

Luke Chwala

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CURRENT POSITION

Lecturer in English, Department of English, Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina. From Fall 2018.

EDUCATION

- 2017 PhD, English Literature and Criticism, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, Pennsylvania.**
Dissertation: *Toward a Decolonial Queer Ecology: Reparative Reading of Gothic and Speculative Fiction*.
Director: Alexis Lothian. Committee Members: Ardel Haefele-Thomas, Susan Comfort, Veronica Watson.
Exam fields: Victorian Gothic Studies; Queer Theory and Gender Studies; Nineteenth-century British Lit
- 2007 MA, English, City University of New York, Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, New York.**
Thesis: "Byron in Missolonghi: Greek Love and the Private Gone Public." Director: Geoffrey Minter.
- 2003 MA, Public Communications, Fordham University, Bronx, New York.**
- 2001 BA, English, Concordia College, Bronxville, New York, magna cum laude.**
- 1999 AA, Business Administration, Robert Morris University, Moon Township, Pennsylvania.**

RESEARCH INTERESTS

interdisciplinary studies; queer theory and LGBTQ+ literature; trans studies; postcolonial and decolonial studies; ecocriticism and queer ecologies; Romanticism, Victorian, and Gothic studies; speculative fiction; digital humanities.

PUBLICATIONS

Book Series Editor

Queer and Trans Intersections, edited by Luke Chwala and Ardel Haefele-Thomas, University of Wales Press.

Journal Articles

"Ruins of Empire: Decolonial Queer Ecologies in Cliff's *No Telephone to Heaven*." *Tropical Gothic*, special issue of *eTropic*, vol. 18, no.1, 2019, journals.jcu.edu.au/etropic/article/view/3690/3561. Peer reviewed.

"Emerging Transgothic Ecologies in H. Rider Haggard's *She*." *Trans Victorians*, special issue of the *Victorian Review*, vol. 44, no. 1, 2018, pp. 69-81. *Project Muse*, doi:10.1353/vcr.2018.0010. Peer reviewed.

Book Chapters

"Queering Globalgothic." *The Edinburgh Companion to Globalgothic*, edited by Justin Edwards and Rebecca Duncan, Edinburgh UP. Forthcoming 2022. Editorially reviewed invited contribution.

"Queer Gothic Slash Fiction." *The Queer Gothic: An Edinburgh Companion*, edited by Ardel Haefele-Thomas, Edinburgh UP. Forthcoming 2022. Editorially reviewed invited contribution.

"Reinventing and Renegotiating a Queer Nigerian Identity in Chris Abani's *GraceLand*." *Ways of Queering: Ways of Seeing*, edited by Jillian E. Cox and Jo Grzelinska, Inter-Disciplinary Press, 2015, pp. 189-204. Peer reviewed invited contribution.

"In a 'hall of mirrors': A Phenomenology of Heteronormative White Double Consciousness in James Baldwin's *Giovanni's Room*." *Images of Whiteness*, edited by Clarissa Behar and Anastasia Chung, Brill, 2013, pp. 15-25, https://doi.org/10.1163/9781848882225_003. Peer reviewed invited contribution.

"Silence the Social Hermaphrodite! Gender Subversion in Helder de Cornuälle's *Roman de Silence*." *Love, Friendship, Marriage*, edited by Raffaele Florio and Aniesha Andrews, Public Heritage Institute, 2012, pp. 92-96. Editorially reviewed invited contribution.

“Subdue Our Fears: Displacing Homophobia in Bram Stoker’s *Dracula*.” *Fascination of Queer*, edited by Stefano Ramello, Inter-Disciplinary Press, 2011, pp. 49-57. Peer reviewed invited contribution.

Reviews

Review of *Aliens in Popular Culture*, edited by Michael M. Levy and Farah Mendlesohn. *Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts*, vol. 30, no. 3, 2019, pp. 422-424. Editorially reviewed invited submission.

Review of *Neo-Gothic Narratives: Illusory Allusions from the Past*, edited by Sarah E. Maier and Brenda Ayres. *Victorian Review*, vol. 47, no. 1, 2021, pp. 163-165. Editorial reviewed invited submission.

