

Abigail Heiniger, PhD

Associate Professor of Language and Literature
Chair, Department of Literature and Language



Biography

Dr. Abigail Heiniger, Associate Professor of Literature and Languages and Department Chair, teaches literature and writing at LMU. She holds a BA in English and two MAs in English and Humanities from the University of Louisville, in Kentucky, and she has a Ph.D. in Literature from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan.

Before coming to LMU, Dr. Heiniger taught literature, composition, gender studies, and fairy tales at Bluefield College, Lawrence Technological University, Wayne State University, and the University of Louisville. She enjoys bringing nineteenth-century advertisements and artifacts to class. She is currently the chair of the Modern Language Association Executive Committee for Fairy Tales, Folklore, and Mythology.

Dr. Heiniger's book *Jane Eyre's Fairytale Descendants: Constructions and Deconstructions of National Identity* was published with Routledge in 2016. *Fairy-Tale Revivals in the Long Nineteenth Century*, volumes 1 and 2, is forthcoming 12 September 2023.

She lives in Cumberland Gap and enjoys kayaking on the Powell River by her house and watching the sunrise over the mountains.

Teaching and Research Interests

Her research centers on the intersection of gender and race in nineteenth-century literature, particularly in fantastic literature and fairy tales.

Recent Publications and Presentations

Books

Fairy-Tale Revivals in the Long Nineteenth Century: Writing Wonder in Transatlantic Ethnic Literary Revivals, 1850–1950. Collection of primary texts. Volumes 1-2. Abigail Heiniger, ed. Routledge Press. 2024.

[*Jane Eyre's Fairytale Legacy at Home and Abroad: Constructions and Deconstructions of National Identity*](#). Routledge Press. March 2016.

Articles and Book Chapters

“The Magic of Patwa in *Bluebeard and Brer Anancy*: Colonial Oppression and the Transgressive Power of Language.” *Marvels and Tales*. Solicited article. Forthcoming 2024.

“The All-Woman Sister-Lover: Sovranty Hag’s Afterlife as Cinderella in ‘Hairy Rucky’” *Humanities: Fairy Lore and Fandom Explored: Critical Essays on the Popularity of Fairy Tales Then and Now*, eds Sophie Raynard-Leroy and Charlotte Trinquet du Lys. Forthcoming, 2023.

“The British Empire’s Lost Slipper: Dangerous Irish Cinderellas.” *Contemporary Fairy Tale Magic*, Lydia Brugué, ed. 2020.

“Passing as the American Cinderella: Disenchanted Fairy Tales in the Writings of Hannah Crafts, Charles Chesnutt and Jessie Fauset.” *Marvels and Tales* (2018): 32.2.

Presentations

“Playing in the Time of War: The Failure of Cinderella Pantomimes in the Great War.” International Conference for the Fantastic in the Arts. 2024.

“Wonder and Psychology: The New Uses of Enchantment.” Round Table Presentation. International Conference for the Fantastic in the Arts. 2024.

“Reproducing Fairy-Tale Truths in the British Caribbean: the British Bluebeard Legacy.” British Women Writers Conference. 2024.

“The Magic of Patwa in *Bluebeard and Brer Anancy*: Colonial Oppression and the Transgressive Power of Language.” Norm and Transgression in the Fairy-Tale Tradition: (Non)Normative Identities, Forms, and Writings. 2023.

“‘It A Fi Wi’: Making It Ours in *Bluebeard and Brer Anancy* (1949).” International Conference for the Fantastic in the Arts. 2023.

“Community and the Irish School Collection,” *Folklore at Work*. Modern Language Association (MLA). San Francisco, CA. 2023.

“Sinéad de Valera’s Fairy-Tale Ireland: Loathly Lady as Decolonizer of Ireland.” Children’s Literature Association. Atlanta, Georgia. 2022.

“The All-Woman Sister-Lover: Sovranty Hag’s Afterlife as Hairy Rucky (The Irish Cinderella You Never Knew).” International Conference for the Fantastic in the Arts. 2022.

“Play and Politics in *The Brownie Book*, 1920-1921.” Children’s Literature Association. Virtual 2021.

“Breaking the Great Silence in *Queen Mab*: The Great Famine and Fairies.” International Conferences for the Fantastic in the Arts. Virtual March 2021.

“The British Empire’s Lost Slipper: Dangerous Irish Cinderellas.” International Conferences for the Fantastic in the Arts. Orlando, Florida 2019.

“Revival and Reversal: The Rise of America’s Robber Bridegroom.” International Conferences for the Fantastic in the Arts. Orlando, Florida 2018.