

# Stanford

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## Irena Yamboliev

Lecturer

Writing and Rhetoric Studies

 Curriculum Vitae available Online

### Bio

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#### BIO

I work on ornament and forms—literary but also visual—and focus especially on writers’ metaphors for inter-arts relations, their syntactic encodings of color and texture, and the balances of stylistic elaboration and emplotment they negotiate. My work includes studying the adjective as a compositional unit, and I am developing methods to quantify the “visual” in literature, and to record and describe readers’ subjective experiences of interactions between a text and visual art.

My book manuscript, *Ornamental Form in the Victorian Novel*, reads writers’ experiments in using decorative arts as formal models for their prose styles, in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In converting visual patterns into idiosyncratic syntaxes, I argue, novelists revolted against the “realistic” prioritizing of morally coherent plot and personalized character, favoring stylistic embellishments that were specially mimetic: embellishments that capture the “microplots” (Garrett Stewart’s term) of moment-to-moment perception being rendered in language.

I also work on how literary texts help us think of environmental relations, in their similarities and their differences from human relationships. I am the curator of the Colloquy “Queer Environmentalities,” hosted through the Arcade salon. My short work *Looking Was Not Enough*, a critical companion to Jeffrey Eugenides’s *Middlesex*, is forthcoming from Fiction Advocate.

At Stanford, I teach writing and literature. I have designed courses that focus on language’s power in shaping figures in our culture (the scientist, the detective), genres (travel writing, the coming-of-age story), metaphors for investigation (detection), and topics that are our most intimate, yet also thoroughly public, such as love and gender.

#### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Lecturer, Writing and Rhetoric Studies

#### HONORS AND AWARDS

- ArtsCatalyst grant supporting pedagogy that incorporates the arts, Vice Presidency for the Arts, Stanford University (Winter 2019)
- Ford Newell Fiske Dissertation Fellowship, Stanford University (2012-2013)
- Killefer Dissertation Fellowship, Stanford University (2011-2012)
- Herz Gold Medal for highest overall academic achievement in School of Humanities and Sciences, University of Nevada, Reno (2006)

#### BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Co-organizer, September Sessions professional development workshops, Stanford Program in Writing and Rhetoric (2018 - 2018)
- Research Assistant for open online course taught by Eavan Boland, *Ten Pre-Modern Poems by Women*, Stanford University English Department (2014 - 2015)

- Member, Curriculum Committee, Stanford Program in Writing and Rhetoric (2016 - present)
- Undergraduate Coordinator for Writing in the Major, Stanford English Department (2013 - 2014)
- Co-coordinator of the Working Group on the Novel, Center for the Study of the Novel, Stanford University (2010 - 2012)
- Graduate Admissions Committee, Stanford English Department (2010 - 2011)
- Application Reader, Educational Program for Gifted Youth Summer Institutes, Stanford University (2012 - 2012)

## PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- PhD, Stanford University , English January (2015)
- BA, University of Nevada, Reno , English (2006)
- BS, University of Nevada, Reno , Biology (2006)

## SERVICE, VOLUNTEER, AND COMMUNITY WORK

- Events and Activities Committee, Program in Writing and Rhetoric (8/2015 - 6/2016)
- Team-teaching at the Dickens Universe (August 2012)

## Research & Scholarship

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### CURRENT RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

Visual and literary culture of nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century Britain

Decoration, its history and rhetoric

Color theory across disciplines (optics, chemistry, art, literature, music)

Aesthetics

Queer theory

Ecocriticism

Digital humanities and data-driven literary criticism

The history of science

Literary Decadence

### PROJECTS

- Ornamental Form in the Victorian Novel
- Looking Was Not Enough: Jeffrey Eugenides's Middlesex
- Queer Environmentalities: A Colloquy
- The Colors of the Novel - Stanford University

## Teaching

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### COURSES

#### 2021-22

- Writing & Rhetoric 1: The Art and Science of Gender and its Bending: PWR 11YA (Win)
- Writing & Rhetoric 2: Many Faces of Sherlock: Race, Gender, Power, and the Rhetoric of the Detective: PWR 21Y (Aut, Spr)

#### 2020-21

- Writing & Rhetoric 1: The Art and Science of Gender and its Bending: PWR 11YA (Win, Spr)
- Writing & Rhetoric 2: Many Faces of Sherlock: Race, Gender, Power, and the Rhetoric of the Detective: PWR 21Y (Aut)

#### 2019-20

- Writing & Rhetoric 1: Rhetorics of Travel and Tourism: PWR 11Y (Win)
- Writing & Rhetoric 2: Many Faces of Sherlock: Race, Gender, Power, and the Rhetoric of the Detective: PWR 21Y (Aut)

#### 2018-19

- Writing & Rhetoric 1: The Art and Science of Gender and its Bending: PWR 11YA (Win)
- Writing & Rhetoric 2: Many Faces of Sherlock: Race, Gender, Power, and the Rhetoric of the Detective: PWR 21Y (Aut, Spr)

## Publications

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### PUBLICATIONS

- **D.H. Lawrence's Stained-Glass Prose** *Twentieth Century Literature*  
Yamboliev, I. I.  
2019; 65 (3)
- **The Outward Mind: Materialist Aesthetics in Victorian Science and Literature (Book Review)** *NINETEENTH-CENTURY CONTEXTS-AN INTERDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL*  
Book Review Authored by: Yamboliev, I.  
2018; 40 (2): 203–5
- **A.C. Swinburne's Sea-Prose and the Anti-Novel** *Victorian Literature and Culture*  
Yamboliev, I.  
2016
- **Late Victorian into Modern (Book Review)** *JOURNAL OF VICTORIAN CULTURE*  
Book Review Authored by: Yamboliev, I.  
2018; 23 (4): 570–73
- **Food in the Novels of Thomas Hardy: Production and Consumption (Book Review)** *VICTORIAN STUDIES*  
Book Review Authored by: Yamboliev, I.  
2018; 60 (3): 472–74
- **Review of Gerald Stern's Stealing History (2012)** *Mantis: A Journal of Poetry, Criticism & Translation*  
Yamboliev, I.  
2013; 11: 149-51
- **Style at the Scale of the Sentence** *n + 1*  
Allison, S., Gemma, M., Heuser, R., Moretti, F., Tevel, A., Yamboliev, I.  
2013: 109-68

### PRESENTATIONS

- Becoming a Name: Constraining Epithets in Tennyson and Meredith - North American Victorian Studies Association annual conference (11/1/2016)
- "The Sister Arts and the Brain" - Columbia University (3/1/2015)
- "Never 'Only Two Kinds: Color in Dorian Gray'" - North American Victorian Studies Association (November 13, 2014 - November 15, 2014)
- "Swinburne's Sea-Prose and the Anti-Novel" - The Stanford Center for the Study of the Novel's Working Group on the Novel (12/2/2014)
- "Oscar Wilde's Wallpaper" - Berkeley-Stanford Graduate Student Conference (4/2014)