

# Dylan Lackey

PhD Candidate / Instructor

## Media, Art, & Text

Virginia Commonwealth University / Richmond, Virginia, USA / lackeydj@vcu.edu

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

psychoanalysis, critical theory, queer & trans\* theory, neo/liberal political theory, contemporary art & art history, literary modernism, visual & material culture, Black study, histories of enslavement, new media theory

## EDUCATION

2022 — **PhD Candidate, Media, Art, & Text**

present **Virginia Commonwealth University**

Dissertation: "In the Ruins of Language: *Finnegans Wake* & the Aporias of Black *Lalangue*"

Supervisor: Oliver Speck / Committee: Adin Lears, Massa Lemu, Jennifer Rhee

2020 — **MA, Critical & Cultural Studies, Department of Philosophy**

2021 **Global Centre for Advanced Studies**

Thesis: "On the Reproduction of Anti-Blackness: Regarding the Absent-Presence of Blackness in Althusserian Interpellation"

Supervisor: Creston Davis / Committee: Lewis Gordon (University of Connecticut); Banu Bargu (UC Santa Cruz); Andrew Culp (California Institute of the Arts)

2016 — **BA, Political Theory / Women, Gender, & Sexuality / Bioethics (Minor)**

2020 **University of Virginia**

Thesis: "Necropolitics, Interpellation, & Archival Possibility: Regarding the (Un)making of Death-Worlds" (with distinction)

Supervisor: Douglas Meyer

## TEACHING & RESEARCH

### Graduate Assistant, VCU

Humanities Research Center / Spring 2026

### Seminar Instructor, Morning Star Research Center for the Afterlife of Slavery

Corrosive Sublimation: Art & Ab-sense / Spring 2026 / Invited respondents: Jamieson Webster, Derek Hook, Marcus Coelen, Fred Moten, Eric Alliez, Lee Edelman, Jack Halberstam, Luke Thurston, Rizvana Bradley, Patrice Douglass, David S. Marriott

### Instructor, VCU

ENGL 317: Body & Culture (Psychoanalysis & Cinema) / Spring 2025

ENGL 250: Reading Film / Spring 2023 + Fall 2023 + Spring 2024 + Fall 2024 + Fall 2025

### Graduate Teaching Assistant, VCU

ENGL 250: Reading Film with A. Harry Jones / Fall 2022

ENGL 215: Reading Literature with John Brinegar / Fall 2022

### Guest Lecturer, VCU

WRLD 491: Super Hero Movies with Oliver Speck / Spring 2024 / Lecture: "Afropessimism & Afrofuturism"

**PRESENTATIONS / SEMINARS / ROUNDTABLES**

- Jun 2026 "Against the *Sinthome*: Theorizing Art Beyond Self-Naming"  
The International Society for Theoretical Psychology – 'Theorizing in Dark Times – Art, Narrative, Politics'
- Apr 2026 "Study After Discipline: New Humanities Research Methods"  
Humanities Symposium, Humanities Research Center at Virginia Commonwealth University
- Mar 2026 "From Subl(im)ation to Sinthome in Contemporary Art"  
Graduate Research Colloquium in Contemporary Critical Thought, Columbia Center for Contemporary Critical Thought – 'Hegel 13/13'
- Nov 2025 "Anselm Kiefer the *Alchemist*: Anti-Blackness and 'Corrosive Sublimation'"  
London Arts-Based Research Centre, University of Oxford – 'Alchemy: Exploring Metaphorical Transformations and Arts-Based Research'
- Sep 2025 "Blackness and Anti-Hermeneutics"  
Invited Commenter: "Oneself as not Another: A New Hermeneutics of Blackness" by James Henry Harris – Virginia Philosophical Association Annual Conference
- May 2025 "Joyce's *Lalangue*: On Masochism, Anti-Blackness, & *écriture féminine*"  
Freudian Research Seminar Series, Freud Museum London – 'Freud & Women'
- Mar 2025 "Queer Desublimation & Blackness *N'est Pas* in Věra Chytilová's *Daisies* (1966)"  
NeMLA Annual Convention – Panel: 'Beyond the Binary: Narratives of Queer Experience in Literature & Film' (Session Chair)
- Jan 2025 "*Exoneratus*: Blackness & Lacan's *Finnegans Wake*"  
MLA Annual Convention – Panel: 'Black Psychoanalyses?' with Anthony Paul Farley & Jordan Taliha McDonald, moderated by Linette Park
- Dec 2024 "Blackness *N'est Pas* in the Rubble of Bermondsey's White Cube"  
London Centre for Interdisciplinary Research & Department of Languages, Literatures, & Cultures, University of Madeira – 'The Aesthetics of Decay: Creative Modes of Destruction'
- Sep 2024 "Anti-Blackness & Creative Self-Destruction in Lacan, Joyce, & Kiefer"  
Strategies of Critique, York University – 'Study & Dissent'
- Sep 2024 School of Materialist Research, Summer Institute  
'The Feminine in the Age of Anthropological Transformation' with Julia Kristeva, Miglena Nikolchina, & Katarina Kolozova
- May 2024 "Panopticism's Black *Poché*: Reading Foucault with Jefferson"  
World Congress, Foucault: 40 Years After, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales & Columbia Center for Contemporary Critical Thought – 'Reading *Discipline & Punish*'
- Apr 2024 "There is No *Lalangue* of AI: Machine Learning, Blackness, & the Late Lacan"  
Parren J. Mitchell Symposium, Critical Race Initiative, University of Maryland
- Nov 2023 "Interpellating Architectures Between Bentham, Jefferson, & Wright"  
Centre for Humanities Research, University of the Western Cape – 'Black Radical Thought & Neoliberalism'
- Sep 2023 "Notes on Queer Nothingness & Black *Lalangue*"  
Political Theology Network, Villanova University – 'Willing Slaves?: Theology, Race, Law'
- Aug 2023 "Contemporary Art, Interpellation, & Racialized Gentrification: A Case Study on Hudson Valley Displacement as a Matter of Perpetual War"  
Association for Education in Journalism & Mass Communication – Cultural & Critical Studies Division
- May 2023 "For the Love of Guilt: Interpellation & Black *Lalangue*"  
Strategies of Critique, York University – 'Care & Cure'
- Mar 2023 "Plantation & Panopticon: Revisiting Bio/Necropolitics"  
Q Symposium, Virginia Commonwealth University – 'Policing Bodies'

