

# MIRIAM POSNER

UCLA Information Studies Department  
<http://www.miriamposner.com>

## Academic Employment

### Assistant Professor

Information Studies and Digital Humanities, University of California, Los Angeles, 2017–

### Coordinator and Core Faculty Member

Program in Digital Humanities, University of California, Los Angeles, 2012–2017

## Education

### Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut

Ph.D., Film Studies and American Studies, 2011

Dissertation: *Depth Perception: Narrative and the Body in Medical Filmmaking*

### Reed College, Portland, Oregon

B.A., History, December 2001

## Publications

### Book Manuscript

*Seeing Like a Supply Chain: Data in the Circuits of Global Trade* (submitted; undergoing review at Yale University Press, where it is under advance contract)

### Peer-Reviewed Journal and Book Articles

“The Logistics of Computing” (with Matthew Hockenberry; April 2024, *IEEE Annals of the History of Computing*)

“The Beer Game: Systems Analysis and the Supply Chain” (forthcoming, spring 2025, *American Book Review*)

“Supply Chain.” *Theory and Event*. 25:1 (January 2022), 178–180.

“Supply Chain.” In *Uncertain Archives: Critical Keywords for Big Data* (Cambridge: MIT, 2021).

Klein, Lauren, and Miriam Posner. “Data.” In *Keywords for American Cultural Studies*, third edition (New York: NYU, 2021).

“Breakpoints and Black Boxes: Information in Global Supply Chains.” *Postmodern Culture* 31:3 (May 2021).

“The Materials at Hand” (with Alison Booth). *Proceedings of the Modern Language Association (PMLA)* 135, no. 1 (January 2020).

“Digital Humanities.” In *The Craft of Criticism: Critical Media Studies in Practice*, edited by Mary Celeste Kearney and Michael Kackman, 331–46. New York: Taylor & Francis, 2018.

“Khaki Fever, Charity Girls, and *The End of the Road*: Hostile Worlds of Sex and Commerce in an Early Sexual Hygiene Film,” *Communicating Good Health: Movies, Medicine, and the Cultures of Risk in the Twentieth Century* (University of Rochester, 2018)

Posner, Miriam, and Marika Cifor. “Generative Tensions: Building a Digital Project on Early African American Race Film.” *American Quarterly* 70, no. 3 (September 29, 2018): 709–14.

“Tracing a Community of Practice: A Database of Early African-American Race Film” (with Marika Cifor), *Moving Image* 17.2 (Fall 2017).

“The Early African-American Race Film Database” (with Marika Cifor, Hanna Girma, William Lam, and Shanya Norman), *Journal of Open Humanities Data*.

“Data as Media” (with Lauren Klein), *Feminist Media Histories* 3:3 (Summer 2017).

“What’s Next: The Radical, Unrealized Potential of Digital Humanities,” and “Here and There: Building Community in the Digital Humanities,” in Lauren Klein and Matthew Gold, ed., *Debates in the Digital Humanities* (University of Minnesota, 2016).

“How is a Digital Project Like a Film?” in Charles Acland and Eric Hoyt, ed., *The Arclight Guide to Media Studies and Digital Humanities* (REFRAME, 2016).

“No Half Measures: Overcoming Common Challenges to Doing Digital Humanities in the Library,” *Journal of Library Administration* 53:1 (January 2013).

“Think Talk Make Do: Power and the Digital Humanities,” *Journal of Digital Humanities* 1:2 (June 2012).

*SPEC Survey on Digital Humanities Services in Libraries* (with Tim Bryson, Frances Maloy, Alain St. Pierre, and Stewart Varner), Association of Research Libraries, March 2011.

“Communicating Disease: Germ Theory and Narrative in Thomas Edison’s Red Cross Seal Films,” in Marsha Orgeron et al., *Learning with the Lights Out: An Educational Film Reader* (Oxford, 2011).

## Writing for the Public

“Ghost Ships.” *LOGIC*, December 21, 2022, <https://logicmag.io/pivot/ghost-ships/>.

“Agile and the Long Crisis of Software.” *LOGIC*, April 2022, <https://logicmag.io/clouds/agile-and-the-long-crisis-of-software/>.

“The Software that Shapes Workers’ Lives.” *New Yorker*, March 12, 2019, <https://www.newyorker.com/science/elements/the-software-that-shapes-workers-lives>.

“See No Evil,” *LOGIC*, April 2018, <https://logicmag.io/scale/see-no-evil/>.

“JavaScript is for Girls,” *LOGIC*, March 2017, <https://logicmag.io/intelligence/javascript-is-for-girls/>.

