

# CATE CLEO ALEXANDER

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## EDUCATION

### Doctor of Philosophy in Information, 2025

Faculty of Information, University of Toronto

Supervisor: Mary Elizabeth Luka

Committee Members: Elspeth Brown, Kenzie Burchell, Nicole Cohen, Mara Oliva

Thesis: "Digital History Content Creation: Platformed Precarity and Affective Innovations"

### Master of Arts in Digital Humanities, 2020

Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Alberta

Supervisor: Harvey Quamen

Committee Members: Geoffrey Rockwell, Sean Gouglas

Thesis: "Enabling Access to the Federal Writers' Project Slave Narratives: A Case Study in Digital Archive Design"

### Bachelor of Arts with Combined Honours in History and Classics, 2017

Faculty of Arts, University of Alberta

Supervisor: Susan Smith

Thesis: "Rachel Bross, A Canadian Slave, and Judicial Emancipation in 1790s Nova Scotia: The Court Cases of R. v. Hecht and Hecht v. Moody"

## AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Society for Social Studies of Science Travel Grant (\$560)	2025
Ontario Graduate Scholarship (\$15,000)	2024
Australian Research Data Commons Digital History Bursary (\$1,370)	2024
Faculty of Information Doctoral Completion Award (\$5,000)	2024
Faculty Of Information Covid-19 Program Completion Award (\$2,500)	2024
School Of Graduate Studies Research Travel Grant (\$1,267)	2024
Ethel W. Auster Scholarship for Doctoral Research (\$1,700)	2024
School of Graduate Studies Conference Grant (\$860)	2024
School Of Graduate Studies Research Travel Grant (\$422)	2024
Graduate Students' Union Conference Bursary (\$400)	2024
Faculty of Information Excellence Award (\$5,000)	2023
UofT Women's Association Adele Csimas Scholarship (\$2,000)	2023
School Of Graduate Studies Research Travel Grant (\$978)	2024
Faculty of Information Excellence Award (\$5,000)	2022
Joseph Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship - Doctoral (SSHRC CGS-D) (\$105,000)	2021
Faculty of Information Excellence Award (\$5,000)	2021
Ontario Graduate Scholarship (declined) (\$15,000)	2021
Faculty of Information Dean's Incoming Scholarship (\$3,000)	2020
Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship - Master's (SSHRC CGS-M) (\$17,500)	2019
Walter H. Johns Graduate Fellowship (\$5,800)	2019
Queen Elizabeth II Graduate Scholarship (Master's) (\$5,400)	2018
The Monica Jones Aamodt Prize in Classics 254 (\$150)	2015
Jason Lang Scholarship (\$1,000)	2015

Jason Lang Scholarship (\$1,000)	2014
University of Alberta Academic Excellence Scholarship (\$2,000)	2013
Faculty of Arts Academic Excellence Scholarship (\$500)	2013

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### **Creative Labour and Critical Futures Research Assistant** 2024 – present

- Developing open-access visualization of internet history
- Co-organized consultations with photographers dealing with the impacts of generative artificial intelligence

### **Sustainable Futures Research Assistant and Coordinator** 2024 – present

- Supporting SSHRC-funded project “Towards Sustainable Futures: Learning from the Nomadic Indigenous Communities of Iran”, including project organization and applying for institutional ethics
- Helped organize Moving beyond Allyship: The Equity-Based Classroom Symposium

### **GLAM Incubator Coordinator** 2023 – present

- Coordinator for a research and support hub that connects galleries, libraries, archives, and museums with university resources to start-up small-scale innovative projects
- Facilitating communications between organizations, assisting GLAM organizations in executing projects, organizing the hiring of research assistants and grant writers, coordinating applications and meetings

### **Macquarie University History Museum Research Fellowship** 2024 – 2025

- Organizing an international collaboration between the GLAM Incubator and the Macquarie University History Museum in Sydney, Australia
- Creating video recordings and interviewing historians as part a public history project to connect academic historians, museums, and video games

### **Center for Culture and Technology Writing Workshop Coordinator** 2023 – 2025

- Co-convening a monthly writing workshop for graduate students specializing in media theory

### **Archives in Action Workshops and Symposium Research Assistant and Coordinator** 2024

- Co-coordinator of SSHRC-funded symposium that brought together academics, cultural workers, and community practitioners to generate a National Action Plan concerning key policy issues affecting marginalized audiovisual archives in Canada at local, regional, and national levels

### **Critical Digital Methods Institute Research Assistant and Coordinator** 2022 – 2023

- Organized post-conference event on Artificial Intelligence for the International Communications Association (ICA)

### **Creative Hubs and Networks Research Assistant** 2021 – 2022

- Refined tagging system and controlled vocabulary for Project Dictionary
- Developed publicly available Zotero, which will be published through the library

### **History Publications on University of Alberta Research Assistant** 2018 – 2024

- Performing archival research, conducting interviews, writing sections, editing drafts, and supervising final copy to book design, including all citations and footnotes.