## FELLOWSHIPS / TEAMS / RESEARCH LABS

NYU Faculty First Look Scholar, 2025

Office of Inclusive Excellence / Arts & Sciences at New York University

Health Humanities Minor Curriculum Development, Graduate Fellow, 2024 – ongoing

VCU Humanities Research Center / Health Humanities Lab / Supervision by Dr. Chris Cynn

Data Ecologies, Graduate Research Assistant, 2024 – 2025

VCU Humanities Research Center / Supervision by Drs. Jennifer Rhee & Jesse Goldstein

Body & Culture: Myth & Death, Graduate Research Assistant, 2024

VCU English & Health Humanities / Supervision by Dr. Sachi Shimomura

Spirituality, Care and Culture Lab, Team Member, 2025 – ongoing

VCU Humanities Research Center / Supervision by Drs. Andrew Crislip, Adin Lears, & Mimi Winick

AI Futures Lab, Team Member, 2024 – ongoing

VCU Humanities Research Center / Supervision by Drs. Jennifer Rhee & Caddie Alford

Research Center for Arts & Humanities in Healthcare, Graduate Member, 2022–2024

VCU Humanities Research Center / Supervision by Dr. Oliver Speck

## EVENT FACILITATION

Apr 2025 – Claire Denis' *No Fear, No Die* (1996, restored 2022)

Film screening at VCU followed by Q&A with Shawn Utsey (VCU AAS/Psychology), Brandon Shillingford (Exposure Cinema), Lewis Peterson (HardLight Cinema), Oliver Speck, & myself on anti-Blackness, Frantz Fanon, colonialism, & Third Cinema

Sep 2023 – Apichatpong Weerasethakul's *Memoria* (2021)

Film screening at the Institute for Contemporary Art at VCU followed by Q&A with Oliver Speck, Josh M. Tyree (VCUarts), & myself on slow cinema, colonialism, memory, & fantasy

## GRADUATE COURSEWORK

<b>SPRING 2024</b>	<b>SPRING 2023</b>
GSWS 624: Gender & Cultural Reproduction (Dawn Johnson) MATX 690: Critical Artificial Intelligence Studies (Jennifer Rhee) MATX 791: Lacan / <i>Père-version</i> / Slavery; IS (Oliver Speck)	MATX 603: Mass Media (Mariam Alkazemi) MATX 604: Interdisciplinary Workshop (Oliver Speck) ENGL 606: Literary Criticism – Minor Affects (Adin Lears)
<b>FALL 2023</b>	<b>FALL 2022</b>
SCPT 510: Contemporary Visual Cultures (Massa Lemu) ARTH 690: Art Historiography & Methodology (Eric Garberson) MATX 791: Critical Perspectives in Art; IS (Sasha Waters-Freyer)	MATX 601: Texts & Textuality (Oliver Speck) MATX 602: History of Media, Art, & Text (Joshua Eckhardt) GSWS 620: Theorizing Sexuality (Eli Coston)

## AWARDS & ACCOLADES

Graduate Winner, VCU Book Collecting Contest, 2024

Finalist, International Awards for Art Criticism, 2024

Graduate Student Travel Grant, MLA Convention, 2025

## INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

<u>Modern Language Association</u>	<u>College Art Association</u>	<u>Association for Philosophy &amp; Literature</u>	<u>American Philosophical Association</u>	<u>Society for Cinema &amp; Media Studies</u>	<u>Modernist Studies Association</u>
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