

Ashley O'Mara

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EDUCATION

- 2014-present* **Syracuse University (Syracuse, NY)**
Doctor of Philosophy in English (anticipated graduation date: May 2019)
Early Modern English literature (topic: the queer aesthetics and politics of Catholicism after the English Reformation)
University Fellow 2014-2015, 2018-2019
GPA 3.955/4.0
- 2012-2014* **Syracuse University (Syracuse, NY)**
Master of Arts in English (dossier: *Materializing the Sacred: Catholic Authors, Identity, and Textual Embodiment*)
GPA: 3.945/4.0
- 2009-2010* **Le Moyne College (Syracuse, NY)**
Bachelor of Arts in English, *Summa cum laude*
Departmental Honors in Creative Writing (historical-fiction novel: *Heavenly Burns*)
Minor in Philosophy
GPA: 4.0/4.0
- 2006-2008* **SUNY Onondaga Community College (Syracuse, NY)**
GPA: 4.0/4.0

PRESENTATIONS

- “El sexo no es esencia en lo entendido”:** *Sor Juana’s Women’s Bodies and Ungendered Souls*
○ Conference paper, 2016 NEMLA, Hartford, CT, 20 March 2016
- “It’s All Fine”:** *Asexuality and Narratives of Normalcy in the BBC Sherlock Fandom*
○ Colloquium paper, Fall 2015 Negotiations, Syracuse University, 13 November 2015
- Metathesis Panel:** *Feminism, Gender Theory, and Public Scholarship*
○ Roundtable participant, Syracuse University, 24 April 2015
- “Sex is not the essence of intelligence”:** *Gender Negotiations Between the Church and the Educated Woman in Sor Juana’s Poetry*
○ Colloquium paper, Spring 2015 Negotiations, Syracuse University, 3 April 2015
- “Idioma mexicano”:** *Criollismo and Spanish Text/Paratext in Paredes’s Nahuatl Catecismo mexicano*
○ Conference paper, 2014 NEASECS Conference, Syracuse, NY, 26 September 2014
○ Colloquium paper, Spring 2014 Negotiations, Syracuse University, 18 April 2014
- “More Than a Woman”:** *Excess and Gender in Richard Crashaw’s Devotional Poetry*
○ Colloquium paper, Fall 2013 Negotiations, Syracuse University, 6 December 2013
- Unconfessed, Uncategorized, Unidentified:** *Marshaling Ars Erotica Against Sexual Identity in Light of Foucault*
○ Colloquium paper, Spring 2013 Negotiations, Syracuse University, 22 March 2013
- The Body of Christ:** *The Sensual Sacramental in the Pre- and Post-Conversion Poetry of Michael Field*
○ Colloquium paper, Fall 2012 Negotiations, Syracuse University, 16 November 2012
- It’s in Your Blood:** *Body, Family, and Society in Shakespeare’s Hamlet and Richard II*
○ Conference paper, Literature & Culture Conference, Le Moyne College, 16 April 2011

