

**Derritt Mason**  
Curriculum Vitæ

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**EDUCATION**

2015 Ph.D., Department of English and Film Studies, University of Alberta  
2006 M.A., Department of English and Cultural Studies, McMaster University  
2004 B.A. (Hons.), Faculty of Information and Media Studies, Western University

**OTHER TRAINING**

2019-2020 Participant, Online Course Project, University of Calgary

**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

2022- Educational Leader in Residence (Online and Blended Learning), Taylor  
Institute for Teaching and Learning, University of Calgary  
2020- Associate Professor, Department of English, University of Calgary  
2015-2020 Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of Calgary

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Monograph**

2021 *Queer Anxieties of Young Adult Literature and Culture*. UP of Mississippi, 234 pp.

**Edited Books**

2023 *Alt KidLit: What Children's Literature Has Been, Never Was, and Might Yet Be*. Ed. with  
Kenneth B. Kidd. Forthcoming; under contract with UP of Mississippi.  
2019 *Queer as Camp: Essays on Summer, Style, and Sexuality*. Ed. with Kenneth B. Kidd.  
Fordham UP, 256 pp. **Winner:** Children's Literature Association Edited Book  
Award (2021); *Calgary Herald* #1 Bestselling Nonfiction Title (June 2019)

**Edited Journal Issue**

2014 "Hysteria Manifest: Cultural Lives of a Great Disorder." Ed. with Ela Przybylo.  
*English Studies in Canada* 40.1.

**Refereed Journal Articles**

- 2022 “Too Close for Context: Where Students Get Stuck when Close Reading.” With Jaclyn Carter, Michael Tavel Clarke, Faye Halpern, Jessica Nicol, and Morgan Vanek. *Pedagogy: Critical Approaches to Teaching Literature, Language, Composition, and Culture* 22.3: 349-371.
- 2021 “Resurrecting *ParaNorman*: Ghosts and Gays in the New Queer Cartoon.” *Queer Studies in Media & Popular Culture* 6.3: 285-303.
- “The Virtual Child, or Six Provocations on Children’s Literature and (Pre-) Digital Culture.” *The Lion and the Unicorn* 45.1: 1-24.
- “I Suck at this Game: ‘Let’s Play’ Videos, Think-Alouds, and the Pedagogy of Bad Feelings.” *Teaching and Learning Inquiry* 9.1: 200-217.
- 2019 “When Everything Feels Like the Horror Movies: The Ghostliness of Queer Youth Futurity.” With Joshua Whitehead. *Research on Diversity in Youth Literature* 2.1: 1-21.
- 2016 “A Phallic Dog, a Stuffed Coyote, and the Boy Who Won’t Come Out: Revisiting Queer Visibility in John Donovan’s *I’ll Get There. It Better Be Worth the Trip*.” *Children’s Literature Association Quarterly* 41.3: 295-311.
- 2013 “On Children’s Literature and the (Im)Possibility of *It Gets Better*.” *English Studies in Canada* 38.3-4: 83-104.
- 2011 “Raising Jack Perverse: On Childhood, Perversity, and James Hearne’s Case.” *Jeunesse: Young People, Texts, Cultures* 3.1: 11-32. Nominee: Neil Sutherland Prize for the Best Scholarly Article published in the History of Children and Youth.
- 2011 “Queer Exposures: Anti-Gay Violence and the Landscapes of Wyoming.” *The Brock Review* 11.2: 33-50.

### Refereed Book Chapters

- 2021 “Trans.” *Keywords for Children’s Literature, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*. Eds. Philip Nel, Lissa Paul, and Nina Christensen. NYU Press, 181-184.
- 2020 “What Having Two Mommies Looks Like Now: Queer Picture Books in the Twenty-First Century.” *Literary Cultures and Twenty-First Century Childhoods*. Ed. Nathalie op de Beeck. Palgrave, 109-137.
- 2016 “Vulnerable Fictions: Queer Youth, Storytelling, and Narratives of Victimization.” *Fictionalizing the World: Rethinking the Politics of Literature*. Eds. Louisa Söllner and Anita Vržina. Peter Lang, 19-36.

