

DR. SARAH LOHMANN

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW AND LECTURER

CHAIR AND CO-FOUNDER, ZURICH SCIENCE FICTION NETWORK (ZSFN)

DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES

ETH ZÜRICH

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[ORCID](#) page

[Zurich Science Fiction Network \(ZSFN\)](#)

RESEARCH AND TEACHING PROFILE

20th and 21st Century American and English literature; science fiction and speculative fiction; climate fiction; science and literature; feminist epistemology/cognition and literature; Romantic and Victorian literature; the Gothic and EcoGothic; intersectional feminism and women's writing; Afrofuturism/Indigenous Futurism/Asian futurism; the Anthropocene/Capitalocene and Post-Anthropocene; utopian literature from Plato to the present day, particularly feminist/critical utopian literature of the late twentieth century; Bakhtinian chronotopes; moral philosophy and ecofeminism; systems and complexity theory; the history of the novel.

HIGHER EDUCATION

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|------------------------|---|
| Jan 2017 –
Jan 2021 | Durham University, England
<i>Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice</i> (PG Cert / PGCAP)
Also awarded status as Fellow of The Higher Education Academy (FHEA) in Feb 2018 |
| Oct 2014 –
Jul 2020 | Durham University, England
<i>Doctor of Philosophy in English Literature</i> (PhD, awarded Aug 4, 2020)
Passed with minor corrections ('magna cum laude')
Thesis topic: 'The Edge of Time: The Critical Dynamics of Structural Chronotopes in the Utopian Novel'; Supervisors: Professor Patricia Waugh and Professor Simon James
Examiners: Dr Siân Adiseshiah (Loughborough) and Dr Jenny Terry (Durham) |
| Sep 2012 –
Nov 2013 | University of St Andrews and University of Stirling, Scotland
<i>MLitt Philosophy</i>
Dissertation: 'The Ethics of Selves: In Defence of the Connection Between Parfitian Reductionism and Utilitarianism' |
| Sep 2011 –
Nov 2012 | University of St Andrews, Scotland
<i>MLitt Women, Writing and Gender (Distinction in the Dissertation)</i>
Dissertation: 'On the Edge of Time: Feminist Utopias and Four-Dimensionality' |
| Sep 2007 –
Jun 2011 | University of St Andrews, Scotland
<i>MA Hons Philosophy and English Literature (First Class)</i> |
| Sep 2003 –
Jul 2007 | Städtisches Luisengymnasium, Munich, Germany
<i>Abitur, English Literature and French as advanced subjects (final grade 1.4 – excellent)</i> |

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

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| Nov 2023 – Oct 2025;
Nov 2025 – | ETH Zürich, Switzerland
Postdoctoral Fellow and Lecturer, Department of Humanities, Social and Political Sciences |
| Oct 2022 – Dec 2022;
Jan 2023 – Mar 2023 | University of Tübingen, Germany
Wissenschaftliche Mitarbeiterin
(Postdoctoral Research and Teaching Fellow in the English Department) |
| Oct 2021 – Sep 2022 | University of Tübingen, Germany
Teach@Tübingen Teaching and Research Fellow, Excellence Initiative |

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS:

Monograph: *Complex Utopias: Discovering Dynamic Sustainability in the Utopian Novel* (revised thesis publication) – in preparation.

Short Monograph: *An Introduction to 'Woman on the Edge of Time' by Marge Piercy* (Palgrave SFF: A New Canon, Palgrave Macmillan, eds. Anna McFarlane and Tim Miller) – invited and in preparation.

ARTICLES & BOOK CHAPTERS:

Book Chapter: 'Embracing the Unknown: Generative Darkness in Gothic Proto-Climate-Fiction' in *The Liverpool Handbook of Environmental Science Fiction*, ed. Eric Otto, Liverpool University Press – invited and in preparation, forthcoming Nov 2026.

Journal Article: 'Von der Kenntnis des Unbekannten: Wie Mary Shelleys *Frankenstein* Licht in die wesentliche Dunkelheit der science-fictionellen Cli-Fi bringt', *Das Narr (Narrativistisches Literaturmagazin)* #47 (Sci-Fi) – accepted, forthcoming May 2026.

Book Chapters: 'Utopia', 'Dystopia', 'Ecological SF of the 1960s and 1970s', 'Sarah Pinsker's *A Song for a New Day*' and 'Leni Zumas's *Red Clocks*' in [This is Not a Science Fiction Textbook](#), eds. Mark Bould and Steven Shaviro (Goldsmiths and MIT, 2024).

Peer-Reviewed Journal Article: [“Wheels turning in opposite directions”: Objective Temporality, Utopia and the Individual in Sheri S. Tepper's *The Gate to Women's Country* and Ursula K. Le Guin's *The Dispossessed*](#) (*Fafnir – Nordic Journal of Science Fiction and Fantasy Research* 2/2022).

Book Chapter: “What isn't living dies”: Utopia as Living Organism in Joanna Russ's *The Female Man* and Marge Piercy's *Woman on the Edge of Time*, in [Transgressive Utopianism: Essays in Honor of Lucy Sargisson](#), eds. Raffaella Baccolini and Lyman Tower Sargent (Peter Lang Publishing, Ralahine Utopian Studies series, March 2021).

BOOK REVIEWS:

[Living and Dying Together: Heather Alberro, Emrah Atasoy, Nora Castle, Rhiannon Firth, and Conrad Scott, eds. *Utopian and Dystopian Explorations of Pandemics and Ecological Breakdown: Entangled Futures*. Routledge, 2025.](#), *Science Fiction Studies* 52/2025: 559–564, eds. Joan Gordon and Veronica Hollinger.

'The Routledge Companion to Gender and Science Fiction', eds. Lisa Yaszek, Sonja Fritzsche, Keren Omry, and Wendy Gay Pearson', *Utopian Studies*, 37:1 (2026), ed. Elisabeth Reichel.

'Darwinian Feminism and Early Science Fiction by Patrick B. Sharp', *Fantastika Journal* 2:1 (2018): 105-108.

