

# **SAMARA HAYLEY STEELE**

Cultural Studies at UC Davis  
One Shields Avenue,  
Davis CA 95616

samarasteele.com

## **EDUCATION**

PhD, Cultural Studies. University of California at Davis, anticipated 2023.

MFA, Creative Writing, Nonfiction emphasis. Portland State University, 2014.  
Advisor: Paul Collins | Committee Members: Amy Greenstadt, Alastair Hunt

BA, English & Interdisciplinary Studies. Fairhaven College, Western Washington University, 2007.

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Diegesis, Methodology, Reification, Epistemo-ontology, Cultural Economy, Cultural Economy, Science and Technology Studies (STS), Performance Studies, Community Economies, Consent Studies, Gender Playability, Decolonial Studies, Analog Game Studies, Ordinary Language Philosophy (OLP), Critical Code Studies (CCS).

## **AWARDS**

Graduate Research Assistantship: the ModLab: the Digital Humanities Laboratory, The University of California at Davis. 2019-present.

Cultural Studies Association (CSA) Travel Award. 2019.

HASTAC Scholars Fellowship: The Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory (HASTAC). 2018-20.

Provost's Fellowship in the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences: The University of California at Davis. 2018-19.

Graduate Assistantship: The Humanities Sustainability Research Project. The Portland Center for Public Humanities, Portland State University. 2009.

## **PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS**

"A Question of Diegesis and Agency: Towards a New Materialist Rhetoric for Narrative Studies." Presentation for the Annual Meeting of the Pacific Ancient and Modern Languages (PAMLA), San Diego, Calif. November 14-17, 2019.

“Whose Autonomy? 50 Years of Emergent Refusals in the Other Utopia.” Presentation for the Annual Meeting of the Union for Democratic Communications (UDC), California State University East Bay, Hayward, Calif. October 31-November 2, 2019.

“Searching for Zero: Spitballing Hegemonic Modes of “Unknowing” and Conjuring the Big “O” Other.” Presentation for the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Social Studies of Science (4S), New Orleans, 4-7 September, 2019.

“Racialized Sousveillance and the Biopolitics of Grievability: Video Footage of Police Brutality as Speculative Realism.” Presentation for the Annual Meeting of the Cultural Studies Association (CSA), Tulane University, New Orleans, La. May 30-June 1, 2019.

“The Reality Code: Interpreting Aggregate Larp Rules as Code that Runs on Humans.” *The International Journal of Role-Playing*, Issue 7, pp. 30-35. [ijrp.subcultures.nl](http://ijrp.subcultures.nl).

“Lessons in Netprov: Collaborative Writing in the Digital Age.” Presentation with Rob Wittig and Mark Marino for the Berkeley Center for New Media, University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, Calif. 18 October 2016.

“Teaching Political Economy through Larp: Some Game Mechanics of Feudalism and Capitalism.” Presentation for the Role-Playing and Simulation in Education Conference. Texas State University. Round Rock, Texas. May 19, 2016.

“Beyond Lords and Ladies: Factors that Support (or Inhibit) Player Experimentation with Gender.” & “Larp and Leisure Labor: Situating Live Action Role-Play within the New Economic Ecology.” Presentation for the Living Games Conference. The Game Center, Tisch School of the Arts, New York University. New York, N.Y. March 14-16, 2014.

## **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

“Game Design Methodologies for Gender Playability: A Case Study of Thermophiles in Love.” Presentation for the Social Studies of Live Action Role-Playing Games Conference at the European University of St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg, Russia. 8-9 December 2016.

“Code as Diegetic Language in LARP.” Presented as part of the “Critical Code Studies and Creativity Panel” at the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts (SLSA), Atlanta, Ga. 3-6 November 2016.

“Gender Playability in Larp: The Roles of Performativity and Interpolation.” Presentation at The 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Gender Studies Symposium. Lewis & Clark College. Portland, Ore. 9-11 March 2016.

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

Advanced Research Affiliate. Dr. Lawrence Bogad, The Center for Tactical Performance, The University of California at Davis. Winter 2019-present.

Graduate Researcher. Dr. Colin Milburn, the ModLab: the Digital Humanities Laboratory, The University of California at Davis. Summer and Autumn 2019.

