

Joshua Synenko

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Cultural Studies
Media Studies Program
Trent University
Scott House, Rm 212, 300 London Street
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Toronto, Ontario, M6J 3S8
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DEGREES

- 2015 Ph.D., York University, Department of Humanities.
Dissertation: *After Collective Memory: Postnational Europe and Socially Engaged Art*. Examiners: Markus Reisenleitner (supervisor), Susan Ingram, Shelley Hornstein, Erica Lehrer.
- 2007 M.A., University of Western Ontario, Centre for the Study of Theory and Criticism. Thesis: *Uncommon Singularities: Event, Politics, Representation*.
- 2005 Hons. B.A. (*Summa cum laude*), York University, Department of Political Science.

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2019- Coordinator, Media Studies Program, Trent University.
- 2017- Faculty member, Cultural Studies Graduate Programs, Trent University.
- 2016- Assistant Professor of Media Studies (Limited Term Appointment), Department of Cultural Studies, Trent University.

RESEARCH AREAS

Critical data studies, collective memory, media theory, narrative, policing, urbanism, visual culture.

TEACHING AREAS

Cinema and media studies, critical theory, methods in communication and culture, visual studies.

PUBLICATIONS

Edited volumes

- 2021 Synenko, J. (Ed.), Special Issue: Circles of Conversation, *Canadian Review of Comparative Literature*. 46 (4).
- 2018 Synenko, J. (Ed.), Geospatial Memory. *Media Theory*, 2(1).

Refereed journal articles

- 2018 Geolocating Popular Memory: Recorded Images of Hashima Island after *Skyfall*. *Popular Communication*, 15(2): 141-153.
- 2017 Settler Sublime: Reparation and Return in Yael Bartana's Polish Trilogy. *PhiN: Philologie im Netz*, Beiheft 13: 220-244.
- 2016 The Geospatial Rhetoric of Asylum: Mapping Migration in Fortress Europe. *Networking Knowledge: Journal of the MeCCSA*, 9(4), Special Issue: Fortress Europe: Media, Migration, and Borders: 1-13.
- 2016 Topography and Frontier: Gibellina's City of Art. *M/C: A Journal of Media and Culture*, 19(3), Special Issue: Place: Online.
- 2014 The Reminders of Memory: Berlin's Postnational Aesthetic, *Drain: A Journal of Contemporary Art and Culture*, 11(1), Special Issue: Ruin: Online.

Refereed book chapters

- 2020 Library in Ruins: Digital Collections and the Idea of the University, *Re-viewing Comparative Literature in Canada*, Ingram, S., and Sywenky, I. (Eds.). Lanham: Lexington Books, 225-237.
- 2016 Geospatial Detritus: Mapping Urban Abandonment. *Global Garbage: Urban Imaginaries of Excess, Waste, and Abandonment*, Lindner, C., and Meissner, M. (Eds.). London and New York: Routledge, 165-180.
- 2013 Archive Cultures: Technicity, Trace and Metaphor. *The Everyday: Experiences, Concepts, Narratives* Parrot, M. and Derry, J. (Eds.). Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 228-244.
- 2012 Andreas Huyssen and the Genres of Historical Memory. *The Historical Textures of Translation: Traditions, Traumas and Transgressions*. Ingram, S., and Reisenleitner, M. (Eds.). Vienna: Mille-Tre-Verlag, 33-59.

Book reviews

- 2019 Book Review—Hoskins, A. (Ed.), *Digital Memory Studies: Media Past in Transition*. *New Media & Society*, 21(1): 274-276.
- 2018 Book Review—Graham, S. *Vertical: The City from Satellites to Bunkers*. *PUBLIC: Art Culture Ideas*, 57(1): 287-289.
- 2016 Book Review—Berry, C., and Moore, R. (Eds.). *Public Space, Media Space*. *Mediapolis: A Journal of Cities and Culture*, 1(3).
- 2016 What's New? Boris Groys in Translation. *Reviews in Cultural Theory*, 6(1), 37-41.
- 2012 *Topos of Faith: Derrida's Counter-Institutions*. *Topia: Canadian Journal of Cultural Studies*, Special Issue: Out of the Ruins: The University to Come. 28(1), 289-295.

