

KALI SIMMONS
Assistant Professor
Departments of English & Social and Critical Inquiry
University of Connecticut, Storrs

EDUCATION

Ph.D	2021	University of California, Riverside	Department of English
M.A	2016	University of Oregon	Department of English
B.A	2013	Portland State University	Department of English, Minor in Film Studies

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Assistant Professor – English & Social and Critical Inquiry Departments
University of Connecticut – Storrs, Aug 2024-Present

Assistant Professor – Indigenous Nations Studies Department
Portland State University, Sept 2021-Jun 2024

Instructor of Record and Teaching Assistant – English & Writing Departments
University of California Riverside Sept 2017-Jun 2021

Adjunct Instructor – Race and Ethnic Studies & English Departments
University of Redlands, Aug 2019- May 2021

Graduate Teaching Fellow – English Department
University of Oregon, Sept 2015-Jun 2016

REFEREED SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

“What White Men Want With Indian Magic: Indigeneity and Deep Time in *The Manitou* (1978)”
Weird Fiction: A Reader, Peter Lang April 2025

“‘It Has to Stop’: Refusing Colonial Narratives in The Only Good Indians”
American Indian Quarterly 47.1 Winter 2023

“‘The Environment is Us’: Settler Cartographies of Indigeneity and Blackness in *Prophecy* (1979)”
Science Fiction Film and Television 14.2 Fall 2021

“Reorientations; or Native Feminist Reflections on the Anthropocene”
Journal of Cinema and Media Studies 58.2 Winter 2019

NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

“We Are Our Mother’s Children”
GUTS Magazine March 12, 2023

Reservation Dogs Season 1-3 Weekly Episode Recaps
Vulture.com Aug 2021- Sept 2023
--28 Articles Published in Total--

The Only Good Indians, Stephen Graham Jones
Studies in American Indian Literatures Review, Spring 2021

My Heart is a Chainsaw, Stephen Graham Jones
Los Angeles Review of Books, September 24, 2021

SCHOLARLY WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Analyzing Indigenous Horror: Some Thoughts and Approaches”
The Routledge Companion to Horror, Routledge (Forthcoming 2026)

“Wheetigo Justice in *Bad Cree*”
Horror Studies Special Issue: Women and Horror (Forthcoming 2027)

The Savage Screen: Indigeneity in the Modern American Horror Film
manuscript in progress

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

“The Colonial Uncanny in Lousie Erdrich’s *The Round House*”
Indigenous Literary Studies Association Conference, June 2-4, 2025

“Indigenous Genre Fiction: Interpretive Methods and Ethics”
Modern Language Association Conference, January 9-12, 2025

“Violence, Disavowal and Settler Masculinity in *Nick of the Woods*”
Native American and Indigenous Studies Association, May 11-13, 2023

“Concepts with Teeth: Indigenous Creatureliness in Modern American Horror Cinema”
Modern Language Association Conference, January 5-8, 2023

“The Perpetual Motion of Story in Leslie Marmon Silko and Richard Van Camp’s Short Fiction”
Western Literature Association Conference, October 19-22, 2022

“The Ones Who Did Not Die: Captivity Narratives and Final Girls”
Association for the Study of American Indian Literatures Conference, April 7-8, 2022

“The Ones Who Did Not Die: Captivity Narratives and Final Girls”
The Slasher Studies Summer Camp: An International Conference on Slasher Theory, History and Practice,
August 13-15, 2021

“Un-Settling Genre: A Roundtable Discussion of Indigenous Horror”
Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Conference, June 14-21, 2021

“The Anthropologist as Final Girl”
Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, May 2020 (Cancelled due to COVID-19)

“‘Not Born, But Made’: Contamination Narratives and Indigeneity in John Frankenheimer’s
Prophecy (1979)”
Native American Literature Symposium, March 9, 2019

“Without Reservations: Native American Identity and the Visual Language of ‘Ethnographic Containment’ in *The Exiles*”

Native American Literature Symposium, March 24, 2018

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

SCI Brown Bag Series: “Indigenous Creatureliness in Contemporary American Horror Cinema”
UConn – Storrs, April 18, 2025

“The Ones Who Did Not Die: Indigenous Killers, Final Girls, and Captivity Narratives”
Reed College, November 15, 2023

“The Ones Who Did Not Die: Indigenous Killers, Final Girls, and Captivity Narratives”
Luther College, April 12, 2023

“Natural Born Horrors: An Eco-Horror Roundtable”
British Association of Film, Television, and Screen Studies, March 29, 2023

Keynote Lecture, “The Savage Screen: Vengeful Indigeneity in the Modern American Horror Film”
Fear 2000 Conference, Sheffield-Hallam University, July 1-3, 2022

Guest Lecture, “The Many Apocalypses of Jeff Barnaby’s *Rhymes for Young Ghouls* (2013)”
Fordham University, October 8, 2021

“Haunting the National Consciousness: The Rise of Indigenous Horror”
Fantasia International Film Festival, August 7, 2021

Moderator, “Indigenous Horror” Panel
Indigenous Film Summit Manitoba, June 23, 2021

Guest Lecture, “Indigeneity and Blackness in John Frankenheimer’s *Prophecy* (1979)”
Cornell University, April 28, 2021

“‘The Environment Is Us’: Settler Cartographies of Land and Being”
Portland State University, March 18th, 2021

Guest Lecture, “Edge of the Knife (Helen Haig-Brown and Gwaii Edenshaw, 2018)”
University of Hawaii at Manoa, March 8, 2021