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

- Panel participant: The Red House Art Center Talkback** (Syracuse, NY)
- Invited expert participant alongside production cast and crew in post-performance discussion of the play
- 9 April 2016 Sarah Ruhl's *Passion Play*
13 February 2016 William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
- 3 April 2016 **Lecture:** *Queer(ing) Catholics in English Literature* (United Church of Fayetteville, NY)
- Invited lecture and discussion in the Adult Forum's Religion, Literature and the Arts series
- Contributor:** Metathesis, *a critical literary studies blog* (Syracuse University English Graduate Organization, metathesisblog.com)
- January 2016 "The Human in the Digital Humanities" (1/8/16)
"Common Knowledge?: EEBO, #FrEEBO, and Public Domain Information" (1/15/16)
"A Match Made in the Archive: Reading and Poaching through Ngrams and Rare Books" (1/22/16)
"Coda: The Human in the Humanities" (1/29/16)
- October 2014 "A History of LGBT History" (10/3/14)
"Recuperation as Resistance: The Icons of LGBT History" (10/10/14)
"Overwriting History: 'Just Reading' and the Case of John Henry Newman" (10/17/14)
"Queering LGBT History: The Case of Sherlock Holmes Fanfic" (10/24/14)
"Coda: Asexual Awareness Week and the Future of Queer Theory" (10/31/14)
- 2016-present **Curator:** *Six Degrees of Francis Bacon* (sixdegreesoffrancisbacon.com)
- Approve new entries to the database and edit existing entries for accuracy
- 2015-present **Contributor:** *Six Degrees of Francis Bacon* (sixdegreesoffrancisbacon.com)
- Responsible for over 20 additions of persons, relationships, and group assignments to the database (specializing in Early Modern Jesuits)
- 16 April 2016 **Reading:** "*The Body in Christ*" (Syracuse University)
- Invited public reading at the Best of Student Nonfiction reading
- 17 April 2010 **Presentation:** *Truth Through Fiction: The Role of Research in Historical Fiction* (Le Moyne College)
- Discussion and reading, Scholars Day Conference
- 15 April 2010 **Reading:** *Jesús Aguado: Sin títulos and Los poemas de Vikram Babu* (Le Moyne College)
- Invited public reading with the award-winning Spanish author

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Fall 2016– **English Textual Studies Graduate Teaching Associate:** *Syracuse University*
Independently-taught writing-intensive freshman literature courses
- ETS 113: Survey of British Literature, Beginnings to 1789 (Fall 2016)
- 2013-2014, 2015-2016 **English Textual Studies Graduate Teaching Assistant:** *Syracuse University*
Writing-intensive freshman literature courses
- ETS 121: Introduction to Shakespeare (Fall 2013, with Dr. Dympna Callaghan)
 - ETS 119: Postwar American Fiction (Spring 2014, with Dr. Susan Edmunds)
 - ETS 114: Survey of British Literature, 1798-present (Fall 2015, with Dr. Mike Goode)
 - ETS 146: Reading Screen Cultures (Spring 2016, with Dr. Chris Hanson)

- 2012-2013 **Writing Program Graduate Instructor:** *Syracuse University*
Independently-taught freshman– and sophomore-level composition and research courses
- WRT 105: Practices of Academic Writing (Fall 2012)
Re-imagining the Normal
 - WRT 205: Critical Research and Writing (Spring 2013)
Gender in Religion
- Summers 2012-present* **English and Writing Services:** *freelance*
Writing and ESL tutoring ▪ Editing ▪ Proofreading
- 2009-2012 **Creative-Writing Instructor:** *Northern Onondaga Loving Education at Home*
Creative writing for middle– and high-school students
Level 1: Craft ▪ Level 2: Revision
- 2008-2012 **Academic Tutor:** *Content Tutoring Center / Language Lab at Onondaga Community College*
Spanish ▪ Philosophy ▪ Political science ▪ Western history ▪ Environmental geology

RESEARCH ASSISTANT EXPERIENCE

- Summer 2015* **Research Assistant to reporter Jeet Heer:** *The New Republic*
- Conduct research in Special Collections Research Center, Bird Library, Syracuse University
 - Prepare summary reports on correspondence and journals in the Roy Crane Papers collection
 - Order photocopies of relevant pages from the collection