SELECTED AWARDS AND GRANTS

Funding to give invited 'Science in Perspective (SiP) Talk' on 'AI and the Humanities' at D-GESS, ETH Zurich (2.500 CHF), including inviting panel of international experts, November 2026. Awarded by D-GESS teaching administration, ETH Zurich.

ETH Zurich 'Focus Grant' (13.380 CHF), for participation in competitive two-month grant-writing bootcamp, August – October 2026. Awarded by ETH Zurich Research Commission and co-financed by swissuniversities as pilot initiative forming part of 'ETH Zurich Action Plan for Young Researchers'.

'Scientific Exchanges Grant' for 'Climate/Science/Fiction Symposium', Zurich Science Fiction Network (ZSFN), ETH Zurich (9.600 CHF), July 2026. Awarded by Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF).

Collaboration on workshop and edited volume 'Speculative Fiction and Marginalised Voices' with Dr. Bodhisattva Chattopadhyay, University of Oslo (funding amount TBD), in planning, with the support of the CoFutures project at the University of Oslo; funded by the European Research Council, the Norwegian Research Council, and the European Commission (total CoFutures funding exceeds €10.000.000 as world's largest science fiction research project).

Funding to teach course 'Re-Imagining the Impossible: Inclusive Imaginaries and the Fight for Climate Justice' in English Department at University of Tübingen (€1.500 plus €580 travel costs), Winter Semester 2023/24, awarded in competitive process by 'TEAching Equality-Programm', University of Tübingen for innovative teaching on Gender Studies.

Part of committee organizing funding from multiple sources as co-organiser of Symposium 'Social Justice and Technological Futures' (ca. €30.000-50.000), University of Tübingen, May 2023, inc. funding by German

Federal Ministry of Education and Research, DFG (German Research Foundation), VolkswagenStiftung, EU project 'WeNet - The Internet of Us'.

'Fellow in Focus' (interview) Aug 2022, College of Fellows, University of Tübingen, recognising outstanding interdisciplinary research and scholarly contributions to the College of Fellows - Center for Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Studies, Aug 2022.

Four-time winner of Hatfield Award (Gold), Hatfield College, Durham University, recognising outstanding academic achievement and community engagement, 2016/17-2019/20.

Durham University Faculty of Arts and Humanities Postgraduate Research Support Fund Grant (£900) – awarded grant in competitive scheme to attend Society for Utopian Studies Conference in Pittsburgh, PA, Nov 2015.

Funding from Sir James Knott Trust etc. for Late Summer Lecture Series (ca. £3000) – raised funding from local and national organisations for co-convening lecture series at Durham University, Feb – Oct 2015.

INVITED TALKS, PANELS AND KEYNOTES

Invited talk and hosted panel discussion: 'Science in Perspective (SiP) Talk' on 'AI and the Humanities' at D-GESS, ETH Zurich, including permission and funding to invite panel of international experts, Nov 2026.

Invited talk: 'Contemporary Eco-SF and the Meaning of Labour', workshop for 'Anglo Genres for Atlantic Futures: Contemporary Eco-Fictions, Campus Novels, and Science Fictions' project, Basel University, Sep 2026.

Invited Session Leader: workshop on sustainability and science fiction in series 'Speculative Space of Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums', Women's Art Library Goldsmiths, Autumn 2026.

Keynote Speech: 'Science Fiction and the Environmental Imagination' at workshop 'A Case for Space Environmentalism: Emerging Impacts of Spaceflight', Collegium Helveticum, Zurich, Apr 2026.

Invited Lecture: 'Climate Fiction: Bringing the Science to Life', *Sustainability Lecture Series*, Student Sustainability Committee (SSC), ETH Zurich, Mar 2026.

Invited Talk: "'Not the water I knew, not the water I wanted": Situated Knowledges and the Unknown in Ecofeminist Climate Fiction' at workshop 'Sustainability and Social Justice in SF', hosted by Jun.-Prof. Judith Rauscher, University of Cologne, Germany, Apr 2025.

Invited Talk as Guest Lecturer: 'Worlding, Reworlding and Unworlding in the Ecofeminist Utopia' at D-ARCH architecture design studio 'Studio Reworlding: Infinite Rehearsals', organized by Professor Freek Persyn and Juan Barcia Mas, ETH Zurich, Mar 2025.

Invited Workshop Presentation: 'Climate Fiction as Science Fiction?' at Interdisciplinary ETH Climate Fiction Workshop 'Science reads Fiction, Fiction reads Science' in dialogue with Professor Sonia I. Seneviratne (ETH, IPCC Special Report lead author), ETH Zurich, Nov 2024.

Invited Conference Paper: 'Like children dying in a forest': The Science Fiction Short Story and the Morality of Machine Cognition in EM Forster's "The Machine Stops" and Ray Bradbury's "There Will Come Soft Rains" at conference 'The Persistence of the Short Story: Traditions and Futures – International Symposium' hosted by Obama Institute for Transnational American Studies, Society for the Study of the American Short Story, American Literature Association, and European Network for Short Fiction Research, University of Mainz, Germany, Jul 2024.

Invited Talk: 'Feminist Cognition and Climate Fiction' at workshop 'Gender and Environment in Speculative Fiction: Local Practices – Transatlantic Conversations', hosted by Jun.-Prof. Judith Rauscher, University of Cologne, Germany, Jul 2024.

Invited Workshop Presentation: 'Feminist Science and the Politics of Cloud Control in "Sultana's Dream" by Begum Rokeya' at 'Vom Himmel in den Text: Workshop zur Kultur- und Wissensgeschichte der Wolken', hosted by Professor Andreas Kilcher, ETH Zurich, Mar 2024.

Invited Talk: 'Utopian Chronotopes and the Feminist Utopia as Critical Thought Experiment', Lunch Talk, College of Fellows, University of Tübingen, Germany, Jul 2022.

Invited Paper: 'Reinventing the Utopian Model for Social Resistance' at 'Utopian Thinking in International Law, Human Rights and Governance: Cross-Disciplinary Seminar including International Law, Human Rights, Literature, Architecture and Sociology', Newcastle Law School, Newcastle University, UK, Nov 2019.

