

VANESSA EVANS

August 2025

Department of English
Center for Global Indigenous Cultures and Environmental Justice
Syracuse University
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Syracuse, NY 13244

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EDUCATION

- 2023 Ph.D.
York University, Department of English
- Dissertation: “Other languages, other landscapes, other stories”: Reading Resurgence in the Contemporary Indigenous Novel
- Diplomas: Graduate Diploma in World Literature
Certificates: Harvard Institute for World Literature
- 2011 M.Litt. (Master of Letters), with Distinction
University of Glasgow, School of Critical Studies
- 2009 B.A.
University of Calgary, Department of English

EMPLOYMENT

- 2025– Assistant Professor, English Department, Syracuse University
- 2023–25 Assistant Professor, English Department, Appalachian State University
- 2019–20 Visiting Lecturer, cross appointed at the Obama Institute for Transnational American Studies and the Center for Comparative Native and Indigenous Studies, Johannes Gutenberg University

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Global Indigenous literatures and theory; transnational American studies; pedagogy; citizenship studies; world literature and theory; postcolonial literature and theory, prison literature

PUBLICATIONS

(* indicates graduate student co-author)

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2025 Evans, V., Quinn, K., Inzana, V.* [“Telling Ghost Stories: Collateral Consequences, Haunting, and a Criminology of Fiction.”](#) *Crime, Media, Culture*.
- 2025 Evans, V. [“Reading Resurgence: Indigenous North American and Ghanaian Relationalities in Literature.”](#) *European Journal of American Studies*, vol. 20, no. 1.
- 2022 Samuelson, A. and Evans, V. (equal authorship). [“Real old-timey’: Storytelling and the Language of Resurgence in Cherie Dimaline’s *The Marrow Thieves*.”](#) Special issue on Indigenous Young Adult Literature, *Studies in the Novel*, vol. 54, no. 3, pp. 274–292.
- 2022 Whitfield, A., Evans, V., and Simpson, B. [“Structured Engagement and Learning in Discussion Forums: The Worksheet Video Walk Formula.”](#) *The International Journal of Online Pedagogy and Course Design*, vol. 12, no. 2, pp. 1–11.

Edited Books

- 2023 Evans, V. and Banerjee, M., editors. [Cultures of Citizenship in the Twenty-First Century: Literary and Cultural Perspectives on a Legal Concept.](#) Transcript.

Book Chapters

- 2024 Evans, V. “Toward a ‘most subtle and fluent self’: Indigenous Englishes and the Pursuit of Self-Sovereignty in *The Translation of Dr. Apelles*.” [Mapping World Anglophone Studies: English in a World of Strangers](#), edited by Pavan Malreddy and Frank Schulze-Engler, Routledge, pp. 280–95.
- 2023 Evans, V. [“‘You’ve Heard it Now’: Storytelling and Acts of Citizenship in Cherie Dimaline’s *The Marrow Thieves*.”](#) *Cultures of Citizenship in the Twenty-First Century: Literary and Cultural Perspective on a Legal Concept*, edited by Vanessa Evans and Mita Banerjee, Transcript.
- 2020 Quinn, K., Canossini, E., and Evans, V. [“Carceral Imaginaries in Science Fiction: Toward a Palimpsestic Understanding of Penalty.”](#) *The Palgrave Handbook of Incarceration in Popular Culture*, edited by Barbara Harmes et al., Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 473–85.

Other Publications

- 2025 Evans, V. [“More and Scarier Monsters, Always.”](#) Review of *Global Indigenous Horror*, edited by Naomi Simone Borwein, *LA Review of Books*.
- 2022 Simpson, B., Evans, V. [“Implementing Formative Feedback: Strategies for Addressing Time Management Challenges.”](#) *York University Teaching Commons Blog*, Blog 208, Oct. 3.
- 2022 Evans, V., Simpson, B. [“Switching from Summative to Formative Feedback: Conceptual Challenges.”](#) *York University Teaching Commons Blog*, Blog 207, Sept. 22.

