

José Felipe Alvergúe, Ph.D., MFA
Associate Professor
Transnationalism & Contemporary Studies

Department of English
University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire
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Education & Certificates

Ph.D. in English, SUNY at Buffalo (2013)
M.F.A. in Writing, California Institute of the Arts, School of Critical Studies (2004)
B.A. in Literature/Writing from UC San Diego, John Muir College, (2002) Departmental Honors with Distinction

Positions & Experience

UWEC, English 2013 – present

Department Chair, English, UWEC, 2023 – 2025

Director of Undergraduate Studies, English, UWEC, 2018 – 2023

Senior Poetry Editor, *Tupelo Quarterly*, 2022 – present & Assoc Poetry Editor, *Tupelo Press*, 2026 – present

Careful consideration of submissions, selection, editorial essays, journal composition/TOC, and other production responsibilities. Familiarity with Adobe Creative Cloud, and alternative platforms like Affinity. Timeliness, attention to detail, and familiarity with production; as a poet, I also design and layout my own work.

Executive Board Member, Confluence Council Inc. (Pablo Center), 2020 – 2025

President, 2024 – 2025, Vice President, 2021 – 2024

Lead on strategic planning for large, regional non-profit performing arts center; fiduciary role and familiarity with GAAP accounting, yearly/quarterly budget projections, monthly financials, creating and implementing controls on department budgets; communication strategy, and project development/management.

Awards & Honors

2026 Breaking the Bowl Visiting Writer
2026 Ionian Center for the Arts Visiting Writer
2026 Michigan State University Visiting Writer
2026 University of Redlands Visiting Writer (special visit co-sponsored by MECha)
2026 Finalist for the Distinguished Scholar in American Studies, Denmark
2024 Finalist for the Wisconsin State Poet Laureate
2023 Banyan Poetry Prize Finalist
2022 Best of Tupelo Quarterly (anthology)
2021 UNC Chapel Hill Critical Speaker Series
2021 Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies Feminist Teacher Award
2021 Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies Feminist Mentor Award
2019 Poets Out Loud Editor's Prize (book prize)
2019 University Research and Creative Activity Grant
2019 Judge for the William Carlos Williams Prize (Academy of American Poets)
2019 Judge for the College Alumni Society Poetry Prize (University of Pennsylvania)
2018 Visiting Writer, UNC Wilmington
2018 Best of American Experimental Writing (Wesleyan University Press)
2018 *Tupelo Quarterly*, TQ16 Prose Open Prize (Bhanu Kapil, judge)
2018 Duyfhuizen Professorship
2017 Office of Research and Special Projects Small Research Grant
2017 Feminist Teacher Award

2017 Carthage College Visiting Writer
2016 University Research and Creative Activity Grant
2016 Finalist, the 2015 Bob Kaufman Poetry Prize
2016 Finalist, 1913 Press Book Prize
2016 Finalist, the Cleveland State University Poetry Center First Book Prize
2004-2010 Arthur A. Schomburg Fellow
2003-2004 California Institute of the Arts, Lovelace Full Scholarship

Publications | *books*

en el norte / soy del sur. Oakland, CA: Omnidawn 2026.
purplish: poetry anger publics. Iowa City, IA: University of Iowa Press 2025.
Scenery. New York, NY: Fordham University Press 2020.
precis. Oakland, CA: Omnidawn 2017.
gist : rift : drift : bloom. Denver, CO: Further Other Book Works 2015.
us look up / there red dwells. Buffalo, NY: Queue Books 2008 (chapbook).

| *peer-reviewed articles & essays*

“Everything that’s possible in a democracy: do we even want to live tomorrow?” invited essay for the *Fred Moten Special Edition* of the *South Atlantic Quarterly*, forthcoming 2027.

“A Postnational Poetics: Albery Whitman’s *The Rape of Florida* and America’s Black Ontology,” collected in *Black Hibiscus: African Americans and the Florida Imaginary*, edited by John Lowe, The University Press of Mississippi. (February 2024).

