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EDUCATION:

PhD (English), Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL, 2017.

Dissertation: *First World Problems: Neocolonial Discourse in Contemporary American Literature*. Defended March 2017.

Committee: Dr. Kathleen Renk (Chair), Dr. Tim Ryan, and Dr. Mark Van Wienen

Candidacy Exam: American Literature after 1865. Passed with Distinction.

Candidacy Exam: Postcolonial Literature and Theory. Passed with Distinction.

MA (English), Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI, 2010.

Thesis: "Spatial Rape: Globalization and the Tourist-Vagabond Relationship in Mark Z. Danielewski's *House of Leaves*." Defended April 2010.

Committee: Dr. Kurt Bullock (Chair), Dr. Emily Garcia, and Dr. David Alvarez

BA (English), Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI, 2008.

PUBLICATIONS:

Articles:

"Nonnormative Communication and Metaphors of Silencing in Two Postcolonial Texts." Forthcoming 2024 from *The Journal of Literary and Cultural Disability Studies*.

"The Reinstatement of Paternalism in US-Puerto Rican Relations in Esmeralda Santiago's *América's Dream*." *Label Me Latino/a*, vol. 12, Fall 2022, pp. 1-13, <https://labelmelatin.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Tracy-A.-Stephens-Paternalism-in-Santiago.pdf>.

"'You Have Fiscal Ebola': The Privatization of Risk in Jess Walters' *The Financial Lives of the Poets*." *Modern Fiction Studies*, vol. 68, no. 3, Fall 2022, pp. 506-524.

"'Dear God, I Am Not a Son of a Bitch': Justifications for Patriarchal Violence and the Mischaracterization of Stephen King's Jack Torrance." *Horror Studies*, vol. 12, no. 2, 2021, pp. 159-174.

"Disrupting the Homoerotic Appeal of State Power in Caryl Churchill's *Drunk Enough to Say I Love You?*" *The Journal of Modern Literature*, vol. 43, no. 3, Spring 2020, pp. 150-62.

"Michelle Cliff's *Abeng* and the Troping of Disability in Postcolonial Literature." *Journal of Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies*, vol. 5, no. 2, 2018, pp. 1-18.

Book Reviews:

MAY, WHITNEY S. *Encountering Pennywise: Critical Perspectives on Stephen King's It*. Jackson, MS: UP of Mississippi, 2022. *Studies in the Novel*, vol. 55, no. 2, June 2023.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:

“Anxiety over Individual Resource Use in *Ducks, Newburyport*.” Northeastern Modern Language Association Conference. Niagara Falls, NY. March 2023.

“The Illegibility of Indigenous Violence to the Settler Gaze in *The Only Good Indians*.” Northeastern Modern Language Association Conference. Baltimore, MD, March 2022.

“Incarceration, Harm, and Accountability in Tayari Jones’s *An American Marriage*.” Northeastern Modern Language Association Conference. Virtual, March 2021.

“Neoliberalism as Historical Continuity in Colson Whitehead’s *John Henry Days*.” Northeastern Modern Language Association Conference. Boston, MA, March 2020.

“‘Dear God, I Am Not a Son of a Bitch’: The Intentional Fallacy and the Mischaracterization of Stephen King’s Jack Torrance.” Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Conference. Washington, DC, April 2019.

“Sex-Negativity and Anti-Consumerism in Jay McInerney’s *The Good Life*.” Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Conference. Indianapolis, IN, April 2018.

“Disability-Related Speech Impairment and Colonial Marginalization in Two Postcolonial Texts.” Northeastern Modern Language Association Conference. Baltimore, MD, March 2017.

“The Reinstatement of Paternalism in US-Puerto Rican Relations in Esmeralda Santiago’s *América’s Dream*.” Midwestern Conference on Literature, Language, and Media. DeKalb, IL, April 2012.

“T.S. Eliot’s Theory of Social Change.” Art, Culture, and Religion: A Conference on T.S. Eliot. Grand Rapids, MI, August 2008.

“‘This May Be a Little Bit Naughty, but We’re Working Our Asses Off’: Talk Among Roller Derby Teammates.” With Tina Newhouse. Midwestern Modern Language Association Conference. Chicago, IL, November 2006.