***CURRICULUM VITAE***

Leila Silvana May

Department of English 414 S. Boylan Ave.

North Carolina State University Raleigh, NC 27603

Raleigh, NC 27695-8105 (919) 755-9658

(919) 513-1886 leila@ncsu.edu

**EDUCATION**

Ph.D., English Literature, University of California, Berkeley, May, l994

Dissertation: "Relatively Speaking: Representations of Siblings in Nineteenth-Century British Literature”

Committee: Elizabeth Abel, Carol T. Christ, Michael Rogin (Political Science)

B.A. (Honors in English and Philosophy), Mills College, l984

**ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS**

Off-Campus Scholarly Assignment, 2017-18

Honoree, Thank a Teacher, 2016

Board of Governors Teaching Award, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, 2015-16

Board of Governors Teaching Award, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, 2014-15

Outstanding Teacher Award, 2013

College of Humanities and Social Sciences Summer Research Funding, 2013

College of Humanities and Social Sciences Summer Research Funding, 2012

Scholarly Projects Award, 2011

Off-Campus Research Assignment, 2009-2010

Executive Board, Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association (PAMLA), Elected term: 2005-2008

Scholarly Projects Award, 2008

Women’s and Gender Studies Travel Grant, 2007

Outstanding Teacher Award, and Induction into the Academy of Outstanding Teachers, 2004-2005

Women’s and Gender Studies Travel Grant, 2005

Off-Campus Research Leave, 2002-2003

Hewlett Fellow, 2000-2001

Outstanding Junior Faculty Award Nomination, 1999-2000

College of Humanities and Social Sciences Summer Stipend, 1998

UC Berkeley Lecturer, post-doctoral appointment, 1994-1995

Mellon Dissertation Fellowship, 1992-1993

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, UC Berkeley, l989-90

Mellon Fellow, l985-1987

Phi Beta Kappa, l984

Graduated with Honors in English and Philosophy, Mills College, 1984

Lucy Stern Fellowship, Mills College, l982-1984

Ardella Mills Prize for Best Essay, first and second place (Mills College, l984)

Ardella Mills Prize for Best Essay (Mills College, l983)

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Professor, North Carolina State University, 2016-present

Associate Professor, North Carolina State University, 2001-2016

Assistant Professor, North Carolina State University, 1995-2001

Lecturer, University of California, Berkeley, post-doctoral appointment, 1994-1995

Teaching Associate, University of California, Berkeley, 1989-1993

Teaching Assistant, University of California, Berkeley, 1987-1988

Guest Instructor for Graduate Seminar on American Women Writers, Sacramento State University, December 1991

**PUBLICATIONS**

Books

*Dialectics of Secrecy and Disclosure in Victorian Fiction* (London and New York: Routledge, 2016)

*Disorderly Sisters: Sibling Relations and Sororal Resistance in Nineteenth-Century British Literature*. Lewisburg and London: Bucknell University Press, 2001.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

“’Who’s to be master?’: Lewis Carroll and J. L. Austin.” *Interdisciplinary Literary Studies* 19.1 (March 2017): 69-101.

“Lucy Snowe, A Material Girl? Phrenology, Surveillance and the Sociology of Interiority.” *Criticism* (Winter 2013): 43-68.

“How Lucy Snowe Became an Amnesiac.” *Brontë Studies* 34.3 (November 2009): 220-233.

“Language-Games and Nonsense: Wittgenstein’s Reflection in Carroll’s Looking-Glass,” *Philosophy and Literature* 31.1 (Spring 2007): 79-94.

“The Sociology of Thackeray’s “Howling Wilderness”: Selfishness, Secrecy and Performance in *Vanity Fair*,” *Modern Language Studies* 37.1 (Summer 2007): 18-41.

"Jane Austen's ‘Schemes of Sisterly Happiness,’" *Philological Quarterly* 81.4 (2002): 327-58. [Appeared November 2004]

"‘Monkeys, Microcephalous Idiots, and the Barbarous Races of Mankind’: Darwin's Dangerous Victorianism," *Victorian Newsletter* (Spring 2003): 20-27.

"The Strong-Arming of Desire: A Reconsideration of Nancy Armstrong's *Desire and Domestic Fiction*," *ELH* (Winter 2001): 267-85.

"‘Foul things of the night’: Dread in the Victorian Body," *Modern Language Review* 93.1 (January 1998): 16-22.

"Sibling Revelry in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*," *Studies in English Literature* 35.4 (Autumn 1995): 669-85.

"‘A strange family story’: Sensational Sisters in Wilkie Collins's *The Woman in White*," *Pacific Coast Philology* 30 (September 1995): 82-102.

"The Violence of the Letter: *Clarissa* and Familial Bo(u)nds," *English Language Notes* 32.5 (March 1995): 38-46.

