

**ELIZABETH POLCHA**  
**CURRICULUM VITAE**

**EDUCATION**

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Ph.D., English, Northeastern University, May 2019  
Certificate in Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies

M.A., English, *magna cum laude*, Florida State University, May 2012

B.A., English and American literature, *magna cum laude*, University of Tulsa, May 2010  
Certificate in Women's and Gender Studies

**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

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Assistant Professor of English, Department of English and Philosophy, Drexel University, 2022-current

Assistant Professor of English and Digital Humanities, School of Humanities, University of Southern Mississippi, 2021-2022

Barra Postdoctoral Fellow, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania, 2019-2021

**FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS**

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**National:**

Junior Scholar of the Month, the Society of Early Americanists, September 2021

Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies, 2018-2019

Helen Watson Buckner Memorial Fellowship, John Carter Brown Library, Brown University, 2017

Scholar in Residence, American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Massachusetts, 2017

HASTAC Scholar, HASTAC Fellowship Program (Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory), 2016-18

Microgrant, received to support a feminist Digital Humanities initiative project titled "The Digital Feminist Commons," The Association for Computers and the Humanities (with Nicole Keller), 2017

Mother Board Writing Prize: Honoring Graduate Student Research and Writing in the Field of Women's Studies, the Consortium for Graduate Studies in Gender, Culture, Women, and Sexuality, MIT, Cambridge, MA, 2015

**Institutional:**

Institutional Nominee, The National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend, University of Southern Mississippi, 2021

Outstanding Graduate Student Award for Teaching in Humanities, Social and Behavior Sciences, Office of the Provost, Northeastern University, 2018

Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award, the College of Social Sciences and Humanities, Northeastern University, 2018

Research Assistant, “Word Vector Analysis for TEI/XML: A user-friendly toolkit,” (with Julia Flanders, Elizabeth Maddock Dillon, and Cody Dunne). Tier 1 Grant, Northeastern University, 2017-18.

Collaborative Research Cluster Grant, “The Digital Feminist Commons: Fostering Feminist Methodologies in the Digital Humanities,” Northeastern University Humanities Center (with Elizabeth Maddock Dillon, Julia Flanders, Moya Bailey, and Nicole Keller), 2016-17

The Fred L. Standley Award for Most Effective Teacher Among Graduate Assistants, Department of English, Florida State University, 2012

First Annual Women’s and Gender Studies Outstanding Senior Award, Department of Women’s and Gender Studies, University of Tulsa, 2010

The Chair’s Prize for Outstanding Achievement in English Studies, Department of English, University of Tulsa, 2010

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### **Peer-Reviewed Articles:**

“Natural Science under *Partus Sequitur Ventrem*” Solicited by Ramesh Mallipedi for a special issue on “Empire, Capital, and Climate Change” of *The Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation*. Forthcoming.

“Voyeur in the Torrid Zone: John Gabriel Stedman’s *Narrative of a Five Years Expedition Against the Revolted Negroes of Surinam, 1773-1838*” *Early American Literature* 54.3 (2019)

“Learning from the Past: The Women Writers Project and Thirty Years of Humanities Text Encoding,” *Magnificat Cultura i Literatura Medievals*. Co-authored with Sarah Connell, Julia Flanders, Nicole Keller, William Quinn. Vol. 4 (2017)

### **Selected Digital Publications:**

“Care and the Contingencies of Critique: A Textual Roundtable,” *ASAP Journal*. March 2021.

“Maria Sibylla Merian’s Ecology of Dispossession,” *Lady Science: a magazine of the history and popular culture of science*. 21 June 2019.

“‘My Master’: Interracial Colonial Encounters in Women Writers Online.” *The Women Writers Project*. 23 February 2018.

“On Respecting ‘Deep Knowledge’ in Collaborative Feminist Work: A Discussion with Jacque Wernimont.” HASTAC Blog. HASTAC: Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory, 24 March 2017.

