

## David Gillota

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### Academic Employment

Chair, Department of Humanities, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, May 2023-Present  
Associate Professor of English, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Fall 2019-Present  
Assistant Professor of English, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Fall 2013-Spring 2019  
Lecturer, Humanities Dept., University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Fall 2008-Spring 2013  
Graduate Assistant, English Dept., University of Miami, Fall 2004-Spring 2008  
Adjunct Instructor, English Dept., Miami-Dade College, Summer 2006-Spring 2008  
Adjunct Instructor, English Dept., University of North Texas, Fall 2003-Spring 2004  
Teaching Fellow, English Dept., University of North Texas, Fall 2002-Spring 2003

### Education

Ph.D. in English, University of Miami, June 2008

Dissertation: "Belly Laughs: Body Humor in Contemporary American Literature and Film"

M.A. in English, University of North Texas, August 2003

B.A. in English, University of North Texas, December 2000

### Fields of Interest

Film and Media Studies, Humor Studies, Popular Culture, Horror Studies, Twentieth and Twenty-First Century American Literature, Ethnic Studies, Gender Studies

### Publications

#### Books

*Dead Funny: The Humor of American Horror* (Rutgers University Press, 2023)

*Ethnic Humor in Multiethnic America* (Rutgers University Press, 2013)

#### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

"'Man, I Told You Not to Go in that House': The Humor and Horror of Jordan Peele's *Get Out*." *The Journal of Popular Culture*, 54.5 (October 2021): 1031-1050.

"Beyond Liveness: Experimentation in the Stand-up Special." *Studies in American Humor*, 6.1 (Spring 2020): 44-61.

"Reckless Talk: Exploration and Contradiction in Dave Chappelle's Recent Stand-Up Comedy." *Studies in Popular Culture*, 42.1 (Fall 2019): 1-22.

"Stand-up Nation: Humor and American Identity." *The Journal of American Culture*, 38.2 (June 2015): 102-112.

“Black Nerds: New Directions in African American Humor.” *Studies in American Humor*, 3.28 (Fall 2013): 17-30.

“People of Colors’: Multiethnic Humor in *Harold and Kumar Go to White Castle* and *Weeds*.” *The Journal of Popular Culture*, 45.5 (October 2012): 960-978.

“Negotiating Jewishness: *Curb Your Enthusiasm* and the Schlemiel Tradition.” *Journal of Popular Film and Television*, 38.4 (Winter 2010): 152-161.

#### Book Chapters

“Schlemiel Feminism: Jewish Humor and Activism on *Broad City*.” *Jews and Gender: Studies in Jewish Civilization Vol. 32*, ed. Leonard J. Greenspoon. Purdue University Press, 2021. 271-282.

“Of Course, But Maybe’: Louis C.K. and the Contradictory Politics of Privilege.” *Taking a Stand: Contemporary U.S. Stand-Up Comedians as Public Intellectuals*, ed. Peter Kunze and Jared Champion. University Press of Mississippi, 2021. 139-153.

“The New Jewish Blackface: African American Tropes in Contemporary Jewish Humor.” *Jews and Humor: Studies in Jewish Civilization Vol. 22*, ed. Leonard J. Greenspoon. Purdue University Press, 2011. 225-236.

“The Body in Shame: Philip Roth’s Physical Comedy.” *Playful and Serious: Philip Roth as a Comic Writer*, ed. Ben Siegel and Jay Halio. Newark: University of Delaware Press, 2010. 192-216.

#### Selected Book Reviews

Review of *Hitchcock and Humor: Modes of Comedy in Twelve Defining Films* by Wes D. Gehring. *Studies in American Humor*, 8.2 (Winter 2022): 384-387.

Review of *Horrific Humor and the Moment of Droll Grimness in Cinema*, ed. John A. Dowell and Cynthia J. Miller. *Studies in American Humor*, 6.1 (Spring 2020): 194-197.

