

ELISSA WASHUTA

Curriculum Vitae
February 2025
washuta.2@osu.edu

EMPLOYMENT

The Ohio State University

Associate Professor, Department of English, 2022 – present

Assistant Professor, Department of English, 2017 – 2022

Institute of American Indian Arts

Nonfiction Faculty, Low-Residency MFA in Creative Writing, 2014 – 2017

University of Washington

Lecturer, Department American Indian Studies, 2010 – 2014

EDUCATION

University of Washington

MFA, Creative Writing (Fiction), 2009

University of Maryland

BA, English, *summa cum laude*, 2007

PUBLICATIONS

Books

The Big Score. (Forthcoming.) Washington Square Press/Atria, Simon & Schuster. (Manuscript in progress, accepted based on proposal.)

White Magic. Tin House Books, 2021.

Shapes of Native Nonfiction: Collected Essays by Contemporary Writers. Co-edited with Theresa Warburton. University of Washington Press, 2019.

Starvation Mode: A Memoir of Food, Consumption, and Control. Instant Future-Future Tense Books, 2015. Chapbook.

My Body Is a Book of Rules. Red Hen Press, 2014.

Essays in Anthologies (Original Works)

Untitled essay, *1000 Words: A Writer's Guide to Staying Creative, Focused, and Productive All Year Round*, Jami Attenberg, Simon Element, 2024.

- “I Struggled a Long Time with Surviving,” *Critical Hits: Writers Playing Video Games*, editors Carmen Maria Machado and J. Robert Lennon, Graywolf Press, 2023.
- “Congratulations! You Have a New Match,” *Pie & Whiskey: Writers Under the Influence of Butter and Booze*, editors Kate Lebo and Sam Ligon, Sasquatch Books, 2017.
- “Undergraduate Admissions Essay Draft,” *This Is the Place: Women Writing about Home*, editors Margot Kahn and Kelly McMasters, Seal Press, 2017.
- “Elissa Washuta on Vi Hilbert,” *Seattle City of Literature: Reflections from a Community of Writers*, editor Ryan Boudinot, Sasquatch Books, 2015.

Essays in Anthologies (Reprinted Works)

- “Apocalypse Logic,” *The Lyric Essay as Resistance*, editors Zoë Bossiere and Erica Trabold, Wayne State University Press, March 2023.
- “Drinking Story,” *The Best American Essays 2022*, editors Alexander Chee and Robert Atwan, Harper Collins, November 2022.
- “Apocalypse Logic,” *Evergreen: Fairy Tales, Essays, & Fables from the Dark Northwest*, editor Sharma Shields, Scablands Books, November 2021.
- “Apocalypse Logic,” *A Harp in the Stars: An Anthology of Lyric Essays*, editor Randon Billings Noble, University of Nebraska Press, August 2021.
- “Incompressible Flow,” *Advanced Creative Nonfiction: A Writer’s Guide and Anthology*, editors Jessica Hendry Nelson and Sean Prentiss, Bloomsbury, August 2021.
- “Apocalypse Logic,” *Shapes of Native Nonfiction: Collected Essays by Contemporary Writers*, editors Elissa Washuta and Theresa Warburton, University of Washington Press, July 2019.
- “White City,” *Ghosts of Seattle Past*, editor Jaimee Garbacik, Chin Music Press, April 2017.