Book project in progress

Decolonial Queer Ecologies in Fantastic Fiction. A book manuscript that uses a queer-ecological theoretical framework to establish reparative reading strategies for decolonization in gothic and speculative narratives.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Holman Teaching Award for Outstanding Achievement in Teaching, Clemson University, 2020.

Nominee, Outstanding Teaching Award, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 2016.

Graduate Scholar Award, Common Ground Publishing, 2014.

Outstanding Scholarship Award, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 2014.

Travel Grant to Queering Ireland Conference, sponsored by SUNY Buffalo, 2013

High Pass on Doctoral Comprehensive Exams, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 2013.

Grant for organizing 2nd Inter-Disciplinary Conference on Queer Sexualities, Sydney, Australia, 2013.

Teaching Fellow, New York City Public Schools, 2003-2007.

Excellence in Writing Across the Curriculum Award, Concordia College, 2001.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Gothic Manifestations of Contagious Cultural Conflicts in *American Horror Story*, Seasons 7 & 8.” International Gothic Association, sponsored by Simon Fraser University, Online, 10-13 March 2021.

“Queer Ecologies and Colonial Resistance in James Cameron’s *Avatar*.” International Association for the Fantastic in the Arts, Online, 18-21 March 2021.

“The Gothic Tradition in Global Fiction: Teaching World Literature via the Gothic.” International Gothic Association, sponsored by Lewis University, Romeoville, Illinois, 30 July-2 August 2019.

“The TransGothic Ecologies of H. Rider Haggard’s *She*.” Victorian Interdisciplinary Studies Association of the Western United States, Palm Springs, California, 8-10 November 2018.

“Monstrous Affect: Reading Queer Ecologies in Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein*.” International Gothic Association, sponsored by Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester, United Kingdom, 31 July-3 August 2018.

“Decolonial-world-building through Queer Ecologies in Speculative Fiction.” Northeast Modern Language Association, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 12-15 April 2018.

“Reimagining Colonized Spaces: Decolonial Queer Ecologies in Fantastic Fiction.” International Association for the Fantastic in the Arts, Orlando, Florida, 14-18 March 2018.

“Reconfiguration of the Vampire: A Queer EcoGothic Reading of Octavia Butler’s *Fledgling*.” International Gothic Association, sponsored by Universidad de las Américas Puebla, Cholula, Mexico, 18-21 July 2017.

“Decolonial Queer Ecologies and the Speculative Imagination of Octavia Butler’s *Xenogenesis*.” Modern Language Association, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 5-8 January 2017.

“Queer Decolonial Ecologies in the Fiction of Michelle Cliff.” Caribbean Studies Association, Pétionville, Haïti, 5-11 June 2016.

“Migrations through Time: The Gothic, Erotohistoriography, and Cultural Imperialism in *She*.” International Gothic Association, sponsored by Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada, 28 July-1 August 2015.

“Diversity, Coalition, Coevolution, and Environmental Sustainability: Reading Queer Ecology in Octavia Butler’s *Parable of the Sower*.” Diversity in Organizations, Communities, and Nations, Vienna, Austria, 9-11 July 2014.

“Community and Crisis: Queer Irish Diasporas in *Albert Nobbs*.” Queering Ireland Conference, sponsored by State University of New York, Buffalo, New York, 9-10 August 2013.

“Distorted and Displaced Heteronormativity: Hypermasculinity, Violence, and Sexuality in Chris Abani’s *GraceLand*.” Inter-Disciplinary.Net Conference on Queer Sexualities, Sydney, Australia, 11-13 February 2013.

“No Sense of Place: Irish Gothic Existentialism in Sheridan Le Fanu’s *Uncle Silas* and Banville’s *Birchwood*.” International Association for the Study of Irish Literatures, Montreal, Canada, 30 July-3 August 2012.

“In a ‘hall of mirrors’: A Phenomenology of Heteronormative White Double Consciousness in James Baldwin’s *Giovanni’s Room*.” Inter-Disciplinary.Net Conference on Whiteness, Oxford, United Kingdom, 7-9 July 2012.

“Subdue Our Fears: Displacing Homophobia in Bram Stoker’s *Dracula*.” Inter-Disciplinary.Net Conference on Queer Sexualities, Warsaw, Poland, 13-15 May 2011.

