

## **SAMARA HAYLEY STEELE**

The Commons at  
519 E Maple St  
Bellingham, WA 98225

shsteele@ucdavis.edu  
samarasteele.com

## **EDUCATION**

PhD, Cultural Studies. Dual Designated Emphases in Science and Technology Studies (STS) and Performance Studies. University of California at Davis, anticipated 2023.

Advisor: LM Bogad | Committee Members: Grace Delmolino, Colin Milburn, Gina Bloom, Beth Rose Middleton

MFA, Creative Writing, Nonfiction emphasis. Portland State University, 2014.

Advisor: Paul Collins | Committee Members: Amy Greenstadt, Alastair Hunt

BA, English & Interdisciplinary Concentration (double major). Fairhaven College, Western Washington University, 2007.

AA&S. Bellevue College, 2003.

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Cultural Studies, Writing, Consent Studies, Sustainability Studies, Analog Game Studies, Critical Infrastructure Studies, Community Economies, Indigenous Futurisms, Critical Code Studies (CCS), Science and Technology Studies (STS), Gamemaking in Education (GME), Media Studies, Tactical Performance, Postcolonial Studies, Critical Indigenous Studies, Critical Race Studies, Gender Playability, Diegetic Code, Data Dramatization, Performance Studies.

## **SELECTED AWARDS**

Mellon Public Scholars Fellowship, UC Davis Humanities Institute. 2020.

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society Inductee. 2020.

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

Graduate Research Assistantship: The ModLab: The Digital Humanities Laboratory, UC Davis. Summer & Autumn 2019.

Cultural Studies Association (CSA) Travel Award. 2019.

Provost's Fellowship in the Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, UC Davis. 2018-19.

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

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

“Infrastructures of Reparations: Towards a Conjunctural Implosion of the New Left and the Digital Age in the Long Shadow of Settler Colonialism.” *Lateral: The Journal of Cultural Studies*. Forthcoming, Fall 2021.

“Towards Gamemaking in Education: Developing larp-making exercises to teach STEM subject matter as well as literature, theatre, community studies, and emergent topics to college students.” Lead author. *The International Journal of Role-Playing*, special issue. Forthcoming, Fall 2021.

“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). December 2016.

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“The Maker Turn in Classroom Games: How educational gamemaking offers a ‘powerful pedagogical paradigm.’” Scheduled presentation for GENERation Analog: The Tabletop Games and Education Conference at GenCon 2021, co-sponsored by *Analog Game Studies* and Game in Lab, online. Aug 4-5, 2021.

“Consent and Cultural Studies: Hall, Gramsci, Grossberg.” Scheduled presentation for the Annual Meeting of the Cultural Studies Association (CSA), online. 10-12 June 2021.

“Anti-Racist Tactics as Anti-Code at the CHAZ/CHOP.” Scheduled presentation for the Annual Meeting of the Cultural Studies Association (CSA), online. 10-12 June 2021.

“To Larp, or Not to Larp? Must Embodiment and Code Deployment Reinforce Systemic Injustice across Larp Platforms?” Presentation for the Annual Meeting of the Electronic Literature Association (ELO), online. 26-27 May 2021.

“Fork the Commons: Some Notes on the Origins of People’s Park, the Internet, and the Rise of Leftist Fundamentalism” Presentation for the Annual Meeting of the Cultural Studies Association (CSA), online. 28-30 May 2020.

“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. 14-17 November 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, La. 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.

“Tactics for Distributing Power over Diegesis: Comparing Nordic Freeform Larp, Irvine GM-less Larp, and PNW Aggregate Larps” Presentation for the 2018 Living Games Conference. Boston, Mass. 18-20 May 2018.

“Notes Towards Discussing Larp Literacy: Noise Filtering, Direct Diegesis, Extradiegetic Statement Exchange, Intradiegetic Objects, and Others.” Presentation for the Roleplay and Simulation in Education Conference, Northeastern University, Boston, Mass. 17 May 2018.

“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.

“Power Made Visible: Interpreting LARP Rules as Code that Runs on Humans.” The Living Games Conference. Austin, Texas. 19-22 May 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.” Presentation for the Living Games Conference. The Game Center, Tisch School of the Arts, New York University. New York, N.Y. 14-16 March 2014.

“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. 14-16 March 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.

## **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.  
Imagining America Consortium, 2020-present.

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

Research Intern. Dr. Brian Odom, NASA History Division. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Summer 2021.

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

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

Project Director. Analog Games Research Group. The ModLab: the Digital Humanities Laboratory, The University of California at Davis. June 2019-June 2020.

Graduate Student Researcher. Dr. Kalindi Vora. The Feminist Research Institute, The University of California at Davis. Winter 2020.

Graduate Student Researcher. Dr. Colin Milburn, Science and Technology Studies (STS), The University of California at Davis. Summer and Autumn 2019.

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

Undergraduate Researcher. Dr. Kathleen Saunders, STS Research, The Department of Anthropology, Western Washington University. Winter 2006.