Keynote Speech: 'And Then There Were None: Feminism, Identity and the Possibility of a Human Utopia', 'Identitees: A Spectrum of Representation', MA graduate conference, Teesside University, Middlesbrough, UK, Mar

2018.

Keynote Speech: 'Complex Relations: Rethinking Utopia in Marge Piercy's *Woman on the Edge of Time* and Joanna Russ's *The Female Man*', DurhamCon, annual convention of the Durham Science Fiction and Fantasy Society, Feb 2018.

Invited Talk: 'The Coming Races: Eugenics in Utopian Literature', Late Summer Lecture Series, Durham University, Durham, UK, Sep 2017.

Invited Talk: 'Shaping the Future: How Feminist Utopian Novels Used New Concepts of Time Travel to Create Better Worlds for Everyone', seminar series accompanying Time Machines exhibition, Palace Green Library, Durham, UK, Jul 2017.

Invited Talk: 'On the Edge of Time: The Complex Reconfiguration of Reality in Marge Piercy's *Woman on the Edge of Time* and Joanna Russ's *The Female Man*', Inventions of the Text seminar series, Durham University, UK, May 2017.

Invited Panellist: 'Round Table: The Status of the Individual and the Collective in Utopianism', with Franziska Bork Petersen and Lyman Tower Sargent, Utopian Studies Society conference, Lisbon, Portugal, Jul 2016.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PAPERS

"Not the water I knew, not the water I wanted": Climate Survival and the Unknown in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, Ursula K. Le Guin's *Always Coming Home* and N. K. Jemisin's *The Fifth Season*', **Studenttag Literatur und Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Max Planck Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte**, Berlin, Germany, Jun 2026.

'The Social Dreaming of Le Guin: Environmental Subjectivity and *Changing Planes* as Embodied Feminist Epistemology', **"Trans People are (in) the Future": Queer and Trans Futurity in Science Fiction**, Science Fiction Research Association 2024 Annual Conference, University of Rochester, NY, USA, Jul 2025.

"Rocks have their dreams, and the earth changes": Dream Space, Feminist Cognition and Trans-Corporeality in Ursula K. Le Guin's *The Lathe of Heaven* and N. K. Jemisin's *The Fifth Season*', **'Forgotten, Misplaced, Marginalised: Speculations You Don't See' Conference**, University of Warsaw and American Studies Centre, Warsaw, Poland, Jun 2025.

'Reason vs. Humanity: Tracing the Development of Climate Realism Between John Brunner's *The Sheep Look Up* and Darcy Little Badger's *A Snake Falls to Earth*', **'Transitions': Science Fiction Research Association 2024 Annual Conference**, University of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia, May 2024.

'Feminist Science and the Politics of Cloud Control in *Sultana's Dream* by Begum Rokeya', **'Vom Himmel in den Text: Workshop zur Kultur- und Wissensgeschichte der Wolken'**, ETH Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland, Mar 2024.

'Unworlding and Ecogothic Estrangement in Ursula K. Le Guin's *Always Coming Home* and Darcie Little Badger's *A Snake Falls to Earth*', **'When it Changed: Women in SF/F since 1972' Science Fiction Foundation / Centre for Fantasy and the Fantastic Conference**, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, UK, Dec 2022.

"True voyage is return": the Critical Temporality of Utopian Hope in Ursula K. Le Guin's *The Dispossessed* and Sheri S. Tepper's *The Gate to Women's Country*', **'Opening Utopia: New Directions in Utopian Studies' Utopian Studies Society Conference**, University of Brighton, Brighton, UK, Jul 2022.

"A witch who says no to her lover and no to the law": Witchcraft, Resistance and Reproductive Autonomy in Leni Zumas' *Red Clocks* and Joanna Russ's *The Female Man*', **'Future from the Margins': 2022 Science Fiction Research Association Conference**, hosted by CoFUTURES, University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway, Jun 2022.

"Live songs have teeth": Music as Anarchist Utopian Ritual in Sarah Pinsker's *A Song for a New Day*', **'Utopian Possibilities: Knowledge, Happiness & Wellbeing' Utopian Studies Society Conference**, University of Porto, Porto, Portugal (virtual), Dec 2021.

"Wheels turning in opposite directions": Objective Temporality, Utopia and the Individual in Sheri S. Tepper's *The Gate to Women's Country* and Ursula K. Le Guin's *The Dispossessed*', **'SpecFic 2021: Time and History' Conference**, Karlstad University, Karlstad, Sweden (virtual), Dec 2021.

"Up close a world's all dirt and rocks": Gardening and the Anthropocene in Le Guin's Utopian Fiction', **'The Future of/as Inequality': Science Fiction Research Association 2021 Annual Conference**, Seneca College, Toronto, Canada (virtual), Jun 2021.

'A Time for Utopia: Individual and Collective Utopian Temporality in Ursula K. Le Guin's *The Dispossessed*', **'When is Theory? Shifts of Time Frame in Contemporary Literary Studies' Conference**, Babeş-Bolyai University, Rumania (virtual), Apr 2021.

“‘A scene like this, whereon to close the drama’: Contagion, Extinction, and the Meaning of Life in Mary Shelley’s *The Last Man*’, **‘Living in the End Times: Utopian and Dystopian Representations of Pandemics in Fiction, Film and Culture’ Conference**, Cappadocia University, Ürgüp, Turkey (virtual), Jan 2021.

‘A Utopia Without Us: Ecofeminism, the Anthropocene and the Paradox of the Non-Human Utopia’, **‘Worlding SF’ Conference**, University of Graz, Graz, Austria, Dec 2018.

“‘Thin in meaningful we’s”: Individual and Collective Identity in Classics of Utopian Literature’, **‘Organic Systems’ Conference**, Birkbeck University, London, Sep 2017.

‘The Coming Races: Self-Defeating Eugenics in Late-19th-Century Utopian Literature’, **‘Current Research in Speculative Fiction’ Conference**, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, Jun 2017.

