
Hannah Walser

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor of Law University of Michigan	2026-present
Furman Academic Fellow NYU School of Law	2024-2026
Junior Fellow Harvard Society of Fellows	2017-2021
Assistant Director of the Literary Lab; Lecturer in English Stanford University	2016-2017

EDUCATION

New York University J.D. (<i>magna cum laude</i>) Furman Academic Scholar, 2021-2024 Order of the Coif Robert B. McKay Prize in Constitutional Law	May 2024
Stanford University Ph.D., English and American Literature Alden Dissertation Prize Andrew Smith Memorial Essay Prize	June 2016
University of Chicago A.B. (<i>cum laude</i>), English Language and Literature Napier Wilt Prize for best undergraduate BA project Phi Beta Kappa	June 2010

PUBLICATIONS

Book

WRITING THE MIND: SOCIAL COGNITION IN NINETEENTH-CENTURY AMERICAN FICTION
Stanford University Press, 2022

Selected Articles and Book Chapters

Religion as Private Law
136 YALE L.J. ____ (2027)

Interpretive Facts: Textualism, Empiricism, and the Law-Fact Divide
101 INDIANA L.J. 1071 (2026)
“Download of the Week” on Lawrence Solum’s Legal Theory Blog (May 17, 2025)

Free Indirect Hearsay: Daniel Horsmanden’s Journal of the 1741 New York Conspiracy
1 MODERN CRIMINAL LAW REVIEW 179 (2025)
Special Issue: *Criminal Law, Literature, and History*, ed. Simon Stern

Vagueness, Double Consciousness, and the Criminal Law: A Cognitive History
10 CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF LAW 97 (2023)
Special Issue: *Cognitive Legal Humanities*, ed. Maksymillian Del Mar and Simon Stern

Fooling: Deception Under Conditions of Epistemic Inequality
Garry Hagberg (ed.), LITERATURE AND ITS LANGUAGE: PHILOSOPHICAL ASPECTS (2022)

Representing Race and Ethnicity in American Fiction: 1789-1920
12 JOURNAL OF CULTURAL ANALYTICS 28 (2020)
With Mark Algee-Hewitt and J.D. Porter

Under Description: The Fugitive Slave Advertisement as Genre
92 AMERICAN LITERATURE 61 (2020)

Proust’s Genies: In Search of Lost Time and Population Biology
51 NOVEL: A FORUM ON FICTION 482 (2018)

The Novel as Data
Eric Bulson (ed.), THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO THE NOVEL (2018)
With Mark Algee-Hewitt and Erik Fredner

The Behaviorist Character: Action Without Consciousness in Melville’s “Bartleby”
23 NARRATIVE 312 (2015)

SELECTED WORK EXPERIENCE AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and the Humanities
Program Committee, Annual Conference, 2025

Everytown for Gun Safety
Litigation Intern, Summer 2023, Summer 2024

Review of Law and Social Change
Senior Articles Editor, 2023-2024
Staff Editor, 2022-2023

Professor Brittany Farr, New York University School of Law
Research Assistant, Fall 2023-Spring 2024

Professor Melissa Murray, New York University School of Law
Research Assistant, Fall 2022-Spring 2023

Professor Emma Kaufman, New York University School of Law
Research Assistant, Summer 2022

Stanford University Department of English
Member, Modernism Search Committee, 2015-2016

Stanford University Faculty College
Research Assistant, Digital Humanities Minor, 2014-2015

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“Religion as Private Law”
Annual Law and Religion Roundtable, 2026

“Interpretive Facts: Textualism, Empiricism, and the Law-Fact Divide”
Association of American Law Schools Annual Conference, Legislation and Law of the Political Process Section, 2026

“Author Meets Readers Roundtable: Elise Wang’s *The Making of Felony Procedure in Middle English Literature*”
Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and Humanities Annual Conference, 2025
(discussant)

“Roundtable: What’s Your Fantasy? Supporting Law and the Humanities”
Association for the Study of Law, Culture, and Humanities Annual Conference, 2025
(discussant)

“Free Indirect Discourse on ‘Trial.’”
American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, 2023

“The Syntax of Stereotyping”
Computational Text Analysis and Historical Change Conference, Umeå University, Sweden, 2019
(invited talk)

“Looking at Faces in *Pierre*”
American Literature Association Annual Conference, 2019

“Posthumous: The American ‘Spirit-Novel’”
C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists Biennial Conference, 2018 (panel co-organizer)

“Compatibilities: Quantification and Literary Study”

Roundtable with Professors Mark Algee-Hewitt, Amy Hungerford, and Jonathan Kramnick, Stanford University, 2018 (invited participant)

“The Monomaniacal Canon: Melville and American Literary Eccentricity”
Eleventh Annual International Melville Society Conference, 2017

“Representing Race and Ethnicity in American Fiction”
Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations Annual Conference, 2016 (with Mark Algee-Hewitt and J.D. Porter)

“Notes Toward a Cultural History of the Homunculus”
Philosophy and Literature Working Group, Stanford University, 2015 (invited talk)

“Population Psychology: The Crowded Mind in Proust’s *À la recherche du temps perdu*”
American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, 2015

“Cognitive Demographies: Community Size and Psychic Opacity in Early American Literature”
Society for Novel Studies Biennial Conference, 2014

“Realism as Waste: Information and the Ecology of Genre”
American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, 2012

SELECTED TEACHING EXPERIENCE

New York University School of Law
Contracts (Teaching Assistant), Spring 2024

High School Law Institute, New York
Constitutional Law (Instructor), Fall 2022-Spring 2023

The Nueva School, San Mateo, CA
English 12: Shakespeare (Instructor), Spring 2020
Creative Writing (Instructor), Spring 2020
English 11: American Literature (Instructor), Spring 2020
English 10: Landscapes of Self and Other (Instructor), Fall 2019-Spring 2020

Stanford University
Narrative and Narrative Theory (Guest Lecturer), Fall 2018
American Madness (Instructor), Summer and Fall 2016
The Neuronovel (Instructor), Spring 2015
Rhetoric of Robots (Instructor), Winter and Spring 2012
Literature and the Brain (Teaching Assistant), Fall 2012
Shakespeare (Teaching Assistant), Winter 2011

City College of New York
Writing for the Humanities (Instructor), Fall 2013