# The Ohio State University

Marion Campus

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## **SARA L. CROSBY**

# **POSITIONS HELD**

Associate Professor, Ohio State University at Marion. 2013-present.

Assistant Professor, Ohio State University at Marion. 2006-2013.

American Antiquarian Society Long-term NEH Fellow. September 2005-May 2006.

Auxiliary Faculty, Union College. Spring 2006.

# **EDUCATION**

Ph. D. in English, University of Notre Dame, August 2005.

Dissertation: “Poisonous Mixtures: Gender, Race, Empire, and Cultural Authority in

Antebellum Female Poisoner Literature”

Director: Sandra Gustafson

Readers: Glenn Hendler, Gail Bederman, and Javier Rodriguez.

MA in English, University of Notre Dame, May 2000.

BA, *summa cum laude*, University of Alabama, May 1997.

**WORKS IN PROGRESS**

With Anna Willow. “ ‘Indigenous-washing’ in Petro-fiction.” Requested for a special issue of

*Modern Fiction Studies*.

“The Haunted Hothouse Earth: Gothic in an Age of Environmental Crisis.” *History of the*

*Gothic*. 3 vols. Eds. Catherine Spooner, Dale Townshend, and Angela Wright.

Cambridge University Press. Requested and forthcoming.

“American Soil, Louisiana Dirt: The Metaphor Destroying America’s Wetland.” Under

review at *ISLE*.

*Losing Louisiana: Ecohorror and the Death of America’s Wetland*. Book—literary/ cultural criticism.

Writing.

*Grand Isle*. Book—creative nonfiction/ history/ folklore. Writing.

**PUBLICATIONS**

### **Books**

*Women in Medicine in Nineteenth-Century American Literature: From Poisoners to Doctors, Harriet Beecher Stowe to Theda Bara*. Palgrave Studies in Literature, Science and Medicine.

Palgrave-Macmillan, 2018.

*Poisonous Muse: The Female Poisoner and the Framing of Popular Authorship in Jacksonian America*.

University of Iowa Press, 2016.

### **Articles**

“A Tonic for the Anthropocene: Poe’s Use of Gardenesque Landscapes as Nature Cure.”

*Poe Studies*, 50 (2017): 69-86.

“Beyond Ecophilia: Edgar Allan Poe and the American Tradition of Ecohorror,”

*Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and the Environment*, 21.3 (Summer 2014): 513-25.

“Foreword.” In *Land Loss: Attachment, Place and Identity in Coastal Louisiana*. Edited by David

Burley. Jackson, Mississippi, USA: University Press of Mississippi, 2011.

“Hawthorne’s Ephemeral Genius: The *Septimius* Manuscripts as a Defense of Jacksonian

Print Culture,” *The Nathaniel Hawthorne Review*, 35.2 (March 2010): 108-32.

“Early American Crime Writing,” *The Cambridge Companion to American Crime Fiction*. Ed.

Catherine Nickerson. Cambridge UP, 2010.

“The Cruelest Season: Female Heroes Snapped into Sacrificial Heroines.” *Action*

*Chicks*. Ed. Sherrie Inness. New York: Palgrave-Macmillan, 2004. 153-78.

## **Books Edited**

Lidinsky, April, Sara Crosby, et al., eds. *Shaping Discourses: Readings for University*

*Writers. University Writing Program, University of Notre Dame*. Boston: Pearson

Custom Publishing, 2002. Textbook for Notre Dame’s composition

program.

### **Reviews and Notices**

“The ‘Neuro-washing’ of *Annihilation*.” Review plus roundtable response to Alex Garland’s

film *Annihilation*. *Gothic Nature*. Forthcoming.

Review of Holly M. Kent’s *Her Voice Will Be on the Side of Right: Gender and Power in Women’s*

*Antebellum Antislavery Fiction* (Kent State UP). *West Virginia History*, 13.1 (2019).

“Gaia Again.” Review of Michael Ruse’s *The Gaia Hypothesis: Science on a Pagan Planet*

(Chicago UP) and Toby Tyrrell’s *On Gaia: A Critical Investigation of the Relationship*

*between Life and Earth* (Princeton UP). *Ecozon@*, 7.1 (2016): 228-233.

Review of Susan Branson’s *Dangerous to Know: Women, Crime, and Notoriety in the Early Republic*.

Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008. *Early American Literature*,

44.3 (2009): 677-81.