## **SELECTED ACADEMIC & CULTURAL SERVICE**

Chair of forthcoming panel, "Climate Data Relations" at the gathering of the Society for the Social Studies of Science (4S), Autumn 2021.

Peer reviewer for the conference, "Digital Humanities 2020: Intersections/Carrefours." Alliance of Digital Humanities Organizations (ADHO).

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

Presiding Officer 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, 14-17 November, 2019.

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

The Living Games Conference. Boston, Mass. 17-20 May 2018.

Chair: Bleed and Transformation: Academic Panel

Panelist: Building Better Campaign Boffer Larp Communities

Panelist: Modern American Boffer: Evolution Beyond the Tabletop: Design Roundtable

Panelist: Take the Streets: Guerilla Larp and Political Play: Design Roundtable

Los Angeles Freeform & Theatre Larp Collective, co-founder  
cofounded with Ross Cheung, 2016

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

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

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

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

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**

Humanities and Critical Code Studies (HaCCS) Lab  
Anti-Racist CCS Reading Group 2021

[haccslab.com](http://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

The Indigenous Futures Collective, 2020-present  
 Cofounder [iagathering.org/quilt/the-indigenous-futures-collective/](http://iagathering.org/quilt/the-indigenous-futures-collective/)

California Economists Collective (CEC), 2019-present  
 Gatherings: Spring 2019, Autumn 2019, Winter 2020

UC Davis ModLab [modlab.ucdavis.edu](http://modlab.ucdavis.edu)  
 Director, Educational Gamemaking Graduate Research Group, 2019-2020  
 Director, Educational Gamemaking Undergraduate Research Group, 2020

The UC Davis Humanities Institute (DHI)  
 Racial Justice Policy Cluster, 2020-present.  
 The Disability and Social Justice Research Cluster, 2020-present.

## MEDIA ART, PERFORMANCE ART, & ANALOG GAMES

*Beyond the Superhero: the Rise of the Superweaver (A Manifesto for Artists and Investors)*  
 (manifesto) by the Indigenous Futures Collective (David Michael Karabelnikoff, Lee Francis IV, Laina Greene, and Samara Hayley Steele). (2020). *Imagining America: Through Tumultuous Times*. Creative Response Gallery / Digital Quilt.  
<https://iagathering.org/quilt/the-indigenous-futures-collective/>

*Sivad* (larp), project director  
 The UC Davis ModLab, 2019-2020

*Destination Wedding 2070* (netprov), co-creator  
 AMC Hypertext 2020, *Climates of Change: A Virtual Exhibition*, July 2020.  
 George Mason University, Virtual Book Festival, Sept-Oct 2020.

*Realitycraft: an RPG Rulesmithing Game* (interactive performance), creator  
 Della Davidson Performance Studio, Davis, CA, 2019 Autumn Showcase

*What happens in the lab...* (larp), larpwright  
 The UC Davis ModLab, 2019

*Thermophiles in Love* (netprov and larp), co-creator  
 The Living Games Conference, 2018  
 The Berkeley Center for New Media, 2016  
 The Annual Gathering of the SLSA, Gallery Exhibit 2016

Netprov pieces directed by Mark Marino & Rob Wittig:

<i>One Star Reviews</i>	2017	Featured Player
<i>Fake News Agency</i>	2017	Featured Player
<i>Monstrous Weather</i>	2016	Featured Player
<i>Air-B-n-Me</i>	2016	Featured Player

*Hotel Obfuscia* (interactive theatre), performance artist  
 Foma Labs, San Francisco, CA, 2017

*Bleed, Harassment, Trauma* (edu-larp), larpwright, co-facilitator  
 The Living Games Conference, 2016  
 created with Sarah Lynn Bowman, John Stavropoulos & Sarah Hart

*Gaia Reboot: A Methodological Approach Towards Ecologically Reflexive Games.*  
 Created for Holigent, presented at the Living Games Conference. Austin, Texas. 2016.

*Cat Bloc* (protest performance), performance artist. San Francisco Bay Area, 2015.

*Break Silence, End Isolation* (protest performance), performance artist  
 San Francisco Bay Area, 2013

*Beyond the Aether* (larp) rules development, co-facilitator  
 Portland, OR, 2009-2012

Alliance Larp (formerly NERO Alliance)

Seattle Chapter	2003-07	Volunteer
Oregon Chapter	2005	Staff Member

Camlann Medieval Village (interactive reenactment theatre)  
 Carnation, Wash. 1996-98 Performance Artist

## SELECTED ACTIVISM & CONSENSUS COMMUNITY

Karate Church Commons, Bellingham		
Bellingham, Wash.	2020-present	Steering Committee Member
Bellingham Defund the Police Coalition		
Bellingham, Wash.	2020	Policy Committee Member
Cascadia Community Land Trust		
Bellingham, Wash.	2020-present	Organizing Member
Bellingham Worker Cooperative Development Committee		
Bellingham, Wash.	2019-present	Founding Member
The Chile Solidarity Network (media activism network)		
SF Bay Area, Calif.	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	Operations Manager
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 Oakland 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

