

Cara Marta Messina
Northeastern University
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RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

Writing studies, rhetoric, fandom studies, rhetorical genre studies, digital writing research, digital pedagogy, digital humanities, writing analytics, and writing center praxis.

EDUCATION

PhD in English: Writing and Rhetoric **Expected May 2021**

Northeastern University, Boston, MA.

Graduate Assistant

GPA: 4.0

Dissertation: "The Critical Fan Toolkit: Fanfiction Genres, Ideologies, and Pedagogies."

Chair: Mya Poe

Committee: Ellen Cushman, Neal Lerner, and Laura Nelson

MA in English

May 2015

St. John's University, Queens, NY.

GPA: 3.94

Thesis: "Are You Comfortable With That?": Problematic Writing Center Expectations and Biases

Advisor: Dr. Anne Geller

Reader: Dr. Harry Denny

BA in English, minor in creative writing, *summa cum laude*

May 2014

St. John's University, Queens, NY.

GPA: 3.96

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Introduction to Python Workshop Teaching Assistant

Spring 2019

Criminology Department, Northeastern University

Introduction to GitHub

Fall 2018

NULab, Northeastern University

Advanced Writing in the Disciplines Instructor

Summer 2018

The Writing Program, Northeastern University

First Year Writing Instructor

Fall 2017-Spr. 2018

The Writing Program, Northeastern University

First Year Writing Adjunct Professor

Fall 2015-Sum. 2016

First Year Writing Program, St. John's University

PUBLICATIONS

Messina, C. M.. "Tracing Fan Uptakes Using Computational Temporal Analysis: Exploring Relationship Tagging Practices in *The Legend of Korra* Fanfictions." *The Journal of Writing Analytics*. Out for review.

Messina, C. M., and Neal Lerner "Mixed Methods Research in Writing Centers". *Theories and Methods of Writing Center Studies*. Forthcoming 2019.

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

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. Forthcoming 2019.

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.

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.

GUEST LECTURES

Writing Studies Research: Working with Data and Web-based Text Analysis

Writing Studies Research, Neal Lerner, Northeastern University, Spring 2019

Introduction to Wordpress and Feminist Collaborative Building

Feminist Resistance, Suzanna Walters, Northeastern University, Spring 2019

Data Organization and Excel

First Year Writing, Rachel Lewis, Northeastern University, Spring 2019

Zotero for Research: Insights into Managing Sources

PHIL 5000, Global Justice, Serena Parekh, Spring 2019

Professionalizing with Wordpress and Excel

Coop Course, Lisa Doherty, Northeastern University, Fall 2018 and Spring 2019

Our Data is the Product: The Role of Social Media in Advertising, Ethics, and Politics

Computers and Society, Thomas Koenig, Northeastern University, Fall 2018 and Spring 2019

Law and Society in the Digital World, Thomas Koenig, Northeastern University, Fall 2018 and Spring 2019

Inclusive Information Systems: Designing for Diversity

First Year Writing, Sarah Payne, Northeastern University, Fall 2018

Computational Text Analysis: Tools, Tricks, and Methods for Large Corpus Analysis

Political Science Research Methods, Kristen Rodine-Hardy, Northeastern University, Fall 2018

International Political Economy, Kristen Rodine-Hardy, Northeastern University, Fall 2018

Women Writers Vector Toolkit Introduction

Introduction to Digital Humanities, Julia Flanders, Northeastern University, Fall 2018

Introduction to Computational Social Science

Sociology Research Methods, Steven Vallas, Northeastern University, Fall 2018

Guest Lecture on *Bladerunner*

Advanced Writing in the Disciplines, Kyle Oddis, Northeastern University, Summer 2018

WORK EXPERIENCE

Assistant Director

Digital Teaching Integration, Northeastern University, Boston, MA

Summer 2019-Present

Writing Program Committee Research Associate Summer 2019-Present
Writing Program, Northeastern University, Boston, MA

Coordinator Summer 2018-2019
NULab for Texts, Maps, and Networks, Northeastern University, Boston, MA

Research Assistant for Women Writers Vector Toolkit Summer 2018-Present
Digital Scholarship Group, Northeastern University Libraries, Boston, MA

Research Associate for Design for Diversity Sum. 2017-Present
Digital Scholarship Group, Northeastern University Libraries, Boston, MA

Director of Research Fall 2016-Sp. 2017
Northeastern University Writing Center, Boston, MA

Writing Consultant Sp. 2016-Sum. 2016
Columbia University School of Social Work Writing Center, New York, NY

Writing Coach Fall 2015-Sp. 2016
Harry Van Arsdale Jr. Center for Labor Studies Academic Support, SUNY Empire State College in Kew Gardens, NY

Writing Tutor and Facilitator Fall 2014-Fall 2015
Queensborough Community College Writing Center

Graduate Assistant Fall 2014-Sp. 2015
English Department, St. John's University

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

Writing Consultant Fall 2011-Sp. 2015
St. John's University Writing Center

HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND GRANTS

Kairos Gradaute 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

INVITED TALKS AND WORKSHOPS

"Women Writers Vector Toolkit." Sponsored by the Women Writers Project and the NULab at Northeastern University. Boston, MA. November 2018.

"Tracing Fan Practices *Using Archive of Our Own*." *Speed Data-ing*. NULab at Northeastern University. Boston, MA. October 2018.

"Digital Assignments Showcase." Sponsored by the NULab at Northeastern University. Boston, MA. October 2018.

"Digital Teaching Integration: The NULab for Texts, Maps, and Networks." Presented with Sarah Connell and Elizabeth Maddock Dillon. Political Science Faculty Retreat at Northeastern University. Boston, MA. October 2018.

"Ways of Reading." Presented with Hillary Chute, Laura Green, and William Quinn. Barrs Criticism Slam at Northeastern University English Department. Boston, MA. March 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. Boston, MA. November 2016.

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

CONFERENCES AND POSTERS

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

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

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

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

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE ACTIVITY

Working Group Member

2019

Writing Program Administration Listserv (WPA-L) Reimagining Working Group

Lead Organizer

2019

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

President

2018-2019

English Graduate Student Association. Northeastern University

Peer Reviewer

2018-2019

Digital Humanities Quarterly, open-access journal of digital humanities,
<http://www.digitalhumanities.org/dhq/>

Co-Organizer

2018

NULab Spring Conference, “Digital Storytelling”. NULab, Northeastern University

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

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

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

Organizer and Member 2016-Pres
Feminist Coding Collective/Digital Feminist Commons. Northeastern University.

DIGITAL PROFICIENCIES

- Proficient in TEI and RelaxNG for XML schema-building
- Intermediate in R, including packages such as Mallet, wordVectors, tidyverse, ggplot2, and dplyr
- Intermediate in Python—including libraries such as pandas, nltk, plotly, and genism—and HTML/CSS
- Novice in XSLT

EXTRACURRICULAR WORK

Note Taker 2016
"Shared Realities: A Workshop on Disability, Technology, and Inclusion." Microsoft Research New England.

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

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

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

Secretary 2013-2014
Sigma Tau Delta English Honors Society. St. John's University.

Co-Creator 2011-2012
Creative Writing Group. St. John's University.