

Dez Miller

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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

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

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

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 The SF Nexus	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	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 union website	2021-2024
Treasurer for the Comparative Literature Seminar Series	2020-2021

Languages

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