**Curriculum Vitae for**

# Lawrence Simmers Ellis

Department of English

Arizona State University

Tempe, AZ

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# Education

Ph.D. English Literature

Arizona State University, awarded May 2003.

Dissertation Title: *Turtle Sang Himself Together: Themes of Survival in the Oral Traditions of the Florida Panhandle Creek Indians.*

Committee Chair: Dr. Kathleen Sands.

Co-Chair: Dr. Donald Bahr

Readers: Dr. Craig Womack (Creek/Cherokee), Dr. Scott Stevens (Mohawk), Dr. Charles Colbert (Creek).

M.A. English Literature

Arizona State University, awarded May 1997.

Thesis Title: *Rabbit and Big Man-eater: Identity Shifts and Role Reversals in Creek Indian Trickster Tales.*

Committee Chair: Dr. Kathleen Sands.

Readers: Dr. Donald Bahr, Dr. Dawn Bates

B.A. History

Arizona State University, awarded August 1975.

# Academic Posts

Arizona State University/Department of English; Tempe, AZ

Principal Lecturer (2018)

Senior Lecturer (2013-2018)

Lecturer (2005-2012)

Instructor (2004-2005)

Faculty Associate (2002-2004)

Teaching Assistant/Associate (1995-2002)

Central Arizona College/Department of English; Coolidge, AZ Adjunct

Instructor (June 2004-August 2004)

Mesa Community College/Department of English; Mesa, AZ Adjunct

Instructor (January 2004-May 2004)

DeVry Institute/Department of Liberal Arts; Phoenix, AZ Adjunct Instructor (July 1997-January 1998)

# Publications

## Refereed Journal Articles

4.) “’As long as Time Lasts’: Ritual, Alliance, and Cultural Survival in Creek Indian Origin/Migration Narratives.” *Tributaries: Journal of the Alabama Folklife Association* 4 (Spring 2001). 31-55.

3.) “Rabbit and Big Man-eater: Identity Shifts and Role Reversals in a Creek Indian Trickster Tale.” *Thalia: Studies in Literary Humor* 18 (1998). 3-13.

2.) “Trickster: Shaman du Liminal.” *Sur le Dos de la Tortue: Revue Culturelle Amerindienne.* No. 23 (June 1995). Translation and reprint of Item 1.

1.) “Trickster: Shaman of the Liminal.” *Studies in American Indian Literatures*  5.4 (Winter 1993). 55-68.

## Non-Refereed Publications (fiction)

4.) “’Whence the Angry White Male?: *Klumpenangst* and the Wire Whisk Hypothesis’ by Jonquil Murray Codpeace.” *Oasis* 5 (Spring 2019). 17-

24.

3.) "The Mentor." *The Steel Toe Review* 21 (Summer 2015). https:// steeltoereview.com/2015/06/30/the-mentor-by-larry-ellis/.

2.) “Cooting the Zen Stick: Able Cru(i)se Thorndike and the New England Haiku.” *The Bruised Peach Press* (February 2010). 2, 4.

1.) “*’Recitativo Impermeabile*: Aria for Banjo and Plainchant’ from the Opera *Taxonomy Tonight!* by Able Cru(i)se Thorndike.” *Maple/Ash Review* 2 (2008). 47-57.

## Non-Refereed Publications (Journalism)

## 11.) “Two Department Alumni Remember the Phoenix Arcadia Neighborhood.”

## Accents on English Newsletter 23.1 (forthcoming)

## 10.) “William Wonderful: ASU Alumnus and Tempe Community Poet.” Accents

## on English Newsletter 23.1 (forthcoming)

9.) “69 Cent Shots and Post-Victorian Clutter in The Big Red Barn: A Fond Eulogy to Tempe’s Minderbinder’s. *Accents on English Newsletter* 22.1(Fall 2018/Spring 2019).

8.) “Kathleen Mullen Sands: A Personal Remembrance. *Accents on English Newsletter* 22.1(Fall 2018/Spring 2019)

7.) "Department Alumnus Lutfi Hussein Prepares a Jordanian Feast." *Accents*

*on English Newsletter* 21.1(Fall 2017/Spring 2018).

