Rowena Chodkowski

CURRICULUM VITAE – WEB ONLY VERSION

LOCATION AND CONTACT INFORMATION

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EDUCATION

Concordia University, Montreal   1/2022-9/2026
Doctorate of Philosophy, Humanities: Computation Arts, Sociology, Communications
- Recipient of Canada Power Fellowship, Concordia Merit Scholarship, International Tuition Award of Excellence

University of California, Davis   9/2019-9/2021
Master of Fine Arts, Creative Writing; Nonfiction/Experimental Concentration
- Relevant Coursework: ENL 287 Literature & Media, ENL290 Electronic Literature, CMN260 Political Communication, CRI200A Intro to Critical Theory, PFS265A: Modes of Production (audio)
- Certification in Hybrid/Online Teaching

Smith College   9/2009—5/2013
Dean's List Honors. Major: Government (International Relations) Minor: Fine Arts

Hunter College   1/2012—5/2012
Non-Matriculated Student

Nanjing Normal University   9/2014—5/2015
Confucius Institute Scholarship Program, International College for Chinese Studies
- Non-credit foreign language coursework

ACADEMIC TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, CART210, Introduction to Media   Winter 2023

Instructor, ENL5NF, Introduction to Creative Writing: Nonfiction   WQ 2021, SQ 2021

Instructor, ENL5F, Introduction to Creative Writing: Fiction   FQ 2020

Teaching Assistant, Women's Literatures II   SQ2020

Teaching Assistant, English Literatures 1700-1900   WQ 2020

Teaching Assistant, African-American Literature to 1900   FQ 2019

ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Digital Storytelling for Everyday Activism, Assistant, Arts & Literature Lab   6/2021-7/2021
- Assist and facilitate workshop for racialized communities in Madison, WI

English as a Second or Other Language Tutor, Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts   5/2019—7/2019
- One-on-one volunteer tutoring program for adults receiving social support services in Massachusetts

English as a Second or Other Language Tutor, Private   2015—2019
- Private tutoring, focusing on reading and writing fundamentals for grades 8-12

College Preparation Workshop, Due West Education   2018, 2019
- Organize and deliver 3-day college preparation workshop, focusing on culture, navigating the university, and research fundamentals

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Co-Author, "Yellow Coolant and Kellogg's Diarrhea: Slop, Shanzhai, and Cursed AI"   9/2025
Association of Internet Researchers Conference. Paper Accepted, to be presented.

First Author, "I Miss the Old Future: Frutiger Aero, YT Visual Playlists, and Generative Nostalgia."   6/2025
Music and the Moving Image Conference. Paper presented.

"Playing in Vector(al) Space: AI Toys, Huggingface, and Speculation."   7/2024
Digital Games Research Association Conference. Paper presented.

"Memetic Internet Aesthetics, Vaporwave and Weirdcore: Postmodern Malaise   3/2024
and Grief Across Fractal Time." *Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference*. Paper Presented

"Data Activism and Housing Justice"   10/2023
Union for Democratic Communications Conference, University of Pennsylvania. Paper presented.

"Weirdcore, the Anthropocene Uncanny, and Collaborative Intermedia Production"   6/2023
Canadian Game Studies Association Conference, Paper presented.

"Generative AI and Remixed Nostalgia"   4/2023
Worlding the Machine: Intervention, Experiment, Co-creation, McGill University. Artist presentation.

"Bridging the Sixth Great Extinction: Hideo Kojima's Memetics in *Death Stranding*."   4/2023
Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference. Paper presented.

Co-Author, "Justice in Context: Making Sense of 'Context' in Discourses Surrounding Viral   10/2022
Videos of Social Injustice." *Bearing Witness, Seeking Justice Conference*, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Paper presented.

"TIP - Don't Be Afraid to Die: Synthwave's Memetic Aesthetics in *Hotline Miami"*   5/2022
Music and the Moving Image Conference, New York University (Virtual). Paper presented.

"Saving Skyscales: Guild Wars 2 Games the Anthropocene"   3/2021
Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference (Virtual). Paper presented.

