

Lara Suzanne Narcisi, Ph.D.

Professor of English
Associate Director of Honors

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Education

Ph.D., New York University, Department of English	Jan 2005
M.A., New York University, Department of English	Dec 2000
B.A., Yale University, Distinction in the English Major, Cum Laude	May 1998

Publications

“A New Type of Human Being’: Gender, Sexuality, and Ethnicity as Perpetual Passing in Jeffrey Eugenides’s <i>Middlesex</i> .” <i>Passing While “Post-Racial”’: Performance and Identity Production in Neo-Passing Narratives</i> . Ed. Mollie Godfrey. U of Ill Press.	2018
“Education Reclamation from Sherman Alexie and his ‘Clan of Indigenous Brainiacs.’” <i>MELUS</i> , under consideration.	2018
“Just Say Yes’: Queer Theatrical Portrayals of AIDS and the Rejection of Safer Sex.” <i>Reading the Queer in Literature, Culture and Theory</i> . Forthcoming.	
“Just Say Yes’: Queer Theatrical Portrayals of AIDS and the Rejection of Safer Sex.” <i>The Apollonian: A Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies</i> , vol. 2, no. 3, pp. 84-102.	2015
“At Least This is an Actual Place’: The Places and Displacements of <i>Freedom</i> .” “Elsewheres,” spec. issue of <i>JMMLA</i> , vol. 48, no. 1, Spring 2015, pp. 67-95.	2015
“A Stronger Loving World??: Destruction, Compassion, and Megalomaniacs in Alan Moore’s <i>Watchmen</i> .” <i>Imagining the End: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Apocalypse</i> . Ed. Thomas E. Bishop and Jeremy R. Strong. Interdisciplinary Press, pp. 83-97.	2015
“Who’s Pro-creating Now?: Two Sides of Parenting in the Academe.” With Dr. Scott Dimovitz. <i>The Road to Tenure: Interviews, Rejections, and other Humorous Experiences</i> , ed. Erin Marie Furtak & Ian Renga. Rowman & Littlefield, pp. 121-9.	2014
“The Apocalypse Is Here, Again: Moral Ambiguities and Human Failings in <i>Watchmen</i> .” <i>A Critical Approach to the Apocalypse</i> . Ed. Alexandra Simon-López and Heidi Yeandle. Interdisciplinary Press.	2013
“Another ‘Atheist’s Bible’: Knowledge defeats Hocus Pocus.” <i>Critical Insights: Kurt Vonnegut</i> , ed. Robert J. Tally. Salem Press, pp. 163-84.	2013
“Sherman Alexie and Popular Culture: Magic in the Mix.” Book chapter in <i>American Indians and Popular Culture</i> , ed. Elizabeth Delaney Hoffman. Praeger, pp. 47-62.	2012
“Wittman’s Transitions: Multivocality and Play in <i>Tripmaster Monkey</i> .” <i>MELUS</i> , vol 30, no. 3, pp. 95-11.	2005
“One Spoke for All’: Unity, Individualism, and Faulkner’s Voices that Just Won’t be Ignored.” <i>Southern Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal of South</i> , vol 12, no 1, pp. 1-22.	2005
“Lone Monkey to Family Man: Evolving Inclusion in <i>Tripmaster Monkey</i> .” <i>Connotations</i> , vol 12 no 2-3, pp. 1-32.	2003
Followed by a response letter from Maxine Hong Kingston in <i>Connotations</i> 13.1-2.	2003

Conference Papers and Activities

“Neo-passing: Performing Identity in Post–Jim Crow States of Insecurity,” Invited Panelist. MLA, New York, NY.	Winter 2018
“The Apocalypse is Here, Again: Moral Ambiguities and Human Failings in <i>Watchmen</i> ,” Oxford University, Oxford.	Summer 2013
“Ambivalent Mothering and Matriarchies in Louise Erdrich's <i>Love Medicine</i> .” RMMLA, Boulder, CO.	Fall 2012
“Boom Time for English? How a Small Liberal Arts Department Doubled its Number of Majors in Three Years.” Panel discussion, RMMLA, Boulder CO. Fall 2012.	Fall 2012
“Teaching <i>Watchmen</i> : Translating the Graphic Novel into English (Lit),” Rocky Mountain Comics Convention, Denver CO.	Summer 2012
“ <i>Freedom</i> in (and from) a Remodeled Victorian: Franzen’s Neo-Suburbia,” Peripheral Visions: Suburbs Representation and Innovation, Kingston University, England	Summer 2011
“Reservation of My Mind?: The Problematic Potential of Sherman Alexie’s Protected Spaces,” Sites of Citizenship Conference, King’s College London.	Summer 2011
“Electrifying Grading,” Fall Faculty Conference on Technologies and Teaching, Regis University, Denver CO.	Fall 2010
“Sherman Laughs (and Cries) with You.” American Literature Association, MELUS panel: Ethnicity and Humor, San Francisco, CA.	Spring 2010
Participated in AAC&U Institute on General Education. Newport, RI.	Spring 2007
Attended <i>Orality and Literacy: Tradition</i> Conference, Regis University, Denver, CO.	Fall 2006
Participated in Western Conversations in Jesuit Higher Education: Ignatian Pedagogy— Bridging Faith and Culture in the Post-Modern Era. Loyola Marymount, LA.	Fall 2006
“Is Vanity Fair?: Teaching <i>Lolita</i> as “The Only Convincing Love Story of our Century.”” American Literature Association Conference, San Francisco, CA.	Spring 2004
Attended annual MLA convention. NY, CA, PA, D.C., PA, IL.	Fall 2002-2007
“Chinese American and All Else Besides: Affirmation in Kingston's <i>Tripmaster Monkey</i> .” Chinese American Association Conference, San Diego, CA.	Spring 1999
“From the Virginal to the Voracious: Wish Fulfillment and the Role of the Unconscious in <i>Dracula</i> .” N.Y.U. Victorian and Edwardian Studies Conference, New York, NY.	Spring 1999