6.) "Unearthing the Legacy of Katharine C. Turner, Philanthropist and Fossil Hunter." *Accents on English Newsletter.* 20.1 (Fall 2016/Winter 2017).

5.) "Why Believing in Monsters is a Rite of Passage." *Zocalo Public Square* (27 October 2016) [http://www.zocalopublicsquare.org/20](http://www.zocalopublicsquare.org/)16/10/27/ believing-monsters-rite-passage/ideas/nexus/.

4.) "A Tale of Two Texases: Travis Franks, Australian Fulbright." *Accents on English Newsletter.* 19.2 (Spring/Summer 2016). Reprinted in *Vestnik: SPGST Herald.* 104.27(6 July 2016). 1.

3.) "In Search of the Valley of Love and Delight: A Memory of Mid-1970s Tempe." *Accents on English Newsletter.* 19.2 (Spring/Summer 2016). Reprinted in the ASU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Newsletter (February 2016).

2.) "The American Folklore Society: A Viable Option for Student Presenters." *Accents on English Newsletter* 19.1 (Fall 2015/Winter 2016).

1. Mystery Doors, Feathered Revenants, and Mummified Senators: Legendry

From the Dark Heart of Hayden's Ferry." *Accents on English Newsletter.*

19.1 (Fall 2015/Winter 2016)

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## Book Reviews

5.) *Western Subjects: Autobiographical Writing in the North American West*,

26.3 (Summer 2006). 220-221.

4.) *The Literary West: An Anthology of Western American Literature* by Thomas J. Lyon. *ANQ: A Quarterly Journal of Short Articles, Notes, and Reviews*  17. 4 (Fall 2004)*.* 52-54.

3.) *Humanity: A Moral History of the 20th Century* by Jonathan Glover. War,

*Literature, and the Arts: An International Journal of the Humanities* 13.1 & 2 (2001). 421-423.

2.) *Indians, Franciscans, and Spanish Colonization* by Robert H. Jackson and Edward Castillo. *Studies in American Indian Literatures* 8.2 (Summer 1996). 100-103.

1.) *The Things That Were Said of Them* told by Asatchaq, trans. Tom Lowenstein. *Studies in American Indian Literatures* 6.3 (Fall 1994). 77-80.

# Publications Under Consideration

1. “An Alchemy in Dust and Color.” Short fiction. Submitted to *Southwest*

*Review*, October 2019.

# Publications in Preparation

1. "Jerusalem Gaudet in the Promised Land" (Fiction).
2. "Narrative Lore and Memory in Eudora Welty's *The Robber Bridegroom."*
3. “Gum Swamp Breeding: Davy Crockett Administers Comeuppance to Yankees, Schoolmasters, and Methodizers.”
4. “Rabbit and Orphan Travel Along: Mediations of Placement and Displacement in Creek Indian Trickster Literature.”
5. “Abandoned Babies, Indian Princesses, and Black Dutchmen: The Role of

The Internet in the Performance and Dissemination of Southeastern Creek Indian Family Legends.”

1. “This Old House: Home Improvement as *Bildung* in Walker Percy’s *The*

*Moviegoer*.”

# Grants/Awards

Arizona State University 2003-2004 “Last Lecture Series” Award (English

Department Nominee, March 2004)

Matching Funds Travel Grant/ASU Department of English (1998, 1999, 2000,

2001, 2002, 2003)

DeMund Scholarship (Arizona State University English Department Nominee,

March 2001. Awarded Honorable Mention, May 2001)

2000-2001 Arizona State University Millennium Fellowship (Awarded April 2000. I declined due to unanticipated conflicts with teaching and research priorities)

Associated Students of Arizona State University (ASASU) Graduate Research Grant (November 2000)

Phelps-Dodge Scholarship (Arizona State University English Department nominee, March 2000)

Arizona State University Graduate College Tuition Grant (Spring 2000)

Arizona State University Student Affairs Faculty Recognition Award (1997, 1998)

# Conference Presentations

## National/International

12.) "Milly Francis and Mary Musgrove: Pluralism, Mediation, and Legend in

the Early American Creek Indian Frontier.” American Folklore Society Annual Meeting. Buffalo, NY (October 2018).

