

Dr Lydia Shaw

University of Tübingen, College of Fellows, English Department, Faculty of Humanities.
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Career Summary

A highly driven teaching and research fellow specialising in literature of the Romantic period and the environmental humanities, with a strong record of high-impact publications, international conference presentations, outreach work, and successful grant applications.

Research Experience

Teaching and Research Fellow at the University of Tübingen (April 2026 – March 2027)

- The primary research focus for the fellowship is the publication of my thesis as a monograph with Liverpool University Press.
- I will develop my ongoing research on George Gordon Byron's arboreal imagery and continue my research of Percy Shelley's use of water imagery and poetical shorescapes to explore his fluctuating philosophical ideals.
- I will teach an undergraduate module on Byron and Shelley and a postgraduate module on representations of birds in Romantic poetry.

Research Assistant at Durham University (March 2025 – August 2025)

- Provided support to editors and authors on the four-volume edited collection 'Death, Loss, Memory and Mourning in the Long Nineteenth Century, 1780-1914' (Routledge, 2025).
- Edited and proofread the manuscripts, including the introductions, source descriptions, editorial headnotes, frontmatter, acknowledgments, indexes and references.

Research Assistant at Durham University (April 2023 – July 2024)

- Formatted and prepared book reviews in the field of Romanticism for publication in the *BARS Review*.
- Assisted with the publication of one standard issue and one double issue of the journal, editing and formatting twenty-five book reviews in total.

Grants

- Byron Society PhD Bursary (2023-4)
- Byron Society PhD Bursary (2022-3)
- North American Society for the Study of Romanticism Travel Bursary (2022)
- St Cuthbert's Society Post Graduate Research Grant (2022)

Education

Durham University: PhD, English Literature (January 2021 – October 2024)

- Thesis title: 'Unapprehended Relations of Things': Remapping Mind and World in the Poetics of Nature in Byron and Shelley, 1816-1820
- Supervisors: Professor Mark Sandy and Dr Emily Rohrbach
- Examiners: Professor Jonathon Shears and Dr James Robinson

Durham University: MA (Honours) Romantic and Victorian Literary Studies (October 2019 – September 2020)

- Classification: Distinction
- Dissertation: 'This Plant Resembles Me!': The Revolutionary Potential of the Botanical Landscape in the Works of Charlotte Smith.

University of Sheffield: BA (Honours) English Literature (September 2016 – July 2019)

Classification: 2:1

Publications

Published

‘‘And Grew a Giant Tree; – the Mind May Grow the Same’’: The Rooting, Growth, and Transplantation of Byron’s Exilic Identity’, *Byron Journal* (53.1: 2025)

Book Review: ‘Jane Austen and Lord Byron: Regency Relations. By Christine Kenyon Jones. | Byron: A Life in Ten Letters. By Andrew Stauffer.’ *Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies* (48.2: 2025)

‘Women’s Fashion: The Deceit in Dress’, *Gissing Journal* (LIV, 4: 2020)

Forthcoming

‘Like These Blasted Pines’ and Hardy Firs: Byron’s Resilient Exilic Identity’, *Romantic Trees: The Literary Arboretum, 1740-1840*, eds. Amanda Blake Davis and Anna Burton (under contract with Liverpool University Press)

‘Byron and Shelley, Human Potentiality, and the Poetics of the Ocean’, *Shelley and Collaboration: Posterity, Intertextuality and Affect* (under contract with Legenda Press)

Under Review

‘As If the Earth and Sea Had Been Dissolved in a Lake of Fire’: The Illusory Venetian Shoreline in *Julian and Maddalo*’, *Essays in Romanticism*

In Preparation

Reconfiguring Mind and World: The Ecological Imagination in the Poetics of Byron and Shelley, 1816-1820 (proposed monograph based on doctoral thesis, Liverpool University Press)

‘In the Valley of Waters’: Byron’s Willow, Liminality, and Ambient Poetics

Conference Papers

‘And From the Waves, Sound Like Delight Broke Forth’: The Poetics of the Ocean and Human Potentiality in Shelley’s *Julian and Maddalo*, presented at The Shelley Conference, London (2024)

‘Wild Reality’: Visionary Madness, Melancholy, and Ecology in Byron’s ‘Darkness’, presented at The North East Forum in Eighteenth-Century and Romantic Studies, Durham (2023)

‘A Noble Wreck’: Venice, Seascapes, Seasons and the Environment in Byron and Shelley, presented at the British Association for Romantic Studies/North American Society for the Study of Romanticism New Romanticisms Joint Conference, Liverpool (2022)

‘The Weight of Earth Recoils Upon Us; - Let It Go!’: The Role of the Natural World in Byron and Shelley’s Posterity, presented at the Romantic Reputations Symposium, online (2021)

Invited Talks

‘Byron’s Arboreal Imagination’, Byron Society, online (2024)

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant at Durham University (September 2022 – July 2025)

- Planned, prepared and lead tutorials on the undergraduate module ‘Introduction to Poetry’.
- Taught poetry from the early modern period to the contemporary.

Additional Experience

Postgraduate Helper at The Shelley Conference, London (28 – 29 June 2024)

- Assisted with preparation for the conference and the on-the-day running of this multi-day conference.
- Wrote the conference overview: ‘The Shelley Conference 2024: Posthumous Poems, Posthumous Collaborations – Conference Report’, BARS Blog.

Referees

Professor Mark Sandy, English Department, Durham University. m.r.sandy@durham.ac.uk

Professor Jonathon Shears, English Department, Keele University. j.r.shears@keele.ac.uk