

REBECCA TERESE POWERS

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Current: Professeure agrégée, Anglais, Académie de Paris (TZR)
2024-25 : Professeure agrégée stagiaire, Anglais, Lycée Condorcet, Paris
2023-24: Professeure contractuelle, English Lang./Lit., Collège Sévigné, Paris
2021-2023: ATER en Droit Public, Institut des Etudes Politiques de Paris
2020-21: Lecturer, UCSB Comparative Literature Program
2018-21: Lecturer, UCSB Department of French and Italian
2018-20: Associate Director of Curricular Initiatives, UCSB Humanities and Fine Arts
2016-18: Visiting Assistant Professor, UCSB Department of French & Italian
2016: Sessional Tutor, U of Warwick School of Modern Languages and Cultures

EDUCATION

2015 Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
PhD. Aug. 2015. Dissertation: "Representations of *le travail*
under the July Monarchy (1830-1848)"

2009 Tulane University, New Orleans, LA
M.A. 2009 French Literature and Language
B.A. 2004 Political Philosophy

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

2026 Conseil national des universités (CNU), France
Qualification aux fonctions de maître de conférences
Section 09 – Langue et Littérature françaises

2024 Agrégation, Ministère chargé de l'Éducation nationale, France
Agrégation externe spécial : langues vivantes étrangères : Anglais

MONOGRAPH

Balzac on the Barricades: The Literary Origins of an Economic Revolution.
University of Virginia Press, 2024.

SECOND BOOK PROJECT IN PROGRESS

Literary Fiction and the Formation of a Trans-Atlantic Work Ethic in Nineteenth-Century France, England, and America: A Comparatist Approach.

This research examines how exchanges between three literary traditions in the nineteenth century helped to solidify a common ethos of work, recognizable across cultures. Taking into account important variables such as religious practices, the legality of institutional slavery, and the prevalence of industrialized labor, I argue that literary culture was just as important as politics and philosophy to the widespread understanding of work as a force for human self-realization.

PROFESSIONAL TRANSLATION WORK

Bubble Book Chronique d'un canapé / Chronicle of a Sofa by Sacha Lakic.
Flammarion, 2026.

BOOK CHAPTERS AND PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

"Cléo in Crisis: A Beauvoirian reading of Agnès Varda's *Cléo from 5 to 7*." *Simone de Beauvoir Studies*. [revise and resubmit, minor revisions]

"*Cléo from 5 to 7*: Existential Freedom or Economic Utility?" *Filmonomics: Economists Discuss the Silver Screen*. Eds. André de Palma and Luc Leruth. Routledge, 2025.

"Michelet, *History of the French Revolution*." *Bloomsbury History: Theory & Method*. Ed. Stefan Berger. Bloomsbury Digital Resources, 2022, <http://dx.doi.org/10.5040/9781350915831.141>

"« Ce que la révolution doit à la littérature » : une polémique de 1848" (with Judith Lyon-Caen), *1848 et la littérature*. Eds. Véronique Samson and Mathieu Roger-Lacan. Fabula Colloques, 2021.

"Embodying History for Social Change in Jules Michelet's *Le Peuple*." *Nineteenth-Century French Studies*. 47.3–4 (2019): 151-164.

"From Explication to Emancipation: The Radical Pedagogy of George Sand's *Le Compagnon du tour de France*." *Nineteenth-Century Contexts*. 41.2 (2019): 173-184.

Translation of "Introduction: American Mysterymania" by Catherine Nesci. *American Mysterymania: du récit des bas-fonds au film noir et au Steampunk (1840-2015)/ American Mysterymania: from the underworld novel to film noir and Steampunk*. Eds. Catherine Nesci and Devin Fromm. April 2018, www.medias19.org/index.php?id=23807

"Charles Testut and *Les Mystères de la Nouvelle-Orléans*: Journalism in Exile." *Les Mystères Urbains au XIXe Siècle: Circulations Transferts Appropriations*. Eds. Dominique Kalifa and Marie-Ève Thérénty. 24 Feb. 2015, www.medias19.org/index.php?id=21315.

"*L'Education Sentimentale*: Passivity and Violence." *Narrative is the Essence of History: Essays on the Historical Novel*. Ed. John Cameron. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars, 2012.19-30.

SELECTED BOOK REVIEWS

"*The Revolution Takes Form. Art and Barricade in Nineteenth-Century France* by Jordan Marc Rose." *Nineteenth-Century French Studies* 54.3-4 (2026), forthcoming.

"*Nous nous reverrons aux barricades : les feuilletons des journaux de Proudhon (1848–1850)* by Vittorio Frigerio." *Nineteenth-Century French Studies* 51.3-4 (2023).

"*Inventing the Popular: Printing, Politics, and Poetics* by Bettina R. Lerner." *H-France Review*. 19.9 (2019).

"*Balzac, Literary Sociologist* by Allan Pasco." *Symposium: A Quarterly Journal of Modern Literatures*. 72.3 (2018):180-2.

"*Jenny l'ouvrière: drame en cinq actes* by Adrien Decourcelle and Jules Barbier. Edited by Janice Best and Nicole Corbett." *Nineteenth-Century French Studies* 46.1-2 (2017).

"*Splendeurs et misères de la grisette* by Alain Lescart." *MLN Modern Language Notes* 126.4 (2011): 922-925.

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Roman feuilleton et « droit au travail » : quel rapport en 1848 ?" at séminaire Fictions et économie. Laboratoire PHARE (Philosophie, Histoire et Analyse des Représentations Economiques) 14 Avr. 2026, visioconférence.

