



Nan West

English

University of Missouri-Columbia

Nancy (Nan) West is a Professor of English at The University of Missouri where she has been teaching for 25 years. Originally from New Jersey, she earned her BA in Literature and Art History from Rutgers University in 1985. She then headed to Chapel Hill, where she got an MA and Ph.D in literature at The University of North Carolina. Equally in love with books and images, she combined her passion for both in a dissertation on how photography shaped literary realism.



She now specializes in film, visual studies, and British literature at MU. Her courses include Film Adaptation; Mystery Novels; Writers and Photographs; Film Noir; Hollywood Stardom; and Historical Fiction. She has written widely for both scholarly and journalistic venues, including The Atlantic, The Los Angeles Review of Books, The Conversation, The Chronicle of Higher Ed, and Written By Magazine. Her books include Kodak and the Lens of Nostalgia; Tabloid, Inc.: Crime, News, Narrative; and most recently, Masterpiece: America's 50 Year Love Affair with British Drama (2020). Her work has earned her many TV appearances, including interviews for PBS' The American Experience, the BBC's Wizardry of Photography, and a recent PBS special on the 50th anniversary of Masterpiece Theatre. She has also given keynote talks at a wide range of places, including The National Gallery of Art in Washington, the Amon Carter Museum, and the London School of Design. Her research has resulted in several interesting adventures, including lunch with "Talking Heads" David Byrne, a brief encounter with Woody Allen, and a swoony conversation with the impossibly charming Benedict Cumberbatch.

2021-2022 PRESIDENTIAL ENGAGEMENT FELLOWS



University of Missouri System

COLUMBIA | KANSAS CITY | ROLLA | ST. LOUIS