



## Rebecca Richardson

Advanced Lecturer  
Writing and Rhetoric Studies

### Bio

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#### BIO

Rebecca (Becky) Richardson is an Advanced Lecturer in PWR. She attended Mount Holyoke College and holds a Ph.D. in English from Stanford University. Her research interests include the rhetoric of inspiration and self-help, nineteenth-century literature, the history of economics, environmental studies, and the medical humanities; these interests coalesce in *Material Ambitions: Self-Help and Victorian Literature* (JHUP, 2021). In her PWR1 course, "In Another's Shoes: The Rhetoric of Empathy," she is especially interested in encouraging students to think about the relationship between writing, expression, empathy, and identity. Her PWR2 course, "Re-Make It Anew: The Rhetoric of Adapting, Rebooting, and Remaking," is inspired by her interest in adaptations of 19th-century literature and critical approaches including "strategic presentism" that trace the work stories do across times and cultures.

#### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Advanced Lecturer, Writing and Rhetoric Studies

### Research & Scholarship

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#### CURRENT RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

SPECIALIZATION: The Rhetoric of Inspiration and Self-Help; Nineteenth-Century Literature; Environmental Studies; History of Political Economy; The Medical Humanities; Expressive Writing and Self-Reflection

### Teaching

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#### COURSES

##### 2025-26

- *Between Gods and Beasts: The Struggle for Humanity*: ESF 18 (Aut)
- *Between Gods and Beasts: The Struggle for Humanity*: ESF 18A (Aut)
- *Writing & Rhetoric 2: Re-Make It Anew: The Rhetoric of Adapting, Rebooting, and Remaking*: PWR 2BRC (Win, Spr)

##### 2024-25

- *Confronting the Diversity of Life: The Emergence of Evolution from Exploration*: ESF 22A (Aut)
- *Confronting the Diversity of Life: The Emergence of Evolution from Tropical Exploration*: ESF 22 (Aut)
- Leland Scholars Program: *Introduction to Collaborative Research at Stanford*: UAR 43 (Aut)
- *Topics in Writing & Rhetoric: Patient-Centered Stories, Research, and Advocacy*: PWR 194BR (Win)
- *Writing & Rhetoric 2: Re-Make It Anew: The Rhetoric of Adapting, Rebooting, and Remaking*: PWR 2BRC (Win, Spr)

#### 2023-24

- Between Gods and Beasts: The Struggle for Humanity: ESF 18 (Aut)
- Between Gods and Beasts: The Struggle for Humanity: ESF 18A (Aut)
- Leland Scholars Program: Introduction to Collaborative Research at Stanford: UAR 43 (Aut)
- Writing & Rhetoric 2: Re-Make It Anew: The Rhetoric of Adapting, Rebooting, and Remaking: PWR 2BRC (Win, Spr)

#### 2022-23

- Leland Scholars Program: Introduction to Collaborative Research at Stanford: UAR 43 (Aut)
- Writing & Rhetoric 1: In Another's Shoes: The Rhetoric of Empathy: PWR 1BRB (Aut)
- Writing & Rhetoric 2: Re-Make It Anew: The Rhetoric of Adapting, Rebooting, and Remaking: PWR 2BRC (Win, Spr)

## Publications

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### PUBLICATIONS

- **Mary Shelley's Frankenstein: Birth Without the Gendered Body**  
Richardson, R.  
New Ohio Review.  
2023
- **Ambition, monomania and the seeds of self-help** *PSYCHOLOGIST*  
Richardson, R.  
2022; 35: 68-72
- **Material Ambitions: Self-Help and Victorian Literature**  
Richardson, R.  
Johns Hopkins University Press.2021
- **Becky Sharp, Gender, and Likability: Adapting Thackeray's Vanity Fair after 2016 and #MeToo** *Nineteenth-Century Gender Studies*  
Richardson, R.  
2020; 16 (2)
- **Imagining Environmental and Economic Systems in Harriet Martineau's Illustrations of Political Economy** *Nineteenth-Century Prose*  
Richardson, R.  
2020; 47 (2)
- **The Environmental Uncanny: Imagining the Anthropocene in Mary Shelley's The Last Man** *ISLE-INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES IN LITERATURE AND ENVIRONMENT*  
Richardson, R.  
2019; 26 (4): 1062-1083
- **"Sent Here For Her Health": Accounting for Sanditon's Economies** *STUDIES IN ROMANTICISM*  
Richardson, R.  
2017; 56 (2): 203-222
- **DRAMATIZING INTIMACY: CONFESSIONS AND FREE INDIRECT DISCOURSE IN SENSE AND SENSIBILITY** *ELH*  
Richardson, R.  
2014; 81 (1): 225-244
- **Bradley Headstone's Bad Example of Self-Help: Dickens and the Problem with Ambition** *Dickens Studies Annual*  
Richardson, R.  
2013; 44
- **A Competitive World: Ambition and Self-Help in Trollope's An Autobiography and The Three Clerks**  
Richardson, R.  
The Fortnightly Review.