“Loanwords, Macrons, and Orientalism: Encoding an Eighteenth-Century Fictional Translation.” *The Women Writers Project*. 14 July 2016.

### **Review Essays:**

“New Methodologies in the Study of Natural History.” *Early American Literature* 26.2 (2021).

“Pedagogical Entryways into Digital Humanities: A Review of Linda K. Hughes and Sarah R. Robbins’ Teaching Transatlanticism.” *Digital Humanities Quarterly* 11.1 (2017)

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### **University of Southern Mississippi**

“Analysis of Literature,” School of Humanities, 2021

“Introduction to Digital Humanities: Graduate Seminar,” School of Humanities, 2021

### **University of Pennsylvania**

“Rare! Curious! Wild! Science and Cultures of Collecting in Nineteenth-Century American Literature,” Department of English, 2020

“Witches, Mistresses, Midwives: Early American Women’s Writing,” Department of English, 2020

### **Northeastern University**

“Feminist Literature and Colonial Science: Healers, Herbalists, and Poets,” Department of English, 2018

Advanced Writing in the Discipline, Writing Program, 2014-17

- ENGW 3304 Advanced Writing in the Discipline in the Business Administration Professions
- ENGW 3314 Advanced Writing in the Discipline for the Arts, Media, and Design
- ENGW 3306 Advanced Writing in the Discipline for the Health Sciences
- ENGW 3301 Advanced Writing in the Discipline for Interdisciplinary Fields
- ENGW 3315 Advanced Writing in the Discipline for Multi-lingual Speakers

First Year Writing, Writing Program, 2014

First Year Writing for Multi-lingual Speakers, Writing Program, 2017

### **Northeastern University – Teaching Assistant**

“Digital Feminisms,” Department of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, 2016

#### **Northeastern University – Writing Center**

Writing Center Tutor, Northeastern Writing Center, 2013

#### **Tallahassee Community College**

First Year Writing, Division of Communications and Humanities, 2012-13

Research Writing, Division of Communications and Humanities, 2012-13

#### **Tulsa Community College**

Honors Composition: “Gender and Film,” Division of Communications, 2012

#### **Florida State University**

Honors First Year Writing, Bryan Hall Residential Learning Community, 2011

First Year Writing, College Composition Program, 2010-12

Research Writing, College Composition Program, 2010-12

### **SELECTED INVITED TALKS AND WORKSHOPS**

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#### **Research:**

Word Vectors for the Thoughtful Humanist: NEH Institute on Critical Teaching and Research with Vector Space Models (with Julia Flanders and Sarah Connell). Northeastern University, 2022  
Invited discussant

ENG5236: Studies in 18<sup>th</sup> Century British Literature: Rebellion, Slavery, & Abolition in the British Atlantic, Department of English, Florida State University, 2021  
Invited classroom lecturer on Maria Sibylla Merian

Mid-Atlantic Conference on British Studies, The College of William and Mary, 2020  
Plenary roundtable: “Engaged Research and Teaching in British Studies” [postponed due to covid-19]

ENG4834: Issues in Publishing for Editing, Writing, and Media Majors, Department of English, Florida State University, 2020  
Invited classroom lecturer on Digital Publication

Long Eighteenth-Century and Romanticism Colloquium, Department of English, Harvard University, 2018  
Roundtable presentation: “The Sexual Politics of Maria Sibylla Merian’s *Metamorphosis Insectorum Surinamensium*”

Tech Talk, MIT Press, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2017  
Paper presented (with Sarah Connell and Nicole Keller): “Digital Publication at Northeastern University”

JCB Fellows Work-in-Progress Presentation, John Carter Brown Library, 2017

Paper presented: “Joanna, Johanna, Giovanna: The Circulation of John Gabriel Stedman’s Surinam Marriage”

Digital Humanities for Caribbean History, Harvard University, 2017

Invited workshop panelist: “The Early Caribbean Digital Archive”

### **Pedagogy:**

End of Term Workshop, Northeastern University Writing Program, 2018

Invited workshop panelist: “On Giving Feedback”