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

External

| | |
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| 2024 | Obama Fellowship - € 4,000 |
| 2019–2020 | Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Doctoral Fellowship - 20,000 CAD |
| 2019 | Mitacs Globalink Research Award for Research Abroad - 6,000 CAD |
| 2018–2019 | Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) - 15,000 CAD |
| 2018 | Carceral Geography Working Group Travel Grant - £250 |
| 2018 | Congress of the Humanities Graduate Student Travel Award - 600 CAD |

Internal

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| 2024 | Appalachian College of Arts and Sciences Summer Research Grant - 5,000 USD |
| 2024 | High Country Humanities Travel Fund Award - 1,200 USD |
| 2015–22 | York University Graduate Fellowship Doctoral - 27,000 CAD |
| 2019 | York University International Mobility Award - 700 CAD |
| 2018 | York University International Mobility Award - 700 CAD |
| 2017 | York University International Mobility Award - 1,000 CAD |
| 2017 | Liberal Arts & Professional Studies International Study Abroad Award - 1,000 CAD |
| 2015–16 | York Graduate Scholarship - 3,000 CAD |

INVITED TALKS

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| 2024 | Evans, V. “Decolonizing Methodologies in Trans-Indigenous Literary Studies.” Shop Talk: Young Researchers in Transnational American Studies. Delivered virtually. Hosted by the Obama Institute of Transnational American Studies, Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany. 11 December 2024. |
| 2024 | Evans, V. “Imagining Otherwise: Indigenous Futurisms in Andrea L. Rogers’s <i>Man Made Monsters</i> .” Cultural Studies III: Native American History and Culture: Media Representations. Obama Institute for Transnational American Studies, Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany, June 18. |
| 2024 | Evans, V. “Reading Resurgence: Contemporary Indigenous Novels as Constellations of Coresistance.” Advanced Research Seminar: New Directions in Native American and Indigenous Studies. Obama Institute for Transnational American Studies, Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany, June 6. |
| 2024 | Evans, V. and Banerjee, Mita. “Cultures of Citizenship in the Twenty-First Century: An Introduction.” PhD/Postdoc Book Launch. Delivered virtually. Hosted by the Obama Institute of Transnational American Studies, Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany. 26 January. |

- 2023 Evans, V. "Other Languages, Other Landscapes, Other Stories: Reading Resurgence in the Contemporary Indigenous Novel." Career Talks: Young Researchers in Transnational American Studies. Delivered virtually. Hosted by the Obama Institute of Transnational American Studies, Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany. 8 December.
- 2023 Evans, V. "Reading Resurgence: Theorizing a New Method for Global Indigenous Literary Studies." Lunch Lecture. Hosted by the Academic Outreach Committee, English Department, Appalachian State University, USA. 1 November.
- 2023 Evans, V., and Simpson, B. "Moving to Formative Assessment Strategies: TA Perspectives and Takeaways." Delivered virtually. Teaching Commons, York University, Toronto, Canada. 20 January.
- 2021 Evans, V. "Why Contemporary Indigenous Novels Matter." Career Talks: Young Researchers in Transnational American Studies. Delivered virtually. Hosted by the Obama Institute of Transnational American Studies, Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany. 7 December.
- 2021 Evans, V. "Postcolonial *Jane Eyre*." Delivered virtually to ENGL 202: Studies in Stories. Medicine Hat College, Medicine Hat, Canada. 22 March.
- 2020 Evans, V. "Stories are Animate Too: Indigenous Literatures, Self-Determination, and the Problem of the Time-Space Divide." Delivered virtually to the (De)colonizing Nature: Romance, Natural History, and Indigenous Knowledge in North America Graduate Seminar, Friedrich Schiller University, Jena, Germany. 2 July.
- 2019 Evans, V. "Toward a Planetary Presence for Indigenous World Literatures." Department of Translation, Johannes Gutenberg University, Germersheim, Germany. 28 January.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Panels Organized

- 2019 Evans, V., Poray-Wybranowska, J., and Ball, T. "Want a Different Ethic? Tell a Different Story." World Literature Working Group Roundtable Series in Toronto, Canada. 4 March.

Papers Presented

- 2025 Evans, V., Gattuso, V.,* and Richards, C.* "Revisiting Resurgence." To be presented at the Indigenous Literary Studies Association (ILSA) in Toronto, Ontario. June 2–4.