Editorial

- 2018 Synenko, J., Geospatial Memory: An Introduction. *Media Theory*, 2(1): 1-33.
- 2017 Synenko, J., Teaching Media Infrastructure through Popular Culture. *Mediapolis: Journal of Cities and Culture: Student Voices*, 4(2): Online.
- 2010 Synenko, J., Brown, R., Principe, C., and Weisberg, Z. (Eds.), *E-Topia*, Special Issue: The Inhuman: Investigating Continental Thought in the Humanities.

Articles (not peer reviewed)

- 2020 COVID-19 and the Politics of Locations, *SCMS+*, Special Issue: Short Attention Span Criticism: Online.
- 2019 Humans of the Anthropocene: An interview with Thierry Loa, *Media Theory* (blog edition).
- 2014 Counter-memory in Post-Wende Berlin. *Descant Magazine*, 45(3), Special Issue: The Berlin Project: 147-156.

In progress

- Article Crowdsourcing Crimes: Mobilizing Power and Place in the Geo-Coded World of Citizen.com, preparing for submission to: *Convergence: The International Journal of Research into New Media Technologies*.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2021-27 Co-Applicant, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)
Convergence Grant: “Embodied Digital Research.” Under review.
- 2020-21 Principal Investigator, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)
Explore Grant: “Ecology, Infrastructure and Mobility in Communications Research.”
\$7,000.
- 2009-11 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Doctoral Fellowship.
\$40,000.
- 2008-9 Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS). \$15,000.
- 2007-8 Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS). \$15,000.
- 2005-6 Canada Graduate Scholarship—Master’s (CGS). \$17,500.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses designed and taught:

Trent University

Graduate:

Intellectual Traditions in Cultural Studies, <i>CUST PhD</i>	WI2021 (1 section)
Dissertation Seminar, <i>CUST PhD</i>	WI2021 (1 section)
Research in Cultural Studies, <i>CUST PhD</i>	WI2021 (1 section)
Seminar on Theory, Culture & Politics, <i>CUST MA</i>	WI2021 (1 section)

Undergraduate:

Workshop: Digital Media Lab, <i>CUST/MDST</i>	2019 & 21 (2 sections)
Introduction to Film I and II, <i>CUST/MDST</i>	2016-21 (8 sections)
Introduction to Media Studies, <i>CUST/MDST</i>	2017-20 (7 sections)
Contemporary Topics in Media Studies, <i>CUST/MDST</i>	2018-19 & 20 (3 sections)
Mass Media & War, <i>CUST/MDST</i>	2016 & 20 (2 sections)
Media and Society, <i>CUST/MDST</i>	2017-19 (2 sections)
Television studies, <i>CUST/MDST</i>	2017 (1 section)
Issues in Global Media, <i>CUST/MDST</i>	2018 (1 section)
Mass Media & Popular Culture, <i>CUST/MDST</i>	2016 & 17 (2 sections)
Culture and Society, <i>Sociology</i>	2016 (1 section)
Contemporary Theory, <i>Sociology</i>	2016 (1 section)

Sociology of Media and Communication, <i>Sociology/MDST</i>	2015 (1 section)
Cinema of Development and Underdevelopment, <i>IDS</i>	2015 (1 section)

Wilfrid Laurier University

Social Documentary, <i>Digital Media and Journalism</i>	2014 (1 section)
Social Inequality, <i>Sociology</i>	2014 (1 section)
Anthropology & Visual Culture, <i>Anthropology</i>	2013 (1 section)

Teaching Assistant (TA) Positions:

