

ASHLEY O'MARA

Syracuse University | Department of English
Hall of Languages 401 | Syracuse, NY 13244
amomara@syr.edu | ashleyomara.com

EDUCATION

- 2014-present **Syracuse University (Syracuse, NY)**
ABD, Doctor of Philosophy in English (anticipated: August 2020)
Dissertation: "‘Man delights not me; no, nor Woman neither’: Celibacy and Asexuality in the Literature of Reformed England"
- 2014 **Syracuse University (Syracuse, NY)**
Master of Arts in English
- 2010 **Le Moyne College (Syracuse, NY)**
Bachelor of Arts in English, *Summa cum laude*
Departmental Honors in creative writing; minor in philosophy

SERVICE EXPERIENCE

- Summer 2020 **Syracuse Shakespeare in the Park:** assistant director, *Love's Labours Lost* (summer 2020), *Syracuse, NY*
- 2019-present **CNY Aces:** organizer and co-founder, *Syracuse, NY*
- 2019-present **Usher:** volunteer, *Syracuse Stage, Syracuse, NY*
- 2019-present **Syracuse Shakespeare in the Park:** dramaturg, *Syracuse, NY*
- 2018-present **Pronouns, Gender, and Preferred Name Advisory Council:** graduate student representative, *Syracuse University*
- 2018-2019 **NEH Next Gen PhD committee:** member, *Syracuse University*
Mentoring/Alumni Network subcommittee: member, *Syracuse University*
- 2018-present **Usher:** volunteer, *CNY Playhouse, Syracuse, NY*
- Spring 2018 **Hiring Committee:** member, *LGBT Resource Center, Syracuse University*
- 2017-2018 **Chancellor's Task Force on Sexual and Relationship Violence:** graduate student representative, *Syracuse University*
- 2017-2018 **Diversity Committee:** member, *Graduate Student Organization, Syracuse University*
- 2017-present **Usher:** volunteer, *Landmark Theatre, Syracuse, NY*
- 2016-2017 **Undergraduate Committee:** representative, *Department of English/English Graduate Organization, Syracuse University*
- 2015-2016 **Graduate Employment Committee:** member, *Graduate Student Organization, Syracuse University*
- 2015-2016 **Graduate Student Organization:** representative, *English Graduate Organization, Syracuse University*
- 2014-2015 **PhD Co-facilitator:** *English Graduate Organization, Syracuse University*
- 2013-2014 **MA Co-facilitator:** *English Graduate Organization, Syracuse University*
- 2013-2014 **MA Co-facilitator:** *English Graduate Organization, Syracuse University*

WEB AND SOCIAL MEDIA EXPERIENCE

- Fall 2018 Digital Campaign Manager: Gail Tosh (D) for New York State Assembly (*New York State 120th district*)
- Fall 2018-present Web Editor: Broadly Textual Pub (*BroadlyTextual.com*)
- 2018-present Website manager and co-creator for my personal website, *ashleyomara.com*
- 2016-2018 Web and Social Media Coordinator: *Department of English, Syracuse University*

EDITING EXPERIENCE

- August 2019-present Co-editor, *Broadly Textual Pub* (*BroadlyTextual.com*)
- Summer 2018 Staff editor, *The Asexual* journal (*TheAsexual.com*)
- Spring 2011 Co-editor, *The Salamander* (Le Moyne College, Syracuse, NY)

SELECTED PUBLIC WRITING

- Forthcoming* *Howlround*, interview with the director and cast of Branden Jacobs-Jenkins' *Everybody* (Shakespeare Theatre Company, Washington, DC, 2019)
- 10 September 2019* *Howlround*, review, "Unmanly Grief: Performing A Trans Hamlet"
- 28 August 2018* *Religion Dispatches*, editorial, "World Meeting of Families again positions queer Catholics as children"
- 28 June 2018* *The Post-Standard*, editorial, "Calling on clergy to bear witness at Syracuse immigration rally"
- 7 February 2018* *America* magazine, personal essay, "Fasting, Dieting, and Finding Christ in the Body"
- November 2017* *Broadly Textual Pub* (BroadlyTextual.com), posts:
"Misrepresenting Difference: Objectifying Asexuality in Journalism"
"Abnormalizing Difference: Sexual Normativity in Asexual *Sherlock* Fanfic"
"Normalizing Difference: Redefining Asexuality"
"Valuing Difference: An Ace on Food, Friendship, and Fluffy Companionship"
- January 2017* "Un/natural Citizens: Naturalization and Conversion"
"Persuasive Performance: Theater and Conversion"
"Legalizing Repression: 'Muslim Registries' and English Recusants"
"Coda: Converting Art — Literature During Political Repression"

INSTRUCTIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2019-present* **Pronouns Competency Workshop:** *Syracuse University*
Curriculum co-developer and co-facilitator for university professional development training in using personal pronouns
- 2016-2018* **English Textual Studies Graduate Teaching Associate:** *Syracuse University*
Independently-taught writing-intensive freshman literature courses
- ETS 182: Race and Literary Texts (Fall 2017)
 - ETS 192: Gender and Literary Texts (Spring 2016 and 2018)
 - ETS 113: Survey of British Literature, Beginnings to 1789 (Fall 2016)
- 2013-2014, 2015-2016* **English Textual Studies Graduate Teaching Assistant:** *Syracuse University*
Writing-intensive freshman literature courses
- ETS 121: Introduction to Shakespeare (Fall 2013, with Dr. Dympna Callaghan)
 - ETS 119: Postwar American Fiction (Spring 2014, with Dr. Susan Edmunds)
 - ETS 114: Survey of British Literature, 1798-present (Fall 2015, with Dr. Mike Goode)
 - ETS 146: Reading Screen Cultures (Spring 2016, with Dr. Chris Hanson)
- 2012-2013* **Writing Program Graduate Instructor:** *Syracuse University*
Independently-taught freshman- and sophomore-level composition and research courses
- WRT 105: Practices of Academic Writing, "Re-imagining the Normal" (Fall 2012)
 - WRT 205: Critical Research and Writing, "Gender in Religion" (Spring 2013)