### Public Scholarship

- 2018 “The Earnest Elfin Dream Gay.” *Public Books*. Web article.
- 2016 “Witch, Please! Live and Scholarly at the U of C.” *Witch, Please*. With Marcelle Kosman and Hannah McGregor. Podcast episode.
- 2011 “Take Gaga Out Tonight (One Song on the Edge of Glory).” *Gaga Stigmata*. Web article.
- 2010 “Rah, Rah, Ah-Ah-Ah (Ro-Ma, Ro-Ma-Ma): Lady Gaga, Hysteria, Commodity Feminism.” *Gaga Stigmata*. Web article.

### Book Reviews

- 2013 “The Trouble with Going Gaga: J. Jack Halberstam’s *Gaga Feminism*.” *Reviews in Cultural Theory* 4.1: 19-24.
- 2011 “Of Ghosts and Gay Youth: Michael Whatling’s *A Vigil for Joe Rose: Stories of Being Out*

*in High School.* *Journal of LGBT Youth* 8.3: 281-284.

### Other Publications

- 2015 “Keywords in the Cultures of Young People.” With Elizabeth Marshall and Tyler Pollard. *Jeunesse: Young People, Texts, Cultures* 7.2: 107-113. Forum introduction.
- 2013 “The Queer Art of Imperfection.” *English Studies in Canada* 39.2-1: 13-15. Forum.

### HONOURS, AWARDS AND GRANTS

- 2021 Children’s Literature Association Edited Book Award (for *Queer as Camp*)  
Students’ Union Teaching Excellence Award, University of Calgary  
(Awarded during the COVID-19 shift to online teaching. In this competition the Students’ Union received a record-high 1,356 nominations)
- 2020 Faculty of Arts Award for Outstanding Early Career Teacher, University of Calgary
- 2019 Insight Development Grant, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), \$39,420 (PI, to 2023)  
Wayne O. McCready Resident Fellowship for an Emerging Scholar, Calgary Institute for the Humanities (to 2020)  
Connection Grant, SSHRC, \$24,647 (collaborator)  
Faculty of Arts Scholarly Activity and Travel Grants, University of Calgary, \$2,000
- 2017 Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Grant, Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning, University of Calgary, \$30,000 (PI)  
Lesson Study Grant, Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning, Taylor Institute, University of Calgary, \$14,950 (co-investigator)  
Social Sciences and Humanities Faculty Seed Grant, University of Calgary, \$15,000 (PI)
- 2016 Connection Grant, SSHRC, \$20,000 (co-applicant)  
Faculty of Arts Teaching Grant, University of Calgary, \$1,000

### KEYNOTES

- 2020 “Wet Hot Canadian Keynote, or What I’ve Learned at Camp/camp.” *Camp/camp: The Collision of Style and Biopolitics*. Western University, 1-2 Oct.
- 2019 “Playing with Failure: Young People’s Culture and the Media Ecologies of HIV/AIDS.” *Queer Youth Doing Queer History: Memory, Museums, and the (Re)Making of Place*. Galt Museum and Archives/University of Lethbridge, 18 Oct.

### INVITED TALKS

- 2022 “Queering the Fireside Chat: HIV/AIDS and Young Adult Popular Culture.” Rhodes House, University of Oxford, 6 Jun.  
“Growing Up is Hell: Coming-of-Age and Horror Videogames.” Centre for Research in Children’s Literature, University of Cambridge, 1 Jun.
- 2020 “The Virtual Child: Children’s Literature and Digital Culture.” Massachusetts Institute

- of Technology, School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, 30 Mar.  
 [Postponed due to COVID-19]
- “The Virtual Child: Children’s Literature and Digital Culture.” Institute for Research in Digital Learning, York University, 3 Mar.
- 2019 “Queer Visibility in Media for Young People: Two Case Studies” (revised and updated from 2018 version). Department of Teacher Education, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, 21 Aug.
- 2018 “A Rough Map of the Virtual Child.” Department of English, Toronto Metropolitan University, 9 Mar.  
 “Queer Visibility in Media for Young People: Two Case Studies.” National Center for the Study of Children’s Literature, San Diego State University, 22 Feb.
- 2016 “Preparing for an Academic Interview.” Department of English and Film Studies, University of Alberta, 3 Mar.
- 2015 “A Phallic Dog, A Stuffed Coyote, and the Boy Who Won’t Come Out: Revisiting Queer Visibility in Young Adult Fiction.” Centre for Research in Young People’s Texts and Cultures, University of Winnipeg, 21 Sept.
- 2013 “The Visibility and Temporality of Queerness in Children’s Film.” Worlds of Wonder: The Queerness of Childhood (Workshop), Williams College, 5 May.
- 2012 “The MadHaus of Lady Gaga: Hysteria and Commodity Feminism in ‘Bad Romance’ and ‘Telephone.’” Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services, University of Alberta, 19 Jan.

## CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

### Conferences and Symposia Organized

- 2022 *Video Games and Young People’s Digital Cultures*. Association for Research in Cultures of Young People (ARCYP) Annual Research Symposium. 13 May, online.
- 2019 *Youngsters 2: On the Cultures of Children and Youth*. SSHRC Connection Grant collaborator. ARCYP, 9-12 May, Toronto, ON.
- 2016 *Youngsters: On the Cultures of Children and Youth*. Co-organizer and SSHRC Connection Grant co-applicant. ARCYP, 20-22 Oct., Vancouver, BC.

### Panels Organized (refereed)

- 2021 “Theorizing the Child for the Twenty-First Century.” Modern Language Association (MLA), 7-10 Jan., online.
- 2019 “Teaching and Learning with Digital Texts for Young People.” *Youngsters 2: On the Cultures of Children and Youth*, ARCYP, 9-12 May, Toronto, ON.
- 2016 “At the Intersections of ‘Queer’ and ‘Youth.’” ARCYP at Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences (Congress), 31 May, Calgary, AB.  
 “The Anxious Publics of Children’s Literature.” MLA, 7-10 Jan., Austin, TX.

### Papers Presented (refereed, since 2017)

- 2022 “Games as Activism: The Gaiety of *GayBlade*.” Paper and co-organized panel on “AIDS Activism in Young People’s Literature and Culture.” *The Child and the Book*, 26-28 May, Valletta, Malta.
- 2021 “So You Want to Talk About Media?: Video Games.” Paper and co-organized roundtable. *Conference of the Children’s Literature Association* (ChLA), 9-13

- Jun., online.
- 2020 “How to Fail at Caper in the Castro: Gaming, Young Adult Literature, and HIV/AIDS.” *The Queerness and Games Conference (QGCon)*, Oct./Nov., [online](#).
- 2019 “‘Silence is a Valid Option’: Gaming, Affect, and ‘Let’s Play’ Videos in the Children’s Literature Classroom.” International Research Society for Children’s Literature (IRSL), 14-18 Aug., Stockholm, Sweden.  
 “Pedagogies of the Virtual Child.” *Youngsters 2: On the Cultures of Children and Youth* (ARCYP), 9-12 May, Toronto, ON.
- 2018 “Preliminary Materials Toward a Theory of the Virtual Child.” ChLA, 28-30 Jun., San Antonio, TX.
- 2017 “Keywords for Children’s Literature: ‘Trans.’” IRSL, 29 Jul.-2 Aug, Toronto, ON.  
 “Imagining and Re-imagining Heather: What Having Two Mommies Looks Like Now.” ChLA, 22-24 Jun., Tampa, FL.  
 “Reflections on ‘Hideously Distorted Portrayals’: Queerness, Dystopia, and the Unbearable in Young Adult Literature.” SSA at Congress, 27-29 May, Toronto, ON.  
 “The Perverse Pleasures of Teaching Children’s Literature.” MLA, 5-8 Jan., Philadelphia, PA. Invited roundtable (“Barely Legal: *Erotic Innocence* at Nineteen”) with Marah Gubar, Ellis Hanson, Natasha Hurley, Kenneth B. Kidd, and James Kincaid.

