

## JORDAN OWEN McCULLOUGH

School of Humanities and Social Sciences  
University of St Gallen  
Müller-Friedberg-Strasse 6/8  
9000 St Gallen  
Switzerland

Email: jordan.mccullough@unisg.ch

---

### EDUCATION

#### **PhD French Studies**, Queen's University Belfast (2023)

Funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (UK), through the Northern Bridge Consortium DTP. Thesis entitled 'Care and Connection in Contemporary, Parental *Récits de deuil*', examining the role of writing in creating a continuing bond between a bereaved parent, a deceased child and an imagined reader. Supervisors: Prof. Steven Wilson (QUB), Dr Rosalind Silvester (QUB) & Prof. Shirley Jordan (Newcastle).

#### **MRes Arts and Humanities**, Queen's University Belfast (2019)

With distinction (85%)

Literary dissertation addressing the role of religion and spirituality at the end of life, as presented in works of autobiography and autofiction by terminally ill patients and their families.

#### **BA French and Spanish**, Queen's University Belfast (2018)

First-class honours (82%)

#### **Diploma de Español como Lengua Extranjera (DELE), Nivel C1**, Instituto Cervantes (2016)

### PRIZES, AWARDS AND FUNDING

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Sept 2023 | <b>Virtual Visiting Research Fellowship, School of Modern Languages, Newcastle University:</b> Awarded for a project on cultural representations of disenfranchised grief, particularly in relation to dementia. <b>Value: £250.00</b>  |
| Jan 2023  | <b>Glasgow Medical Humanities Network Early Career Foundation Award:</b> Awarded for a short-term project on experiences of paternal grief following abortion in France and Belgium. <b>Value: £1,200.00</b>  |
| Oct 2019  | <b>Northern Bridge Consortium DTP (AHRC) PhD Studentship:</b> Awarded through a competitive selection process to 67 students from across the seven partner institutions. <b>Approx. value: £80,000.00</b>   |
| Mar 2019  | <b>Society for French Studies Research Support Fund:</b> Funding for a research trip to Paris to access materials in the <i>Bibliothèque nationale de France</i> and to attend an international medical humanities conference. <b>Value: £402.22</b>  |
| Aug 2018  | <b>Henry Hutchinson-Stewart Scholarship:</b> Awarded to the student(s) with the strongest academic profile undertaking MRes study in Modern Languages. <b>Value: £4,000.00</b>  |
| July 2018 | <b>The Waterhouse Prize:</b> Awarded to the top final-year student studying two languages; <b>The Christopher Shorley Prize:</b> Awarded to the final-year student with the best performance in French language; <b>The Richard Bales Prize:</b> Awarded to the final-year student with the highest mark in a French optional module; <b>Certificates of Distinction in Spoken French and Spanish</b> |
| Sept 2014 | <b>Queen's Scholar:</b> A full-fees scholarship for the duration of undergraduate study at the University. One of ten scholars for 2014 entry. <b>Approx. value: £12,000.00</b>   |

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Monograph**

Jordan Owen McCullough, *Care, Connection and Community in Contemporary, Parental Récits de deuil* (Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 2025) [under contract]

### **Journal Articles**

Anna M. Elsner, Charlotte E. Frank, Marc Keller, Jordan O. McCullough and Vanessa Rampton, 'Language Matters: The Semantics and Politics of "Assisted Dying"', *The Hastings Center Report*, 54.5 (2024), 3–7

Jordan Owen McCullough 'Doubly Disenfranchised: The Experience of Paternal Grief Following Medical Termination in Jérémie Szpirglas' *Pater dolorosa*, *Modern and Contemporary France*, 12 September 2024 [pre-print], <https://doi.org/10.1080/09639489.2024.2367478>

Jordan Owen McCullough, 'A Practice of Literary Palliation: Philippe Forest's *L'Enfant éternel*', *Literature and Medicine*, 42.1 (2024), 174–96

Jordan Owen McCullough, 'Bien accompagner la fin de vie: Medical, Religious and Spiritual accompagnement in Simone de Beauvoir's *Une mort très douce*', *Australian Journal of French Studies*, 57.3 (2020), 365–80

Jordan Owen McCullough, '3-D Relationality: Horizontal, Vertical and Textual Connectedness in Christiane Singer's *Derniers fragments d'un long voyage*', *Modern and Contemporary France*, 28.4 (2020), 411–25

