

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of English, Southern Utah University, 2020-present

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2020

Dissertation: "Taking Route in Kinship: Multiethnic Literatures of the American Road Trip"

Committee: Felice Blake, Bishnupriya Ghosh (co-chairs), Swati Rana, Kay Young

M.A. in English, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2015

Qualifying Fields: American Literature Post- 1865, U.S. Race and Ethnic Literatures
(specialized in African American Literature and Native American Literature), Literary Theory

B.A. in English, University of California, Los Angeles, 2013

Graduated *summa cum laude* with departmental honors

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

"Who Benefits From Your Ignorance? Visualizing Black (Super)Heroism and Refuting Respectability Politics in Victor LaValle's *Destroyer*." *Inks: The Journal of the Comics Studies Society* vol. 8, no. 2, 2024, pp. 97-116.

"Acting Appropriative: LeAnne Howe's *Shell Shaker* and Native American Literary Performativity." *Studies in the Novel* vol. 54, no. 1, 2022, pp. 100-120.

"Haunted Roadscapes in Jesmyn Ward's *Sing, Unburied, Sing*." *MELUS: Multi-Ethnic Literatures of the United States* vol. 45, no. 2, 2020, pp. 134-153.

Editor-Reviewed Articles

"Of Haunts and Haoles: Contemporary Scenes of Hawai'i Writing Back." *ASAP/Review* Cluster Issue on Hauntings, web (forthcoming).

"The Maze Below, The Journey Above: Hernan Diaz's *In the Distance* and the Conversation of Silence." *Literary Geographies* vol. 10, no. 2, 2024, pp. 180-184.

Book Chapters

"The Counter-Masculine Drive in Contemporary Reimaginings of the American Road-Trip Narrative." Invited chapter for *The Routledge Companion to Masculinity in American Literature and Culture*. Ed. Lydia R. Cooper. Routledge, 2022, pp. 262-274.

“Drawn Into Being: Transformative Voices of Native American Women in Comics and Visual Narratives.” *Intersectional Feminist Readings of Comics: Interpreting Gender in Graphic Narratives*. Ed. Sandra Cox. Routledge, 2021, pp. 103-126.

“Teaching Ovid to Incarcerated Students: An Experiential Analysis.” Coauthored with Olga Faccani. *Classics and Prison Education in the US*. Eds. Emilio Capettini & Nancy Rabinowitz. Routledge, 2021, pp. 77-86.

“The Happenstance of Early Modern Printing and Print Culture.” *The Making of a Broadside Ballad*. Eds. Patricia Fumerton, Andrew Griffin, & Carl Stahmer. EMC Imprint, 2016. Web.

Book Reviews

Invited review of *Indigenous Comics and Graphic Novels: Studies in Genre*, by James J. Donahue. *CLOSURE: Kieler Journal for Comics Research* vol. 11, 2025, web.

Invited review of *Conversations with LeAnne Howe*, edited by Kirstin Squint. *American Indian Quarterly* vol. 47, no. 1, 2023, pp. 91-94.

Review of *Genre Worlds: Popular Fiction and Twenty-First-Century Book Culture*, by Beth Driscoll, Kim Wilkins, and Lisa Fletcher. *The Journal of Popular Culture* vol. 55, no. 2, 2023, pp. 1174-1177.

Review of *Gestures of Concern*, by Chris Ingraham. *Lateral: Journal of the Cultural Studies Association* vol. 10, no. 1, 2021, web.

Review of *Autobiographical Comics*, by Andrew J. Kunka. *Studies in 20th & 21st Century Literature* vol. 42, no. 1, 2017, web.

Encyclopedia Entries

“Naz & Maalik.” *The Encyclopedia of LGBTQIA+ Portrayals in American Film*. Eds. Erica Joan Dymond & Salvador Jimenez Murguia. Rowman & Littlefield, 2022, pp. 271-274.

