

CURRICULUM VITAE

Prof. James Lyons

Associate Professor of Film Studies

College of Humanities
University of Exeter

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS:

- 1997-2000** University of Nottingham: **PhD Film Studies** (Institute of Film Studies, School of American and Canadian Studies) for ‘Signifying Seattle.’ AHRB Partnership funded scholarship.
- 1996-1997** University of Nottingham: MA in Critical Theory. Distinction. British Academy funded scholarship.
- 1991-1995** University of Exeter BA (Hons) American and Commonwealth Arts. First Class degree.

Research Grants

AHRC REACT Future Documentary Sandbox Award (£50,000), October-December 2013.

AHRC Research Leave (£23,698), October 2008-January 2009.

British Academy Small Research Grant, ‘Product Placement in Hollywood Cinema, 1955-1975,’ (£5000), 2007-2008.

British Academy Overseas Conference Grant (£600) to attend the Society for Cinema Studies conference, Atlanta, Georgia, 2003.

Research and Publications

Books - authored

1. *Documentary, Performance and Risk*, London: Routledge (in press), c.90,000 words.*
2. *Miami Vice*, Malden, Mass: Wiley-Blackwell Publishing, 2010, 50,000 words 144pp.*
3. *Selling Seattle: Representing Contemporary Urban America*, Wallflower Press/Columbia UP, 2004, 90,000 words, 208pp.*

Books – edited

4. *The Rise of the American Comics Artist: Creators and Contexts*, ed. **James Lyons** and Paul Williams, University Press of Mississippi, 2010, 256pp.

5. *Multimedia Histories: From the Magic Lantern to the Internet*, ed. **James Lyons** and John Plunkett, Exeter: University of Exeter Press, 2007, 255pp.

6. *Quality Popular Television*, ed. **James Lyons** and Mark Jancovich, B.F.I, 2003, 215pp.

Chapters in books

7. 'A woman with an endgame': Megan Ellison, Annapurna Pictures, and American independent film production., in Schreiber M, Perkins C, Badley L (eds) *Indie Reframed: Women Filmmakers and Contemporary American Cinema*, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2016.*

8. 'Interactive Documentary: Film and Politics in the Digital Era', in Tzioumakis Y, Mulloy C (eds) *The Routledge Companion to Film and Politics*, London: Routledge, 2015.*

9. 'The American Independent Producer and the Film Value Chain', in *Beyond the Bottom-Line: The Producer in Film and Television Studies*, ed. Andrew Spicer, A T McKenna, and Christopher Meir, New York: Continuum, 2014.*

10. 'It rhymes with lust: the twisted history of comics noir', in *Blackwell Companion to Film Noir*, ed. Andrew Spicer and Helen Hanson, Wiley-Blackwell 2013.

11. 'Frasier', *The St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture*, 2nd Edition, ed. Thomas Riggs, Michigan: St. James Press, 2013.

12. 'Low-flying stars': the aesthetics of cult stardom in Mumblecore', in *Cult Film Stardom: Offbeat Attractions and Processes of Cultification*, ed. Kate Egan and Sarah Thomas, Palgrave Macmillan, UK 2012.*

13. 'Grunge Music', *Encyclopedia of Popular Music of the World*, ed. David Horn, Continuum, UK 2012.

14. 'Too Much Commerce Man?: Shannon the ironies of the 'Rebel Cell,' in *The Rise of the American Comics Artist: Creators and Contexts*, ed. Paul Williams and **James Lyons**, University Press of Mississippi, 2010.

15. "From Nip/Tuck to cut/paste: remediating cosmetic surgery online' in *Multimedia Histories*, ed. **James Lyons** and John Plunkett, Exeter: University of Exeter Press, 2007.