“A Climate of Constraint: Indigenous Women, Horror, and Refusal”
University of Connecticut, February 9, 2021

“More than Human: Indigenous Theories of Haunting and Mourning in the Anthropocene”
The Collective for Radical Death Studies “Rad Death Reads”, Dec 4, 2020

“Haunting the National Consciousness: The Rise of Indigenous Horror”
Miskatonic Institute of Horror Studies NYC, September 17, 2020

“The Environment Is Us”: Horror, Indigeneity, and Settler-Colonial Cartographies of Being”
“Radical Reelisms” Talk Series, Macalester College, September 30, 2020

Moderator, “Indigenous Peoples in Genre & Pop Culture” Panel
Indigenous Film Summit Manitoba, August 25, 2020

“History Painted Red: A Discussion of Jeff Barnaby’s *Blood Quantum*”
University of Manitoba Institute for the Humanities, May 28, 2020

“There is no dead, only a change of worlds’ Perspectives on the Representation of Indigenous Undead”
Neo Native: Towards New Mythologies Symposium, Nov 8, 2017

TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS

University of Connecticut, Storrs Campus
Native American Literature
Indigenous Horror – Course Creator

Portland State University
Introduction to Native American Studies
Knowledge and Power
Introduction to Native American Film -- Course Creator
Horror and Indigeneity -- Course Creator
Critical Methodologies
Introduction to Indigenous Literary and Cultural Studies

University of Redlands
Native American Literature
Horror and Indigeneity -- Course Creator
Native American Film -- Course Creator

University of California, Riverside
Beginning Composition
Intermediate Composition
English Writing
Advanced Composition: “Monsters, Movies and Manuscripts”
Advanced Composition: “Uncanny Resemblances: Alter-Egos, Doubles, and The Doppelgänger”
Introduction to the American Literary Tradition
English Writing
Introduction to Alternative Critical Perspectives

University of Oregon
College Composition I
College Composition II

HONORS THESES, MASTER’S THESES, MFAs, PhD DISSERTATION COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

University of Connecticut, Storrs – Graduate Level
Kaylee Jangula-Mootz, PhD Committee Outside Reader, Dissertation Completed 12/2024

Leon Perniciaro, Prospectus Defense Outside Reader

Portland State University – Graduate Level
Thien-Kim Bui, Geography, Ph.D Associate Committee Member, Dissertation In Progress

Grace Pappas, School of Social Work, Ph.D Associate Committee Member, Dissertation In Progress

Portland State University – Undergraduate Level

Blue Van Alst, Film, Undergraduate Honors Thesis Advisor, Thesis Completed June 9, 2023

PUBLIC HUMANITIES AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH ACTIVITY

Interviewee and Consultant, *Hannah* (forthcoming 2025, dir. Siobhan Landry)

Interviewee, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation: “Unreserved,” Oct 2024
Lead Programmer and Lecturer, Horror and Indigeneity Film Series, Hollywood Theatre,
Portland, OR February 2024

Lead Programmer and Lecturer, *Clearcut* (1991) Screening, Clinton Street Theater, Portland OR,
November 4, 2023

Interviewee, Connecticut Public Radio: “Disrupted,” October 25, 2023

Interviewee, Atlas Obscura: “What Stories of Scary Plants and Other Botanical Horrors Say About
Us,” May 4, 2023

Interviewee, The Oregonian: “New Oregon College Scholarships Leave Some Indigenous Students
Out,” December 8, 2022

Interviewee, Red Nation Podcast: “Halloween Reboot Trilogy,” October 31, 2022

Interviewee, Red Nation Podcast: “Native Horror,” September 27, 2022

Consultant & Interviewee, “Messaging the Monstrous” Exhibition, Museum of Modern Art,
October 2022

Interviewee, *Woodlands Dark and Days Bewitched: A History of Folk Horror* (2022 dir. Kier-La Janisse)

SERVICE TO THE DEPT OF ENGLISH

Graduate CV/Teaching Philosophy “Flash Feedback Workshop”
Facilitator, April 11, 2025

Spring Job Seekers Meeting
Facilitator, March 7, 2025

Mock Interview – Kyle Barron
Interviewer, March 7, 2025

Fall Job Seekers Meeting
Facilitator, September 16, 2024

UConn Storrs Department of English, Graduate Job Placement Committee Member 2024-2025

SERVICE TO DEPT OF SOCIAL AND CRITICAL INQUIRY

SCI Day Conference: Pedagogy Panel
UConn – Storrs, March 27, 2025

SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY

UConn – Storrs Native American and Indigenous Studies, Tribal Education Initiative Curriculum and Programming
Committee Member 2024-2025

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Peer Reviewer, Wicazo-Sa Review
Peer Reviewer, Transmotion Journal
Peer Reviewer, Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and the Environment (ISLE)
Manuscript Reviewer, University of New Mexico Press
Manuscript Reviewer, Broadleaf Books

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

PSU Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Research (JEDI-R) Grant 2022-2023 (\$6000 awarded)
Brandeis University Allen-Berenson Postdoctoral Fellowship 2021-2022. (Award declined)
UCR Dissertation Year Fellowship 2021-2022. (Award declined)
UCR Department of English Outstanding Teaching Assistant 2018-2019

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Modern Language Association, Member
Native American and Indigenous Studies Association, Member
Indigenous Literary Studies Association, Member