

JENNA GERSIE
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

American environmental literature, ecocriticism, bioregionalism and sense of place, new materialism, posthumanism, animal studies, extinction narratives, humanities approaches to addressing climate crisis, log homes in American literature, digital environmental humanities.

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER PhD, English Literature GPA: 4.0 Language Exam: German Director: Dr. Maria A. Windell	2018 – PRESENT
GREEN MOUNTAIN COLLEGE 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	2014
SKIDMORE COLLEGE 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	2010

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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

HONORS AND AWARDS

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 – 2019	Research Assistantship, Consortium of Doctoral Studies in Literature and Culture, 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
2010	Joseph C. Palamountain Jr. Prose Award, Skidmore College
2010	Periclean Scholar's Award Finalist and Periclean Honor Society, Skidmore College
2010	Honors Forum, Skidmore College
2010	Responsible Citizen Internship Award, Skidmore College, awarded for participation in an internship with the Sea Turtle Conservation and Research Program at Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota, Florida
2008 – 2010	Beverly Beatson Grossman '58 Endowed Scholar, Skidmore College

PUBLICATIONS

ARTICLES

- 2021 "Returning Home: Reinhabiting a Life-Place in Hermann Hesse's *Peter Camenzind* and *Knulp*," *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment (ISLE)*, 2021, pp. 1-18.
- 2020 "The Year in Conferences—2019," co-authored with Gianina M. Coturri Sorenson (senior advisor), Allison Fulton, and Kacey Stewart. *ESQ: A Journal of Nineteenth-Century American Literature and Culture*, vol. 66, no. 1, 2020, pp. 190-213.
- 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.

BOOK REVIEWS AND INTERVIEWS

- 2022 Review of *Sand, Water, Salt: Managing the Elements in Literature of the American West, 1880-1925* by Jada Ach, *Western American Literature*, forthcoming.
- 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 "Room for Craft: April Anson," *The Hopper*, vol. 5, no. 1, 2020.
- 2019 "Room for Craft: 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 "Mourn We Must: A book review of *Mourning Nature* edited by Ashlee Cunsolo and Karen Landman," *The Goose*, vol. 17, no. 1, 2018.
- 2017 "Sea Change: A book review of *Deep Salt Water* by Marianne Apostolides," *The Goose*, vol. 16, no. 1, 2017.
- 2016 "The Gourmand's Dilemma: A book review of *The Green and the Red* by Armand Chauvel," *The Goose*, vol. 14, no. 2, 2016.

FICTION

- 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.

PRESENTATIONS

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.

REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 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.

WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

- 2020 Course Design Workshop, ASSETT, University of Colorado Boulder, Summer 2020.
- 2019 – 2020 Graduate Teacher Program Workshops, Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Colorado Boulder
 •15 hours of pedagogy training, with an emphasis on technology in the classroom, inclusive pedagogy, and assessment.
- 2018 Environmental Literature Institute, Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter, NH
 •This week-long conference included workshops and collaboration with teachers working in both the sciences and the humanities, at both the high school and college levels, with an emphasis on incorporating literature in science classrooms and environmental knowledge in literature classrooms.
- 2015 Bread Loaf *Orion* Environmental Writers' Conference, Ripton, VT
 •Participated in a week-long writing workshop under the guidance of Craig Childs.
- 2010 Wildbranch Writing Workshop, Sterling College, Craftsbury Common, VT
 •Participated in a week-long writing workshop under the guidance of Scott Russell Sanders.

TEACHING

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER (BOULDER, CO)

JANUARY 2019 – PRESENT

Instructor of Record

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

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

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,
online (Fall 2021)

ENGL1230: Environmental Literature, one section (Fall 2019)

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

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

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC STUDENT EXPEDITIONS (CHIANG RAI, THAILAND) JULY 2018 – JULY 2019

Thailand: Community Service, two sections (Summer 2018, Summer 2019)

- Led two groups of high school students to Chiang Rai, Thailand, and other locations in the country to teach English to primary school students and learn about the culture of the region through experiential activities.

SUSSEX COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE (NEWTON, NJ)

AUGUST – DECEMBER 2017

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

- Taught with an emphasis on environmental literacy, environmental writing, and researching local and global environments and environmental issues.

THE EXPERIMENT IN INTERNATIONAL LIVING (AMMAN, JORDAN)

JULY 2017

Jordan: History, Politics, and Arabic Language, one section (Summer 2017)

- Led a group of high school students to Amman, Jordan, and other locations in the country to study Arabic and the history and culture of the region through classroom and experiential activities.

THE ISLAND SCHOOL (ELEUTHERA, THE BAHAMAS)

AUGUST 2016 – JUNE 2017

Literature and Writing, four sections (Fall 2016, Spring 2017)

- Taught with an emphasis on Caribbean literature, place-based writing, and experiential learning, including a five-day camping and research trip to explore the role of tourism on Eleuthera and more broadly in The Bahamas and the Caribbean.

THE SCHOOL FOR FIELD STUDIES (YUNGABURRA, AUSTRALIA)

AUGUST 2013 – JUNE 2014

Center for Rainforest Studies, three sections (Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Summer 2014)

- Welcomed American undergraduate students to a rainforest field station and conducted orientation and teambuilding activities; was responsible for student health, wellness, and safety; led weekly town hall meetings; organized weekly community service; planned and led field trips; other tasks related to community building.

