

# BENJAMIN GROH

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## EDUCATION

2017-present

**PhD**, English, University of Calgary

Thesis: *Apocatastasis: Walter Benjamin's Allegory* (in progress)

Supervisor: Dr. Shaobo Xie

2014-2016

**MA**, English, University of Calgary

Thesis: *The Allegorist*

Supervisor: Dr. Christian Bök

2007-2013

**Honours BA**, English, York University

## TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Literary Criticism and Theory

Creative and Experimental Writing

Marxism and Marxist Literary Criticism

Semiotics and Linguistics

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Jan-Apr; Sept-Dec 2021

**Course Instructor**, University of Calgary

Title: ENGL 251, Literature and Society: W and F 2021 (Online)

W Section Title: L01, "Allegory and Allegorical Interpretation"

F Section Title: L02, "Allegory and Allegorical Interpretation"

- Developed and delivered all course materials;
- Prepared lectures and led seminar-style discussions about the rudiments of English study at the first-year level;
- Explained theoretical concepts and demonstrated techniques for proper academic writing and citation;
- Navigated online teaching platforms while maximizing student engagement;
- Graded quizzes, reading responses, term papers, exams, and class participation.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE, continued**

Sept 2014-Dec 2020

**Teaching Assistant**, University of Calgary

Title: ENGL 265, Introduction to Creative Writing: F2020 (Online), W2019, F2018, F2017, W2015, F2014

- Led seminar-style discussions about student creative work;
- Graded assignments and participation, and offered written and in-person feedback about prose, poetry, and drama forms; and
- Participated occasionally as either a lecturer or conversant with the course instructor during lecture time.

Title: ENGL 253, Poetry: W2020 (In Person/Online); and ENGL 307, Literature after 1700: W2018

- Led seminar-style discussions about literary and critical texts and situated them historically;
- Graded student work, such as mid-terms, essays, and seminar participation; and
- Assisted course instructors during lecture where possible.

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

2017-present

**Doctoral Student**, University of Calgary

- Investigating allegory as a mode of writing and perception, specifically in the work of Walter Benjamin;
- Contextualizing theories of allegory before and after Benjamin's writing;
- F2020-present: Research assistant for Dr. Aritha van Herk's Robert Kroetsch project (bibliographic work, reading, finding quotes, mapping travels);
- F2017-W2018: Research assistant for Dr. Larissa Lai's TIA House Project (assisted the organization of the conference Black Lives Out West in 2018, and helped to plan several other events and readings).

2015

**Master's Student**, University of Calgary

- Research trip to Walter Benjamin Archiv, Berlin.
- Accessed electronic copies of Benjamin's manuscripts, transcribed documents, read from the archive's selections, and purchased reproductions for further research.

**LANGUAGES**

Basic reading knowledge of German; improving writing and speaking abilities.

**ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE**

- 2021 Revised the Literary Theory Field Reading List, English Department, University of Calgary.
- 2018-2019 Vice President, English Department Graduate Association (EDGA), University of Calgary.
- 2017-2019 Co-Chair, Free-Exchange Graduate Conference
- Organized, fundraised, and delivered two weekend-long graduate conferences in 2018 and 2019, with the help of a co-chair and the Graduate Student body at the University of Calgary English Department (<https://uofcfreeexchange.wordpress.com/previous-conferences/>).

**AWARDS AND HONOURS**

- 2020-2022 SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship
- 2015 SSHRC CGS-Masters  
Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement