

Kylie Walters  
 Department of Radio/TV/Film  
 Northwestern University  
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## Education

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- In Progress      **Northwestern University**  
*Ph.D. Screen Cultures, certificate in Critical Theory.*  
*“Designs for Refinement: Mobil and the Visual Culture of Oil, 1960-1985.”*  
*Committee: Lynn Spigel (Chair), Jeffrey Sconce, Jacob Smith.*
- July 2021      **University of Cambridge, Newnham College**  
*MPhil Film and Screen Studies, awarded with distinction. Supervised by*  
*Professor John David Rhodes.*
- May 2018      **Colby College**  
*B.A. German Studies and Global Studies, Creative Writing minor, cum laude,*  
*distinction in majors.*

## Teaching Experience

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### Instructor of Record

- 2026    “History of Television and Radio,” Winter, DePaul University.
- 2025    “Waterlogs: Global Cinema of the Aquatic,” Spring, Northwestern University.

### Assistantships

- 2023    “Understanding the Creative Industries,” Fall, MS in Leadership for Creative Enterprises, Northwestern University, Professor Freda Love Smith.
- 2023    “History of Film I,” Winter, Northwestern University, Professor Nathan Rossi.
- 2022    “Cultural History of Television,” Fall, Northwestern University, Professor Lynn Spigel.
- 2018    “Elementary German II,” Spring, Colby College, Professor Arne Koch.
- 2017    “Intermediate German I: Exploring German Studies,” Fall, Colby College, Professor Rory Bradley.

### Invited Talks and Lectures

- 2025    “Mobil Oil’s Architectural Ecomodernism.” School of Communication Winter Graduate

Symposium. Northwestern University (March).

- 2024 “Pipeline Aesthetics and *How to Blow Up a Pipeline* (2022),” “Cli-Fi,” School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Professors Shawn Michelle Smith and Oliver Sann (March).
- 2022 “The Gay 90s and the Politics of Representation,” “Cultural History of Television,” Northwestern University, Professor Lynn Spigel (October).

## Fellowships, Grants, & Awards

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### Fellowships

- 2024-2025 Franke Fellowship, Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University.

### Grants & Awards

- 2025 Northwestern School of Communication Conference Travel Grant
- 2025 Northwestern Buffett Institute International Conference Travel Grant
- 2024-2025 Dr. Marie E. Brittin Research Award, Northwestern School of Communication
- 2023-2024 Public Humanities Graduate Fellow, Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities
- 2023-2024 Renée Schine Crown Scholarship, Northwestern School of Communication
- 2024 The Graduate School Conference Travel Grant
- 2023 Northwestern School of Communication Research Grant
- Research: ExxonMobil Historical Archive, University of Texas at Austin
- 2023 Modernist Studies Association Travel Grant
- 2023 National History Museum of Los Angeles Student Collections Study Award
- Research: Mobil Western Photography Unit Collection, Seaver Center
- 2023 Critical Theory Program Conference Travel Grant
- 2023 The Graduate School Conference Travel Grant
- 2023 Northwestern School of Communication Conference Travel Grant
- 2022 Northwestern School of Communication Conference Travel Grant
- 2021 Access Scholarship, Rare Book School at the University of Virginia
- 2018 Kristina Stahl Prize for Creative Nonfiction, Colby College Dept. of English
- 2018 AWP Conference Travel Grant, Colby College Dept. of English
- 2018 Efthim Economu Prize, Colby College Dept. of German and Russian
- 2018 National German Honor Society, *Delta Phi Alpha*

## Conferences, Seminars, & Panels

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### Conference and Symposium Papers

- 2025 “‘Our Own Modest Candle’: Mobil’s Cultural Sponsorship in the Televisual Age,” Screen. Glasgow, Scotland. (June).

- 2025 “Mobil Oil’s Architectural Ecomodernism.” Franke Future Directions Forum. Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University. (May).
- 2025 “Calibrating Televisual Modernism: British Petroleum’s Experimental Broadcasts in Color.” Crude Representations: BP and the Cultural Imagination of Oil. University of Edinburgh and University of Southampton. Online (January).
- 2024 “In the Community Room: Psychoanalytic Pedagogies for the Climate Emergency.” Kaplan Public Humanities Graduate Symposium. Northwestern University. Evanston, IL (May).
- 2024 “Correct Total Statement: Oil’s Architectural Discontents.” SCMS. Boston, MA. (March).
- 2023 “The Televisual Modernism of British Petroleum.” Modernist Studies Association. Brooklyn, NY (October).
- 2023 “The Gas Stations of Film Noir.” SCMS. Denver, CO (April).
- 2022 “Saturation, Depletion: Aesthetics and the Withheld in *The Umbrellas of Cherbourg*.” Screen Cultures Graduate Student Conference. Northwestern University. Evanston, IL. (October).
- 2022 “‘You Like Fiction Books?’: The Bookstore as Site of Romantic Encounter in Turn of the Twenty-First Century American Film.” SCMS. Online (March/April).
- 2018 “‘You Must Change Your Life’: God as Thing in Rilke’s ‘Archaic Torso of Apollo.’” Colby Liberal Arts Symposium. Colby College, Waterville, ME (May).

