

Cara Marta Messina

<https://caramartamessina.com>

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

Writing studies, rhetoric, fan studies, rhetorical genre studies, computers and writing, digital pedagogy, digital humanities, writing analytics, and writing center praxis.

EDUCATION

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|-------------------|---|
| Expected May 2021 | Ph.D., English (Writing and Rhetoric), Northeastern University
GPA: 4.0
Dissertation:
“The Critical Fan Toolkit: Fanfiction Genres, Ideologies, and Pedagogies”
Mya Poe, Director; Ellen Cushman, Reader; Neal Lerner, Reader; Laura Nelson, Reader |
| May 2015 | M.A., English, St. John’s University, Queens, NY
Thesis:
“‘Are You Comfortable With That?’: Problematic Writing Center Expectations and Biases”
Anne Geller, Advisor; Harry Denny, Reader |
| May 2014 | B.A., English, St. John’s University, Queens, NY
<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Creative Writing Minor |

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Review

Messina, C. M.. “Tracing Fan: Exploring Relationship Tagging Practices in *The Legend of Korra* Fanfictions.” *The Journal of Writing Analytics*. Accepted and forthcoming.

Levesque, Abbie, Alison Y.L. Stephens, Quisqueya Witbeck, **Cara Marta Messina**, Siddharth Pannir, and Belinda Walzer. “Aligning Expectations: A Quantitative Study Investigating Tutor Responses to Requests for Grammar Help.” *The Writing Center Journal*. Out for review.

Book Chapters

Messina, C. M., and Neal Lerner “Mixed Methods Research in Writing Centers”. *Theories and Methods of Writing Center Studies*. Accepted and forthcoming.

Messina, C. M., Sarah Connell, Julia Flanders, Caroline Klibanoff, and Sarah Payne. “Social Knowledge Creation in the Digital Humanities: Case Studies.” *Social Knowledge Creation*, Vol 2. Accepted and forthcoming.

Other Publications

Messina, C. M. “‘These Violent Delights’: A Review of Timothy J. Welsh’s *Mixed Realism: Videogames and the Violence of Fiction*”. *Digital Humanities Quarterly*. Accepted and forthcoming.

Denny, Harry, **Cara Messina**, and Michael Reich. "Embracing the Challenges of Conventional Practices, Program Inquiry, and New Media in Writing Center Theory and Research." *Composition Studies*. Vol 43.2, 2015.

TEACHING

Teaching Experience

Advanced Writing in the Disciplines Instructor, Writing Program, Northeastern University, 2018

First Year Writing Instructor, Writing Program, Northeastern University, 2017–2018.

First Year Writing Adjunct Instructor, First Year Writing Program, St. John's University, 2015–2016.

Guest Lectures

2018–2019

Writing Studies Research: Working with Data and Web-based Text Analysis
Writing Studies Research, Neal Lerner, Northeastern University

Introduction to Wordpress and Feminist Collaborative Building
Feminist Resistance, Suzanna Walters, Northeastern University

Data Organization and Excel
First Year Writing, Rachel Lewis, Northeastern University

Zotero for Research: Insights into Managing Sources
PHIL 5000, Global Justice, Serena Parekh

Professionalizing with Wordpress and Excel
Coop Course, Lisa Doherty, Northeastern University

Our Data is the Product: The Role of Social Media in Advertising, Ethics, and Politics
Computers and Society & Law and Society in the Digital World, Thomas Koenig, Northeastern University

Inclusive Information Systems: Designing for Diversity
First Year Writing, Sarah Payne, Northeastern University

Computational Text Analysis: Tools, Tricks, and Methods for Large Corpus Analysis
Political Science Research Methods & International Political Economy, Kristen Rodine-Hardy, Northeastern University

Women Writers Vector Toolkit Introduction
Introduction to Digital Humanities, Julia Flanders, Northeastern University

Introduction to Computational Social Science
Sociology Research Methods, Steven Vallas, Northeastern University

Guest Lecture on *Bladerunner*
Advanced Writing in the Disciplines Business Writing, Kyle Oddis, Northeastern University

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Digital Teaching Integration, Assistant Director, Northeastern University, 2019–Present

Writing Program Committee Reflection Study, Research Assistant, Northeastern University, 2019–Present

NULab for Texts, Maps and Networks; Coordinator; Northeastern University, 2018–2019