INVITED SPEAKER

- 31 January 2020* "I cannot prove a lover': Asexuality, Disability, and Performing Sexual Authority in Shakespeare" (Humanities Center, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY)
- 2 April 2019* "Celibacy and Asexuality in English Literature" (Early Queer Scholarship series, Syracuse University LGBT Resource Center, Syracuse, NY)
- 30 November 2018* "Celibacy and Asexuality in Hamlet" (Department of English Colloquium series, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY)
- 11 April 2018* "An Ace Discovers Asexuality History and Culture" (Human Library, Syracuse University Bird Library, Syracuse, NY)
- 12 March 2017* "'Give Me Chastity But Not Yet': Augustine, Sex, and Sin" (Adult Forum, United Church of Fayetteville, NY)
- 9 April 2016* Audience discussion: Sarah Ruhl's *Passion Play* (The Red House Arts Theatre, Syracuse, NY)
- 3 April 2016* "Queer(ing) Catholics in English Literature" (Adult Forum, United Church of Fayetteville, NY)
- 13 February 2016* Audience discussion: William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (The Red House Arts Theatre, Syracuse, NY)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2016-2018 **Curator:** *Six Degrees of Francis Bacon* (sixdegreesoffrancisbacon.com)
Approve new entries to the database and edit existing entries for accuracy
- 2015-2018 **Contributor:** *Six Degrees of Francis Bacon* (sixdegreesoffrancisbacon.com)
Responsible for over 20 additions of persons, relationships, and group assignments to the database
- Summer 2015 **Research Assistant:** for reporter Jeet Heer, *The New Republic*
Conducted archival research in the Special Collections Research Center at Syracuse University

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Roundtable: Early Modern Asexuality and Performance
Co-chair, Renaissance Society of America, Philadelphia, PA, 4 April 2020
- “Married Chastity”: Asexual Love in “The Phoenix and Turtle” (Part 2)
Seminar paper, Shakespeare Association of America, Washington, DC, 18 March 2019
- “Married chastity”: Catholic Celibacy and Platonic Desire in Shakespeare’s “The Phoenix and the Turtle” (Part 1)
Panel paper, Renaissance Society of America, Toronto, ON, 18 March 2019
- Rib-bed for Her Pleasure: Reproduction and Conversion in the Creation of Eve
Seminar paper, Objects of Conversion conference, University of California, Los Angeles, 16 February 2017
- “How art thou changed!”: Transfiguring the Magdalene in Early Modern Converts’ Poetry
Panel paper, Transforming Bodies conference, Cornell University, 21 April 2017
- “El sexo no es esencia en lo entendido”: Sor Juana’s Women’s Bodies and Ungendered Souls
Seminar paper, 2016 NEMLA, Hartford, CT, 20 March 2016
- “Idioma mexicano”: Criollismo and Spanish Text/Paratext in Paredes’s Nahuatl *Catecismo mexicano*
Panel paper, 2014 NEASECS Conference, Syracuse, NY, 26 September 2014

AWARDS

- Humanities Center Dissertation Fellowship (2019-2020), Humanities Center at Syracuse University
- Grant-in-aid, “Intersecting the Sexual” symposium (Fall 2019), Folger Shakespeare Library
- Joseph Hughes Memorial Summer Fellowship (2019), Department of English at Syracuse University
- Summer Dissertation Fellowship (2019), the Graduate School at Syracuse University
- Hugo Award for Best Related Work, Archive of Our Own (contributor)
- Grant-in-aid, “Researching the Archive” dissertation seminar (2018-2019), Folger Shakespeare Library
- Grant-in-aid, “A Broader Public” writing workshop (Summer 2018), Collegeville Institute
- *Jeopardy!* contestant, 12 March 2018
- Grant-in-aid, “Objects of Conversion” conference (Spring 2018), University of California–Los Angeles
- HASTAC (Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory) Scholar (2016-2017), Department of English at Syracuse University
- Grant-in-aid, “Early Modern Theater and Conversions” symposium (Fall 2016), Folger Shakespeare Library
- Summer Fellowship (June and July 2016), Department of English at Syracuse University
- Grant-in-aid, “Cultural Histories of the Material World: Books and Objects” workshop (Spring 2016), Folger Shakespeare Library
- University Fellowship (2014-2015 and 2018-2019), Syracuse University

SKILLS

- Allyship: trained through the Safe Zone program at the LGBT Resource Center at Syracuse University
- Writing: outstanding copyediting skills; strong web and print research skills
- Computer: Wordpress and Cascade CMS; Atom; Markdown; Adobe Photoshop and Acrobat; social media (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Tumblr); Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint); G Suite
- Languages: native English; advanced Spanish; beginner Arabic (MSA/heritage Lebanese)