Advanced Research Affiliate. Dr. Mark Marino, The Humanities and Critical Code Studies (HaCCS) Lab, The University of Southern California. Spring 2016-present.

Graduate Assistant. Dr. Leerom Medovoi, the Humanities Sustainability Research Project, The Portland Center for Public Humanities (PCPH), Portland State University. Winter and Spring 2009.

## ACADEMIC & CULTURAL SERVICE

Peer reviewer for the conference, "Digital Humanities 2020: Intersections/Carrefours" to take place in Ottawa, Canada July 22-24, 2020. ADHO, Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations.

Respondent for workshop of Jodi Bryd's book chapter from *The Indigenomicon* entitled "Empire's Dead: Incivility, Indigeneity, and the Cultural Politics of Settling." Oct 25, 2019, Department of English, UC Davis.

Presiding Officer and Co-Chair of the Panel "So Happy Together: Sympoiesis as Tentacular Resistance in Troubled Times" at the annual meeting of the Pacific Ancient and Modern Languages Association (PAMLA), San Diego, November 14-17, 2019.

Peer reviewer for the 2018 CHI PLAY Conference Proceedings Publication. CHI PLAY, Special Interest Group on Computer-Human Interaction (SIGCHI).

The Living Games Conference. Austin, Texas. 19-22 May 2016.

"Power Made Visible: Interpreting LARP Rules as Code that Runs on Humans."

(Academic Paper Presentation)

"Gaia Reboot: A Methodological Approach Towards Ecologically Reflexive Games."

(Game Design Presentation)

Crisis Management Training Workshop: Bleed, Harassment, Trauma. (Co-Facilitator)

Crisis Management Panel: Policy, Deliberation, and Decision-Making. (Panelist)

Gender/Sexuality Roles and Larp: Roundtable Discussion. (Panelist)

Skillshare Director for Offerings: A Feminist Festival of Transformative Arts. The Siren Project. Women's Cancer Resource Center. Oakland, Calif. 14 Sept 2014.

Organizer for the inaugural conference, *Understanding Sustainability: Perspectives from the Humanities*. The Portland Center for Public Humanities, Portland State University, Portland, Ore. 14-16 May 2009.

Organizer for the *FOOD CLOTHING SHELTER* Lecture Series. The Portland Center for Public Humanities, Portland State University, Portland, Ore. March 3-April 28, 2009.

## RESEARCH CLUSTERS & WORKING GROUPS

UC Davis ModLab	modlab.ucdavis.edu
California Economists Collective (CEC) Retreats: Spring 2019, Autumn 2019, Winter 2020	cec.ucdavis.edu
The Humanities and Critical Code Studies (HaCCS) Lab	haccslab.com
Critical Code Studies Working Group 2020	wg20.criticalcodestudies.com
Critical Code Studies Working Group 2018	wg18.criticalcodestudies.com
Critical Code Studies Working Group 2016	wg16.criticalcodestudies.com

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

The Portland Center for Public Humanities (PCPH). 2009-present.  
The Humanities and Critical Code Studies (HaCCS) Lab. 2016-present.  
The Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts (SLSA). 2016-present.  
The Modern Language Association (MLA). 2017-present.  
The Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Alliance and Collaboratory (HASTAC), 2018-present.  
The Center for Tactical Performance, 2019-present.  
The Pacific Ancient and Modern Languages Association (PAMLA), 2019-present.

## PERFORMANCE, INTERACTIVE MEDIA & ANALOG GAMES

*Realitycraft: an RPG Rulesmithing Game* (interactive performance)  
Davis, Calif. 2019 Solo Piece

*What happens in the lab...* (larp, freeform)  
Davis, Calif. 2019 Larpwright

*Sivad*, a project of the ModLab (larp, codic)  
Davis, Calif. 2019-present Project Director

Netprov Pieces directed by Mark Marino & Rob Wittig:  
Destination Wedding 2070 2019 Co-creator  
One Star Reviews 2017 Featured Player

