

# JAMES DAVID DONAHUE

Department of Literatures, Cultures and Languages  
Department of English (Instructor)  
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06269  
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## EDUCATION

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M.A., University of Connecticut *anticipated 2026*  
Literatures, Cultures, and Languages | Comparative Literature - French  
B.A., *cum laude*, Eastern Connecticut State University *2023*  
English Lit. & Creative Writing | Theatre & Film Studies | Philosophy

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Literary theory and continental philosophy (phenomenology, psychoanalysis, poststructuralism); twentieth-century modernism and postmodernism in literature and film; Sōtō Zen Buddhism and biblical traditions; linguistics and cognitive science; rhetoric and composition pedagogy.

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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Instructor of record, Dep. of English, University of Connecticut, *2025 – current appointment*  
Engl 1007 Seminar & Studio in Writing & Multimodal Composition (UConn First Year Writing)  
Graduate Assistantship, Dep. of Literatures, Cultures and Languages, University of Connecticut, *Fall 2024, Spring 2025*  
Intro. to Film Studies  
Witches and Wizards in France  
Contemporary Spanish Culture & Society Through Film  
Film Studies: Gangsters, Rebels & Femmes Fatales  
Teaching Assistant, Dep. of English and Theatre, Eastern Connecticut State University, *Fall 2023, Spring 2024*  
Playwriting

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Articles and Chapters

“Language Speaks Itself: AI Language Models and Post-structuralist Subjectivity” *Contemporary Studies on Language and Literature*, eds. Habib Tekin, Kanan Aghasiyev. Frankfurt: Maurer Press, 2025.

### Translations

“Politics and Political Action: For a philosophical reversal and displacement,” Vermeren, Pauline, *Philosophy and Global Affairs*, 2025, (originally “Politique et action politique: Pour un renversement et un déplacement philosophique,” *Tumultes*, 2022).

**Book Reviews**

*Deconstructing Lolita*, Hamrit, Jacqueline, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2022. *Submitted, in review.*

**Film & Theatre**

*SOUNDS*, short film and critical introduction, *Burr Hall Productions*, 2023.

*Acting is Believing*, Pellegrini, David, theatrical production, *co-writer*, 2022.

**PUBLIC EVENTS****Conferences**

“Tropological English: Interrogating Non-Diegetic Linguistic Substitution in Cinema,” conference paper, *De la marge à la norme : Les dynamiques de pouvoir à l’écran (From Margins to Mainstream: Narrativizing Power on Screen)*, Université de Reims, 2025.

“Writing Between the Lines: Poststructuralist Approaches to Creativity and Critique in the Writing Classroom,” conference poster, *20<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on the Teaching of Writing*, University of Connecticut, Storrs, 2025.

“Presence, Trace, and Unending Analysis in Derrida’s ‘Résistances,’” Presented at the French Literature: Conflicts of Interpretation colloquium, University of Connecticut, Storrs, 2024.

**Invited Talks**

“The Image and Alienation: Cinematographic Realism in ‘Alice in the Cities,’” invited guest lecture, German 1171: German Culture Through Film, University of Connecticut, Storrs, 22 April 2025.

“Postmodernism and the Author in ‘Scream’ (1996),” invited guest lecture, CLCS 1110: Introduction to Film Studies, University of Connecticut, Storrs, 2 May 2025.

**AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

Inducted into Phi Sigma Tau International Honor Society for Philosophers, 2024

Inducted into Sigma Tau Delta International English Honors Society, 2023

Student World Impact Film Festival, 2023, *Narrative Short*

New York Lift-off Film Festival, 2023, *First-time filmmaker*

Student Los Angeles Film Awards, 2023, *Student director*

David and Janet Philips Award, 2022

Roberta B. Willis Endowed Scholarship for excellence in an English-Theatre double major, 2022

**SERVICE**

Volunteer Instructor, Dep. of First Year Programs, University of Connecticut, , 2025 – *current*  
Univ 1800 University Learning Skills (UCONN First Year Experience)

## Committee Appointments

Graduate Student Senate, Committee Member *Spring 2025- current appointment*  
Community Service Award Committee

## Other

Graduate Student Volunteer, *2026 MLA Convention*  
Assistant Editor, *Here Quarterly Literary Journal*, 2023  
Student Government Association leadership committee, 2023  
President and founder of ECSU Club Tennis Team, 2022-2023  
Executive board editorial member, *Eastern Exposure Literary Journal*, 2022-2023  
Community service in the Windham Public School District, coordinator for after-school programs, tutoring sessions, and mentoring events, Center for Community Engagement, Eastern Connecticut State University, 2022-2023

## OTHER

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### Professional Positions

Substitute Teacher, English, *Barnstable County Public Schools*, 2024  
Student Teacher, English, *Willimantic Public Schools*, 2022-24

### Professional Affiliations

Modern Language Association, member  
Sigma Tau Delta, member, 2023, *International English Honors Society*  
Phi Sigma Tau, member, 2024, *International Honor Society for Philosophers*

### Languages

French, *reading and writing proficiency*, B2 speaking. Latin, *reading and writing knowledge*.  
Greek, *learning*. Italian, *reading and writing knowledge*, A2 speaking. Hebrew, *learning*.

### Degree Projects

M.A. Thesis, Comparative Literature, French, *Substitution, Presence, and Tropological English: Linguistic Effacement in Cinema* (Anticipated, Spring 2026)

B.A. Thesis, English, Creative Writing, *The Itinerary of Ezra Young*, novel and critical introduction, 2023