Review of *Last Man Standing: Mort Sahl and the Birth of American Comedy* by James Curtis. *Studies in American Humor*, 5.1 (Spring 2019): 253-255.

Review of *Slapstick Modernism: Chaplin to Kerouac to Iggy Pop*, by William Solomon. *Studies in American Humor*, 4.1 (Spring 2018): 114-116.

Review of *A Vulgar Art: A New Approach to Stand-up Comedy*, by Ian Brodie. *Studies in American Humor*, 4.1 (Fall 2015): 279-281.

Review of *Post-Soul Satire: Black Identity after Civil Rights*, ed. Derek C. Maus and James J. Donahue. *The Journal of Popular Culture*, 48.5 (October 2015): 1059-1061.

Review of *Native Americans on Network TV: Stereotypes, Myths, and the “Good Indian,”* by Michael Ray Fitzgerald. *The Journal of Popular Culture*, 47.6 (December 2014): 1336-1338.

Review of *Saturday Night Live and American TV*, ed. Nick Marx, Matt Sienkiewicz, and Ron Becker. *Studies in American Humor*, 3.29 (Spring 2014): 98-100.

“The Diversity of Jewish Film.” Review of *The Modern Jewish Experience in World Cinema*, ed. Lawrence Baron. [www.h-net.org](http://www.h-net.org): May 2013

#### General Interest Publication

“Is Dave Chappelle's Humor Too Out of Touch for a Comeback?.” PopMatters.com, March 7, 2018.

### Editorial Positions

Editor, *Studies in American Humor*, 2023-Present

Associate Editor, *Studies in American Humor*, 2018-2022

Book Review Editor, *Studies in American Humor*, 2016-2017

### Selected Presentations

“‘You’ve Always Been Here’: Parodic Horror in *Key & Peele* and the films of Jordan Peele,” American Humor Studies Association Conference, Saratoga Spring, NY, July 2023.

“Parodying Horror, Horror as Parody,” Popular Culture Association Conference, San Antonio, TX, April 2023.

“Clowns and Fools: Horror’s Comic Monsters,” Popular Culture Association Conference, April 2022, via zoom.

“Dead Funny: Satire in Horror,” MLA Conference, January 2022, via zoom.

“Dead Funny: The Humor of American Horror,” Presented at “Books-in-Progress” workshop for the American Humor Studies Association, July 2021, via zoom.

“Awkward Horror: Cringe Comedy in American Horror Films,” Popular Culture Association Conference, June 2021, via Zoom.

“Schlemiel Feminism: Jewish Humor and Activism on *Broad City*,” Klutznick-Harris Symposium in Jewish Civilization, Omaha, Nebraska, October 2019.

“Beyond Liveness: Experimentation in the Televisual Stand-up Special,” Popular Culture Association Conference, Washington D.C., April 2019.

“The Boundaries of Performance: Experimental Stand-up Comedy,” American Humor Studies Association Conference: Chicago, IL, July 2018.

“The Return of Dave Chappelle,” Popular Culture Association Conference: Indianapolis, IN, March 2018.

“From Stand-up to Sitcom: Exploring the Comic Aesthetic of *Louie* and *Maron*,” Popular Culture Association Conference: San Diego, CA, April 2017.

“Allies and Adversaries: Male Comedians, Masculinity, and Feminism,” Popular Culture Association Conference: Seattle, WA, March 2016.

“Rethinking Ancestry: Immigration and Gentrification in Richard Price’s *Lush Life*,” MELUS Conference: Athens, GA, April 2015.

“Stand-up Comedy and American Identity,” Popular Culture/American Culture Association Conference: Chicago, IL, April 2014.

“Popular Humor in the Ethnic Studies Classroom,” Popular Culture/American Culture Association Conference: Boston, MA, April 2012.

“Shikas Gone Wild: Jewishness as Gateway Ethnicity in *Weeds*,” Film and History Conference: Milwaukee, WI, November 2010.

“The New Jewish Blackface: African American Tropes in Contemporary Jewish Humor,” Klutznick-Harris Symposium in Jewish Civilization: Omaha, Nebraska, October 2009.

