Cara Marta Messina

Northeastern University
English Department   https://caramartamessina.com
Boston, Massachusetts

EDUCATION

Northeastern University, 2016–2021
Ph.D. in English, Writing and Rhetoric.

>   Dissertation: "The Critical Fan Toolkit: Fanfiction Genres, Ideologies, and Pedagogies"
>   Dissertation Website: www.criticalfantoolkit.org
>   Committee: Mya Poe (Chair), Ellen Cushman, Neal Lerner, Laura Nelson
>   Graduate Certificate: Digital Humanities

St. John's University, 2010–2015
M.A. in English, 2015
B.A. with honors *summa cum* laude in English, Minor in Creative Writing, 2014

>   Honors: Sigma Tau Delta English Honors Society
>   Summa Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Society

RESEARCH & TEACHING EMPHASIS

Digital rhetoric; feminist digital humanities; fan studies; data, algorithm, & coding rhetorics; computational text analysis; writing and data analytics; digital critical pedagogy; digital storytelling.

DIGITAL SKILLS & PROFICIENCES

Programming

>   Python (Pandas, NLTK, Plotly, NumPy, Gensim, NetworkX, Matplotlib, Flask); HTML; CSS; XML (RelaxNG, TEI, XSLT); Git.

Digital Software

>   GitHub, WordPress, Wix, Google Suite, Tableau, Microsoft Suite, Audacity (podcast editing software), Zotero, NVivo, Canva (open-source design software), Openshot, Twine.

Research Methods

>   Qualitative coding; interviews; computational text analysis; network analysis; data analytics; writing analytics.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Articles

"Black Lives Matter Digital Activism: Critical Digital Pedagogy in a Writing for Social Media Course." *Spark: A 4C4Equality Journal.* In production.

"rm monika.chr: Coding Rhetorics and Ephemeral Code in *Doki Doki Literature Club*." *Computers and Composition Online*, "Making Games Matter" Special Issue. Webtext Proposal Accepted.

"Tracing Fan Uptakes: Tagging, Language, and Ideological Practices in The Legend of Korra Fanfictions." *The Journal of Writing Analytics*, vol 3, 2019.

Cara Marta Messina, Sarah Connell, Julia Flanders, Caroline Klibanoff, and Sarah Payne. "Social Knowledge Creation in the Digital Humanities: Case Studies." *Social Knowledge Creation,* Vol 2. In press.

Special Issue Editor

Alanna Prince, **Cara Marta Messina,** and Izetta Autumn Mobley. "Black Studies In/For the Rising DH Generation." Co-editor with Alanna Prince and Izetta Autumn Mobley. *Digital Humanities Quarterly.* In progress.

Book Reviews

"These Violent Delights: A Review of Timothy J. Welsh's *Mixed Realism: Videogames and the Violence of Fiction.*" *Digital Humanities Quarterly*, vol 13.4, 2019.

Harry Denny, **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.

Other Publications

"Op-ed: Who is responsible for a COVID-19 outbreak at Northeastern?" *Huntington News*, August 30, 2020.

Mandy Olejnik and **Cara Marta Messina**. "On the Front Lines: Graduate Student Roles in Shaping Discourse in Digital Spaces." *Xchanges*. issue 15.1, 2020.

Members of the WPA-L Reimagining Working Group and nextGEN. "Where We Are: Dialogue and Disciplinary Space." *Composition Studies*, vol 47.2, 2019, 203–210.

Cara Marta Messina and Neal Lerner. "Mixed Methods Research in Writing Centers". *Theories and Methods of Writing Center Studies*, 2019, 208–218.

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Outstanding Graduate Student Award in Humanics. *Northeastern University*	2021
College of Social Sciences and Humanities Teaching Award. *Northeastern University*	2021
Kairos Teaching Award. *Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy*	2019
College of Social Sciences and Humanities Teaching Award Finalist. *Northeastern University*	2019

Student Organization Leader of the Year Finalist. *Northeastern University Student Life Award* — 2019

Graduate Essay Contest Winner for Writing and Rhetoric. *Northeastern University English Department* — 2018 & 2019

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

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

Graduate Fellowship. *St. John's University English Department* — 2014-2015

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

GRANTS

CCCCs Research Grant. "Super-Diversity in Context: A Corpus-Based Study of Multilingual Writing Outcomes with Attention to Disparate Impact." *Conference on College Composition and Communication.* — 2019-2020

NULab Seedling Grant. "The Critical Fan Toolkit.*" NULab for Texts, Maps, and Networks*, Northeastern University. — 2020

Travel Grant. *NULab for Texts, Maps, and Networks*, Northeastern University. — 2019

Registration and Grub Grant. *International Writing Center Association and National Conference on Peer Tutoring Joint Conference.* — 2014

UNIVERSITY TEACHING

Northeastern University, English Department:
    ENGL 2850: Writing in/for Social Media (online course) — Summer 2020
    ENGW 1111: First Year Writing — 2017-2018
    ENGW 3315: Advanced Writing in the Discipline — Summer 2018

St. John's University, First Year Writing Program
    ENG 1000: First Year Writing — 2015-2016