“Feeling the Riot: Fugitivity, Lyric, and Enduring Failure,” in *21|19: Reading in Proximity*. Edited by Kristen Case and Alexandra Manglis. Minneapolis, MN: Milkweed Editions 2019, 33-62.

“It Matters What You Call A Thing: War, Disavowal, and Contemporary Poetry,” *the minnesota review*. Issue 91, Fall 2018: 68-91.

“Lyric Redress: the Racial Politics of Voice and American Personhood,” *Criticism*. Issue 60.2 (2018).

“Poetic Seeing/Beyond Telling: the Transnational ‘Call’ in Theresa Hak Kyung Cha’s *Dictée*,” *College Literature: A Journal of Critical Literary Studies*, Spring 2016, Vol. 43 No. 2: 427-455.

“20th Century Experiments in Form: a Critical Re-reading of Cecilia Vicuña’s Indigenism as Episteme,” *Comparative Literature*, Spring 2014, Issue 66(2): 208-226.

“The Material Etymologies of Cecilia Vicuña: Art, Sculpture, and Poetic Communities,” *the minnesota review*, Spring 2014, Issue 82: 59-96.

“Precarious/Sense: memory, history, and the poetics of spatial performance,” *Biopolitics and Memory in Postcolonial Literature and Culture*. Edited by Michael Griffiths. Ashgate Publishing.

| *other essays & reviews*

“When the Untheorizable Sustains a Poetry, or Theorizing Hemispheric Poetics,” *Contemporary Literature*, September 21, 2022. 62:440-447.

“Notes on Our Hemispheric Inheritance,” in *Boom California*, UC Press open access: February 2022. Boomcalifornia.org.

Review of “The Ethnic Avant-Garde: Minority Cultures and World Revolution. By Steven S. Lee,” *Comparative Literary Studies*, 54: 3. 2017.

“Poetic Disinterest: Power, Movement, and Language After Heidegger,” a review of *Language After Heidegger*, by Krzysztof Ziarek. Indiana University Press. *SubStance: A Review of Theory and Literary Criticism*. Volume 45, Number 2. 2016.

Review of *Intersection, Sidewalks and Public Space*, Eds. Marci Nelligan & Nicole Mauro. Chainlinks, 2008. *Jacketmagazine* 36 (online). 2008. 5 pages.

“Giftwork,” essay for exhibition catalogue of *Noncommittal: A Prospective Glance 2*, UB Art Galleries, Buffalo, NY, November 5-December 12, 2009.

| poetry & poetics

“mobile architecture,” Academy of American Poets Poem A Day. June 28, 2023 (poets.org).

“senescence,” *P-Queue*, V. 16, Fall 2019.

“riot: scott, king, long.” *Touch the Donkey*, Issue 22, Summer 2019.

“scenery,” *Pamphlet Series* 2, #6. Happy Monks Press, 2019.

“hogtied,” *TQ16*, Spring 2018 (selected by Bhanu Kapil for the Prose Open Prize).

“born to violence,” *Tupelo Quarterly*, Cross-Disciplinary Texts, Spring 2018.

BAX 2018: Best American Experimental Writing, eds. Myung Mi Kim, Seth Abrahmson, and Jesse Damiani. Wesleyan University Press 2018, 14-25.

“autochthony: or, so goes the logic,” *Boston Review*, What Nature special issue, Summer 2018.

“[nation building / women’s legal identity : the border’s apocalyptic mater-futurity:]” *Apogee*. Spring 2014, Issue 4.

“interstice (ca. 1899),” *TAB: The Journal of Poetry and Poetics*. Spring 2014, Vol. 2, No. 11: 7-9.

“Totality vers Totality: notes experimentalism & Cecilia Vicuña’s poetics,” *Kadar Koli* 7 Special Issue on Violence, Spring 2012: 84-91.

“A Note on Performance,” *Becoming Poetics* 2, 2011 (online).

