

PRITHA PRASAD

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Associate Professor, University of Kansas (KU), 2026-present

Department of English (Rhetoric and Composition)

Affiliate Faculty, Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Assistant Professor, University of Kansas (KU), 2019-present

Department of English (Rhetoric and Composition)

Affiliate Faculty, Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

EDUCATION

Ph.D., English (Rhetoric, Composition, and Literacy), Ohio State University (2019)

M.A., English (Rhetoric, Composition, and Literacy), Ohio State University (2015)

B.A., English Literature, University of Arizona (2012)

B.A., Creative Writing, University of Arizona (2012)

RESEARCH AREAS

Rhetorical Theory & History

Composition Theory & History

Critical Race Theory

Feminist and Queer Studies

Digital Media Studies

Critical Pedagogy

Popular Culture Studies

Rhetorical Materialism

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Published

The Benevolent Gaslight: A Technology of Race-Making (co-authored with Louis M. Maraj), University Press of Colorado/Utah State University Press, 2026.

In progress

Rematerializing Race/isms: Rhetoric After Ferguson (single-authored). Under advance contract with University Press of Colorado/Utah State University Press. (Estimated completion: December 2026)

Peer-reviewed articles and chapters

Prasad, Pritha. "Strategic Exposures: Decolonial Resistance and Critical Embodiment in Third Space," *The Journal of Multimodal Rhetorics*, vol. 9, no. 2, 2025. (forthcoming)

Prasad, Pritha. "'Without Incident': On the Politics of Comparison and Exception," *The Journal of Multimodal Rhetorics*, vol. 8, no. 2, 2024.

Fitzsimmons, Brynn and Pritha Prasad. "Coalitional Refusals: Transformative Justice Beyond Repair," *Peitho*, vol. 25, no. 4, 2023. **Honorable mention, 2025 Coalition of Feminist Scholars in the History of Rhetoric and Composition (CFSHRC) Kathleen Ethel Welch Outstanding Article Award.**

Prasad, Pritha and Louis M. Maraj. "'I Am Not Your Teaching Moment': The Benevolent Gaslight and Epistemic Violence," *College Composition and Communication*, vol. 74, no. 2, 2023, pp. 322-51. **Winner of the 2023 Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) Richard Braddock Award.**

Prasad, Kriti and Pritha Prasad. "Affective Solidarity and Trauma-Informed Possibilities: A Comparative Analysis of the Classroom and the Clinic" in *Trauma-Informed Pedagogy* (2023), edited by Ernest Stromberg, Routledge. Co-authored with Kriti Prasad (U. Minnesota School of Medicine).

Prasad, Pritha. "(Anti)Racist World-Makings in the University: Reinventing Student Work" in *Inventing the Discipline: Student Work in Composition Studies* (2022), edited by Stacey Waite and Peter W. Moe, Parlor Press.

Prasad, Pritha. "Backchannel Pedagogies: Unsettling Racial Teaching Moments and White Futurity" *Present Tense*, vol. 9, no. 2, 2022.

Prasad, Pritha. "'Coalition is Not a Home': From Idealized Coalitions to Livable Lives." *Spark: A 4C4Equality Journal*, vol. 3, 2021.

Maraj, Louis M., Pritha Prasad, and Sherita V. Roundtree. "#BlackLivesMatter: Pasts, Presents, and Futures." *Prose Studies*, vol. 41, no. 1-2, 2018, pp. 1-14.

Prasad, Pritha. "Beyond Rights as Recognition: Black Twitter and Posthuman Coalitional Possibilities," *Prose Studies*, vol. 38, no. 1, 2016, pp 50-73.

Editorial work

Miller, James (author) and Pritha Prasad (readings editor). *Writing is Action*. McGraw-Hill Education (forthcoming textbook project under contract; scheduled completion Spring 2026)

Maraj, Louis M., Pritha Prasad, and Sherita V. Roundtree (co-editors). *#BlackLivesMatter Pasts, Presents, and Futures*. Special issue of *Prose Studies*, vol. 41, no. 1-2, 2018.