DIGITAL PROFICIENCY CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

The Digital Integration Teaching Initiative (DITI) is a new initiative from Northeastern University's College of Social Sciences and Humanities. DITI collaborates with faculty across the disciplines and developed curriculum to better integrate digital proficiencies. Digital proficiency modules which I co-created & co-led:

Digital Proficiency	Description of Proficiency
Data and Digital Ethics	Introduces concepts of big data, surveillance, algorithmic bias, and algorithmic justice through hands-on activities

Website Creation	Shares best practices and steps for building a website with content management systems such as WordPress.
Citation Management	Demonstrates the affordances and constraints of citation management tools and how these tools can be useful for research.
Data Collection, Analysis and Organization	Provides best practices for data analysis and organization with introductory tools such as Google Sheets and Excel as well as more advanced tools such as Python.
Text Analysis (Computational Text Analysis)	Demonstrates how to build a corpus (collection of texts) and analyze that corpus with introductory web-browser computational text analysis tools as well as more advanced tools such as Python.
Text Analysis (Qualitative Coding)	Introduce qualitative coding as a research method for both empirical data, primary, and secondary sources; usually teaches NVivo, a software for text analysis and research projects.
Podcast Creation	Provides guide to creating a podcast: genre awareness, rhetorical choices, script creation, best practices for recording, and how to use Audacity.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Assistant Director. Writing Program, Northeastern University — 2020-Present

Assistant Director. Digital Integration Teaching Initiative, Northeastern University. — 2019-2020

Research Associate. Writing Program Committee Reflection Study, Northeastern University. — 2019-Present

Coordinator. NULab for Texts, Maps, and Networks, Northeastern University. — 2018-2019

Pedagogy and Infrastructure Team Member. Women Writers' Vector Toolkit, Northeastern University. — 2018-2019

Research Associate. Design for Diversity, Northeastern University — 2017-2018

Director of Research. Writing Center, Northeastern University — 2016-2017

Research Assistant. The Meaningful Writing Project, Anne Ellen Geller, St. John's University — 2015

Writing Center Consultant. Columbia University School of Social Work Writing Center. — 2015–2016

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

Tutor and Workshop Facilitator. Queensborough Community College Writing Center. — 2014–2015

Writing Fellow. St. John's University Writing Across the Curriculum — 2013–2014

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

PRESENTATIONS, POSTERS, & WORKSHOPS

Invited Presentations

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

"Tracing Critical Fan Composing Practices." *Speed Data-ing*, Northeastern University NULab, 2020.

"Digital Humanities the Dissertation." Digital Humanities Open Office Hours, Northeastern University, 2020.

"Ways of Reading." Panel 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." Panel. *Barrs Criticism Slam*, Northeastern University, 2016.

Selected Conference Presentations

"Critical Fan Pedagogy: Teaching Critical Digital Literacies with Fanfiction Data" *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. Virtual. 2021.

"Fan Composing as Digital Activism: Representations of Gender, Sexuality, and Race in Fanfiction." *Computers and Writing*. East Carolina University, Greenville, NC. Cancelled due to COVID-19.

"(mis)Representation in Large Corpus Analysis." *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. Milwaukee, WI. 2020. Cancelled due to COVID-19.

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

"Fans as Stakeholders: Legitimizing Fan Uptakes and Genres." *International Conference on Writing Analytics*. University of South Florida, St. Petersburg, FL. 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. 2018.

"The Spaces of Possibilities: Fan Communities, Representation, and the Writing Classroom." *Conference on Community Writing*. Boulder, CO. 2017.

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

Selected Roundtable Presentations

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

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

"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. 2018.

"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. 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. 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. 2015.

"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. 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. 2013.

Workshops

"Introduction to GitHub." Workshop creator & leader. Northeastern University. 2018 & 2018.

"Introduction to Python." Teaching assistant. Northeastern University. 2019.

"Women Writers' Vector Toolkit Workshop." Co-creator & leader. Northeastern University, 2018.

Posters

"Critical Fan Toolkit: Building a Digital, Public Rhetoric and Composition Dissertation." *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. Milwaukee, WI. 2020. Cancelled due to COVID-19

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

"Positions and Power: How the Writing Center is Viewed in the Institution." *Northeastern Writing Center Association*. College of Holy Cross. Worcester, MA. March 2018.

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

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Academic Service

Secondary Instructor for Directed Study. First Instructor, Suzanna Walters. Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Northeastern University.	2021
Editor-in-Chief. *NU Writing*, Northeastern University	2020-Present
Founder and Chair. Graduate Student Welfare Advocacy Group, Northeastern University	2019-2020
Member. Writing Program Administration Listserv Reimaging Working Group	2019-2020
Organizer. Feminist Coding Collective, Northeastern University	2016-2020
President. English Graduate Student Association, Northeastern University	2018-2019
Reviewer. *Digital Humanities Quarterly*	2018-2019
Notetaker. "Shared Realities: A Workshop on Disability, Technology, and Inclusion." Microsoft Research New England.	2016
Co-Editor & Website Creator. *First Year Writing Journal*, St. John's University	2014
Editor-in-Chief. *Sequoya Literary and Arts Magazine*, St. John's University	2013-2014
Secretary. Sigma Tau Delta English Honors Society, St. John's University	2013-2014
Co-Creator. Creative Writing Group, St. John's University	2011-2013

Conference Organization

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

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

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

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

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