### **ReFig Project Research Assistant** 2017 – 2020

- SSHRC-funded, international multi-institution project promoting diversity and equity in video game industry and culture
- Designed and conducted interviews, developed and distributed surveys, translated surveys and interview questions from English to French

## RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS

### Peer-Reviewed Publications

Alexander, C., Zara, A. "Chapter 17: Bringing It All Together: the A i/e A Symposium." *Archives in/en Action - Critical Calls to Action*. Concordia University Press. In progress.

Alexander, C. "It Feels So Reel': Animating Historical Portraits with Artificial Intelligence." *Digital Culture and Education*. In review.

Alexander, C. "Review of *Exploring Past Images in a Digital Age: Reinventing the Archive* edited by Nezih Erdogan and Ebru Kayaalp." *Synoptique: An Online Journal of Film and Moving Image Studies* 11, no. 1. (2025): <https://www.synoptique.ca/issue-11-1>.

Alexander, C. and Intson, C. "Bimbos and Bombs: The Barbenheimer Phenomenon." *Imaginations: Journal of Cross-Cultural Image Studies* (March 11, 2024): <https://doi.org/10.17742/IMAGE29701>.

### Invited Talks

Alexander, C. "The Biases of YouTube Context Panels: Digging Through the Internet Archive and Deconstructing Black Boxes." *Archive/Counter-Archive Working Paper Series*, Nov. 28, 2024, <https://counterarchive.ca/working-papers-series-cate-alexander-zoom-nov-28>.

Alexander, C., T. Barnett, E. Fitzgerald, O. O'Neil, T. Sherratt, "ARDC Forum: What digital tools do we need for historical research." *Australian Historians' Association Conference*, July 2024, Sydney, Australia.

### Peer-Reviewed Abstracts for Conferences – Sole Authorship

Alexander, C. "Spectacular Histories: Rupturous AI Animations." *Association of Internet Researchers*, October 2025, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Alexander, C. "Platforms and Public History: Interviews with Digital History Content Creators." *Canadian Communications Association*, June 2025, Toronto, Canada.

Alexander, C. "Amplifying Bias: YouTube's Historical Context Panels and the Shaping of Cultural Memory." *Canadian Historical Association*, June 2025, Toronto, Canada.

Alexander, C. "Content, Context, and Conspiracies: (Mis)representations of Public History on YouTube." *Australian Historians' Association Conference*, July 2024, Sydney, Australia.

Alexander, C. "Bringing History to Life": Animating Historical Portraits through AI." *Digital Humanities and Artificial Intelligence Conference*, June 2024, Reading, England.

Alexander, C. "Palimpsestuous: Affective Mediation/Remediation Practices in Digital History Content Creation." *Association of Internet Researchers Doctoral Colloquium*, October 2022, Dublin, Ireland.

Alexander, C. "The Ethics of Neutrality in Digital Archives: A Case Study of the Federal Writers' Project Slave Narratives." *Critical Digital Humanities Initiative Conference*, October 2021, Virtual.

Alexander, C., "Enabling Access to the Federal Writers' Project Slave Narratives: Intersectionality in Digital Archive Design." *Western Association of Women Historians Conference*, April 2020, Costa Mesa, United States. Postponed due to COVID-19.

Alexander, C., "Enabling Access to the Federal Writers' Project Slave Narratives: A Case Study of Intersectionality in Digital Archive Design." Conference Paper at ACCESS, October 2019, Edmonton, Canada.

Alexander, C., "Rachel Bross, A Canadian Slave, and Judicial Emancipation in 1790s Nova Scotia: The Court Cases of R. v. Hecht and Hecht v. Moody." *History and Classics Department Lunch Lectures*, April 2018, Edmonton, Canada.

Alexander, C., "Designing a Database: Enabling Access to Slave Narratives from the Federal Writers Project." *University of Alberta Humanities Computing Conference*, March 2018, Edmonton, Canada.

