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Education

- 2007 Ph.D., English, University of Minnesota
1999-2000 Doctoral coursework, York University, Toronto
1997 M.A. (with Distinction), Literatures in English, University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica
1990 B.A., Political Science, Brandeis University, Waltham, Mass. *Magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa

Professional Appointments

- 2014-present Associate Professor, English, University of Massachusetts Amherst. Primary teaching and research area: Caribbean literature. Secondary areas: African Diaspora literature, multicultural literature of the Americas
2008-2014 Assistant Professor, English, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Spring 2007 Writing Through Literature (three sections); Critical and Expository Writing (Manchester College) – visiting assistant professor
Fall 2006 Writing Through Literature (Manchester College) – instructor
Summer 2005 Introduction to Multicultural American Literature (Univ. of Minnesota) – graduate instructor
2004–2005 Women Writers of Color: Voices from the Gaps (Univ. of Minnesota) – graduate instructor, two semesters; also served on board of the Voices from the Gaps website
2003–2004 Research Assistant, The Givens Collection of African-American Literature, University of Minnesota Libraries; archived and catalogued papers of African-American poet, novelist and anthologist Clarence Major
Spring 2003 University Writing and Critical Reading: Perspectives on Multiculturalism (Univ. of Minnesota) – graduate instructor
Fall 2002 University Writing and Critical Reading (Univ. of Minnesota) – graduate instructor
Fall 2001 Survey of British Literature, part I (Univ. of Minnesota) – teaching assistant
2001–2007 Copyeditor (freelance), University of the West Indies Press, Kingston, Jamaica – editing books in Caribbean history, literary criticism and cultural studies
1999–2000 Introduction to Poetry (York University) – teaching assistant
Fall 1994 Introduction to the Novel (University of the West Indies) – teaching assistant

Publications

- “*No Ancestry Except the Black Water*”: *Caribbean Family Sagas* – a monograph, in preparation.
“Biological and Narrative Reproduction in the Family-Saga Novels of Maryse Condé.” Invited book chapter in *Diaspora and Literary Studies*, ed. Angela Naimou, forthcoming in spring 2023 from Cambridge University Press, Cambridge Critical Concepts Series.
“Heroes, Mothers, and Muses: Teaching Gender in Kamau Brathwaite.” *Journal of West Indian Literature*, Vol. 30 No. 2 (April 2022): 127-43.
“[Scenes of \(un\)Making: Caribbean Women’s Textile/Textual Practice.](#)” *sx salon* 36 (February 2021); appeared within a special issue I edited on Caribbean Texts and Textiles.

- “Genealogy.” *Keywords for Caribbean Studies*. <http://caribbeandigitalnyc.net/keywords/2020/11/17/genealogy/> December 2020.
- “Reading the Jamaican 1970s as Political Thriller: Lessons from Pop Fiction.” *Small Axe* 58 (March 2019): 62-76.
- “The Pathology of Sex and the Domestication of Desire in Zee Edgell’s *In Times Like These*.” *Sargasso* 2016-17, I&II (Sept 2018): 63-74.
- [“A Road Cut Through the Heart of the Caribbean: A review of John Hearne’s *Short Fiction*.”](#) *sx salon* 28 (June 2018).
- [“Intimacies of Family and Fiction: A review of Rosario Ferré’s *Memoir*.”](#) *sx salon* 24 (Feb 2017).
- Review of *Michael Manley and Jamaican Democracy, 1972–1980: The Word is Love* by F.S.J. Ledgister. *Caribbean Quarterly* 61:4 (December 2015).
- [“Ethnography, Genealogy and Relation: A review of *The Poetics of Ethnography in Martinican Narratives: Exploring the Self and the Environment* by Christina Kullberg.”](#) *sx salon* 18 (February 2015).
- Citizenship Under Pressure: The 1970s in Jamaican Literature and Culture*. Kingston: University of the West Indies Press, 2014.
- Review of *Olive Senior* by Denise deCaires Narain. *Journal of West Indian Literature* 22:1 (Nov 2013): 136-41.
- “Blackness and the Creole Multiracial Subject in Margaret Cezair-Thompson’s *True History of Paradise* and Robert Antoni’s *Carnival*.” *Wadabagei* 13:3 (Fall 2011): 26-49.
- “Sex, Silence, and Colonial Violence: The Amnesiac White Women of *Witchbroom*.” *Journal of West Indian Literature* 20:1 (November 2011): 70-95.
- “‘The Same Bucky-Massa Business’: Peter Tosh and I-an-I at the One Love Peace Concert.” *Kunapipi* 30:2 (2008): 30-42.
- “Ages of Innocence: Review of *Inventory* and *What We All Long For* by Dionne Brand.” *Caribbean Review of Books* (August 2006): 18-20.
- “Secrets and Names: Review of *Over the Roofs of the World* and *The Encyclopedia of Jamaican Heritage* by Olive Senior.” *Caribbean Review of Books* (August 2005): 22-24.
- Review of *The View from Mount Diablo* by Ralph Thompson. *Ethnic Third World Review of Books* 5 (Spring 2005): 43-44.