Theories of Global Studies, <i>Global Studies, Laurier</i>	2012-15 (10 sections)
Practices of Development, <i>Global Studies, Laurier</i>	2014-15 (3 sections)
Theories of Development, <i>Global Studies, Laurier</i>	2012-14 (5 sections)
Sociology of Health and Illness, <i>Sociology, Trent</i>	2014 (2 sections)
Shapers and Definers of the Modern Age, <i>Humanities, York</i>	2007-13 (6 sections)
Introduction to European Studies, <i>Humanities, York</i>	2011-12 (2 sections)
Humanities for a Global Age, <i>Humanities, York</i>	2009-11 (4 sections)
Anthropology of Health and Illness, <i>Anthropology, UWO</i>	2007 (1 section)
Anthropology of Sexuality, <i>Anthropology, UWO</i>	2006 (1 section)

Supervision:

Supervisor:

Co-supervisor (with Mitchell, L.): Larson, C., "Cannibals and Corpse Art: Critiquing the Visual through NBC's *Hannibal*," Undergraduate thesis, Department of Cultural Studies, Trent University. 2017-18.

Committee member:

Suurtamm, K., PhD student, Title: "Archives and Incarceration," Cultural Studies Graduate Program, Trent University. 2020-present.

Gotkas, H., PhD student, Cultural Studies Graduate Program, Trent University. 2019-present.

Bailey, T., PhD student, Title: "From Green Dragon to War Rig: Automobiles, Gender and War," Cultural Studies Graduate Program, Trent University. 2018-present.

York, K., PhD Candidate, Title: "The Documentary Mode in Contemporary Art: Artistic Engagement with Mass Displacement and Migration," Cultural Studies Graduate Program, Trent University. 2018-present.

SPEAKER ENGAGEMENTS

Panels and colloquia organized

- 2020 “Infrastructures of Control: Mapping, Monitoring & Memes,” with Alec Brookes and Elise Thorburn (Co-Organizers), *Crossroads in Cultural Studies*, Lisbon, PT. July. (Postponed TBD)
- 2017 “Digital Spatial Ecologies: Geolocating the Layers of History and Memory in New Media,” with Markus Reisenleitner (Co-Organizer), *Geomedia 2017*, Karlstad, SWE. May.
- 2015 “The Ethics and Itineraries of Visual Data,” with Genne Speers (Co-Organizer) and Lisa Parks (Discussant), *Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS)*, Montreal, QC. March.
- 2013 “European Minority Cultures Since 1945,” with Fatima El-Tayeb (Discussant), *American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)*, Toronto, ON. April.
- 2012 “Gaze and Affect: The Afterlife and Aftermath of Visual Culture,” with Ricky Varghese (Co-Organizer), *Crossroads in Cultural Studies*, Paris, FR. July.
- 2012 *A Deferred Method: Psychoanalysis and/in the Academy*, with Ricky Varghese (Co-Organizer) and Deborah Britzman, John Ricco, Allan Pero, John Zilcosky (Speakers), Jackman Humanities Institute (JHI), Toronto, ON. May.
- 2012 *The University is Ours*, Edu-Factory Collective, Toronto. April.
- 2010 *Cosmopolitanism and Global Citizenship*, with Beau Molnar (Co-Organizer) and Lily Cho, David Clark, James Ingram (Speakers), York University, Toronto, ON. April.
- 2008 *The Inhuman: Investigating Continental Thought in the Humanities*, Toronto, ON. October.

Conference presentations

- 2020 “Crowdsourcing Crimes: Mobilizing Power and Place in the Geo-Coded World of Citizen.com,” *Crossroads in Cultural Studies*, Lisbon, PT. July. (Postponed TBD)
- 2020 “Posthuman Mobilities: Situating Embodied Tech Beyond the Quantified Self,” *Cultural Studies Association (CSA)*, Chicago. IL. May. (Virtual Conference)

