

## Alexandra Smith

Department of English  
Writing Center  
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### Education

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**Ph.D. in Twentieth Century Multi-Ethnic American Literature**, University of Washington, 2019  
Dissertation: “Writing the Street: Discourses of Choice, Agency, and Mobility in Twentieth Century Street Lit”  
Committee: Louis Chude-Sokei, Sonnet Retman, Monika Kaup

**M.A. English**, University of Washington, 2015

Thesis: “Undoing Critical Genre Conventions: The Case for Street Lit as an Object of Study”  
Advisor: Juliet Shields and Louis Chude-Sokei

**Preliminary Single Subject English Credential with CLAD**, University of California Davis, June 2011

**BA in English, Minor in Education**, Highest Honors University of California Davis, June 2010

### Research Interests

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20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> Century Multi-Ethnic Literatures of the United States, Urban Studies, 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> Century African American Literature, Pedagogical Theory and Practice, Writing Center Studies, Public Scholarship

### Publications

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“(Re)envisioning the Writing Center: Pragmatic Steps for Dismantling White Language Supremacy”  
*Praxis: A Writing Center Journal*. Spring 2022. Forthcoming

“Reclaiming the Street in Toni Morrison’s *Jazz*” *MELUS: Journal of Multi-Ethnic Literatures of the United States*. 46.4, Winter 2022.

“Strategies for Active Reading” and “Strategies for Reading and Analyzing Literature Rhetorically”,  
*Writer/Thinker/Maker: Approaches to Writing and Research at the University of Washington*, ed.  
Stephanie Hankinson, AJ Burgin, Candice Rai, Bedford/St. Martin 2017.

### BOOK REVIEWS

Justin Gifford. *Street Poison: The Biography of Iceberg Slim, The Black Scholar*, 47.2 (2017)

## **Teaching Experience**

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UCOR 3400. [*online synchronous and asynchronous*]. Seattle University, Humanities and Global Challenges, “Global Contact Zone: Imagining the Street in 21st Century Urban Literatures”

UCOR 1400. [*web enhanced and online synchronous*]. Seattle University, Inquiry Seminar in the Humanities, “The Street and US Literature”

UCOR 1100. [*web enhanced and online synchronous*]. Seattle University, Academic Writing Seminar, “The City and Spatial Justice,”

English 242. [*web enhanced*]. University of Washington, Reading Prose Fiction, “Violence, Temptation, Rebellion: Explorations of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Street in Multi-Ethnic United States Literature”

English 281. [*web enhanced*]. University of Washington, Intermediate Expository Writing, “The Politics and Rhetorics of Urban Space”

English 109. [*web enhanced*]. University of Washington, Introductory Composition, “Identity, Voice, And Writing”

English 111. [*web enhanced*]. University of Washington, Expository Composition through Literature, “Banned and Contested Literature: Engaging the Taboo”

English 108. [*web enhanced*]. University of Washington, “Writing Ready: Preparing for College Writing,”

English 131. [*web enhanced*]. University of Washington, Composition: Exposition, “Rhetorics of Identity”

10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Grade English Teacher, Sacramento Charter High School, Sacramento, CA, 2011—2013

## **Honors, Fellowships, Grants and Awards**

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Antiracist Education: Curriculum Development Grant with Tara Roth and Hannah Tracy, awarded by the Office of the Provost, Seattle University, 2021

College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Teaching Award, Seattle University 2021

Shine Award: Co-Supervisor of the Year, Seattle University, 2021

Mildred Hainer Fellowship, University of Washington, 2018

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Collaboration Grant, with Stephanie Hankinson and Elizabeth Janssen, awarded by the Expository Writing Program, University of Washington, 2018

Joan Webber Award for Outstanding Teaching by a Graduate Student in the English Department and Writing Programs, University of Washington, 2017

Andrew Hilen Graduate Fellowship Award, University of Washington, 2017

### **University Service & Administrative Positions**

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Co-Chair, College of Arts and Sciences Non-Tenure-Track Committee, Seattle University, 2021-

Committee Member, Teaching Inclusively Committee, English Department, Seattle University  
2019-present

Assistant Director, Seattle University Writing Center, 2018-present

Assistant Editor, *Process: Journal of Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Scholarship*, 2019-2021

Committee Member, Northwest Undergraduate Conference on Literature, Seattle University, 2018-2019

Editor-in-Chief, *Process: Journal of Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Scholarship*, 2017—2018

Index and Bibliography Editor, *Writer/Thinker/Maker: Approaches to Composition, Rhetoric and Research at the University of Washington*, with Justina Rompogren and Candice Rai, Bedford/St. Martin 2017.

Editorial Board, *Writer/Thinker/Maker: Approaches to Composition, Rhetoric and Research at the University of Washington*, Bedford/St. Martin 2017

Race and Equity Committee Member, Department of English, University of Washington, 2016—2017.

Assistant Editor, *Process: Journal of Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Scholarship* 2016-2017

Assistant Director, UW in the High School Liaison, University of Washington, Expository Writing Program, 2015—2017

Expository Writing Program, UWHS Website Manager, Department of English  
University of Washington, 2016—2017

EWP Outcome Development Committee, for *Writer/Thinker/Maker: Approaches to Composition*, and University of Washington Expository Writing Program Courses, 2015.

Student Athlete Tutor, Student Athlete Academic Services Center, University of Washington 2013—2014

### **Guest Lectures and Conference Papers**

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“Trauma Informed Approaches to Exploring Safety and Wellness in the Writing Center: When Values Meet Everyday Practice”, Reckoning with Space and Safety in the COVID Turn, Canadian Writing Center Association., Virtual Conference. May 2022.

“The Politics of the Absurd in Chester Himes’s *Run Man Run*.” The Absurdity of Racism: An International Chester Himes Conference, American University Paris. June 2020 (postponed due to COVID).

“Sidewalks, Alleys, and Streets: Disrupting Urban Containment Practices in Chester Himes’s *Run Man Run*,” Architecture, Space, and Literature Panel, Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association (PAMLA), Chaminade University of Honolulu, Honolulu, HI. November 2017

“The City Street as Safe Harbor in *Howard Street*”, The Urban Harbor Panel, The Society for the Study of Multi-Ethnic Literatures of the United States (MELUS), Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, MA. April 2017

“Urban Literature: A Roundtable”, Graduate Student Organization Colloquium, University of Washington, Seattle, WA. April 2017

“New Languages” of Agency and Freedom in Chester Himes’s “To What Red Hell?”, Internment/Incarceration/Erasure Panel, Symposium of American Ethnic Studies: Towards Transdisciplinary Perspectives. University of Washington, Seattle, WA. May 2016

“Rupturing Static Representations of Blackness: Discourses of Choice in *The Coldest Winter Ever*.” Postmodern Analyses of Race in 20<sup>th</sup> century Literature Panel, Popular Culture Association /American Culture Association, Seattle, WA. March 2016

“Why Rhetorics of Race Matter: The Protest Paradigm and Engaging Racial Politics and Movements in the Composition Classroom.” Panel on Pedagogy and Race, Praxis Conference on Transformative Teaching, Seattle, WA. February 2016

Invited Lecturer, “The Academic Possibilities of Contemporary Black Street Literature”, English Department, University of Washington, Seattle, WA. July 2015