## CAMPUS TALKS

- 2022 “Strategies for Publishing in Social Sciences and Humanities.” Invited panelist. Grad Success Week, University of Calgary, 5 May.  
 “The Intersection of Children’s and Young Adult Literature, Queer Theory, and Cultural Studies.” Graduate Students’ Association, Voices on the Margins Speaker Series, University of Calgary, 15 Mar.
- 2021 “Queer Visibility in Media for Young People: Two Case Studies.” Featured speaker, Faculty of Arts Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity Week, University of Calgary, 3 Feb.
- 2017 “Queering/Querying the English Language Arts.” *Inside Out: Sexual and Gender Diversity in the English Language Arts Classroom*. Werklund School of Education, University of Calgary, 11 Mar.
- 2015 “The ABCs of LGBTQ.” Q Centre, University of Calgary, 6 Nov.

## PUBLIC EVENTS AND LECTURES

- 2022 “A Conversation with Author Derritt Mason.” Stonewall National Museum and Archives (Fort Lauderdale, FL), Public Programming Series, 12 May.
- 2019 “The Virtual Child: Children’s Literature and Digital Culture.” McCready Fellow Lecture, Calgary Institute for the Humanities, 5 Nov.  
 “Why We Like Harry Potter: A Muggle’s Guide.” Calgary Central Library, 4 Apr.

## INTERVIEWS AND BROADCASTS

- 2021 “Queer Anxieties of Young Adult Literature and Culture.” *New Books Network / Queer Voices of the South* (Podcast), 10 Mar.
- 2020 “Interview with Derritt Mason.” *Witch, Please* (Podcast), 3 Dec.
- 2019 “Three Questions with Derritt Mason.” Calgary Public Library. *YouTube*, 13 Aug.  
Crittenden, Charlie. “Vivek Shraya and Derritt Mason Launch New Works in Edmonton.” *Daze Magazine*, 29 May.  
Chamberlin, Jane. “What’s the Price of Invisibility? Changing Perceptions of Gender Through Representation in Art.” University of Calgary. *Explore UCalgary*, 1 Feb.
- 2018 Thorn, Mike. “Graduate seminar showcases a new approach to digital posters.” University of Calgary. *UToday*, 28 Jun.
- 2017 Allford, Jennifer. “Innocence lost? Studying kids’ stories to better understand how to teach them.” University of Calgary. *Explore UCalgary*, 1 Nov.  
“The 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of *Harry Potter*.” CBC Alberta @ Noon, 28 June.
- 2015 Chiose, Simona. “Rise of the Teaching Class.” *The Globe and Mail*, 6 Oct.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### University of Calgary

Undergraduate:

Queer Theory & Video Games (Winter 2021 [online] & 2023)

Literature & Society (Winter 2021, online)

Children’s & Young Adult Literature/Literature for Young People

(Fall 2015, 2018 & 2022 [online] Winter 2016, 2017, 2018, 2020 [online])

The Virtual Child (Fall 2018)

Advanced Studies in Young Adult Literature (Fall 2017)

Approaches to Literature (Fall 2017)

Dystopian Young Adult Literature (Fall 2016)

LGBT Children’s Literature (Fall 2016)

Graduate:

Video Games & the *Bildungsroman* (Winter 2022 [online])

Queer Young Adult Literature & Theory (Fall 2019)

The Virtual Child (Winter 2018)

Narrating the Queerness of Youth (Fall 2015)

Ph.D. Directed Reading:

Indigiqueer Survivance (Fall 2016)

### University of Alberta

Literary Analysis (Undergraduate, Fall 2012 & 2013)

## SUPERVISION AND ADVISING

### Ph.D. Supervision

2019- Shuyin Yu, “My Damned Butterfly: Reimagining and Reinventing Identities in

Contemporary Asian Diasporic Young Adult Literature” (SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarship Winner)

### **Ph.D. Co-Supervision**

2020- Stephen Bauhart

### **Ph.D. Committees**

2021- Emily Mohabir (Department of Communication, Media, and Film)

2018- Paul Meunier, “Refractions” (poetry manuscript)

2016-2021 Joshua Whitehead, “Making Love with the Land” (creative non-fiction)

### **M.A. Thesis Supervision**

2022- Emma Williamson, “Untitled Queer Dating Sim” (SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarship Winner)

2019-2020 Laura Brooks, “Failure is the Name of the Game: Queer Failure in Video Game Novels” (SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarship Winner)