“Silence the Social Hermaphrodite! Gender Subversion in Heldris’s *Roman de Silence*,” Medieval and Renaissance Forum, sponsored by Plymouth State University, Plymouth, New Hampshire, 15-16 April 2011.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Clemson University, Department of English, Clemson, South Carolina. From Fall 2018.

ENGL3970: British Literature Survey II. The Gothic Tradition in British Literature. Spring 2019.

Examines key texts of British literature from 1789 to the present through the Gothic tradition. Topics include the sublime, the uncanny, the female and urban gothic, degeneration theory, and reverse colonization.

ENGL3040: Business Writing. Workplace Communications in the 21st Century. (Online Asynchronous) Summer 2019. Introduces the theory and practice of business communication and focuses on learning the conventions of writing genres in the workplace, including letters, memos, reports, email, online profiles, and job documents.

HON2210: LGBTQ+ Literature and Queer Identity. (Online Synchronous) Fall 2020.

Studies intersections of sexuality, gender, race, class, and nation in LGBTQ+ literature and culture. Students utilize queer theory to formulate arguments, conduct research, and write a paper suitable for a conference presentation.

ENGL2150: LGBTQ+ Literature. Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, and Fall 2021 (eleven sections).

Explores the experiences of LGBTQ identity in America from the mid-20th century through the present. Themes of growing up queer, coming out, families, relationships, communities, homophobia, loss and renewal are explored.

ENGL2150: Dystopian Environmental Fiction. (Online Asynchronous) Fall 2020.

Examines the ways that tropes of apocalyptic crises, calamity, and dystopia inform environmental discourses that reflect, challenge, or augment perceived environmental threats in 20th and 21st-century American literature.

ENGL2150: Literature of the 20th and 21st Century. Introduction to Speculative Fiction. Fall 2018 (two sections).

Studies how speculative subgenres (science fiction, dystopian fiction, magical realism, and horror) can help readers to confront social anxieties and fears surrounding religion, nation, race, class, gender, and sexuality.

ENGL2130: Gothic Evolutions. Fall 2019, Spring 2020, and Spring 2021, Spring 2022 (eleven sections). Examines how British literature has evolved over time to represent irrepressible human desires and insecurities in response to many of the social, scientific, political, and cultural changes of the last 250+ years.

ENGL2120: The Gothic Tradition in World Literature. Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 (four sections). Examines how the Gothic resurfaces in 20th and 21st-century Iraqi, Caribbean, Turkish, and American texts to help readers confront social anxieties and fears surrounding imperialism, race, class, gender, and sexuality.

ENGL1030: Composition and Rhetoric. Race, Rhetoric, and Multimodal Arguments. Fall 2019. Explores rhetoric as a tool of persuasion in written, visual, and multimodal texts. Students develop critical media literacies with a particular focus on historicizing race and racism in the United States.

Duquesne University, Gussin Spiritan Division Bridge Program, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 2016-2018.

UCOR102: Imaginative Literature and Critical Writing. Situating the Human. Fall 2016 and Fall 2017 (two sections). Uses critical theory to examine how injustice, inequality, diversity, and social activism shape human identity, the family, and society in poetry, drama, and prose fiction written from the 17th through the 21st century.

UCOR101: Thinking and Writing Across the Curriculum. Summer 2016, 2017, and 2018 (three sections). Focusing on the construction of effective, researched written arguments, this course refines composition techniques, develops research skills, and promotes critical thinking. Students produce multimodal arguments.

Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Department of English, Indiana, Pennsylvania, 2014-2016.

ENGL202: Research Writing. Everything is an Argument. Fall 2015 (two sections). Rhetorical analysis of traditional and multimodal arguments provide students with the critical thinking skills that they need to produce effective researched arguments in written form and through a multimedia presentation.

ENGL121: Humanities Literature. Situating Human Identity and Diversity. Spring 2016 (two sections). Introduces students to works of imaginative literature through a careful analysis of poetry, drama, and prose fiction from a variety of periods and cultures, including texts by women and ethnic and racial minorities.

