

Dez Miller

dez.miller@emory.edu

674 Federal Ter SE Atlanta, GA 30315 • 404-987-1804

Education

Ph.D. in Comparative Literature, Emory University	May 2026
Dissertation: <i>City Water: Stories of Urban Rivers from Atlanta, New York, Los Angeles, and Berlin</i>	(expected)
Certificate in Digital Humanities and Media Studies	
Committee members: Angelika Bammer (Chair)	
Lauren Klein	
Caroline Schaumann	
Dan Sinykin	
Master of Fine Arts, Boston University	2019
<i>Tuition Remission</i>	
Master of Social Work, Washington University in St. Louis	2016
<i>Concentration Policy</i>	
Bachelor of Arts, New York University	2011
French Major, Creative Writing Minor	

Areas of Study

Research Interests: Urban rivers in literature and film, Computational literary analysis, German environmentalism, AI and language theory

Competencies: Ecocriticism, Digital Humanities, Contemporary Literature, Critical AI, Creative Writing, Climate Fiction, Indigenous Studies, science-fiction, language theory, East German literature, Animal Studies, French theory and literature, Media Materialism

Peer-Reviewed Publications

“Who speaks as AI?” <i>Comparative Literature Culture Web</i> , provisionally accepted	2025
pending minor revisions (peer review completed)	
“Weelaunee and What a Creek Reveals,” <i>Atlanta Studies</i>	2026
“Searching for Latent River Cultures in English-language Literature Using Word Embeddings,” <i>The Hungarian Journal of English and American Studies</i> , special issue called “The Digital Environmental Humanities. Toward Theory and Praxis.”	2024

Fellowships and Grants

Quantitative Theory and Methods Department	2025
Sixth-Year Fellowship, Emory University Stipend	-2026
Data Speculations National Forum Participant, \$1K	2025
AIAI Seed Grant Funding, with collaborators, \$5K	2024

AIAI Seed Grant Funding, with collaborators, \$1K	2023
Mellon Humanities PhD. Program Interventions, \$2K	2023
Graduate Community of Digital Scholars, \$500	2023
Teaching Fellowship, Boston University, \$14,750	2019
The Leslie Epstein/Robert Pinsky Global Fellowship, \$4500	2019

Selected Work Experience and Research Assistantship

Team Member, AI and Social Movements, <i>ALAI Network</i>	2023 -present
Research Assistant for “ Has the DEI Backlash Come for Publishing? ” by Richard Jean So and Dan Sinykin. <i>The Atlantic</i> , June 19 2024	2026
Digital Scholarship Associate, Emory Center for Digital Scholarship	2022-2024
Editorial Assistant, <i>Debates in the Digital Humanities</i> (as part of Emory Center for Digital Scholarship work)	2023-2024

Conference Presentations and Invited Talks

<i>Modern Language Association</i> (Toronto): “Reading the Cruelty of Water Hoarding in <i>Chinatown</i> (1974)” as part of special session “Ecocinema in the Late Twentieth Century” (panel organizer)	2026
<i>Modern Language Association</i> (Toronto): “‘Thinking Critically about Code’: Promoting Inter-Disciplinary Conversation through a Graduate Student-Led Workshop Series”	2026
<i>Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment</i> (virtual): “LA Riverine Atmospheres”	2025
<i>Data Speculations National Forum</i> (virtual): “Forging Research Paths in Computational Contemporary Literature Studies”	2025
<i>Computational Humanities Research</i> (Aarhus, Denmark): “Exploring Ecological Bias in Depictions of NYC Rivers in <i>The New York Times</i> ” (lightning talk)	2024
<i>Association for Computers and the Humanities</i> (virtual): “‘Stop Cop City’: Tracking Urban Ecological Discourse” (poster)	2024
<i>Digital Humanities</i> (Graz, Austria): “Modeling Eco-Poetics and Eco-Politics in 20 th Century Speculative Fiction: Toxic Water,” with collaborators	2023
<i>International Conference on Ecocriticism and Environmental Humanities</i> (virtual): “Water’s Persistent Spirituality in Jacques Roumain’s <i>Gouverneurs de la Rosée</i> ” (also presented at Emory U Comparative Literature Colloquium, 2023)	2022

Courses Taught

(all self-designed and taught as instructor-of-record)

CPLT 202: “Intro to Climate Fiction,” Emory University	2026
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CPLT 202: “Reading for Water,” Emory University	2023
CPLT 202: “Digital Culture and the Anthropocene,” Emory University	2023
CPLT 101: “The Internet as Rhetorical Space,” Emory University	2022
EN 202: “Intro to Creative Writing,” Boston University	2018

Selected Creative and Public Writing

“Word2Vec Modeling” on <i>The SF Nexus</i> . https://sfnexus.io/analysis/	2024
“Stories from the End,” The Linden Review (initially published in The Matador Review, 2019)	2023
CPLT 202: “Digital Culture and the Anthropocene,” Emory University	2023
“ Two Regenerating Poems ,” <i>Always Crashing</i>	2019

Trainings

ECAS Certification to Teach Undergraduate English Language Learners	2022
Digital Humanities Summer Institute (virtual)	2022
NØ School Nevers (Nevers, France)	2022
CPLT 735/ENG 791 Composition Practicum, Emory University	2020
Pedagogy Workshops, Boston University	2018

University Service and Engagement

Steering Committee on the Ethical Coding Workshop Series, a cross-Atlanta university collaboration	2022-2025
Member of the Graduate Community of Digital Scholars, Emory University	2023-2024
“Text Mining in the HathiTrust Digital Library” (workshop presentation, Emory Center for Digital Scholarship, virtual)	2024
Union Steward for the Department of Comparative Literature	2020-2024
Webmaster for union website	2021-2024
Treasurer for the Comparative Literature Seminar Series	2020-2021

Languages

English | Native
 French | Advanced
 German | Basic
 Spanish | Basic