

Isaac J. Rooks, Ph.D.
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Fall 2019 – Fall 2020 **Postdoctoral Associate**, University Writing Program (UWP)
University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, USA

EDUCATION

Ph.D. **University of Southern California**, Los Angeles, California, USA, 2019

Cinema and Media Studies

Minor in Communication

Certification in Visual Studies

Dissertation: *Do Not Feed the Animals: An Ecocritical Perspective on Cinematic Animal Attack Narratives*

Committee: John D. Connor (Chair), Priya Jaikumar, and Randall Lake

M.A. **Indiana University**, Bloomington, Indiana, USA, 2013

Communication and Culture

Specializations: Film & Media Studies; Rhetoric & Public Culture

B.S. **University of Texas**, Austin, Texas, USA, 2010

Radio-TV-Film

Certification: Latino Media Studies

Production Coursework: *Intro to Screenwriting; Advanced Writing; Introduction to Editing; Intermediate Editing; Intro to Image and Sound; Studio Production; Advanced Narrative; Advanced Documentary*

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Ecocriticism & Environmental Humanities, Rhetoric & Media, Animal Studies, Space/Place Studies, Critical Race Theory, Transnational Postcolonial and Settler-Colonial Studies, Production Culture & Media Industries, Horror and Genre, American Cinema, Australian Cinema.

PUBLICATIONS

REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

“Living Deliciously: *The Witch* (2016) and the Subversive Power of Uncolonized Land.”
Settler Colonial Studies (Under Review).

PUBLICATIONS - REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES (CONTINUED)

“A Dark and Dusty Night: *Razorback* and the Development of an Environmentalist Australian Gothic Cinema.” *Studies in Australasian Cinema* (Under Review).

“‘You’re White, You Can Do Anything.’: Hollywood’s Celebration of the Colonial Past in a Post-Apartheid Temporal Enclave.” *The Journal of Global Postcolonial Studies*, vol. 8, no. 2, 2020, pp. 176-188 (Forthcoming).

“What Big Eyes You Have: Animal Point-of-View Shots in Horror and the Limits of Vision.” *Spectator*, vol. 36, no. 2, Fall 2016, pp. 23-30.

“Pandopticon: The Panda Cam & Animal Surveillance.” *Spectator*, vol. 36, no. 1, Spring 2016, pp. 43-57.

BOOK CHAPTER CONTRIBUTIONS

“No Place for Waltzing Matilda: Uncanny Australian Swamps and Crocodiles in *Rogue*, *Black Water*, and *Dark Age*.” *Postcolonial Animalities*. Ed. Amit R. Baishya and Suvadip Sinha. Routledge, 2019, pp. 127-146.

“Panic in Detroit: *Don’t Breathe* and the Fear of Old Cities, Homes, and Men.” *Elder Horror: Essays on Film’s Frightening Images of Aging*. Ed. Cynthia J. Miller and A Bowdoin Van Riper. McFarland & Company, Inc., 2019, pp. 22-31.

“‘Black Enough For You?’: *Cotton Comes to Harlem* (1970) and the Cinematic Harlem.” *Urban Netherworlds: Noir and Neo-Noir New York and Los Angeles in Film*. Ed. James J. Ward and Cynthia J. Miller. Rowman & Littlefield, 2017, pp. 105-124.

REVIEWS

“Caged by Frail and Fragile Bonds: A Review of Michael Pearce’s *Beast*.” *Gothic Nature*, vol. 1, no. 1, 2019, pp. 285-287.

“Nature, Read in Tooth and Claw: Katarina Gregersdotter, Johan Höglund, and Nicklas Hållén, Eds. *Animal Horror Cinema: Genre, History and Criticism*.” *Humanimalia: a journal of human/animal interface studies*, vol. 9, no. 2, Spring 2018, pp. 208-213.

“Book Review: Stephanie DeBoer, *Coproducing Asia: Locating Japanese-Chinese Regional Film and Media*.” *Spectator*, vol. 35, no. 1, Spring 2015, pp. 50-53.

ADDITIONAL PUBLICATIONS

“Vengeance and Dumb Brute: Animals as Objects, Instruments, and Agents of Revenge in American Genre Cinema.” *Stanford - Arcade: Literature, the Humanities, & the World*. Ed. Moira Weigel, 2018.

PUBLICATIONS – ADDITIONAL PUBLICATIONS (CONTINUED)

“What a Boar: Translating Animal Horror and Ecological Anxieties in *Chaw* (Shin Jeong-won, 2009).” *The Independent*, 19 March 2018.

“Let’s See Some Tits: Norway’s Distinctly Different Web Wildlife Program.” / “Piip-Show.” *MAS Context*, no. 22, 2014, pp. 136-145.

TALKS - COMPETITIVELY SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“See You Later Alligator: The Intersection of Ecological and Personal Trauma in *Crawl* (2019).” Society of Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference. SCMS. Virtual Conference; March 2021 (Upcoming).

“Tangled: *Bad Hair* (2020), Black Horror, and Colonial Complications.” British Commonwealth & Postcolonial Studies Conference. Virtual Conference; Feb. 2021.

“See You Later Alligator: The Intersection of Ecological and Personal Trauma in *Crawl* (2019).” Society of Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference. SCMS. Denver, CO; April 2020. Paper accepted, conference canceled due to COVID-19.

“It was a Dark and Dusty Night: *Razorback* (1984) & the Development of the Australian EcoGothic.” British Commonwealth & Postcolonial Studies Conference. Savannah, GA; Feb 2020.

“‘We Wouldn’t Stand a Chance’: A Revisionist Ecocritical Assessment of Hitchcock’s *The Birds*.” California American Studies Association Conference. San Diego, CA; April 2019.