Fellowships and Awards

Regis College Faculty Lecturer of the Year	2019
Regis College Outstanding Service Award	2015
FDC Travel/Convention Grant Award, Regis University	2006-2014
SPARC Project Funds Research Grant, Regis University	2006
Faculty Development Committee Research Grant, Regis University	2006
Golden Dozen Outstanding Teaching Award (all faculty, university-wide), New York U.	2003
Lind Dissertation Fellowship, New York University	2002
Henry M. MacCracken Fellowship, New York University (full tuition, with stipend, and teaching component)	1998-2003

Teaching Experience

Department of English, Regis University

- * Honors Thesis Seminar, Junior and Senior (Team Taught)
- * US Women Writers of Color
- * Ellison and Morrison
- * Idea of University (Honors Freshman Writing Seminar, Team Taught)
- * Race and Gender in American Culture (Integrative Core)
- * Literature of the Atomic Age
- * Literary Analysis (EN 300)
- * Love, Loss, and Madness: The American Short Story
- * Faulkner (Major Author Seminar)
- * Hemingway and Faulkner
- * Jewish-American Literature
- * Multicultural American Literature (plus Honors section)
- * Lies and Lying Liars (Freshman Writing Seminar)
- * Literary Theory (capstone course for English majors)
- * Literature Matters (EN 250)
- * American Literature Survey II: 1865-Present
- * Sophomore Seminar, Multicultural (3 sections total)
- * Freaks and Geeks: The Abnormal in Contemporary Fiction
- * Contemporary Fiction
- * Che Guevara: The Man and the Myth (team-taught with Spanish department)
- * Justice and the Common Good (Honors Junior Seminar, team-taught)

Department of English, New York University

F 2000-Sum 2005

Courses include: Post-WWII American Fiction * Literary Interpretation, (Criticism and Theory for majors, Writing Intensive) * Major American Writers (non-majors) * American Short Stories: 1820 to the present * American Literature II: 1865-present

Gallatin School of Individualized Study, New York University

S 2003

Multinational Short Stories, Independent Study

Administrative Positions

Associate Director of Honors

2016-now

- * Selected students each year for program and scholarships
- * Reduced incoming class size from 45 to 30, increasing selectivity
- * Team-taught RCC 200 and both Honors thesis seminars
 - * Read/attended/supported all Honors thesis projects and defenses
- * Oversaw Honors Advisory Council (with director)
- * Recruited faculty to teach Honors seminars
- * Promoted/attended SHAC events
- * Supported/accompanied students to nationwide Honors events
- * Helped conduct exit interviews for assessment

Chair of the English Department

2017-2018

- * Oversaw complete revision of English Major requirements
- * Coordinated Assessment Reports
- * Oversaw department events, including annual Halloween Party and Shakespeare's Birthday/Graduation Celebration; added Student-Led Department Meeting and Winter Welcome-back.
- * Ran two successful full-day departmental retreats in Boulder

- * Conducted monthly meetings
- * Acted as spokesperson for department interests, especially at the university level
- * Promoted, trained, and secured funding for students to present their research at the National Undergraduate Literature Conference (NULC) in Utah every April.

Writing Director, Regis College	2006-2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Staffed and coordinated TA's for 30+ sections per year * Organized orientation activities for all sections * Helped institute Convocation * Arranged/emceed panels for all first-years (Jesuit Liberal Arts, Troubleshooting, Eloquentia Perfecta) * Coordinated annual mentor groups * Began New Faculty Orientation, stipended (with Karen Adkins) * Raised faculty stipend from \$1200 to \$1500 * Oversaw transition to First Year Experience with linked courses * Advocated for Writing Across the Curriculum 	