Review of *Women in Print: Essays on the Print Culture of American Women from the Nineteenth and*

*Twentieth Centuries*. Edited by James P. Danky and Wayne A. Wiegand. Madison and

London: University of Wisconsin Press, 2006. *American Periodicals* 18.1 (2008): 132-

34.

Review of Kristin Boudreau’s *Sympathy in American Literature: American Sentiments from*

*Jefferson to the Jameses*. University Press of Florida, 2002. *Early American Literature* 41.2

(2006): 379-82.

(With Heidi Oberholtzer). “Innocents Abroad: A Graduate Student Perspective on

the 2003 SEA Conference.” *Early American Literature* 38.3 (2003): 541-43.

Book notice of Laura Henigman’s *Coming into Communion: Pastoral Dialogues in*

*Colonial New England*. State University of New York Press, 1999. *Religion and*

*Literature* 33.3 (Autumn 2001): 79-81.

#### PAPERS PRESENTED

“‘We’re gonna need a bigger goat,’ or Why are Louisiana Swamp Voodoo Slasher Films

Funny?” The Thirteenth Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of

Literature and Environment (ASLE). Davis, California. June 2019.

“Jimmy Stewart and the Swamp Mummy, Or How Cajuns Learned to Stop Worrying and

Love Big Oil.” Petrocultures 2018. Glasgow, Scotland. August 2018.

“H(it)ler Came from the Swamp: Bayou ‘Hicks,’ Ecohorror, and the Rise of Fascism in

America.” First ASLE Ecomedia Conference. A Clockwork Green: Ecomedia in the

Anthropocene. Nearly Carbon Neutral (Online). June 2018.

“The Female Poisoner and the Partisan Political Press in Jacksonian America.” Society for

Historians of the Early American Republic (SHEAR). New Haven, Connecticut.

July 2016.

“A Tonic for the Anthropocene: Poe’s Use of Arranged Landscapes as Nature Cure.”

American Literature Association (ALA). San Francisco, California. May 2016.

“*Beowulf* on the Bayou: The Uneasy Relationship between Extraction Industries and Swamp

Monsters in the Anthropocene.” The Eleventh Biennial Conference of the

Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE). Moscow,

Idaho. June 2015.

“Swamp Monsters and the Death of America’s Wetland.” Interdisciplinary Animal Studies

Association. Davis, California. November 2014.

“Trash and Truth: The Centrality of Marginal Publishers of ‘True Crime’ Pamphlets in

Antebellum Print Culture.” Modern Language Association. Chicago, Illinois. January

2014.

“Romancing the Autocrat?: *The Dolliver Romance* and Nathaniel Hawthorne’s Aesthetic

Negotiations with Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes.” Modern Language Association.

Chicago, Illinois. January 2014.

“Apocalypse in the Family: Human-Induced Climate Change and Child Abuse in

Contemporary American TV and Film.” Presented at the Twenty-Seventh Annual

Conference of the Society for the Study of Literature, Science, and the Arts. Notre

Dame, Indiana. October 2013.

“How Vampires Ate South Louisiana, or Narratives that Enable Coastal Erosion.” Presented

at the Fifth Annual Louisiana Studies Conference. Natchitoches, Louisiana.

September 2013.

“Outside the Wall: *Beasts of the Southern Wild* and the Representation of South Louisiana’s

Climate Refugees,” Presented to the Climate Change Workshop at the Tenth

Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment

(ASLE). Lawrence, Kansas. May 2013.

“Losing Louisiana: The Rhetorics Destroying America’s Wetland.” Presented at the Tenth

Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment

(ASLE). Lawrence, Kansas. May 2013.

“Poe on the Beach: The Sea-Island as Restorative Trans-Atlantic Location.” Presented at

Conversazioni in Italia: Emerson, Hawthorne, and Poe. Sponsored by the Ralph

Waldo Emerson Society, the Nathaniel Hawthorne Society, and the Poe Studies

Association. Florence, Italy. June 2012.

“Señoras All! Harriet Beecher Stowe and Mary Webb Redefine American Womanhood

through their Drama, The Christian Slave.” Presented at American Literature

Association 22nd Annual Conference. Boston, MA, USA. May 2011.

“Islands of Oil or Orange Blossoms?: Finding a Rhetoric that Can Save South Louisiana.”

Presented at The Hungry Ocean: Maritime Literature. Brown University. Providence,

RI, USA. April 2011.

“Death by Criticism, Life by Poison: How Poe Built his Reputation on Keats.” Presented at

American Literature Association. San Francisco, CA, USA. May 2010.