## EDITING & PUBLISHING

<i>Subversas Magazine</i>		
Oakland, Calif.	2018-present	Editor, Co-Founder
<i>Slingshot</i>		
Berkeley, Calif.	2011-present	Editorial Collective Member
<i>[TRIGGER]: A Journal of Catarealism and Speculative Sexualities</i>		
Oakland, Calif.	2015	Contributing Editor
<i>McSweeney's</i>		
San Francisco, Calif.	2011	Editorial Intern
<i>Ooligan Press</i>		
Portland, Ore.	2009-10	Administrative Assistant
<i>Tin House</i>		
Portland, Ore.	2008-09	Submission Evaluator
<i>Cerise Magazine for Women Gamers</i>		
Online	2007-08	Staff Writer
<i>Jeopardy Magazine</i>		
Bellingham, Wash. (WWU)	2005-06/2006-07	Volunteer/Editor-in-Chief
<i>The Bellingham Review</i>		
Bellingham, Wash.	2005-06	Administrative Assistant
<i>The Fairhaven Free-Press</i>		
Bellingham, Wash (WWU)	2004	Co-founder, Editor

## SELECTED WRITING

- "Consent Economics: What is the consent economy?" (2021). Essay. *Subversas Magazine*. Ed. Karma Bennet. 30 March. [subversas.com/consent-economics](http://subversas.com/consent-economics)
- "Beyond the Superhero: The Rise of the Superweaver (A Manifesto for Artists and Investors)" with the Indigenous Futures Collective. (2020). Manifesto. *Slingshot*. Ed. The Slingshot Collective. Issue 132, Autumn.
- "Divest from ecocide." (2019). Editorial. *Slingshot*. Ed. The Slingshot Collective. Issue 129, Summer.
- "The Davis Dozen Shows Occupy the Way Forward." (2012). *Adbusters*. Ed. Micah White. [Adbusters.org](http://Adbusters.org), 19 July 2012. Reprinted at [Occupy.com](http://Occupy.com).
- "Occupy is not a photo opp." (2011) *Slingshot*. Ed. The Slingshot Collective. Issue 108, Winter.



“Gender & Live Action Role-Play.” (2007-2008) Article Series. *Cerise Magazine for Women Gamers*. Ed. Andrea Rubenstein and Robyn Fleming. Aug. 07-Mar. 08.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE (Academic & Professional)**

### **University of California, Davis**

Associate Instructor (AI), University Writing Program (UWP). Program Supervisor: Daniel Melzer. Autumn 2020, Spring 2021.

Teaching Assistant (TA) for Dr. Grace Delmolino, Consent Studies, Humanities (HUM) Program, Winter 2021.

Teaching Assistant (TA) for Dr. Kris Fallon’s course “Film and Media Studies 1,” Spring 2020.

Facilitator, Undergraduate Independent Group Study, “Design Methodologies for Analog Games as STEM Pedagogy,” Instructor of Record: Colin Milburn (STS 198).

Facilitator, Undergraduate Independent Group Study, “Data Dramatization through Analog Games,” Instructor of Record: Colin Milburn (STS 198).

Facilitator of First Year Seminar, “Games for Science and Society: LARPs, ARGs, and Citizen Science” (FRS 005) with Dr. Colin Milburn as Instructor of Record, Fall 2019.

Readership for Dr. Jesse Drew’s course, “Technoculture Studies 005: Media Archaeology,” Spring 2019.

### **Villagecraft Educational Network**

Operations Manager. Co-organized an experiential education network of over 1,500 people in the San Francisco Bay Area, 2013-15

Workshop Host. Facilitated low-cost and free writing workshops in community centers on the topics of “Writing for Social Change” and “Graphic Novel Writing,” Berkeley and Oakland, 2013-15

### **Portland State University**

Writing Assistant, “Adulthood in the US, Japan & Europe,” Dr. Robert Liebman, Dept. of Sociology, Summer 2010 & Spring 2012.

Writing Assistant, “History of Rock Music,” Dr. Joel Bluestone, Dept. of Music, Spring 2010

Writing Assistant, “Science Through Science Fiction,” Dr. John Freeouf, Dept. of Physics, Fall 2009

### **Berliz Language Company, Inc. Ashiya, Japan**

Instructor for English Language Learners (ELL), group and one-on-one classes, 2007-08.

### **Western Washington University**

Undergraduate Instructor, “Folk Science in Film,” Dept. of Anthropology, Spring 2006, Faculty Advisor: Kathleen Saunders

Undergraduate Instructor, “Writing for Interactive Theater,” Fairhaven College, Summer 2005, Faculty Advisor: JT Stewart

Undergraduate Instructor, “Graphic Novel Creation,” Fairhaven College, Spring 2005, Faculty Advisor: Daniel Larner