Professional Activities

60 Second Lecturer (chosen by Honors students) (Talk/discussion for Honors Students – elected Event of the Year, 2009)	2015, 2009
“So You Want to Go to Grad School in English?” information sessions for students, designed and offered annually with Scott Dimovitz	2009-2016
RU Reading? (Reading/Discussion on Grace Paley for Women’s History Month)	2009
<i>Apogee</i> literary magazine Faculty Advisor	2008-2010
Board member of the Denver Psychoanalytic Institute/Humanities Faculty society <i>Discussion group linking psychoanalysis and other disciplines, centered on trauma</i>	2007-now
Honors Thesis Advisor and Reader (at least one per year)	2006-now
Women and Gender Studies Committee	2006-now
Advisement Team (summer and interim)	2006-now
<i>Braided Lives: A Collaboration Between Writers and Artists.</i> <i>Poet responding to artwork in a gallery exhibition and performance in Denver and Taos.</i>	May 2006
Ran anti-plagiarism workshops for faculty, using Turnitin software	Spring 2007
Faculty advisor (approximately 45 students/year)	2005-now
Evaluator for <i>MELUS</i> (Journal of Multi-Ethnic Literature of the U.S.)	2005-now
Led students in service learning trip to Urban Peak; prepared meals for homeless teens	2005
Regis Faculty Forum (including Core Program Review)	2005-2009
Member, Modern Language Association	2003-now
Member, American Literature Association	2004-now
Graduate Student Representative, English Dept. Graduate Program Committee, NYU	2001-2003
Summer School Instructor, Rocky Mountain Talent Search, Denver University. <i>Created original courses, Mythology and Shakespeare, for gifted adolescents.</i>	2001-2002
Expository Writing and Composition tutor, Huntington Learning Center.	1998-2001
Summer School Instructor, Graland Day School, Denver. <i>Designed original curricula for courses including Shakespeare, Playwriting, International Culture, Writing and Publishing, Psychology, Mythology.</i>	1995-1999
Student Representative, Yale English Student Advisory Committee.	1996-1998
Co-founder of “Phoenix,” Prince School, New Haven. <i>Created an intensive program to teach creative writing to inner-city schoolchildren.</i>	1995-1998

Committees

Senate Co-President with Jay Campisi, then Quyen Hart, Regis College	2013-2015
* Gave presentation on “Innovative Pedagogies in Regis College” with Jay Campisi and Tom Bowie for Board of Trustees committee on Academic Affairs; presented it by request to PAC and Admissions & Marketing.	
* Co-authored “The Thinking Heart,” Regis College’s Strategic Planning Statement for the humanities and liberal arts, with Steve Doty, Tom Bowie, and John Hickey (unanimously approved)	
* Member of Provost’s FLC (Faculty Leaders Council)	
* Led conversation and co-authored CBE’s new Core program.	
* Successfully led unanimous senate opposition to proposals to ban children from campus and to eliminate tuition exchange program	
* Successfully advocated for a clearer and more comprehensive university-wide maternity leave policy	
* Initiated process to revise class schedule, creating more flexible course times	
* Directed feedback process for changing Fall Faculty Conference format	
* Helped lead ongoing discussions on increasing faculty voice at the university level	
* Guided and submitted college feedback on funding priorities, Provost search, and university-wide shared governance	
Regis College Dean Search Committee	2014
Senate Vice President, Regis College	2012-2014
Physics Search Committee	2010
Biology Search Committee outside member (4 positions)	2009, 2011
CCCC	2008-2011
Subcommittee on Assessment	2008-9
Subcommittee on class times	2009
Diversity Awareness Committee	2007-2011
Honors Advisory Council	2007-11; 2014-now
* Helped determine scholarships/probations, draft application, plan events	
Core Review: discussion group led by Dr. Tom Bowie; Summer focus group; Newport, RI conference; Transition Team member	2006-2008
Psychology Search Committee; Economics Search Committee	Spring 2007
Spanish Search Committee (one interview)	Spring 2008
Religious Studies Search Committee (two searches)	2006, 2008
Regis Summer Advisory Committee	2006-now
Women and Gender Studies Committee, Regis University	2005-now
* Participate in reading groups; helped draft AUR; helped rename program; produced two student art shows; brought two speakers to campus (poet Veronica Golos and potter/writer Max Early) to discuss diversity in conjunction with Women’s History Month; regularly teach cross-listed WGS courses.	

Teaching Interests

American literature; contemporary literature; multicultural studies and emergent literature; women and gender studies; theory; expository writing.

Dissertation

“Spectacular Failures!: The Futile/Fruitful Pursuit of Multivocality in American Literature”

My dissertation examined the connection between multivocality and national identity in the works of William Faulkner, Maxine Hong Kingston, and Tony Kushner. I contended that these authors use multivocality to create an ideal of American pluralism and diversity within the novelistic space, even while problematizing that objective. All three use performance as a primary locus for representation, giving voice to a diverse cast of characters in plays and theatrical dialogue. This use of the dramatic form provides a metaphor for how race, gender, and sexuality can likewise prove performative; malleable but indispensable, these multiple categorizations can simultaneously proliferate and be safely contained within the unified whole of the text. Finally, I complicated this idealization of multivocality in art by interrogating the extent to which such attempts are intrinsically compromised by the univocal nature of authorial expression.

Languages

Proficient Spanish; Introductory French and Latin