SERVICE EXPERIENCE

- 2016-present* **Undergraduate Committee Representative:** *Department of English/English Graduate Organization, Syracuse University*
- Represent the interests of graduate-student teaching assistants and teaching associates to the Undergraduate Committee
 - Coordinate the annual English Undergraduate Conference
 - Attend regular committee meetings and attend and vote at department assembly meetings
- 2016-present* **Webmaster and Social Media Coordinator:** *Department of English, Syracuse University*
- Develop social media campaigns and content and coordinate the Department of English's web presence
 - Overhaul, reorganize, and update the department's Cascade website
- Summer 2016* **Admissions and Recruitment Intern:** *Department of English, Syracuse University*
- Research summer humanities graduate school preparation programs and compatible BA– and MA-only English programs to target for graduate-student recruitment
 - Survey faculty for recommendations about the strengths of the program and how to recruit students in their fields
 - Interview undergraduate and graduate alumni to profile on the web
 - Update the Chair, the Director of Graduate Studies, and the Director of Undergraduate Studies on progress
- 2015-2016* **Graduate Employment Committee Member:** *Graduate Student Organization, Syracuse University*
- Advocated for graduate student employees to the university administration and university senate
 - Organized and fulfilled plans of action and reported on progress to the committee
 - Met with administration to discuss labor issues
 - Attended regular committee meetings

- 2015-present **Colloquium Coordinator Assistant:** *Department of English, Syracuse University*
- Designed and maintained the website devoted to the Ray Smith Symposium colloquium series, “The Future of the Humanities in Graduate Education”
 - Designed and disseminated advertising for the colloquium series
 - Assisted with budget maintenance
- 2015-2016 **Graduate Student Organization Representative:** *English Graduate Organization, Syracuse University*
- Represented the interests of the English Graduate Organization to the university-wide Graduate Student Organization
 - Attended monthly Graduate Student Organization meetings and voted on resolutions
 - Prepared and presented the annual budget and adjustments to the budget to the Graduate Student Organization as needed throughout the year
 - Maintained the budget
 - Participated in annual Graduate Student Organization fiscal training and sexual-harassment prevention training
 - Assisted with submitting expenses for reimbursement (in collaboration with the English Department)
- Spring 2015 **Graduate Representative:** *Policy Communication Team, Syracuse University*
- Communicated graduate-student interests to the Policy Communication Team, part of the Operational Excellence Workgroup for the Chancellor’s “Fast-Forward Syracuse” initiative
 - Critiqued draft documents produced by the team leadership
 - Attended team meetings
- 2015-present **Financial Advisor:** *English Graduate Organization’s Metathesis, Syracuse University*
- Negotiate English Graduate Organization budget adjustments with the Graduate Student Organization Fiscal Committee
 - Secure funding to sponsor special events, promotional printing, prizes and rewards, and books for review
 - Co-organize special events: book rooms, order refreshments, and distribute advertisements
 - Assist with budget maintenance
 - Submit expenses to the Graduate Student Organization for reimbursement (in collaboration with the English Department)
- 2014-present **PhD Co-facilitator:** *English Graduate Organization, Syracuse University*
- Co-coordinated the Symposium Speaker Series, a graduate-sponsored lecture series, in conjunction with the Religion Graduate Organization’s “Religion Interruptus” conference
 - Co-prepared the annual budget and adjustments to the budget to the Graduate Student Organization as needed throughout the year
 - Co-coordinated Negotiations, the semi-annual graduate colloquium: booked rooms, ordered refreshments, and distributed advertisements
 - Participated in annual Graduate Student Organization fiscal training
 - Submitted expenses to the Graduate Student Organization for reimbursement (in collaboration with the English Department)
- 2013-2014 **MA Co-facilitator:** *English Graduate Organization, Syracuse University*
- Co-coordinated Negotiations, the semi-annual graduate colloquium: booked rooms, ordered refreshments, distributed advertisements
 - Submitted expenses to the Graduate Student Organization for reimbursement (in collaboration with the English Department)

- 2013-present **Webmaster:** *English Graduate Organization, Syracuse University*
- Maintain ego.syr.edu and the English Graduate Organization listserv
- 2013-2014 **Spring Reading Marathon Co-coordinator:** *English Graduate Organization, Syracuse University*
- Co-organized events: booked rooms, ordered refreshments, and distributed advertisements
 - Prepared press release, “English Graduate Organization to Host Public Marathon Reading to Honor the Beats,” 18 April 2014
- Fall 2008 **Vice-President of Leadership:** *Alpha Sigma Zeta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa*
- Organized leadership training
 - Coordinated “Fright Lights,” an energy-efficiency fundraiser sale