### **Book Chapters**

Jordan Owen McCullough, 'Retomber en enfance: The "Second Childhood" as a Positive Paradigm of Care in Sophie Fontanel's *Grandir*', in *Women's Narratives of Ageing and Care*, ed. by Emily Jeremiah and Shirley Jordan (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2024), pp. 159–77

Jordan Owen McCullough and Anna Magdalena Elsner, 'Humanities Collaborations in End of Life Care', *Research Handbook on End of Life Care and Society*, ed. by David Clark and Annemarie Samuels (Camberley: Edward Elgar, 2025) [forthcoming]

### **Book Reviews**

Jordan Owen McCullough, 'Variations on the Ethics of Mourning in Modern Literature in French. Edited by Carole Bourne-Taylor and Sara-Louise Cooper. Preface by Dominique Rabaté', *French Studies*, 78.3 (2024), 552

Jordan McCullough, 'Review of *The Undying: A Meditation on Modern Illness* by Anne Boyer', *AC Review of Books*, 3 (2022), 7–9

Jordan Owen McCullough, 'The Language of Disease: Writing Syphilis in Nineteenth-Century France by Steven Wilson (review)', *Literature and Medicine*, 39.1 (2021), 180–84

### **Blog Posts**

Jordan McCullough and Marc Keller, 'Creating a Living Archive of Assisted Dying', *The Polyphony*, 13 May 2024, <https://thepolyphony.org/2024/05/13/living-archive-assisted-dying>

Jordan McCullough, '#MultilingualMedHums: A Thematic Series for *The Polyphony*', *Reading Bodies*, 20 March 2024, <https://readingbodies.exeter.ac.uk/2024/03/20/multilingualmedhums-a-thematic-series-for-the-polyphony>

## Public Engagement

Josefina Miró Quesada Gayoso and Jordan McCullough, 'Josefina Miró Quesada Gayoso on Assisted Dying in Latin America', *Assisted: The Podcast*, 22 November 2024, <https://assistedlab.ch/podcasts>

Anna Magdalena Elsner and Jordan Owen McCullough, 'The Assisted Dying Debate Is Really About How We Treat the Living', *Undark*, 1 June 2023, <https://undark.org/2023/06/01/the-assisted-dying-debate-is-really-about-how-we-treat-the-living>

## SELECTED CONFERENCE / SEMINAR CONTRIBUTIONS

### Invited Seminars

May 2024 'Losing Oneself: A Research Conversation on Literature, Neurodegeneration and Disenfranchised Grief', *School of Modern Languages Seminar Series*, School of Modern Languages, Newcastle University

Dec 2023 'Jérémi Szpirglas, Disenfranchised Grief and the Taboo of Medical Termination', *Meeting of the Histories and Subjectivities Research Cluster*, School of Modern Languages and Cultures, University of Glasgow

### Invited Workshop

Oct 2024 'End of Life Stories Matter', *Congrès International de Soins Palliatifs McGill / McGill International Palliative Care Congress 2024*, Palais des Congrès de Montréal [together with Assisted Lab colleagues]

### Conference Papers

Sept 2024 'Francophone Advocacy for Medical Assistance in Dying: The Role of Stories', *French Studies and the Medical Humanities: Critical Intersectionalities*, Institute of Languages, Cultures and Societies, London

July 2024 'If "there is nothing holy about agony," what is the place of religion in contemporary, francophone narratives of assisted dying?', *Society for French Studies 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference*, University of Stirling

June 2023 'Tri-directional Care in the Writing of Bereaved Parents', *Society for French Studies 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference*, Newcastle University

Mar 2022 '«Tu trouves pas quand même absolument fabuleux d'en connaître un peu moins?»: Dementia and the "Second Childhood" as Shared Learning in Sophie Fontanel's *Grandir*', *Women's Narratives of Ageing and Care*, Centre for Contemporary Women's Writing, Institute of Modern Languages Research [online]

June 2021 "'Le deuil oblige à dire": Philippe Forest's Journey Through Grief 1997-2007', *Society for French Studies 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference* [online]

Oct 2020 'Parenting the Deceased Child in Sophie Daull's *Camille, mon envolée*', *Women's Writing and the Medical Humanities*, Centre for Contemporary Women's Writing, Institute of Modern Languages Research [online]

