

# BRIANNA ANDERSON

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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- 2022-present Marion L. Brittain Postdoctoral Fellow, Writing and Communication Program, Georgia Institute of Technology
- 2019-2022 Graduate Teaching Associate, Department of English, University of Florida
- 2016-2018 Graduate Teaching Associate, Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies, University of Kentucky

## EDUCATION

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- 2022 **Ph.D., English, University of Florida**  
Graduate Certificate in Digital Humanities  
Dissertation: "Greening the Gutters: Visualizing Environmental Disaster and Youth Eco-Activism in Children's Comics"
- 2018 **M.A., English Literature, University of Kentucky**  
Grad+ Pedagogy Development Certificate
- 2015 **B.A. with Honors, English Literature, Lake Erie College**

## PUBLICATIONS

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### JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 2024 "Analyzing Representation and Youth Agency with the Environmental Comics Database." *The Lion and the Unicorn*, special issue on Children's Literature and Digital Humanities, vol. 48, no. 2, forthcoming.
- 2024 "Restorying the Bible: Black Representation and Adaptive Strategies in Fred Crump, Jr.'s Religious Picture Books." Co-authored with Brandon Murakami. *Sankofa: A Journal of African Children's and Young Adult Literature*, vol. 14, forthcoming.
- 2023 "Creating Space for Black Girl Power in Fred Crump, Jr.'s Transformative Fairy Tales." Co-authored with Brandon Murakami. *International Research in Children's Literature*, special issue on Black Spaces in International Children's Literature, no. 3, October 2023, pp. 307-321, [doi.org/10.3366/ircl.2023.0526](https://doi.org/10.3366/ircl.2023.0526).

- 2023 “Taking Bloody Revenge for the Environment: *Dark Fang*, Ecofeminist Horror, and the Eco-Vampire.” *Gothic Nature: New Directions in Ecohorror and the EcoGothic*, no. 4, pp. 113-134, [gothicnaturejournal.com/issue-iv/](http://gothicnaturejournal.com/issue-iv/).
- 2022 “‘Earth Girl Won’t Stand For It!’: Representations of Environmental (In)Justice in ‘Mayah’s Lot’ (2012).” *Comics In and of the Moment*, special issue of *The Comics Grid*. [doi.org/10.16995/cg.6552](https://doi.org/10.16995/cg.6552).
- 2022 “Mgambo, Sam, and the Tigers: Restorying *Little Black Sambo* Adaptations of the 1990s.” Co-authored with Brandon Murakami. *Children’s Literature in Education*, February 2022. [doi.org/10.1007/s10583-022-09477-w](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10583-022-09477-w).
- 2021 “Reimagining Plastic Pollution and Climate Activism: Contradictions of Eco-Education in Rachel Hope Allison’s *I’m Not a Plastic Bag*.” *Children’s Literature and Climate Change*, special issue of *The Lion and the Unicorn*, vol. 45, no. 2, April 2021, [doi.org/10.1353/uni.2021.0014](https://doi.org/10.1353/uni.2021.0014).
- 2020 “Revolutionary Paratext and Critical Pedagogy in Nathan Hale’s *One Dead Spy*.” *Comics and Education*, special issue of *Studies in Comics*, vol. 11, no. 1, 2020, pp. 135–154, [doi.org/10.1386/stic\\_00018\\_1](https://doi.org/10.1386/stic_00018_1).

#### ARTICLES IN PROGRESS

“‘Give a Hoot – Don’t Pollute!’: Eco-Pedagogy and the Politics of the Cute in Twentieth-Century Children’s Comics.” *Comicalités*. Proposal accepted, manuscript out for peer review.

“‘Good Fruit Can’t Come from a Bad Tree’: Monstrous Bioengineering and Haunted Racial Ecologies in *Farmhand*.” *Gothic Nature: New Directions in Ecohorror and the EcoGothic*. Proposal accepted, manuscript under submission.

“Envisioning Ecofeminism and Radical Empathy in *Saving Sorya: Chang and the Sun Bear*.” *Girlhood Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*. Proposal accepted, manuscript in progress.

