

Xavier Gerard Lee

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Education

BA with High Honors, Swarthmore College, 2017

Honors Comparative literature major, Honors French minor, Black studies course minor

- Research interests: African-American literature, language & literature, American literature, 20th century literature, postcolonial theory, poststructuralism, Marxist cultural studies, mass media studies, (black) feminist literary criticism, cultural representations, literature & film, neocolonialism, comparative diasporic literature, critical theory, Afro-Caribbean literature, Francophone African literature, Anglophone African Literature

PhD, Yale University

Comparative Literature

Honors and Awards

- Awardee, “Highest Academic Achievement Award,” Black Cultural Center, Swarthmore College (2017)
- Second Place, Dorothy Ditter Gondos Comparative Literature Prize, Swarthmore College, May 2017
- Awardee, Fulbright Canada (2017) – *declined*
- Fellow, Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship (2016)
- Fellow, Moore Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program (Summer 2016)

Work Experience

- **Library Coordinator**, Black Cultural Center, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA
May 2015 – present
 - Managed and trained 8 employees
 - Facilitated inventory of the library’s 1200-book collection.
 - Organized a donated collection of 50+ texts from Swarthmore professors emeritus
 - Helped develop library collection with the guidance of the McCabe Library staff
 - Trained as a Research & Information Associate to offer general library research assistance
- **Program Coordinator**, Blueprints, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA
August 2016 – present
 - Worked directly with the program director to facilitate productive and meaningful programming for the college-bound students of Chester, Pennsylvania
 - Helped develop and facilitate math, literacy and college preparatory curricula
 - Organized impactful Saturday Cultural Institute programming
 - Oversaw a group of 8 mentors
- **Summer Literacy Teacher & Curriculum Developer**, Blueprints III, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA
April 2015 – August 2015

- Led exercises to facilitate the college application process and to encourage paths of higher education for the underprivileged youths of Chester, Pennsylvania
 - Created a summer program curriculum on the topic of Black representations in popular media for the Summer 2015 session.
 - Taught 20 students the fundamentals of taking a literary and/or sociological approach towards the study of television and film
 - Introduced students to an array of commonly used academic terminology, like stereotyping, racial tropes, visibility, and representation.
- **Information Technology Associate**, Information Technology Services, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA
June 2015 – present
 - Learned the fundamentals of Mac and Windows operating systems, including updating, software installation, maintenance and troubleshooting
 - Learned the basics of customer service
 - Worked with a team of four other students to replace the majority of the computers at Swarthmore College.
- **Digital Initiatives Assistant**, McCabe Library, Swarthmore, PA
September 2014 – December 2014
 - Helped Nabil Kashyap with the creation of the Black Liberation 1969 Database [blacklib1969.swarthmore.edu]
 - Designed web pages and user interfaces
 - Handled original documents from the 1969 occupation of the President's Office by black Swarthmore students.
- **Digital Humanities Intern**, Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore, PA
May 2014 – August 2014
 - Used XML to code Quaker manuscripts for relevant metadata
 - Worked with original 17th century archival materials
 - Attended several conferences and events dedicated to digital scholarship

Publications & Presentations

- *Say It Loud! The cultural politics of language in African and African-American Literature*, Undergraduate Thesis in Comparative Literature, Swarthmore College. 2017
- **Academic Presentations**
 - *Linguistic Anticoloniality in the Adaptations of Ousmane Sembène*, Migrations of Culture, University of Pittsburgh, March 2017
 - *Constructing the Alternatives: Vernacular Narration and Radical Black Female Subjectivity*, Undergraduate Research Symposium, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, July 2016
 - [“To Dance is To Live,”](#) Short film on student dance performances as subversive discourse Swarthmore College, April 2015

- [Genital Gazes: Voyeurism and Disembodiment in Andy Warhol's Blow Job and Mario Banana](#), Swarthmore College, December 2016
- *Black Studies at Swarthmore: 1968 – 1970*, Black Liberation 1969 Student Research Panel, Swarthmore College, February 2015

- **Artistic & Journalistic Publications**

narcissure.com – blog/personal site

Lee, Xavier G. "Johanna / Are You Ashamed of Me." *The Swarthmore Review* [Swarthmore] Sept. 2016: n. pag. Print.

Lee, Xavier G. "Armed and Dangerous." *Visibility Magazine* 1.1 (2016): 26-30. *Intercultural Center*. The Intercultural Center at Swarthmore College, 4 May 2016. Web.

Lee, Xavier G. "Basseterre." *Basseterre*. TimBookTu.com, Summer 2015. Web. 30 Oct. 2016. "Au-dedans," *The Swarthmore Phoenix*, April 2016

"Au-Dedans – The Phoenix." N.p., n.d. Web. 30 Oct. 2016.

Lee, Xavier G. "Déjà Vu." *The Swarthmore Review* (2015): n. pag. Print.

"The BCC: A Hard-Earned Space for Everyone – The Phoenix." N.p., n.d. Web. 30 Oct. 2016.

"The Belly of the Atlantic – The Phoenix."

"Threshold: Thoughts on Senior Fall – The Phoenix."

Skills

- Writing & Editing: Editorial, academic, journalistic, copy-editing
- Programming languages: HTML, HTML5, XML, CSS, PHP, MySQL
- Content Management Experience: Tumblr, Drupal, Omeka, Joomla, Moodle, Wordpress
- Programs: Adobe Photoshop, Final Cut Pro, Adobe Premier, FL Studio
- Conversational and reading fluency in French, reading proficiency in Spanish

Leadership Experience

- Co-President, Swarthmore African-American Student Society (2016-2017)
- Co-Advocate, Achieving Black and Latino Leaders of Excellence (2014 – 2015)
- Treasurer, Swarthmore African-American Student Society (2014 – 2015)
- Copy Editor, *the Swarthmore Review* (2013 – 2014)