

JENNA GERSIE
JENNA.GERSIE@COLORADO.EDU
201-230-6355
JENNAGERSIE.COM

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Nineteenth-century American literature, American environmental literature, Native American and Indigenous studies, ecocriticism, bioregionalism, new materialism and material ecocriticism, posthumanism, animal studies, humanities approaches to addressing climate crisis, digital environmental humanities, experiential education.

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER EXPECTED: SPRING 2024

PhD, English Literature

Dissertation: “Living Knots: Ties to Matter, Kin, and Place and the Log Cabin in American Literature” (in progress)

Director: Dr. Maria A. Windell

GREEN MOUNTAIN COLLEGE 2014

MS, Environmental Studies, Concentration in Writing and Communications

Summa Cum Laude

Thesis: “Returning Home: The Novels of Hermann Hesse and Reinhabiting a LifePlace”

Director: Dr. David Gilcrest

SKIDMORE COLLEGE 2010

BA, Environmental Studies (Social and Cultural Perspectives), Minor in Expository Writing

Magna Cum Laude, Departmental Honors, Honors Forum

Thesis: “Wings and Words: A Field Guide to the Birds of North American Environmental Literature”

Capstone: “Place of the Swift Waters: A History of the First People of the Saratoga Lake Watershed”

Director: Dr. Michael Steven Marx

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2018–Present University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, Colorado
Digital Pedagogy Graduate Instructor, Fall 2023–Spring 2024
Consortium of Doctoral Studies in Literature and Culture Fellow,
Fall 2022–Spring 2023
Lead Graduate Teaching Instructor, Fall 2020–Spring 2022
Graduate Part-Time Instructor, Fall 2019–Fall 2021
Research Assistant, Fall 2018–Spring 2019, Spring 2022

- 2017 Sussex County Community College, Newton, New Jersey
Instructor in English
- 2016–2017 The Island School, Eleuthera, The Bahamas
Literature and Writing Teacher

PUBLICATIONS

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

- 2022 “Returning Home: Reinhabiting a Life-Place in Hermann Hesse’s *Peter Camenzind* and *Knulp*,” *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment (ISLE)*, vol. 29, no. 4, 2022, pp. 1249-1266.
- 2016–2017 “Climate Change as ‘Evidence of Upheaval’: Insights from Barry Lopez’s *Arctic Dreams*,” *Kudzu House Quarterly*, vol. 6, no. 3-4, 2016–2017.

OTHER ACADEMIC WRITING

- 2022 Review of *Sand, Water, Salt: Managing the Elements in Literature of the American West, 1880-1925* by Jada Ach, *Western American Literature*, vol. 57, no. 4, pp. 427-428.
- 2022 Review of *Quiet Desperation, Savage Delight: Sheltering with Thoreau in the Age of Crisis* by David Gessner, *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment (ISLE)*, vol. 29, no. 2, 2022, pp. 533-534.
- 2021 Review of *A History of My Brief Body* by Billy-Ray Belcourt, *Transmotion*, vol. 7, no. 1, 2021, pp. 238-240.
- 2020 “The Year in Conferences—2019,” co-authored with Gianina M. Coturri Sorenson, Allison Fulton, and Kacey Stewart. *ESQ: A Journal of Nineteenth-Century American Literature and Culture*, vol. 66, no. 1, 2020, pp. 190-213.
- 2020 Interview: April Anson, *The Hopper*, vol. 5, no. 1, 2020.
- 2019 Interview: Sarah Heady, *The Hopper*, vol. 4, no. 1, 2019.
- 2019 Review of *Sawbill: A Search for Place* by Jennifer Case, *The Hopper*, vol. 4, no. 1, 2019.
- 2019 Review of *The Secret Lives of Glaciers* by M Jackson, *The Hopper*, vol. 4, no. 1, 2019.
- 2018 Review of *Mourning Nature* edited by Ashlee Cunsolo and Karen Landman, *The Goose*, vol. 17, no. 1, 2018.
- 2017 Review of *Deep Salt Water* by Marianne Apostolides, *The Goose*, vol. 16, no. 1, 2017.
- 2016 Review of *The Green and the Red* by Armand Chauvel, *The Goose*, vol. 14, no. 2, 2016.

FICTION

- 2023 “Sea Nettle,” *Swim Press*, vol. 4, 2023.
2021 “Ablation,” *The Fourth River*, vol. 0, no. 11, 2021.
2019 “Freetown,” *About Place Journal*, vol. 5, no. 3, 2019.

