

## EDUCATION

- Doctor of Philosophy** | Comparative Studies Anticipated 2021  
Literature and global studies with a focus on myth in literature, political myth, absence theory, and Spain's 20<sup>th</sup> century  
Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL  
Dissertation (in progress): *Political and Literary Myth as Means of Creating and Recuperating Absence in Francoist and Post-Franco Spain*  
Committee: Taylor Hagood (chair), Richard Shusterman, Nuria Godón
- Master of Fine Arts** | Creative Writing December 2007  
Focus on fiction  
Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL  
Thesis: *Signs and Wonders* (novel—historical fiction)  
Committee: Ayşe Papatya Bucak (chair), Taylor Hagood, Andrew Furman
- Bachelor of Science** | Education December 1982  
Hofstra University, Hempstead, New York  
Specialization in music education; focus on classroom, vocal, and choral music

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-reviewed Journal

"Angelina, Who Whispered in Three Languages: A Story of One Success in Arts Integration and International Collaboration." *Teaching Artist Journal* (October 2012).

### Instructional Articles

"How Writing and the Arts Contribute to Beautiful, Meaningful International Projects." *GettingSmart.com* (February 2018).

"I Love You, My Little Cabbage: Using Foreign Words and Phrases in Your Fiction." *Writing World* (2011).

### Creative Work

"The Mermaid." *Coastlines* (2007). Winner, Frank & Courtney Brogan Award for Fiction.

"American Cheese Under the Stars." *Coastlines* (2005). Finalist, Frank & Courtney Brogan Award for Creative Non-Fiction.

## GRANTS AND FUNDING (selection)

**Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation | \$40,000**

To design curriculum and teach professional development in global education to Palm Beach County teachers, 2020-2021

**Florida Atlantic University Graduate College | \$700**

Travel grant to present at MLA International Symposium in Lisbon, Portugal, 2019

**Florida Atlantic University's South Florida Cultures Platform | \$1,000**

To design and implement *The Art of Peace*, an online writing and arts initiative showcasing a vision of peace by young artists and writers, 2017

**Celia Lipton Farris and Victor W. Farris Foundation | \$288,000**

To design and implement the Story Ambassadors international writing-and-arts program through Blue Planet Global Education, 2016-2019

**Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties | \$60,000**

To design and implement the Creative Connections international writing-and-arts program through Blue Planet Global Education, 2015-2018

**Palm Beach County Cultural Council | \$5,000**

To lead international writing and art projects between local students and their peers in Mexico and Mali, 2012-2013

**Florida Division of Cultural Affairs | \$2,500**

**Palm Beach County Cultural Council | \$2,500**

**Center for Creative Education Special Projects in the Arts Grant | \$2,500**

To plan and implement *Tiger Paws*, an international writing and art project between students in the US and Mexico, culminating in a multi-lingual webzine, 2010

**Lake Worth Community Redevelopment Agency | \$2,500**

**Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties | \$5,000**

Seed money for Blue Planet Writers' Room (now Blue Planet Global Education), a global education non-profit, 2009

**Florida Atlantic University Graduate College | \$600**

Travel grant to present at Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, 2007

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“A Myth of Wretchedness: Reinscribing Abjectified Individuals into Spain’s Endocolonial National Narrative in Carlos Ruiz Zafón’s *The Shadow of the Wind/La Sombra del Viento*.” MLA International Symposium, Universidade Católica Portuguesa, Lisbon, Portugal. July 2019.

“Veni Cà, Picciridda; Viens-ci, Petite Chou: In Which a Sicilian-American Marries a French-Canadian and Raises a Family in Three Languages (Sort Of).” *Italy in Transit Symposium*, Florida Atlantic University/Consolato Generale d’Italia Miami, Boca Raton, FL. February 2019.

“Stories of Wretchedness: The Role of Fiction in Reinscribing Abject Individuals into Colonial, Postcolonial, and Endocolonial National Narratives.” *When I Was Am Will Be: Interrupting Empire*, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL. October 2018.

“The Conspicuous Agency of the Absent Thing: An Exploration in Shards.” *EGSS Conference*, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL. April 2018.

“What’s a Crankie?? Using International Story Exchanges to Build Global Competence and Connect Students across Borders.” *8<sup>th</sup> Annual Global Education Conference*, Global Education Conference Network, Online. November 2017.