“The Limits of Patience: Child Murder and the Repression of Indian Anger in “A Faithful

Narrative of the Wicked Life and Remarkable Conversion of Patience Boston” The

Fourth Biennial Meeting of the Society of Early Americanists (SEA). Bermuda.

March, 2009.

“Hawthorne’s ‘Medicated Indian Novel’: The Septimius Manuscripts and Hawthorne’s

Conflicted Response to the *Atlantic Monthly*’s New American Canon.” The Nathaniel

Hawthorne Society Summer Meeting. Brunswick, Maine. June, 2008.

“The New ‘Serpent’ Woman and Stowe’s Revision of the Byronic Heroine in *Uncle Tom’s*

*Cabin* and *The Pearl of Orr’s Isle*.” The Third International Conference for the Study of

American Women Writers. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. November 2006.

“The Female Poisoner and Popular Print Media in New England, 1840-1860.” American

Antiquarian Society Seminar. November 2005.

“Charles Hansford, Plain Style Poet and ‘Tender Parent’ of Virginia.” Panel co-organizer

for “Making Manhood: Alternative Masculinities on the Borders of the Nation.”

The Fourth Biennial Meeting of the Society of Early Americanists (SEA). Alexandria,

Virginia. April 2005.

“Female Fiends and Feminist-Democratic Fantasies: The ‘True’ Female Poisoner

Pamphlet of the 1840’s and 50’s.” The University of Notre Dame’s Gender

Studies Symposium. Notre Dame, Indiana. March 2004.

“The Raised Penknife: How Charles Brockden Brown’s Heroines Interrogate the Founding

Myth of Republicanism.” The Third Biennial Meeting of the Society of Early

Americanists (SEA). Providence, Rhode Island. April 2003.

“Female Poisoners and the Republican Origins of Poe’s American Vampire.” Panel

organizer for “Vampires and American Politics,” Twenty-fourth Annual

Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association.

Albuquerque, New Mexico. February 2003.

“Let Them Burn! How the Sexual Contract of the Early American Republic Continues to

Criminalize and Victimize TV’s Current Female Sci-fi/Fantasy Heroes.” The

Twenty-third Annual Conference of the Southwest/Texas Popular Culture

Association/American Culture Association. Albuquerque, New Mexico. February

2002.

Response to David Waldstreicher on Benjamin Franklin and Locke. The Americas

Workshop. University of Notre Dame. October 2000.

“Surpassing the Master: Conrad’s Appropriation and Completion of Poe in *Heart of*

*Darkness*.” The International Edgar Allan Poe Conference. Richmond, Virginia.

October 1999.

**INVITED TALKS, WORKSHOPS, ETC.**

Interviewed for *Age of Jackson* podcast on *Poisonous Muse*. April 2018.

Interviewed by Siobhan Barco for hour and a half on H-Law Net Podcast on *Poisonous Muse*.

October 2016.

OSUM Earth Day Talk, Marion, Ohio. April 2015.

“Swamp Monsters: What Are They Trying to Tell Us?” For the Griffin Honors Society.

Marion, Ohio. October 2014.

“How Vampires Ate South Louisiana.” For the Griffin Honors Society. Marion, Ohio.

October 2013.

Accepted at and Attended the Wildbranch Writing Workshop. Sterling, Vermont. July

2013.

 “The Democratic Poisoner: The Democrats, the Partisan Press, and the Erasure of the

Poisonous Woman in Antebellum American Literature.” For Western Michigan

University’s Scholarly Speakers Series. Kalamazoo, Michigan. February 2013.

Invited to be a “talking head” on Kristy Guevera-Flanagan’s award-winning documentary,   
 *Wonder Women: The Untold Story of American Superheroines* (premiered at South by

Southwest March 2012 and then on PBS’s *Independent Lens*).

“The Vagina Dentata.” Introductory lecture for a residence hall presentation of the indie

film *Teeth*. 2009.

“Why Don’t Vampires Poop? And Other Images of Women in Popular Media.” Lecture for

Residential Advisors Training and Orientation. Columbus campus. 2009.

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

Ronald and Deborah Ratner Distinguished Teaching Award in Arts and Humanities in the

College of Arts and Sciences. $10,000 cash prize and $10,000 teaching grant. 2018.

OSU-Marion Teaching Excellence Award. 2016.

OSU Arts and Sciences Research Grant for work on book project, *Losing Louisiana: Ecohorror*

*and the Death of America’s Wetland*,$1,000. 2016.

OSU Arts and Sciences Research Grant for work on book project, *Losing Louisiana: Ecohorror*

*and the Death of America’s Wetland*,$2,000. 2015.