Honors, Awards and Fellowships

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| Spring 2022 | Mid-Career Research Award from College of Humanities and Fine Arts, University of Massachusetts Amherst (competitive award recognizing exceptional institutional service) |
| 2019-2020 | Interdisciplinary Studies Institute Fellow, University of Massachusetts Amherst |
| June 2016 | Instructional Innovation Fellow, University of Massachusetts Amherst |
| June 2015 | Fellowship to participate in NEH Summer Institute, “What Is Gained in Translation?”, Kent State University |
| 2015 | Honorable Mention in Media & Cultural Studies category, PROSE awards (American Publishers Awards for Professional and Scholarly Excellence) for <i>Citizenship Under Pressure</i> |
| 2013-2014 | Interdisciplinary Studies Institute Fellow, University of Massachusetts Amherst |
| 2011-2012 | Lilly Teaching Fellowship, University of Massachusetts Amherst |
| June 2010 | Summer Online Writing Fellowship, University of Massachusetts Amherst |
| 2009-2010 | Mellon Mutual Mentoring Mini-Grant, University of Massachusetts Amherst |
| 2006 | Summer Dissertation Fellowship, Department of English, University of Minnesota |
| 2004 | Samuel Holt Monk–Moses Marston Summer Research Award, Department of English, University of Minnesota |
| 2000–2001 | Myron Allen Fellowship, Department of English, University of Minnesota |
| 1999–2000 | York University Admissions Fellowship |

1987–1990 Wien International Scholarship, Brandeis University

Presentations and Invited Lectures

- Invited panelist, “Celebrating Literary Publications of the Caribbean,” sponsored by *Caribbean InTransit*. Zoom/Facebook Live, 15 December 2021. Collaborative presentation with Ronald Cummings on our editorial roles at *sx salon*.
- Invited reader, “Map to the Door at 20,” November 2021. <https://youtu.be/c8oCKbWo8EM>
- Invited panelist, Caribbean Symposium, University of Connecticut, Hartford Campus, 17 May 2019. Paper title: “Caribbean Family Sagas and the Critique of Genealogy.”
- Invited panelist, “The Jamaican 1970s: A Symposium,” The Graduate Center-CUNY and Columbia University, 28-29 September 2017. Paper title: “The Epistemological and Affective Interventions of Sensationalist Seventies Literature.”
- Invited panelist, “A Mobile World Literature and the Return of Place: New Diasporic Writing Beyond the Black Atlantic,” Catholic University of Eichstaett-Ingolstadt, Germany, 9-10 December 2016. Paper title: “‘Her stomach grew like a continent’: Space, Place and Genealogy in Caribbean Family Sagas”.
- Invited panelist, Creative Counterpoints symposium, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, 18 March 2016. Paper title: “Caribbean-Reading the Romance Novel: Creativity, Positionality, and Vulnerability”.
- Invited panelist, “Queering Blackness” panel at Black Queer Diaspora Womyn Festival, Department of Theater, University of Massachusetts Amherst, 1 March 2014.
- “Avoiding Mistranslation: Teaching Caribbean Women’s Writing in North American Classrooms.” Invited panelist at “Expanded Rooms, Unbridled Tongues: International Women’s Writing in the 21st Century” symposium, Keene State College, Keene, NH, 23 March 2012.
- “Queer Sex and the Jamaican Citizen: *A Small Gathering of Bones* and the Contemporary Moment.” Invited lecture in the Lecture Series of the Department of Literatures in English, University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica, 24 September 2010.
- “Michael (Manley) Enormous: Gender and Jamaican Identity in 1970s Jamaica.” Presentation to Futures of American Studies Institute seminar, Dartmouth College, June 2010.
- “Peter Tosh at the One Love Peace Concert.” Presentation to Crossroads in the Study of the Americas Fellows seminar, Five Colleges Inc., Amherst, 1 April 2009.
- “Anglophone Caribbean Women’s Writing Entering the Millennium.” Guest lecturer in ENG 200 Caribbean Women Writers, Westfield State College, 5 March 2009.
- “Derek Walcott and Caribbean Literature.” Guest lecturer in ENG 238 World Literature, Manchester College, 6 April 2006.
- “Insider Ethnography and Zora Neale Hurston’s *Mules and Men*.” Guest lecturer in ENG 110 Honors: Writing Through Literature, Manchester College, 7 March 2006.
- “The Crisis of the 1970s and Jamaica’s Postcolonial Legacy.” Featured guest on *The Bat of Minerva*, Minneapolis/St Paul public access television program. Aired September 2005.
- “Ralph Waldo Emerson Meets James Williams: Apprenticeship and Full Free in the British West Indies.” First Fridays Public Lecture, Andersen Library, University of Minnesota, 2 April 2004.