Essays in Periodicals

- “The Eagle,” *Epoch* 70.1, January 2023.
- “How Do I Tell My Story of Getting Sober?,” *Harper’s Bazaar*, online, July 14, 2021.
- “Why Though,” *Noyo Review*, online, summer 2021.
- Excerpt from *White Magic*, *Paris Review*, online, May 5, 2021.
- “My Heartbreak Workbook,” *The Cut*, online, April 26, 2021.
- “THREAD,” *Brink*, vol. 1 no. 1, April 2021.
- “On *Shapes of Native Nonfiction* and the Story Form of Native Basketry,” with Theresa Warburton and Meranda Owens, *Lit Hub*, online, July 16, 2020.
- “Bulking,” *Gulf Coast*, Vol. 32, Issue 1, Winter/Spring 2020.
- “White Witchery,” *Guernica*, online, February 14, 2019.
- “The Sun Disappears,” *Canadian Art*, Fall 2018.
- “Incompressible Flow,” *Triangle House Review*, online, February 5, 2018.
- “Wednesday Addams Is Just Another Settler,” *Electric Literature*, online, November 22, 2017.
- “Unpacking the *Razorblade Suitcase*: 21 Years of Complicated Love for Bush,” *The Stranger*, May 24, 2017.
- “Shark Girl,” *City Arts*, April 25, 2017.

- “White City,” *The Offing*, online, March 2, 2017.
- “Apocalypse Logic,” *The Offing*, online, November 21, 2016.
- “The American Fencing Handbook,” *Ninth Letter*, Fall/Winter 2016.
- “I Will Write a Bestselling Native American Biography,” *Black Warrior Review* 43.1, Fall/Winter 2016.
- “They Just Dig: On Writing, Coal Mining, and Fear,” *Literary Hub*, March 16, 2016.
- “Consumption,” *Okey-Panky*, online, June 22, 2015.
- “This Indian Does Not Owe You,” *BuzzFeed*, September 22, 2014.
- “I Am Not Pocahontas,” *The Weeklings*, September 4, 2014.
- “Violence against Indigenous Women: Fun, Sexy, and No Big Deal on the Big Screen,” *Racialicious*, September 3, 2014.
- “Bred to Binge,” *As/Us: A Space for Women of the World*, Issue 3, February 2014.
- “The destructive legacy of the first Thanksgiving: how Europeans hurt the American diet,” *Salon*, November 28, 2013.
- “The wrongheaded obsession with ‘vanishing’ indigenous peoples,” *Salon*, November 24, 2013.
- “I regret my ‘Naughty Native’ Halloween costume,” *Salon*, October 23, 2013.
- “How Much Indian Was I?, My Fellow Students Asked,” *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, June 2013.
- “Prescribing Information,” *Third Coast*, May 2013.
- “Preliminary Bibliography,” *Filter Literary Journal*, June 2011.

Reviews

- Entries for *There There* and *Perma Red*, “The Best Books in American Fiction,” *The Atlantic*, online, March 14, 2024.
- Review of *Out of the Crazywoods* by Cheryl Savageau. *Native American and Indigenous Studies Journal*, Spring 2022.

TEACHING

The Ohio State University, 2017 – present

Creative Nonfiction Graduate Workshop
 Advanced Creative Nonfiction Writing
 Native and Indigenous Literatures
 Forms of Creative Writing: The Lyric Essay
 Forms of Creative Writing: Nonfiction Form
 Forms of Creative Writing: Living for the Essay
 Literary Publishing
 Professionalization for MFA Students
 Honors Seminar: Nonfiction Magic

Institute of American Indian Arts, 2014 – 2016

Nonfiction low-residency MFA mentorship

Residency workshops in nonfiction

University of Washington, 2020 – 2014

Images of Natives in the Cinema and Popular Cultures

American Indians in Cinema

The Twilight Series: Native Image and Myth

American Indian Memoir and Autobiography

Contemporary American Indian Novels

Workshops

Tin House Summer Workshop, July 2020

Port Townsend Writers Conference, July 2019

Tin House Winter Workshop, February 2019

Richard Hugo House, 2013-2014

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

- 2023 Provost's Midcareer Scholars: Scarlet and Gray Associate Professor, the Ohio State University
- 2023 PI, ART-ificial: An Intelligence Co-Lab; Artificial Intelligence in the Arts, Humanities, and Engineering: Interdisciplinary Collaborations, the Ohio State University (Phase 2, \$41,975)
- 2023 Co-PI, ART-ificial: An Intelligence Co-Lab; Artificial Intelligence in the Arts, Humanities, and Engineering: Interdisciplinary Collaborations, the Ohio State University (Phase 1, \$25,000)
- 2022 Early Career Distinguished Scholar Award, the Ohio State University
- 2022 Early Career Faculty Excellence Award, College of Arts & Sciences, the Ohio State University
- 2019 Creative Capital Award (\$50,000)
- 2017 Special Mention, *Pushcart Prize XLI*
- 2018 National Endowment for the Arts Literature Creative Writing Fellowship (\$25,000)
- 2016 Artist Trust Arts Innovator Award (\$25,000)
- 2013 4Culture Art Projects Award
- 2012 Potlatch Fund Native Arts Grant
- 2012 Artist Trust GAP Grant

FELLOWSHIPS AND PROGRAMS

- 2025 Growing Research Opportunities (GRO) Academy, the Ohio State University
- 2021 Global Arts + Humanities Society of Fellows, the Ohio State University
- 2012 Made at Hugo House Fellowship

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Academic Counselor, Department of American Indian Studies, University of Washington, 2010 – 2017

Youth Programs Coordinator, Richard Hugo House, 2010 – 2011

RESIDENCIES

2016 Fremont Bridge (residency with commissioned project, \$10,000), Seattle, WA

2016 Hedgebrook, Whidbey Island, WA

INVITED READINGS AND TALKS (SELECTED)

- 2024 Buckeye Language Network Symposium, Ohio State University (29 March 2024)
- 2023 Inkubator Writing Conference, Cleveland, OH (23 Sep 2023).
- 2023 Thurber House, Columbus, OH (9 Aug 2023).
- 2023 Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, OH (25 Apr 2023).
- 2023 Aetna Celebration of Creative Nonfiction, Univ. of Connecticut, Online (23 Mar 2023).
- 2023 University of Oregon, Online (24 Feb 2023).
- 2022 Virginia Commonwealth University, Online (17 Oct 2022).
- 2022 University of Indianapolis, Online (5 Oct 2022).
- 2022 Miami University, Oxford, OH (26 Apr 2022).
- 2022 University of California Riverside Writers Week, Online (14 Feb 2022).
- 2021 Fall for the Book Festival, George Mason University, Online (18 Oct 2021).
- 2021 University of Nebraska–Lincoln, Online (11 Oct 2021).
- 2021 Georgetown University, Online (05 Oct 2021).
- 2021 Institute of American Indian Arts, Online (22 Jul 2021).
- 2021 Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance, Online (10 Jun 2021).
- 2021 Town Hall Seattle, Online (04 May 2021).
- 2021 Amherst College, Online (25 Mar 2021).
- 2021 University of Maryland, Online (24 Mar 2021).
- 2021 University of San Francisco, Online (08 Mar 2021).
- 2020 Bryant University, Online (05 Nov 2020).
- 2020 Electric Literature Virtual Salon Series, Online (26 Oct 2020).
- 2020 Keynote, Mendocino Coast Writers Conference, Online (01 Aug 2020).
- 2020 University of Chicago, Online (21 Feb 2020).
- 2019 Texas Book Festival, Austin, TX (26 Oct 2019).
- 2019 Olympia Timberland Library, Olympia, WA (12 Oct 2019).
- 2019 University of Missouri, Columbia, MO (05 Sep 2019).
- 2019 Field Museum, Chicago, IL (06 Aug 2019).
- 2019 Seattle Public Library, Central Branch, Seattle, WA (22 Jul 2019).
- 2019 University of Washington, Seattle, WA (01 May 2019).
- 2019 Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA (30 Apr 2019).

