

Jonathan Sarfin

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Nationality: American and Canadian
Email: jonathan.sarfin@ens.unibe.ch

LANGUAGES

English – Native Speaker

German – B2

B2.1 Course – Goethe Institute, Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany (2017)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate in English Literature – University of Bern 2021–

Dissertation: *Description, Relation, and Rhetoric in Contemporary American Climate Fiction*

Funded by a Sinergia grant from the SNSF; part of the research project

Mediating the Ecological Imperative: Formats and Modes of Engagement

Member of the WBK Graduate School of the Arts and Humanities – Interdisciplinary Cultural Studies

M.A. English – University of Bern: GPA 5.45 out of 6 (*insigni cum laude*) 2021

With Special Qualification in Literary Studies

Minor: World Literature

MA Thesis: *The Sublime Encounter with Waste in Don DeLillo's Underworld: Discards, Death, and the Sting of Enlightenment (summa cum laude)*

B.A. English – University of Kentucky: GPA 3.86 out of 4 (*summa cum laude*) 2016

EXPERIENCE

Tutor, University of Bern, Department of English 2020 – 2021

FS 2020: Introduction to Literature (Dr. Viola Marchi)

SS 2020: Literature and Surveillance (PD. Dr. Julia Straub)

Student Assistant, University of Bern, Department of English 2019 – 2021

AWARDS AND HONORS

Fulbright Award / Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship – Semi-Finalist 2017

Gaines Fellowship in the Humanities 2014 – 2016

Julester Shradly Post Memorial Scholarship 2016

University of Kentucky Patterson Scholarship 2012 – 2016

Confucius Institute Young Leaders Fellowship 2015

University of Kentucky Zolondek Travel Award 2014

TALKS

Description, Relation, and Rhetoric in Contemporary American Climate Fiction September 2021

University of Bern GSAH TransHumanities Summer School *Materialities and Subjectivities: Accounting for Complicated and Complicating Engagements in the Humanities*

Which Bin Should I Put It In? Waste Containment in Don DeLillo's *Underworld* May 2021

University of Bern

Ekphrasis in Don DeLillo's *Underworld* May 2021

Visual Art in Narrative Fiction: An Event with Amy Sackville, University of Oxford

ACTIVITIES

Ständige Kommission Forschungs- und Nachwuchsförderung der Universität Bern January 2022–

Vertreter dem Unteren Mittelbau

The world seen through a blueberry filter: a conversation with George Steinmann November 2021

Co-organized an inter- and transdisciplinary roundtable between art historians, literature scholars, and an artist at the Stadtgalerie in Bern

Culture and Sustainability: Visions of the Future(s) November 2021

Co-organized an interdisciplinary workshop for the 2021 Nachhaltigkeitstag der 3 Berner Hochschulen.

The Unknown Factor: Literary Echoes in the Work of Lee Krasner – Co-Organizer

2020

Students from the University of Bern's English Department gave guided tours of the Zentrum Paul Klee's exhibition *Lee Krasner: Living Colour* that connected her work to 20th-century literary and cultural themes.

Memberships

SANAS/SAUTE

2021–

Swiss Association for North American Studies / Swiss Association of University Teachers of English

DGFA

2021–

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Amerikastudien

Mittelbauvereinigung der Universität Bern

2021–

CUSO Doctoral Programme in English Language and Literature

2021–

Conférence universitaire de Suisse occidentale