

Melanie J. Fishbane, B.A., M.A., M.F.A.

EDUCATION

- PhD Candidate in English** **2022**
University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario
- M.F.A. Writing for Children and Young Adults**
Vermont College of Fine Arts, Montpelier, Vermont **2013**
- M.A., History** **2003**
Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec
Thesis Topic: Spiritual Woman Warrior: The Construction of Joan of Arc in Contemporary Children's Literature
- B.A., Double Honours: English and History** **1992-1997**
York University, Toronto, Ontario

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Author

Young Adult Novel: *Maud: A Novel Inspired by the Life of L.M. Montgomery*, Penguin Teen, Penguin Random House of Canada, 2017

Teaching Assistant, University of Western Ontario **2022-Present**

- English 1020E (002): Understanding Literature Today
 - designed and developed pedagogical materials for in-person classes
- English 2033E (650): Children's Literature (Online Asynchronous)
 - Grading essays and exams
 - Providing weekly academic student support
- English 2071F (650): Speculative Fiction: Science Fiction (Online Asynchronous)
 - Monitoring week discussion boards
 - Grading essays and exams
 - Providing academic support for students in weekly office hours
- English 2072G (650): Speculative Fiction: Fantasy (Online Asynchronous)
 - Grading essays and exams
 - Providing academic support for students in weekly office hours
- Film 2159A (650): Disney Dream Factory
 - Monitoring week discussion boards
 - Grading student assignments, such as Historical Database Assignment, Online Group Presentation, and Creative-Critical Final Assignment
 - Providing academic support for students in weekly office hours

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Professor of English, George Brown College

September 2014 to Present

- GHUM 1017 Children's Literature:
 - Designed and developed course outline and curriculum
- Developing lesson plans, incorporating multimodal pedagogical strategies to:
 - Children's Literature GHUM 1017
 - HUMN 1034 Canadian Literature
 - College English: COMM 1003
 - College English: Workplace Writing
 - College English: COMM 1007

Professor of English, Seneca College

September 2019 to 2024

- Developing synchronistic and asynchronistic course outlines, learning materials, and assignments for COM101: Communicating Across Contexts and EAC273 Children's Literature

Professor of English, Humber College

September 2014 to April 2022

- Designed and developed course outlines and pedagogical assessments for:
 - College Reading and Writing Skills: WRIT 100
 - Professional Writing Skills: WRIT 200
 - Modern Literature: GLIT 200
 - Writing in the Digital Age 1 Foundation: PWRT 5002
- Designed and developed course outline and curriculum for Writing for the Digital Age: Foundation course, part of the Professional Writing and Communications Graduate Certificate.
- Member of the EDI committee for Humber's Faculty of Arts and Innovative Learning Department, developing Principles for EDI, consulting on incorporating pedagogical considerations, and developing materials.

Manager of Digital Marketing, L.M. Montgomery Institute

April 2015 to March 2021

- Managed student hired to run LMMI's social media account, create digital assets, and new content for the website.
- Mentored the Avery Award winning student on social media best practices for the University of Prince Edward Island, such as Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.
- Assisted in LMMI's social media initiatives including promoting the L.M. Montgomery and Reading Conference.
- Active member of the L.M. Montgomery Institute Committee (2014-2021).
- Managed, wrote copy, and coordinated the redesign of www.lmmontgomery.ca in 2016.

Online Editor and Merchandising Kids & Teens, Indigo Books and Music Inc.

2006 - 2014

- Manager of key revenue-generating portfolio for chapters.indigo.ca, including Home pages for Kids and Teens.
- Social media relationship management of authors and publishers using Twitter, Facebook and other digital mediums.
- Writer and editor on current events and book trends relating to children's and teen books on the Indigo Blog, as well as the Editor for the Indigo Corporate Blog and Digital Magazine.
- Copywriter and editor (marketing) of Marketing and Merchandising digital and print materials including Emails, banners, and other online assets.

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Inventory Analyst, Kids, Chapters and Coles

1998 - 2006

- Worked with a team of Category Managers, Category Directors and Inventory Analysts to strategize improvements to the current inventory and structure of the departments.
- Maintained and analyzed forecast and replenishment parameters for articles in Teen and Young Readers departments.
- Organized and implemented new merchandising initiatives that increased the store's overall profitability.
- Completed and helped to maintain basic operational standards including lost prevention, customer service techniques, and basic cash procedures.
- Hired, evaluated and trained staff in bookselling, receiving and returns procedures as per Indigo standards.