“‘All This Machine Does’: Imagining & Visualizing the Cinematic Animal Body in the *Jaws* Franchise.” Society of Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference. SCMS. Seattle, WA; March 2019.

“‘You’re white. You can do anything.’: Hollywood’s Celebration of the Colonial Past in a Post-Apartheid Temporal Enclave.” British Commonwealth & Postcolonial Studies Conference. Savannah, GA; Feb 2019.

“‘We Were Being Changed and Made Part of Their World’: Complicating the Human and Animal with *Phase IV*.” Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment-Affiliated Virtual Symposium; June 2018.

“Panic in Detroit: *Don’t Breathe* and the Fear of Old Cities, Homes, and Men” Society of Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference. SCMS. Toronto, Canada; March 2018.

“Burning Bright: Looking Back at Colonization in Anger and Regret with South Korea’s *The Tiger*.” British Commonwealth & Postcolonial Studies Conference. Savannah, GA; Feb 2018.

TALKS – PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES (CONTINUED)

“Trouble in Paradise: Dramatizing the Natural World’s Resistance & Destruction in *The Shallows* (2016).” Association for the Study of Literature and Environment Biennial Conference. ASLE. Detroit, MI; June 2017.

“Living Deliciously: *The Witch* (2016) and the Subversive Power of Uncolonized Land.” British Commonwealth & Postcolonial Studies Conference. Savannah, GA; Feb 2017.

“Let Slip the Frogs of War: *Frogs* (1972) and Contributing to Cultural Debates.” Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference. RSA. Atlanta, GA; May 2016.

“Slow But Steady: An Ecocritical Appreciation of Norway’s Slow TV Movement.” Society of Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference. SCMS. Atlanta, GA; March-April 2016.

“No Place for Waltzing Matilda: The Uncanny Swamp Spaces of *Rogue & Black Water*.” British Commonwealth & Postcolonial Studies Conference. Savannah, GA; Feb 2016.

“Tyger Tyger, Burning Bright / Please Help Me Get Laid Tonight: Tiger Selfies and Orientalism 2.0.” British Commonwealth & Postcolonial Studies Conference. Savannah, GA; Feb 2015.

“Pandopticon: The Panda Cam and Animal Surveillance.” National Communication Association Annual Convention. NCA. Chicago, IL; Nov 2014.

“There is a Storm Coming: *Take Shelter* and the Pre-Apocalyptic Narrative.” Popular Culture Association in the South. PCAS. New Orleans, LA; Oct 2014.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Florida, Postdoctoral Associate, Fall 2019 – Fall 2020

- *Projecting Difference: Race, Ethnicity, and Cinematic Representations* (ENC 2305)
 - Spring 2020 (Partially online due to COVID-19).
- *Killer Creatures & Invasive Species: Florida’s Unruly Wildlife & the Media* (ENC 2305)
 - Spring 2020 (Partially online due to COVID-19)
- *Professional Writing in the Disciplines* (ENC 3254)
 - Fall 2020 – 3 classes (Remote & 100% online)
 - Spring 2020 – 2 classes (Partially online due to COVID-19)
 - Fall 2019 – 2 classes
- *Writing for Strategic Communication* (ENC 3254)
 - Fall 2019

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

University of Southern California, Fall 2014 – Spring 2017

Lead Teaching Assistant

- *Theatrical Film Symposium* (CTCS 466), Instructor: Leonard Maltin
 - Spring 2017
 - Fall 2016
- *Introduction to Cinema* (CTCS 190), Instructor: Drew Casper
 - Fall 2015
 - Spring 2015 – 1 discussion section

Teaching Assistant

- *Theatrical Film Symposium* (CTCS 466), Instructor: Leonard Maltin
 - Spring 2016
- *Television Symposium* (CTCS 467), Instructor: Howard Rosenberg
 - Spring 2016
- *Film Style Analysis – The Genius of Billy Wilder* (CTCS 469), Instructor: Drew Casper
 - Summer 2015
- *Introduction to Cinema* (CTCS 190), Instructor: Drew Casper
 - Fall 2014 – 2 discussion sections

Indiana University, Associate Instructor, Fall 2011 – Spring 2013

- *Interpersonal Communication* (C122), Course Director: Jennifer Meta Robinson
 - Spring 2013 – 2 classes
 - Fall 2012 – 2 classes
- *Introduction to Public Speaking* (C121), Course Director: Cynthia Duquette Smith
 - Spring 2012 – 2 classes
 - Fall 2011 – 2 classes

AWARDS & HONORS

Winner, Nichols Graduate Award, 2019.

Award bestowed on best paper presented by a graduate student at the British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference.

Honorable Mention, Jackie Donath Prize, 2019

One of two papers acknowledged by prize committee at California American Studies Associate Conference.

FELLOWSHIPS

USC Graduate School Final Year Fellowship, 2018 - 2019.

Competitive one-year fellowship for dissertation completion offering full tuition and stipend; awarded following departmental nomination.

USC Graduate School Fellowship, 2013 - 2018.

Five-year fellowship offering full tuition and annual stipend.

SERVICE

Reviewer, *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment (ISLE)*, 2019 - Present.

Tutoring Volunteer, 826LA, 2019.

After school tutoring for an educational nonprofit offering reading and writing assistance for elementary and high school students.

Reviewer, *Spectator*, 2018.

Archival Research Assistant, *Island of the Blue Dolphins: The Complete Reader's Edition*. Ed. Sara L. Schwebel. U California P, 2016.

Vice-President, The Graduate Student Organization for Cinema and Media Studies at USC School of Cinematic Arts, 2015-2017.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society of Cinema and Media Studies

Association for the Study of Literature and Environment

Rhetoric Society of America

National Communication Society