## Awards

Residential Fellowship, National Humanities Center, Research Triangle, NC, 2023–24 (one of 34 fellows from a pool of 541 applicants)

Faculty Career Development Award, UCLA, 2022–2023

Mellon Data and Social Justice Course Development Grant, UCLA, 2022–2024

Center for Advanced Internet Studies Long-Term Fellowship (declined), 2022

UCLA Society of Hellman Fellows, 2021–2022

Annual Teaching Excellence Award, Information Studies Department, UCLA, 2017–2018

Honorable Mention, Garfinkel Prize for Digital Scholarship, American Studies Association, 2017

## Grant Awards

UCHRI Digital Humanities Visualization Grant, \$15,000 (2019-2020, UCHRI, 20% effort)

UCLA Transdisciplinary Seed Grant, UCLA Office of the Chancellor, \$365 (2019-20, 10% effort)

UCLA Faculty Senate Committee on Research Grant, \$8,899 (2019, UCLA)

UCLA Excellence in Pedagogy and Innovation in the Classroom Initiative, \$16,000 (2018–19, UCLA, 50% effort)

Principal investigator, Beyond the Digitized Slide Library Summer Institute on Digital Humanities and Art History, Getty Foundation, \$181,972 (2014, UCLA)

Principal investigator, Beyond the Digitized Slide Library Summer Institute on Digital Humanities and Art History, Getty Foundation, \$185,677 (2013, UCLA)

Co-principal investigator, Advancing Project-Based Learning through Apprenticeships and Capstone Courses in the Digital Humanities Minor, UCLA Office of Instructional Development, \$37,500 (2012, UCLA)

Co-author, The Digital Scholarship Commons: A New Approach for Digital Scholarship, Mellon Foundation, \$694,053 (2011, Emory University)

Co-author, Online Access to the Silent Film Era Collection, National Endowment for the Humanities, \$250,000 (2008, Museum of the Moving Image)

## Teaching Experience

### Primary Instructor

University of California, Los Angeles

Data, Justice, and Society

F24

Digital Labor

S23

Systems and Infrastructures

W18, W20, W22, W25

Museums in the Digital Age

S18, S19, F20

Selfies, Snapchat, and Cyberbullies: Coming of Age Online

Winter 2015

Digital Labor, Materiality, and Urban Space

Winter 2014

Introduction to Digital Humanities (Undergraduate)

F13, F14, F15, F16, F17

Digital Humanities Capstone: Databases

Spring 2013

Introduction to Digital Humanities (Graduate)

F12, W19, S20, W21,

W22

## Selected Invited Presentations

### Keynotes

“Data Trouble”

Dédalo Conference on Cultural Heritage, Valencia, Spain, October 6, 2023

“Varieties of Uncertainty”

Navigating Uncertainty: Preparing Society for the Future, University of Bielefeld, June 5, 2023

“Data Versus Everything”

Barnard College Center for Empirical Research Tenth Anniversary, February 2, 2023

“Varieties of Uncertainty”

7<sup>th</sup> Workshop of Visualization for the Digital Humanities, IEEE VIS, October 16, 2022

“Head and Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas”

2019 Cassedy Lecture, National Library of Medicine, September 19, 2019.

“Data Trouble”

Utah Digital Humanities Symposium, February 2019

“Data Trouble”

Chicago Colloquium on Digital Humanities and Computer Science, November 2018

“Digital Humanities and the Library”

Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences, Los Angeles, May 2018

“Digital Humanities and the History of Medicine”

Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, March 2018

“Data Trouble”

Netherlands American Studies Association, Middelburg, Netherlands, September 2016

“Data Trouble”

Australasian Association for Digital Humanities, Tasmania, Australia, June 2016

“Data Trouble”

Making Meaning with Data in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Grinnell College, June 2016

“Why We Wrote a Student Collaborators’ Bill of Rights”

Digital Pedagogy Institute, University of Toronto-Scarborough, August 2015

“Seeing Through and with the Interface”

Public Knowledge Project Conference, Simon Fraser University, August 2015

“What’s Next: The Radical, Unrealized Potential of the Digital Humanities”

Keystone Digital Humanities Conference, University of Pennsylvania, July 2015

“Necessary Contradictions: Why Humanists Have Problems with ‘Data’”

Harvard Purdue Data Management Symposium, Cambridge, Mass., June 2015

“Here and There: Creating a Digital Humanities Community”

Digital Frontiers, University of North Texas, September 2014

## **Recent Invited Talks**

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain” (remote presentation)

Invited lecture, Università di Roma Tre, April 22, 2024

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain” (remote presentation)

Invited lecture, Fordham University, March 18, 2024

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”

Invited lecture, University of Toronto Center for Culture and Technology, March 2, 2024

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain” and digital humanities pedagogy workshop

Invited lecture and workshop, University of Virginia, February 1 and 2, 2024

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”

Invited lecture, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, January 23, 2024

“Care, Capital, and COVID” (remote presentation)

Invited lecture, University of Arizona, November 2023

“Digital Humanities at the Actually Existing University”