“Fahrenheit 451.” *Dystopian States of America: Apocalyptic Visions and Warnings in American Literature, Film, and Politics*. Ed. Matthew Hill. ABC-CLIO, 2022, pp. 143-145.

Works in Progress

Racial Roadscapes: Contested Automobility in American Fiction. Book manuscript in preparation: under advance contract with The Ohio State University Press.

The Oxford Handbook of Mobility in Literature. Co-editor with Jacqueline Foertsch and Stéphanie Ponsavady. Edited Collection in preparation: under advance contract with Oxford University Press.

“Figures of Flight and Dystopic Mobilities in the Fiction of Octavia Butler and Cynthia Kadohata.” Article in preparation.

“Panels and Patchworks: Graphic Narrative and Comic Adaptations of Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein*.” Invited book chapter in preparation.

GRANTS

HSS Award of Excellence Sponsored by Advanced Financial Planning, SUU, 2023
HSS Dean's Summer Research Grant Award, SUU, 2022
HSS Faculty Scholarly Support Fund Travel Grant, SUU, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024
Modern Language Association Travel Grant, 2019
Graduate Center for Literary Research Grant, UCSB, 2019
PAMLA Conference Graduate Student Scholarship, 2018
American Comparative Literature Association Travel Grant, 2018
Humanities & Social Sciences Summer Archival Research Grant, UCSB, 2018
Graduate Division Dissertation Grant, UCSB, 2018

FELLOWSHIPS

National Endowment of the Humanities Landmarks of American History and Culture
Workshop “New York as Port City” Participant, New York City, 2024
Andrew W. Mellon Engaging Humanities Initiative Fellow, UCSB, 2019
Donald Pearce Dissertation Fellowship, UCSB, 2019
Interdisciplinary Humanities Center Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, UCSB, 2018-19
John Arnhold Chair Fellow in English Department Innovation, UCSB, 2018
Interdisciplinary Humanities Center Graduate Teaching Fellow, UCSB, 2017-18
American Cultures & Global Contexts Center Graduate Fellowship, UCSB, 2015-16

ACADEMIC HONORS

Comics Studies Society Article Prize Honorable Mention for “Who Benefits From Your Ignorance?” in *INKS* 8.2, 2025
Finalist for the Employee Commitment to Access & Belonging Award, SUU, 2024
Recipient of the SUU Distinguished Educator Award, SUU, 2023
Finalist for the SUU Distinguished Faculty for Diversity & Inclusion Award, SUU, 2023
Recipient of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences Early Career Award, SUU, 2022
Finalist for the SUU Faculty Mentor of the Year Award, SUU, 2022
Recipient of the English Department Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, UCSB, 2018-19

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Papers Presented

“Storied Ghosts in the Native Pacific: Contemporary Scenes of Resistance to the Specter of Settler Colonialism,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, Virtual, 29 May-1 June 2025

“Black (Super)Heroism and Refuted Respectability Politics in Victor LaValle’s *Destroyer*,” Comics Studies Society Conference, Virtual, 24-28 June 2024

“Gone West: John Steinbeck’s Postwar Roadside Regionalisms,” American Literature Association Conference (ALA), Chicago, IL, 23-26 May 2024

“Contemporary Depictions of Deer Woman’s Righteous Violence in Indigenous Comics and Visual Media,” Modern Language Association Annual Convention (MLA), San Francisco, CA, 5-8 January 2023

“Post-Apocalyptic Presence of Mind: The Dystopic Imagination in Los Angeles Fiction,” Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association Annual Conference (PAMLA), Los Angeles, CA 11-13 November 2022

“‘To Whom it May Concern’: Car Culture and Antiblack Racism in Ralph Ellison’s Writings,” American Literature Association Conference (ALA), Chicago, IL, 26-29 May 2022

“Visualizing the Visit: Layered Travels in Vietnamese-American Graphic Narratives,” Modern Language Association Annual Convention (MLA), Washington, DC, 6-9 January 2022