"‘Sympathies of a Scarcely Intelligible Nature’: The Brother-Sister Bond in Poe’s ‘Fall of the House of Usher,’" *Studies in Short Fiction* 30.3(Summer 1993): 387-96.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapter

"‘Eat me, drink me, love me’: Orality, Sexuality and the Fruits of Sororal Desire in ‘Gob(b)lin(g) Market’ and *Beloved,*" in *The Significance of Sibling Relationships in Literature*, ed. JoAnna Stephens Mink and Janet Doubler Ward (Bowling Green, Ohio: Bowling Green State University Popular Press, l993), 133-48.

Solicited Book Reviews

Rev. of Ruth Rosaler, *Conspicuous Silences: Implicature in the Victorian Novel.* Oxford UP, 2016. Forthcoming in *Victorian Studies*

Rev. of Carolyn Lesjak, *Working Fictions: A Genealogy of the Victorian Novel*. Duke University Press, 2006. *Victorians Institute Journal* 35 (2007): 294-299.

Rev. of Richard A. Kaye, *The Flirt’s Tragedy: Desire Without End in Victorian and Edwardian Fiction*. University of Virginia Press, 2002. *Victorians Institute Journal* 31 (2003): 219-225.

Rev. of Valerie Sanders, *The Brother-Sister Culture in Nineteenth-Century Literature: From Austen to Woolf*. Palgrave, 2002, in *Victorian Studies* 45.4 (Summer 2003): 738-40.

# PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

“All-Consuming Secrets in *Bleak House,*” Victorians Institute Conference, Asheville, NC, November 2018.

“All the Reflected Light We Cannot See: Mirror Imagery in Victorian Fiction,” NAVSA/BAVSA, Florence, Italy, May 2017.

Chair, Panel: Transformation and Transgression in the Brontës, NAVSA/BAVSA, Florence, Italy, May 2017.

Co-Organizer, Victorians Institute Conference, NC State University, October 14-15, 2016.

“The Horror of the Hirsute Body: Victorian Fears of Atavism,” Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies (PCCBS), Pasadena, CA, April 2016

“Detecting Holmes’s Readers,” Pacific Modern Language Association, Portland, OR, November 2015.

“Monstrous Binaries: An Approach to Teaching Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein*,” Humanities Education and Research Association (HERA), San Francisco, CA, April 2015.

““Who’s to be master?”: Lewis Carroll and J. L. Austin,” Panel: Nineteenth-Century British Literature and Culture, Pacific Modern Language Association (PAMLA), Riverside, CA, October 2014.

“The Mystery of History: Secrecy in Bulwer-Lytton’s Historical Novel *Leila*,” Victorians Institute Conference, Charlotte, NC, October 2014

Invited to give “Mock Course” for College of Humanities and Social Science students and their parents, NC State University, February 2014.

“Lucy Snowe and the Desert Sands of Elsewhere,” North American/British Victorian Studies Associations (NAVSA/BAVSA), Venice, Italy, June 2013.

“Erving Goffman, the Cheshire Cat, and *Lady Audley’s Secret*,” Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies (PCCBS), University of California, Berkeley, March 2013.

“The Victorian Siege of Granada, 1492: Bulwer-Lytton’s *Leila*, Pacific Modern Language Association (PAMLA), University of Seattle, October 2012.

“Combative Spiritualism in Charlotte Brontë’s *Villette*.” Panel: Transcontinental Spiritualism, Nineteenth-Century Studies Association (NCSA), Asheville, NC, March 2012.

“Sherlock Holmes, the ‘Science of Deduction and Analysis,’ and the End of Victoria’s Secrets,” Panel: Nineteenth-Century British Literature and Culture, Pacific Modern Language Association (PAMLA), Scripps College, Claremont, CA, November 2011.

“Save Us from the Wrath of Nature: The Victorian Fear of Atavism,” Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Association (INCS), Pitzer College, Claremont, CA, April 2011.

“Inner Outings: Concealment and Revelation in the Victorian Novel,” Philological Association of the Carolinas (PAC), UNC Asheville, March 2011.

“Memory Lapses in Labassecour: Charlotte Brontë and Forgetfulness." Panel: Atypical Nostalgia, San Francisco State University, November 2009.

Chair, Panel: Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies, PAMLA, Pomona College, Claremont, CA, November 2008.

“Reductio ad Materialismus: Overplaying the Materialist Card in *Villette*,” Victorians Institute, University of SC, Columbia, SC, October 2008

Chair, Panel: Nineteenth-Century British Literature and Culture I & II (two sessions), PAMLA, University of Western Washington, November 2007.

“Lady Audley, Becky Sharp and You: The Sociology of Secrecy,” Victorians Institute Conference, University of Tuscaloosa, November 2007.

