

# Yann Ciarán Ryan

## PERSONAL DETAILS

**Date and place of birth:** 2 December 1984, Limerick, Republic of Ireland

**Nationality:** Irish

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## EDUCATION

### September 2014 – January 2020

Ph.D, Queen Mary University of London

Thesis title: 'Networks, Maps and Readers: Foreign News in London Newsbooks, 1645 - 1649'

### September 2008 – September 2009:

Taught M.A. in History, University of Limerick, Ireland.

Included 20,000-word thesis.

Graduated with first class honours (3.75 GPA)

### September 2004 – September 2008:

B.A. in English and History (joint honours)

Graduated with first class honours (3.35 GPA)

## RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### February 2020–Present:

Research Fellow, *Networking Archives* (AHRC-funded), Queen Mary University of London

Member of a research team reconciling and analysing the metadata of c. 450,000 letter records from State Papers Online and Early Modern Letters Online. Carrying out original research and co-authoring a project book, cleaning and reconciling data, developing visualisations, for print and interactive web, developing teaching materials in quantitative network analysis, coordinating a colloquium.

### November 2018–January 2020:

Curator of Newspaper Data, British Library

Organised the release of public-domain newspaper data. Project-managed an exhibition of infographics to be held in the Library in 2021. Worked alongside key stakeholders to ascertain

needs and requirements for Library data sources. Organised seminars and workshops to promote and teach the opportunities of newspaper data to the non-specialist. Extracted and cleaned an openly-available dataset of Library print newspaper holdings, released on the Library's Research Repository and in a peer-reviewed data paper.

## **TEACHING**

### **September 2016–October 2018:**

Associate Teacher, Queen Mary, University of London

Taught on level 4, 5, and 6 modules including:

#### ESH110A: Literatures in Time

Module covering eight centuries of writing in England, and some influential continental works in the French of England brought over by William the Conqueror. Mostly taught in translation but students are also exposed to some Old English.

#### ESH101: Shakespeare

Introductory Shakespeare module which covers nine Shakespeare plays in rotation, including Richard III, Twelfth Night, Romeo and Juliet, Julius Caesar, Hamlet, As You Like It, Henry V, and Othello. Students are encouraged to think and view plays as live events in the theatre.

#### ESH267: Renaissance Literary Culture

Module involving close reading of important authors including Marlowe, Middleton, Sidney, Spenser, Jonson, Donne, Herbert, Philips, and Milton. Students are given a foundation in early modern literature and culture.

#### ESH284: The Digital Critic

A survey of key works of scholarship in what has come to be known as the Digital Humanities, assessing various digital tools, techniques, and methods - from search engines and n-gram viewers, data mining and network analysis, to "distant reading" and "hyper-reading".

### **January 2016–May 2017:**

Associate lecturer, Goldsmiths College, University of London

Taught on level 4 and 5 modules:

#### EN52211C: Shakespeare

Intensive introductory Shakespeare module covering 16 plays in two semesters, which also covers a wide range of secondary Shakespeare criticism.

#### EN52227C: Literature of the English Renaissance

An introduction to multiple forms of writing, from the mid-16th to the late 17th Century, including Spenser, Milton, and non-Shakespearean drama, providing detailed analysis of selected texts considered in their social and intellectual contexts.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

**Articles:**

“More Difficult from Dublin than from Dieppe”: Ireland and Britain in a European Network of Communication’, *Media History*, 24.3–4 (2018), 458–76

“How the World Jogges”: Interconnectedness, Modularity and Virality in Seventeenth Century News’, *Publishing History* 79.1 (2019).

With Luke McKernan, ‘Converting the British Library’s Catalogue of British and Irish Newspapers into a Public Domain Dataset: Processes and Applications’ *Journal of Open Humanities Data* 7.1 (2021), pp. 1-5. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.5334/johd.23>

With Sebastian Ahnert, ‘The Measure of the Archive: The Robustness of Network Analysis in the Light of Missing Data’ *Cultural Analytics* (2021) (accepted for publication).

**Polygraphs**

With Ruth Ahnert, Esther van Raamsdonk, Sebastian Ahnert, Miranda Lewis, Howard Hotson, and Philip Beeley, *Networking Archives* (in progress).