“Dynamis/Poesis,” in *Building is a Process / Light as an Element: Essays and Excursions*. Eds. Michael Cross and Andrew Rippeon. Queue Books 2009.

“cor-,” in *Scrapbook: A Small Press Portfolio*, 2008 (hand-assembled commissioned artbook of material and poetic artifacts, various artists).

“The Red Glow of Flooded Americas,” *P-Queue 4* (2007): 127-146.

“Wealths & the Orchids,” *Nocturnes 3*, (re)view of the literary arts: the “blues,” (Spring 2004) Audio CD supplement of studio recording.

| *fiction*

“Those, Autumns of Dust,” *Trepan 5: monstrous* (2006): 65-75.

“_____ -american,” *Black Clock 3* (Spring 2005).

“Dolores de la Primavera,” *Fourteen Hills* (Spring 2002,) Vol. 8 No. 2: 25-32.

| *other*

Interviewed on Episode 10 of LA-Lit, literary arts podcast February 19th, 2006, recorded at Beta-Level, Los Angeles, CA.

Academic Conferences & Invited Talks

“Poetic Disclosure at the Boundaries of Our Material Imagination,” invited keynote for *The New Commons Project*, University of Maine (March 9, 2022).

“Weaving Forms of Witness in Latine/Latinx Poetics,” keynote panel, Folklife Festival at the Chippewa Valley Museum (February 26, 2022).

“Docupoetics, Gestation, Somatics, and the Now,” for the panel Extracting, Sensing, and Rhyming: Poetry’s Material Tactics in Revolt, *American Studies Association*, virtual, (October 11-14, 2021).

“the Lyric and Nation Building Possibilities of Anger,” invited talk for the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s Critical Speakers Series, (March 4, 2021).

“soy del sur: *lati omi*,” panel: Decolonizing Through Sound Art, *MLA (Modern Language Association)*, Seattle, WA, (January 9 -12, 2020).

“People After Paper,” panel: Persons in Poetry and Law, *MLA (Modern Language Association)*, Seattle, WA, (January 9 -12, 2020).

“Contemporary Poets in the 19th-Century Archive,” *AWP (Association of Writers and Poets)*, San Antonio, TX, (March 4 – 7, 2020).

“Crisis Moments: Voice, Authority, Democratism,” the Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture after 1900, Louisville, KY. (February 22-24, 2018).

Untested Address, for the Unconfirmed Makeshift Museum at the Klowden Mann Gallery (October 28, 2017).

“speaking electricity: the experimental poetics of Susan Howe,” for the Susan Howe panel, NEMLA 2017, Baltimore, MD. (March 23-26, 2017).

“Poetry in the Era of Transnational Democracy: Invention, Voice, and Political Personhood,” UW Eau Claire Faculty Forum, March 8, 2017.

“Contemporary American Poetry and the Politics of National Identity: Voice and Personhood in Claudia Rankine's *Citizen* and Solmaz Sharif's *Look*,” UW Eau Claire Department of English Faculty Colloquium, February 17, 2017.

“Un jardín para revivir (a garden revive/relive): Cecilia Vicuña's teleo/erotic response to neoliberalism,” for the panel Poetry, Performance, and Publics (co-chair), ACLA 2016, Cambridge, MA. (March 17-20, 2016).

“Assembled Indenture/Resisting the Spatial: Sexuality, Race, and Formal Ambiguity in Erna Brodber's *Louisiana*,” for the panel Rented Rooms, SSAWW 2015, Philadelphia, PA. (November 4-8, 2015).

“*the dimensions/ Of Possibility*: Emily Dickinson and Contemporary Poetry,” invited talk for the International Emily Dickinson Society, Fudan University, Shanghai, China. (November 21-24, 2014).

“A Dance of Attention: Jean Toomer's ‘Kabnis’ and the field/figure of 20th century masculinities,” MSA 16, Pittsburgh, PA. (November 6-9, 2014).

“*kinetics* of the postcolonial/transmedial body,” Body: Between Materiality and Power, University of Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain. (February 26 – 29, 2014, paper circulated in absentia).