16. "What About the Popcorn?": Food and Film-Watching Experiences', in *Reel Food*, ed. Anne Bower, New York: Routledge, 2004.*

17. "John Sayles" (with Mark Jancovich) in *Fifty Contemporary Film Makers*, ed. Yvonne Tasker, London: Routledge, 2003/2011 (revised for second edition)

Papers in journals

18. 'Gore is the world': embodying environmental risk in *An Inconvenient Truth*, *Journal of Risk Research*, Narratives of Environmental Risk special edition, Volume 23, Issue 1, 2019.*
19. 'I want my MTS: the development of American Stereo Television Broadcasting,' *Critical Studies in Television*, Volume 8, No.3, Winter 2013.*
20. "'Miami Slice': Surgical Shockings in *Nip/Tuck*", *Journal of Popular Film and Television*, Volume 35, No.1, Spring 2008.*
21. "'Think Seattle: Act Globally': Gourmet Coffee, Commodity Biographies, and the Production of Place" *Cultural Studies*, Vol. 19, No.1, January 2005. *
22. "Learning to Look at Seattle by Watching an Old Movie Set in New York." *Scope: an online journal of film studies*. December 1999.

(* Most important publications)

Book reviews

23. Review of Alisa Perren, *Indie, Inc.: Miramax and the Transformation of Hollywood in the 1990s* and Yannis Tzioumakis, *Hollywood's Indies: Classics Divisions, Specialty Labels and the American Film Market*, *Screen*, 56: 2, Summer 2015.
24. Review of Tom Kemper, *Hidden Talent: The Emergence of Hollywood Agents, Screening the Past*, Issue 30, (2011).
25. Review of Alan Lovell and Gianluca Sergi, *Making Films in Contemporary Hollywood*, *Journal of American Studies*, 40, No.2 (2006).
26. Review of Gregory A. Waller ed., *Moviegoing in America: a Sourcebook in the History of Film Exhibition*; Toby Miller, Nitin Govil, John McMurria and Richard Maxwell, *Global Hollywood*, *Screen*, 44, No 2 (2003).
27. Review of Wheeler Winston Dixon, *Disaster and Memory: Celebrity Culture and the Crisis of Hollywood Cinema*, *Journal of American Studies*, 35, No.1 (2001).

Guest editorship

28. Guest Editor, 'Portals: Exploring Films within Films,' Special Edition of *Scope Film Reviews* (reviewers incl. Will Brooker, Paul Grainge, and Damian Sutton) introduction by James Lyons, *Scope: online journal of film studies*, March 2001.

Government reports

29. Case study, on the visualisation of climate change for the Government Chief Scientific Advisor's report "Innovation: Managing Risk, Not Avoiding it", Government Office for Science, 2014.

Research through Practice

30. 'The Risk Taker's Survival Guide,' Interactive Documentary. 2014.

General Editorships of Journals and Series:

Editorial Advisory Board Member of Scope: an online journal of film and television studies (2001-present).

Research Impact

I was commissioned to write a case study on the visual of climate change risk for the Government Chief Scientific Advisor's report to government (see above, 29).

My research on risk informed the work I undertook to design and produce the interactive documentary, 'The Risk Taker's Survival Guide', which won the Ramillas interactive award at Sheffield international Doc/Fest in 2015.

EDUCATION

New Degrees Designed:

MA International Film Business (2015-present). Delivered in conjunction with the London Film School. Co-designed with Prof. Will Higbee.

BA English and Film Studies (2003-present). Co-designed with Prof. Duncan Petrie.

New Modules Designed:

MA Module: 'Movie Mavericks: Creativity, Crisis and Change in 1970s Hollywood' 2004-present (100+ students)

MA Module: 'Key Moments in Cinema History', 2002-2004 (30+ students)

MA Module: 'Film Studies Research Methodologies', 2008-2010 (20+ students)

Level 3: 'American Independent Film', 2006-present (400+ students)

Level 3: 'Teens on Screen: Hollywood and Youth Culture', 2001-2006 (150+ students)

Level 2: 'Shots in the Dark: American Film in Profile', 2009-present (500+ students)

Level 2: 'Hollywood and Europe' 2003-2009 (200+ students)

Modules Taught:

MA Module: 'Distribution and Markets', 2015-2019 (100+ students)

MA Module: 'Models of Innovation', 2015-2019 (100+ students)

Level 3: 'Contemporary Cultures: Britain 1979-2001', 2001-2003 (75+ students)

Level 2: 'Introduction to Film', 2001-2004 (100+ students)

Level 1: Film Studies: An Introduction, 2013-present (200+ students)

Level 1: 'Approaches to Criticism,' 2011-present (100+ students)

Level 1: 'Major Debates in Film Theory, 2008-present (100+ students)

Level 1: Culture and Criticism', 2005-2010 (100+ students)

MA Dissertation Supervisor, 2001-present (100+ students)

Undergraduate Dissertation supervisor, 2001-present (200+ students)

Exeter Students' Guild Teaching Awards, 2011. Best Overall Lecturer (Highly Commended). Nominated again in 2014, 2016.