11.) "The Kahsita Buffalo Skin: Diplomacy, Traveling Text, and Cultural Resilience" 22nd Annual Conference of the Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (ACMRS). Phoenix, AZ (February 2016).

10.) "Narrative Lore and Memory in Eudora Welty's *The Robber Bridegroom.*" American Folklore Society Annual Meeting. Providence, RI (October 2013).

9.) “Gum Swamp Breeding: Davy Crockett Administers Comeuppance to Yankees, Schoolmasters, and Methodizers.” American Folklore Society Annual Meeting. Nashville, Tennessee (October 2010).

8.) “'To Rescue From Oblivion': Salvage Ethnography and Showmanship in George Catlin’s Indian Gallery.” American Folklore Society Annual Meeting. Louisville, Kentucky (October 2008).

7.) “Prophets, Redsticks, and the Dance of the Lakes: Folklore and Cultural

Survival in the Creek Indian War of 1813-1814.”

American Folklore Society Annual Meeting. Quebec City, Canada (October 2007).

6.) “Abandoned Babies, Indian Princesses, and Black Dutchmen: The Role of The Internet in the Performance and Dissemination of Southeastern Creek Indian Family Legends.” American Folklore Society Annual Meeting.

Albuquerque, New Mexico (October 2003).

5.) “The Significance of the Tie Snake in Creek Indian Folklore.” American Folklore Society Annual Meeting. Rochester, New York (October 2002).

4.) "Themes of Dispersal, Survival, and Reemergence in the Folk Literature of the Florida Panhandle Creek Indians." American Folklore Society Annual Meeting. Anchorage, Alaska (October 2001).

3.) "Medicine, Alliance, and Survival in Creek Indian Migration Legends." American Folklore Society Annual Meeting. Memphis, Tennessee (October 1999).

2.) “Diasporic Identities in Creek Indian Trickster Tales.” American Folklore Society Annual Meeting. Portland, Oregon (October 1998).

1.) “Rabbit and Big Man-eater: Identity Shifts and Role Reversals in a Creek Indian Trickster Tale.” American Literature Association: *The Trickster*. Lake Tahoe, Nevada (October 1997).

**National/International (in preparation)**

1,) “Wrangling the Wild Graffito: Containment and Trickster Discourse in a

Southwestern University Town.” American Folklore Society Annual Meeting. Tulsa, Oklahoma (October 2020).

## Regional/Local

5.) “*’Recitativo Impermeabile*: Aria for Banjo and Plainchant’ from the Opera

*Taxonomy Tonight!* by Able Cru(i)se Thorndike.” Graduate Scholars of English Symposium. Arizona State University, Tempe (April 2001).

4.)"Paper or Plastique?: Post-Occidentalist Posturing and Narrative Virus in

Able Cru(i)se Thorndike’s *Travels with Gurdjieff: Chance Encounters with Scrofulous Sufis (and a Gnostic or Two)*" Graduate Scholars of English Symposium. Arizona State University, Tempe (April 2000).

3.) "Cooting the Dominant Paradigms: Able Cru(i)se Thorndike’s Concept of

*Torpiditas* as a Rhetoric of Passive Resistance; or, a Resistant Rhetoric of

Passivity; or, a Passive Resistivity of Rhetoric; Your Choice, Really...." Graduate Scholars of English Symposium. Arizona State University, Tempe (April 1999).

1. “Trickster: Shaman of the Liminal.” Graduate Scholars of English

Symposium. Arizona State University, Tempe (April 1994).

1. “Place Where the Waters Crossed: The Significance of the Number Five in

the Navajo Creation Story.” Directions in Critical Theory Graduate Student Conference. University of Arizona, Tucson (March 1994).

## Invited

9.) “An Ethno-Folklorist’s Reading of Donald Bahr’s *Hohokam Chronicles*.” Invited to lecture in Arizona State University Professor Juan Gil-Osle's class, SPA194: *The Southwest before the United States* (Forthcoming: 18 February 2020).