“Antidevelopmental Automobility in John Okada’s *No-No Boy*,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting (ASA), San Juan, PR, 7-10 October 2021

“The More Things Change?: Internment Narratives and the Long Twentieth-Century,” American Literature Association Annual Conference (ALA), Boston, MA, 7-11 July 2021

“Dystopic Walls, Hopeful Lands: Reversing Expansion in Post-Apocalyptic Fiction,” Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present Annual Conference (ASAP), Salt Lake City, UT, 15-17 October 2020 [canceled due to COVID-19]

“Narratives of Transformation in Native American and First Nations Women’s Comics,” International Conference on Narrative, New Orleans, LA, 5-8 March 2020

“Flight and Fight: Apocalyptic World Building in the Speculative Fiction of Louise Erdrich and Rebecca Roanhorse,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting (ASA), Honolulu, HI, 7-10 November 2019

“Narrative Instability as Fictional Power in LeAnne Howe’s *Shell Shaker*,” Modern Language Association Annual Convention (MLA), Chicago, IL, 3-6 January 2019

“Driving To, Driving Through: The Road as Performed Space in Toni Morrison’s *God Help the Child*,” Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association Annual Conference (PAMLA), Western Washington University, 9-11 November 2018

“Demanding Representation in the Narrative Hijinks of Erika Lopez’s *Flaming Iguanas*,”
International Conference on Narrative, McGill University, 19-22 April 2018

“Travels with Turtle in Search of Kinship,” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference (ACLA), UC Los Angeles, 29 March-1 April 2018

“Critical Pedagogy Initiative: Why Teach Literature?” (with Corinne Bancroft), Modern Language Association Annual Convention (MLA), New York, NY, 4-7 January 2018

“The Altering Axes and Common Coordinates of Cynthia Kadohata’s *The Floating World* and Luis Alberto Urrea’s *Into the Beautiful North*,” Thinking Its Presence: The Ephemeral Archive Conference, University of Arizona, 19-21 October 2017

“The Affective Road Trip in Patricia Highsmith’s *The Price of Salt*,” American Literature Association Annual Conference (ALA), Boston, MA, 25-28 May 2017

“Limits of Ideology on Utopia in Marianne Wiggin’s *John Dollar*,” Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association Annual Conference (PAMLA), Pasadena, CA, 11-13 November 2016

“What Did They Expect to Find?: Audience and Intention in Wanda Coleman’s *The World Falls Away*,” 5th Annual Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference Re/Inventions: Alterna[rra]tives, CSU Long Beach, 7 April 2016

“Performing Agency to Take the Blame in LeAnne Howe’s *Shell Shaker*,” Modern Language Association Annual Convention (MLA), Vancouver, Canada, 8-11 January 2015

“Memory as Identity in Contemporary Native American Literature,” 3rd Annual Native American Studies Graduate Student Symposium, UC Davis, 17-18 April 2014

Panels and Conferences Organized

Panels Co-organizer, “Transmedial Translation in Comics” & “Queer and Feminist Translations in Comics,” Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association Annual Conference (PAMLA), Palm Springs, CA 6-10 November 2024

Panels Co-organizer, “Postwar Regionalism,” “Postwar Gothics,” & “Contemporary Gothics” American Literature Association Annual Conference (ALA), Chicago, IL, 23-26 May 2024

Panels Co-organizer, “Postwar Gothics,” “Contemporary Gothics,” & “Postwar Economies,” American Literature Association Annual Conference (ALA), Boston, MA 25-28 May 2023

Panels Co-organizer, “Postwar Mobilities” & “Postwar Stases & Entrapments I & II,” American Literature Association Annual Conference (ALA), Chicago, IL, 26-29 May 2022

Panels Co-organizer, “Post-45 State of the Field” & “Climate and the Postwar Poem,” American Literature Association Annual Conference (ALA), Boston, MA, 7-11 July 2021