- 2019 "Geospatial Memory: The Genealogy of a Concept," *Communications, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology (CITAMS)*, New York, NY. August.
- 2019 "Gerrymandered Places: The Geography of Algorithmic Power in America," *Media Ecology Association (MEA)*, Toronto, ON. June.
- 2018 "Out of Mind: Toward a Media Theory of Timeless Location," in "Thinking and Unthinking Media," *Society for Literature, Science and the Arts (SLSA)*, Toronto, ON. November.
- 2017 "Play and Preservation in the User-oriented City: Navigating (through) the Technical Image," in "Digital Spatial Ecologies: Geolocating the Layers of History and Memory in New Media," *Geomedia 2017*, Karlstad, SWE. May.
- 2016 "Away from Home: Gibellina's City of Art," in "Locating Memory, Locating Home: Aesthetic Intervention after Loss," *American Studies Association (ASA)* Denver, CO. November.
- 2016 "Spatial Imaginaries in Fortress Europe," in "Crises of (Im)migration and Belonging," *Cultural Studies Association (CSA)*, Philadelphia, PA. June.
- 2016 "Mapping Migration," in "Policing: Interventions of Media Technology and Control," *Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS)*, Atlanta, GA. March.
- 2016 "The Geospatial Rhetoric of Asylum," in "Aerial War and Surveillance," *Canadian Association of Cultural Studies (CACS)*, Waterloo, ON. January.
- 2015 "Yael Bartana's Settler Sublime," *Autumn School: Distance and/or Close-up: Visuality, Community, and Affect in Representations of History*, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz. October.
- 2015 "Capital Erasure: Adventure Photography in the Geospatial Web," in "Visual Communication IV," *Canadian Communications Association (CCA)*, Ottawa, ON. June.
- 2015 "Desert Urbanity: Repertoires of the City by Alberto Burri," *Canadian Comparative Literature Association (CCLA)*, Ottawa, ON. June.
- 2015 "Urban Abandonment in Michael Heizer's *City*," in "Ruin, Rubble, Remembrance," *NeMLA 46*, Toronto, ON. April.

- 2015 "Vertical Public Space and the Logic of Urban Abandonment," in "The Ethics and Itineraries of Visual Data," *Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS)*, Montreal, QC. March.
- 2014 "Mapping the Popular at Gunkanjima Island," *Popular Culture and World Politics 7.0*, Ottawa, ON. November.
- 2014 "Amnestic Urban Space: Recorded Images of Gunkanjima Island after *Skyfall*," *Global Garbage: Excess, Waste, and Abandonment in the Contemporary City*, University of London Institute in Paris, FR. June.
- 2014 "Settler Sublime: Yael Bartana's *Mur i Wieza* (Wall and Tower) and *Zamach* (Assassination)," in "Cinema and Literature," *Canadian Comparative Literature Association (CCLA)*, St. Catharines, ON. May.
- 2013 "The Parody of Exile: Yael Bartana's *Mary Koszmary* (Nightmares)," in "European Minority Cultures," *American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)*, Toronto, ON. April.
- 2012 "The Pit of Affect: Burning Books in the Aftermath of Tradition," in "The Afterlife and Aftermath of Visual Culture," *Crossroads in Cultural Studies (ACS)*, Paris, FR. June.
- 2012 "Memory's Remainder: Micha Ullman's Transnational Aesthetic," in "Memory at the Crossroads II," *Canadian Comparative Literature Association (CCLA)*, Waterloo, ON. May.
- 2012 "Transnational Memorial Art," *Europe's Dis/Integration: Place, Belonging and Identity across and beyond Europe*, McGill University, Montreal, QC. April.
- 2012 "The Library of Burned Books: Impossible Recuperation," in "Writing, Violence, World," *American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)*, Providence, RI. March.
- 2011 "Vari Hall and the Anachronisms of Enlightenment," *Canadian Comparative Literature Association (CCLA)*, Fredericton, NB. May.
- 2011 "The Culture of the Archive: Technicity, Trace, and Metaphor," in "The Metamorphosis of the Trace," *The Everyday: Experience, Concepts, Narratives*, Toronto, ON. April.
- 2011 "Dialogues: *Of Grammatology*," *Culture Speak: Critical Engagements in Contemporary Theory*, OISE/UT, Toronto, ON. January.

