

# Brandon Hurst

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## Education

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**University of Connecticut**, Storrs, CT August 2025-. PhD. English  
August 2024-Present. Digital Humanities and Media Studies Graduate Certificate

**University of Connecticut**, Storrs, CT August 2023-May 2025. Master of Arts in English. 4.0.

**Boise State University**, Boise, ID December 17, 2022. Bachelor of Arts in English, Literature  
Emphasis. GPA 4.0

**Digital Humanities Summer Institute: “DIY Computational Text Analysis with R”**  
University of Victoria. Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. June 10-14.

## Publications

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“‘Best Done by Indirection’: Fiction, Reality, and The Romantic Irony of Depravity in Herman  
Melville’s *Billy Budd*.” *Leviathan*, March 2025, 45-64.

Forthcoming with Dr. Christopher Ohge. University of London “Melville’s Marginalia Online,  
Data Analysis, and the Writer as Reader.” *Textual Cultures*. Spring 2026.

## Presentations

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**“Waves of Emotion: Visualizing Sentiment Analysis of Melville’s Marginalia”**  
Panel. 14<sup>th</sup> International Melville Society Conference: “Oceanic Melville.” University of  
Connecticut (maritime campus), Avery Point, CT. June 16-19, 2025.

**“Melville’s Hazlitt Marginalia and Transatlantic Literary Influence.”**  
Roundtable. 14<sup>th</sup> International Melville Society Conference: “Oceanic Melville.” University of  
Connecticut (maritime campus), Avery Point, CT. June 16-19, 2025.

**“Computer-Assisted Approaches to Material Texts.”**  
Presentation. Luleå University of Technology. June 24, 2024.

**“Text Analysis and Editorial Informatik at Melville’s Marginalia Online”**  
Panel. 13<sup>th</sup> International Melville Society Conference: “Melville’s Energies: Aesthetics, Politics,  
Ecologies” Paris, France June 28, 2022.

## Research Positions

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*Melville’s Marginalia Online* Associate Editor; Technical Design and Analysis Specialist.

**Editor:** “The Decay of Lying: A Fluid Text Edition,” Fall 2025-Present.

**Editorial Assistant:** Encoded, Digital Edition of “Hawthorne and His Mosses,” *Melville Electronic Library* Fall 2024-Present

**Research Assistantship.** “Daniel Defoe and the History of Loneliness.” Fall 2024.  
Advisor Dr. Dwight Codr.

## **Teaching**

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Instructor of Record. English 1007 Seminar & Studio in Academic Writing and Multimodal Composition. Fall 2023-Present.

## **Grants and Honors**

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Phi Kappa Phi Love of Learning Award. \$1,000, 2024

Aetna Writing Grant \$500, 2024

Digital Humanities Summer Institute Tuition Scholarship \$350, 2023-2024

2023 Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship Boise State Chapter Nominee.

Summa Cum Laude Graduate, Boise State University, 2022.

Boise State Undergraduate Research & Creative Activities Grant \$2,000, 2022.

for Presentation at 13<sup>th</sup> International Melville Society Conference: “Melville’s Energies: Aesthetics, Politics, Ecologies” Paris, France.

Melville Society Travel Awards. Honorable Mention. \$100, 2022.

Boise State University Presidential Scholarship, \$5,000/yr. 2019-2022.

Lightfoot Foundation Scholarship, \$2250/yr., 2019-2021.

Idaho Opportunity Scholarship, \$3500/yr. 2020-2022.

Boise State University Dean’s List, Highest Honors, 2019-2022.

## **Additional Experience**

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Conference Organizer. “Wicked Reading for Wicked Writing.” UConn Conference of First Year Writing. April 2026.

Editorial Assistant: *Red Badge of Courage* Encoded Digital Edition. Fall 2024-

UConn Early College Experience (ECE) English Graduate Assistant: Fall 2024-Spring 2025.

Conference Organizer. “Collaborative Circulation: A Recursive Roadmap” for Early College Experience (ECE) English. Nov. 1, 2024.

Workshop Leader. “Fieldwork in First-Year Writing.” February 2025.

Conference Organizer. “Joy to You and Me: Making Space for Joy in the Writing Classroom” for Early College Experience (ECE) English. Apr. 24-25, 2024.

UConn English Graduate Student Association Treasurer. Summer 2024-2025.

Facilitator of Introduction to First Year Writing Curriculum for New Cohort. Summer 2024.

Introduction to First Year Writing Curriculum Team Lead. Summer 2025

Undergraduate Research Aid & Peer Mentor, Jan 2022-Dec 2022.

Melville’s Marginalia to Nathaniel Hawthorne.

Melville’s Marginalia to William Wordsworth.

Melville's Marginalia to Shakespeare's *Sonnets*.

Advisors: Dr. Christopher Ohge, Dr. Steven Olsen-Smith, Dr. Johnathan Cook

*Melville's Marginalia Online* Intern, Aug 2021-Dec 2021.

Project: Melville's Marginalia to Schopenhauer.

Advisors: Dr. Christopher Ohge, Dr. Steven Olsen-Smith, Dr. Elisa Barney Smith

“‘Knowledge is a Lamp to Lighten His Path:’ Investigating Melville's Marginalia to Schopenhauer” Poster Presentation. Boise State Undergraduate Research Showcase. Boise, ID April 22, 2022.

## **Skills**

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XML, TEI, JSON for Digital Publishing, Manuscript Description, and Data Analysis

R Coding for Literary/Textual Studies

Data Analysis and Visualization in Voyant Suite and Excel

HTML, XLST, XQuery Fundamentals