Conference Papers

- “Covens and Curses: Magic, Power and Genealogy in Caribbean Family Sagas.” Accepted for presentation at West Indian Literature Conference/Critical Caribbean Symposium Series, University of The Bahamas, Nassau. 13-15 October 2022.
- “Biological and Narrative Reproduction in the Family-Saga Novels of Maryse Condé.” Caribbean Studies Association conference, University of Guyana, Georgetown (virtual). 3 June 2021.

- “Caribbean Women’s Textile/Textual Practices as Archives of Memory and Mourning.” West Indian Literature Conference, University of Miami, 5 October 2018.
- “Genealogy and Epistemological Uncertainty in Caribbean Family Sagas.” Caribbean Studies Association Conference, Havana, 5 June 2018.
- “Of Wildness and Witches: Gendered Embodiment in *Land of Love and Drowning*.” West Indian Literature Conference, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad, 6 October 2017.
- “Your End Is Your Beginning’: *Nothing’s Mat* and Fractal Genealogies.” West Indian Literature Conference, University of the West Indies, Montego Bay, Jamaica, 6 October 2016.
- “Filiation, Family and the Domestication of Desire in Zee Edgell’s *In Times Like These*.” West Indian Literature Conference, University of Puerto Rico, 2 October 2015.
- “‘Bold Venture’: The Caribbean Exotic and the Mid-Century US Imaginary.” Caribbean Studies Association Conference, New Orleans, 28 May 2015.
- “Maroons and the Jamaican (Trans)Nation.” West Indian Literature Conference, College of the Bahamas, 10 October 2013.
- “When and Where (and How) Maroons Enter Late Modernity: Reflections on *Nana Yab* and *Dread & Alive*.” Northeast Modern Languages Association (NeMLA) convention, Boston, 22 March 2013. Also chaired panel “Travelling Back: History and the Contemporary Moment in the Work of Dionne Brand.”
- “From the Growing Distance’: Citizenship, Nostalgia, and Jamaica’s Postcolonial Moment.” NeMLA convention, Rochester, NY, 17 March 2012. Also chaired panel “(Con)figurations of Citizenship in Caribbean Literature.”
- “‘But It’s Wolfie Gives Us Birth’: Sex, Monsters, Hurt and Healing in Nalo Hopkinson’s Work.” NeMLA convention, New Brunswick, NJ, 9 April 2011.
- “‘But It’s Wolfie Gives Us Birth’: Sex, Monsters, Transgression and Transformation in Nalo Hopkinson.” Association of Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars conference, Baton Rouge, La., 20 April 2010.
- “Gay Sex and the Jamaican Citizen: Patricia Powell’s *A Small Gathering of Bones*.” NeMLA, Montreal, 9 April 2010. Also chaired panel “Queering the Caribbean: Towards an Open Discussion of Queerness in Caribbean Literature.”
- “Transdisciplinary Directions in Africana Studies: A Multi-departmental Cluster Hire and Mutual Mentoring Program in Year One.” Roundtable presentation with Amilcar Shabazz, Margo Crawford, Karen Morrison and TreaAndrea Russworm, at National Council for Black Studies conference, Atlanta, 21 March 2009.
- “From Mothers to Muses and Back Again: Woman as Love Object in Kamau Brathwaite’s Poetry.” NeMLA convention, Boston, 28 February 2009.
- “With an Eye to the Past: History, Genealogy and the 1970s in Three Jamaican Texts.” International Conference on Caribbean Studies, University of Texas – Pan American, 3 November 2006.
- “Web Feminism, Theory and Practice: Negotiating the Academy with VG/Voices from the Gaps.” Co-presented with Lauren Curtright, Carla Johnson and Maria Zavialova, at Modern Languages Association convention, Washington, DC, 29 December 2005.
- “Liminality, Collaboration and the Internet: VG/Voices from the Gaps.” Co-presented with Lauren Curtright, Dieter Bohn, Carla Johnson and Maria Zavialova, at New Media Research at UMN conference, University of Minnesota, 15–16 September 2005.
- “Frantz Fanon, Zora Neale Hurston, and the Shifting Subject of Blackness.” 9th Annual Symposium in Romance Studies, University of Minnesota, 23 April 2005.