Women Writers Vector Toolkit, Pedagogy and Infrastructure Team, Northeastern University, 2018–2019

Design for Diversity, Research Associate, Northeastern University, 2017–2018

Writing Center, Director of Research, Northeastern University, 2016–2017

Writing Center, Consultant, Columbia University School of Social Work, 2016

Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies Academic Support, Writing Coach, SUNY Empire State College, 2015–2016

Writing Center, Tutor and Facilitator, Queensborough Community College, 2014–2015

English Department, Graduate Assistant, St. John's University, 2014–2015

Writing Across the Curriculum Writing Fellows Program, Writing Fellow, St. John's University, 2013–2014

Writing Center, Writing Consultant, St. John's University, 2011–2015

HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND GRANTS

Kairos Graduate Teaching Award. *Kairos Journal*, 2019.

Student Organization Leader of the Year Nominee. *Northeastern University Student Life Awards*, 2019

Graduate Essay Contest Winner for Writing and Rhetoric. *Northeastern University English Department*, 2018

Graduate Essay Contest Winner for Writing and Rhetoric. *Northeastern University English Department*, 2017

Stipend Graduate Assistantship. *Northeastern University English Department*, 2016–2021

College of Social Sciences and Humanities Scholar Fellowship. *CSSH at Northeastern University*, 2016–2021

IWCA/NCPTW Registration and Grub Grant 2014. *International Writing Center Association and National Conference on Peer Tutoring Joint Conference*, Oct. 2014

Graduate Fellowship. *St. John's University English Department*, 2014–2015

Gold Key Nominee. *St. John's University English Department*, 2014

NEWCA Connors Memorial Scholarship Award. *Northeast Writing Center Association*, 2013

Summa Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Honors Society. *St. John's University*, 2013

Sigma Tau Delta English Honors Society. *St. John's University*, 2013

Silver Key Nominee. *St. John's University English Department*, 2013

St. John's College Dean's List. *St. John's College at St. John's University*, 2010–2014

St. John's University Honors Program. *St. John's University*. 2010-2014

TALKS, PRESENTATIONS, AND WORKSHOPS

Invited Talks

"Ways of Reading." Presented with Hillary Chute, Laura Green, and William Quinn. *Barrs Criticism Slam*, Northeastern University English Department, 2018.

"Reading as Writers: Marking up and Writing Fan Fiction in the Composition Classroom." Presented with Matthew Hitchcock and Gary Goshgarian. *Barrs Committee Literature Slam*, Northeastern University, 2016.

"Queering Fanfiction: The Intersection of Imagination and Identity." Gender and Sexuality Studies Club, Marymount Manhattan College, 2017.

Workshops

Introduction to Python Workshop Teaching Assistant, Criminology Department, Northeastern University, 2019.

"Digital Assignments Showcase." Sponsored by the NULab, Northeastern University, 2018.

"Women Writers Vector Toolkit." Presented with Molly Nebiolo. Women Writers Project and NULab, Northeastern University, 2018.

"Introduction to GitHub." Sponsored by the NULab, Northeastern University, 2018.

Conferences and Posters

"Reimagining Romance: *The Legend of Korra* Critical Fandom Practices." Poster. *Association for Computers and Humanities*. Pittsburgh, PA. July 2019.

"Designing Inclusive Information Systems: From Theory to Change." Chair of roundtable discussion. *Association for Computers and Humanities*. Pittsburgh, PA. July 2019.

"Tracing Fan Uptakes with Computational Text Analysis." *Computers and Writing*. Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. June 2019.

"Continuing the Conversation: Navigating Inclusivity and Vulnerability in Online Listservs and Digital Spaces." Presenting with Ashanka Kumari, Emily LaPadura, Katelyn Lusher, Mandy Olejnik, and Kyllikki Rytov. *Computers and Writing*. Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. June 2019.

"Fans as Stakeholders: Legitimizing Fan Uptakes and Genres." *International Conference on Writing Analytics*. University of South Florida, St. Petersburg, FL. January 2019.

"Incorporating XML in the First Year Writing Course: An Ongoing Case Study." *UConn Conference on the Teaching of Writing*. University of Connecticut. Storrs, CT. April 2018.

“Theory on the Ground: Building Writing Center Research Groups.” Presented with Abbie Levesque and Kyle Oddis. *Northeastern Writing Center Association*. College of Holy Cross. Worcester, MA. March 2018.

