

EDEN

VISITING WRITERS

AIMEE NEZHUKUMATATHIL & DUSTIN PARSONS

October 11, 7:30 p.m., Jamrich 1318

Aimee Nezhukumatathil is a professor of English in the University of Mississippi's MFA program. Her newest collection of poems, *OCEANIC*, was released from Copper Canyon Press in April 2018. She is also the author of the forthcoming book of illustrated nature essays, *WORLD OF WONDER* (2019, Milkweed), and three previous poetry collections: *LUCKY FISH* (2011), *AT THE DRIVE-*

IN VOLCANO (2007), and *MIRACLE FRUIT* (2003)—all from Tupelo Press. Her most recent chapbook is *LACE & PYRITE*, a collaboration of nature poems with the poet Ross Gay. She is the poetry editor of *Orion* magazine and her poems have appeared in the *Best American Poetry* series, *American Poetry Review*, *New England Review*, *Poetry*, *Ploughshares*, and *Tin House*. Honors include a poetry fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Pushcart Prize.



Dustin Parsons is the author of *Exploded View: Essays on Fatherhood*, with Diagrams (University of Georgia Press 2018). He has an MA from Kansas State University and an MFA from Bowling Green State University. He has previously served as the non-fiction editor of *The Mid-American Review*. Awards for his writing include an Ohio Arts Grant and a New York Fine Arts grant in creative non-fiction, the 2013 *American Literary Review Prize* in fiction, the 2014 fiction prize from *The Laurel Review* and a "notable" in the 2014 Best American Essays. He was awarded a residency

fellowship at Wyoming's *Brush Creek Foundation of the Arts*. He teaches creative writing workshops and courses in American literature at University of Mississippi. He lives in Oxford with his wife, the poet *Aimee Nezhukumatathil*, and their two wily boys.



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REMINDER:

STUDENTS THAT ARE PLANNING ON GRADUATING SPRING 2019 NEED TO REGISTER FOR SPRING'S COMMENCEMENT WHEN THEY REGISTER FOR WINTER COURSES.

YOU CAN FIND MORE DETAILS [HERE](#)

WINTER SPECIALTY COURSES

EN 495W/595: The Writer's Room: Episodic Screenwriting in the Age of Prestige Television

Instructor: Monica Robinson

This course will serve as an introduction into the process of pitching and writing episodic television. Students will analyze recent critically-acclaimed shows to better understand the craft, scope, and possibilities of episodic scriptwriting. Because television shows are written collaboratively, students will practice working in a "writers' room" environment by brainstorming, writing, and story-building in groups. By the end of the class, students will write a spec script for an existing show as well as create an original pilot concept. Students will also learn how to pitch and market scripts, and how to build a career writing for television.

EN 595: Introduction to the Digital Humanities

Instructor: Caroline Krzakowski

This course offers students a historical and thematic overview of the various research approaches and methodologies broadly construed as the digital humanities. Students will become familiar not only with approaches, but with the lively ideological debates currently informing this emergent field of study. Students will also critically examine a variety of DH projects, become familiar with the tools used to create those projects, and develop their own projects in turn. We will read a variety of theoretical and critical texts that variously define and frame the subject of inquiry of the digital humanities and its applications in literary studies. We will think about the ways in which debates in the digital humanities have been conducted alongside debates in literary and cultural studies and have shaped contemporary interpretive practices.

EN 495/595: Ecocriticism and Environmental Justice

Instructor: Amy Hamilton

While the study of literature in relation to land and environment has long been integral to literary scholarship, in recent decades the interrelated fields of Literature and Environment, Ecocriticism, and Environmental Justice have grown exponentially. This course introduces students to key movements within ecocriticism and environmental justice scholarship, with a keen eye to how the fields balance theoretical frameworks with the material realities of climate change and environmental inequality. In addition to studying how ecocritics engage with theoretical approaches such as New Materialism, Feminism, and Affect Theory, students will consider the complex and often conflicted relationships between theoretical concepts and the lived reality of the human and nonhuman world, from habitat loss to genetic engineering.

EN 345: The Teaching of Literature

(for all Secondary English Education majors and minors)

Instructor: Wendy Farkas

Prerequisites for this course are having already taken/passed EN 304 and admission to the pre-methods phase of teacher education or with permission of instructor.

Note: EN 345 cannot be applied toward a non-teaching major or any minor in English. Remember that EN 350 (English Methods) will not be offered again until the Fall 2019 term. Please plan accordingly.

WINTER COURSES CONT.

EN313/PY313: Introduction to Linguistic Theory

Instructor: David Boe

This course is an introduction to the formal study of language. We will begin by discussing the early twentieth-century development of structural linguistics, followed by an overview of the various theoretical developments leading up to the appearance of Chomskyan generative grammar in the 1950s. Some current issues in contemporary linguistics will be considered, including the distinction between “language” and “communication.” We will then turn to the major subfields of formal linguistics, including examination of the analysis of words (lexicon and morphology), sentences (syntax), and meaning (semantics). Finally, we will examine the relationship between language and the human mind/brain, and we will consider the debate between linguistic behaviorism and the innateness hypothesis.

EN 375: Race and Speculative Fiction

Instructor: Lesley Larkin

This course will examine works of speculative fiction by U.S. authors that address race and racism as fundamental ethical concerns. Taking as our premise the claim that social justice and decolonial efforts are by definition speculative, we will study a broad range of literary works, from the obviously science fictional to the implicitly so. Through the lenses of science fiction studies and critical race studies, we will ask how these works perform--and invite--interventions in historical and ongoing power relations that place race in complex relation to gender, sexuality, class, and other modes of identity. Authors currently under consideration for our reading list include Octavia Butler, W. E. B. Du Bois, Gerald Vizenor, Alina Troyano, Chang-rae Lee, Stephen Graham Jones, Carmen Maria Machado, Ruth Ozeki, and others.