### **Seminars and Institutes**

- 2024-2025 Reflective and Effective Teaching Certificate Program. Searle Center for Advancing Learning and Teaching, Northwestern University. Evanston, IL (September-June).
- 2024 Rhetoric, Media & Publics Summer Institute: Shared Grounds of Media Aesthetics and Ecology. Guest faculty: Ayesha Omer, Thomas Patrick Pringle, Weihong Bao, and Debashree Mukherjee. Northwestern University. Evanston, IL (July).
- 2023-2024 The Act of the Analyst: Psychoanalysis and Political Activism. Joseph Scalia III, Psy.D., The Lacanian School of Psychoanalysis. Online (September-June).
- 2023 Summer Institute of Psychoanalysis: Psychoanalysis and Gender. Université Sorbonne Nouvelle and Northwestern University. Paris, France (June).

## Roundtables and Discussions

- 2026 “Television History in the Americas,” American Historical Association. Chicago, IL. (January).
- 2025 Post-screening discussion with filmmaker Greta Snider. “Endless Reveries: Water in Experimental Film.” The Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University (May).
- 2023 Post-screening discussion with Professor Brian R. Jacobson. *Giuseppina* (1960) and *The Umbrellas of Cherbourg* (1964). The Block Museum of Art, Northwestern University (March).

## Publications

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### Journal Article

“Mobil Oil’s Architectural Ecomodernism.” Under review, *Grey Room*.

### Book Review

“Iridescent Kuwait: Petro-Modernity and Urban Visual Culture since the Mid-Twentieth Century (review).” *Middle Eastern Literatures*, 26 (1), 2023.

## Memberships, Positions, & Service

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- 2023-2024 Screen Cultures Graduate Student Association Co-chair
- 2023-2024 Screen Cultures Program Graduate Assistant
- 2023-2024 Research Assistant, Professor Lynn Spigel
- 2023-2024 Screen Cultures Peer Mentor
- 2023 Research Assistant, Professor Jacob Smith
- 2023 First Round Reader, Northwestern Buffett Climate Crisis + Media Arts Grant
- 2022 Organizing Committee, Backward Glances Graduate Conference
- 2022 Media Librarian, Northwestern Department of Radio, TV & Film
- 2021-present Society for Cinema and Media Studies
- 2021-2022 Research Assistant, Professor Lynn Spigel
- 2021 Conference Organizer, Out Loud: Celebrating LGBTQ+ Research at Newnham
- 2021 Newnham College 150th Anniversary Open Programme Committee
- 2020-2021 LGBTQ+ Officer, Newnham College MCR
- 2015-2016 Media Production & Archival Assistant, Colby Office of Communications

## Projects, Organization, & Curation

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- 2025 Curator of screening at Block Museum of Art, “[Endless Reveries: Water in Experimental Film with Greta Snider](#).” (May).

- 2023-2024 Leader, Public Humanities Seminar: [Psychoanalysis and the Climate Crisis](#).
- 2022-2023 Co-curator of series at Block Museum, [Crude Aesthetics: Oil on Film](#), which brought together screenings and academic talks/artist visits by professors Mona Damluji, Brian R. Jacobson, and Carolyn Fornoff and filmmakers Joana Pimenta and Sanaz Sohrabi. Programmed with Professor Tristram Wolff and Michael Metzger, Pick-Laudati Curator of Media Arts.
- 2022 Digital humanities website project for Professor Lynn Spigel, [TV Album](#). Design and production of interactive archival website serving as a companion to monograph *TV Snapshots: An Archive of Everyday Life*.
- 2022 Organizer, "Saturation." Screen Cultures Graduate Conference featuring Professors Anna Kornbluh and C  el M. Keegan. Northwestern University.
- 2021 Organizer, "Building the Queer Archive." Graduate conference featuring Stefan Dickers. Newnham College, University of Cambridge.

### Core Areas of Interest

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Environmental Humanities  
 Experimental and Avant-garde Film  
 Television History  
 Lesbian Media Histories  
 Psychoanalysis

### Professional References

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Dr. Lynn Spigel  
 Northwestern University  
 Frances Willard Professor of Screen Cultures  
 lspigel@northwestern.edu  
 Chair of Dissertation Committee

Dr. John David Rhodes  
 University of Cambridge  
 Professor of Film Studies and Visual Culture  
 MMLL Faculty Co-chair  
 jdr42@cam.ac.uk  
 Masters Thesis Advisor

Dr. Jacob Smith  
Northwestern University  
Professor of Radio/Television/Film  
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Dissertation Committee Member

Dr. Jeffrey Sconce  
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