## Peer-Reviewed Abstracts for Conferences – Member of Research Team

- Alexander, C., Knight, L. “Hearing Heritage: Imaginary and Immersive Soundscapes.” *Society for Social Studies of Science (4S)*, September 2025, Seattle, United States.
- Alexander, C., Knight, L. “Hearing Heritage: Imaginary and Immersive Soundscapes.” *Digital Humanities 2025*, July 2025, Lisbon, Portugal.
- Alexander, C., Hartman, A. “Video Games and Museums: Linking Academic and Public Discourse in Museum Spaces.” *Console-ing Passions*, June 2025, Atlanta, United States.
- Alexander, C., Hartman, A. “Ludic Public History in Museum Spaces: A Canadian/Australian Partnership.” *Canadian Games Studies Association*, June 2025, Montreal, Canada.
- Alexander, C., Y. Chen, K. Gordon, S. Gouglas, Z. Liu, A. Owino, L. Salvador Dias, “The State of Video Game Education: Canadian, American, and Californian Post- Secondary Programs.” *Refiguring Innovation in Games Conference*, October 2019, Toronto, ON.
- Alexander, C., A. Borynec, Y. Chen, J. Elmergreen, K. Gordon, S. Gouglas, E. Kuznetsov, Z. Liu, A. Owino, A. Phelps, L. Salvador Dias, “The Work of Play: A survey of graduates from higher education programs in video games.” *Canadian Game Studies Association Conference*, June 2019, Vancouver, Canada.
- Alexander, C., A. Borynec, Y. Chen, K. Gordon, E. Kuznetsov, A. Owino, L. Salvador Dias, S. Gouglas, “Formal Education Update: So much data, so little time.” *Refiguring Innovation in Games Conference*, October 2018, Vancouver, Canada.
- Alexander, C., A. Borynec, A. Budac, Y. Chen, K. Gordon, S. Gouglas, E. Kuznetsov, A. Owino, L. Salvador Dias, “Maybe 3 more menu bars will solve the problem: Methodological challenges in data collection from post-secondary websites.” *Refiguring Innovation in Games Conference*, October 2018, Vancouver, BC.
- Alexander, C., J. Beyer, A. Borynec, A. Budac, Y. Chen, L. Salvador Dias, K. Gordon, S. Gouglas, Z. Kane, E. Kuznetsov, A. Owino, “California Gamin’: The State of Californian Formal Education in Video Games,” Conference Paper at Canadian Game Studies Association Conference, May 2018, Regina, SK.

## Open Access Databases and Resources

- Luka, ME, C. Alexander, R. Barber-Pin, Katy Ilona-Harris, Caroline Klimek, Samarth Singania, Jacqueline Wallace, Madison Zinger. Graphic design by J.P. King. Web design and database management by Jermaine Williams. (2023 [2020]). *Creative Hubs and Networks Database* and Dashboard Dictionary. <https://criticaldigitalmethods.ca/creative-hubs-and-networks-database/> DOI to come.

## Public Facing Publications

- Alexander, C. “CLCF Researcher Profile: Introducing Dr. Cate Alexander.” *Creative Labour and Critical Futures Blog*, Oct. 31, 2025, <https://creativelabourcriticalfutures.ca/blog/introducing-dr-cate-alexander/>.
- Alexander, C., Knight L. “Experimenting with AI Soundscapes and/in Museums.” *Creative Labour and Critical Futures Blog*, Sept. 5, 2025, <https://creativelabourcriticalfutures.ca/blog/experimenting-with-ai-soundscapes-and-in-museums/>.
- Alexander, C., Idiz, D., Knight L., Parke, J., Wright, H., Zara, A. “Learn about CLCF’s RA Mapping Projects.” *Creative Labour and Critical Futures Blog*, Aug. 22, 2025, <https://creativelabourcriticalfutures.ca/blog/learn-about-clcfs-ra-mapping-projects/>.
- Alexander, C., Mazinani, S. “Protecting Creativity: Photography & AI.” *Creative Labour and Critical Futures Blog*, Jul. 4, 2025. <https://creativelabourcriticalfutures.ca/blog/protecting-creativity-photography-and-ai/>.
- GLAM Incubator. “A GLAM Makeover for the Archives of Ontario.” *YouTube*, Apr. 3, 2025, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ZtTppHhyNo>.
- Alexander, C. “‘Bringing History to Life’: Animating Historical Portraits with Artificial Intelligence.” *University of Reading Digital Humanities and Artificial Intelligence Blog Series*, Sept. 20, 2024, <https://research.reading.ac.uk/digitalhumanities/bringing-history-to-life-animating-historical-portraits-with-artificial-intelligence/>.