WRITING CREDITS

- Forthcoming: "'Perfect Delineations of Woman': Exploring Grace Aguilar's Jewish Girlhood and Transatlantic Sunday School Movement." *Nineteenth-Century Transatlantic Women Writers and Religious Identity*, edited by LuElla D'Amico and Lindsay Katzir, U of Edinburgh Press, 2025.
- "Book Review: Dineh: An Autobiographical Novel by Ida Maze, trans. Yermiyahu Ahron Taub." *InGeveb: A Journal of Yiddish Literature*, April 2025.
- "Under the Menorah: Hallmark's Honorary Hanukkah Movies." *Under the Mistletoe: Essays on Holiday Romance*, edited by Liz W. Faber, McFarland & Company Inc., 2024.
- "'More like Americans': The Queering of Historical Fiction Girls' Series in Sydney Taylor's *All-of-a-Kind-Family* Series." *Beyond Nancy Drew: U.S. Girls' Series Fiction in the Mid-Twentieth Century, 1920-1970*, edited by LuElla D'Amico and Emily Hamilton-Honey, Lexington Books, 2024.
- Co-authored with Jones, Caroline, E. "Discovering Grace: Research Challenges in Finding the Lost Ingalls Sister." *South Dakota History*, Winter 2024.
- "Book Review: *Transforming Girls: The Work of Nineteenth-Century Adolescence* by Julie Pfeiffer." *Special Issue: Women's Studies Journal*, edited by Amanda Allen and Miranda Green-Barteet, August 2023.
- "Two Annes, Many Annes: A Writer's Reflection on Reading *Anne of Green Gables* and the *Diary of a Young Girl*." *Special Issue: L.M. Montgomery and Reading, Journal of L.M. Montgomery Studies*, 2021.
- "Laura's 'Farmer Boy': The Fictionalization of Almanzo Wilder in the *Little House* Series." *Reconsidering Laura Ingalls Wilder: Little House and Beyond*, edited by Miranda Green-Barteet and Anne Philips. University Press of Mississippi, 2019.
- 2011 to Present: Book reviews for *Quill & Quire* and *Canadian Children's Book Centre Magazine*.
- "Maud Author Melanie Fishbane on the Various TV and Movie Adaptations of *Anne of Green Gables*." *Quill and Quire*, November 30, 2016.
- "New *Anne of Green Gables* TV Movie Highlights Female Relationships," *Cinefilles*, February 13, 2016.
- "When Stars Align: A L.M. Montgomery fan on the set of *Anne of Green Gables*," *Cinefilles*, February 15, 2016.
- "Almanzo Wilder: A 'Very Special' Perfect Young Man," *LittleHouseonthePrairie.com*, December 1, 2015.

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- “‘My pen shall heal, not hurt’: Writing as Therapy in L.M. Montgomery’s *Rilla of Ingleside* and *The Blythes Are Quoted*,” in *L.M. Montgomery’s Rainbow Valleys: The Ontario Years, 1911-1942*. Toronto: McGill-Queen’s University Press, 2015.
- “In Conversation: Sarah Henstra.” *Humber Literary Review*, May 16, 2015.
- “Jonathan Crombie, Gilbert Blythe, and the Perfect Man Archetype.” *Quill & Quire*, April 23, 2015
- “A Seriously Funny Author Roundtable.” *Canadian Children’s Book News*. Winter 2013, Vol. 36 Issue 1. February 2013.
- “Creating a Fairy Tale from History: An Analysis of the Influence of Merlin’s Prophecy of the Early Years of Joan of Arc in Children’s Biographies.” *Proceedings of the Seventh Annual History in the Making Conference: History and Media*, March 17, 2001.
- “Introduction” to *History in the Making V: History in the Millennium from Antiquity to Modernity* (co-written and with Delores LePratt-Houseman), 1999.