‘Dystopian Entanglements: Violence in Feminist Utopian Literature of the Late 20th Century’, **‘Dystopia Now’ Conference**, Birkbeck University, London, May 2017.

“‘Solar Loyalties”: Posthumanist Ethics and Utopia in Naomi Mitchison’s *Memoirs of a Spacewoman*’, **‘500 Years of Utopia’: Utopian Studies Society Conference**, Lisbon, Portugal, Jul 2016.

“‘Not for your benefit, but for theirs”: The Unsustainable Ethics of Plato’s *Republic* and More’s *Utopia*’, **‘The Uses of Utopia’ Conference**, Cambridge University, Cambridge, Jun 2016.

‘A Feeling for the Organism: Feminist Science and Complexity Theory in Recent Feminist Utopias’, **‘Bridging the Divide: Literature and Science’ Conference**, University of Kent, Canterbury, Jun 2016.

“‘I swim a different stream”: The Dynamic Global Complexity of Marge Piercy’s *Woman on the Edge of Time* and Joan Slonczewski’s *A Door into Ocean*’, **Society for Utopian Studies Conference**, Pittsburgh, Nov 2015.

‘Feminist Utopias, Complexity Theory and the Utopian City’, **‘Utopia and the Ends of the City’ Utopian Studies Society Conference**, Newcastle University, Newcastle, Jul 2015.

‘Relocating Utopia: Complexity Theory and the Emergence of Utopia in Marge Piercy’s *Woman on the Edge of Time* and Joanna Russ’s *The Female Man*’, **‘Locating Fantastika: An Interdisciplinary Conference’**, Lancaster University, Lancaster, Jul 2015.

‘On the Edge of Time: Feminist Utopias, Complexity Theory and Parallel Future Histories’, **‘Sideways in Time: Alternate History and Counterfactual Narratives’ Conference**, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, Mar 2015.

TEACHING QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Seminar Leader, BA/MA/PhD course ‘Alternative Epistemologies in Feminist Speculative Fiction’, ETH Zurich, Spring Semester 2026. Designing, teaching and evaluating weekly 2-hour seminars for an interdisciplinary student cohort based mostly outside of the humanities, including personal essay and presentation feedback sessions for each student.

Training Course, ‘AI in Learning and Teaching’, ETH Zurich, March 2026. Workshop to discuss strategies to deal with increasing student reliance on GenAI models; presented own strategy and was invited to give university-wide lecture in Autumn 2026 on role of humanities in AI shift.

Seminar Leader, BA/MA/PhD course ‘Ecological Utopias and Dystopias’, ETH Zurich, Autumn Semester 2025. Designed, taught and evaluated weekly 2-hour seminars for an interdisciplinary student cohort based mostly outside of the humanities, including personal essay and presentation feedback sessions for each student.

Invited Guest Lecturer and Expert Examiner, D-ARCH Architecture Design Studio ‘Studio Reworlding: Infinite Rehearsals’ (Professor Freek Persyn), ETH Zurich, Spring Semester 2025. Participated as science fiction/utopian studies expert in multiple full-day presentation and assessment events of science fiction-inspired Design Studio at School of Architecture (D-ARCH), ETH Zurich, on invitation of the organisers, Professor Freek Persyn and Juan Barcia Mas.

Seminar Leader, BA/MA/PhD course ‘Gothic Literature as Climate Fiction’, ETH Zurich, Spring Semester 2025. Designed, taught and evaluated weekly 2-hour seminars for an interdisciplinary student cohort based mostly outside of the humanities, including personal essay and presentation feedback sessions for each student.

Seminar Co-Leader, BA/MA/PhD course ‘Science Fiction’, ETH Zurich, Autumn Semester 2024. Together with Professor Andreas Kilcher, designed, co-taught and evaluated weekly 2-hour seminars for an interdisciplinary student cohort, including personal essay and presentation feedback sessions for each student.

Seminar Leader, BA/MA/PhD course ‘Climate Fiction’, ETH Zurich, Spring Semester 2024. Designed, taught and evaluated weekly 2-hour seminars for an interdisciplinary student cohort based entirely outside of the humanities, including personal essay and presentation feedback sessions for each student.

Seminar Leader, MA course ‘Complex Currents: the Critical Dynamics of Contemporary Climate Fiction’, Tübingen University, Summer Semester 2023. Designed, taught and evaluated weekly 2-hour seminars, including personal essay and presentation feedback sessions for each student.

Seminar Leader, MA course ‘Navigating a German MA programme: A Perplexed User’s Guide to MA-level study programmes at Tübingen’, Tübingen University, Winter Semester 2022/23 and Summer Semester 2023. Designed, taught and evaluated weekly 3-hour seminars. Students independently reached out to department to have course made permanent and mandatory for incoming students.

Seminar Leader, BA course ‘Doing Literature: Consolidation of Skills in Literary Analysis’, Tübingen University, Winter Semester 2022/23. Designed, taught and evaluated weekly 3-hour seminars.

Seminar Leader, BA course ‘Ghosts and Others: Systems, Selves and the Supernatural in Gothic Literature’, Tübingen University, Summer Semester 2022. Designed, taught and evaluated weekly 2-hour seminars, including personal essay and presentation feedback sessions for each student. Course ‘strongly inspired’ the founding of a new student theatre group at Tübingen (see feedback below).

Seminar Leader, BA course ‘Women Writing Worlds: Feminist Utopian Literature Through the Ages’, Tübingen University, Winter Semester 2021/22 and Summer Semester 2023. Designed, taught and evaluated weekly 2-hour seminars, including personal essay and presentation feedback sessions for each student.

Private English and German Language Coaching, 2011/12, 2015/16 and 2020-2022. Provided English and German language coaching sessions for private clients, focusing on conversation, specific vocabulary & writing skills.

Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice (PG CAP), Durham University, Jan 2016 – Oct 2020. Advanced postgraduate British teaching qualification for university lecturers, taught and assessed at level of master’s degree, designed to equip holders with the skills to provide high-quality teaching and learning. Final module passed Oct 2020 (design of undergraduate/MA module ‘Feminist Utopian Literature Through the Ages’); PG CAP certificate awarded on Jan 7, 2021.