Ferebee, K.M. (primary author), Edgar Singleton (co-author), Michael Bierschenk (co-author), Pritha Prasad (first edition co-editor), and Micah Rickerson (first edition co-editor). *The Writer's Companion: A Guide to First-Year Writing with Excerpts from Writing Analytically, First Edition*. Cengage, 2016.

Book reviews

Prasad, Pritha. Review of Gonzales, Laura. *Sites of Translation: What Multilinguals Can Teach Us About Digital Writing and Rhetoric* (2018), *Computers and Composition*, vol. 58, 2020.

Public-facing scholarship

Burrows, Vera (invited guest), Gibette Encarnación (invited guest), Pritha Prasad (invited guest), Margarita Alely Nuñez Arroyo (episode co-host), and David Tamez (episode co-host). "Anti-Blackness in the Americas." Episode 3 of the University of Kansas (KU)'s Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies and *Lawrence Talks!*, *Charla de Merienda Podcast* (2020).

Chávez, Karma R. (invited guest), Pritha Prasad (episode co-host), and Jennifer Suchland (episode co-host). "A Conversation with Dr. Karma Chávez." Episode 10 of The Ohio State University *Human Rights in Transit Podcast* (2018).

INVITED TALKS, WORKSHOPS, AND GUEST LECTURES

Public forum

"Benevolent Diversity: Student Protest and Institutional Gaslighting," Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS. (March 2025)

"Red Hot Research (Theme: Systems Feedback, Assessing and Improving)" (panelist), The Commons, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS. (March 2024)

"The Romance of Diversity: Institutional Rhetoric, Racial Surveillance, and Student Protest in U.S. Universities." Hall Center for Humanities Resident Fellows Speaker Series, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS. (December 2023)

“Staying Alive: The Risk of Being a Scholar of Color in the Academy,” panelist with Joseph P. Brewer and Angela Gist-Mackey for the *The Academy #NoFilter Series*, sponsored by the KU Commons and Office of Graduate Studies, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS. (March 2023)

“The Politics of Belonging,” virtual panelist with Amilia N. Evans and Ashanka Kumari at the University of British Columbia (UBC) School of Journalism, Writing, and Media. (January 2023)

“Moving Beyond #RhetoricSoWhite,” co-facilitated workshop with Louis M. Maraj for the Anti-Racist Pedagogy, Methodology, and Mentoring Symposium, Ohio State University, Columbus OH (February 2020)

“Wiki-storming and Anti-Racist Digital Activism,” panelist for the Digital Media and Composition Institute, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH (May 2018)

“What can you do with an English major?” panelist for the Professions for the Poetic Panel (2017), University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ (September 2017)

“Culturally-Sustaining Pedagogy,” panelist for the Culturally-Sustaining Pedagogy Panel: First-Year Writing Pre-Semester Workshop, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH (August 2016)

Academic workshops

“Beyond Affirmation and White Progressivism,” invited research workshop with Rebecca Dingo and Haivan Hoang for the Writing, Rhetoric, and Literacy Graduate Program, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH (April 2023)

“Navigating Difference,” invited professionalization workshop with Rebecca Dingo and Haivan Hoang for the Writing, Rhetoric, and Literacy Graduate Program, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH (April 2023)

“Unruly Presence,” invited featured speaker at the 2023 Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) Feminist Caucus Workshop (co-presenter with Brynn Fitzsimmons), Chicago, IL (February 2023)

“Backchannel Pedagogies,” invited virtual presentation/workshop in Prof. Wendy Hesford’s AU21 course, “Anti-Racist Rhetoric, Methods, and Pedagogy,” Ohio State University (December 2021)

Rhetoric, Composition, and Literacy Graduate Student Virtual Research Forum, invited faculty respondent, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH (December 2020)

“What Comes After Inclusion? Antiracist Pedagogies and Course Design,” virtual faculty workshop, University of New Mexico (November 2020)