“Schlemiel Gets Rich: Larry David and the Jewish Comic Tradition,” Popular Culture/American Culture Association Conference: New Orleans, LA, April 2009.

“Slapstick Comedy in *Gravity’s Rainbow*,” Popular Culture/American Culture Association Conference: Atlanta, GA, April 2006.

“Claustrophobic Space in the Contemporary American Action Film,” Mid-Atlantic Popular/American Culture Conference: New Brunswick, NJ, November 2005.

### **Courses Taught at UW-Platteville**

American Film Genres (Advanced Topics in Film, English 4780)  
 International Cinema (English 2770)  
 Race and Gender in American Film (English 2780)  
 Race and Ethnicity in Film (English 2480)  
 Introduction to Film (English 2250)  
 American Humor (English 2470)  
 Graphic Novels and Comics (Thematic Studies in Literature, English 2100)  
 Satire: From Swift to *South Park* (Thematic Studies in Literature, English 2100)  
 Historical Fiction in the United States (Studies in Fiction, English 4100)  
 African-American Literature (English 3730)  
 American Literature of Ethnicity and Immigration (English 3750)  
 Mark Twain and American Humor (English 3630)  
 American Literature since the Civil War (English 2530)  
 Intro to Multi-ethnic American Literature (English 2950)  
 Introduction to Ethnic Studies (Ethnic Studies 2200)  
 Introduction to Literature (English 1330)  
 Race, Gender, and Class (Ethnic Studies 1030)  
 College Writing II (English 1230)  
 College Writing I (English 1130)  
 Independent Study in Film Criticism (English 4920)  
 Independent Study in 21<sup>st</sup> Century African-American Literature (English 4920)  
 Independent Study in Film Animation (English 4920)

### **Selected Service at UW-Platteville**

Chair/Member, University Undergraduate Curriculum Commission, 2021-Present  
 Member, Faculty Senate, Fall 2018; Fall 2022-Present  
 Chair, English RTRB Committee, 2022-2023  
 Member, Humanities Assessment Committee, 2022-2023  
 Member, Search and Screen Committee for Dean of College (LAE), 2021-2022  
 Member, College (LAE) Compensation Committee, 2021-2023  
 Member, Humanities Department Salary and Promotion Committee, 2020-2021.  
 Member, College (LAE) Strategic Planning Committee, 2019-2020  
 Member, Research Review Committee, 2019-Present  
 Member, Humanities Constitution Committee, 2016-2019  
 Member, College (LAE) Curriculum Committee, 2015-2020  
 Member, College (LAE) Selections Committee, 2016-2019  
 Member, College (LAE) Diversity Committee, 2013-2015; 2017-2019  
 Chair/Member, Humanities Curriculum Committee, 2016-2018; 2022-2023

Member, Search Committee for Assistant Professor in Spanish, 2017-2018  
Organizer, International Film Festival, 2018-2019  
Chair/Member, Academic Standards Committee, 2016-2017  
Member, Search Committee for Assistant Professor of English (Writing), 2015-2016  
Member, Rhetoric/Composition Committee, 2014-2017  
Member, Search Committee for Assistant Professor Ethnic Studies, 2013-2014  
Member, Search Committee for Assistant Professor of English (American Lit.), 2013-2014  
Member, Search Committee for Assistant Professor of English (Film Studies), 2013-2014

**Manuscript reviewer for:**

Oxford University Press  
Rutgers University Press  
*African-American Review*  
*MELUS*

Routledge Press  
Bloomsbury Press  
*Criticism*  
*Humanities*

**Independent Consulting**

Expert Media Consultant and Cultural Analyst with strategic marketing agency CS-Space (c-s-space.com), 2012-2020. Work has included content analysis, secondary research, and copy editing for various projects commissioned by Comedy Central, Disney, ESPN and others.

**Professional Memberships**

American Humor Studies Association  
Popular Culture Association

**References available upon request.**