Panel Chair, "Race, Place, and Epistemological Standpoint in Comics and Graphic Narratives," American Literature Association Annual Conference (ALA), San Diego, CA, 21-24 May 2020 [canceled due to COVID-19]

Panel Co-organizer, "Imagining the Future of Resistance: Speculative Fiction and the Aesthetics of Social Transformation," American Studies Association Annual Meeting (ASA), Honolulu, HI, 7-10 November 2019

Panels Organizer, "Urban Poetry I: Riots and Rebels" & "Urban Poetry II: Politicizing Performance Spaces," American Literature Association Annual Conference (ALA), San Francisco, CA, 24-27 May 2018

Panel Organizer, "Off the Road: Travel and Road Trip Narratives, Fragments, and Aesthetics," American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference (ACLA), UC Los Angeles, 29 March-1 April 2018

Conference Organizer, The American Cultures and Global Contexts Center Conference: Contact: The Sovereign Body and Realized Zones of Community, UC Santa Barbara, 23 April 2016

Panel Organizer, "Choctalking and Shell Shaking with LeAnne Howe," Modern Language Association Annual Convention (MLA), Vancouver, Canada, 8-11 January 2015

Roundtable Participation

"Under the stars faded by pollution: Visions of Dystopic Los Angeles and Futuristic Ecologies in Cynthia Kadohata's *In the Heart of the Valley of Love*," Roundtable sponsored by the Ecocriticism & Environmental Humanities Forum, Modern Language Association Annual Convention (MLA), San Francisco, CA, 5-8 January 2023

"Indigenous Literary Pedagogies: How and Why I Teach _____," Roundtable sponsored by the forum on Indigenous Literatures of the United States and Canada, Modern Language Association (MLA), Washington, DC, 6-9 January 2022

"Communities Over Prisons and Policing," Roundtable at the Women's Center, UC Santa Barbara, 12 February 2020

"Humanities Behind Bars: Notes on Abolitionist Praxis and Captive Study," Roundtable at the Modern Language Association (MLA), Seattle, WA, 9-12 January 2020

"Teaching Foundations in the Humanities to Incarcerated Students," Roundtable at the Humanities in Prison Symposium, UC Santa Barbara, 26 April 2018

Other Talks

"Literary Mobilities and Contested Travel in African American Narratives," Invited Lecture for SUU's Black History Month Programming, February 2024

"Queer Theory: An Introduction," Invited Lecture for SUU's Honors Program Capstone Presentations, 24 March 2023

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Southern Utah University

Assistant Professor, Department of English, 2020-present

English 4800: Literature Senior Capstone Seminar

English 4510: Off the Road: Contemporary American Travel Narratives and Literary Mobilities

English 4510: Contemporary Native American Literature

English 4510: Citizenship, Identity, and Belonging in Graphic Novels and Comics

English 4510/Art 4500: Visual Writing

English 4110: Speculative Fiction

English 3270: Narrative Reliability in Global Literature

English 3220: American Literature III: 1945-present

English 2700: Introduction to Critical Theory

English 2210: African American Storytelling and Community Expression

English 1010: Introduction to Academic Writing

UC Santa Barbara

Instructor, Department of English, 2015-2018

English 165: Not Your Father's Road Trip: Writers on the Road in Contemporary U.S. Literature,

English 50: Introduction to U.S. Minority Literatures

English 10: Introduction to Literary Studies

Instructor, Writing Program, 2019-2020

Writing 2: Academic Writing

Teaching Assistant, Department of English, 2014-2019

English 134: Twentieth Century Native American Novel & Narrative

English 133: U.S. Southern Literature & Culture

English 103: British Literature from 1789-1900

English 102: British & American Literature from 1650-1789

English 50: Introduction to U.S. Minority Literatures

English/Black Studies 38: Introduction to African American Literature 1930s to Present

Teaching Fellow, Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, 2017-2020

Foundations in the Humanities III: Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*,