- 2025 Evans, V., Samuelson, A. Residential School Restaged: (Un)disciplined Relations in Cherie Dimaline's *Hunting by Stars*. To be presented at the Association of Canadian College and University Teachers (ACCUTE) in Toronto, Ontario. May 30–June 2.
- 2025 Evans, V. Gattuso, V.* Reading Resurgence in the Contemporary Indigenous Novel. To be presented at the Association of Canadian College and University Teachers (ACCUTE) in Toronto, Ontario. May 30–June 2.
- 2025 Samuelson, A., Evans, V. “Residential School Restaged: (Un)disciplined Relations in Cherie Dimaline's *Hunting By Stars*.” Presented at the Association for the Study of American Indian Literature virtual conference. 3 April.
- 2024 Evans, V. Reading Resurgence: Land as Context in the Contemporary Indigenous Novel. Presented at the Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and the Americas (MESEA) Thirteenth Biennial Conference in Joensuu, Finland. 13 June.
- 2024 Samuelson, A., Evans, V. Residential School Restaged: (Un)disciplined Relations in Cherie Dimaline's *Hunting by Stars*. Presented at Youngsters 3 in Calgary, Alberta. 8 June.
- 2024 Evans, V. “‘How do you have language?’”: Linguistic Resurgences in *The Marrow Thieves*, *Where We Once Belonged*, and *Becoming Me*. Presented at the Association for the Study of American Indian Literature virtual conference. 12 April.
- 2024 Evans, V. Reading Resurgence: Land as Context in the Contemporary Indigenous Novel. Presented at the Modern Language Association (MLA) Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. 5 Jan.
- 2023 Evans, V. “Other languages, other landscapes, other stories”: Reading Resurgence in the Indigenous Novel.” Presented virtually at the *European Journal of American Studies* Workshop. 18 July.
- 2022 Evans, V. “Spiralic Time and Indigenous Resurgence in *Mapping the Interior* and *The Marrow Thieves*.” Presented virtually at the biennial Society for the Study of Southern Literature (SSSL) Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. 27 June.
- 2022 Samuelson, A., Evans, V. “‘Real old-timey’: Cherie Dimaline's Storytelling and Language of Resurgence in *The Marrow Thieves*.” Presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Canadian College and University Teachers (ACCUTE) in Montreal, Canada. 14 May.
- 2021 Whitfield, A., Evans, V., and Simpson, B. “Structured Engagement and Learning in Discussion Forums: The Worksheet Video Walk Formula.” Presented virtually at York University's Teaching in Focus Conference in Toronto, Canada. 10 May.
- 2019 Evans, V. “‘All time is a now time’: Simultaneosity as Māori Resurgence in Patricia Grace's *Potiki*.” Presented at GLITS Annual Graduate Interdisciplinary Conference in London, UK. 5 June.

- 2019 Quinn, K., Canossini, E., and Evans, V. "Palimpsestic Penalty: The Reconfiguration of Penal Regimes and Logics in *Black Mirror*." Presented at the annual meeting of the Law and Society Association in Washington, US. 1 June.
- 2018 Quinn, K. Canossini, E., and Evans, V. "Carceral Imaginaries in Science Fiction: Toward a Palimpsestic Understanding of Penalty." Presented at the International Conference for Carceral Geography in Liverpool, UK. 17 December.
- 2018 Evans, V. "Working Within: Considering the Comparative in Indigenous World Literatures." Presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Canadian College and University Teachers (ACCUTE) at Congress in Regina, Canada. 28 May.
- 2018 Evans, V. "Agendas of Diversity: Risk and Erasure in *Kay's Lucky Coin Variety* and *The Jade Peony*." Presented at the annual meeting of the Canadian Comparative Literature Association (CCLA) at Congress in Regina, Canada. 28 May.
- 2018 Evans, V. "'No one has known me': Toward the Reconciliation of an Indigenous World." Presented at the annual meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) in Los Angeles, US. 30 March.
- 2017 Evans, V. "Unsettling Simultaneity: A Consideration of Time as National Language." Presented at the Harvard Institute for World Literature in Copenhagen, Denmark. 18 July.
- 2017 Evans, V. "Unsettling the Simultaneous Nation: Deep Time as Denationalized Space." Presented at the annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies (CACLALS) at Congress in Toronto, Canada. 27 May.
- 2017 Evans, V. "Decolonizing Culture: Unsuspended Disbelief in *The Translation of Dr. Apelles*." Presented at the Visions, Collaborations, & Transformations York Graduate Student Research Conference in Toronto, Canada. 7 April.
- 2016 Evans, V. "Humanizing Infinitude": Affiliation and Deep Time in *Clear Light of Day*." Presented at Now and Then: Historical Understandings in the Humanities Conference in Toronto, Canada. 19 February.

Discussant

- 2019 Evans, V. "Memory and Identity." GLITS Annual Graduate Interdisciplinary Conference in London, UK. 5 June.
- 2016 Evans, V. "Ecocriticism." Shattered: York University English Graduate Colloquium in Toronto, Canada. 13 May.