Pedagogy-in-Progress: “Talking Teaching with the 2017-18 CSSH Teaching Awards Winners,” College of Social Sciences and Humanities, Northeastern University, 2018

Pedagogy-in-Progress: “Supporting Graduate Students as Writers,” College of Social Sciences and Humanities, Northeastern University, 2017

## **DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP AND PUBLIC HISTORY EXPERIENCE**

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Development Leader, Center for Digital Humanities, University of Southern Mississippi, 2021-2022

Submissions Coordinator, *Insurrect! Radical Writings in Early American Studies*, 2020-current

Exhibit Consultant, “Textual Afterlives: Generating Editions and Editing Generations of Americana,” The John Carter Brown Library, Brown University, 2019

Project Manager, The Early Caribbean Digital Archive, Northeastern University, 2016-2018

Research and Encoding Specialist, The Women Writers Project, Northeastern University, 2015-2018

Graduate Fellow, Northeastern University’s NULab for Texts, Maps, Networks, 2016-17

Boston City Archives Collection Project Team Member, Our Marathon: The Boston Bombing Digital Archive, Northeastern University 2014

## **SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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American Studies Association, 2021

Colloquy: Greta LaFleur’s *The Natural History of Sexuality in Early America* (Johns Hopkins UP, 2018)

C19, Virtual Conference, 2020

Panel: “Skin, Bone, Flesh, and Blood: The Colonial Body as a Site of Dissent”

Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Genders, and Sexualities, Baltimore, MD, 2020

Panel: “Colonial Kinship and Settler Sexuality: Feminist Methodologies of Interrogating Natural History” [cancelled due to covid-19]

Society of Early Americanists, Eugene, OR, 2019

Paper presented: "Maria Sibylla Merian's Ecology of Reproduction and Dispossession," Panel:  
Buried in Plain Site: Thinking Beyond the Limits of White Observation

Caribbean Studies Association, Havana, Cuba, 2018

Panel: "The Early Caribbean Digital Archive: Pedagogy Workshop"

The Futures of American Studies Institute, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, 2018

Paper presented: "Voyeur in the Torrid Zone"

C19, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 2018

Paper presented: "*The Female American's* New World Alchemy," Substance/Matters of  
Transatlantic Literary Culture

Society of Early Americanists, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 2017

Paper presented: "Joanna, Johanna, Giovanna: The Circulation of John Gabriel Stedman's  
Surinam Marriage," Reading/Writing Publics: Transatlantic Print Culture

The Futures of American Studies Institute, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, 2017

Paper presented: "Sexual Documentation in the diaries of Thomas Thistlewood"

American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 2016

Paper presented: "John Gabriel Stedman's Editorial 'Sable Curtain': *Narrative of Joanna*, Gender,  
and the Black Atlantic," The Woman of Color in the Eighteenth Century

American Literature Association, Boston, MA, 2015

Paper presented: "Fiction as Archival Data: Building a Feminist Transatlantic Genealogy from Zora  
Neale Hurston to Erna Brodber," Modern and Contemporary American Literature in a  
Global Frame

American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies, Los Angeles, California, 2015

Paper presented: "Encoding John Gabriel Stedman's *Narrative of Joanna*" Interrogating  
Methodologies in Eighteenth-Century Americanist Scholarship

## **ACADEMIC COMMUNITY ORGANIZING, SERVICE, AND ADMINISTRATION**

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Research Consultant, Center for Digital Humanities, University of Southern Mississippi, 2021-22

Peer Reviewer, DHQ: Digital Humanities Quarterly, 2021

Peer Reviewer, Dictionary for Caribbean and Afro-Latin American Biography, Oxford UP, 2019

Graduate Student Teaching Mentor, Northeastern University Writing Program, 2015-17

Senator, Graduate Student Government, Northeastern University, 2015-16

Conference Planning Committee, Northeastern English Graduate Student Association, 2013-15

First Year Composition Committee Member, Florida State University, 2011-12