

Katra A. Byram
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor, Ohio State University, Germanic Languages and Literatures and Project Narrative
Core Faculty, 2016-present

Assistant Professor, Ohio State University, 2009-2016

Senior Lecturer, Ohio State University, 2008-2009

EDUCATION

Ph.D., German, May 2008, University of California, Berkeley

M.A., German, December 2003, University of California, Berkeley

B.A., German and Government, *summa cum laude*, Lawrence University, Appleton, WI, June 1997

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

- German-language literature and culture, 19th century to present
- Narrative theory
- Cultural memory
- Environmental humanities
- Beginning through advanced German language (especially the integration of culture, history, and primary texts at all levels)

BOOK: *Ethics and the Dynamic Observer Narrator: Reckoning with Past and Present in German Literature*. Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 2015.

ARTICLES

1. "Categories of Catastrophe: Third-Generation Reckoning in Susanne Fritz's *Becoming a Child of War*," eds. Alan Berger and Lucas Wilson, Lexington Books, 2023. 49-64.
2. "Narrative as Social Action: Making Rhetorical Theory Accountable to Context," *Poetics Today* 43.3 (2022): 455-478.
3. "The Case of the Disappearing Son: Gender, Genre, and German Postwar Cultural Memory," *Contested Selves: Life Writing and German Culture*, eds. Katja Herjes and Elisabeth Krimmer, Camden House, 2021. 191-204.
4. "The Challenge of *Mütterliteratur*: Gender, Generation, and the Genres of German Cultural Memory," *German Studies Review* 41.1 (2018): 41-59.
5. "But We Are Living in a Material (and Virtual) World: How Tiny-House Blogs Are Transforming the Bildungsroman," *Narrative Culture* 4.1 (2017): 15-31.
6. "Fairy Tales in a Modern(ist) World: Gerhart Hauptmann's *Bahnwärter Thiel* and Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach's *Das Gemeindegeld*," *German Quarterly* 86.2 (2013): 141-159.
7. "Using perspective to integrate cultural, communicative, and form-focused language instruction," *Foreign Language Annals* 44.3 (2011): 525-543.
8. "German Realism's Proximal Others: Franz Grillparzer's *The Poor Fiddler* and Theodor Storm's *Ein Doppelgänger*," *Realism's Others*, eds. Geoffrey Baker and Eva Aldea, Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2010. 49-67.
9. "Colonialism and the Language of German-German Relations in Raabe's *Stopfkuchen*," *Wilhelm Raabe: Global Themes, International Perspectives*, eds. Dirk Göttsche and Florian Krobb, Oxford: Legenda Publishers, 2009. 61-73.

10. "Why is Teaching Language as Culture so Difficult?" Co-authored with Claire Kramsch. *German Quarterly* 81.1 (2008): 20-34.
11. "The Challenge of Lyric Address: Reconsidering the Political Import of the Genre in Poems by Yitzhak Laor and Ingeborg Bachmann." Co-authored with Maya Barzilai. *Yearbook of Comparative and General Literature* 53 (2007): 155-167.

EDITORIAL WORK

Co-editor, *Theory and Interpretation of Narrative* book series, Ohio State University Press, 2017-present.
 Editorial board, *German Quarterly*, 2016-2021.

INVITED TALKS

1. "All Too Humanist? What Tiny Houses and a 19th-Century Austrian Mansion Say about Life in a Time of Ecological Crisis," Marting Lecture, Baldwin-Wallace University, October 2023.
2. "Gender and the genres of postwar memory culture: Novels of domestic decay, from *Buddenbrooks* to *Altes Land*," Bonn Literature and Cultural Studies colloquium, May 2022.
3. "The Reach of Narrative and the Current State of Narrative Theory," Project Narrative, Columbus, September 2020.
4. "Upcycling the Bildungsroman: Self-Construction Across Media in Tiny-House Narratives," Project Narrative Symposium, Columbus, April 2017.
5. "W.G. Sebald's *Austerlitz* and the Norms of Holocaust Representation," Midwest Symposium of German Studies, University of Notre Dame, April 2013.
6. "Other People's Stories: Ethics, Identity, and Coming to Terms with the Past," Project Narrative, Columbus, April 2010.