External Examining

External Examiner for Degree courses:

External Assessor (partner approval and programme validation), MA Filmmaking with Raindance, De Montfort University, 2019.

External Examiner, BA Film and Visual Culture, University of East London, 2006-2010.

External Examiner for Higher Degrees by Research:

Phil Smith, *Those who Survive the Survivors: The Works of Art Spiegelman*. Department of English and Drama, University of Loughborough, 2013.

Lee Bone, *On the Beach: A Critical Examination of Space Within Surf Films*. Department of Drama: Film and Television, University of Bristol, 2013.

Erin Giannini, *The Big Shill: Product Placement and Programming on American TV*. School of Film and Television Studies, University of East Anglia, 2010.

Postgraduate Research

PhD completions.

Tom Fallows, 'Survival of the Dead': Manufacturing Independence in the American Film Industry. An Exploration of the Political Economy of Laurel Entertainment, 1974-1988, 2015-2019. **University studentship funded.**

Edward Falvey, 'Reading the Cinematic City: Iconography, Transformations, and the Birth of New York City', 2013-2017. **AHRC funded.**

Dr. Falvey is now a lecturer at Plymouth College of Art.

Kerem Bayraktaroglu, 'The representation of Muslim identity in post 9/11 cinema', 2012-2017 (P/T).

Chris Davies, 'The Historical Epic on Film,' 2012-2015.

Dr. Davies now works at the British Board of Film Classification as a Senior Compliance Officer. His thesis was published as a monograph by Bloomsbury Academic in 2019.

Jean Pierre Magro, 'Transmedia Film and the Independent Producer,' 2011-2014.

Dr. Magro is now an international producer, lecturer and consultant on Transmedia

storytelling, and was artistic director for Valletta 2018 Capital of Culture.

Adam Whybray, 'Animating Dissent: The Political Object of Czechoslovakian Stop-Motion Film,' 2011-2014. **AHRC funded.**

Joe Hickinbottom, 'Japanese Cult Cinema,' 2011-2015. **AHRC funded.**

Phil Wickham, 'Contemporary Comedy in Britain and the Culture of the New Capitalism', 2009-2012.

Dr. Wickham is the Curator of The Bill Douglas Centre for the History of Cinema and Popular Culture.

Nick Hall, 'The development and use of zoom lenses in American film and television from 1946 to 1974', 2009-2012. **AHRC funded.**

Dr. Hall is now a research officer in the Department of Media Arts, Royal Holloway. His thesis was published as a monograph by Rutgers University press in 2018.

Gareth James, 'HBO and contemporary Television', 2007-2011. **AHRC funded.**

Matthew Barber, 'Representing the American President in Hollywood Cinema', (P/T) 2002-2009.

Stephanie Piotrowski, 'The films of The Beatles and the development of the pop music soundtrack', 2004-2008.

Dr. Piotrowski is lecturer in media studies at Birmingham City University. Her thesis was published as a monograph by Bloomsbury Academic in 2018.

Current Supervisions

Jennifer McLevey, 'Towards a new comedy canon: Lasting genre change in television sitcom, 1990-2005', 2018-present.

Jared Robinson, 'Studio Greeblie: A Study of Authorship, Cooperation, and Industrial Relationships in Film Special Effects', 2018-present.

Gonzalo Maza, 'Screenwriting of Recent Events', 2017-present. **Exeter-LFS Studentship funded.**

Mr. Maza won a 2018 Academy Award for his screenplay for *A Fantastic Woman* (Dir. Sebastián Lelio).

Bogna Starczewska, 'Woody Allen and the European City: Representations of Globalisation and the American Tourist in Europe', 2016-present.