#### REFEREED BOOK CHAPTERS

- 2024 “Representations of Youth Environmental Activism and Agency in Aika Tsubota’s *Secrets of the Earth*.” *Producing Children: Critical Studies in Childhood Creativity*, edited by Pete Kunze and Victoria Ford Smith, Rutgers University Press, forthcoming.
- 2024 “‘But Who Listens When Kids Talk About Stuff Like Climate Change?’: Collaborative Making and Youth Activism in *World War 3 Illustrated* #46.” *Alt Kid-Lit: What Children’s Literature Has Been, Never Was, and Might Be*, edited

by Kenneth B. Kidd and Derritt Mason, University Press of Mississippi, forthcoming.

- 2024 ““But Three Days Later, My Brother Came from the Woods”: (Un)Divine Horror in Emily Carroll’s *Through the Woods*.” *Religion and Horror Comics*, edited by Brandon Grafius and John W. Morehead, McFarland, forthcoming.

### BOOK REVIEWS

- 2023 “*Aquaman and the War against Oceans: Comics Activism and Allegory in the Anthropocene* by Ryan Poll (review).” *INKS: The Journal of the Comics Studies Society*, vol. 7, no. 3, Fall 2023, <https://doi.org/10.1353/ink.2023.a916795>.
- 2023 “*Connecting Childhood and Old Age in Popular Media* ed. by Vanessa Joosen (review).” *Children’s Literature*, vol. 51, pp. 238-242, <https://muse.jhu.edu/pub/1/article/898406/pdf>.
- 2023 “Review of *Monstrous Women in Comics*.” *SFRA Review*, vol. 53, no. 1, Winter 2023, [sfrareview.org/2023/01/20/review-of-monstrous-women-in-comics/](https://sfrareview.org/2023/01/20/review-of-monstrous-women-in-comics/).
- 2021 “Review of *The Minamata Story: An EcoTragedy*.” *ImageText: Interdisciplinary Comics Studies*, vol. 13, no. 1, 2021, [imagetextjournal.com/review-of-the-minamata-story-an-eco-tragedy/](http://imagetextjournal.com/review-of-the-minamata-story-an-eco-tragedy/).
- 2019 “Review of *Muslim Superheroes: Comics, Islam, and Representation*,” *ImageText: Interdisciplinary Comics Studies*, vol. 11, no. 1, 2019, [imagetextjournal.com/review-of-muslim-superheroes-comics-islam-and-representation/](http://imagetextjournal.com/review-of-muslim-superheroes-comics-islam-and-representation/).

### PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

- 2020 “A “Gentle Fantasy” of Ocean Conservation: Environmental Justice in *Aquicorn Cove*.” *International Comics Arts Forum Virtual Conference Blog*. [internationalcomicartsforum.org/icaf-2020-virtual-conference-blog-posts/a-gentle-fantasy-of-ocean-conservation-environmental-justice-in-aquicorn-cove](https://internationalcomicartsforum.org/icaf-2020-virtual-conference-blog-posts/a-gentle-fantasy-of-ocean-conservation-environmental-justice-in-aquicorn-cove).
- 2020 “How Can Paratexts Both Reinforce and Disrupt the Marginalization of Minority Voices?” Eds. Osvaldo Oyola and Leah Misemer, *The Middle Spaces*. [themiddlespaces.com/2020/09/22/reading-comics-at-the-threshold-part-2/](https://themiddlespaces.com/2020/09/22/reading-comics-at-the-threshold-part-2/).

### INTERVIEWS

- 2023 “Ecohorror: Learning From Mutant Monsters and Killer Plants.” By Stephanie N. Kadel, Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, [iac.gatech.edu/news-events/features/2023/10/ecohorror-learning-mutant-monsters-killer-plants](https://iac.gatech.edu/news-events/features/2023/10/ecohorror-learning-mutant-monsters-killer-plants).