“Lucy Snowe: A Material Girl?,” North American Victorian Studies Association (NAVSA), Victoria, B.C., October 2007.

“The Sociology of Secrecy and the ‘Howling Wilderness’ of *Vanity Fair*,” North American Victorian Studies Association (NAVSA), Purdue University, August 2006

“The Sociology of Secrecy and the ‘Howling Wilderness’ of *Vanity Fair*,” PAMLA, UC Riverside, November 2006.

Chair, Special Session: The Female Gothic, PAMLA, Malibu, CA, November 2005

“Exoticism, Eroticism and Secrecy in the Nineteenth-Century Imagination: Unveiling Bulwer-Lytton’s *Leila, or, The Siege of Granada*,” North American Victorian Studies Association, University of Virginia, September 2005

“’Who is quite safe from the trembling of the balance?’: Braddon’s Sensational Secret,” The Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century British Women Writer’s Conference, Lafayette, Louisiana, April 2005.

Moderator, Panel: Sensation Fiction, The Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century British Women Writer’s Conference, Lafayette, Louisiana, April 2005.

“Inner Outings: Performing Secrecy in *Villette*,” North American Conference on British Studies, Philadelphia, October 2004.

“Mirrors, Masks, Lies and Secrets: Endangered Selfhood in *Villette*,” The Brontës and their World, Pace University, New York, April 2004.

“’Signs and Tokens’: Lady Audley, Madness, and the Secret of Self-Identity,” PAMLA, Claremont, CA, November 2003.

Chair, Special Session: Victorian Secrets, PAMLA, Los Angeles, November 2003.

Chair, Panel: Women and Literature, PAMLA, Santa Clara, CA, November 2001.

"Language Games in Wonderland: Language on Holiday, or Madly at Work?” PAMLA, Santa Clara, CA, November 2001.

Invited Speaker for Humanities Seminar on Wizards, Witches, Monsters and the Imagination, Wayne College, October 26, 2001.

“Playing Your Cards Right: Language, Gender, and the Victorian Family," Locating the Victorians Conference, University of London, July 2001

Chair, Panel: Gender and the Victorian Family, Locating the Victorians Conference, University of London, July 2001

Invited Speaker for Hewlett Project Assessment, March 1, 2001.

"Language Games, Gender, and the Victorian Family," Mid-Atlantic Conference on British Studies, New York, March 2001.

"Jane Austen's ‘Schemes of Sisterly Happiness,’" Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, Los Angeles, November 2000.

Chair, Special Session: Victorian Sensations, Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, Los Angeles, November 2000.

Invited Speaker for UNC's "Adventures in Ideas" Weekend Seminars, October 27-28, 2000, UNC Chapel Hill. Seminar entitled, "Mary's Monsters, or, Framing *Frankenstein.*"

"‘Monkeys, Microcephalous Idiots, and the Barbarous Races of Mankind’: Darwin's Dangerous Victorianism," The Middle Atlantic Conference on British Studies, New York City, April 7, 2000.

Presiding Officer, Panel: English Literature Since 1700, Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, Portland, November 1999.

"Skirting the Flood: Sisters and Brothers in *The Mill on the Floss*," Modern Language Association, San Francisco, December 1998.

"‘There can never be the same friendship between three as between

two’: Harriet Martineau's *Deerbrook*," 18th- and 19th-Century British Women Writers Conference, Chapel Hill, March 1998.

Moderator, Panel: The New Woman: Social Connections, Social Constructions, 18th- and 19th-Century British Women Writers Conference, Chapel Hill, March 1998.

"Madonnas and Magdalens: Sisters of *No Name*," Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, San Jose State University, November 1997.

Chair, Special Session: Families in Victorian Literature, Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, San Jose State University, November 1997.

"Life's Walking Shadow: Victorian D(r)ead in Bram Stoker's *Dracula*," Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Literature conference, Berkeley, April 1997.

"Sister Acts: Geraldine Jewsbury's *The Half Sisters*," Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century British Women Writers conference, University of California, Davis, CA, March 1997.

Chair, Special Session: Families in Victorian Literature, Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, University of California, Irvine, November 1996.

"‘Full of Doubt I stand’: Dubito Ergo Sum," Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, University of California, Irvine, November 1996.

"The Fall of the House of Dombey," delivered at the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, Santa Barbara, November 1995.

Chair, Panel: Alternative Sexualities in Victorian Literature, Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, University of Washington, Seattle, November 1995.

"‘A strange family story’: Sensational Sisters in Wilkie Collins's *The Woman in White*," Philological Association of the Pacific Coast conference, San Francisco, November 1994.

"‘Foul Things of the Night’: Dread in the Victorian Body," Philological Association of the Pacific Coast conference, San Diego, November 1993.