Alexander, C. "Too soon? Titan or Titanic, people always make weird jokes about rich people's tragedies." *The Conversation*, June 16, 2024, <https://theconversation.com/too-soon-titan-or-titanic-people-always-make-weird-jokes-about-rich-peoples-tragedies-227521>.

Schoeck, Ellen. *Taking Charge: A History of the SU and GSA, 1908–2021*. University of Alberta Press: 2021. Editorial Assistant and Contributing Writer.

Schoeck, Ellen. *Taking Care: Alumni Stories about Life in the Original Residences and Lister Hall, 1911–2020*. University of Alberta Press: 2020. Editorial Assistant and Contributing Writer.

HEVGA, "2019 Survey of Program Graduates", *Report for the Higher Education Video Game Alliance* (HEVGA), May 2019. Editorial Assistant and Contributing Researcher.

Schoeck, Ellen. *Born to Build: Peoples' History of the Faculty of Engineering, 1906–2018*. University of Alberta Press: 2018. Editorial Assistant and Contributing Writer.

## **Media Interviews & News Features on Research**

Andrea Jaramillo Caro. "Cuando la inteligencia artificial intenta reimaginar la historia." *El Espectador*, Aug. 9, 2025, <https://www.elespectador.com/el-magazin-cultural/la-inteligencia-artificial-reimagina-la-historia-el-riesgo-de-creer-en-un-pasado-que-nunca-existio/>.

Australian Research Data Commons. "Digital History and Trove Data Guide at AHA Conference 2024." Sept. 11, 2024, <https://ardc.edu.au/article/digital-history-and-trove-data-guide-at-aha-conference-2024/>.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Course Instructor**

Social Media and Content Creation (WRI227) (35 students), University of Toronto Mississauga, Winter 2026

Social Media and Content Creation (WRI227) (35 students), University of Toronto Mississauga, Winter 2025

Social Media and Content Creation (WRI227) (35 students), University of Toronto Mississauga, Winter 2024

Social Media and Content Creation (WRI227) (23 students), University of Toronto Mississauga, Winter 2024

### **Workshops**

Introduction to Qualitative Coding

Faculty of Information iSkills Workshop, Nov. 2025

Refining Your Workflow: Tools and Tricks

Faculty of Information iSkills Workshop, Oct. 2025

Academic Research, Reading, and Writing Bootcamp

Co-taught with K. Mahetaji; 2 day bootcamp for incoming Masters students at the Faculty of Information, Sept. 2025

### **Guest Lectures**

"Digitizing Archaeology: From Memes to Laura Croft"

Archaeology, Ethics, and the Public (ARH 309H), University of Toronto, Mar. 2026

"Qualitative Coding Workshop"

Good, Better, Best: Case Study Senior Seminar (VPAD10), University of Toronto, Mar. 2025

"Digital History Content Creation"

Introduction to Arts and Media Management (VPAA10), University of Toronto, Nov. 2023

"A Guide to Writing Policy Papers"

Political Economy and Cultural Studies of Information (INF 2240), University of Toronto, Sept. 2023

"Hyperconnectivity, Affordances, and Affect: A Crash Course in Academic Theory"

Journalism in the Age of Digital Media (JOUB 24H3), University of Toronto, Mar. 2023

"Archives Online: Digital Spaces and Information Ethics"

Archives: Access, Advocacy, and Outreach (INF 2180), University of Toronto, Oct. 2021

"Gender and Video Games"

Video Games, History, and Storytelling (HIST 191), University of Alberta, Feb. 2020

## **Teaching Assistant Positions at the University of Toronto**

Writing Skills Tutor at the Learning Hub

Fall 2023 – present

Critical Infrastructures (INF 1324)

Fall 2025

Critical Histories of Information Technologies (INF 2243)

Fall 2024, Fall 2025

Political Economy and Cultural Studies of Information (INF 2240)

Fall 2023

Surveillance, Censorship, and Press Freedom (JOUD13H3)

Fall 2023

Surveillance and Identity (INF 2124)

Fall 2021, Fall 2023

Journalism in the Age of Digital Media (JOUB 24H3)

Winter 2023

The Museum Exhibition: Histories, Practices, Genres (MSL2331)

Fall 2022

Archives: Access, Advocacy, and Outreach (INF 2180)

Fall 2021

Archives: Concepts and Issues (INF 1330)

