

JAMES DAVID DONAHUE

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

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

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

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

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, *20th 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

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