"The Violence of the Letter: *Clarissa* and Familial Bo(u)nds," Philological Association of the Pacific Coast conference, San Diego, November l993.

Elected Presiding Officer, Panel: English Literature (1700 to present), Philological Association of the Pacific Coast, November 1994, and Secretary, November 1993.

"‘Eat me, drink me, love me’: Orality, Sexuality and the Fruits of Sororal Desire in ‘Gob(b)lin(g) Market’ and *Beloved*," UC Berkeley's Women’s Caucus, April 1992.

**COURSES TAUGHT**

NC State:

HON 202 & 293: Monstrosity, Madness and Marginality (University Honors Seminar)

ENG 208: Studies in Fiction

ENG 251: Major British Writers

ENG 262: English Literature Survey II

ENG 305: Women in Literature: Alternative Narratives

ENG 363: The British Novel of the Nineteenth Century

ENG 460: Major British Author: Charles Dickens and His Universe

ENG 498: Ghosts, Lunatics and Lovers: The Brontë Sisters

ENG 491H: The Female Gothic (English Honors Seminar)

ENG 564: The Victorian Novel: Angels, Odd and Other Women (Graduate Seminar)

ENG 582: The Female Gothic (Graduate Seminar)

ENG 664: Siblings in the Victorian Novel (Graduate Seminar)

MLS 501: Women and Madness (Graduate Seminar)

University of California, Berkeley:

ENG 1A: Reading and Composition (I)

ENG 1B: Reading and Composition (II)

ENG 125B: The British Novel (large lecture survey)

ENG 152: Women Writers (large upper-division lecture course)

**ACADEMIC SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIPS**

Reader/Reviewer:

*Lit* (*Literature/Interpretation/Theory*)

*Victorian Studies*

*Victorian Review*

*Victorian Newsletter*

*RaVoN (Romanticism and Victorianism on the Net)*

*VIJ* (*Victorians Institute Journal*)

*Pacific Coast Philology*

*Feminist Formations*

*The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Victorian Literature* (Lewis Carroll entry)

*Signs*

Memberships:

Modern Language Association (MLA)

Nineteenth-Century Victorian Studies Association (NAVSA)

North American British Studies Association (NABS)

Executive Board, Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association (PAMLA) (Elected term: 2005-2008)

American Association of University Professors (AAUP)

Victorians Institute (VI)

Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association (PAMLA)

Philosophy, Art and Literature Consortium (PAL), Duke University

South Atlantic Modern Language Association (SAMLA)

Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Association (INCS)

Committee Service, NC State:

Director, English Honors Program, 2010-present

Board of Governors Awards for Excellence in Teaching Committee, 2016

Masters in Liberal Studies (MALS) Advisory Council, 2011-present

University Honors Advisory Board, 2014-present

Post-Tenure Review Committee, 2016-present

English Department Advisory Council, 2011-2012

Women's and Gender Studies Executive Council, 2001-present

Graduate Advisor, NCSU Department of English, 2003-2009

Coordinating Committee, 2008-2009

Faculty Research and Professional Development Committee, 2006-2007

English Department Head Search Committee (elected representative), 2005-2006

Undergraduate Studies Committee (elected representative), 2004-2006

LAN (Literature Program) subcommittee, 2004-2006

Chair, LAN/LIT Faculty (elected position), 2005-2006

CHASS Awards Committee, 2005-2007 (Chair, 2007)

Park Scholars Mentor, 2001-2002

Ad Hoc Committee for Review of Promotion and Tenure Policies and Procedures, 2001-2002

Departmental Faculty Awards Committee, 2001-2002

Curriculum Committee ((elected representative), 2001-2002

Graduate Council, 1999-2001

English Department Head Search Committee (Appointed by Dean), 1999-2000

Dean's Committee for Review and Evaluation of Department Programs and Leadership (Appointed by Dean), 1998-1999

CHASS First-Year Seminar Committee, 1998-2000

Ad Hoc Committee on Ph.D. Programs (Appointed by Chair of Graduate Studies), 1997-1998

Chair, Speaker’s Committee, 1995-2002

**LANGUAGES**

French, German, Spanish.

**REFERENCES**

Professor Elizabeth Abel (English, UC Berkeley)

Professor Carol T. Christ (President Emeritus, Smith College)

Professor Antony H. Harrison (Head, Department of English, University Distinguished Professor, North Carolina State University)

Professor Ulrich Knoepflmacher (English Emeritus, Princeton University)

Professor John Kucich (English, Rutgers University)

Professor Gerhard Joseph (English, Graduate Center, CUNY)

Professor Elizabeth Langland (Dean of Humanities, UC Davis)

Professor Mary Helen Thuente (English Emeritus, NC State University)

Professor Alex Zwerdling (English Emeritus, UC Berkeley)