"*Balzac on the Barricades: The Literary Origins of an Economic Revolution*. Rebecca Powers in conversation with Anne O'Neil-Henry" at NCFS Unbound. 28 Feb. 2025, Zoom talk. <https://ncfs-assn.byu.edu/ncfs-in-captivity/>

"Comprendre un texte en langue étrangère, questions de méthode, à partir de l'exemple de Balzac/Defoe. Analyse littéraire et analyse historique en classe de 1ère LVA" at Midis de Sévigné. 11 Oct. 2024, Collège Sévigné, Paris.

"Les origines littéraires du "droit au travail !" : une fiction économique?" at Séminaire du GRIHL. 19 Nov. 2019, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris.

"Publicity and Perception: The Literary Legacy in July Monarchy Worker-Run Newspapers" at Nineteenth-Century French Studies Colloquium. Oct. 2018, Los Angeles.

"Seeing Labor: The Real and the Ideal" at Stanford University French Culture Workshop. 4 Oct. 2018, Palo Alto.

"Balzac and the Panorama of Labor in 1830s Paris" at Society for the Study of French History 2018 Annual Conference. July 2018, Coventry, UK.

"The Worker and the Book: Radical Pedagogies in Jacotot, Sand, and Rancière" at "Apprentissages" Modern Language Association Annual Convention. Jan. 2018, New York.

"De l'objet de consommation à la chose produite : les fonctions du livre dans *Le Compagnon du Tour de France* et *La Ville Noire*" at "George Sand et le monde des objets." June 2017, Clermont-Ferrand and Nohant, France.

"Embodying History in Jules Michelet's *The People* (1846)" at "Odd Bodies" Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference. March 2017, Philadelphia.

SELECTED COURSES

Spring 2026 Université Paris Cité (UFR Lettres, Arts, et Cinéma), *Version Anglaise*

- Translation seminar for MA students preparing the *agrégation externe - lettres modernes* (competitive teaching examination)
- Students complete translation exercises in class and we discuss corrections according to official exam evaluation guidelines

Fall 2025 Université Paris Cité, (UFR Etudes Anglophones) *Contemporary Anglophone Culture through New Media: The Era of the Podcast*

- Elective workshop for second-year English majors
- Listen to and discuss four podcast genres from the Anglophone world
- Final project: students create their own podcast episode following norms discussed in course lectures

2022-2023 Sciences Po Paris Collège Universitaire, *Reading Rights*

- Elective Seminar for second-year exchange students
- Discussion of novels and essays from the Anglophone world
- Discussion-led course with focus on close and critical reading strategies

2021-2023 Sciences Po Paris (Reims) Euro-American Program, *Economic Fictions*

- Humanities Reading Seminar for first-year students
- Discussion of novels and essays from the Anglophone world
- Discussion-led course with focus on close and critical reading strategies

Spring 2021 UC Santa Barbara, Comp Lit, *Major Works in Comparative Literature*

- General Education lower division course for non-majors
- Discussion of novels from the modern Western canon
- Large lecture course, supplemented by TA-led discussion sections

Winter 2021 UC Santa Barbara, French & Comp Lit, *Economic Fictions*

- Self-designed, upper-division lecture course
- Discussion of novels and theoretical texts from the Western canon
- Fulfills undergraduate General Education writing requirement

Spring 2020 UC Santa Barbara, College of L&S, *Career Planning in the Humanities*

- Team-taught with Career Services Center
- Humanities students explore interests, strengths, opportunities
- Includes speakers series: humanities alumni discuss career paths

Nov. 22 2019 EHESS, J. Lyon-Caen Seminar: *Les usages sociaux de la littérature*

- Title: "Dumas et Proudhon: Ce que la Révolution doit à la littérature"
- Invited Lecture (two-hour research seminar)

Spring 2018 UC Santa Barbara, Comparative Literature, *Fantasy and the Fantastic*

- General Education upper division lecture course
- Discussion of short stories, literary criticism and works of art

Winter 2018 UC Santa Barbara, French, *Literary Translation: Theory & Practice*

- Upper-division seminar and writing workshop
- Discuss and practice translation problems, including cultural context, ideology, and formal constraints (both E → F and F → E translations)

Winter 2016 Warwick U, Film and Television Studies, *Modern Masterpieces*

- Optional Module for Film and Literature BAs
- Focus on close reading of French modern novels (in English)
- Students assessed by one long research essay and final exam

2009-2014 Johns Hopkins U, French, *French Language and Culture (All Levels)*

- Instructor of Record for three-credit French language courses
- Responsible for one course per semester
- Weekly meetings with teaching coordinator

2013 INSEEC, Paris, *Conférence de Méthode*

- Requirement for International Business students
- Non-native speakers practice oral and written expression in English

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND QUALIFICATIONS

March 2026	Qualification Section 09, Conseil national des universités (France)
May 2024	Lauréate agrégation externe d'anglais spéciale pour docteurs (France)
Fall 2020	Professional Development Award, UCSB
Jun. 2019	Instructional Improvement Program Faculty MiniGrant, UCSB
Sept. 2018	Stanford University Gimon Collection on French Political Economy Research Fellowship
Spr. 2016	AHRC Cultural Engagement Fellowship, University of Warwick SMLC
Fall 2014	Dean's Teaching Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University
2012-2013	Bourse Pensionnaire Étranger, École Normale Supérieure-Ulm, Paris

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2026 Collège Maurice Ravel, Diplôme National du Brevet Option Internationale (DNBI) examiner
2023-2024 Collège Sévigné, Bac Français International (BFI) examiner
2019-2021 UCSB Comparative Literature, Post-MA Assessment Committee Member
2018- 2021 H-France, Social Media Editor
2018-2021 UCSB Faculty Research Assistance Program, Undergraduate Research Supervisor
2017- 2021 UCSB Translation Studies, Capstone Project Supervisor