

Dez Miller

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Education

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

Areas of Study

Research Interests: Urban Ecology, Computational Literary Analysis, Critical AI, Environmental Activism

Competencies: Ecocriticism, Digital Humanities, Contemporary Literature, Language Theory, Creative Writing, Climate Fiction, Indigenous Studies, Science Fiction, East German Literature, Animal Studies, French Theory and Literature, Media Materialism

Peer-Reviewed Publications

“Who Speaks as AI?” <i>Comparative Literature and Culture: CLCWeb</i> , special issue on AI and Form (forthcoming)	2025
“ Weelaunee and What a Creek Reveals : A Personal Narrative of the Early Stop Cop City Movement,” <i>Atlanta Studies</i>	2025
“ 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

Data and Decision Sciences Department	2025
Sixth-Year Fellowship, Laney Graduate School Stipend	-2026
Data Speculations National Forum Invited Participant, \$1K	2025
AIAI Seed Grant Funding, with collaborators, \$5K	2024

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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

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 Department of Comparative Literature Colloquium, 2023)	2022

Selected Work Experience and Research Assistantship

Team Member, AI and Social Movements, <i>AIAI 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	2024
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

Courses Taught*(self-designed and taught as instructor-of-record unless otherwise noted)*

CPLT 202: “Intro to Climate Fiction,” Emory University	2025
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 The SF Nexus	2024
“ Stories from the End ,” The Linden Review (initially published in The Matador Review, 2019)	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
Teaching Assistant Training and Teaching Opportunity pedagogical training, Emory University	2021
CPLT 735/ENG 791 Composition Practicum, Emory University	2020
Pedagogy Workshops, Boston University	2018
Digital Naturalism Conferences	2018, 2019

University Service and Engagement

Steering Committee Member for the Thinking Critically about Code workshop series, a cross-Atlanta university collaboration	2023-2025
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 EmoryUnite! (graduate union) website	2021-2024
Treasurer for the Comparative Literature Seminar Series	2020-2021

Languages

English (Native), French (Fluent), Spanish (Intermediate), German (Beginner)