LECTURE CREDITS

- “‘With Fervor and Faith’: Jewish Girlhood in Grace Aguilar’s *The Perez Family*.” Panel: *Girls and Maturation in 19th-century Transatlantic Literature*. ChLA 2025 - *Shortcuts and Tesseract: Time/Space in Children’s Literature and Culture*. Virtual, 9-13 June 2025.
- “Odd and Goblin-Like”: Anti-Semitic Tropes in Harriet Beecher Stowe’s *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*.” ACCUTE Conference, George Brown College, Toronto, ON, 30 May – 2 June 2025.
- “‘Strange and Lovely’: Finding Refuge at Laurel Hill Farm.” Panel: *Remaking Herself a Home: Reclaiming and Reimagining Safe Spaces in L.M. Montgomery’s Fiction and Life-Writing*. L.M. Montgomery and the Politics of Home: L.M. Montgomery Institute: Charlottetown, PEI, 19-23 June 2024.
- “In Remembrance: Recovering from Jewish Generational Trauma in Judy Blume’s *Starring Sally J. Freedman as Herself*.” Panel: *Rehabilitation, Recovery, and Resistance: Examining Gender and Mental Health in Girlhood Literature*, co-organized with Michaela Maxey and Jessica Walsh. ChLA at 50: *Looking Back, Looking Forward*, Madison, Wisconsin, 30 May 30 to 1 June 2024.
- Co-authored with Jones, Caroline, E. “Discovering Grace: Research Challenges in Finding
- “Going West”: Paternal Politics and the Mythology of the Constructed West in Laura Ingalls Wilder’s *Little House* Series. CAAS 2023: WEST BY NORTHEAST, 22-24 September 2023.
- Winner of The Thomas Waugh Emerging Scholar Award: “The Book of Joanna: Re-Imagining Gender and Belief in Joanna Russ’s *The Female Man*.” In Panel: *Re-Imaginings: Creating Queer Futures*. Congress 2023 of the Humanities and Social Sciences: Reckoning and Re-Imaginings: Sexuality Studies Association, York University, Toronto, ON, 29-31 May 2023.
- June 2022: “‘Nostalgic Reminiscences’: L.M. Montgomery’s Re-Visioning in Her Life Writing,” Panel: *Revising What Never Was: Nostalgic Romanticism in L.M. Montgomery’s Life Writing*, co-organized with Jones, Caroline E. and Dawn Sardella-Ayres, *L.M. Montgomery and Re-vision: 15th Biennial Conference L.M. Montgomery Institute*: Charlottetown, 22 -26 June 2022. (Role: proposal, organization, research, and editorial).
- June 2021: “‘Then I’m a Conservative, Too!’ Paternal Politics in Classic Girls’ Literature,” Daddy Issues Panel. 2021 ChLA Virtual Conference: *The Arcade*.
- October 2020: “Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy: Discovering the Jewish Girl in Louisa May Alcott’s *Little Women*. *Concepts of Girlhood Now and Then: ‘Girls’ Literature’ and Beyond Virtual Conference*, Linnæus University, Växjö, Sweden.
- July 2019: (with Caroline E. Jones): “Finding Grace: The Lost Ingalls Sister.” LIWLRA Conference 2019 “*All Roads Lead to Laura*.” Onalaska, WI.

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- June 2018: "A Box of Their Own: Reader Expectations of L.M. Montgomery and Her Characters." L.M. Montgomery and Reading: 13th International Conference, Charlottetown, PEI.
- May 2018: "'Between the river and the poplar bluffs,'" L.M. Montgomery's Nostalgic Reminiscences of Prince Albert." *Panel: L.M. Montgomery and the City. 2018 ACCUTE Conference*, University of Regina in Regina, Saskatchewan.
- September 2016: "What You Think You Know is Wrong! Questioning Certainties Questioning Romance: The Anti-Perfect Man in YA Literature." *Humber Liberal Arts Conference*, Toronto, Ontario.
- June 2016: "Crafting Fiction from Fact: The Perfect Man Archetype in Historical YA Fiction." *L.M. Montgomery and Gender: 12th International Conference*, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.
- July 2015: "The Man of the Place:" Almanzo Wilder and the Perfect Man Archetype in Young Adult Literature," *LauraPalooza 2015: "Through Laura's Eyes:" Imagery, Illustrations, and Impressions from the Little House, Brookings*, South Dakota.
- January 2015: "Full and Frank:" L.M. Montgomery's Reflections on her Teen Romances and Writing," *The Canadian Home Front: L.M. Montgomery's Reflections on War -- Idea of Canada as a Nation*, North York Central Library, Toronto, Ontario.
- June 2014: "War with the Mean Girls: Clemmie Macneill vs. Maud Montgomery and the (Mock) Trial of the Century," *L.M. Montgomery and War: 11th International Conference*, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.
- June 2012: "'The Best-Looking Boy in P.E.I.': The Immortalization of Gilbert Blythe in Our Cultural Memory," *L.M. Montgomery and Cultural Memory: 10th International Conference*, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.
- June 2010: "Anne + Gilbert Forever: The Cultivation of The Perfect Man in L. M. Montgomery's *Anne Series*, Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* and Stephenie Meyer's *Twilight Saga*," *L. M. Montgomery and the Matter of Nature: 9th International Conference*, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.