Nov 2019 'Supporting the Family through Terminal Illness in Philippe Forest's *L'Enfant éternel*', *European Cultures of Palliative Care*, University of Zurich

June 2019 'The Secular Frontier: French Literary Perspectives on the Palliative Care System', *CHCI Medical Humanities Summer Institute: Health Beyond Borders*, Columbia Global Centres, Paris

## **TEACHING**

### **Undergraduate Language, Queen's University Belfast**

2021–24      Beginners' French Studies (*ab initio* language course)

2022          French 2 (second-year core language module)

2020–21      French 1 (first-year core language module)

### **Undergraduate Cultural Studies, Queen's University Belfast**

2020–23      Ideologies of Death in Modern Literature in French (final-year optional module)

2021          Understanding Now (first-year core Liberal Arts module)

### **Undergraduate Cultural Studies, University of St Gallen**

2024          Grief and Mourning? Let's Talk About Something Else (BA optional module)

### **Postgraduate Taught, Queen's University Belfast**

2023          Research Methods in Modern Languages (MRes Arts and Humanities core module)

### **Postgraduate Taught, University of St Gallen**

2023          Where Does It Hurt? (MA optional module)

## **SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Assisted Lab, University of St Gallen, Switzerland**

March 2023–Present

As a postdoctoral researcher on the European Research Council-funded project 'Assisted Dying in European Writing and Visual Culture: Reciprocal Interactions between Law, Medicine, and the Arts since 2000', I am responsible for the sub-project focused on France, Belgium and francophone Switzerland. Over the course of the project, I will complete six work packages, which will address factors contributing to, attitudes towards and representations of assisted dying in contemporary cultural production in French, and communicate my findings via scholarly and general-audience publications. I am also jointly responsible for the project's social media presence and regularly contribute to the project's 'Living Archive of Assisted Dying', an archive that traces the relationships between various forms of cultural production and law-making on assisted dying, across Europe and beyond.

### **Associate Editor, *The Polyphony***

January 2023–Present

Working with the other members of the editorial team, I am responsible for commissioning, editing and publishing articles on *The Polyphony*, a public-facing platform for research in the medical humanities. I work collaboratively with authors to develop their writing, offering feedback on content, style and accessibility for a non-specialist audience. I also design thematic series and organise publication schedules to suit the requirements of each series. This role involves a significant element of networking and attendance at conferences, thereby ensuring I maintain strong connections with other scholars in the field and a broad knowledge of developments across the medical humanities. In addition to my general editorial duties, I am also the lead editor on *The Polyphony*'s 'Multilingual MedHums' project, which seeks to introduce readers to medical humanities research developing beyond the Anglosphere and encourage reflection on the challenges and opportunities this multilingual and multicultural work might offer to the wider field.

## **Teaching Assistant, School of Arts, English and Languages, Queen's University Belfast**

September 2020–June 2024

Over the past four years, I have regularly contributed to a final year, medical humanities-focused module entitled 'Ideologies of Death in Modern French Literature'. My contribution has centred on Simone de Beauvoir's *A Very Easy Death* and the dynamics of care therein, focussing particularly on the development of palliative care in France and the place of *accompagnement* in the text. I have also contributed to a first-year Liberal Arts module entitled 'Understanding Now'. My contribution was a session on Albert Camus's *La Peste*. With this text, I engaged students in conversations about the role of literature in times of pandemic and about the parallels between Camus's text and our recent lived experience. I have also contributed to a Master of Research (MRes) research methods module, where I delivered a session on critical methodologies in the medical humanities. In addition to my research-focused teaching, I have taught on several language modules, including the first- and second-year core French language modules and the *ab initio* French course, for which I was the principal tutor for the three years.

## **Early Career Researcher, Modern Languages Outreach and Engagement (MLOE) Project** (funded by the British Academy), April 2020–March 2021

As one of eight early career researchers selected to work on the MLOE Project, I organised events and produced resources to help students 're-think languages'. Given my research specialism, many of these had a medical humanities focus. For example, with Key Stage 3 pupils in mind, I co-designed a language competition based around their recent lived experience of COVID-19 and, for A-level pupils, I produced a series of self-study materials based on texts of interest to the medical humanities. I also organised an online outreach event, bringing together multidisciplinary and multilingual perspectives, and co-produced a handbook for researchers interested in delivering outreach and engagement activities.