“Positions and Power: How the Writing Center is Viewed in the Institution.” Poster created with Abbie Levesque, Siddharth Pannir, and Quisqueya Witbeck. *Northeastern Writing Center Association*. College of Holy Cross. Worcester, MA. March 2018.

“The Potentials and Limitations of Identity Expression in Digital Communities: Exploring Performance and Representation in Facebook, Fanfiction, and Avatars.” Co-presented with Avey Nelson and Matthew Hitchcock; facilitated by Ellen Cushman. *Conference on Community Writing*. Boulder, CO. October 2017.

“Information and System Design for Diversity: Can We Do Better?” Poster co-created with Amanda Rust and Julia Flanders. *Digital Humanities*. Montreal, Canada. August 2017.

“Process Over Product: Challenging Institutional Pressures and Discrimination Through Ongoing Consultant Training.” Lead Presenter, presented with Abbie Levesque, Zachary Shaw, and Matthew Hitchcock. *Northeastern Writing Center Association*. Pace University. Pleasantville, NY. April 2017

“Fan Fiction Ecologies and the Writing Classroom.” *English Graduate Student Association Conference*. Northeastern University. Boston, MA. February 2017.

“Initial Impressions: How Heuristics Shape Writing Center Consultations.” Co-presented with Alison Perry, Mairead Carr, and Jack Wells. *Northeast Writing Center Association*. Centenary College. Hackettstown, NJ. April 2015.

“Creating a Freshman Writing Journal: A Collaboration Between a First-Year Writing Program and a Writing Center.” Co-presented with Derek Owens, Tom Philipose, Alison Perry, Anna Sicari, Tara Roeder, and Bailey Robertson. *International Writing Center Association and National Conference on Peer Tutoring Joint Conference*. Orlando, FL. October 2014.

“Consulting with Gendered Bodies: An Inquiry into Gender Performance in Sessions and Interactions at the Writing Center.” Co-presented with Donya Nassar, Bailey Robertson, Alison Perry, and Anne Geller. *Northeast Writing Center Association*. Bryant University. Smithfield, RI. March 2014.

“The Writing Fellows Program: Modeling Partners for Change.” Lead Presenter, presented with Eleadah Clack, Alyssa-Rae Hug, Carolyn Wargula, and Anne Geller. *Northeast Writing Center Association*. University of New Hampshire. Durham, NH. April 2013.

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

English Graduate Student Association Graduate Conference, “Centering the Margins,” Lead Organizer, Northeastern University, 2019.

NULab Spring Conference, “Digital Storytelling,” Co-Organizer, Northeastern University, 2018.

Climate Change/Crisis/Creativity Conference, Co-Organizer, Northeastern University, 2018.

Design for Diversity Closing Forum, Co-Organizer, Northeastern University, 2018.

Design for Diversity Opening Forum, Co-Organizer, Northeastern University, 2017.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES

English Graduate Student Welfare Working Group, Founder, Northeastern University, 2019.

Writing Program Administration Listserv (WPA-L) Reimaging Working Group, Member, 2019.

Feminist Coding Collective, Organizer, Northeastern University, 2018–Present.

English Graduate Student Association, President, Northeastern University, 2018–2019.

[*Digital Humanities Quarterly*](#), Peer Reviewer, 2018–2019.

Feminist Coding Collective/Digital Feminist Commons, Member, Northeastern University, 2016–2018.

COMPUTATIONAL PROFICIENCIES

Python: Pandas, NLTK, Plotly, Seaborn, Matplotlib

HTML, CSS, XML, RelaxNG, TEI

WordPress, GitHub, Google Suite

EXTRACURRICULAR WORK

Girls Who Code, Facilitator, Watertown Free Public Library, 2019.

“Shared Realities: A Workshop on Disability, Technology, and Inclusion,” Notetaker, Microsoft Research New England, 2016.

One Day One Goal, Writing Center Tutor, Northeastern University Writing Center, 2016.

First Year Writing Journal, Co-Editor and Website Creator, St. John’s University, 2013–2014.

Sequoia Literary and Arts Magazine, Editor-in-Chief, St. John’s University, 2013–2014.

Sigma Tau Delta English Honors Society, Secretary, St. John’s University, 2013–2014.

Creative Writing Group, Co-Creator, St. John’s University, 2011–2012.