ENGL101: Composition I. Writing Genres and Styles. Fall 2014 and Spring 2015 (four sections). Writing styles, problem-solving strategies, critical thinking skills, and an awareness of cultural diversity are developed in this course through essays, multimodal arguments, rhetorical analysis, discussion, and debates.

Kingsborough Community College, College NOW Program, Brooklyn, New York, 2005-2007.

COM11: Mass Communications. Spring 2005, Fall 2005, Fall 2006, and Spring 2007 (four sections). Students gain an historical understanding and awareness of media as they study print, radio, television, film, the internet, and social media through research, projects, an understanding of media ecology, and visits to facilities.

Sheepshead Bay High School, Department of English, Brooklyn, New York, 2004-2007.

Taught grades 9-12 English Language Arts including 9th-grade balanced literacy, English as a Second Language, Regents Exam (state English exam) preparation, specialized honors courses for seniors, and immigrant populations.

CERTIFICATION AND SKILLS

Certification and Experience with Unique Student Populations

Clemson Honors College seminar course design and instruction, LGBTQ+ Literature and Queer Identity, 2020.
Clemson English sophomore course design and implementation, LGBTQ+ Literature, Spring 2020-Spring 2022.
Duquesne University Gussin Spiritan Division Bridge Program for college freshman, 2016-2018.
New York State Permanent Teacher Certification in English for grades 7-12, 2008.
CUNY College NOW Program for New York City high school seniors, 2005-2007.
New York City Teaching Fellows Program, designed for teaching underserved urban students, 2003-2007.
Experience and training for working with ESL/ELL, adult/continuing education, and immigrant populations.

Professional Development

Clemson University LGBTQ+ Ally Trainings: Awareness and Empathy; Action and Advocacy, Fall 2019.
Clemson Thinks² Faculty Institute, a workshop for improving critical thinking pedagogical skills, Summer 2019.
Clemson Online Certification Course (CONCERT), a course of study for virtual instruction, Fall 2018.
Indiana University LGBTQIA+ Ally Training, sponsored by Office of Social Equity and Title IX, Spring 2015.
Advanced proficiency in online learning technologies: Canvas, Zoom, D2L, Blackboard, and Moodle.

Cengage Learning Certification Courses

Developmental Reading, 2012.	Visualizing the Writing Process, 2011.
Teaching Writing and Grammar in Concert, 2012.	Bridges out of Poverty, 2010.
Teaching Millennial Students Online, 2011.	Helping Disadvantaged Student Populations, 2010.

Education and Pedagogy Coursework

Diversity and the Inclusive Classroom, 2004.	Experiencing Education, 2003.
Pedagogy and Curriculum: English, 2004.	Educational Psychology, 1999.
Teaching Skills: Classroom Management, 2003.	Human Growth and Development, 1999.

SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIPS

Thesis Committees

Tyler MacDougald, "Queer Gothic Monstrosities: Mapping Twentieth-Century Manifestations of Fear," 2021.

University Service

Clemson University LGBTQIA+ Pride Planning Committee Faculty Representative, Spring 2022
Clemson English Advisory Committee Special Faculty Representative, Fall 2021-present.
Clemson English Curriculum Committee Special Faculty Representative, Fall 2021-present.
Clemson University National Coming Out Week Planning Committee Faculty Representative, Fall 2021.
Clemson University Trans Awareness Week Planning Committee Faculty Representative, Fall 2021.
Clemson English Department Ad Hoc Committee Member for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, 2020-present.
Clemson University LGBTQ+ Liaison for the Harvey and Lucinda Gantt Multicultural Center, 2019-present.
Clemson Tiger Advocate, Tigers Advance, an initiative for gender equity, retention, and support, 2019-present.
IUP Pride Alliance Faculty Outreach for LGBTQ+ Students, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 2014-2016.

Conferences and Events Organized

Panel Organizer. "Decolonial Strategies of Gender and Environment." Caribbean Studies, Haïti, 5-11 June 2016.
Co-organizer. Global Conference on Queer Sexualities. InterDisciplinary.Net, Australia, 11-13 Feb 2013.

Professional Memberships

Modern Language Association; International Gothic Association; Caribbean Studies Association; International Association for the Fantastic in the Arts; Victorian Interdisciplinary Studies Association of the Western U.S.