"Odd Bots"   10/2020
Global Fusion Conference (Virtual). Southern Illinois University, Carbondale & Edwardsville. Artist presentation.

EXHIBITIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

"Designing for Meaning: Uniting Creative and Scholarly Research Through   9/2024
Collective Practices in Event Design." *International Journal on Stereo and Immersive Media*. First Author, Co-Authored with Richy Srirachanikorn Annie Harrison, Derek Pasborg, and M. Sharom Ali.

"Machine Dreams of a Cosmpolitan Past."   8/2024
Interactive digital artwork. *Mutek Forum,* Societie National, Montreal QC. Joint project with Hamidreza Nassiri. Artwork Exhibited.

"The Wall (Time in a Bottle)"   2/2024
Interactive digital artwork. *Nostagain Symposium*, CU 4th Space, Montreal QC. Joint project with M. Sharom Ali.

"Revolutionary Retromimesis"   9/2023
Interactive digital artwork. *Milieux Expo*, Concordia University, Montreal QC. Artwork exhibited.

"回去回来 A Story in Three Parts"   3/2023
Asian American Writer's Workshop *The Margins* series. Published online.

"Tomb Sweeping Festival"   1/2018
Print publication in *The Shanghai Literary Review,* republished online in 2019.

LECTURES, WORKSHOPS AND READINGS

"Crafting AI Imaginaries."   10/2024
Online Stable Diffusion Workshop, *Applied AI Institute*, Concordia University 4th Space

"Generative AI and Web Aesthetics"   4/2024
Guest Lecture and Interactive Workshop, *Creative Coding*, Fordham University

"Creative Computing and AI for Arts and Culture"   3/2024
Alumni Guest Speaker, *HCHS AI/ML Day*, Hunter College High School

"Hito Steyerl and the Poor Image"   Winter 2023
Guest Lecture, *Introduction to Media*, Concordia University

"Video Game Comedy: Saint's Row II"   Summer Session 2021
Guest Lecture, *Film Comedy*, University of Wisconsin-Madison

"African American Media History in Boston"   FQ2019
Guest Lecture, *African American Literatures to 1900*, UC Davis.

"My Life as a Burrito"   FQ2019

Poetry Reading, *Fig & Axel* Reading Series, Davis, CA.

"Selected Poems"   2018
Poetry Reading, *Spittoon Literary Tour* Series, Chengdu, China.

"Water: Three Poems"   2017
Reader, *Spittoon Feature Series*: *Water*, Beijing, China.

WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

Deep Learning for Humanists   6/2022
Digital Humanities Summer Institute
- Received Scholarship

Coding for Artists with p5.js with Ari Melenciano   1/2021
Anderson Ranch Arts Center (Virtual)
- Received 50% Scholarship

Fiction Workshop with Tommy Orange   10/2020
WritingxWriters Tomales Bay Workshop (Virtual)
- Received UC Davis funding

Speculative Fiction with Tananarive Due   7/2020
Voices of Our Nations Writer's Workshop (Virtual)
- Invited as returning alum

Political Content with Jeffrey Renard Allen   7/2018
Voices of Our Nations Writer's Workshop, Berkeley, CA
- A highly selective workshop for writers of color

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Data Activism/AI in Housing   1/2023-Present
Concordia University, Montreal
- Research counter-cartographies and data activism research for SSHRC-funded anti-gentrification project; research the use of AI in property technology and housing speculation

Narrative Designer, Game Developer   5/2021-3/2022
Lowercase Games
- Design game narratives and mechanics

Copywriter, Translation Assistant/Freelancer   9/2019—Present
Freelance, Davis, CA
- Copywriting, including editing of raw English translation, cross-checking text with original Mandarin Chinese
- Translate Classical, archaic, contemporary Chinese poetry

Undergraduate Counselor, Strategy Counselor (Managerial)   5/2016—1/2019
Due West Education, Beijing, China
- Monitored, managed caseload of 30 families and team of 4 employees; interviewing for HR