## **AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS**

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- 2024      **Smith College Special Collections Fellowship**  
Competitive fellowship that supports archival research on women’s zines
- 2024      **Peter Rollins Travel Grant for Early-Career Faculty**  
Competitive travel grant for the Popular Culture Association Conference
- 2023      **Digital Integrative Liberal Arts Center Summer Stipend**  
Competitive grant that supported the expansion of my digital humanities project, the [Environmental Comics Database](#)
- 2022      **Course Hero Teaching Grant**  
Competitive teaching grant that supports innovative digital learning and pedagogy in higher education
- 2022-23    **Swann Foundation Fellowship, The Library of Congress**  
Competitive research fellowship that supported a two-week residency at the Library of Congress to conduct archival research on historical environmental comics and zines
- 2022-23    **Mary Lily Research Travel Grant, Duke University**  
Competitive research fellowship awarded by the Sallie Bingham Center to support archival research on women’s environmental zines housed in the Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library
- 2022      **University of Florida College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Graduate Student Travel Award**
- 2022      **University of Florida Graduate Student Council Travel Grant**
- 2021-2022    **Rothman Doctoral Fellowship in the Humanities, University of Florida Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere**  
Competitive fellowship that supported archival research at the Barnard College Zine Library on environmental zines created by people of color and women
- 2020      **National Humanities Center Virtual Winter Residency Grant, University of Florida Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere**  
Competitive grant that supported attendance at a week-long residency on “How to Create Meaningful Online Learning Communities” hosted by the National Humanities Center
- 2020      **Library Enhancement Grant University of Florida Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere**  
A competitive grant awarded for “Decolonizing the Children’s Literature Archives: Multicultural Picture Books,” a library acquisitions project for the

University of Florida Education Library and Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature. Co-authored with Brandon Murakami and Brittany Kester.

- 2018-2022     **University of Florida Graduate School Preeminence Award**  
A competitive fellowship that provided 4 years of funding for graduate studies
- 2017            University of Kentucky Department of English Conference Travel Grant
- 2017            Robert E. Hemenway Writing Center Graduate Consultant Award

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## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### **CLASSES DESIGNED AND TAUGHT**

#### **Georgia Institute of Technology, Writing and Communication Program**

##### **The Dark Side of Children's Media (Spring 2024)**

This multimodal composition course analyzes how children's media teaches young audiences about serious, often-abstract topics like climate change and war. The class also explores the ethical issues surrounding these texts in the context of recent book banning debates. Students enhanced their multimodal writing skills by composing picture books, presentations, and video essays.

##### **Deadly Entertainment: Analyzing True Crime Media (Summer 2023, Fall 2023)**

This multimodal composition course explores how the true crime genre reveals shifting attitudes about gender, race, sexuality, mental illness, and the justice system. Students strengthen their critical analysis and multimodal writing skills by composing comics, podcasts, presentations, and other projects.

##### **Nature Strikes Back: Ecohorror Narratives (Fall 2022, Spring 2023)**

This multimodal composition course examines how ecohorror reflects mounting anxieties and fears about climate change, environmental issues, and humanity's place in nature. Students enhanced their written, oral, visual, electronic, and nonverbal communication skills as they analyzed and created multimodal narratives about the ecohorror genre, including Scalar exhibits and zines.

#### **University of Florida, Department of English**

##### **Envisioning Environmental Disaster in Children's Literature (Spring 2021)**

This upper-division course analyzes how contemporary children's literature invites young readers to grapple with complex environmental issues and social injustices. Students created class presentations, comics and zines, mock syllabus units, and research papers.

##### **Survey of American Literature: True Crime Literature (Fall 2021)**

This course surveys the evolution of the true crime genre throughout American history in order to explore how these narratives reveal changing attitudes about gender, mental

illness, morality, and race. Students produced class presentations, comics and zines, and podcasts.

**Digital Writing/Multimodal Literacy (Fall 2020)**

This course teaches students to compose and circulate multimodal documents in order to convey creative, well- researched, carefully crafted, and attentively written information through digital platforms and multimodal documents. Students created comics, podcasts, Twine games, and videos.

**Writing about Body Horror (Spring 2020)**

This course explores how body horror texts from a range of historical periods and media expose shifting societal anxieties surrounding corporeal and historical traumas, issues of embodiment, and posthumanism. Students produced infographics, memes, and research papers.

**Introduction to Literature (Fall 2019, Spring 2022)**

This course examines the role literature has played in individuals' lives and in society. Students study a range of texts from diverse creators, genres, and time periods.

**University of Kentucky, Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies**

**Composition and Communication II (Spring 2018; 2 sections)**

This course allows students to further develop their composition and communication skills through critical inquiry and research. Students created research papers, speeches, and videos.

**Composition and Communication I (Fall 2017; 2 sections)**

This course emphasizes critical inquiry and research through speaking and writing. Students created presentations, research papers, and Ted Talks.