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

**Schools' Liaison and Outreach Officer**, Association for the Study of Modern and Contemporary France, 2022–Present

**Peer Reviewer**, *Francosphères*, Liverpool University Press, 2022–Present

**Internal Reviewer**, **Advance HE Accreditation**, Queen's University Belfast, 2022–2024

**Founding Chair, Student Research Network**, School of Arts, English and Languages, Queen's University Belfast, 2021–2022

**PGR Representative**, School Research Committee, School of Arts, English and Languages, Queen's University Belfast, 2021–2022

**Professional Associate**, Northern Ireland Centre for Information on Language Teaching and Research, 2019–2023

**Postgraduate Representative**, *Association des études françaises et francophones d'Irlande*, 2019–2022

## **MEMBERSHIP OF LEARNED SOCIETIES**

Executive Member of the Association for the Study of Modern and Contemporary France (ASMCF)

Member of *L'Association des études françaises et francophones d'Irlande* (ADEFI)

Member of the Society for French Studies (SFS)

Member of the Association for Medical and Healthcare Humanities (AMHH)

## **TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT**

### **Research**

**Interviews as a Research Method**, School of Advanced Study, University of London, 23 November 2022

**Introducing Interdisciplinary Research**, Institute of Advanced Study, Durham University, Northern Bridge and NINE DTPs, 21 November 2022

**Working with Non-Academic Partners**, Institute for Medical Humanities, Durham University [as part of Northern Bridge DTP Autumn School], 26 October 2021

**Leading Interdisciplinary Research**, Institute of Advanced Study, Durham University [as part of Northern Bridge DTP Autumn School], 27 October 2021

**Parliament for PhD Students: How to Engage with the UK Parliament**, Knowledge Exchange Unit, UK Parliament, 9 December 2020

**How to Peer Review**, The Graduate School, Queen's University Belfast, 2 December 2020

**Writing Effective Funding Proposals**, The Graduate School, Queen's University Belfast, 10 November 2020

**Introduction to REF for PGRs**, University of York, 28 July 2020

### **Dissemination**

**Creating and Presenting an Academic Poster**, The Graduate School, Queen's University Belfast, 13 April 2021

**Writing Articles for Peer-Reviewed Journals in the Arts and Humanities**, Lucian Consulting, 29 June–1 July 2020

**Telling Your Research Story at Conferences**, The Graduate School, Queen's University Belfast, 18 February 2020

**Effectively Communicating Your Research**, The Graduate School, Queen's University Belfast, 29 January 2020

**Maximising Your Research Profile**, The Graduate School, Queen's University Belfast, 12 November 2019

### **Pedagogy**

**Fellowship of Advance HE (FHEA)**, awarded 9 December 2021

**Assessment and Feedback: Show and Tell**, Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, Queen's University Belfast, 10 August 2022

**ADEFFI-ASMCF Teaching and Learning Series**, Queen's University Belfast and University of Warwick (online), 15 June–1 July 2022 – co-organiser

**What is Involved in Being a Research Supervisor?**, Northern Bridge DTP, 17 February 2021

**Connected Learning Training Series**, Centre for Educational Development, Queen's University Belfast, 24 June–22 July 2020

## **Outreach and Recruitment**

**UCAS Offer Holder Day**, Queen's University Belfast, 23 March 2024 – taster session lead

**NICILT Language Ambassadors Programme**, Northern Ireland Centre for Information on Language Teaching and Research / Queen's University Belfast, 2021–2022 – resource lead and trainer

**Languages Unlocked**, Queen's University Belfast, 10 February 2021 – organiser and taster session lead

**AS-level French Study Day**, Queen's University Belfast, 25 January 2019 – co-organiser and facilitator

## **REFEREES**

Assoc. Prof. Anna Magdalena Elsner  
Associate Professor of French Studies  
and Medical Humanities  
School of Humanities and Social Sciences  
University of St Gallen  
Müller-Friedberg-Strasse 6/8  
9000 St Gallen  
Email: [anna.elsner@unisg.ch](mailto:anna.elsner@unisg.ch)

Prof. Steven Wilson  
Professor of French Studies and  
Medical Humanities  
School of Arts, English and Languages  
Queen's University Belfast  
10 University Square  
Belfast, BT7 1NN  
Email: [steven.wilson@qub.ac.uk](mailto:steven.wilson@qub.ac.uk)