CREATIVE NONFICTION

- 2021 “Fronde,” *The Journal of Wild Culture*, February 2021.
2017 “Moments with Barred Owls,” *Zoomorphic*, May 2017.
2017 “Guyibera,” *The Curlew*, Spring 2017.
2016 “Wantage, New Jersey,” *The Place Where You Live, Orion*,
January/February 2016.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2023–2024 Digital Pedagogy Graduate Instructorship, Department of English and the
Division of Continuing Education’s Online Learning Program, University of
Colorado Boulder
- 2023 Donna Robinson Meckley Graduate Fellowship, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2023 Graduate School Domestic Travel Grant, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2023 English Department Conference Grant, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2023 Summer University Recognition Fellowship Grant,
University of Colorado Boulder
- 2022–2023 Fellow, Consortium of Doctoral Studies in Literature and Culture,
University of Colorado Boulder
- 2022 Donna Robinson Meckley Graduate Fellowship, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2022 Summer University Recognition Fellowship Grant,
University of Colorado Boulder
- 2021–2022 Thoreau Country Conservation Alliance Graduate Student Fellowship
- 2021 English Department Conference Registration and Membership Fee Grant,
University of Colorado Boulder (received twice)
- 2020–2021 Harper Fellowship at the Benson Center for the Study of Western Civilization,
University of Colorado Boulder
- 2020 Graduate and Professional Student Government Travel Grant,
University of Colorado Boulder
- 2020 Frederick C. and Eleanor Ruth Hager Graduate Fellowship in English,
University of Colorado Boulder
- 2020 Preston Summer Research Fellowship, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2020 English Department Travel Grant, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2019 Rebecca V. Knoettge Memorial Scholarship Endowment,
University of Colorado Boulder
- 2019 Graduate School Domestic Travel Grant, University of Colorado Boulder

- 2019 United Government of Graduate Students Travel Grant,
University of Colorado Boulder
- 2018 William B. Markward Scholarship, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2018 Vermont Studio Center Merit Grant and Work-Exchange Award, Vermont Studio
Center Residency for Fiction Writing

PRESENTATIONS

REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 “Log/log: The Log Cabin as (Site of) Inscription,” RMMLA 76th Annual
Convention (panel chair), Denver, CO, October 2023.
- 2023 “Making Home: Claiming Place in Indigenous and Black Log Cabins,” ASLE +
AESS 2023 Conference (panel chair), Portland, OR, July 2023.
- 2021 “‘Women hain’t fitten for sech jobs’: Agency and Timber Cutting in *The Glass
Window* by Lucy Furman,” Society for the Study of American Women Writers
Triennial Conference (virtual), November 2021.
- 2021 “A Mother’s Log Cabin: Zitkala-Ša’s Kinship Connections,” RMMLA 74th
Annual Convention (virtual; panel chair), October 2021.
- 2021 “The Log Cabin as Site of Resistance in *The Water Dancer* by Ta-Nehisi Coates,”
American Studies Association Annual Meeting (virtual), October 2021.
- 2021 “My Childhood in a Log Cabin: W. D. Howells and Reflections on Kinship,”
ASLE Virtual Conference (panel chair), July–August 2021.
- 2020 “Log Cabin Aesthetics,” WLA 55th Conference (virtual), October 2020.
- 2020 “Cabin as Living: The Agency of Wood in Thoreau’s *Walden*,” NeMLA 51st
Annual Convention, Boston, MA, March 2020.
- 2019 “Exploring Kinship through Solitary Acts of Mourning,” ASLE Thirteenth
Biennial Conference, University of California Davis, Davis, CA, June 2019.
- 2019 “Shelley’s Prophetic Diet: Climate Change and the Environmental Ethics of
Vegetarianism,” Where Literary Fields Meet: Graduate Ecocriticism in Practice,
University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO, April 2019.
- 2017 “Editors’ Roundtable: Publishing Truth in a Post-Truth World,” ASLE Twelfth
Biennial Conference, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, June 2017.
- 2016 “Arctic Nightmares: An Ecocritical Reading of Barry Lopez’s *Arctic Dreams* in
the Context of Climate Change in 2016,” John Burroughs Nature Writing
Conference: Sharp Eyes IX, SUNY Oneonta, Oneonta, NY, June 2016.
- 2015 “Returning Home: The Novels of Hermann Hesse and Reinhabiting a LifePlace,”
ASLE Eleventh Biennial Conference, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID, June
2015.

INVITED TALKS

- 2021 “The Log Cabin as a Site of Kinship.” Invited talk at the Native American and Indigenous Studies Graduate Student Research Showcase, Center for Native American and Indigenous Studies, University of Colorado Boulder, December 2021.
- 2021 “Knots of Wood: Materiality of the Log Cabin.” Invited talk at the Bruce D. Benson Center for the Study of Western Civilization, University of Colorado Boulder, March 2021.
- 2021 “A New Materialist Reading of Log Cabins.” Invited talk in Dr. Diane Freedman’s English Major Seminar “The Cabin in the Woods,” University of New Hampshire, March 2021.
- 2019 “Creative *El Diario*.” Invited talk at the Center for Research Data and Digital Scholarship, University of Colorado Boulder, December 2019.

WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

- 2020 Course Design Workshop, ASSETT, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2019–2020 Graduate Teacher Program Workshops, Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2018 Environmental Literature Institute, Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter, NH
- 2015 Bread Loaf *Orion* Environmental Writers’ Conference, Ripton, VT
- 2010 Wildbranch Writing Workshop, Sterling College, Craftsbury Common, VT

TEACHING

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER (BOULDER, CO) JANUARY 2019–DECEMBER 2021

Instructor of Record

English Graduate Pedagogy Seminar, two sections, (Fall 2020, remote; Fall 2021)

ENGL3060: Modern and Contemporary Literature: Climate Change Literature,
three sections (Fall 2020, online; Spring 2021, online)

ENGL1270: Introduction to American Women’s Literature: Women and the Environment,
one section (Spring 2020)

ENGL1250: Introduction to Global Women’s Literature: Gender and Climate Change, one
section (Fall 2021, online)

ENGL1230: Environmental Literature, two sections (Fall 2019; Fall 2023, online)

ENGL1001: Writing, Reading, Culture, one section (Fall 2023, online)

Co-taught Alongside Other Graduate Students (Supervised by Dr. Mary Klages)

ENGL1270: Introduction to American Women’s Literature, one section (Spring 2019)

SUSSEX COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE (NEWTON, NJ)

AUGUST–DECEMBER 2017

ENGL101: English Composition I, two sections (Fall 2017)

THE ISLAND SCHOOL (ELEUTHERA, THE BAHAMAS) AUGUST 2016–JUNE 2017
Caribbean Literature and Place-Based Writing, four sections (Fall 2016, Spring 2017)

NONTRADITIONAL TEACHING

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC STUDENT EXPEDITIONS (CHIANG RAI, THAILAND) JULY 2018–JULY 2019
Trip Leader: Thailand: Community Service, two sections (Summer 2018, Summer 2019)

THE EXPERIMENT IN INTERNATIONAL LIVING (AMMAN, JORDAN) JULY 2017
Trip Leader: Jordan: History, Politics, and Arabic Language, one section (Summer 2017)

THE SCHOOL FOR FIELD STUDIES (YUNGABURRA, AUSTRALIA) AUGUST 2013–JUNE 2014
Student Affairs Manager: Center for Rainforest Studies, three sections (Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Summer 2014)

VERMONT INSTITUTE OF NATURAL SCIENCE (QUECHEE, VT) AUGUST 2012–JULY 2013
Environmental Educator: Public presentations to audiences of all ages

NEW JERSEY SCHOOL OF CONSERVATION (BRANCHVILLE, NJ) AUGUST 2011–JULY 2012
Environmental Educator: Experiential learning for middle school students

SERVICE

2021–Pres. Liaison, Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association and the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment
2020–2022 Member, Graduate Careers and Professional Development Committee
2020–2021 Elected Graduate Student Liaison, Association for the Study of Literature and Environment
2020–2021 English Graduate Student Peer Mentor, University of Colorado Boulder
2020–2021 Graduate Student Peer Mentor, University of Colorado Boulder
2020 Reviewer, *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment (ISLE)*
2019–2021 Senior Division Prose Contest Judge, Bowseat Ocean Awareness Programs
2019–2020 Elected PhD Representative, English Graduate Student Council, University of Colorado Boulder
2019–2020 Creative Writing Association Events Committee, University of Colorado Boulder
2019 Supervising Instructor, MA Guest Teaching Program, University of Colorado Boulder
2018–Pres. Member, Environmental Literary Studies Reading Group, University of Colorado Boulder
2015–2016 Member, Alice Rowan Swanson Fellowship Committee, SIT Study Abroad

CERTIFICATES

- 2021 Graduate Certificate in Native American and Indigenous Studies, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2021 Certificate in College Teaching, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2020 Digital Humanities Graduate Certificate, University of Colorado Boulder

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2021–2022 Digital Humanities Research Assistant to Julie Carr, English Department, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2020 Environmental Literature Course Development Research Assistant, English Department, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2015–Pres. Managing Editor, *The Hopper*
- 2015–2019 Editor, Green Writers Press
- 2014–2020 Copyeditor, *The Goose*
- 2014–2016 Program Associate: Middle East, North Africa, and Europe, SIT Study Abroad, Brattleboro, VT

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- ASLE (Association for the Study of Literature and Environment)
- MLA (Modern Language Association)
- RMMLA (Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association)
- WLA (Western Literature Association)

REFERENCES

Dr. Maria A. Windell
Associate Professor of English
University of Colorado Boulder
maria.windell@colorado.edu

Dr. Bonnie Etherington
Lecturer, Te Herenga Waka – Victoria
University of Wellington
bonnie.etherington@vuw.ac.nz

Dr. Jason Gladstone
Assistant Professor of English
University of Colorado Boulder
jason.gladstone@colorado.edu

Dr. Karen Jacobs
Associate Professor of English
University of Colorado Boulder
karen.jacobs@colorado.edu

Dr. Teresa Nugent
Associate Teaching Professor of English
University of Colorado Boulder
teresa.nugent@colorado.edu

Dr. Hunter Vaughan
Senior Research Associate, Minderoo
Centre for Technology and Democracy,
University of Cambridge
hv281@cam.ac.uk