition, and document management. Not many universities are able to boast opportunities for English graduate students beyond the field of literature; SLU is the only university in the state of Louisiana to offer a graduate concentration in professional writing. *Nineteenth Century Studies* gives the English Department the chance to link its course offerings with opportunities of employment that are applicable to both the academic and the non-academic world.