“Teaching and Thinking Antiracist: Collaborative Pedagogy Workshop,” virtual graduate student workshop, University of New Mexico (November 2020)

“Frameworks for Race Work: Worldmaking as Anti-Racist Rhetoric,” graduate workshop, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH (February 2020)

Non-profit workshops

Reflection Point Facilitator, Mid-Continent Library System, Kansas City, MO (April 2024-present)

CONFERENCES AND INSTITUTES

National

“It’s #SoWhiteOutside: Alternative Embodiments, Post-Activism, and Radical Empathy.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication* (2015), Tampa, FL

“Writing Human Rights: Methods, Pedagogy, Mentoring,” Respondent to Wendy Hesford, Hyeon Jeong Lee, Theresa Kulbaga, and Arabella Lyon. *Conference on College Composition and Communication* (2015), Tampa, FL

“Posthuman Coalitional Possibilities and Ethics on Black Twitter,” *National Women’s Studies Association Conference* (2015), Milwaukee, WI

“Digital Protest Spaces and Social Media: Politics of Clicktivism.” Roundtable with Eesha Pandit, Darshana Sreedhar Mini, Rachel Afi Quinn, Jessica D. Moorman, and Roxana Galusca. *National Women’s Studies Association Conference* (2015), Milwaukee, WI.

“Is Brown the New White?: South Asian Diasporas and U.S. Nationalisms after 9/11 and Ferguson.” *Rhetoric Society of America Conference* (2016), Atlanta, GA

“The In-Betweenness and Insider-Outsiderness of Graduate WPAs.” *Council of Writing Program Administrators Conference* (2016), Raleigh, NC

“Narrating Rights and State Violence Against Racial and Sexual Minorities.” *Feminisms and Rhetorics Conference* (2017), University of Dayton, Dayton, OH

“Statements, Demands, and Writing for Justice: Mobilizing the Anti-Racist Feminist Agenda in the Composition Classroom,” Roundtable with Casely Coan, Sonia Arellano, Anushka Peres, and Stephanie Troutman. *National Women’s Studies Association Conference* (2017), Baltimore, MD (roundtable)

“From Revision to Radical Potentiality: Parallel Revolutions that Make Queer-Feminist-Crip Futures Matter.” *Watson Conference* (2018), University of Louisville, Louisville, KY

“The Communal Callout: Disciplinary Antiracism and the Benevolent Gaslight.” Co-presented with Louis M. Maraj. *Conference on Community Writing* (2019), Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA

“Confronting the Benevolent Gaslight: How Feminisms of Color Protest Disciplinary Injustice.” Co-presented with Louis M. Maraj. *National Women’s Studies Association Conference* (2019), San Francisco, CA

“Breaking Commonplaces: Social Justice Perspectives on Rematerializing Pedagogy & Assessment” *Conference on College Composition and Communication* (2020), Milwaukee, WI. Half-day workshop co-facilitated by Ryan Sheehan, Sean Kamperman, Cody Jackson, and Gavin P. Johnson. (Pedagogy workshop proposal accepted and scheduled in program; conference canceled due to COVID-19)

“Coalitional Relations: In/Hospitable Rhetorical Practices and Contemporary Feminisms,” *Rhetoric Society of America* (2020), Portland, OR. Roundtable with Elliot Tetreault, Jennifer Nish, and Louis M. Maraj. (Accepted proposal; conference canceled due to COVID-19)

“Viruses, Toxins, Walls, Animals: The Coronavirus and Transnational Economies of Dehumanization,” *National Women’s Studies Association* (2020), Minneapolis, MN. (Presentation proposal accepted; conference canceled due to COVID-19)

“Contesting the Temporality of the ‘Social Justice Turn’ in Rhetoric and Composition,” *Modern Languages Association* (2021), invited virtual presentation as part of the “Revisionist Histories” panel.