8.) “An Ethno-Folklorist’s Reading of Donald Bahr’s *Hohokam Chronicles*.” Invited to lecture in Arizona State University Professor Juan Gil-Osle's class, SPA194: *The Southwest before the United States* (October 2019).

7.) "Empires, Indians, and an Emerging Nation: The European/Native Encounter in 18th Century Southeastern North America." Invited to lecture in Arizona State University Professor Juan Gil-Osle's class, SPA194: *The Southwest before the United States* (November 2017).

1. "East of the Sun and West of the Moon: The Traditional Fairy Tale and the

Contemporary Short Story." One-day creative writing class taught at

Arizona State University's Virginia G. Piper Center for Creative Writing (November 2017).

5.) “Preparing Proposals for the Annual Meeting of the American Folklore Society.” Arizona State University Graduate Scholars of English Association. Tempe, Arizona (November 2011).

4.) “Crazed Grannies, Choking Dobermans, and Psycho-Clowns: Terror and Horror in the Urban/Contemporary Legend. Arizona State University English Club. Tempe, Arizona (October 2010).

3.) “Preparing Proposals for the Annual Meeting of the American Folklore

Society.” Arizona State University Graduate Scholars of English Association. Tempe, Arizona (February 2006).

1. “Turtle Sang Himself Together: Tales and Images of the Creek Indian Cultural Revival in the Florida Panhandle.” Arizona State University English Department Speaker Series (April 2003).

1.) “Themes of Cultural Survival in the Folk Literature of the Northwest Florida Creek Indians.” American Indian Studies Colloquium Series. University of Arizona, Tucson (April 2001).

**Community Service**

2.) Voice acting in a Bollywood interpretation of *Aladdin* performed by The Rhythm Dance

Company at The Tempe Center for the Performing Arts (August 2019).

1. Voice acting in a project of former student Marieke Davis (see article in *Accents in English 22.1/* [*https://english.asu.edu/node/2798*](https://english.asu.edu/node/2798)*)*. The project was a radio play for vision impaired students based on her published graphic novel, *Ember Black* (Fall 2018).

# Teaching

***Courses*** (classes taught in 2019 highlighted)

Arizona State University

1995-2019 (Taught as Principal Lecturer, Senior Lecturer, Lecturer, Instructor, Faculty Associate, and TA. Lecture classes unless otherwise noted):

English 200: Critical Reading and Writing about Literature

(Online and Lecture)

English 337: The Major American Novel (Online and Lecture)

English 476: Studies in Folklore/The Legend (Creation of a New

Course)

English 476: Studies in Folklore: The Trickster (Creation of a New

Course)

English 476: Studies in Folklore/Celtic Mythology (Creation of a New Course)

English 394: Topic: The Literature of Satire (Creation of a New

Course)

English 476: Studies in Folklore/The Fairy Tale (Creation of a New

Course)

English 359: Indigenous American Literature/The Oral Tradition

(Online, Creation of a New Course)

English 241: Literatures of the United States to 1860

(Online, Hybrid, and Lecture)

English 352: The Short Story

(Online and Lecture)

English 476: Studies in Folklore/Legends of the Supernatural and

the Grotesque (Creation of a New Course)

English 294: Voices of the Southwest

(Creation of a New Course)

English 476: Studies in Folklore/Outlaws, Choking Dobermans,

and Cherokee Princesses: The Legend in American Folklore (Creation of a New Course)

English 294: Folklore in American Literature

(Creation of a New Course)

English 359: American Indian Literature/Humor and Satire

(Creation of a New Course)

English 476: Studies in Folklore/Survey

English 359: American Indian Literature/The Tribes of the

American Southeast and Oklahoma.