### **M.A. Thesis Co-Supervision**

2021- Xen Virtue, “How to Repeat Silence” (A Queer Young Adult Novel)

### **M.A. Capstone Supervision**

2022 Jeffrey Stinson, “Time, Space, and Resistance in Adolescent Dystopias”

### **Undergraduate Honours Project Supervision**

2017-2018 Leah Van Dyk, “Sleeping Beauty, Awakening Nature: Ecofeminism in the Works of Charles Perrault and the Brothers Grimm”

Jessica Freeman, “Feminist Tale as Old as Time: *Beauty and the Beast* and the Happiness Script”

2016-2017 Mary Kathleen Anderson, “Harry Potter Time Travel Fanfiction and Adolescent Self-Education”

Bethany Johnson, “A Meaningful Ludonarrative: Synchronizing Story and Gameplay in Japanese Role-Playing Games”

### **External Co-Supervision**

2022 Celeste Trentadue, “Ungrading: Theory and Practice.” MA Practicum, Toronto Metropolitan University. Co-supervised with Dr. Naomi Hamer.

## **SERVICE TO PROFESSION**

### **Professional Leadership & Committees**

2021- President, ARCYP

2021 National Selection Committee, SSHRC Doctoral Awards Competition

2019-2021 Vice President, ARCYP

2018-2021 Executive Board Member, ChLA

2016-2019 Membership Committee, ChLA

2017-2018 Graduate Student Essay Awards Committee, ChLA

2015-2016 *Youngsters* Conference Planning Committee, ARCYP

2013-2015 Congress Local Area Co-ordinator, ARCYP  
Executive Member-at-Large, ARCYP

### **External Examinations**

2021 Jeremy Johnston, Ph.D. Dissertation Defence, Western University, Jun. 17

### **Editorial Work**

2011-2014 Assistant Book Review Editor, *Journal of LGBT Youth*

### **Journal Manuscript Review**

*Canada and Beyond*

*Children's Literature*

*Children's Literature Association Quarterly*

*Children's Literature in Education*

*Girlhood Studies*

*Imaginations: A Cross Cultural Journal of Image Studies*

*Jeunesse: Young People, Texts, Cultures*

*The Lion and the Unicorn*

*Research on Diversity in Youth Literature*

## **DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE (University of Calgary)**

### **Faculty Committees**

2022-2024 Faculty of Arts Teaching and Learning Committee

2020-2021 Faculty of Arts Strategic Plan Ad Hoc Committee

### **Departmental Committees**

2022-2023 Research Committee

2020-2021 Graduate Executive Committee

2015-2018 Undergraduate Advising Committee

### **Internal Examiner**

2022 Jamie Michaels, Ph.D. Candidacy Exam, Department of English, 27 Jul.

2020 Hebe Tocci Marin, Ph.D. Candidacy Exam, Department of English, 16 Oct.

2016 Tom Sewell, Ph.D. Candidacy Exam, Department of English, 16 Nov.

### **Neutral Chair**

2021 Rebecca Geleyn, Ph.D. Dissertation Defence, Department of English, 7 May

2020 Jess Nicol, Ph.D. Dissertation Defence, Department of English, 16 Apr.

2019 Jane Chamberlin, Ph.D. Dissertation Defence, Department of English, 11 Sept.

2015 Matt Kriz, Ph.D. Dissertation Defence, Department of English, 30 Oct.

### **Research Groups**

2016- Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL), Faculty of Arts

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**



2020 Book Club Facilitator, Skipping Stone (Trans/gender diverse youth, adult, and family support agency)

### **NON-ACADEMIC WORK**

2006-2009 Team Leader, Educational Workshop Programming, National Film Board of Canada, Toronto, ON

2004-2005 English Language Assistant, Lycée Mariette, Boulogne-sur-mer, France

### **RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS**

Children's & young adult literature; queer theory, gender and sexuality; media, video game, and cultural studies; scholarship of teaching & learning

### **LANGUAGES**

English (native), French (fluent), German (A1/A2 certification), Spanish (rudimentary)

### **ACTIVE PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

2014- Children's Literature Association

2012- Modern Language Association

2011- Association for Research in Cultures of Young People