“‘In, but not of,’ Abolitionist Praxes in Community Literacy, the University, and Beyond,” *Conference on Community Writing* (2021), virtual roundtable with Anna Zeemont, Logan Middleton, and Amy J. Wan.

“Who Gets Charged For Change?: Epistemic Violence in Rhetorical Studies,” *Rhetoric Society of America* (2022), virtual panel presentation with Louis M. Maraj.

“Backchannel Pedagogies and Middle Voice: White Futurity in the Academy,” *National Women’s Studies Association* (2022), Minneapolis, MN.

“Silence/Absence and Middle Voice: Antiracism Beyond White Learning,” *Conference on College Composition and Communication* (2023), Chicago, IL.

“Affective Solidarity and Trauma-Informed Possibilities: A Comparative Analysis of the Classroom and the Clinic,” *Rhetoric of Health and Medicine Symposium* (2023), Minneapolis, MN. Co-presented with Kriti Prasad.

“Intentional, Institutional Pessimism: Supporting Meaningful Resistance,” *Conference on College Composition and Communication* (2024), Spokane, WA.

“Feminist and Queer Perspectives on Counter/Institutionality,” *Rhetoric Society of America* (2024), Denver, CO.

“On the Politics of Comparison and Exception,” *National Women’s Studies Association* (2024), Detroit, MI.

Regional and local

“Enough with the ‘woman of color’ thing: Mindy Kaling and the Politics of Relentless Heteronormativity.” Midwest Pop Culture Association/American Culture Association Conference 2014, Indianapolis, IN

“*Mad Men’s* Rogue Narrative: Why Sally Draper Breaks Our Hearts.” “Broken Narratives” Graduate Conference 2015, Columbus, OH

“Anti-Racist Approaches to Teaching Rhetorical Analysis in First-Year Composition.” Black Lives/Writers Matter Symposium 2016, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

Fellowships and grants

Haines Faculty Fellowship, University of Kansas, Spring 2024 (course release), Spring 2025 (course release)

Hall Center for Humanities Residential Fellowship, University of Kansas, Fall 2023 (one full semester of research leave)

New Faculty Research Development Award, University of Kansas, 2022 (\$8,000)

Global Arts and Humanities Discovery Theme Fellowship at the Digital Media and Composition Institute (DMAC), Ohio State University, January 2021-May 2021 (\$2,000)

Dean’s Enrichment Graduate Fellowship, Ohio State University, 2013-19

Arts and Sciences Graduate Research Small Grant, Ohio State University, College of Arts and Sciences, 2017 (\$500)

Margaret Blickle Graduate Travel and Research Grant, Department of English, Ohio State University, 2017 (\$500)

Awards and recognitions

National

Richard Braddock Award for Outstanding Article, Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC), 2023 (Article: “‘I Am Not Your Teaching Moment’: The Benevolent Gaslight and Epistemic Violence.”)

Honorable mention, Coalition of Feminist Scholars in the History of Rhetoric and Composition (CFSHRC) Kathleen Ethel Welch Outstanding Article Award, 2025 (Article: “Coalitional Refusals: Transformative Justice Beyond Repair.”)

Department

Conger-Gabel Teaching Professorship, 2025-2027. (Named endowed professorship recognizing excellence in teaching)

The Mabel S. Fry Award, University of Kansas Department of English, 2024. (For excellence in teaching based upon nominations by undergraduate and graduate students of the department)

Human Rights Award for Best Graduate Academic Paper or Multimodal Project, Ohio State University Department of English, 2015

Walborn Award for Excellence in Digital Media and English Studies Instruction, Ohio State University
Department of English, 2017

Teaching Award for Excellence in First-Year Writing, Ohio State University Department of English, 2018

TEACHING

University of Kansas

Undergraduate

English 105, Honors Introduction to English: Fall 2021

English 300, Introduction to English Studies: Fall 2022

English 380, Introduction to Rhetoric and Composition (theory survey): Spring 2022

English 383, Cultural Rhetorics (theory survey): Fall 2020; Spring 2021; Fall 2021; Fall 2024