Invited lecture, Texas Technical University, April 17, 2023

“Data Trouble”

Harvey Mudd College Computer Science Colloquium, November 17, 2023

Invited dialogue participant

Critical Data Futures, Stanford University, October 6–7, 2023

“Data Trouble”

Invited lecture, University of Oregon, April 13, 2022

“Engaging Broadly”

Invited chair and dialogue participant, Academic Data Science Association annual meeting, March 8, 2022

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”

Interrogating Global Traces of Infrastructure (workshop sponsored by King’s College London), November 18, 2021

“Data Trouble”

Middlebury College, November 17, 2021 (remote presentation; repeat performance for larger group)

“Data Trouble” (remote presentation)

Invited lecture, Middlebury College, May 10, 2021

“Research Update” (remote presentation)

Invited lecture, Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media at George Mason University, April 12, 2021

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain” (remote presentation)

Invited presentation, UC Merced, March 19, 2021

“Excavating Silent Film in the Digital Age” (remote presentation)

Invited presentation and workshop, Washington University in St. Louis, March 8-9, 2021

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain” (remote presentation)

Invited presentation, UCLA Information Studies Colloquium, February 11, 2021

“Data Trouble” (remote presentation)

Invited presentation, UC San Diego, February 7, 2020

“Data Trouble”

Invited lecture, University of Nebraska, January 30, 2020

Invited dialogue participant, Getty Center Conference on Minorities and Women, December 3, 2020

Invited lecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, October 26, 2020: “Data Trouble”

2019 Cassidy Lecture, National Library of Medicine, September 19, 2019: “Head and Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas”

“Data Trouble” (remote presentation)

UC San Diego, February 7, 2020

“Data Trouble”

University of Nebraska, January 30, 2020.

Invited dialogue participant, Getty Center Conference on Minorities and Women, December 3, 2020.

“Data Trouble”

Invited lecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, October 26, 2020.

“Data Trouble”

Invited participant and speaker, Think-Play-Hack (Southern Methodist University), July 9-13, 2019.

“Reifying or Rectifying?: When is it OK to Impose Binaries?”

Stanford University, May 30, 2019.

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”

Invited lecture, UC Irvine, May 3, 2019.

“Digital Humanities: What It Is, Where We’ve Come & Where We Might Go”; “Understanding & Evaluating Digital Projects”; “Data Visualization and Mapping with Tableau”

Invited lecture and workshops, Ohio University, March 18, 2019.

“How Did They Make That? Reverse-Engineering Digital Humanities Projects”

UC Riverside, March 5, 2019.

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”

UC Irvine, May 2018

“Digital Humanities in the Actually Existing University”

Ohio University, Athens, March 2019

“Digital Humanities in the Actually Existing University”

University of Colorado, Boulder, February 2019

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”

Albright College, November 2018

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”

University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 2018

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”

Australian National University, Canberra, August 2018

Digital humanities institutional planning workshop facilitation

University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, May 2018

“What is Digital Humanities?”

County of L.A. Public Libraries Emerging Technology Think Tank, April 2018

“Digital Humanities in the Actually Existing University”

University of Chicago, March 2018

“Digital Humanities and Natural Language Processing”

University of Southern California, February 2018

Workshop facilitation for Association of College and Research Librarians

UC San Diego, January 2018

“Digital Humanities Pedagogy”  
Loyola Marymount University, January 2018

“A Database of Early African-American Film”  
University of Shenzhen, China, December 2017

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”  
University of Texas at Austin, June 2017

Digital literary studies panel participation  
Stanford University, April 2017

“Digital Humanities at the Actually Existing University”  
Rochester Institute of Technology, April 2017

“Data Trouble”  
University of Colorado, Boulder, February 2017

“Digital Humanities at the Actually Existing University”  
Northwestern University, September 2016

“Introduction to Network Analysis”  
UC Berkeley, History and Theory of New Media Lecture Series, September 2016

“Framing Digital Humanities”  
Claremont College Digital Humanities Symposium, May 2016

Workshop on computer vision for the history of medicine  
National Library of Medicine, April 2016

“Head-and-Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas: Walter Freeman and the Visual Culture of Lobotomy”  
Reed College, April 2016

“Data Trouble”  
University of San Francisco Data Visualization Speaker Series, March 2016

“Head-and-Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas: Walter Freeman and the Visual Culture of Lobotomy”  
New York Academy of Medicine, New York, NY, February 2016

“Head-and-Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas: Walter Freeman and the Visual Culture of Lobotomy”  
Bard College Experimental Humanities Series, February 2016

“Money and Time”  
UC Irvine Data Science and Digital Humanities Symposium, February 2016

“Head-and-Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas: Walter Freeman and the Visual Culture of Lobotomy”  
University of Kansas Institute for Digital Research in the Humanities, January 2016