Training Course, ‘An Introduction to Teaching and Learning Online’, Durham University, early June 2020. Two-week course to support teaching staff in developing modules that can be taught online, appreciating the pastoral and academic support needs of an online learner, and using institutional tools for e-assessment and e-feedback.

Digital Research Methods Webinar, Newcastle University, June 4, 2020. One-day webinar exploring the challenges, motivations and solutions to moving research and data collection online.

Fellow of The Higher Education Academy (FHEA) awarded Feb 2018 after successful completion of Modules 1 and 2 of DULTA (Durham University Learning and Teaching Award), later renamed Postgraduate Certificate in Academic Practice (PG CAP), Jan – Sep 2016 and 2017 (see above).

Four years of experience as Teaching Assistant on first-year course ‘Introduction to the Novel’, Durham University, 2015/16, 2016/17, 2018/19, 2019/20. Tasks included tutorial teaching, essay and exam marking, holding personal essay feedback sessions for each student, and pastoral student support.

Lecturer, Postgraduate Lecture Day, Durham University, May 2019, ‘Everywoman in a Man’s World: Identity and the Struggle for Selfhood in *Jane Eyre*’.

Three years of experience as lecturer in Science Fiction for Supported Progression Summer School for Underprivileged Local Students, Durham University, Aug 2016, 2017 and 2018. Designed and delivered interactive lectures on Science Fiction literature and critical analysis, followed by evaluation through essays.

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Chair and Co-founder, [Zurich Science Fiction Network \(ZSFN\)](#), ETH Zurich and German-speaking Switzerland, Nov 2023 onwards. Co-founded ZSFN as first academic science fiction organisation in German-speaking Switzerland with Professor Andreas Kilcher; now leading organisational team for science fiction events across German-speaking Switzerland.

Main Organiser, ‘[Climate/Science/Fiction Symposium](#)’, Zurich Science Fiction Network (ZSFN), ETH Zurich, July 2026. International symposium on how historical and current fictional narratives shape public thinking on climate science. Raised 9.600 CHF Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) ‘Scientific Exchanges Grant’ for international speakers.

Secretary, [Science Fiction Research Association \(SFRA\)](#), oldest science fiction organisation in the world, Dec 2022 – Jan 2026. Greatly improved administrative structures and assisted organisation of **GFF/SFRA conference ‘Disruptive Imaginations’** at TU Dresden Aug 2023, **SFRA conference ‘Transitions’** at University of Tartu, Estonia, May 2024, and **SFRA conference “‘Trans People are (in) the Future’: Queer and Trans Futurity in Science Fiction’** at University of Rochester, NY, USA in Jul 2025.

Co-organiser, [Kolloquium ‘Speculative Temporalities’](#), ETH Zurich, Spring Semester 2024. Organised well-attended lecture series through the D-GESS department at the ETH, featuring local and international speakers including Professor Mark Bould.

Co-organiser, [Symposium ‘Social Justice and Technological Futures’](#), University of Tübingen, May 2023. Collaborating with colleagues from American Studies, RHET AI Center and International Centre for Ethics at University of Tübingen to arrange large-scale, multi-day international symposium on Artificial Intelligence and social justice in the design of technological futures. Arranged funding from multiple sources (see ‘selected awards’).

Project Officer for Museum Exhibition [‘Time Machines: The Past, the Future, and How Stories Take Us There’](#), displayed at Palace Green Library, Durham in Summer 2017, Jan 2016 – Apr 2017. Researched, collaborated on and wrote majority of text for highly successful exhibition on time travel and narrative, an outreach project by Durham University English Department. Used as REF impact case study for English department.

Convenor, ‘Inventions of the Text’ Seminar Series, Durham University, Oct 2016 – Jun 2017. Organised popular bi-weekly talks by local and international academics on subjects related to the study of English literature.

Co-convenor, Late Summer Lecture Series, Durham University, Feb – Oct 2015. As part of a team of three, organised well-attended public lecture series through the Department of English Studies, with a focus on interdisciplinary papers.

Postgraduate Assistant Organizer, *Utopia and the Ends of the City*, Utopian Studies Society conference, Newcastle University, Newcastle, Jul 2015. Performed various administrative tasks related to conference organisation, including organising data, arranging accommodation, setting up panels, communicating with speakers, and assisting attendees during the conference.

President, University of St Andrews Literary Society, 2010-2013. Organised popular events including talks by high-profile authors and academics, theatre trips and debates as head of a committee over a three-year period. Greatly increased membership.

EDITORIAL WORK AND PEER REVIEW

Co-editor of Book Series [‘EcoSpeculations: Science Fiction and the Environmental Humanities’](#), Lever Press, together with Dr. Chris Pak, Swansea University, Jun 2025 – present. Series on critical new science fiction scholarship within Environmental Humanities. Volumes address conceptual, historic, political, and formal dimensions of mode/genres engagement with environmental and climate change, gender, human-animal relationships, plant studies, science and technology, and more.

Section Editor: English & Comparative Literature, German Editorial Team, Open Library of Humanities (eds.-in-chief Caroline Edwards and Martin Eve), Oct 2016 – present.

Peer Reviewer for Professorial Grant Proposal, National Science Center, Kraków, Poland, Mar 2026

Peer Reviewer for *Coils of the Serpent* (eds. Sarah Heinz and Kristin Aubel), Oct 2024.

Peer reviewer for *Architecture and Culture* (ed. Suzanne Ewing), Sep 2020.

Peer reviewer for *Paradoxa* (eds. Pawel Frelik and Alison Sperling), Feb 2020.

Peer reviewer for *Fantastika Journal* (ed. Charul Palmer-Patel), Dec 2017.

Editor, Durham University Postgraduate English Journal, Nov 2014 – May 2015. Solicited, selected and edited academic articles and reviews as well as organising the referee process for the prestigious Open Access Durham University Postgraduate English Journal, one of the longest-running online postgraduate English journals, and overseeing online and print publication.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Department Representative, Association of Scientific Staff at the Department of Humanities, Social and Political Sciences/Mittelbauvertretung (ASST) D-GESS, ETH Zurich, 2025 – present. Representing department at departmental conferences and discussing/voting on various organisational changes.