MEET OUR VISITING PROFESSORS!

Caibo (Portia) Zhang is a Visiting Professor from Shandong University (Weihai), China (SDU), where she teaches American Literature and Integrated English for undergraduates, besides serving as the associate dean for International communication with School of Translation Studies, SDU. Presently, she is teaching Chinese literature and Chinese culture at NMU, meanwhile doing some intercultural studies. She has published her research on American literature as well as teaching English as a foreign language on some Chinese journals and is working on an intercultural book now. She believes that literature helps us breach the wall of our “Self” while intercultural studies enables us to fill the gap of the world. She hopes that her work here will enhance the connection and coordination between SDU and NMU and wishes that China and the United States will continue to jointly contribute more to making a better world through mutual efforts in a number of areas based on cultural understanding.

Monica Prella is a freelance journalist from Mammoth Lakes, California. She earned a Master’s degree in journalism from Harvard University in 2015 and has more than fifteen years of media experience. Her writing and photography have been published in numerous national outdoors, travel, running, and general interest publications. Monica is also a competitive marathon runner and has experience coaching Olympic development athletes. This is her first teaching position. She hopes to bring enthusiasm for truth and ethics in journalism to the classroom.

BARDS & BREWS

Bards & Brews is a monthly live creative reading series held at the Ore Dock Community Space in Marquette, MI. The event runs from 7-8 p.m. Don’t miss out on these community oriented performances!

October 25: Jen Howard and Ella Flores

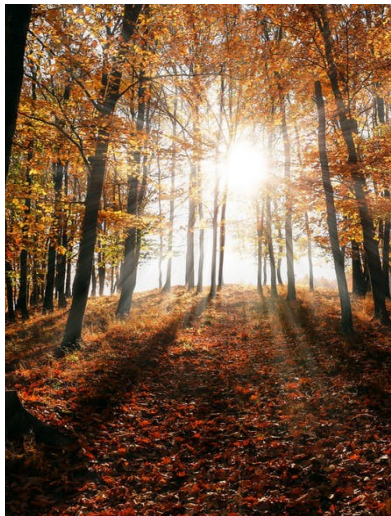
November 15: Paula Carter and Darren Doyle

January (TBD): Krys Belc and TBD

February 21: Lynn Domina and Marty Achatz

March 21: In Like a Lion Poetry Slam: Featuring Michelle Menting





ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

If you have any ideas to improve the newsletter or want to submit news, events, or an accomplishment to EDEN, email us at:

eden@nmu.edu

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JXJ 3200.

Business Hours: 8 a.m. -5 p.m.

## FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Russel Thorburn's** book of poetry, *Somewhere We'll Leave the World*, was awarded a da Vinci Eye Prize for its superior cover artwork from the Eric Hoffer Awards.

An Evening with Edgar Allan Poe, January 16, 7 PM, Peter White Public Library, features piano compositions by Thorburn and recitations of Poe's poetry by Christopher Scott Leith, Chet Defonso, and Becca McAllister. It also features Dylan Trost and Dan Truckey's guitar compositions based on Poe's verses, and Ian Crane on guitar and vocals.

Thorburn's next book of poetry is *The Jukebox Was the Jury of Their Love*, rock and roll poems, in collaboration with former Grand Rapids poet laureate Rodney Torreson, Finishing Line Press, 2019. Both Thorburn and Torreson have poems in *Visiting Bob: Poems Inspired by the Life and Work of Bob Dylan*, due out in November from New Rivers Press.

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**Marek Haltof** was a Visiting Professor in May at the University of Silesia (Poland), Faculty of Arts and Education in Cieszyn. He delivered a series of eleven lectures/seminars (ranging from 2.5 to 6 hours) on various aspects of Polish, American, and Australian film industries. In June, he presented a conference paper at Columbia University (The Harrian Institute) on "The Treatment of History in Wojciech Snarzowski's Cinema: *Unbearably Brutal yet Hauntingly Romantic*." He also published a book chapter in Polish on "Film/Testimony, Film/Document: Wanda Jakubowska's *The Last Stage* (1948)" in *Wizualne źródła w badaniach nad historią kina polskiego* [Visual Sources in Researching Polish Cinema], edited by Piotr Zwierzchowski (Bydgoszcz: Bydgoszcz University Press, 2018: 119-127) and a journal article in English (published in Poland): "The Casualty of Jewish Polish Polemics: Revisiting Andrzej Wajda's *Korczak* (1990)," in *Studia Filmoznawcze* 39(2018): 53-66.

## THE WRITING CENTER

The Writing Center works with English department faculty to promote clear writing and communication. Tutors help NMU community members, including students, faculty, and staff, improve their writing skills through free, one-on-one consultations and online tutorials. Student writers/tutors have experience working with all forms of college writing and all stages of the writing process. The Writing Center is free to all NMU community members and offers a wide range of walk-in hours.

### Fall and Winter Semester Hours

Sunday, 1-6 p.m.

Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m-4 p.m. and 6-9 p.m.

Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.



## JOURNALS

[The Ore Ink Review](#) - NMU's Official Undergraduate Literary Journal.

[The North Wind](#) – Northern's independent student newspaper, which publishes every Thursday during the fall and spring semesters.

[Passages North](#) – The annual literary journal sponsored by Northern Michigan University. This publication has published short fiction, poetry and creative nonfiction since 1979.