Nominated for OSUM-Marion Teaching Excellence Award. 2014, 2015.

President’s Salute To Undergraduate Academic Achievement. President Gee and the Honors

Program. The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH. 2010.

American Antiquarian Society-National Endowment for the Humanities Long-term

Fellowship. 2005.

Team-Teaching Fellowship. Competitive fellowship to design and teach majors English

course with dissertation director. 2004.

Gender Studies Graduate Research Grant, Honorable Mention. University of Notre

Dame. For proposal exploring the female poisoner pamphlet genre. “Female

Fiends and Feminist-Democratic Fantasies: The ‘True’ Female Poisoner Pamphlet

of the 1840’s and 50’s.” February 2004.

Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award. University-wide competition. 2003.

300-level Teaching Fellowship. Competitive fellowship to design and teach non-majors

English course. 2002.

Distinguished Passes in Restoration and Eighteenth-Century British and Critical Theory

Exams. 2000.

Travel and study grant. Keough Institute. University of Notre Dame Seminar in Dublin.

Summer 2000.

Presidential Fellowship. University-wide competitive fellowship for full tuition plus full-year

stipend. 1997-01.

Presidential Scholarship. Four-year scholarship covering full tuition, housing, and books at

the University of Alabama. 1991-95

National Merit Finalist scholarship. 1991-95.

Phi Beta Kappa. 1992-present.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE (at OSUM)**

Courses I have taught include:

First-Year English Composition. 5 classes.

Literature in the U. S. Experience (“American Environmental Writing”). 6 classes.

Colonial and U. S. Literature to 1865 (“Aliens in America”). 16 classes.

U.S. Literature: 1865 to Present (“America the Freakish”). 8 classes.

Introduction to Popular Culture (“Fandom Rules!”). 2 classes.

Environmental Citizenship (“Animal Minds”). 3 classes.

World Literature (“Blood and Oil,” upper-division). 2 classes.

U.S. Literature, 1830-1865 (“Six Degrees of Poe,” upper-division and honors). 8 classes. Women in Literature (“Bad Women,” upper-division). 7 classes.

Early American Literature (“American Crime Writing,” upper-division and honors).

3 classes.

Capstone Course: Regional Cultures in Transition (“Strange Louisiana,” upper-division).

4 classes.

U. S. Ethnic Literatures (“Radical Women,” upper-division). 2 classes.

The Arts and Sciences Honors Seminar (“Understanding Ecocide”). Team-taught. 1 class.

Studies in Literature and the Arts (“Literary London”). Team-taught. 1 class.

Independent Study. 2011, 2014, 2017. 3 Students for 7 credit hours.

Undergraduate Thesis Direction. 2009-present. 7 Students for 36 credit hours.

Dissertation Direction. 2014-2016. 1 Student for 18 credit hours.

**RECENT NOTABLE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS**

Coral Miley, thesis student, Undergraduate Excellence Award, 2017.

Christyne Horton, thesis student, Babich Award for paper on Medea from “Bad Women”

class, 2017.

---.  The Genevieve M. Critel Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Composition,

Honorable Mention for “The Last Action Hero and the Rise of Hollywood's Action

Heroines: Feminine Empowerment and Fetishization,” 2017.

---. Semi-finalist for President Drakes's “President’s Prize” for $100,000 community service

project that tackled digital and computer literacy with a fitness tracking device she

designed in collaboration with OSU extension, 2017.

---. Presented “Native and Nature in American Whaling Narratives” at Marion’s Research

Roundtables, 2017.

Beth Avila, dissertation student, finished and achieved PhD, 2016.

Danielle Wolff, Babich Award for paper on Madame Lalaurie from “Early American Crime

Writing” class, 2016.

Laurene Via Smith, thesis student, Honorable Mention at the Denman Forum, 2015.

#### SELECT PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND SERVICE

**Profession**

**Journal Editor**

TV and Film Review Editor for *Gothic Nature*. 2018-present.

**Conference Organizer**

Organizer and Executive Committee Member for First Off-Year ASLE Ecomedia

Conference, A Clockwork Green: Ecomedia in the Anthropocene. 2016-2018.

**Reader for Academic Associations, Journals, and Presses**

Cornell University Press. 2019.

*Bulletin of the History of Medicine*. 2018.

*Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and the Environment* (*ISLE*). 2017- 2018.

Wildbranch Writing Group. 2014-present.

Oxford University Press. 2016.

*Prose Studies*. 2016.

