

# Roxie James

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## EDUCATION

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- Ph.D. in English Literature (Spring 2014)**, University of Louisiana at Lafayette  
Dissertation: “Out of Sight, Out of Mind: The Progression of Dirt in Victorian Literature and Culture”  
Concentration: Nineteenth-Century British Literature  
Committee: Dr. Christine DeVine (Chair); Dr. Jennifer Geer; Dr. Jonathan Goodwin
- M.A. in English Literature (Spring 2008)**, Northwestern State University (Natchitoches, LA)  
Thesis: “Exploring Nature in the World of Fantasy Literature”  
Committee: Dr. Sarah McFarland (chair); Dr. Joseph Colavito; Dr. Helaine Razovsky
- B.A. in History (Spring 2009)**, Northwestern State University (Natchitoches, LA)
- B.A. in English Literature (Spring 2006)**, Louisiana State University (Baton Rouge, LA)

## AREAS OF RESEARCH

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### Teaching and Research Interests

Romantic and Victorian Literature; Restoration and Eighteenth Century British Literature; American Literature to circa 1900; Children’s Literature; Class Theory; Technical Writing; Rhetoric and Composition

### Dissertation, “The Progression of Dirt in Victorian Literature”

In my foray into dirt studies, I have drawn upon the works of several scholars who associate dirt with themes of social anxiety, class, control, and order, and I extend their research by arguing that Victorian culture is divided by its proximity to dirt and that until it (dirt) is assimilated into the nation’s economy as commodity, it will continually offend the established order of culture and further perpetuate national anxiety and prejudice.

### Thesis, “Exploring Nature in the World of Fantasy Literature”

This thesis examines the Secondary World of seven fantasy texts, J.K. Rowling’s *Harry Potter* series, C.S. Lewis’s *Narnia* series, Phillip Pullman’s *The Golden Compass*, J.R.R. Tolkien’s *The Hobbit*, Ursula LeGuin’s *The Wizard of Earthsea*, L. Frank Baum’s *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, and Lewis Carroll’s *Alice in Wonderland*, and argues that nature in the Secondary World of fantasy literature functions as an escape, a scene for carnival, a prison, or a cover for evil. The thesis provides an ecocritical reading of the fantasy world of these texts, and explains how “nature” works to progress the plot of the texts.

## ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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**Assistant Professor of English**, Northwestern Oklahoma State University, 2017-present  
**Lecturer of English**, Northwestern Oklahoma State University, 2016-2017  
**Adjunct Instructor**, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, 2014-2015  
**Research Assistant**, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Dr. Christine DeVine, Spring 2013  
**Graduate Assistant of English**, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, 2011-2014  
**Writing Center Tutor**, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Summers 2010, 2011, & 2012  
**Women's Studies Research Assistant**, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, 2009-2010  
**Adjunct Instructor**, Northwestern State University, 2008-2009  
**Teaching Assistant**, Northwestern State University, 2007-2008  
**Research Assistant**, Northwestern State University, Dr. Sarah McFarland, 2006-2007  
**Writing Center Tutor**, Northwestern State University, 2006-2007  
**English Department Newsletter Editor**, Northwestern State University, 2006-2008  
**Writing Center Assistant Coordinator**, Northwestern State University, Summer 2007

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**English 1113:** (Composition I) - Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
**English 1113:** EAS (Composition I) - Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
\*Course specifically designed for ESL students (mainly Nepalese)  
**English 1113L:** (Composition I Lab) - Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
**English 1114:** (Composition I w/Lab) - Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
**English 1213:** (Composition II) - Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
**English 3303:** (Popular Literature) - Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
\*Theme: The Dirty, The Scary, and The Scandalous.  
**English 3423:** (Multicultural Literature) - Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
**English 3503:** (Mythology) - Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
**English 4413:** (Restoration & 18<sup>th</sup> Cent. Literature) - Northwestern Oklahoma State University

**English 101** (Introduction to Academic Writing) - University of Louisiana at Lafayette  
**English 102** (Writing and Research about Culture) - University of Louisiana at Lafayette  
**English 202** (British Literature II: Romantic to Modern) - University of Louisiana at Lafayette  
**English 205** (American Literature I) - University of Louisiana at Lafayette  
**English 211** (Thematic Approaches to Literature) - University of Louisiana at Lafayette  
\*Theme: Madness. In order to teach this special topics course, faculty, instructors, and graduate students submit proposals from which only a portion are accepted.  
**English 365** (Technical Writing) - University of Louisiana at Lafayette

