Lauren T. Davila

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# Education

**PhD** Claremont Graduate University, English Literature Present

Concurrent MA at end of Fall 2021

Dissertation TBD in Gothic studies, specifically Female Death Aesthetics

**MFA** George Mason University, Fiction Writing May 2020

Thesis: “Enclave Amplified”

Committee: Tania L. James, Susan Shreve, Jen Cervantes

**BA** Pepperdine University, English Literature April 2017

Thesis: “*I resisted all the way*”: Charlotte Bronte’s Jane Eyre Speaks with Agency

Adviser: Julianne Smith

**BA** Pepperdine University, Creative Writing April 2017 Specialties in Fiction, Poetry, and Screenwriting

# Research and Teaching Interests

# Non-Western canon, Great Books/Classics, Latinx literature, Walt Whitman, Hannah Whitman Heyde, the Brontë siblings, George Eliot, Edgar Allan Poe, Toni Morrison, Victorian novels and poetry, Literature of the Supernatural, The Gothic (thematic and genre), juvenilia, technology in the classroom, comics and visual storytelling, lyric voice (prose and poetry), critical theory, Transdisciplinary studies, English for English Language Learners, English Composition and Rhetoric, diversity in the classroom, Reading and Writing about Texts, Pedagogies of Diversity, Writing Center practices, style and editing (APA, MLA, AP, Chicago), Literary Theory (Feminist, Marxist, Reader Response), Renaissance Art History, feminine death aesthetics, color symbolism, portal fantasies, monster theory, childhood, filial trauma, unreliable narratives, Women’s and Gender Studies, Introduction to Creative Writing, YA literature, #OwnVoices narratives, American pop culture, TV scripts, children’s books (picture books/middle grade), contemporary poetry, contemporary fiction, experimental/hybrid genres (flash/micro-fiction)

# Teaching Experience

**George Mason University**, Fairfax, VA Jan. 2019– May 2020

**Instructor of Record**, English Department

* Taught English 201 (Reading and Writing About Texts), an undergraduate course averaging 26 students per course
  + 2 sections Spring 2019 (Tues, Thurs)
    - “‘*All those Childhood Ghosts:’* Filial Trauma, and the Intergenerational Self”
  + 1 section Fall 2019 (Mon, Wed, Fri)
    - “From *Lemon Groves* to *Lovelorn*: The Making of a Monster”
  + 1 section Spring 2020 (Tues, Thurs)
    - “The Ultimate Lie: Binaries Between Truth and Falsity”
* Covered the following major assignments: Personal Media Exploration Essay/Presentation, One Word Analysis, Comparative Final Essay
* Texts included poetry, YA novels, adult novels, classics, movies, TV shows, comics, short stories, and essays
* Developed assignment sheets, class presentations, and standards for discussion questions
* Facilitated group conversations for each class period
* Created syllabus to meet departmental and university standards
* Oversaw grading and engaged with students in one-on-one meetings

**George Mason University**, Fairfax, VA Jan.–May 2020

**Instructor of Record**,English Department

* Taught English 396 (Introduction to Creative Writing), an undergraduate course averaging 22 students per course
  + 1 section Spring 2020 (Friday)
* Writing activities based in poetry, fiction, nonfiction, screenplays, and cross-genre
* Instill writing practices, marketable skills, diversity in writing, personal stakes, and tone
* Developed workshop groups and assignments related to form
* Created syllabus to meet departmental and university standards
* Oversaw grading and engaged with students in one-on-one meetings

**George Mason University**, Fairfax, VA Aug. 2018 –Dec. 2019

**Instructor of Record**,English Department

* Taught English 101 (Composition), an undergraduate course averaging 19 students per course
  + 2 sections Fall 2018 (Tues, Thurs)
  + 1 section Fall 2019 (Mon, Wed, Fri)
* Covered the following major assignments: exploratory essay, journalistic op-ed, two annotated bibliographies, and Genre of Your Choice final essay
* Developed assignment sheets, class presentations, and process work
* Created syllabus to meet departmental and university standards
* Oversaw grading and engaged with students in one-on-one meetings

# Research Experience

**Academic Year Undergraduate Research Initiative (AYURI)** July–Dec. 2016

Department of English, Pepperdine University

* Examined, transcribed, and coded (XML) the personal letters between Walt Whitman and his sister, Hannah Whitman Heyde
* Explored the Whitman’s correspondence records for the Walt Whitman Archive and the Library of Congress
* Assistant to Dr. Maire Mullins, Blanche E. Seaver Professor of Humanities and Teacher Education

**Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP)** May–Aug. 2015

Department of English, Pepperdine University

* Wrote and researched essay titled “The Women of *The 100*: Violence, Agency, and Leadership”
* Interviewed Kim Shumway (executive producer/head writer) for research
* Assistant to Dr. Joi Carr, conducting primary film research
* Continued understanding of feminism through American Literature and Film

**Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP)** May–Aug. 2014

Department of English, Pepperdine University

* Oral Presentation at SCCUR conference about my research (November 22, 2014)
* Wrote and researched essay titled “Sexism and Escapism in George Eliot’s *Romola*”
* Assistant to Dr. Constance Fulmer, conducting primary and secondary source research
* Continued understanding of feminism from primarily British texts

# Publications

**Full length projects**

“WHEN OTHER PEOPLE SAW US, THEY SAW THE DEAD” edited by Lauren T. Davila through Haunt Publishing (May 2022)

“WHERE MONSTERS LURK & MAGIC HIDES” edited by Lauren T. Davila through Bee Infinite Press (September 2022)

“PLACES WE BUILD IN THE UNIVERSE” edited by Lauren T. Davila through Flower Song Press (September 2022)

“Untitled Locale Anthology” edited by Lauren T. Davila through Deep Vellum Press (Date TBD)

“Untitled Nature Eco-Horror Anthology” edited by Lauren T. Davila through Stelliform Press (Date TBD)

“Untitled YA/NA Trope Anthology” co-edited with Kayla Whittle (on sub)

“Untitled Taylor Swift Romance Anthology” co-edited with Liana De La Rosa (planning)

“Untitled Latine Town Anthology” co-edited with Jonny Garza (planning)

Poetry book on sub: “THE PACIFIC AND OTHER BODIES I PRAY TO”

Fantasy picture book on query: “SIRENA SEES THE SEA”

Young adult contemporary sci-fi/fantasy novel on query: “ENCLAVE AMPLIFIED”

## Poetry

*Cauldron Anthology* “Think (An Automaton),” July 2021

*Hiraeth Anthology* “Modern Babylon,” January 2021

*Ghost Heart Literary Journal* “Tidbits,” November 2020

*Headcanon Magazine,* “Gin and Juvenilia,” September 2020

*In Parentheses Online,* “Testimony of Cetacea,” November 2019

*In Parentheses Online,* “Tortilla Heat,” November 2019

*The Paragon Journal,* “Mozzafiato,” Issue 19, 2019

*The Paragon Journal,* “Moments of Green,” Issue 19, 2019

*Peach Velvet Magazine,* “Cenotaph,” October 2019

*Mid-Heaven Magazine,* “Power of Three,” July 2019

*Poets Reading the News,* “Radiation Filtered,” July 2019

*Expressionists Student Literary Magazine,* “Starlight,” 2017

*Expressionists Student Literary Magazine,* “Holding Cell,” 2016

*You Are Here: The Writegirl Journey,* “My Waltz of Propriety,” 2013

*No Character Limit: Truth and Fiction from WriteGirl,* “Cavalon,” 2012

## Fiction

*Second Chance Lit* “Monthly Meeting Off Route 66,” January 2021

*FFF* “Ita,” December 2020

*Ghost Heart Literary Journal* “Glitches,” November 2020

*The Voyage Journal* “Breaking News,” September 2020

*Granada Magazine* “Vanilla and Dust,” Issue 1, Jan. 2020

*In Parentheses Magazine*, “Nana as Creator,” Issue 2, Vol. 5, 2019

*Mid-Heaven Magazine*, "Midnight Instead," July 2019

## Journalism

*Tufts Poetry Awards Blog* “On Love Poetry”’ March 2021

*Tufts Poetry Awards Blog* “Occasion Poetry: Inauguration and Politics”’ January 2021

*Tufts Poetry Awards Blog* “Monica Ferrell: Motherhood, Femininity, and Violent Voyeurism in “You Darling Thing,”’ December 2020

*Tufts Poetry Awards Blog “*Escapism through Genre,” November 2020

*Tufts Poetry Awards Blog “*Hispanic Heritage Month Interview Pt. 3,” October 2020

*Tufts Poetry Awards Blog “*Hispanic Heritage Month Interview Pt. 2,” October 2020

*Tufts Poetry Awards Blog “*Hispanic Heritage Month Interview Pt. 1,” October 2020

*Tufts Poetry Awards Blog “*Creativity In A Time Of Trauma,” September 2020

*Currents Magazine,* “Katie Willcox: CEO, Model, Mother and Role Model,” Spring 2017

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “Make Memories: They’ll Last Longer,” April 2017

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “Native Voices Deserve A Place To Be Heard,” March 2017

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “Unplug and Unwind,” February 2017

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “Staff Editorial: Let Freedom Ring,” January 2017

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “Embrace Platonic Love” (January 2017)

