

JENNA GERSIE
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EDUCATION

PhD, English Literature, University of Colorado Boulder, 2025

Dissertation: "Living Knots: Ties to Matter, Kin, and Place and the Log Cabin in American Literature"

Director: Dr. Maria A. Windell

MS, Environmental Studies, Green Mountain College, 2014

Concentration in Writing and Communications, Summa Cum Laude

BA, Environmental Studies (Social and Cultural Perspectives), Skidmore College, 2010

Minor in Expository Writing, Magna Cum Laude, Departmental Honors, Honors Forum

PUBLICATIONS

ARTICLES IN PROGRESS

"Breathing Difference: Indoor Atmospheres at Walden Pond, in the Appalachian Mountains, and on the Plantation," under revision, *American Literature*.

"Log/log: The Log Cabin as Inscription," abstract accepted to *Regeneration: Environment, Art, Culture* for a special issue, "'I agree with the leaves': Diversifying the Arboreal Humanities."

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

"Returning Home: Reinhabiting a Life-Place in Hermann Hesse's *Peter Camenzind* and *Knulp*," *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*, vol. 29, no. 4, 2022, pp. 1249-1266.

"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

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, 2023, pp. 427-428.

Review of *Quiet Desperation, Savage Delight: Sheltering with Thoreau in the Age of Crisis* by David Gessner, *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*, vol. 29, no. 2, 2022, pp. 533-534.

Review of *A History of My Brief Body* by Billy-Ray Belcourt, *Transmotion*, vol. 7, no. 1, 2021, pp. 238-240.

"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.

Interview: April Anson, *The Hopper*, vol. 5, no. 1, 2020.

Interview: Sarah Heady, *The Hopper*, vol. 4, no. 1, 2019.

Review of *Sawbill: A Search for Place* by Jennifer Case, *The Hopper*, vol. 4, no. 1, 2019.

Review of *The Secret Lives of Glaciers* by M Jackson, *The Hopper*, vol. 4, no. 1, 2019.

Review of *Mourning Nature* edited by Ashlee Cunsolo and Karen Landman, *The Goose*, vol. 17, no. 1, 2018.

Review of *Deep Salt Water* by Marianne Apostolides, *The Goose*, vol. 16, no. 1, 2017.

Review of *The Green and the Red* by Armand Chauvel, *The Goose*, vol. 14, no. 2, 2016.

FICTION

“Sea Nettle,” *Swim Press*, vol. 4, 2023.

“Ablation,” *The Fourth River*, vol. 0, no. 11, 2021.

“Freetown,” *About Place Journal*, vol. 5, no. 3, 2019.

CREATIVE NONFICTION

“FronD,” *The Journal of Wild Culture*, February 2021.

“Moments with Barred Owls,” *Zoomorphic*, May 2017.

“Guyibera,” *The Curlew*, Spring 2017.

“Wantage, New Jersey,” *The Place Where You Live, Orion*, January/February 2016.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

American literature (nineteenth century to the present), American environmental literature, climate change literature, Native American and Indigenous studies, material ecocriticism, bioregionalism, posthumanism, animal studies, humanities approaches to addressing climate crisis, digital environmental humanities, experiential education.

HONORS AND AWARDS

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

George F. Reynolds Dissertation Fellowship, Graduate School, 2024–2025

Summer Fellowship, Graduate School, 2024

Summer University Recognition Fellowship Grant, English Department, 2024

Collegiality and Scholarship Excellence Award, Graduate and Professional Student Government, 2024

Futures Family Fellowship, Graduate School, 2024

Graduate Research Award Demonstrating Excellence, Center for Humanities and the Arts, 2024

English Department Conference Grant, 2024

Digital Pedagogy Graduate Instructorship, Department of English and the Division of Continuing Education’s Online Learning Program, 2023–2024

Donna Robinson Meckley Graduate Fellowship, English Department, 2023

Graduate School Domestic Travel Grant, 2023

English Department Conference Grant, 2023

Summer University Recognition Fellowship Grant, English Department, 2023

Consortium of Doctoral Studies in Literature and Culture Fellowship, 2022–2023

Donna Robinson Meckley Graduate Fellowship, English Department, 2022

Summer University Recognition Fellowship Grant, English Department, 2022

English Department Conference Registration and Membership Fee Grant, 2021

Harper Fellowship at the Benson Center for the Study of Western Civilization, 2020–2021
Graduate and Professional Student Government Travel Grant, 2020
Frederick C. and Eleanor Ruth Hager Graduate Fellowship in English, English Department, 2020
Preston Summer Research Fellowship, English Department, 2020
English Department Travel Grant, 2020
Rebecca V. Knoettge Memorial Scholarship Endowment, English Department, 2019
Graduate School Domestic Travel Grant, 2019
United Government of Graduate Students Travel Grant, 2019
William B. Markward Scholarship, English Department, 2018

OTHER AWARDS

Thoreau Country Conservation Alliance Graduate Student Fellowship, 2021–2022
Vermont Studio Center Merit Grant and Work-Exchange Award, Vermont Studio Center
Residency for Fiction Writing, 2018