- 2019 Cornell University, Ithaca, NY (14 Mar 2019).
- 2018 SUNY Cortland, Cortland, NY (17 Oct 2018).
- 2018 Cuyahoga County Library, Beachwood, OH (13 Jun 2018).
- 2018 Bexley Library, Bexley, OH (12 Jun 2018).
- 2018 Ohio Northern University, Ada, OH (16 Apr 2018).
- 2018 Wright State University, Dayton, OH (27 Mar 2018).
- 2018 Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA (12 Feb 2018).
- 2017 Kenyon Writers Festival, Kenyon College, Gambier, OH (11 Nov 2017).
- 2017 Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA (23 May 2017).
- 2017 Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX (13 May 2017).
- 2017 Cooley Art Gallery, Reed College, Portland, OR (04 Mar 2017).
- 2017 Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO (02 Mar 2017).
- 2016 WORD Christchurch Literary Festival, New Zealand (24-27 Aug 2016).
- 2016 Portland Community College Southeast Campus, Portland, OR (19 May 2016).
- 2016 Get Lit! Festival, Spokane, WA (14 Apr 2016).
- 2015 Western Washington University, Online (02 Dec 2015).
- 2015 University of Washington, Tacoma, WA (18 Nov 2015).
- 2015 University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA (30 Mar 2015).
- 2015 Western Illinois University, Macomb, Illinois (04 Feb 2015).
- 2014 University of Maryland, College Park, MD (03 Dec 2014).
- 2014 UCLA, Los Angeles, CA (27 Oct 2014).

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

- Panelist, "Excavation of Personal Stories," Changemaker Authors Conference, online, March 10, 2024.
- Panelist, "How to Make a Ghost Walk: The Craft of Haunted Memoir," The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Seattle, WA, March 11, 2023.
- Panelist, "Misbehaving Memoirs," The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Seattle, WA, March 10, 2023.
- Panelist, "A Misfit of Ghosts: How Haunted Memoir Rethinks the Real," NonfictionNOW, online, December 2021.
- Roundtable discussant, "Shapes of Native Nonfiction: Creative and Critical Reflections, One Year On," Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada, May 2020. (Conference canceled due to COVID-19.)
- Panelist, "All About Anthologies," The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, San Antonio, TX, March 7, 2020. (Panel canceled due to COVID-19.)
- Roundtable discussant, "Grounded Indigenous Feminisms and the Work for Thriving Indigenous Futures," American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI, November 2019.
- Roundtable discussant, "Indigenous Studies in Unexpected Places: Retaining the Roots of Native and Indigenous Studies in Research Across Disciplines," Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Annual Meeting, Hamilton, New Zealand, June 2019.
- Panelist, "#saferLIT: Fighting Sexual Misconduct in the Literary World," The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Portland, OR, March 2019.

- Panelist, “Reclaiming the Mine: Nonfiction Writers Explore Mining as Method and Metaphor,” The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Portland, OR, March 2019.
- Panelist, “On Collections” (Conference Welcome Panel), NonfictionNOW, Phoenix, AZ, November 2018.
- Panelist, “The Essay as Ecosystem,” NonfictionNOW, Phoenix, AZ, November 2018.
- Panelist, “Health Research and Indigenous Studies,” Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA, May 2018.
- Panelist, “This Is Not a Memoir: Thoughts on the Linked Essay Collection,” The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Tampa, FL, March 2018.
- Panelist, “Speculative Nonfiction: The Act of Invention in the Context of Reality,” The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Tampa, FL, March 2018.
- Panelist, “Written on the Body: Women Writers Reinventing Nonfiction Forms,” NonfictionNOW Conference, Reykjavik, Iceland, June 2017.
- Panelist, “The Fifty-First Minute: Beyond the Therapist’s Office and onto the Page,” The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Washington, DC, February 2017.
- Panelist, “Home: A Four-Letter Word,” The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Washington, DC February 2017.
- Panelist, “There’s No I in We: Writing Creative Nonfiction about the Groups We Belong To,” The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Los Angeles, CA, March 2016.
- Breakout Session Instructor, “Choosing Collage: Meaning Before Form,” Chuckanut Writers Conference, Bellingham, WA, June 2015.
- Panelist, “Drawing from the Well of Life,” Chuckanut Writers Conference, Bellingham, WA, June 2015.
- Panelist, “Breaking the Body: Women Writers Reconfiguring Creative Nonfiction Forms,” The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Minneapolis, MN, April 2015.
- Panelist, “Literary Reading: Elissa Washuta & Erika T. Wurth,” Thinking Its Presence: The Racial Imaginary, University of Montana, Missoula, MT, March 2015.
- Panelist, “Generation and Genre: Reading by Native American Women Writers,” Thinking Its Presence: Race & Creative Writing Conference, University of Montana, Missoula, MT, April 2014.
- Moderator, “Weaving Stories from Strands of Truth: Native Writers on Nonfiction,” The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Seattle, WA, February 2014.
- Panelist, “Four Ways Blogging Benefits a Writer,” The Association of Writers and Writing Programs, Seattle, WA, February 2014.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Advisor, Disability Futures Fellowship, Ford Foundation and Mellon Foundation, 2023 – 2024
- Preliminary judge, Hopwood Graduate Award in Nonfiction, University of Michigan, 2024
- Series advisory board member, *Crux: The Georgia Series in Literary Nonfiction*, University of Georgia Press, 2022 – present
- Judge, Emory Creative Writing Program undergraduate writing contest, 2021
- Planning committee member, Flyover Fest, 2019 –2020
- Judge, *The Pinch* Literary Awards (Nonfiction), 2019
- Judge, *Hunger Mountain* Creative Nonfiction Prize, 2019