Elisa Cepedal, 'Cinema of Resistance: A Manifesto', 2015-present. **Exeter-LFS Studentship funded.**

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

Director of Postgraduate Research (Film), 2019-
Director, MA International Film Business, 2015, 2017-2018.
Admissions Tutor (Film) 2017-2018.
Director of Film Studies, 2014-2017.
Director of Centre for Interdisciplinary Film Research (CIFR), 2012-2015.
Programme Leader, BA Film Studies, BA English and Film Studies, 2001-2004, 2014-2016
Director of MA Film Studies, 2001-2004, 2008-2009, 2010-2011.
Senior Tutor, Department of English and Film, 2010-2012.
Royal Literary Fund Fellowship University Coordinator 2010-2012.
Chair, Overseas committee, English Department, 2005-2006.
Widening Participation Officer, English Department, 2005-2006.
Overseas Students Tutor/Junior Year Abroad Tutor, 2005-2006, 2007.
Associate Director, Bill Douglas Centre for the History of Film and Popular Culture, 2002-2004.

Committees/Working Parties

Senior Tutor University Forum, 2010-2012. (The forum's role was to review, advise and implement policy on student welfare provision across the university).

EXTERNAL RECOGNITION

Membership and official positions in any professional bodies

Member of Society for Cinema and Media Studies, British Association for American Studies.

Invitations to give papers, key-note addresses or lead seminars

'Embodying risk in extreme weather documentaries', *Fate Luck and Fortune* AHRC Network event. Invited speaker, University of Liverpool, London, September 2017.

'Interactive documentary design: the Risk-takers survival guide', Invited speaker, *Kaleider*, July 2016.

EPSRC Decision making under uncertainty symposium, London, April 2016, invited

participant.

‘A woman with an endgame: Megan Ellison and Annapurna Pictures’, *Independent Film (and) Women symposium*, Invited speaker, University of Liverpool, May 2015.

‘The Risk-takers survival guide’: designing an interactive documentary’, Invited speaker, *Culture Makers – the New Generation*, RAMM, Exeter, April 2015.

‘Designing Interactive Documentaries’, Invited speaker, *Fresh Docs*, Exeter Picturehouse, August 2014.

‘Screening Risk - research and practice in interactive documentary’, Invited speaker, *On Screen/s symposium*, Department of Film and Television, School of Arts, University of Bristol, July 2014.

AHRC Roundtable on Risk, invited symposium participant, London, July 2014.

‘Low Flying Stars: Cult Stardom and Mumblecore.’ Invited speaker, Theatre, Department of Film and Television, University of Aberystwyth, October 2012.

‘Miami Vice and the 1980s police procedural. Invited speaker, Institute for Film and Television Studies, University of Nottingham. May 28, 2008.

Professional external activities

Expert Panel member, M2D, EPSRC-funded research network, Universities of Exeter and Liverpool, 2017-2018.

Ramillas interactive award, *The Risk Taker’s Survival Guide*, Sheffield International DocFest, June 2014.

Editorial Advisory Board, *Scope: film studies*.

AHRC research leave scheme external referee.

Article referee for international peer-reviewed journals including *Screen*, *Journal of American Studies*, *Screening the Past*, *Journal of Popular Film and Television*, *Horror Studies*.

Book proposal and manuscript reader (Manchester University Press, Bloomsbury, Routledge, and Berg Publishers).

Consultative work of a professional nature

Case study, on the visualisation of climate change for the Government Chief Scientific Advisor's report "Innovation: Managing Risk, Not Avoiding it", *Government Office for Science*, 2014.

Interviewed by the BBC for Arts and Culture on ‘Generation X on Film’, March 2019.

Interviewed by *The New York Times*, talking about research on globalization, urban gentrification and the coffee trade, October 2012.

Conference organisation

Decision Making Under Uncertainty, M2D Conference 2018, Issac Newton institute, University of Cambridge, June 2018.

Decision Making Under Uncertainty, M2D Conference 2017, University of Exeter, June 2017.

Multimedia Histories: From the Magic Lantern to the Internet. International conference. University of Exeter, Exeter, July 2003.

Screen Practice Before Film. Colloquium. Bill Douglas Centre, University of Exeter, September 2002.

Defining Cult Movies Conference. International Conference. University of Nottingham, November 2000.