- 2010 "Freud and Derrida After the 'Archival Turn,'" *Freud After Derrida: An International Interdisciplinary Conference*, Winnipeg, MB. October.
- 2010 "Memory and Historicism in Andreas Huyssen's *Twilight Memories*," in "History of the Archive, History of Memory," *John Douglas Taylor Conference: Archive & Everyday Life*, Hamilton, ON. May.
- 2010 "Writing and Time," in "The Politics of Mourning," *ASCA International Workshop*, University of Amsterdam (UvA), Amsterdam, NL. March.
- 2009 "Solidarity, Friendship and Politics in the University," *The Fecundity of Recognition: The Self/Other in Politics, Sociality, Ethics, and Critique*, Toronto, ON. April.
- 2008 "Translating Academic Discipline," *Humanities Advanced Research Seminar*, Toronto, ON. November.
- 2008 "Spacing the Humanities 'Foundation': Vari Hall and Its Discontents," *Knowledge, Violence, Discipline: Rethinking Politics and the University*, Binghamton, NY. April.
- 2007 "Uncommon Singularities: Toward an Evental Multitude," *International Studies Association (ISA)*, Chicago, IL. February.
- 2006 "Thinking Sovereignty Differently," in "Productive Disruptions," *Illusions of Identity: resisting (beyond) identity politics*, London, ON. October.
- 2006 "Life at the Site: Contemporary Political Subjectivity," *Deconstructing Empire Graduate Student Symposium*, Victoria, BC. June.

Panelist, discussant

- 2019 "Roundtable: New Editing and Legitimizing Practices in Comparative Literature and Digital Humanities: A Manifesto," *Canadian Comparative Literature Association (CCLA)*, Vancouver, BC. June.
- 2018 "Trafficking in Media Theory," in "Roundtable: Theoretical Directions in Comparative Literature," *Canadian Comparative Literature Association (CCLA)*, Regina, SK. May.
- 2017 "Digital Knowledge and Publishing," *CCL(x): Issues of Scholarship and Publishing in the Contemporary Conjuncture*, Toronto, ON. May.

- 2017 “Experiential Learning,” in “Teaching, Interdisciplinarity, Technology, and Experimentation beyond the Classroom,” *Canadian Comparative Literature Association (CCLA)*, Toronto, ON. May.
- 2014 “Art and the Problem of Mediation in the Digital Age,” *Popular Culture and World Politics 7.0*, Ottawa, ON. November.
- 2012 “Politics, Resistance, Myth,” *Canadian Comparative Literature Association (CCLA)*, Waterloo, ON. May.
- 2011 “Image Archives,” *The Past on Display: Museums, Film, Musealization*, Toronto, ON. April.
- 2011 “Graduate Humanities Workshop,” York University, Toronto, ON. April.
- 2010 “Image, Time and the Archive,” *John Douglas Taylor Conference: Archive & Everyday Life*, Hamilton, ON. May.

Workshop participant

- 2015 Fully funded participant in *Autumn School: Distance and/or Close-up: Visuality, Community, and Affect in Representations of History*, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz, Mainz, DE. October.
- 2012 Fully funded participant in *Minor Cosmopolitanisms*, Universität Potsdam, Potsdam, DE. July.
- 2011 Participant in “New Urban Aesthetics,” *The Cities Project*, University of Amsterdam (UvA), Amsterdam, NL. November.
- 2011 Fully funded participant in *Berlin and Beyond: Rethinking Memory and National Identity in Post-Wende German Culture and Politics*, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Berlin, DE. June.
- 2008 Participant in “TA Workshop,” York University, Vanier College, Toronto, ON. January.

Invited speaker, lecturer

- 2019 “GIS in Media Theory: Exploring Technologies of Mobility, Memory, Visual Culture, and Space in Pedagogical Research,” *GIS Research Day*, Trent University. November.