Fake News Agency	2017	Featured Player
Thermophiles in Love	2016	Co-creator
Monstrous Weather	2016	Featured Player
Air-B-n-Me	2016	Featured Player
<i>Hotel Obfuscia</i> produced by Foma Labs (interactive theatre)		
San Francisco, Calif.	2017	Performance Artist
Thermophiles in Love (larp, freeform)		
Berkeley, Calif. & Atlanta, Ga.	2016	Larpwright, Co-Facilitator
Bleed, Harassment, Trauma (larp, edularp)		
with Sarah Lynn Bowman, John Stavropoulos & Sarah Hart		
	2016	Larpwright, Co-Facilitator
Los Angeles Freeform & Theatre Larp Collective		
Los Angeles, Calif.	2016	Co-founder
<i>Break Silence, End Isolation</i> (protest performance)		
San Francisco Bay Area	2013	Performance Artist
<i>Beyond the Aether</i> (larp, codic)		
Portland, Ore.	2009-12	Rules Development, Co-Facilitator
Kumoricon (performative fandom)		
Portland, Ore.	2008-10	Cosplayer
Sakuracon (performative fandom)		
Seattle, Wash.	2000-08	Cosplayer
NERO Alliance (larp, codic)		
Seattle Chapter	2003-07	Volunteer
Oregon Chapter	2005	Staff
Camlann Medieval Village (interactive reenactment theatre)		
Carnation, Wash.	1996-98	Performance Artist

## ACTIVISM & CONSENSUS COMMUNITY

The Chile Solidarity Network (media activism network)		
	2019-present	Media Specialist
Solidaridad con los Ninos (direct action group)		
Berkeley, Calif.	2018-present	Co-founder, Media Specialist
<i>Slingshot</i> (activist newspaper)		
Berkeley, Calif.	2011-present	Editorial Collective Member
The Network of Bay Area Worker Cooperatives (NoBAWC)		
Oakland, Calif.	2018	Mapmaker, Co-op Researcher
Freedom for Immigrants (nonprofit organization)		
Oakland, Calif.	2018	Independent Publicist & Fundraiser
LAND ACTION (adverse possession mutual aid network)		
Oakland, Calif.	2015-2016	Development Director, Organizer
The Long Haul Infoshop (community space)		
Berkeley, Calif.	2011-15	Collective Member
Villagecraft (decentralized education network)		

San Francisco Bay Area	2013-15	Network Facilitator
Occupy the Farm (guerilla farming movement)		
Albany, Calif.	2013-15	Organizer, Publicist
The Sudo Room (hacker space)		
Oakland, Calif.	2013-15	Collective Member, Publicist
PLACE for Sustainable Living (urban ecovillage & community center)		
Oakland, Calif.	2013-15	Organizer, Publicity
The Omni Commons (post-hierarchical community space)		
Oakland, Calif.	2014-15	Organizer, Publicist
Liberated Lens (film collective)		
Oakland, Calif.	2014-15	Collective Member
Oakland Spring Rising (urban farming movement)		
Oakland, Calif.	2015	Organizer
Occupy Oakland		
Oakland, Calif.	2011	Organizer
The WTO Protests		
Seattle, Wash.	1999	Activist, Journalist
The Pickering Farm Community Garden		
Issaquah, Wash.	1996-00	Organizer

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### University of California at Davis

- Readership for Dr. Jesse Drew's course, "Technoculture Studies 005: Media Archaeology," Spr 2019.
- Facilitating Instructor of the course "FRS 005: Games for Science and Society: LARPs, ARGs, and Citizen Science" with Colin Milburn as the Instructor of Record, Fall 2019.

### Portland State University

- Writing Assistant, "Adulthood in the US, Japan & Europe," Dept. of Sociology, Sum 2010 & Spr 2012.
- Writing Assistant, "The History of Rock & Roll," Dept. of Music., Spr 2010
- Writing Assistant, "Science Through Science Fiction," Dept. of Physics. Fall 2009

### Western Washington University

- Undergraduate Instructor, "Folk Science in Film," Dept. of Anthropology, Spring 2006.
- Undergraduate Instructor, "Writing For Interactive Theater," Fairhaven College, Summer 2005.
- Undergraduate Instructor, "Graphic Novel Creation," Fairhaven College, Spring 2005.