*Nineteenth-Century Contexts*. 2009-2010.

*Feminist Media Studies*. 2012.

*Early American Literature*. 2008-2009.

*Religion and Literature*. 2002-2005.

**Conference Panel Organizer**

“Regional Ecohorror/ Ecogothic in the U. S.” The Thirteenth Biennial Conference of the

Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE). Davis, California.

June 2019.

“Narrating Places.” The Interdisciplinary Animal Studies Conference, University of

California-Davis in Davis, California. November 2014.

“The Ecosystem, the Corpse, and the Fetus: Edgar Allan Poe’s Shadowy Boundaries.”

*Mosaic*’s “A Matter of Lifedeath” Conference, University of Manitoba in Winnipeg,

Canada. October 2014.

“Angry Americans: The Development of National Rhetorics of Violence.” The Fourth

Biennial Meeting of the Society of Early Americanists (SEA). Bermuda. March 2009.

**Current Professional Memberships**

Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment. 2012-present.

Edgar Allan Poe Society. 2012-present.

Harriet Beecher Stowe Society. 2011-present.

Society of Early Americanists. 2002-present.

**Mentoring**

Cassandra Yacovazzi, Post-Doctoral Teaching Fellow at the University of Missouri.

Mentored, wrote letters.

Margo Farnsworth, Writer/ Researcher on Biomimicry. Read book manuscript requested by

University of Chicago Press.

**Department and University**

Chair of Faculty Search Committee for Tenure-Track Position in History of Art/Classics.

2018-present.

Undergraduate Studies Committee. 2015-present.

Judge for Denney Award. 2017.

Developed and Wrote Proposal for “Environmental Literatures and Cultures” Course. 2016.

Judge for Undergraduate Human Rights Award. 2016.

PhD Exams Committee for Kristin Ferebee. 2016.

Dissertation Director for Beth Avila’s “‘I Would Prevent You from Further Violence’:

Women, Pirates, and the Problem of Violence in the Antebellum American

Imagination.” 2014-2016. Successfully defended in November 2016.

Judge for Honors Scholarship, 2013.

Thesis Director for Columbus student, 2010-2011.

“The Vagina Dentata.” Introductory lecture for a residence hall presentation of the indie

film *Teeth*. 2009.

“Why Don't Vampires Poop? And Other Images of Women in Popular Media.” Lecture for

Residential Advisors Training and Orientation. Columbus campus. 2009.

Dissertation Committee. 2008-2010.

**Marion Campus**

**Student and Faculty Service**

Faculty Leader for Student Welcome Day and Amazing Race, 2018.

Faculty Mentor for two junior colleagues, 2016-present.

Senior Thesis Director for seven students. 2008-2010, 2014-present.

English Advisor for undergraduates. 2007-present.

Presenter for Academic Recognition Ceremony. 2016.

Campus Common Book Discussion Leader, 2006, 2008, 2012-2014.

Emcee for Annual Student Awards Ceremony, 2013.

Jury Member for Academic Misconduct, ten trials. 2007, 2010, 2012.

**Committee Work**

Chair of OSUM Teaching Award Committee. 2018-present.

Faculty Workload Committee. 2013-present.

Professional Development Committee. 2007-2009, 2017-present.

Academic Standards Committee. 2013-present.

FEAC (Faculty Evaluation and Advisory Committee). 2015-2018.

Auxiliary Faculty Evaluation Committee. 2013-2017.

Affirmative Action Advocate and Hiring Committee for Admissions Counselor. 2015-2016.

Marketing and Development Steering Committee. 2013-2016.

Clinical Faculty POA Committee. 2016.

OSUM Teaching Award Committee. 2013-2014.

Chair of Library Committee. 2012.

Library Committee. 2011-2012.

Honors Program Committee. 2010-2012.

Social Affairs Committee. 2009-10.

Prairie Advisory Committee. 2008-2013.

Search Committee for Rhetoric and Composition Junior Faculty Position. 2007.

**Community and Extension**

Teacher for LEI class on “Voodoo Hysteria!” April 2018.

Volunteer Teacher’s Aide/ Math Tutor at Columbus Gifted Academy. 2017-2018.

St. Joseph Montessori Family Association Board Member. 2015-2017.

Teacher for LEI class on “Poisonous Women,” about Val Lewton’s *Cat People* and

Nathaniel Hawthorne’s “Rappaccini’s Daughter.” For Marion Community. 2009.

Book Discussion Leader. *To Kill a Mockingbird*. For Marion Reads. 2009.