- Successfully close sales meetings at a rate of over 80%, bringing in revenue of over 2.5 million RMB yearly

Foreign Consultant, Senior Foreign Consultant   7/2015—5/2016
New Oriental Vision Overseas Consulting Co. Branch Management Center, Beijing, China
- Expanded program to two additional cities, increasing revenue by over 500,000 RMB
- Developed curriculum; produced digital curriculum content, built a digital learning/content delivery platform, led program workshops and classes.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Housing Data Coalition, Volunteer   10/2023-Present
- Volunteer at the Housing Data Coalition Hackathon, running the Storytelling (media) track
- Present research, attend meetings

Nostagain: A Generative Nostalgia Symposium   9/2022-Present
- Core team/founding member of Nostagain, a research-creation symposia and lecture series exploring the generative potential of nostalgia
- Jury applications and select participants for panels; panel moderator
- Web designer and maintainer

Peabody Awards, Digital Media Judge   10/2022-11/2024
- Judge at the screener level. Evaluate entries based on narrative, ludic, and design storytelling; write informative criticism for judging board.

Media Project Club, Founder   3/2020-10/2021
- Design and launch an online club hosting academic and experimental work by UC Davis Design and Creative Writing MFA students
- Administer domain and subdomains; run installations of necessary platform software, including Wordpress and Mediawiki

MFA App Review   9/2019—9/2023
- Volunteer as an application reader; provide free support for underrepresented minorities applying for Creative Writing MFA programs

Arts and Literature Lab, Midwest Video Poetry Fest   10/2019
- Film Reviewer, Judge; helped select films for Midwest Video Poetry Fest

Research and Writing Volunteer
The West End Museum, Boston, MA   4/2019—8/2019
- Wrote didactic panels for exhibition on the Old Howard Athenaeum
- Conducted primary source research at museum and off-site public archives; topics of interest include genealogies of burlesque, vaudeville, and popular entertainment, African American entertainment history, and African American media history

Founding Member, Web Editor, Event Volunteer, Reader   5/2015—1/2019
Spittoon Collective, Beijing, China
- Helped Found Spittoon Literary Magazine; assisted with magazine design and website launch.

- Grew to the largest multilingual literary collective in mainland China
- Planned large-scale events, including a daylong launch event at 798 Art District in conjunction with M Woods and Gallery Yang

Career Development Intern
Chinatown Manpower Project, New York, NY   5/2014—8/2014
- Worked closely with a small career development team to assist members of the Asian American community with job placement. Performed community outreach in English and Mandarin Chinese

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Alan Turing Institute AI & Arts Group   2024

Technocultures, Arts and Games Lab   2022-Present

Machine Agencies Group   2022-Present

Design Justice Network   2020-2021

Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS)   2019-Present

Canadian Game Studies Association (CGSA)   2023

RELEVANT SKILLS

Digital/Web Skills
- Data Science: Orange3, Python, Gephi
- Creative Computing: Stable Diffusion, Python, Javascript/p5.js, HTML, .json, Wekinator
- Software: Botpress, DaVinci Resolve, GIMP(GNU Image Manipulation Program), Indesign
- Web: Wordpress, CPanel/FPT, MediaWiki, basic database management/website administration, Linux server management and administration
- AI: Stable Diffusion, Huggingface, Civitai, Cloud GPU deployment, command line

Art Studio Skills
2-D:
- Historical methods including encaustic, tempera, oil, and pigment manufacture
- Watercolor, acrylic, gouache, and other water-based media
- Printmaking, including intaglio, offset monoprinting, photolithography, woodcut and typography

3-D:
- Sculpture, including slush casting, 1-and2- part mold making; sculpting with plasticine, epoxy, natural clay and polymer clay; specialization in urethane plastic casting
- Fiber Arts, including weaving and sewing; specialization working with faux fur/hair fabrics and kites
- Basic electronics assembly for fiber arts, such as installing LED lights, EL wire, and fans in kites and costumes

Languages
- English (fluent, native)

- Mandarin Chinese (professional working proficiency, B2 Level)