Correspondence Course with Kern Valley State Prison & California Men's Colony
 Foundations in the Humanities II: American Writers, Correspondence Course with Kern Valley
 State Prison & California Men's Colony
 Foundations in the Humanities, Correspondence Course with North Kern State Prison

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

| | |
|---|--|
| 20 th & 21 st Century American Literature | Comparative Ethnic Studies |
| Native American Literature | African American Literature |
| Critical Race Theory | Travel Literature & Road Trip Narratives |
| Prison Literature, Activism, & Pedagogy | Comics & Graphic Narratives |

SERVICE

Profession

Peer Reviewer, *MELUS: Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States, Mississippi Quarterly, Genre, Lexington Books (Rowman and Littlefield), Genealogy, The Southern Quarterly, The Journal of Transport History, European Journal of English Studies, ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*, 2019-present

Co-chair, American Literature Association (ALA) Postwar Area Studies Group, 2018-present
 Editorial Assistant, *The Routledge Companion to Media and Risk*, 2019

University

Southern Utah University
 Humanities and Social Sciences Co-Representative for the Festival of Excellence, 2024-present
 Member and HSS Representative, Library Committee, 2024-2026
 Member, Native American Studies Minor Working Group, 2023-2025
 Faculty Representative, Women's Network, 2023-2025
 AFT Faculty Senate Liaison, 2023-2025
 Member, Distinguished Scholar/Creative Award Committee, 2022-2025
 Member, GE Equity Gap Coalition, 2020-2021

Department

Southern Utah University English Department
 Member, Recruitment Committee, 2023-present
 Member, Department Evaluative Criteria Committee, 2022-present
 Member, Curriculum Committee, 2020-present

Member, Literature Program Subcommittee, 2020-present
Faculty Advisor, Sigma Tau Delta English Honors Society, 2023
Coordinator, Women & Gender Studies Minor, 2022-2023
Member, Search Committee for Contemporary British Literature Hire, 2021-2022

UC Santa Barbara English Department

Representative Member, UCSB English Department Committee of Graduate Students, 2017-18
Graduate Liaison, UCSB English Department Graduate Committee, 2017-18
Chair, UCSB English Department Committee of Graduate Students, 2016-17

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & OTHER RESEARCH

Co-facilitator with Sean Murphy, SUU College of Humanities and Social Sciences Research-in-Progress Colloquium Series, Southern Utah University, 2024-present
Facilitator, Recognizing and Interrupting Microaggressions Workshop, Summit on Belonging, Southern Utah University, 2022
Participant, Pride Alliance Safe Zone Training, Southern Utah University, 2021
Participant, Center of Excellence for Teaching and Learning New Faculty Learning Community, Southern Utah University, 2021
Participant, Theory and Practice of Teaching Academic Writing Seminar, UCSB, 2019
Co-founder & Convener, Critical Pedagogy Initiative, UCSB 2016-2019
Facilitator, Arnhold Abolition Research Project, UCSB 2018-2020
Ombudsperson & Coordinator, ACLU Santa Barbara Jails Project, 2017-2019
Digital Archivist, English Broadside Ballad Archive (EBBA), UCSB, 2014-15

LANGUAGES

Arabic: Basic conversation (Heritage speaker)
French: Intermediate reading and writing, basic conversation (5 years of study)
Latin: Basic reading and writing (2 years of study)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Literature Association
Comics Studies Society
Modern Language Association
Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association

The Society for the Study of the Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States

REFERENCES

Bishnupriya Ghosh, Professor of English
University of California, Santa Barbara
bghosh@ucsb.edu

Kyle Bishop, Professor of English
Southern Utah University
bishopk@suu.edu

Felice Blake, Associate Professor of English
University of California, Santa Barbara
fblake@ucsb.edu

Jacqueline Foertsch, Professor of English
University of North Texas
jacqueline.foertsch@unt.edu