PRESENTATIONS

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Uterine Window,” ASLE 2025 Biennial Conference, College Park, MD, July 2025.
“Alexa—Shall I not have intelligence with the earth?: Sustainability, Surveillance, and
Nineteenth-Century Smart Homes,” C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century
Americanists Biennial Conference, Pasadena, CA, March 2024.
“Log/log: The Log Cabin as (Site of) Inscription,” RMMLA 76th Annual Convention (panel
chair), Denver, CO, October 2023.
“Making Home: Claiming Place in Indigenous and Black Log Cabins,” ASLE + AESS 2023
Conference (panel chair), Portland, OR, July 2023.
“‘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.
“A Mother’s Log Cabin: Zitkala-Ša’s Kinship Connections,” RMMLA 74th Annual Convention
(virtual; panel chair), October 2021.
“The Log Cabin as Site of Resistance in *The Water Dancer* by Ta-Nehisi Coates,” American
Studies Association Annual Meeting (virtual), October 2021.
“My Childhood in a Log Cabin: W. D. Howells and Reflections on Kinship,” ASLE Virtual
Conference (panel chair), July–August 2021.
“Log Cabin Aesthetics,” WLA 55th Conference (virtual), October 2020.
“Cabin as Living: The Agency of Wood in Thoreau’s *Walden*,” NeMLA 51st Annual
Convention, Boston, MA, March 2020.
“Exploring Kinship through Solitary Acts of Mourning,” ASLE Thirteenth Biennial Conference,
University of California Davis, Davis, CA, June 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.

- “Editors’ Roundtable: Publishing Truth in a Post-Truth World,” ASLE Twelfth Biennial Conference, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, June 2017.
- “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.
- “Returning Home: The Novels of Hermann Hesse and Reinhabiting a LifePlace,” ASLE Eleventh Biennial Conference, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID, June 2015.

INVITED TALKS

- “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.
- “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.
- “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.
- “Creative *El Diario*.” Invited talk at the Center for Research Data and Digital Scholarship, University of Colorado Boulder, December 2019.

TEACHING

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER (BOULDER, CO)

FALL 2019–PRESENT

Lecturer, Summer 2025–Present

Graduate Teaching Instructor, Fall 2019–Summer 2024

Lead Graduate Teaching Instructor, Fall 2020–Spring 2022

Courses Taught

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

ENGL3767: Feminist Fictions: Anthropocene Feminisms, one section (Summer 2024, online)

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

ENGL3016: Writing in the Age of AI, three sections (Summer 2025, online; Fall 2025, 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; Summer 2025, online)

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

ENGL1001: Writing, Reading, Culture, four sections (Fall 2023, online; Spring 2024, online; Summer 2024, online)

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

Trip Leader: Thailand: Community Service, National Geographic Student Expeditions, Chiang Rai, Thailand, two sections (Summer 2018, Summer 2019).

Trip Leader: Jordan: History, Politics, and Arabic Language, The Experiment in International Living, Amman, Jordan, one section (Summer 2017).

Student Affairs Manager: Center for Rainforest Studies, The School for Field Studies, Yungaburra, Australia, three sections (Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Summer 2014).

Environmental Educator, Vermont Institute of Natural Science, Quechee, VT, 2012–2013.

Environmental Educator, New Jersey School of Conservation, Branchville, NJ, 2011–2012.

EDITORIAL

Managing Editor, *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment (ISLE)*, 2025–Present

Managing Editor, *The Hopper*, 2014–2024

Copyeditor, *The Goose*, 2014–2020

SERVICE

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

Member, Graduate Careers and Professional Development Committee, 2020–2022

English Graduate Student Peer Mentor, 2020–2021

Graduate Student Peer Mentor, 2020–2021

Elected PhD Representative, English Graduate Student Council, 2019–2020

Creative Writing Association Events Committee, 2019–2020

Supervising Instructor, MA Guest Teaching Program, 2019

Member, Environmental Literary Studies Reading Group, 2018–2023

OTHER SERVICE

Liaison, Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association and the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, 2021–2023

Graduate Student Liaison, Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, 2020–2021

Reviewer, *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment (ISLE)*, 2020

Senior Division Prose Contest Judge, Bowseat Ocean Awareness Programs, 2019–2021

Member, Alice Rowan Swanson Fellowship Committee, SIT Study Abroad, 2015–2016

CERTIFICATES

Graduate Certificate in Native American and Indigenous Studies, University of Colorado Boulder, 2021

Certificate in College Teaching, University of Colorado Boulder, 2021

Digital Humanities Graduate Certificate, University of Colorado Boulder, 2020

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Digital Humanities Research Assistant to Julie Carr, English Department, University of Colorado Boulder, 2021–2022

Environmental Literature Course Development Research Assistant, English Department, University of Colorado Boulder, 2020

Program Associate: Middle East, North Africa, and Europe, SIT Study Abroad, Brattleboro, VT, 2014–2016

WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

Course Design Workshop, ASSETT, University of Colorado Boulder, 2020

Graduate Teacher Program Workshops, Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Colorado Boulder, 2019–2020

Environmental Literature Institute, Phillips Exeter Academy, Exeter, NH, 2018

Bread Loaf *Orion* Environmental Writers' Conference, Ripton, VT, 2015

Wildbranch Writing Workshop, Sterling College, Craftsbury Common, VT, 2010

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

ASLE (Association for the Study of Literature and Environment)

C19 (Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists)

MLA (Modern Language Association)

REFERENCES

Dr. Maria A. Windell
Associate Professor of English
University of Colorado Boulder
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Dr. Bonnie Etherington
Lecturer, Te Herenga Waka – Victoria
University of Wellington
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Dr. Jason Gladstone
Assistant Professor of English
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Dr. Karen Jacobs
Associate Professor of English
University of Colorado Boulder
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Dr. Teresa Nugent
Associate Teaching Professor of English
University of Colorado Boulder
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Dr. Hunter Vaughan
Assistant Professor, Visual and Media Arts
Emerson College
hunter.vaughan@emerson.edu