“Lorca in New York: The Power of the *Querencia* to Bring Otherness into Focus.” *The (Dis)Order of Things: Mechanisms of Power and Control*, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL. October 2017.

“Tell Me Your Story: Using Creative International Story Exchanges to Introduce Students to Global Literacy and Global Issues.” *Humanities and Social Justice Graduate Symposium*, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL. March 2017.

“Up, Up, Down, Down: Is It Only The Young Who Can’t Sit Still for an Unfamiliar Cultural Experience?” *Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities*, Honolulu, HI. January 2007.

## OTHER PRESENTATIONS

“Lorca: The Brilliant, Tragic Poet of Spain.” Institute for Learning in Retirement, Boca Raton, FL. January 2020.

“A Bridge of Birds: The Arts as Positive Resistance to Turmoil.” Blue Planet Writers’ Room Global Education Summer Institute, Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, FL. July 2017.

“Using International Story Exchanges to Think Critically about International Affairs.” Guest Speaker, Lynn University EdD Program in Educational Leadership, Boca Raton, FL. April 2017.

“Sharing Stories: Connecting Students across Borders with Creative Story Exchanges.” Blue Planet Writers’ Room Summer Institute, Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, FL. August 2016.

“Bringing the World Into Your Classroom: Creating an International Collaboration Project for Your Students.” Susan Gay Wemette, Co-Presenter. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts Professional Development Series, West Palm Beach, FL. November 2014.

“Make a Book and Fill It Up: Combining Artist Books and Creative Writing.” Prime Time Palm Beach County Afterschool Symposium, West Palm Beach, FL. May 2013.

“Do Do That Haiku That You Do So Well! Using Haiku and Haibun to Reinforce Content Knowledge and Comprehension.” Palm Beach County School District Professional Development Forum, Morikami Museum, Boca Raton, FL. January 2013.

“Friends in Far-off Places: Creating International Projects in Your Classroom.” Susan Gay Wemette, Co-Presenter. Palm Beach County Language and Culture Conference, Greenacres, FL. October 2012.

"Meet Me In The Third Space: International Collaboration in the Classroom." 3-Way Split International Forum, Southend-on-Sea, England. July 2011.

"It's A Bird, It's A Plane—No, It's Superheroes in Your Classroom!" Susan Gay Wemette, Co-Presenter. Palm Beach County Arts Integration Conference, West Palm Beach, FL. June 2011.

“Integrating Visual Art into the Academic Curriculum.” Susan Gay Wemette, Co-Presenter. Florida Alliance for Arts Education Symposium, West Palm Beach, FL. February 2011.

“Writing in the Everglades: Integrating Creative Writing and Visual Art into the Science Curriculum.” Susan Gay Wemette, Co-Presenter. Palm Beach County School District Fine Arts Professional Development Forum, Loxahatchee, FL. February 2011.

“Drawing Conclusions: Integrating Visual Art into the Writing Curriculum.” Susan Gay Wemette, Co-Presenter. Florida Atlantic University Arts Integration Professional Development Forum, Boca Raton, FL. October 2010.

“Tiger Paws: Creating a Multi-Disciplinary, Multi-Lingual, Multi-Cultural Webzine With Ethnically Diverse Students.” Susan Gay Wemette, Co-Presenter. Palm Beach County Language and Culture Conference: A Global Vision, Greenacres, FL. June 2010.

“The Planet in Your Classroom.” Susan Gay Wemette, Co-Presenter. Florida Atlantic University Global Education Symposium, Boca Raton, FL. April 2010.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Florida Atlantic University

Visiting Instructor, Department of English 2018-Present

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of English 2015-2016 (PhD), 2004-2005 (MFA)

#### Courses Taught

**LIT 2010 | Interpretation of Fiction:** *Deathless Stories: Ancient Myths in Modern Literature*

**LIT 2010 | Interpretation of Fiction:** *The Recurrence of the Unreal: Myth and Magical Realism in Literature*

**LIT 2010 | Interpretation of Fiction:** *The Lie that Tells the Truth: Mythical Pasts, Alternate Presents, Speculative Futures*