- 2019 "Pecha Kucha: Spacing Out," *For Whom the Media Matters IV*, The McLuhan Centre, Toronto, ON. September.
- 2019 "Digital Memory and the Archive," CUST 6100: Intellectual Traditions in Cultural Studies (PhD course), Trent University, April.
- 2018 "History, Memory and the Archive," CUST 6100: Intellectual Traditions in Cultural Studies (PhD course), Trent University, February.
- 2013 "Marxism and Culture," *Shapers and Definers of the Modern Age* (undergraduate), York University, February.
- 2012 "Antonio Gramsci and the Culture of Protest," *Theories of Global Studies* (undergraduate), Wilfrid Laurier University, November.
- 2011 "Cosmopolitanism and Citizenship," *Humanities for a Global Age* (undergraduate), York University, March.
- 2009 "The Kafkaesque," *Shapers and Definers of the Modern Age* (undergraduate), York University, April.

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Assistant Editor, *Media Theory*, 2017-present.

Member, CCLA Working Group: Comparative Materialities: Media, Literature, Theory. 2020-present.

Member, CSA Working Group: New Media and Digital Cultures. 2020-present.

President, *Canadian Comparative Literature Association (CCLA)*, 2019-2021.

Vice President and Program Chair, *Canadian Comparative Literature Association (CCLA)* 2017-2019.

Reviewer, *Media Theory*, Standard Issue (2019 & 2020).

Reviewer, *M/C: Journal of Media and Culture*, Special Issue: Walking (2019).

Review Editor, *IAFOR Journal of Cultural Studies*, 2017-2019.

Media and Communications Officer, *Canadian Comparative Literature Association (CCLA)* 2015-2017.

Reviewer, *Feminist Media Studies*, Special Issue: Affective Encounters: Tools of Interruption for Activist Media Practices (2016).

Reviewer, *Drain: A Journal of Contemporary Art and Culture*, Special Issue: AIDS and Memory (2016).

Editorial Assistant, Peter McIsaac and Gabrielle Mueller (eds.) (2015): *Exhibiting the German Past: Museums, Film, Musealization*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Dissertation proofreading for Gabriel Pereira, Oxford University, 2014.

Dissertation proofreading for Kelly Bronson, York University, 2012.

Editorial Intern, "Nature Matters" (2009) *Topia: Canadian Journal of Cultural Studies* 21.1.

Editor, *The Atkinsonian Newsmagazine*, Atkinson College, York University, 2001-2005.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Coordinator, Media Studies Program, Trent University, 2019-present.

Media Studies Program Committee, Trent University, 2016-present.

Cultural Studies Departmental Committee, Trent University, 2016-present.

Coordinator, Cultural Studies Graduate Programs, Trent University, WI 2021.

Curriculum Committee, Cultural Studies, Trent University, 2017-2018, 2019-2020.

Recruitment Committee, Cultural Studies Graduate Program, Trent University, 2018.

SSHRC Ranking Committee (ad-hoc), Cultural Studies Graduate Program, Trent University, 2017.

Hiring Committee, Department of Humanities, York University, 2011.

Recruitment Committee, Department of Humanities, York University, 2011.

Graduate Executive Committee, Department of Humanities, York University, 2009-2011.

Graduate Studies Committee, Theory & Criticism, UWO, 2005-2006.

OTHER UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Open House Mini-Lecture: Cultural Studies and Media Studies, Trent University, 2019.

Ontario Universities Fair (OUF), Trent University, 2017, 2018, 2019.

Mentor, Accessibility Services, University of Toronto, 2012-2015.

Co-President, Graduate Students' Association, Department of Humanities, York University, 2011-2012.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS (current)

Association for Cultural Studies (ACS).

Canadian Comparative Literature Association (CCLA).

Communication, Information Technologies, and Media Sociology (CITAMS).

Cultural Studies Association (CSA).