EDITING EXPERIENCE

- 2011 **Assistant Editor:** *Le Moyne College’s The Salamander, a literary journal*
- 2010 **Copy Editor / Arts and Leisure Writer:** *Le Moyne College’s The Dolphin, a student newspaper*

AWARDS

- HASTAC (Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory) Scholar (2016-2017), Department of English at Syracuse University
- Summer Fellowship (June and July 2016), Department of English at Syracuse University
- Grant-in-aid for “Cultural Histories of the Material World: Books and Objects” workshop (Spring 2016), Folger Shakespeare Library
- University Fellowship (2014-2015 and 2018-2019), Syracuse University
- 2011 Eugene J. Fitzmartin Medal in English, Le Moyne College
- 2011 Edward Eagan Medal in the Arts, Le Moyne College
- 2011 Le Moyne College Philosophy Essay Contest (first place) awarded to essay, “Public Privacy: The Radical Geography of the Soviet Communal Apartment”
- 2010 Bishop David F. Cunningham Medal in Junior Liberal Arts, Le Moyne College
- 2010 Newhouse Award for critical essay, “It’s in Your Blood: The Role of Blood in Body, Family, and Society in Shakespeare’s *Hamlet* and *Richard II*,” Le Moyne College
- 2009 Nancy Duffy Award for short story, “Ramadan,” Syracuse James Joyce Society
- 2009 Le Moyne College Philosophy Essay Contest (second place) awarded to essay, “What the Holy Is *Not*,” Le Moyne College
- 2008 Faculty Award for Academic Excellence, Onondaga Community College
- 2008 Women’s Studies Essay Competition (first place), Onondaga Community College

HONORS & APPOINTMENTS

- Phi Sigma Tau, the International Honor Society in Philosophy, Le Moyne College
- Alpha Sigma Nu, the Honor Society of Jesuit Colleges and Universities, Le Moyne College
- Phi Theta Kappa, the International Honor Society of Two-Year Colleges, Onondaga Community College
- Dean’s Scholar, 2009-2010 academic year, Le Moyne College

MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

- 2015-present Northeast Modern Language Association
- 2014-2015 Northeastern American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies
- 2014 Safer People, Safer Spaces training for LGBTQIA+-friendly classrooms

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Early Modern literature

- The Counter-Reformation
- Devotional writings
- Image and iconography

Religious studies

- Catholic studies
- Jesuit philosophy
- The sacramental
- Celibacies and virginities

Theory

- Asexuality and queer studies
- Feminisms and gender studies
- History of the Book

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Early Modern studies

- Hamlet and Language — Dr. Dympna Callaghan (Spring 2016)
- Travel, Translation, and Pilgrimage — Dr. Ken Friedan (Spring 2016)
- Early Modern Travel Writing — Dr. Stephanie Shirilan (Spring 2015)
- Milton and the Problem of Interpretation — Dr. Crystal Bartolovich (Spring 2015)
- Early America — Dr. Patricia Roylance (Spring 2015)
- Renaissance Art History — Dr. Gary Radke (Fall 2014)
- Introduction to Early Modern Studies — Dr. Stephanie Shirilan (Fall 2013)
- Image and Icon in Shakespeare's World — Dr. Dympna Callaghan (Spring 2013)

Theory

- Participatory Romanticisms — Dr. Mike Goode (Fall 2015)
- Nineteenth Century American Literature and Sexuality — Dr. Dorri Beam (Fall 2014)
- History of the Book — Dr. Patricia Roylance (Fall 2013)
- Victorian Genders and Sexualities — Dr. Claudia Klaver (Fall 2012)
- Critical Theory — Dr. Greg Thomas (Fall 2012)

LANGUAGES

- English (Native speaker)
- Spanish (Advanced proficiency)
- Latin (Research proficiency)