**WRITING CENTER EXPERIENCE**

- 2019-2022 Writing Center Tutor, Santa Fe College, Gainesville, FL
- 2016-2017 Writing Assistant, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
- 2014-2015 Writing Center Tutor, Lake Erie College, Painesville, OH

**DIGITAL HUMANITIES PROJECTS**

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[Environmental Comics Database](#)

A digital database that catalogs over 90 environmental children's and young adult comics, graphic novels, and zines. Additionally, the project includes data visualizations

that analyze the intersections of ethnicity, gender, and race with representations of environmental agency and environmental issues in the cataloged comics.

### [Little Black Sambo Exhibit](#)

This digital exhibit primarily draws from the extensive picture book collections housed at the University of Florida's Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature. Cataloging over 70 editions of Helen Bannerman's controversial picture book, the project contextualizes the original version and its many troubling adaptations alongside larger shifts in children's literature.

### [RecessMedia](#)

A digital archive housing over 2,000 episodes of Recess Radio, a nationally-distributed public radio program that examines children's culture and media.

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## OTHER ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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- 2023-present    Lead Content Manager for the Georgia Tech Effective Team Dynamics Initiative
- Developed and executed a content strategy for the program's blog and social media accounts
  - Oversaw a content creation team of five postdoctoral fellows
- 2020-2021    Program and Public Relations Coordinator for [Intersections: Animating Conversations with the Humanities](#), University of Florida Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere
- Collaborated with community organizations, faculty, and students to develop, coordinate, and publicize events
  - Conducted data collection, network analysis, qualitative coding, and survey analysis to evaluate program outcomes
  - Managed and produced content for the program's social media accounts and website
  - Supported the development, management, and assessment of the *Intersections Scholars* undergraduate curriculum
- 2018-2019    Coordinator, University of Florida [Center for Children's Literature and Culture](#)
- Created the [RecessMedia.org](#) digital archive
  - Collaborated with the Alachua County Public Library to organize the 2019 Mock Caldecott Award
  - Created content for the Center website

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## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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### INVITED LECTURES

- 2023 “Framing Environmental Disaster: Eco-Activism and Education in American Graphic Narratives.” Library of Congress. May 17. Washington, DC.

### CONFERENCES CO-ORGANIZED

- 2020 Comics in Community. University of Florida Graduate Comics Organization Annual Conference. March 27-29. (\*\*cancelled due to COVID-19)

### PRESENTATIONS AND TALKS

- 2024 “Visualizing Girl Activism: Ecofeminism and Radical Empathy in Young Adult Comics.” Popular Culture & American Culture Association Conference. March 27-30, Chicago, IL.
- 2023 “Envisioning Monstrous Activism in Ecohorror Comics.” Comics and Popular Arts Conference. September 1-4. Atlanta, GA.
- 2023 “‘Good Fruit Can’t Come from a Bad Tree’: Monstrous Bioengineering and Ecohorror in *Farmhand*.” Comics Studies Society. July 27-29. Denton, TX.
- 2023 “Kids Can(’t) Save the Planet: Youth Activism, Power, and Responsibility in Environmental Graphic Narratives.” Children’s Literature Association. June 15-17. Bellevue, WA.
- 2023 “Framing Youth Activism in Children’s Comics and Picture Books.” Georgia Conference on Children’s Literature. March 17-18. Athens, GA.
- 2022 “Consuming Capitalism: Bloody Activism and the Eco-Vampire in *Dark Fang*.” Bodily Transgressions in Fantastika Media. November 12. Online.
- 2022 “Picturing Environmental Crisis and Youth Activism in the Barnard Zine Library.” Children’s Literature Association. June 2-4. Atlanta, GA.
- 2022 “Greening the Gutters: Representations of Environmental Education and Youth Eco-Activism in Children’s Comics.” UF Synergies. April 4. Gainesville, Florida.
- 2022 “Creating ‘Grand Challenge’ Pathways Through General Education.” Association of American Colleges and Universities 2022 Conference on General Education, Pedagogy, and Assessment. February 10-12. San Diego, California.
- 2021 “‘Earth Girl Won’t Stand for It!’: Representations of Justice-Oriented, Youth Environmental Activism in *Mayah’s Lot*.” Conference of the Comics Studies Society: Comics and Community. August 6-7. Online.



