

# James H. Searle

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## EDUCATION

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<b>Ph.D. in English</b> , SUNY Albany	2021
<i>Dissertation: "Meeting Places: The Entanglements of Poetry and Science in the Modern American Imagination"</i>	
Committee: Eric Keenaghan (Chair), Jennifer Greiman, Paul Stasi	
<b>M.A. in Literary and Cultural Studies</b> , Carnegie Mellon University	2009
<b>B.A. in Liberal Arts</b> , The Evergreen State College	2007

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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<b>Writing Center Director</b> , University at Albany	2025–Present
<b>Instructor, Department of English</b> , University at Albany	2011–Present

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

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Modernism; American Literature; Poetry and Poetics; Critical Theory; American Philosophy; Science, Technology, and Literature

## PUBLICATIONS

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### *Peer-Reviewed Articles*

"Williams's Profundity: Pragmatic Naturalism and Distributed Poetic Thinking." *William Carlos Williams Review* 39.2 (2022).

### *Book Reviews*

"Review: *Thinking Through the Imagination: Aesthetics in Human Cognition*." *Textual Practice* 29.5 (2015).

"Review: *Life, Literature, and Modernity*." *MLN* 124.5 (2010).

### *Book Chapters*

"Against Apologetics: Vocation and the Poetics of Inquiry." Forthcoming in *The Return of the Text* (Fordham UP).

"Mind in Its Purest Play: Imagination, Politics, and Reading." In Conference Proceedings of "The Natural History of Reading" (2010).

## GRANTS

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**Strategic Allocation of Resources (StAR) Program Award**, University at Albany (2025). "Reimagining English Studies at UAlbany: Developing Digital Arts, New Media, and Multimedia Assignments in Literature, Rhetoric, and Creative Writing." Lead author and co-facilitator with C. Thyssen, E. Frulla, and L. Wilder.

## CONFERENCE TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

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"Moving Beyond the Binary: AI-Aware Assignment Design in Literary Studies." AI Plus Symposium: The Future of Education, Albany, NY. March 2026.

Panelist, Initiatives in Teaching Workshop on Generative AI. UAlbany English Department, Albany, NY. March 2025.

"A Gymnast's Struggle: Teaching Reading Today." UAlbany in the High School's Humanities & Social Sciences Workshop, Albany, NY. December 2023.

"A New Naturalism: Niche Construction and/as Poetic Thinking." NeMLA, Buffalo, NY. March 2023.

"The Difference Culture Makes: Pragmatism, Poetry, and Science." Science and Technology Studies Research Day, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY. March 2023.

“Du Bois’s *John Brown*: Freedom, Determinism, and the Cadences of Chance.” C19: Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists, Coral Gables, FL. April 2022.

“Writing Mind: Improvisation, Imagination, and Textual Form in William Carlos Williams.” MLA, Seattle, WA. January 2021.

“The Basis of Faith in Art: On Some Kantian Themes in William Carlos Williams.” The Uses of Aesthetics Conference, Karlstad, Sweden. September 2019.

“Muriel Rukeyser and the Poetics of Possibility.” 44th Annual Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture since 1900, Louisville, KY. February 2016.

“American Modernism and the Hidden 19th Century.” Seminar Participant, The Hidden Nineteenth Century Seminar, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD. July 2014.

“Musement and Inquiry: Peirce’s Relevance for Literary Study Today.” “The Return of the Text” Conference, Le Moyne College. September 2013.

“An Injury to One: Fighting the Exploitation of Graduate Student Labor.” MLA, January 2012.

## EVENTS ORGANIZED

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Annual English Department Film Series	2024–Present
“What We Don’t Talk About When We Talk About Crisis” (co-organizer)	2023
<i>Two-session interdisciplinary forum featuring ten scholars from across the humanities. Presenters included Kristen Case, Anna Kornbluh, Jonathan Arac, Aaron Hanlon, and others.</i>	
“Meeting Places: Conversations Between & Beyond the Disciplines” (co-organizer)	2023
<i>Three-session interdisciplinary conversation series with scholars from STS, literary studies, and the arts, including Raquel Velho (RPI), Christina Thyssen (UAlbany), and Jackie Ess (Pratt Institute).</i>	
“Social Practices as Biological Niche Construction: A Forum on Forthcoming Work by Joseph Rouse” (co-organizer)	2022
<i>Forum with Joseph Rouse (Wesleyan), Gary Tomlinson (Yale), Mark Risjord (Emory), and Mark Lance (Georgetown).</i>	

## SERVICE

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### *Academic Service*

Co-Facilitator, StAR Grant: “Reimagining English Studies at UAlbany”	2025–2026
Undergraduate Academic Advisor, English Department	2013–2014
Writing Tutor, UAlbany Writing Center	2011

### *Professional and Public Service*

Chief Steward, Business Agent, and EVP, Graduate Student Employees Union	2011–2020
Chair, English Department Outreach Committee & Books for Prisoners Program	2010–2011
Founding Member, Save Our SUNY (SOS) and New York Students Rising (NYSR)	

## AWARDS AND HONORS

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Torch Faculty/Student Engagement Award, University at Albany	2024
Distinguished Doctoral Dissertation Award, University at Albany	2021
Outstanding Dissertation in English Award, University at Albany	2021
Richard Thorns Dissertation Summer Fellowship, University at Albany	2020
William Scheuerman Post-Baccalaureate Scholarship, United University Professions	2016
English Graduate Student Organization Recognition Award, University at Albany	2013