**Reviews:**

Daniel Shore, *Cyberformalism: Histories of Linguistic Forms in the Digital Archive* (Johns Hopkins: Baltimore, 2019) for *Modern Language Review* 115.2 (April 2020)

**Book Chapters:**

‘Newsbook to Newspaper: Changing Format, Layout and Illustration in Seventeenth and Eighteenth-Century Periodical News’ in *The Edinburgh History of the British and Irish Press, Vol. 1, 1640-1800* (Edinburgh University Press) (under contract)

With Esther van Raamsdonk, ‘The Republic of Letters: A Quantitative Case-Study’, in *Silken Hooks and Silver Lines: Anglo-Dutch Relations in the Early Modern World* (Routledge: under contract, 2021)

**Invited Talks/Keynotes:**

Joint Keynote, ‘Networking Archives: Early Modern Letters and the Promise of Connected Collections’ presented at ‘Graph Technologies in the Humanities: 2021 Virtual Symposium’ (upcoming: 9 February 2021).

**Selected academic conference papers:**

‘Seventeenth-century Newsbooks and Networks of News’

Presented at ‘Media Connections between Britain and Ireland’, National Library of Ireland, July 2016.

‘Methodological Approaches to News’,

Presented at ‘European News’ Workshop, Turku, Finland, May 2018.

'News counts: a Quantitative Approach to the Study of Early Modern News'  
Presented at EDPOP Conference, Utrecht, June 2018.

"How the World Jogges": Interconnectedness, Modularity and Virality in Seventeenth Century News',  
Poster presented at 'Digital Humanities 2019', Utrecht, July 2019.

Ryan, Yann; Coll Ardanuy, Mariona; van Strien, Daniel; Hosseini, Kasra; Beelen, Kaspar; Hetherington, James; McDonough, Katherine; McGillivray, Barbara; Ridge, Mia; Vane, Olivia; Wilson, Daniel CS, 'Using Smart Annotations to Map the Geography of Newspapers', Digital Humanities 2020 (peer-reviewed and accepted but presentation forthcoming)

Beelen, Kaspar; Ahnert, Ruth; Beavan, David; Coll Ardanuy, Mariona; Hosseini, Kasra; McDonough, Katherine; Lawrence, Jon; Ryan, Yann; Tolfo, Giorgia; Ridge, Mia; van Strien, Daniel; Vane, Olivia; Wilson, Daniel, 'Contextualizing Victorian Newspapers', Digital Humanities 2020 (peer-reviewed and accepted but presentation forthcoming)

With Ruth Ahnert and Sebastian Ahnert, 'Networking Archives: Quantitative History and the Contingent Archive' presented at *Computational Humanities Research Workshop* (Online, November 2020)

### **Other Publications**

*A Short Guide to Historical Newspaper Data, Using R*: a work-in-progress experimental collaborative book ([https://bookdown.org/yann\\_ryan/r-for-newspaper-data/](https://bookdown.org/yann_ryan/r-for-newspaper-data/))

### **Datasets (named as an author and on an open-access institutional repository)**

'British and Irish Newspapers: A title-level list of British, Irish, British Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies newspapers held by the British Library'. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.23636/1136>

The *Sun*, the *Colored News*, etc. Openly-available digitised news-text datasets. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.23636/1166>; <https://doi.org/10.23636/1164>

### **Honours, awards and grants:**

2008: President's List and Gold Letter, University of Limerick

2016: Royal History Society Grant for Conference Travel.

2016: Postgraduate Research Fund, Queen Mary, for conference travel.

2017: Conference grant from Queen Mary's Centre for Early Modern Mapping, News and Networks.

2019: Peter Isaac Essay Prize for 'the best essay in the field of the History of the Book Trade in the Anglophone world'.

2021: Folger Shakespeare Library Fellowship 2021-22 in support of the project: "Contagion catching by Letters: Information and Disinformation During the Seventeenth Century Pandemic"

Programme Committee Member for CHR2021 (Computational Humanities Research 2021) Conference

Reviewer for *Journal of Open Humanities Data* (JoHD)

**Conferences organised:**

'Textual Authority', in conjunction with the Book History Research Network, Queen Mary, University of London, December 2017.

'Early Archives in Practice, Queen Mary, University of London, June 2018.

A two-day conference with speakers from Lambeth Palace, Wellcome Library, Marsh's Library and the National Archives.

**Other relevant skills:**

Programming and other: Gephi (network visualisation software), R (statistical programming language), Python, HTML, D3 (javascript-based visualisation software), Shiny, Leaflet, Geographic Information Systems.

**Referees:**

Professor Ruth Ahnert  
Professor of Literary History & Digital Humanities,  
Queen Mary, University of London.  
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Professor Joad Raymond  
Professor of Renaissance Studies,  
Queen Mary, University of London.  
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