“Poetics of Impermanence: the poetry of Cecilia Vicuña & the architecture of Toyo Ito,” ACLA, Global Languages, Local Cultures, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. (March 26 – 29, 2009).

“Kelp Forests, Public Buildings, and Poetics,” Gender Institute Works in Progress, faculty respondent Ewa Płonowska Ziarek, Julian Park Professor of Comparative Literature (March 23, 2009).

“Nanoglobality & the Activity of Capital: Poetics and the Public,” Nanotechnology, Literature, and Society, UMass Lowell, Lowell, Mass. (December 6 – 8, 2007).

“A Modern Silence & Torolab's Enlightened Technoborderscape,” Technology, Culture, and the Making of Sense, held by GRECC (Group for Contemporary Critical Studies) Unicamp, Campinas, Brazil (November 7 – 9, 2007).

Leadership & Professional Experience

Walmart, Online Pickup & Delivery/Store Fulfillment Department Team Lead 2025 – 2026

Fulfillment is the largest and fastest growing enterprise within Walmart, with a store department exceeding 120 associates, and a sales volume typically matching entire store sales. We are responsible for procuring online orders, staging order batches in busy backroom environment, prepping and dispensing delivery and customer pick up orders. We are also accountable for a large percentage of customer service and interacting with both individual customers as well as 2nd party delivery drivers, phone and face-to-face problem solving. Being bilingual, I am also the translation associate across multiple store departments, and the contact for many of our delivery drivers. Familiarity with daily metrics, Workday, ProWeb, and AI tools; skilled at collaboration, safety, regional and market collaboration.

Advisory Board Member, EC Area School District Dual Immersion Program, 2021 – present

Work with district and school administrators on designing and maintain program objectives, alignment strategies, and other planning; work with community liaison on communication, focusing on transparency and clarity of information; strategic planning and vision plans for program growth.

Staffer, strategist, Laura Benjamin for Congress (3CD, Wisconsin) 2025

The 3rd Congressional District encompasses the Western counties of Wisconsin, and as a staffer I am responsible for assisting in operations, strategic planning and action planning, data gathering and analysis, and policy in-put, as well as any logistical needs of the campaign.

Voces de la Frontera, Organizer, Western Wisconsin 2025 - present

Voces de la Frontera is a non-profit organization in Wisconsin that provides essential legal information to immigrants in the state, as well as community engagement opportunities related to public health, education, and the arts. The Rapid Response Team is a trained and networked group of community stakeholders that respond to potential ICE presence through legal means.

| certificates

2026, Walmart Academy, License2Lead, License2Operate.

2025, Emotional Intelligence: Cultivating Immensely Human Interactions, University of Michigan.

2025, Foundations of Business Intelligence, Google.

2025, High Performance Collaboration: Leadership, Teamwork, and Negotiation, Northwestern University.

2025, Leadership Communication, Northwestern University.

2025, Leadership Through Marketing, Northwestern University.

2025, Leadership Through Design Innovation, Northwestern University.

2025, Introduction to Data Wise, HarvardX.

Committees & Service

Department Chair

Director of Undergraduate Studies

Schedules, Curriculum, Chair's Advisory Committees

English Dept. Interns Mentor

National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Academic Planning and Implementation Committee

Community of Practice, increasing Diversity in Undergraduate Research

Faculty Senate

XDPC

Committee on MA core curriculum

Critical Human/Nature-Science Geographer Search Committee

Women's Studies Program, Transnational/Global Feminisms Search Committee (2X)

English Department Search Committees: Linguistics, Director of Writing, 19th-Century British and Postcolonial Literature

Liberal Education Campus-wide implementation committee

Research Intensive implementation committee for First Year Writing Program

Co-advisor of our local chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, an international Honor's Society

Advisor for the Community Theory Organization

CERCA (Celebration of Excellence in Research and Creative Activity) faculty advisor

Ronald McNair Scholars Program, faculty advisor

Blugold Fellows Research Advisor