WIDE Working Group Member D-GESS, ETH Zurich, 2023 – present. Actively participating in small-group consultations to improve well-being, inclusion, diversity and equity in the department.

Assistant Professorship Interview Side-Panel Member, D-GESS, ETH Zurich, Jan – Feb 2026. Interviewed D-GESS Assistant Professorship candidates on leadership and teaching as part of small panel of volunteers.

PhD Student Representative, Durham University Student Staff Consultative Committee and Board of Studies, Department of English Studies, Oct 2014 – Oct 2015. Acted as representative of PhD students in the Department of English Studies in regular meetings concerning teaching and student issues.

OUTREACH

Invited Session Leader: workshop on sustainability and science fiction in series ‘Speculative Space of Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums’, Women’s Art Library Goldsmiths, London, UK, Autumn 2026.

Interviewed as feminist climate fiction expert for ‘Klimakollaps’ Podcast by Marie Seidel, part of ‘Öko-Passionen: Coming-of-Age im Anthropozän’ project, University of Zurich, Mar 2026.

Invited Lecture: ‘Climate Fiction: Bringing the Science to Life’, *Sustainability Lecture Series*, Student Sustainability Committee (SSC), ETH Zurich, Mar 2026.

Interviewed as Academic Science Fiction Expert for ‘[Essay: Stranger than Fiction](#)’ by Suyin Haynes, *Kinfolk* magazine, issue 52 (*The Influence Issue*), Jun 2024.

[Interview as part of election to ‘Fellow in Focus’](#) for August 2022 in the College of Fellows, University of Tübingen, recognising outstanding interdisciplinary research as well as scholarly contributions to the College of Fellows - Center for Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Studies.

‘[Meet the Future: An Interview with Sarah Lohmann](#)’, *SFRA Review* 50:1 (2020): 13-18. Interviewed by SFRA review editor Sean Guynes for column on ‘up-and-coming SF scholars’.

Featured Interview for Podcast Episode on *The Dispossessed* ([part 1](#) and [part 2](#)), Utopian Horizons Podcast on Soundcloud, Oct 2018 – interviewed by Paul Walker-Emig on *The Dispossessed* by Ursula K. Le Guin.

Co-host of ‘[Exploring Utopian York](#)’ Podcast (guided tour and discussion) for York Festival of Ideas 2018 with Dr Adam Stock of York St John University, Apr – Jun 2018. Researched and led 1.5-hour podcast on York’s utopian history.

‘[Eugenics in Utopian Literature](#)’ Podcast, READ: Research in English at Durham website, Aug 2017. Recording of ‘Eugenics in Utopian Literature’ paper presented at *Late Summer Lecture Series*, Durham University.

Interviewed for ‘[Feminist Utopias and Afrofuturism](#)’ Podcast, Palace Green Library on Soundcloud, Summer 2017. Discussed alternative time travel as Project Officer of ‘Time Machines’ exhibition at Palace Green Library for Durham University.

LANGUAGES

- German (bilingual/native proficiency) and Swiss German (conversational proficiency)
- English (bilingual/native proficiency)
- French (advanced proficiency)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Zurich Science Fiction Network (ZSFN)
- Science Fiction Research Association (SFRA)
- Future-Oriented Governance of Outer Space (FOGOS)
- DarkSky International
- The Society for Utopian Studies, United States (SUS)
- Utopian Friends (previously part of Utopian Studies Society Europe, USS)
- British Association for Contemporary Literary Studies (BACLS)
- Gesellschaft für Fantastikforschung e.V. (GFF)
- Deutscher Anglistenverband

SAMPLE FEEDBACK

FEEDBACK ON ACADEMIC RESEARCH AND PROJECTS:

On PhD Thesis ‘The Edge of Time: The Critical Dynamics of Structural Chronotopes in the Utopian Novel’:

“The thesis is an excellent piece of scholarship, and Dr Lohmann performed an impressive defence of her thesis in the Viva. [...] Dr Lohmann’s thesis is striking for its innovative interdisciplinary approach. It offers a deftly interwoven set of ideas from the fields of utopian studies, science fiction, systems theory, and literary studies. [...] What is strikingly original here is the employment of Bakhtinian chronotopes, Cannon’s theorisation of homeostasis, Maturana and Varela’s conceptualisations of autopoiesis, and the complexity chronotope (informed by complexity theorists, Prigogine and Cilliers) as tools for understanding and measuring the dynamism, inclusivity, openness, and changeability (or lack thereof) of the utopian fictions under discussion.” (Dr Siân Adiseshiah, external examiner)

“...absolutely fascinating stuff that portends an incredibly promising book in the making!” (Sean Guynes, editor of *SFRA Review*)

On Museum Exhibition *Time Machines: The Past, the Future, and How Stories Take Us There*, Palace Green Library, Durham:

“Thanks for such an excellent exhibition! [...] Issues around representation of women [and] writers of colour in SFF is something of a passion, so seeing this was a real thrill for me.” (Juliet E. McKenna, British fantasy author)

“What a wonderful evening! It’s the best exhibition I’ve been to at [Palace Green Library], without doubt, and the best one I’ve been to anywhere for some time. [...] The impression of the exhib[itation] overall has a genuine and collective “impact” (I and I don’t mean that in strictly REF terms!). [...] I wanted to thank you, sincerely, for the opportunity to enjoy the importance of narratives and counter-narratives [...] that form, challenge, and dare one say, emancipate our imagined futures – much needed at present! [...] Our students will really love this.” (Professor Sarah Wootton, Department of English Studies, Durham University)

On Research Assistantship for New Town Literature Project:

“Can I thank you most warmly for the brilliant work you have done in compiling the New Towns bibliography for me. [...] You have done so much more than I thought was possible for a short-term RA. (And obviously spent many extra hours on it!). The detail, fullness, organisation, plus your annotations, are all just superb – thank you!” (Professor John Nash, project leader, Department of English Studies, Durham University)

FEEDBACK ON TEACHING (selection):

On ‘Ecological Utopias and Dystopias’ at ETH Zurich:

“This was by far my favorite GESS course provided by ETH, combining classic literature reading and analysis with a well-led open discourse with students. I felt taken seriously and respected at all times, and thoroughly enjoyed this class. Sarah Lohmann was enthusiastic on every subject I this course, which was very invigorating from the viewpoint of a student. The reading is a lot of work, some books took many hours to read for a 2 week interval. Still I believe the workload is alright if combined with the hobby of reading. (...) In general, the course feels extremely culturally relevant and educational on concepts that should be talked about more often, especially in our changing world. I would recommend any fellow student to take this course.”

