

# Katrin Rohrbacher

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## Research Areas

Cultural Analytics, Computational Narratology, NLP, Large Language Models

## Academic Appointments

2025– **Postdoctoral Researcher**, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, Department of Digital Humanities and Social Studies

## Education

2018–2025 **PhD**, Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, McGill University  
Dissertation: *Aspects of Space: Quantitative Approaches to Fictional Worlds* (Advisor: Andrew Piper)

2014–2018 **MA**, Department of Comparative Literature, University of Vienna

2010–2014 **BA**, Department of Comparative Literature, University of Vienna

## Publications

**Rohrbacher, K.**, Wagner, A., Mahlberg, M. (2026): “Letting the Cat out of the Bag”: Towards the Automatic Detection of Animal Metaphors in Literary Texts. Book of Abstracts of the DH 2026, ADHO Annual Conference 2026, South Korea/hybrid. Forthcoming.

**Rohrbacher, K.** (2026): “Lived Space”: A Computational Study of Setting in Fiction. In: Comparing Landscapes. Approaches to Space and Affect in Literary Fiction. Conference Proceedings. Ed. Berenike Herrmann, Giulia Grisot, Robin Aust. Bielefeld University Press. Forthcoming.

Mahlberg, M. & **Rohrbacher, K.** (2026). Corpora in Digital Humanities and Corpus Linguistics. In: Hilary Nesi & Petar Milin (eds.), *International Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics*, 3rd Edition. Elsevier, pp.~62–68. <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-323-95504-1.01548-9>

**Rohrbacher, K.** & Schrittester, D. (2026). Bridging the Gaps: Integrating Bibliographic Metadata Into Wikidata for Literary Corpora. *Journal of Open Humanities Data*, 12(1), 37. <https://doi.org/10.5334/johd.483>

**Rohrbacher, K.** (2025). Opening worlds: Narrative beginnings and the role of setting. CCLS2025 Conference Preprints, 4(1). <https://doi.org/10.26083/tuprints-00030149>.

**Rohrbacher, K.** (2025). de-Corp: A Corpus of German Fiction and Non-Fiction (1780-1930). *Journal of Open Humanities Data*, 11(1), p. 51. <https://doi.org/10.5334/johd.350>.

Luederitz, C., Animesh, A., **Rohrbacher, K.**, Li, T., Piper, A., Potvin, C., & Etzion, D. (2023). Non-monetary narratives motivate businesses to engage with climate change. *Sustainability Science*, 18(6), 2649–2660. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11625-023-01386-1>.

## Grants

01/2021-02/2022      **Graduate Fellowship**, Wolfe Chair for Science and Technology, McGill University, \$5000

## Honors and Awards

12/2021      **Hans Walter Frischkopf Award** for Excellence in Teaching, McGill University  
01/2020      **Graduate Excellence Award**, McGill University  
01/2019      **Graduate Excellence Award**, McGill University

## Academic Service

2025–      **Deputy Representative** of the mid-level academic staff (PhD students and PostDocs), Department of Digital Humanities and Social Studies, FAU Erlangen-Nuremberg  
09/2025      **Co-Organizer**, DHSS Summer School "Data, Gender, and Society", FAU Erlangen-Nuremberg  
01/2022      **Co-Organizer**, "7th Annual German Teaching Workshop", McGill University  
03/2021      **Co-Organizer**, Graduate Research Conference, "Environment: Last Call", McGill University

## Teaching

2026      **Lecturer**, Computing Text and Language, FAU Erlangen-Nuremberg  
2026      **Lecturer**, Critical AI, FAU Erlangen-Nuremberg  
2025      **Lecturer**, Computational Approaches to Storytelling, FAU Erlangen-Nuremberg  
2024      **Lecturer**, Modern Short Fiction, McGill University  
2023      **Lecturer**, The German Novel, McGill University  
2018–2024      **Lecturer**, German Language (Beginners and Intermediate), McGill University

## Professional Experience

2019–2025      **Managing Editor**, Journal of Cultural Analytics, <https://culturalanalytics.org>  
2021–2022      **Researcher and Project Management**, PIVOT, <https://pivot.org/>  
2017–2018      **Curatorial Assistant**, Halle für Kunst Steiermark, <https://halle-fuer-kunst.at/>

## Invited Talks

- 01/2026 *Measuring Narrative Space: A Computational Study of German and English Prose Fiction*, University of Bielefeld, Kolloquium Literaturwissenschaften Revisited
- 11/2025 *Aspects of Space: Quantitative Evidence and Fictional Worlds*, University of Hamburg, DH Lecture Series

## Talks and Workshops

- 07/2026 **Talk**, ADHO Annual Conference 2026, South Korea, "Towards the Automatic Detection of Animal Metaphors in Literary Texts"
- 04/2026 **Talk**, 8th annual COMPTXT conference, University of Birmingham, "Modeling Embodiment in Narratives"
- 09/2025 **Workshop**, FAU-Erlangen Nuremberg, DHSS Summer School, "Who is Doing What to Whom: Analyzing Gender Biases in Large Language Models"
- 07/2025 **Talk**, Conference of Computational Literary Studies, University of Krakow, "Opening Worlds: Narrative Beginnings and the role of Setting"
- 03/2024 **Talk**, AACL Montreal, "Questions of Authorship and Agency in the Age of Machine Learning"
- 10/2023 **Talk**, "A Computational Study of Setting in German Fiction, GSA Montreal"
- 08/2023 **Talk**, "Literary Data and Digital Literature", Summer School at German Literary Archive Marbach

## Mentoring

- 06/2025- **Co-adviser**, MA-thesis, Marius Lin, "Framing of Political Discourse in Online Forums", FAU Erlangen-Nuremberg
- 03/2025- **Co-adviser**, MA-thesis, Jan-Oliver Reincke, "Climate Change Narratives in Video Game Storytelling: A Text-Based Computational Study of Emotion", FAU Erlangen-Nuremberg