*Currents Magazine,* “Alive In Motion,” Spring 2016

*Currents Magazine,* “Church Hopping Con: Invest In One Community,” Spring 2016

​*Currents Magazine,* “From ‘Jaws’ To ‘Juno’: It’s Indie Films Versus The World,” Spring 2016

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “Staff Editorial: Continue the Discussion of Race,” April 2016

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “LGBTQ+ Conversation Continues with DIF,” November 2016

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “Students Speak Out on Election Results,” (November 2016)

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “Professors and President Benton Respond to President-elect Trump’s Win,” November 2016

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “Let People Hurt,” November 2016

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “Where They Lead, I Will Follow,” November 2016

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* "Nobody Knows it All,” October 2016

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “Assault: It’s Not Funny,” September 2016

*Currents Magazine,* “Live the Graffiti Grandeur,” Spring 2015

*Currents Magazine,* “The Best Bookstores in LA,” Fall 2015

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “Price Jumps, New Policies Raise Concerns,” October 2015

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “Pepperdine Fails to Teach Adult Skills,” September 2015

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “I’m Not Scared of Living La Dolce Vita,” November 2014

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “Book Censorship Halts Social Progress,” October 2014

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “American Apparel Sells Sex,” September 2014

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “Nude Photo Leak is a Violation of Privacy Rights,” September 2014

*The Pepperdine Graphic,* “Staff Editorial: Housing procedures fail to house students,” March 2014

# Professional Service and Work

**IGNITE Mentor at Claremont Graduate University** August 2021-present

Pair with an incoming CGU student to provide them assistance and guidance throughout their first year. Encourage a thriving graduate experience by meeting monthly by phone/Zoom and text consistently. Provide feedback on essays, course selections, activities, and an assortment of other endeavors.

**Member of the Board of Advisors for CatStone Books** March 2021-present

Assist with implementing CatStone Books' mission. Assess applicants for the Samuel R. Delaney Fellowship, a $10,000 scholarship award to a sci-fi author from a marginalized background. Weekly mentorship with Delaney Fellow on behalf of the board.

**Foothill Poetry Journal Managing Editor** Jan. 2021-present

assess submissions for annual poetry journal from graduate students around the world

**Transdisciplinary Social Media/Communications Assistant** Oct. 2020-July 2021

Assist in developing, implementing, and managing the TNDY social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn) and communications strategy; assist with WordPress site and MyCGU.edu portal

**Kate and Kingsley Tufts Poetry Awards Blogger** Sept. 2020-June 2021

write 6-7 blogs per semester on topics such as my personal writing pedagogy, poetry collections, and current events

**Loudfire Organizer** Aug. 2019–May 2020

2nd and 3rd Year reading series, George Mason Creative Writing Program

**People of Color Mentorship Program** Jan–July 2019

Worked with New York Times Bestselling children’s author, Jennifer Cervantes, on my current manuscript

**Social Media Assistant/Manager** Jan. 2017–August 2019

* Supervise daily posts for George Mason Creative Writing which include:
  + job postings, seminars, quotes, scholarships, fellowships, and retweets
* Engage with the community at George Mason University through Twitter and Facebook
* Launched our Instagram account and created multiple hashtag campaigns
* Facilitate mentorship with Old Town Books in Alexandria, VA

**Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) Assistant** Oct. 2017– April 2019

* Assisted with National Day on Writing, managing George Mason University social media for the week of October 20
* Social media manager for Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram
* Manage a project termed “Writers of Mason,” which consists of photos and profiles edited and posted to WordPress
* Conduct interviews, edit photos, and organize Google Drive profiles

**Kindling Co-Organizer** Aug. 2018– May 2019

1st Year reading series, George Mason Creative Writing Program

**Fall for the Book Literary Festival** Oct. 2018

* Managed George Mason Creative Writing platforms for weekly festival
* Facilitated Facebook Lives, Instagram Live, photos, tweets and other coverage
* Coordinated coverage of writers for the festival including Mason Cheuse Fellows, Tayari Jones, Rep. John Lewis, Marie-Helene Bertino, and more

**George Mason Writing Center Tutor**  Aug. 2017– May 2018

* Edited and assisted undergraduate and graduate writers with essays, memos, briefs, personal statements, etc.
* Utilized special tactics to relate and help ESL students
* Tutor face-to-face, through video, and in online chats