Fall 2020, Fall 2021

## **SERVICE TO UNIVERSITY & FACULTY**

**Decanal Search Committee, 2022 – 2023**

- Doctoral student representative on Faculty dean search

**Steward for the Canadian Union of Public Employees, 2023**

- Union representative for the Faculty of Information doctoral students

**President of the Doctoral Students' Association 2021 – 2023**

- Chaired DSA meetings, delegated duties and projects, and oversaw budgeting and paperwork
- Advocated for students' needs at meetings with faculty members, Executive Council, and other committees
- Planned the Research Days networking event (April 8, 2022)

**Faculty of Information Programs Committee 2020 – 21**

- Doctoral representative on academic and administrative planning committee

**Indigenous Solidarity Working Group 2020 – 21**

- Member of graduate student committee working towards decolonization in the Faculty of Information

**University of Alberta Museums Policy and Planning Committee 2019 – 2020**

- Appointed by the Graduate Student Association as representative on committee that oversees University museums' policies, collections, acquisitions, and deaccessions

**Digital Humanities Students' Association 2019 – 20**

- President; GSA Councilor; Chaired meetings, delegated duties and projects, oversaw budgeting and associated paperwork

## **SERVICE TO RESEARCH COMMUNITIES**

### **Digital Volunteer for the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) Conference, 2025**

- Helped with content moderation and technical support for off-site conference attendees

### **Peer Reviewer for the Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR) Conference, 2024**

### **DiHuCon Academic Conference 2018 – 19**

- Conference organizer for annual academic conference to showcase Digital Humanities work at the University of Alberta
- Moderated the conference and question periods

## **SELECT LEADERSHIP AND VOLUNTEER ROLES**

### **Equity Officer at International Dance Event, 2022**

- Member of the equity team at Lindy Focus, an international dance event with over one thousand people

### **President of the University of Toronto Swing Dancing Club 2021 – 22**

- Developed a safe, inclusive, and equitable space for dancers through establishing a code of conduct, designated equity officers, pre-dance announcements, and use of gender neutral language

### **Collections Management at the Royal Alberta Museum 2017**

- Museum Inventory Volunteer; programmed data management in The Museum System (TMS) and prepared barcodes for object identification and re-location

### **Executive Vice President of the University of Alberta Debate Society 2013 – 18**

- Executive Vice President (2015-2016) and Equity Officer (2014-2015)
- Mediated equity concerns (issues involving discrimination and accessibility as well as interpersonal conflict) within the club and at tournaments, gave equity briefings at multiple tournaments

### **Equity Officer of the University of Alberta Debate Society 2013 – 18**

- Executive Vice President (2015-2016) and Equity Officer (2014-2015)
- Mediated equity concerns (issues involving discrimination and accessibility as well as interpersonal conflict) within the club and at tournaments, gave equity briefings at multiple tournaments

### **Archaeological Field Schools: 2016, 2017**

- Volunteer at Kastro Kallithea in Greece and Roccagloriosa in Italy
- Excavated, preserved, and reconstructed artifacts for presentation in local museums

## **SELECT WORKSHOPS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- *Building Ethical Bridges: Collaborative Approaches to Research Integrity in Digital Humanities*, Jul. 2025
- *Moving beyond Allyship: The Equity-Based Classroom Symposium*, Feb. 2025
- *Digital Pedagogy Institute*, Aug. 2024
- *Ursula Franklin Lecture*: McKenzie Wark, Mar. 2024
- *Data and Society: Caring for Digital Remains: Death Glitch and Resurrecting the Black Body*, Nov. 2023
- *iSchool: Creative Projects for Research Dissemination*, Nov. 2023
- *iSchool: Women in X: The Problem with the Problems of EDI*, Oct. 2023
- *Toronto Film and Media Seminar: Entangled Media Archaeologies*, Mar. 2023
- *Center for Culture and Technology: Black Media Historiographies: Black Software Graduate Workshop* with Dr. Charlton McIlwain, Apr. 2023

## **ACADEMIC WORKING GROUPS**

- *Center for Culture and Technology Graduate Writing Group, 2023-2025*
- *DEAD Media Working Group, 2023-2024*
- *Queer Media Archives Working Group, 2022-2023*

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations  
Archive/Counter-Archive  
Association of Internet Researchers  
Australian Historians' Association  
Canadian Communications Association  
Canadian Historical Association  
Canadian Games Studies Association  
Center for Culture and Technology  
Content Creator Scholars Network  
Creative Labour and Critical Futures  
Critical Digital Methods Institute  
DigiLabour  
GLAM Incubator  
Nostagain Network  
Society for Social Studies of Science (4S)