

CURRICULUM VITAE
SARA SAMS
Assistant Professor, Department of English
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CHRONOLOGY OF EDUCATION

- May 2013 M.F.A., Creative Writing, with emphasis in poetry, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
Thesis title: *Atom City*
Thesis director: Cynthia Hogue
Committee members: Norman Dubie and Sally Ball
- May 2008 B.A. in English with Honors, Davidson College, Davidson, NC

Major fields: English Literature, with special emphasis in creative writing, contemporary poetics, modern American poetry, literary theory, environmental history
Minor field: Spanish, Spanish literature, and the history of Spain
Honors thesis title: *Arroyos: Poems*
Thesis director: Jason Koo
Committee members: Gail Gibson; Therese Svoboda; Elizabeth Mills
- Summer 2006 Transfer coursework, Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK, Davidson Summer Intensive at Corpus Christi College
- Fall 2006 Transfer credit, Spanish Language & Literature Intensive, La Universidad Complutense, Madrid, Spain

CHRONOLOGY OF EMPLOYMENT

- 2021-2022 Instructor, English, College of Integrative Sciences and Arts, Writers' Studio, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
- 2019-2021 Lecturer, Department of English, Foundations Writing Program, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ
- 2017-2019 Instructor, College of Integrative Sciences and Arts, Interdisciplinary Humanities & Communication/Writers' Studio, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

- 2014-2016 Instructor, Department of English, Writing Programs, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
- 2013-2014 Faculty Associate, Department of English, Writing Programs, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
- 2013-2014 Adjunct Faculty, English, Paradise Valley Community College, Phoenix, AZ
- 2010-2013 Teaching Assistant, Department of English, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

HONORS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2016 Teaching Fellowship, Ministry of Education of Spain
- 2014 Virginia G. Piper Fellowship (South East Asia Global Writer's Residency)
- 2013 Teaching Excellence Award, Graduate and Professional Student Association, Arizona State University
- 2012 Teaching Fellowship, National University of Singapore
- 2010-2012 Piper Center Academic Fellowship, Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing
- 2004-2008 Patricia Cornwell Scholarship for Excellence in Writing, Davidson College
- 2006 Dean Rusk International Travel Grant, Dean Rusk International Studies Center at Davidson College

SERVICE/OUTREACH IN RANK

National/International Outreach

- 2022-present Poetry Editor, *Identity Theory*, national literary magazine

Local/State Outreach

- 2022 Promoted and attended local literary events (UA Poetry Center, Splinter Collective)

College

- 2022 Faculty Lead, Language and Literature in the UK Program, planning and promotion for summer 2023

Departmental

- 2022-present Member, MFA in Creative Writing Graduate Admissions Committee, English Department
- 2022 Member, SPFI Hiring Committee (Dr. M’Balía Thomas), English Department

PUBLICATIONS/CREATIVE ACTIVITY

[All publications have been editorially reviewed which is the standard in creative writing. “+” indicates additional anonymous peer review.]

Books

+*Atom City*, Finishing Line Press, May 2021.

Poetry Appearing in Edited Collections

“There’s a Place They Almost Get To,” *AND LOVE*, Jacar Press, 2012.

Poetry Appearing in Literary Magazines and Journals

“Postpartum Psychology,” *Shenandoah* (forthcoming Fall 2023)

“The First Book of Rita Imogene” & “Prophecy After the Death of a Daughter,” *Chapter House Journal*, Fall 2019

“Decayed Ghazal,” *Alternating Currents* (March 2019)

“Appraisal Report: Atom City,” *Now & Then: The Appalachian Magazine* Vol. 32 No. 1, Winter 2015

“Coming to Terms with Your Nuclear Heritage: Deploying,” *Matter Monthly*, Issue 14, Winter 2015

“Song for a Hometown Prophet,” “In Her Head She Answers Differently,” *Elke: A Little Journal*, Fall 2015

“Coming to Terms with Your Nuclear Heritage: Medical,” *The Volta, They Will Sew the Blue Sail*, Issue 45, Fall 2015

“The Marriage Voyage of Juan Ramón Jiménez,” *Blackbird*, Vol 12 No 1, Fall 2013

“Pedro Salinas and the Greatest Spanish Love Poem,” “Doña Juana La Loca,” and “Art History at the Prado,” *Hinchas de Poesía No. 9* [www.hinchasdepoesia.com], Spring 2013

"Montreat" and "Pedro Salinas and the Greatest Spanish Love Poem," *Hoarse Quarterly*, No. 6, Spring 2012

“Mountain Song,” “Conocimiento,” & “Psalm for Agehya,” *Contexts Journal Volume 5*, The New School, 2010

Translations Appearing in Literary Magazines and Journals

“Rotational Equilibrium” by Adriana Bañares, *Spilled Milk*,
[<http://www.spilledmilkmagazine.com/issue06>] Issue 6

“Poems” by David Leo García, *The Drunken Boat*
[www.thedrunkenboat.com/davidleogarcia.html], Spring 2011

Interviews Conducted for Literary Magazines and Journals

“Voluntourism,” *Virginia G. Piper Blog* [piper.asu.edu], August 2015

“Hunger: Man’s Coral Reef: An Encounter with *The Heights of Macchu Picchu*,” *Waxwing Magazine* [waxwingmag.org], Spring 2015

“Winter/Spring Poetry Roundup,” *Hayden’s Ferry Review Blog*
[haydensferryreview.blogspot.com], Spring 2012

Nonfiction Appearing in Literary Magazines and Journals

“A Conversation with Tina Chang: An Interview with the Poet,” *Four Way Books Blog*
[<http://fourwaybooks.tumblr.com/post/41796435887/tina-chang-in-conversation-with-sara-sams>], Spring 2013

“On Translating Mikhail Aizenburg: An Interview with translator J.Kates,” *Hayden’s Ferry Review*, 51, Winter 2012.

“Bridgework: A Conversation with the Poet Marilou Awiakta,” *Revelader* [www.revelader.com], Winter/Spring 2010.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Auditorium, poetry manuscript; excerpts have been shared in 2023 featured readings. 15 of the anticipated 70 pages have been completed.

Step Sisters of the Stranger Kind, novel manuscript. I anticipate finishing a draft of the novel by the end of 2023.

“Wave vs. Particle Poetics,” a scholarly article about contemporary poetics and the influence of particle physics since modernism. Research and initial drafting have been completed.

“In the Dark Room: An Interdisciplinary Interview Series,” a nonfiction interview series that pairs poets with scientists for an editorialized conversation (*Identity Theory Magazine*)

MEDIA

Recordings

“Weller Book Works Presents: Susan Nguyen, Sara Sams, and Bo Schwabacher,”
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E2FFwAbSD6Q&ab_channel=WellerBookWorks]

CONFERENCES/SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS (in rank)

Invited Reading (sharing and conversation of creative work that comes with honorarium)

2023 Stellar Alumni Reading Series, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

2022 Featured Reading, Splinter Collective, Tucson, Arizona

2022 Featured Reading, *Hayden's Ferry Review* Release Party, Phoenix, AZ