**Sigma Tau Delta**  Jan. 2017-present

Eta Psi Chapter, Pepperdine University, Seaver College

**Pepperdine Graphic Media (PGM)** 2014-2017

* Associate Editor (Fall 2016/Spring 2017)
  + Managed staff of 100+
  + Dealt directly with university administration
  + Wrote in-depth news pieces
  + Edited all daily and special publications
* Copy Chief (2014–2016)
  + Managed staff of copy editors
  + Worked with writers for revision
  + Wrote op-eds
  + Edited all daily and special publications
* Currents Magazine Assistant (2013–2016)
  + Assisted editors with all duties
  + Wrote articles and poems
  + Designed photo shoots and styled models
  + Ran social media (Twitter and Instagram)

**Persephone’s Daughters Literary Magazine** Jan. 2016– Dec. 2017

* Poetry Editor to choose publications by female identifying abuse/degradation victims for Issue 4

**General Education Learning Innovators (GELI) Team** Jan. 2014– May 2016

* Assisted with assessing writing competency for International Programs
* Looked at GE learning outcomes, rubrics, and transdisciplinary processes
* Hand-picked by Dr. Constance Fulmer, Associate Dean of Teaching and Education

**WomenSpeak** June 2014-Dec. 2017

* Team leader and mentor of the Los Angeles based Clinton Initiative nonprofit
* Established open dialogue to cultivate body positivity, media literacy, healthy relationships, and women’s leadership

# Honors and Awards

**Pushcart Prize Nomination** and **PEN/Robert J. Dau Short Story Prize for Emerging Writers Nomination** for short story “Vanilla and Dust” published through Chaparral Press’ *Granada Magazine* (2020)

**First Place** for poem “My Mother as a Frost Cloth,” Mark Craver Poetry Award, Judged by Molly Brown (2020)

**First place** for short story “El Grito de la Onda,” Dan Rudy Fiction Award, Judged by Melissa Scholes Young (2020)

**Honorable Mention** for poem “Ruins Outside of Port Hueneme,” Mary Roberts Rinehart Poetry Award, Judged by Alan Michael Parker (2020)

**Mason Core Award** 2019

*George Mason University*

Spring 2019 courses recognized by students for being an outstanding Mason Core Literature course

**Mason Core Award** 2018

*George Mason University*

Fall 2018 courses recognized by students for being an outstanding Mason Core English Composition course

**Top English Literature Graduate** 2017

*Pepperdine University*

Selected by English Faculty as the highest achieving Literature Graduate and honored at a departmental ceremony

**Tutor of the Year Nomination** 2017–2018

*Pepperdine University*

Nominated by peers as an exceptional tutor to ESL, graduate, and undergraduate students

**John Scott Douglas Scholarship** 2015–2017

*Pepperdine University*

Received Creative Writing Scholarship based off of fiction and poetry

**Humanities and Teacher Education Divisional Scholarship** 2015–2017

*Pepperdine University*

**Assorted Pepperdine Graphic Media Awards** 2014-2017

*Pepperdine University*

# Conferences or Panels (moderated or participated)

**Virtual Indie Book Fest** Remote, 2021

* “Forever Young: Indie Young Adult Authors”

**School of Arts and Humanities: Tufts Poetry** Remote, 2021

* Tufts Poetry Awards Blogger-In-Residence Panel

**Fall for the Book (George Mason University)** Remote, 2020

* “It's About to Get Real: High School, Heartache, and Searching for Home”

**Latinx Heritage Month Book Fest** Remote, 2020

* “I’m On My Way (SFF Writers)”

**Associated Collegiate Press Conference** Washington D.C, 2016

* “Closing the Digital Divide in the Newsroom”

# Languages

**English**: Native Language, Professional Reading and Writing

**Spanish**: Intermediate Reading and Writing, Intermediate Listener, Novice Speaker

**Italian**: Novice Reading and Writing, Novice Listener, Novice Speaker

# Computer Skills

**Social Media**

* Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat, TikTok, YouTube, Pinterest, LinkedIn

**Platforms**

* Weebly, Wix, Tumblr, WordPress, GSuite, Microsoft Suite

**Analytics**

* Hootsuite, MailChimp, Spredfast, Khoros, Sprinklr, organic built-in metrics

# References

**Prof. Lisa Lister**

Associate Director of Composition

English Department

George Mason University

[llister1@gmu.edu](mailto:llister1@gmu.edu)

**Dr. Monica Osborne**

Former Visiting Assistant Professor at Pepperdine University

Humanities and Teacher Education Division

Pepperdine University

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**Prof. Scott W. Berg**

Assistant Nonfiction Professor and Editorial Advisor for Stillhouse Press

English Department

George Mason University

[sberg1@gmu.edu](mailto:sberg1@gmu.edu)

**Dr. Lori Anne Ferrell**

Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities and Director of the Kingsley and Kate Tufts Poetry Awards

Claremont Graduate University

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**Prof. Susan Richards Shreve**

Founder of Mason MFA and PEN/Faulkner Foundation

English Department

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