Judge, PEN/Open Book Award, 2018 –2019
 Board of Directors Member, VIDA: Women in Literary Arts, 2016 –2018
 Judge, *Ninth Letter* 2018 Literary Award, 2018
 Judge, Sundress Academy for the Arts & VIDA Fellowship, 2018
 Juror, Poetry on Buses: Your Body of Water, 4Culture, 2016
 Saturday Editor, The Rumpus, 2016
 Judge, Penelope Niven Creative Nonfiction Award, Center for Women Writers, Salem College, 2016
 Guest editor, The James Franco Review Issue 6, 2016
 Organizing Committee Member, Lit Crawl Seattle, 2015 –2016
 Faculty Adviser, Mud City Journal, Institute of American Indian Arts, 2015 – 2017
 Judge, Minnesota Emerging Writers Grant, The Loft Literary Center, 2014
 Co-coordinator, “The Living Breath of wələbʔaltxw” Indigenous Ways of Knowing Cultural Food Practices and Ecological Knowledge Symposium, University of Washington, 2013
 Curator, InPrint, Richard Hugo House’s quarterly forum on the writing life, 2009 –2010
 Host, Works in Progress, Richard Hugo House’s monthly open mic series, 2009 – 2010
 Curator, the Castalia reading series, 2008 –2009
 Prose submissions reader, *Seattle Review*, 2007 –2008

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Departmental service

Undergraduate studies committee member, 2024 – 2025
 Search committee member for Post-MFA Scholar in Creative Writing, 2023
 Search committee member for Provost's Tenure-Track Fellow to Faculty, Native American Literature and Culture, 2022 – 2023
 Search committee member for Visiting Assistant Professor of English in Fiction Writing, 2022
 Organizer and moderator for MFA student panel, “Reworking the Workshop: What Do We Need from the MFA?”, 2021
 Search committee member for Chair position, 2020
 Elected Representative, Executive Committee, 2018 – 2019
 Founder and curator of the Native Craft Reading Series, 2017 – 2019
 Creative Writing Program committee, 2017 – present

College service

Search committee member for Assistant Professor of Global Indigenous Arts in Department of History of Art, 2024 – 2025
 Search committee member for Assistant Professor of Indigenous Feminisms in Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, 2024 – 2025
 Search committee member for Associate Dean of Faculty Affairs, 2024
 Director of American Indian Studies, 2022 – present
 American Indian Studies affiliated faculty, 2017 – present

University service

Search committee member for Director of the Newark Earthworks Center, 2025

Newark Earthworks Center Faculty Oversight Committee member, 2023 – present

Presented “Indigenous Peoples Day Celebration: A Reading with Elissa Washuta,” OSU
Multicultural Center, 2018