- 2021 “Ecophobia and Fantasies of Exceptionalism in Lauren Tarshis’s *I Survived* Series.” 2021 Association for the Study of Literature and Environment Digital Convening. July 26-August 6. Online.
- 2021 “‘I’m Not an Ocean Polluter’: Neoliberal Paratexts in Children’s Eco-Comics.” Children’s Literature Association. June 10-12. Online.
- 2021 “‘Say, How Did You Get This Job Telling U.S. History?’: Using Paratexts to Foster Critical Engagement in Nathan Hale’s *One Dead Spy*.” International Society for the Study of Narrative. May 19-23. Online.
- 2021 “‘Gentle Fantasy’ Amidst the Anthropocene: Eco-Education in Katie O’Neill’s *Aquicorn Cove*.” The International Comic Arts Forum. March 4, 2021. Online.
- 2021 “‘What Will the World Be Like When I Grow Up?’: Picturing Children’s Eco-Activism in *World War Illustrated* #46.” Michigan State Comics Forum. February 26-27. Online.
- 2021 “Rethinking Participation in the Virtual Classroom.” University of Florida Graduate Humanities Institute. February 24. Online.
- 2020 “Through the Door: Transgressing Medial Boundaries in Horror Webcomics.” Conference of the Comics Studies Society: Comics and Technology. Henderson State University, Arkadelphia, Arkansas. August 5-8. (\*cancelled due to COVID-19)
- 2020 “Eco-Education and the Hyperobject in *I’m Not a Plastic Bag*.” International Conference for the Fantastic in the Arts. March 18-21. Orlando, Florida. (\*cancelled due to COVID-19)
- 2019 “Hello, My Name is Flying Garbage Monster: Eco-Education and the Hyperobject in Rachel Hope Allison’s *I’m Not a Plastic Bag*.” Emerging Forms Climate Fiction Symposium. December 6. Gainesville, Florida.
- 2019 “‘When the Darkness Presses’: Animating Digital Horror Comics.” International Conference for the Fantastic in the Arts. March 13-17. Orlando, Florida.
- 2017 “Bad Habits: Gender and Subversive Sartorial Codes in *The Handmaid’s Tale*.” Midwest Modern Language Association Conference. November 14-17. Cincinnati, Ohio.
- 2017 “‘Plain Old Diana Prince’: The Disempowerment of Wonder Woman in the Mod Era.” Kentucky Gender & Women’s Studies Conference. September 16. Lexington, Kentucky.
- 2015 “Soft Places: Ontological Liminality and Visual Narrative in Neil Gaiman’s *The Sandman*.” Senior Research Honors Colloquium. December 9. Lake Erie College, Painesville, Ohio.

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## ACADEMIC SERVICE

**Assistant Editor**, *Climate Lit* (2024-present)

**Editorial Board Member**, *Popular Culture Review* (2023-present)

**Member**, Brittain Fellowship Hiring Committee, Georgia Tech (2023-present)

**Member**, Brittain Fellowship Grants Committee, Georgia Tech (2023-present)

**Member**, WOVENText OER Development Team, Georgia Tech (2023)

**Guest Co-editor**, *Trace: A Journal of Writing, Media, and Ecology* special issue on “Artificial Intelligence and Representation” (forthcoming 2024)

**Peer Reviewer**, *Journal of Graphic Novels and Comics* (2022-2023), *Journal of Lesbian Studies* (2022), *Children’s Literature in Education* (2021)

**Managing Editor**, *ImageText: Interdisciplinary Comics Studies* (2021-2022)

**Production Editor** (2020-2021), **Style Editor** (2018-2021)

**Member**, Trace Innovation Initiative (2021-2022)

**Humani-Mentor**, University of Florida Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere (2021)

**Graduate Student Representative**, University of Florida Digital Humanities Certificate Program (2020-2021)

**Editorial Board**, *UF Journal of Undergraduate Research* (2020-2022)

**Treasurer**, Graduate Comics Organization (2019-2020)

**Member** (2018-2020)

**Guest Assistant Editor**, *Sequentials* special issue on “Comics And/As/Against Fine Art” (2018)

**Graduate Student Mentor**, University of Kentucky English Department (2017-2018)

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## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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Children’s Literature Association

Comics Studies Society

Popular Culture Association

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## REFERENCES

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Dr. Melissa Ianetta

Executive Director of Writing and Communication

Georgia Institute of Technology

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Dr. Kenneth Kidd  
Professor of English  
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