DEPARTMENTAL TALKS

- 2023 Evans, V. "Reading Resurgence: Theorizing a New Method for Global Indigenous Literary Studies." Appalachian State University, Boone, US. 1 November.
- 2021 Evans, V. "Cultural Confrontation and Multiple Voices in Chinua Achebe's 'The Sacrificial Egg' and 'The Madman.'" York University, Toronto, Canada. 23 March.
- 2019 Evans, V. "How Can We Decolonize July 4th?" Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany. 4 July.
- 2019 Evans, V. "Theorizing: The Intersections of Theory and Method." Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany. 17 May.
- 2019 Evans, V. "'Turtles all the way down': An Introduction to the Indigenous Literatures of Turtle Island." Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany. 8 January.
- 2019 Evans, V. "Revelation and Resignation in Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*." Advanced Academic Writing (graduate level). Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany. 7 January.
- 2018 Evans, V. "Leaving the Land Before Time: The Planetary Presence of Indigenous Literatures." Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz, Germany. 13 December.
- 2018 Evans, V. "Whose World Is It Anyway?" World Literature Working Group Round Table Series. York University, Toronto, Canada. 29 January.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Appalachian State University, Department of English

Undergraduate

Ethnic American Literature: The Indigenous Short Story (F 2024, S 2025)
 Studies in Ethnic American Literature: (Re)Writing Residential School (F 2024)
 Science Fiction & Fantasy: Indigenous Futurisms (S 2024)
 American Indian Literatures: Storying Resurgence (F 2023)
 Studies in American Literature: The Contemporary Novel (F 2023)

Graduate

Seminar: World Literature: Imaginary Maps (S 2025)
 Seminar: Global Indigenous Literatures (S 2024)

Seneca College, School of English and Liberal Studies

Communicating Across Contexts (F 2021 online)

Johannes Gutenberg University, Obama Institute for Transnational American Studies

Advanced Academic Writing I Graduate Seminar (F 2019, S 2020 online)

Introduction to Indigenous Literatures (S 2020 online)

Cultural Studies II: 20th Century US American History and Culture (F 2019, S 2020 online)

Written English I (F 2018, S 2020 online)

Other Teaching

Sejong Middle School

English as a Second Language (ESL) Teacher (2013–15)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning for Student Success

2024 Faculty Search Committee Guidance and Strategies for Hiring Practices

2023 Flipped Learning Series Workshop, Part 1: What is Flipped Learning?

2023 Designing Rubrics for Assignments Workshop

2023 High-Impact Practices for Courses and Programs Workshop

York University Center for Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

2022 REDI[®] (Respect, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion) Certificate of Completion in Anti-Racism Training

York University Teaching Commons

2022 Certificate of Proficiency in Teaching for eLearning

2021 Senior Record of Completion Certificate in Teaching

2021 Junior Record of Completion Certificate in Teaching

Oxford Seminars

2012 TESOL/TESL/TEFL Certification with specialization in Business English

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2021–22 Research Assistant, “Friendship as a Way of Life”: World Fiction of Friendship (Leps)

2019 Research Assistant, Re-configuring the Nation: Transnationalism and Gender in American Abolitionist Literature (Wiegink)

2019 Research Assistant, Center for Comparative Native and Indigenous Studies (Banerjee)

SERVICE

Departmental Service

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| 2024–25 | Search Committee: World Literature, Appalachian State University |
| 2024–25 | Building Emergency Team, Appalachian State University |
| 2023–25 | Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, Appalachian State University |
| 2023–25 | Graduate Studies Committee, Appalachian State University |
| 2017–21 | Co-founder, World Literature Working Group, York University |
| 2017–18 | Elected Steering Committee Member, English Graduate Student Association, York University |
| 2016–18 | Academic Community Building Committee, English Graduate Student Association, York University |

University Service

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| 2024–25 | Faculty Advisor – Student Chess Club, Appalachian State University |
| 2023–24 | Queer & Trans Staff and Faculty Leadership Circle, Appalachian State University |

Discipline Service

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| 2023– | Co-Managing Editor, <i>Journal of Transnational American Studies</i> |
| 2021–23 | Associate Managing Editor and Copy Editor, <i>Journal of Transnational American Studies</i> |
| 2016 | Copy Editor, <i>Pivot Interdisciplinary Journal</i> |
| 2016 | Peer Reviewer, <i>Pivot Interdisciplinary Journal</i> |

Peer Reviewer

Postcolonial Text
Jeunesse: Young People, Texts, Cultures
 University of Arizona Press

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Indigenous Literary Studies Association (ILSA)
 Association for the Study of American Indian Literatures (ASAIL)
 Modern Language Association (MLA)
 The Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and the Americas (MESEA)
 Association of Canadian College and University Teachers of English (ACCUTE)
 Gesellschaft für Anglophone Postkoloniale Studien/Association for Anglophone Postcolonial Studies (GAPS)