“The course was very well designed overall. The theme of ecological utopias and dystopias worked extremely well as a guiding framework, and the sessions were structured in a way that made the progression of ideas feel coherent and purposeful. The readings were interesting, varied, and thoughtfully curated, and I appreciated the mix of theoretical texts and more imaginative or speculative material. Discussions were well moderated and inclusive, and student contributions were taken seriously and built upon.”

“Sarah Lohmann's course ‘Ecological Utopias and Dystopias’ far exceeded my expectations. The structure and reading list were excellently put together, and the literature was presented in a logical order, so that as a student I could understand why we were reading which books at which point in time. This was mainly because Sarah placed the respective literature very clearly within the overall learning objectives of the course. I have never had a professor or lecturer who spoke so enthusiastically about their subject and was so passionate about it. That was impressive, and I always enjoyed coming to class. The teaching methods Sarah used, such as asking us to organise our thoughts before a group discussion and then discussing them in the group, were fruitful and very beneficial for the discussions and our understanding. Questions and clarifications were always addressed, answered very well and taken seriously. I also

really appreciated that Sarah always used inclusive language and created a great learning atmosphere in which everyone could feel comfortable. The requirements for the Essay/„Leistungsnachweis“ were clearly outlined and explained. Outside of the session, Sarah always communicated clearly. I will definitely attend classes with Sarah Lohmann again.”

On ‘Climate Fiction’ at ETH Zurich:

“Very enthusiastic and welcoming (e.g. saying hello/asking how everybody was) and well prepared e.g. known the books, authors, ... very well. Great topic, diverse and interesting range of literature on it: not (just) the general books on climate change but various points of view from different groups of humans and more, the causes, how to tackle it (as far as that can be said when looking at fictional content), how the future could look like.”

“I really appreciated this course, I had an overlap between it and another one, but I mostly came to Climate-fiction because I enjoyed listening to the presentations, and enjoyed the discussions that we had as well. I appreciate a lot Dr. Sarah’s effort throughout the semester, I think she is an amazing lecturer. The presentations and discussions were interesting, I did not feel bored at all. I liked the novels that were suggested in the course, sometimes I found that they were too much, and hence we had a lot of readings to do, but at the end I think it was worth it.”

On ‘Navigating a German MA Programme: A Perplexed User’s Guide to MA-level Study Programmes at Tübingen’ at Tübingen University:

“I see great potential in this course and believe that it is worth more than just a project. I would suggest that this course should be added as part of the first-semester introductory course as it is very helpful for students from different German universities as well as international students. In my opinion, if I had such a course in my first semester it would be way easier to just navigate through Alma and enroll in classes that I like and have constant guidance throughout the semester [for] term papers, exam enrollments, registrations, and much more in general.”

“I strongly believe this course has great potential and should not just stop as a project. It should be integrated into the first-year courses for master students. I’m amazed by the diverse information within the course, and I’ve received a lot of helpful knowledge about the university system in Tübingen [...] and even beyond academic fields (professional networking, social life, housing in Tübingen etc). Also, I’m thankful for the open discussion between Dr. Lohmann and the students in class, including the German and international students. [...] I assure you that the course [...] would greatly assist first-year international students doing a master's program at the English Department.”

On ‘Ghosts and Others: Systems, Selves and the Supernatural’ at Tübingen University:

Anonymous student feedback:

“I really liked the course’s topic and felt like the texts all fit together quite well, making it easy to connect and compare them to get a better sense of what the ‘Gothic’ is. I also got the impression that the lecturer was very enthusiastic about the course and topic and translated that enthusiasm to her teaching.”

“It seemed from the beginning to be more than just a simple seminar. Right from the start the people took part in the lesson and the teacher gave off a feeling of more like a book club coming together to discuss various interesting and in their own form weird works of literature. The discussions seemed open, the asked questions, or “homework”, were more like an inspiration to think and everyone [...] could partake and share their ideas. [Soon] a strong sense of community grew, unlike in any other seminar I personally have been to yet. For creating such an interesting and inspiring atmosphere Dr. Sarah Lohmann should truly be congratulated and I hope she continues to do so in her future work. Every piece of literature was very well chosen. Every week the time seemed to pass way too quickly and I really wish we would have been able to cover even more books and the topics surrounding them. The course really was the perfect introduction to Gothic literature, it could not have been done better.”

“Dr. Lohmann [is] a very interesting and catching educator and someone that is truly fascinating to talk to. [Her] presentations were full of really fitting and eye-opening information on the works of literature.”

“I would like to say that I absolutely loved the seminar and the wide range of texts we discussed. I could tell from the very first session that you were passionate about the topics and, most importantly, knew exactly what you were talking about. I particularly enjoyed your informative and often also eye-opening presentations about the texts and learnt so much already simply by listening. The choice of texts was perfect, a little daunting at first maybe [...], but so worth it! In your e-mail you wrote that you hope the seminar inspired us a little and I can tell you that it definitely did. [...] Thank you for helping me see that! I also wanted to point out that I particularly appreciated the space you gave us for our own thoughts in every session. Whether that was in group discussions where you’d sit down at each table to ask us about our own opinions or later, when presenting our results to the other groups. I always felt like my views were valued and taken note of. The overall course design was clearly communicated right from the start. I particularly

enjoyed having a set structure in each session, as it allowed me to prepare and know in advance what was going to be covered. The discussion questions were also highly interesting, although I came up with very existential thoughts sometimes. [Overall], the seminar was a very informative and enjoyable experience.”