PRESENTATIONS (last 5 years)

1. "Traumatized Mothers and the Paradox of Gender: A Contextualist Rhetorical Analysis." International Society for the Study of Narrative, Dallas, March 2023.
2. "Categories of Catastrophe: Susanne Fritz's *Wie kommt der Krieg ins Kind*." German Studies Association, Indianapolis and virtual, October 2021.
3. "Narrative as Social Action: Making Rhetorical Narrative Theory Accountable to Context." International Society for the Study of Narrative, virtual conference, May 2021.
4. "Narrative as Social Action: What Rhetorical Narrative Theory could Learn from Genre Theory." International Society for the Study of Narrative, New Orleans, March 2020.
5. "Autofiction and Fictive Discourse in Postwar German Memory Culture" German Studies Association, Pittsburgh, September 2018.
6. "An Emotional Coloring of History: Fictive Discourse in Family Life Writing," International Society for the Study of Narrative, Montreal, April 2018.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

1. "Narrative as Social Action: Why Narrative is Not (Just) the Words on the Page, and Why It Matters," Lawrence University Alumni College, Appleton, WI, June 2022.
2. Discussion with Jim Phelan, "Behind us, My Country," *Project Narrative Podcast*, November 2021.
3. Interview with David Staley, OSU College of Arts and Sciences *Voices of Excellence* podcast, 2020.
4. Interview with Frederick Aldama, *Professor Latinx Videocast*, June 2020.
5. "Same Old Story? How Tiny Houses Make People Want Less." TEDxOhioStateUniversity. Feb. 2020.

GRANTS

Racial Justice and Ecology Community of Practice award, \$2000, March 2021.
 Co-investigator, Global Arts and Humanities Discovery Grant, \$30,000, December 2019.

COURSES TAUGHT

Ohio State undergraduate courses:

Introduction to German Studies
German Literature and Art: Crises and Catastrophes
German Culture Studies, Social and Intellectual History: America through German Eyes
German Culture Studies, Social and Intellectual History: Protest, Rebellion und Revolution
Senior Seminar in Literature and Culture: Selfhood in German Literature and Culture
Senior Seminar in Social and Cultural History: What is Human about Nature?
Intermediate and Advanced language courses
Gender and the German Nation
Holocaust in German Literature and Film
Ohio State graduate courses:
Narrative as Social Action
Integrating Content and Language Learning in the L2 Classroom
Cultural Memory in Microcosm: Histories of Family and Self
Selfhood in German Literature and Culture
Crisis, Catastrophe, and Collapse: Periods of German Literary History: 1850-Present
German Realisms from 1850 to the Present

ADVISING

Joshua Kramer, race in German colonial- and interwar-era novels of Africa, in progress.
Caleb Davis, visual narrative in children's picture books of the National Socialist era, in progress.
Kassi Burnett, Ph.D., *Differently Abled Natures: Being Other than Human in Contemporary German Literature*, December 2021.
Sarah Traylor, Ph.D., *Sacred Journeys in a Secular Age: Pilgrimage in Contemporary German Literature*, July 2019. (co-advisor)
Barbara Wanske, Ph.D. *Giving Birth and/to the New Science of Obstetrics: Fin-de-siecle German Women Writers' Perceptions of the Birthing Experience*. August 2015. (co-advisor)
Jenna Ciolino, undergraduate thesis, "Finding Family: Discovering the life of a Lithuanian family before, during, and after World War II", April 2023.
Arielle Cronig, undergraduate honors thesis, *The PKK and the Turkish-Kurdish Struggle on the German Stage*, April 2016.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Organizer, Midwest German Studies Symposium, 2017-2018
Manuscript referee: *Foreign Language Annals*, L2, *Contemporary Women's Writing*, *Transit*, *Seminar*, *Life Writing*, *Narrative*

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Director of Undergraduate Studies, 2013-2017, 2019-2022
Faculty mentor, 2022-23
Service on departmental committees: Lecture, Graduate, Executive, search committees (5)
German House advisor, 2011-2013
Advisor, Germanic Graduate Student Association, 2009-2010, 2015-16
Undergraduate Studies Committee, member 2009-2012, 2017-2018
German Day Chair, (140 high school students visit OSU campus), 2008-2011

COLLEGE SERVICE

General Education Committees: Policies and Procedures, Courses in a Language other than English
Project Narrative Core Faculty, 2017-present
Translation Certificate Working Group, Center for Literatures and Cultures, 2018

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

German Studies Association, International Society for the Study of Narrative