“Digital Humanities at the Actually Existing University”  
UC Merced Center for the Humanities, November 2015

“Head-and-Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas: Walter Freeman and the Visual Culture of Lobotomy”

UC Santa Cruz Institute for Humanities Research, November 2015

“Data Trouble”

Yale University American Studies Department, New Haven, CT, May 2015

“Head-and-Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas: Walter Freeman and the Visual Culture of Lobotomy”

New York University Library, May 2015

“Digital Humanities 101”

Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota, November 2014

“Head-and-Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas: Walter Freeman and the Visual Culture of Lobotomy”

Middlebury College, April 2015

“Head-and-Shoulder-Hunting in the Americas: Walter Freeman and the Visual Culture of Lobotomy”

Amherst College, April 2015

“Thinking through and with the Interface”

Fordham University Department of American Studies, April 2014

“How Did They Make That? Reverse-Engineering Digital Humanities Projects”

City University of New York, Graduate Center, April 2014

## **Recent Conference Presentations**

“The Perils and Promise of Teaching with Data”

Association of Digital Humanities Organizations, Arlington, Virginia, August 2024

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”

Modern Language Association, Philadelphia, January 2024

Panelist, “Critical Futures: Exploring the Place and Practice of Critical Informatics Training in iSchools”

iConference, virtual, March 2021

Panelist, “Data and the Archive”

American Studies Association, Honolulu, HI, December 2019

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”

Society for the Social Studies of Science, Sydney, Australia, August 2018

“Seeing Like a Supply Chain”

Command and Control Conference, New York University, April 2018

“Labor and the Digital Humanities”

Digital Humanities Annual Conference, Mexico City, July 2018

“Evaluating Digital Projects”

Organization of American Historians, April 2018

“Digital Humanities and Media Studies”



Society for Cinema and Media Studies, March 2018

## **Related Professional Experience**

Emory University Libraries, Atlanta, Georgia

Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow, Digital Scholarship Commons

June 2010–January 2012

Key in researching, designing, planning, and managing a new center for digital scholarship. Co-wrote successful grant (\$694,053) to the Mellon Foundation to fund the center. Supervised student and full-time employees. Conducted outreach and offered consultations to graduate students and faculty members.

Museum of the Moving Image, Astoria, New York

Associate Curator of the Collection

January 2007–January 2008

Curated, maintained, and developed MMI's collection of 125,000 artifacts. Organized digital and physical exhibitions. Co-wrote successful \$250,000 NEH grant. Managed interns, researched artifacts, and coordinated incoming donations.

## **Service**

Evaluator, March 2023

National Institutes of Health / Center for Disease Control Solicitation: AI/ML Tool for Visualizing Behavioral and Social Science Research

Editorial Committee, 2022-23

Pocket Burgundy Series, Council of Library and Information Resources (CLIR)

Review Committee, 2021–present

American Historical Association Roy Rosenzweig Prize for Digital Scholarship

Advisory Board Member, 2021-2023

Sunset over Sunset (Getty Foundation-funded project)

Editorial Board, 2019-present

*KULA: Knowledge Creation, Dissemination, and Preservation Studies*

Editorial Board, 2019-present

*The Moving Image: Journal of the Association of Moving Image Archivists*

Digital Strategy Roundtable, 2019–2022

United States Library of Congress

Digital Visiting Committee, 2019

The Getty Trust

Advisory Board Member, 2018–

American Philosophical Society Center for Digital Scholarship

External Evaluator, Occidental College Library, 2018

Advisory Board Member, *The Eugenic Rubicon: California's Sterilization Stories*, 2016 (NEH-funded digital publication)

Advisory Board Member, *Digging Deeper, Reaching Further: Libraries Empowering Users to Mine the HathiTrust Digital Library Resources*, 2016–2019  
(IMLS-funded project based at Indiana University)

Editorial Board, *Digital Project Review*, 2016–2019  
*American Quarterly*

Executive Council member, 2014–2017  
Association for Computing and the Humanities

Peer Reviewer, Preservation & Access Research & Development Program, September 2014  
National Endowment for the Humanities Office of Preservation and Access

Selection committee member, 2014  
Council on Library and Information Resources Dissertation Fellowships

Peer reviewer, 2013–Present  
Digital Humanities Annual Meeting

Peer reviewer, current  
Routledge, Palgrave Macmillan, and the *Digital Humanities Quarterly*

Special advisor, 2012–2013  
National Institute for Technology in Liberal Education

General editor, 2012–2016  
*The Programming Historian* (an open-access resource for teaching programming to historians)

Program committee member, 2012  
Society for Cinema and Media Studies

Advisory board member, History Project, 2011–2012

Research Support Services for Scholars (An Ithaka S+R Program)

Peer reviewer, Start-Up Grants, 2011  
National Endowment for the Humanities Office of Digital Humanities