English 580, Rhetoric and Writing (topics course): Spring 2020 (Theme: Rhetorics of Diversity and Neoliberalism)

English 598, Honors Proseminar (topics course): Fall 2024 (Theme: Rhetorics and Politics of Horror)

Graduate

English 780, Introduction to Rhetoric and Composition Studies (theory survey): Fall 2019; Spring 2024

English 880, Composition Studies (topics course): Fall 2020 (Theme: Cultural and Material Rhetorics)

English 904, Seminar in Composition Theory (topics course): Spring 2020 (Theme: Rhetorics of Diversity and Neoliberalism)

Ohio State University

Undergraduate

English 1110, First-Year Composition (writing course): Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Spring 2017, Summer 2017 (online), Spring 2018

English 2261, Introduction to Fiction (literature survey): Summer 2018 (online)

English/Comparative Studies 2264, Introduction to Pop Culture Studies (survey): Fall 2017

English 2269, Digital Media Composing (writing course): Fall 2016

English 4594, Law and Literature (topics course): Spring 2014 (co-taught with Wendy S. Hesford)

Graduate

English 6781, Introduction to Teaching First-Year Writing (teaching practicum): Fall 2015 (co-taught with First-Year Writing Program Administrators)

ADVISING

Undergraduate theses/research

- **Isabella Souza, Fall 2026 – present (Honors thesis committee chair)**
- **Samantha Ehmke, Fall 2024 – Spring 2025 (Honors thesis committee chair)**
- **Emilia Gibbs, Fall 2024 – Spring 2025 (Honors thesis committee chair)**
- **Clare Hawkins, Fall 2024 – Spring 2025 (Honors thesis committee chair)**
- **Isabel Mathew, Spring 2025 – present (Global Scholars advisor)**
- Alex Meyers, Fall 2024 – Spring 2025 (Honors thesis second reader)
- Michael Koch, Fall 2024 (Honors thesis second reader)
- **Grace Cooper, Spring 2020 (University Scholars advisor)**
- Emily Council, Spring 2022 (Honors thesis second reader)
- Sarah Hammeke, Spring 2023 (Honors thesis second reader)

MA committees

- **Abigail Clifton, English (Rhet/Comp), Spring 2025-present (chair, MA committee)**
- ***Kahill Perkins (defended), English (Rhet/Comp), Spring 2024-present (chair, MA committee)***

Dissertation committees

- **Emily Council, English (Rhet/Comp), Fall 2022-present (chair)**
- Sunday Adegbenro, English (Rhet/Comp), Summer 2026-present (committee)
- Zachary Madison, American Studies, November 2021-present (committee)
- Jade Harrison, English (Literature), March 2020-present (committee)
- Yee-Lum Mak, English (Rhet/Comp), November 2019-present (committee)
- ***Abby Breyer, English (Rhet/Comp), Spring 2022-present (chair)***
- *Zachary Smith (defended), English (Rhet/Comp), August 2022-present (committee)*
- *Lydia Benda (defended), English (Rhet/Comp), Spring 2024-present (committee)*
- *Michelle Ridley (School of Social Welfare, defended), January 2024-present (committee)*
- *Sarah Kugler (defended), English (Rhet/Comp), September 2020-present (committee)*
- *Sandra Jacobo (defended), English (Literature), March 2020 – May 2024 (committee)*
- ***Brynn Fitzsimmons (defended), English (Rhet/Comp), November 2020-May 2023 (chair)***
- *Faith Scheidemantle (defended), English (Rhet/Comp), April 2021-May 2023 (committee)*
- *Christopher Peace (defended), English (Rhet/Comp), January 2020-May 2022 (committee)*
- *Emma Kostopolus (defended), English (Rhet/Comp), November 2019-May 2021 (committee)*
- *Dana Comi (defended), English (Rhet/Comp), December 2019-May 2021 (committee)*
- *Leighann Thone (defended), English (Rhet/Comp), September 2019-May 2020 (committee)*