Professional and University Service

- Fall 2022 – present Member, Chair's Advisory Committee, English Department, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Spring 2021 – present Member, International Studies Council, Faculty Senate, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- June 2019 – present Editor, *sx salon: a small axe literary platform*
- May 2022 One-week Twitter residency with the *Journal of West Indian Literature* (JWIL). Invited to take over the [@jwilonline account](#) for a week; residency focused on the anniversary of Kamau Brathwaite's birth and my article on pedagogies for teaching Brathwaite's poetry (JWIL Vol. 30 No. 2, April 2022).
- Fall 2020 – Spring 2021 Member, Personnel Committee, English Department, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Fall 2020 Reviewer, 2021-22 Fellowship Program, National Humanities Center
- Spring 2020 Member, Committee to select incoming Teaching Associates, Writing Program, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Spring 2020 Member, Bargaining Support Committee on Climate Justice, Massachusetts Society of Professors
- Spring 2020 Member, Selection Committee, Lilly Fellowship for Teaching Excellence, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Spring 2020 External reviewer, grant application panel, National Endowment for the Humanities
- 2018-2019 Editor-in-charge, *Journal of West Indian Literature* 27:1 (appeared April 2019).
- 2017-2019 Member, Personnel Committee, English Department, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Fall 2018 Member, ad hoc EEP Committee on Reviewing Student Writing, English Department, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Spring 2018 Member, Committee to select incoming Teaching Associates, Writing Program, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Fall 2017 Member, ad hoc Committee on Enrolment, English Department, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Sept 2016 – June 2018 Undergraduate Program Director and Chair of Undergraduate Studies Committee, English Department, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Spring 2016 – Fall 2017 Member, W. E. B. Du Bois Center Campus Advisory Committee, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Spring 2016 Chair, Nominating Committee, English Department, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- 2015-2016 Graduate Program Director, English Department, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Sept 2015 – Oct 2019 Member, editorial board, *Journal of West Indian Literature*
- Spring 2015 Member, Chair's Advisory Committee, English Department, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Spring 2015 Faculty member, English Department Anti-Racism Committee, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- 2013-2014 Member, editorial board, *Historical Journal of Massachusetts*
- 2012-2014 Graduate Studies Committee, English Department, University of Massachusetts Amherst (Chair, 2013-2014)
- Spring 2012 Chair, Nominating Committee, English Department, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Spring 2012 – Fall 2020 Student Affairs and University Life Council, Faculty Senate, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- 2009-2012 Chancellor's Junior Faculty Fellows Council, University of Massachusetts Amherst

- Spring 2010 Commencement Student Speaker Selection Committee, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- 2009-2011 Undergraduate Studies Committee, English Department, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- 2009-present Sidney Kaplan Lecture Committee, English Department, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- 2009-2010 Co-coordinator of English Department Faculty Colloquium Series
- 2009-2010 American Studies Task Force, English Department, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- 2008-present Manuscript reviewer: University of the West Indies Press; University Press of Mississippi; Rutgers University Press; *Journal of West Indian Literature*; *Journal of Transnational American Studies*; *Gender, Place & Culture*; *Meridians: feminism, race, transnationalism*; *Small Axe*; *Caribbean Quarterly*; *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies*; *Studies in the Novel*.
- Spring 2009 Member, Committee to select incoming Teaching Associates, Writing Program, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Fall 2008 Member, Committee to review Experimental Writing Workshop proposals, Writing Program, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Professional Associations: Caribbean Studies Association, Association of Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars

Languages: English (native), Jamaican Patwa (native), Spanish (proficient)