**English 1010** (Composition and Rhetoric I) - Northwestern State University  
**English 1020** (Composition and Rhetoric II) - Northwestern State University  
**Dual Enrollment**—Compressed Video / Distance Learning Course with Sabine Parish High School (English 1010 and 1020) - Northwestern State University

## GUEST LECTURES

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“What Does A First Generation Student Look Like?,” Diversity Awareness Training, March 2018, Northwestern Oklahoma State University

“Revised MLA 8,” English 2123, Foundations of English Studies, Northwestern Oklahoma State University

“The Sublime in Shelley’s *Frankenstein*,” English 215, Honors British Literature, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

“Censorship and Prostitution in Shaw’s *Ms. Warren’s Profession*,” English 215, Honors British Literature, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

## RELATED EXPERIENCE

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**Online Product Specialist**, ShoppersChoice.com, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 2015-2016

An Online Product Specialist is responsible for adding and revising new and existing product data to company sites for sale to customers. We are the experts on the product details and understand how customers shop for these products. This role consists of product research, attention to detail, professional writing and data entry.

## PRESENTATIONS

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“What’s a hashtag?: Incorporating Twitter into the First-Year Writing Classroom.” Presentation delivered at Southwest Popular/American Culture Association Conference, February 2018.

“A rather singular resemblance”: Handwriting as unmasking identity in Stevenson’s *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. South Central Modern Language Association Conference, October 2013.

“But who has won?": Caucuses and Croquet in Carroll’s *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland* Children’s Literature Association Conference, June 2013.

“Sickness and Stigma: Social Othering in Stoker’s *Dracula* and Hooper’s Texas Chainsaw Massacre.” Presentation delivered at Popular Culture Association Conference, April 2009.

“Humoring the Humours: Chaucer and Medicine in the Medieval Age.” Presentation delivered at INTERSECTIONS Graduate Conference at Northwestern State University, April 2008.

“Ecocritical Beginnings: Exploring Ecocriticism in Fantasy Literature.” Presentation delivered at Northwestern State University Research Day, March 2008.

“As the Looking Glass: Re-identifying the Writer in Ecomposition Classrooms.” Presentation delivered at Louisiana Association for College Composition *reNEWal* Conference, November 2007

“Who Killed the Goddess?: An Exploration of the Loss of Female Power.” Presentation delivered at Northwestern State University Research Day, April 2007

## PUBLICATION CREDITS

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**Book Review.** Review of *Henry James Against the Aesthetic Movement: Essays on the Middle and Late Fiction*, edited by David Garrett Izzo and Daniel T. O'Hara. Published in *Journal of American Studies of Turkey*. 2014.

**Bibliographer.** *Research Society for Victorian Periodicals*. Spring 2012, Spring 2013.

**“The Function of Nature in Keats’s ‘To Autumn’”**, Model Student Analysis—*Theory into Practice: An Introduction to Literary Criticism*. 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Ed. Ann B. Dobie, Professor Emerita.

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

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Outstanding Graduate Student Award. (Florence Sanders Jones English Endowment Scholarship). Awarded \$1000.

Co-Writer, Sigma Tau Delta Project Grant. University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Lambda-Zeta Chapter. Chapter Awarded \$300.

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

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**Member**, Faculty Development Advisory Board, Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Fall 2017 – present.

**Co-Chair**, Visiting Writer’s Event, Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Spring 2017, Spring 2018.

**Member**, BEST Organization, Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Fall 2016 – present.

**Secretary-Treasurer**, Graduate Student Organization. University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Summer 2013-Spring 2014.

**Representative**, Graduate Student Organization. University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Fall 2012-Spring 2013.

**Diversity Committee**, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Fall 2009-Present.

**Chair of Organizing Committee**, The Louisiana Conference on Language, Literature and Culture. University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Spring 2011.

**Reader**, Academic Planning and Faculty Development Grade Norming Session. Spring 2011.

**Volunteer**, The Louisiana Conference on Language, Literature and Culture. University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Spring 2010.

**Abstract Reader**, The Louisiana Conference on Language, Literature and Culture. University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Fall 2009.

**President**, Sigma Tau Delta English Honors Society (Lambda-Zeta Chapter). University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

**President**, Sigma Tau Delta English Honors Society (Nu Iota Chapter). Northwestern State University, Fall 2007-Spring 2008

**Session Chair**, SECOL 74: The Seventy-Fourth Meeting of the South Eastern Conference on Linguistics. Northwestern State University, April 2007.