VERMONT INSTITUTE OF NATURAL SCIENCE (QUECHEE, VT)

AUGUST 2012 – JULY 2013

Classes taught: Predators of the Sky, Winged Wonders, Raptors Up Close, Talk to the Trainer, Raptor Road Trip, Owls and Their Calls, Bird ER.

- Classes took the form of public presentations, school and library visits, private gatherings, and informal Q&As with visitors to the nature center; all classes involved the handling and proper care of live birds, including hawks, owls, falcons, and vultures.

NEW JERSEY SCHOOL OF CONSERVATION (BRANCHVILLE, NJ)

AUGUST 2011 – JULY 2012

Classes taught: Beaver Ecology, Black Bear Ecology, Herpetology, Natural Areas Inventory: Tillman Ravine Hike, Water Ecology, Early American Woodworking, Conservation Photography, Nature Writing, Papermaking, Group Initiatives, Climbing Wall, Confidence Course, Orienteering, Survival,

Archery, Canoeing, Interpretive Hikes.

- Classes were geared toward middle school students and took the form of short lectures and discussions followed by experiential learning, including exploration of the forest and streams that make up the school's campus, teambuilding activities, art projects, or other outdoor sports and activities, in all weather.

SERVICE

- 2021 – Pres. Liaison, Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association and the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment
- 2020 – Pres. Member, Graduate Careers and Professional Development Committee
- 2020 – Pres. Reviewer, *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment (ISLE)*
- 2020 – 2021 Elected Graduate Student Liaison, Association for the Study of Literature and Environment.
•For this two-year term, with voting privileges in year two, I represented the interests, needs, and concerns of ASLE's graduate student members and worked with other ASLE officers to develop and implement policies, initiatives, and programs that support the well-being and development of graduate students and graduate studies.
- 2020 – 2021 English Graduate Student Peer Mentor, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2020 – 2021 Graduate Student Peer Mentor, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2019 – 2021 Senior Division Prose Contest Judge, Bowseat Ocean Awareness Programs
•Annually reading more than sixty high school writing submissions and ranking them according to craft and relevance to contest theme.
- 2019 – 2020 Elected PhD Representative, English Graduate Student Council, University of Colorado Boulder.
•Representing the needs and interests of graduate students in the English department by organizing a mentorship program, supporting students applying to PhD programs, advocating for fair workloads and compensation, and organizing social gatherings to form and advance community, among other tasks.
- 2019 – 2020 Creative Writing Association Events Committee, University of Colorado Boulder
•Contributed to a team that coordinated two campus events that featured invited authors.
- 2019 Supervising Instructor, MA Guest Teaching Program, University of Colorado Boulder
•Acted as a peer mentor to a master's student in the English department. The master's student observed three sessions of my class, then planned and executed a lesson under my supervision.

- 2018 – Pres. Member, Environmental Literary Studies Reading Group, University of Colorado Boulder
•Regular participant in selecting texts to read and attending group discussions.
- 2015-2016 Member, Alice Rowan Swanson Fellowship Committee, SIT Study Abroad
•Reviewing fellowship applications to select two fellows a year; fellows are alumni of SIT Study Abroad programs and receive funds to pursue development projects benefiting human rights in the regions where they studied 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
- 2019 Wilderness First Responder, National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS)
Wilderness Medicine

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

RESEARCH

- 2021-2022 Research Assistant, English Department, University of Colorado Boulder
•Developing a digital humanities companion to Julie Carr’s forthcoming book, *Mud, Blood, and Ghosts*, using digital humanities tools, and contributing to the design of a new course, *Writing History*, which engages in the intersections between personal and family history, US and world history, and literature, writing, and visual and digital storytelling.
- 2020 Research Assistant, English Department, University of Colorado Boulder
•Developing and proposing undergraduate courses for an environmental literature track for the English major, including Climate Change Literature and Literature of Extinction. Reading and reviewing relevant primary texts and secondary resources; designing sample syllabi and assignments; and researching similar courses at other institutions.

EDITING

- 2015 – Pres. Managing Editor, *The Hopper*.
•Managing a growing editorial staff; reading and responding to submissions; developmental editing for fiction and nonfiction submissions; copyediting all content; managing the publication of two online issues a year; managing social media and the magazine’s website; conducting interviews and writing book reviews; compiling a semi-annual newsletter; maintaining communication with contributors.

- 2015 – 2019 Editor, Green Writers Press
•Reviewed book submissions; completed developmental edits on book manuscripts; copyedited book manuscripts according to *The Chicago Manual of Style*.
- 2014 – 2020 Copyeditor, *The Goose*
•Copyediting book reviews, poetry, and feature articles according to MLA and house style for two issues a year.

ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION

- 2014 – 2016 Program Associate: Middle East, North Africa, and Europe, SIT Study Abroad, Brattleboro, VT
•Provided administrative and academic support to the academic dean of the region, including preparing pre-departure and marketing materials, acting as a liaison to staff in the field, editing syllabi, and contributing to the development of new programs. I traveled to Nuuk, Greenland, to plan the two-week Greenland portion of the program *Iceland and Greenland: Climate Change and the Arctic*.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

ASA (American Studies Association)
ASLE (Association for the Study of Literature and Environment)
AWP (Association of Writers and Writing Programs)
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
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Dr. Karen Jacobs
Associate Professor of English
University of Colorado Boulder
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Dr. Jason Gladstone
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University of Colorado Boulder
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