(Creation of a New Course)

English 359: American Indian Literatures/Survey

English 194: Folk Traditions in World Literature

(Creation of a New Course)

English 242: Literatures of the United States from 1860

(Online, Hybrid, and Lecture)

English 357: Introduction to Folklore

English 331: American Drama

English 333: American Ethnic Literature

English 215: Writing Across the Disciplines

English 301: Writing for the Professions

(Online and Lecture)

English 102: First Year Composition

(Online and Lecture)

English 101: First Year Composition

(Online and Lecture)

Central Arizona College

English 101: First Year Composition

Mesa Community College

English 071: Sentence/Paragraph Writing

DeVry Institute

English 120: Advanced Composition

English 225: Professional Writing

## Mentoring

Committee Chair:

1. Ashley Peake (Honors Thesis, defense scheduled for April 2020)

3.) Savannah Blitch (Honors Thesis, defended in Spring 2018)

2.) Jeramy Moschonas (Honors Thesis, defended in Spring 2015)

1.) Nick Williams (Honors Thesis, defended Spring 2010)

Reader:

8.) Rachel Donalson (Honors Thesis, defense scheduled for April 2020)

7.) Sara Story (Honors Thesis, defended Spring 2015)

6.) Christiana Arregoces (Honors Thesis, defended Spring 2013)

5.) Thomas Kushibab (Honors Thesis, defended Spring 2013)

4.) Dominique Brigham (Honors Thesis, defended Spring 2013)

3.) Kimberley Hutchinson (Honors Thesis, defended Spring 2012)

2.) Samantha Velez (Honors Thesis, defended Spring 2012)

1.) Kalani Pickhart (Honors Thesis, defended Spring 2009)

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# Service

1. Honors College Faculty since 2005.
2. Creative Writing Department Affiliate Faculty, appointed Spring 2016.
3. Department Committees:
   1. Literature Committee (Fall 2005-Present)
   2. Curriculum Committee (Fall 2015-Spring 2017)
   3. Newsletter Committee (Fall 2015-Spring 2017. Chair, Fall 2017-

Spring 2018. Co-Chair, Fall 2018-Present)

* 1. Curriculum Task Force (Spring 2014)
  2. Election Committee (Fall 2011-Spring 2012, Fall 2012-Spring

2013)

* 1. Liaison to West Campus Oral History Certification Committee

(2010-2012)

* 1. The Research/Creative Activity and Social Committee (2012)

1. Curriculum Development
   1. ENG359/Indigenous American Literatures (Developed for the

Online English Literature Degree Program and taught in Spring

2016)

* 1. ENG241 and ENG242 (developed and taught as online classes for the Online English Literature Degree Program/Fall 2012-Spring

2013)

* 1. ENG294/Voices of the Southwest (developed and taught as a

Southwest-focused class for the Teaching Foundations Project/ Fall 2011-Spring 2012)

* 1. ENG359/Indigenous American Literatures (four distinct lecture classes under this number were developed)
  2. ENG476/Studies in Folklore (six distinct lecture classes under this number were developed)

1. Other
   1. Co-chaired a panel for the Graduate Scholars of English (GSEA) 2015 Southwest English Symposium.
   2. Volunteered to judge for Homecoming Writing Contest (2014).
   3. Volunteered for faculty Convocation attendance (Spring 2014).
   4. Attended Convocation as faculty (Fall 2012, Spring 2015, Fall 2017).
   5. Helped students Savannah Blitch and Faith Paulsen prepare papers for presentation at the October 2015 Annual Meeting of the

American Folklore Society in Long Beach, California

* 1. Helped former student Bianca Peterson prepare a class paper for conference presentation. Her paper was accepted and presented at

the Popular and American Culture Studies Conference, Albuquerque, in Spring 2013.

* 1. Helped undergraduate student Billy Cioffi prepare a paper for presentation at the October 2008 Annual Meeting of the American Folklore Society. The paper was accepted and presented.
  2. Helped graduate student Michael Jung prepare a paper for presentation at the 2006 Annual Meeting of the American Folklore Society. The paper was accepted and presented.
  3. Helped undergraduate students Misha Zelechowski and Kelly

Senseman in their preparation of papers for the first

Undergraduate Academic Conference in our department. I also chaired two panels at this conference (I believe this was in 2013, but I may be off by a year).