

Leo Dunsker
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DEGREES

- Ph.D. **University of California Berkeley**, 2026 [expected].
English with Designated Emphasis in Critical Theory
Including Caribbean History: The Creation of New World Epic
C.D. Blanton (chair), Donna Jones, Eric Falci, Charles Altieri, James Porter
Specialties: 20th Century Global Anglophone (U.K., Caribbean, Irish, U.S., postcolonial), poetry and poetics, modernism, critical theory, contemporary.
- M.A. **University of California Berkeley**, 2022.
English with an emphasis in creative writing
Lyn Hejinian, Professor Emerita (chair)
- B.A. **Trinity College Dublin**, Gold Medal (First class with highest honors), 2017.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed

- “Looking into Walcott’s Homer: *Omeros* between epic and mock-epic,” *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies*, 26:3/4 (Summer 2024), in special issue *Poetics from the Global South* (eds. Nathan Suhr-Sytsma and Ryan Topper), pp. 332-352.
- “Gross and Blended Visions: Frank Stanford, Édouard Glissant, and the Participatory Epic,” *The Global South* 19:1 (Spring 2026), in special issue *Gulf South, Global South* (ed. Leigh Anne Duck), **under review**.

Book Reviews

- Review of Randolph Healy’s *The Electron-Ghost Casino*, *Chicago Review* 68:3 [forthcoming].
- Review of Maurice Scully’s *Things that Happen* and Kenneth Keating’s (ed.) *A Line of Tiny Zeroes in the Fabric: Essays on the Poetry of Maurice Scully*, *Irish University Review* 52:2.

SELECTED AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Research

- 2025 Critical Theory Dissertation Fellowship, UC Berkeley Program for Critical Theory.
- 2024 – Graduate Affiliate, UC Berkeley Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

2025	Kurtz Dissertation Chapter Prize, Department of English.
2025	Summer Dissertation Writing Grant, UC Berkeley Graduate Division.
2024	British Studies Dissertation Grant, UC Berkeley Center for British Studies.
2022	UC Berkeley Doctoral Completion Fellowship.
2019	Christopher Grayson Bruney Memorial Fellowship in English.
2017	Professor Michael A. Bernstein Memorial Fellowship.
2017 - 2022	UC Berkeley Regents Fellowship for Graduate Study.
2017	Gold Medal in English Studies, Trinity College Dublin. <i>Gold medals are awarded by the Board of Trinity College to candidates of the first class who have shown exceptional merit at degree examinations.</i>
2015 - 2021	Scholar of Trinity College in English Studies. <i>A scholarship of the College remains the most prestigious undergraduate award in the country, awarded based on receiving only first-class marks on the five-day scholarship examination.</i>

Teaching

2025	Outstanding Teaching Award, Department of English.
2024, 2025	Berkeley Connect Fellowship for Undergraduate Mentorship in English.
2024	Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor [GSI] Award.
2024	GSI Teaching & Resource Center, Certificate in Teaching and Learning.
2021, 2023	Koshland Pedagogy Mentor Fellowship.
2020	UC Berkeley Graduate Remote Instruction Innovation Fellowship.

SELECTED CONFERENCE EXPERIENCE

Recent Conference Presentations

2025	“So far to have made nothing: Merle Hodge’s Translations of Léon-Gontran Damas,” for seminar “Comparative Caribbean Modernisms” (organized by J. Dillon Brown), <i>American Comparative Literature Association</i> .
2025	“Folk,” for roundtable “Keywords, Questions, Concepts: Our Postcolonial Categories” (MLA Postcolonial Forum Executive Committee), <i>Modern Language Association</i> .
2024	“‘A New Parochial Wholeness’: Folk Form in Kamau Brathwaite’s <i>The Arrivants</i> ,” for seminar “Postcolonial Formalism” (organized by Arthur Rose), <i>American Comparative Literature Association</i> [invited].
2024	“Muldoon, Walcott, and the Inevitability of Mock-Epic,” for roundtable “The Global South And Ireland” (LLC Irish), <i>Modern Language Association</i> .

- 2024 “Including History: The Grounds of Epic Form, from Siena to Santa Lucia,” for panel “Past, Present, And Future: Ways Of Reading Ezra Pound’s *The Cantos*” (Ezra Pound Society), *Modern Language Association*.
- 2022 “‘Including History’: on Maurice Scully’s *Things That Happen*,” for roundtable “Playing it Forward: SoundEye Poetics, their conditions and their legacies” (organized by David Lloyd), *American Conference for Irish Studies* [invited].

Organization

- 2018 Co-Organizer, *Mimesis and Mutation*: Berkeley-Stanford Graduate Conference.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Lecturer** The Interpretation of Dreams (Summer 2024)
Contemporary British Literature and Culture (Fall 2021, 3 weeks)
- Instructor** We Must Learn to Sit Down and Talk About a Little Culture (Spring 2024)
The Raw and the Cooked (Fall 2023)
Poetics from the Global South (Spring 2022)
Myth and Politics in the African Novel (Fall 2021)
Caribbean Poetry In and Out of English (Spring 2021, Summer 2021)
The New American Poetry (Fall 2020)
- Mentor** Berkeley Connect in English [40 undergraduate mentees] (Fall 2024, Fall 2025)
- Teaching Assistant** Literature and Psychology, Grace Lavery (Spring 2020) [2 sections]
Engl. Lit Mid-19thC to Present, Joshua Gang (Fall 2019) [2 sections]

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Research Assistant** Kathleen Donegan (Spring 2024), archival research at British Library for MS on slave codes in the late 18th and early 19th Caribbean
Eric Falci (Winter 2019), for *Irish Literature in Transition: 1980–2020* (Cambridge University Press, 2020)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

UC Berkeley

- 2021 – Postcolonial and Global Anglophone Research Colloquium, Department of English, Founder and Organizer.
- 2018 – Poetry Research Colloquium, Department of English, Co-organizer.
- 2017 - 2024 Contemporary Poetry & Poetics Working Group, Townsend Center for Humanities, Organizer.

Trinity College Dublin

- 2016 - 2017 Dublin University Metaphysical Society, Chair.
- 2016 - 2017 *Icarus Magazine*, Editor.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- 2020 - 2023 Graduate Assembly Delegate for Department of English, Associated Students of the University of California.
- 2022 - 2023 ASUC Work Group on Self-Supporting Graduate Degree Programs.
- 2021 - 2022 UC Berkeley Health Fee Advisory Board.
- 2020 - 2021 Graduate Assembly Committee for External Affairs and Advocacy.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS AND RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- 2020 - 2021 Small Press Traffic (San Francisco, CA), collaborated to fund and produce *HIGH DAWN* reading series.
- 2017 - 2018 *Narrative Magazine* (San Francisco), Assistant Poetry Editor.
- 2017 Copper Canyon Press (Port Townsend, WA), Intern.
- 2016 Mark Twain House and Museum (Hartford, CT)
Education Department Intern, researched and wrote public lectures.
Assistant Teacher for Capital Prep Charter School course.
- 2016 - 2017 *Cave Writings* reading series (Dublin), Organizer.
- 2016 – Poetry and essays published in *Re&R* (Relegation Books), *Ursus Americanus*, *Smithereens Magazine*, *Foundlings*, *pdf.mag*, and elsewhere.

LANGUAGES

Latin and Spanish (proficient).

REFERENCES

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