Doctoral exams committees

- **Kahill Perkins, English (Rhet/Comp), Spring 2025-present (chair)**
- **Sarah Thornsberry (Rhet/Comp), Spring 2025-present (chair)**
- Sameen, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS), Spring 2025-present (committee)
- Zachary Parker, English (Literature), March 2020-present (committee)

Teaching advising

- Christopher Peace, AY 2020-2021
- Charlesia McKinney, AY 2020-2021
- Sarah Kugler, AY 2021-2022
- Zachary Smith, AY 2022-2023
- Sandra Jacobo, AY 2022-2023
- Jamie Hawley, Spring 2024
- Abby Brewer, AY 2024-2025
- Jasmine Holthaus, AY 2024-2025

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Editorial

Manuscript review

- *College Composition and Communication* (2020; 2022)
- *Rhetoric, Politics, & Culture* (2021)
- *constellations: a cultural rhetorics publishing space* (2022)
- *The Undergraduate Journal of Humanities*, University of Kansas (2020)

Editorial boards

- *Journal of the Midwest Modern Language Association (JMMLA)*, inaugural member (2024 – present)

- McGraw-Hill Education Board of Advisors (BOA), Critical Thinking Assignment readings, BOA facilitator and member (2024-present)

National

- Rhetoric Society of America (RSA) Cheryl Geisler Mentoring Award Committee, 2023-2024
- Rhetoric Society of America (RSA) Outstanding Dissertation Award Committee, 2021-2022
- Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) Outstanding Book Award Committee, 2020-2021
- Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) Doctoral Consortium Representative for KU, Fall 2019-present

University

- Search Committee Member, Assistant Professor of Trans Studies, Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS), University of Kansas, AY 2024-2025
- Search Committee Member, Director of the Hall Center for Humanities, University of Kansas, AY 2023-2024
- Scholars On Site Award Committee (chair), Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas, Spring 2023
- Resident Fellowships Committee (co-chair), Hall Center for the Humanities, Fall 2021
- Executive Committee, Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas, Fall 2020-Spring 2023
- National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Stipend Nominee Committee, Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas, Fall 2020
- Undergraduate Research Awards Faculty Reviewer, University of Kansas, Fall 2019
- “DISCO Ball: A Celebration with the Society for Disability Studies” Planning Sub-Committee, Ohio State University, Spring 2018
- Queer Places, Practices, and Lives Conference Planning Sub-Committee, Ohio State University, Fall 2016-Spring 2017
- Diversity and Identity Studies Collective (DISCO) at Ohio State University Graduate Caucus President (Fall 2017-Spring 2018) and Vice President (Fall 2016-Spring 2017)

Department

- Undergraduate Studies Committee, Department of English, University of Kansas, Fall 2024-present
- Diversity, Recruitment, and Retention Committee, Department of English, University of Kansas, Spring 2024
- Search Committee Member, Professional Writing Faculty Search, Department of English, University of Kansas, AY 2021-2022
- Task Force on Graduate Education Co-Chair (Ad Hoc Committee), Department of English, University of Kansas, Spring 2021-Summer 2021
- Graduate Studies Committee, Department of English, University of Kansas, Fall 2021-present
- Advisory Committee, Department of English, University of Kansas, Fall 2020-Spring 2023 (elected member)
- First and Second-Year English/Graduate Teaching Assistants and Lecturers Committee, Department of English, University of Kansas, AY 2020-2021
- Black Lives/Writers Matter Symposium Planning Sub-Committee, Ohio State University, Fall 2015-Spring 2016
- Graduate Writing Program Administrator in First-Year Writing, Ohio State University, Fall 2015-Spring 2016

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Modern Languages Association (MLA)
 Rhetoric Society of America (RSA)
 National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA)

Coalition for Community Writing (CCW)
Coalition of Feminist Scholars in the History of Rhetoric and Composition (CFSHRC)
Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC)
Council of Writing Program Administrators (CWPA)