**CRW 3010 | Creative Writing:** *Fiction, Poetry, and Creative Non-Fiction*

**ENC 1939 | Special Topics in College Writing:** *No Capes! The Journeys of Heroes and Heroines in Fiction and Film*

**ENC 1101 | College Writing I**

**ENC 1102 | College Writing II**

### Blue Planet Global Education

Leader and Curriculum Designer: Professional Development in Global Education, 2009-Present

Teacher and Curriculum Designer: Story Ambassadors, Creative Connections, other international writing-and-arts initiatives, 2009-2018

#### Courses Taught

**Professional Development | 2009-Present**

Professional development initiatives in global education for elementary, middle, and high school teachers

**Story Ambassadors, Creative Connections, et al. | 2009-2018**

Semester-long residencies centered on international collaborations between local students and their peers in Europe, Africa, Asia, Oceania, and the Americas

**Under One Sky & Visions of Peace | 2011 & 2013**

Creative writing and art workshops with Mexican students in Mérida, Mexico at Habla: El Centro de Lengua y Cultura and Loyola Comunidad Educativa as part of international collaborations with American students.

## GRADUATE COURSEWORK

### PhD | Literature and Global Studies

Historical Fiction as Memory Text in Post-Franco Spain (Directed Independent Study) |

Taylor Hagood

Imagining Freedom in the Caribbean | Faith Smith

Global Indigenous Literature | Adam Spry

Walt Whitman | Adam Bradford

The Thing in Modernism | Taylor Hagood

Globalization with China as a Case Study | Naihua Zhang

Postcolonial Theory | Taylor Hagood

Seminar in Oral History | Sandra Norman

### PhD | Comparative Studies

Myth and the Bible | Frederick Greenspahn

Elie Wiesel: Witness as Public Intellectual | Alan Berger

Contexts and Contests of Culture | Richard Shusterman

Concepts of Culture | Richard Shusterman

### MFA | Writing Workshops

Fiction Workshop: Short Story | Jason Schwarz

Fiction Workshop: Short Story | Ayse Papatya Bucak

Fiction Workshop: Novel | Ayse Papatya Bucak

Fiction Workshop: Novel | Ayse Papatya Bucak

Writing across Genres | Andrew Furman

Writing across Genres | Andrew Furman

### MFA | Literature and Theory

Asian American Literature | Wenying Xu

Caribbean Fabulists | Elena Machado

William Faulkner | Taylor Hagood

American Short Story | Steven Blakemore

Modernism and US Renaissance Movements | Taylor Hagood

Principles and Problems of Literary Study | Barclay Barrios

### Teaching Theory and Practica

Teaching Creative Writing | Ayşe Papatya Bucak

Studies in Composition Methodology and Theory | Jeffrey Galin

Colloquium in English | Jason Schwarz (MFA program)

Colloquium in English | Jeffrey Galin (PhD program)

## RELATED EXPERIENCE

### **Blue Planet Global Education** (formerly Blue Planet Writers' Room), **Lake Worth, FL**

Co-Founder

Co-Executive Director | 2008- 2017

Global Education Specialist | 2017-present

This non-profit organization provides professional development in global education to elementary, middle, and high school teachers. In addition, it serves students directly by leading international story exchanges between American students and their peers worldwide.

## SERVICE

### International

Cultural and Educational Projects Director, 3-Way Split International Cultural Initiative | 2010-2014

### National

Regional Affiliate and Judge, National Scholastic Writing Awards | 2009-2012

Session Chair, Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, Honolulu, HI | 2007

### State

Panelist, Florida Division of Cultural Affairs Professional Theatre Grants program | 2008

### Local

Planning Partner, Urban Stories Festival, West Palm Beach | 2017-2018

Presenter and Meeting Facilitator, Palm Beach County Cultural Educators Committee | Various dates 2009-2014

Cultural Partner, West Palm Beach Community Redevelopment Agency, Northwood Village "Lot 23" Initiative | 2013

Coordinator and Host, Bloomsday community celebrations, Cities of Lake Worth & West Palm Beach, FL | 2008-2012

Organizer, Amnesty International Global Write-A-Thons in West Palm Beach, FL | 2007-2010

## AFFILIATIONS

Modern Language Association

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

Golden Key Honor Society