“I really enjoyed the course in general. The discussions and the additional information we got for the books really helped me not only to understand them more but also to appreciate the work more. This is mostly attributed to the way everything was presented. The genuine excitement and interest in the material really made the course as interesting as it was.”

Personal student feedback:

“Dear Dr. Lohmann, your seminar [on] "Gothic Literature" strongly contributed to the founding of our new theatre group at the Brechtbau Theater here in Tübingen. We're about to stage "The King in Yellow" by Thom Ryng, a very loose adaptation of Robert W. Chambers short story collection. Since your seminar was this important to our group and since the play itself has its origin in late gothic fiction / early weird fiction, we'd be glad to see you at one of our performances, if you could make it :)”

“I was very thankful for this opportunity. I generally loved doing this seminar with you and if I will ever see your name again on alma, I will enroll in this course. [...] maybe you will be happy to hear that this course inspired me for my bachelor thesis which I am now doing on Dracula!”

“Thank you very much for an interesting seminar last semester. It encouraged me not to be afraid of one genre but to get to know other genres, too.”

“It was another great semester and a great course and I really hope to see you again.”

On ‘Women Writing Worlds: Feminist Utopian Literature through the Ages’ at Tübingen University:

Anonymous student feedback:

“Dr. Lohmann showed, from the very first session till the last, how knowledgeable she is and left no doubt about her passion concerning (feminist) utopias. The material she provided us with was well chosen and her presentations left nothing to be desired. Apart from her pleasant and thoroughly positive character during class, Dr. Lohmann was able to convince with tolerance (explaining things again; accepting all sorts of questions) and a friendly, yet respectable and always professional attitude which allowed her to connect with the students.”

“I enjoyed and learnt a lot in Dr. Lohmann’s seminar. The course structure/session plan was clear and also made a lot of sense. [...] I also had to point out that I had no clue what a Feminist Utopia is at the beginning and now talk about it frequently and added many of the books mentioned in the seminar to my endless reading list (I also talked about it in my ERASMUS interview!). The seminar and Dr. Lohmann therefore did an excellent job in sparking further interest. [...] Dr. Lohmann did a great job!”

“I really enjoyed Prof. Lohmann’s seminar on Feminist Utopian Literature. I liked her enthusiasm and her encouragement towards making us interested in the subject. I would like to highlight Prof. Lohmann’s presentations, since they gave a great background knowledge about utopian literature at the same time that they dealt with the literary criticism of the novels discussed.”

“Dr. Lohmann put a great deal of effort into this course. The course material was always extremely well prepared and it is clear that she has a profound knowledge and understanding of the course’s topic. The quality was very academic and the content full of detail, which I enjoyed. [...] This was definitely one of the better courses that I have participated in during my studies so far and if I were to rate it, it would be a German 1.”

Personal student feedback:

“It was such an honor and pleasure to attend your class, I enjoyed and learned a lot from it.”

“I really enjoyed your course and I have already registered for your next course in the summer semester, if I will be accepted I'm really looking forward to another semester with you.”

“If I may say so, you've got amazing energy and the university is lucky to have you!”

On 'Introduction to the Novel' at Durham University:

Teaching evaluation:

"I am very happy to report that the standard of her teaching meets, indeed, exceeds the standard that the English Department requires of our part-time teaching assistants. [...] Unusually, and extremely commendably, Sarah [...] asked me to observe a second tutorial in order to give my evaluation of her response to [previous] feedback. I was very impressed with such conscientiousness and willingness to improve – this is enormously to Sarah's credit, and to that of her professional approach to education. I am very happy indeed for her to continue to teach undergraduates in the English Department in future." (Professor Simon James, Durham University)

Student feedback:

"I have found the quality of teaching excellent overall, especially essay handbacks."

"I found Sarah to be an incredibly engaging tutor [...]. Her tutorials have been some of my favourites to attend. Her feedback, both [oral] and written, has always been incredibly clear and she comes to each tutorial packed full of enthusiasm and ideas to share. She's let each of us formulate our own, unique, opinion of the texts and has challenged us every step of the way. [...] Sarah has been great, this year with her has been so much fun!"

"I have really enjoyed my tutorials with Sarah, and felt that they were particularly useful in creating an open environment in which we could more closely analyse the texts. [...] Overall very happy with the teaching on this module."

On Science Fiction Summer School at Durham University:

Teaching evaluation:

"Sarah's teaching methods were inclusive and very appropriate to the level. She delivered core content and explained key terms (such as 'novum' and 'cognitive estrangement') in a very clear way, making use of imaginative analogies to illustrate these potentially complex concepts for this less experienced audience. [...] It was notable that not only in breakout groups, but also as an entire class, every single student offered a response at some point, suggesting Sarah had established a positive working atmosphere. [...] At the end of the Summer School students are required to write assessed essays. Of the two students who chose to write on 'The Machine Stops', both employed key ideas introduced in Sarah's teaching but also built on them, suggested that she had effectively delivered her points but also inspired them to do further research." (course director Dr Alistair Brown, Durham University)

REFEREES

- **Professor Dr. Andreas Kilcher (current employer)**, Deputy head of Department of Humanities, Social and Political Sciences, ETH Zurich, Clausiusstrasse 59, 8092 Zürich, Switzerland, akilcher@ethz.ch
- **Professor Siân Adiseshiah (PhD examiner)**, English Department, Loughborough University, Martin Hall, Towers Way, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 3TU, United Kingdom, s.adiseshiah@lboro.ac.uk
- **Professor Dr. Ingrid Hotz-Davies (supporting professor at Tübingen)**, Chair for English Literature and Gender Studies, Englisches Seminar, Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen, ingrid.hotz-davies@uni-tuebingen.de
- **Professor Mark Bould (academic character reference)**, Faculty of Arts, Creative Industries, and Education (ACE), University of the West of England, Frenchay Campus, Coldharbour Lane, Bristol, BS16 1QY, United Kingdom, mark.bould@uwe.ac.uk