

Medicine in History and Society

Professor Peter Middleton

My current work is a study of science and poetry in Cold War America, which focuses particularly on the cultural impact of the shift from the hegemony of high energy physics to molecular biology in public culture. I have published an essay on digestive illness and literature, and several essays on relations between the model of inquiry used in molecular biology, especially its tropes and theories of causation, and concepts of knowledge and inquiry in literature. I have a growing interest in the use of neuroscience to explain features of cognition previously thought to be the preserve of philosophy and literature.

Selected publications:

- 'Eat-Write'. In: Peter Middleton, *Distant Reading: Performance, Readership and Consumption in Contemporary Poetry*, (Raleigh: Alabama University Press, 2005).
 - 'Junk DNA in Recent American Poetry'. In: Kornelia Freitag and Katharina Vester eds., *Another Language: Poetic Experiments in Britain and North America* (Berlin: Lit Verlag Dr. W. Hopf, 2008), 27-42.
 - 'Can Poetry Be Scientific?'. In: Philip Coleman ed. *Science and Poetry*. Dublin: Four-Courts Press, 2007), 190-210.
 - 'Strips: Scientific language in poetry', *Textual Practice* 23:6 (2009), 947-958.
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