

Pen Name: Zeffie Gaines
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University of Rochester
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University of Rochester
Director, Susan B. Anthony Institute, 2024-Present
Professor of Black Studies and English, 2024-Present

Miami University

Professor of English, 2022-2024
Associate Professor of English, 2008-2022
Affiliate, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, 2008-Present
Affiliate, Black World Studies, 2001-2024
Assistant Professor of English, 2001-08

The University of California, Riverside
Ph.D., English, 2001
With distinction
M.A., English, 1997
With distinction

Spelman College
B.A., English, 1995
magna cum laude

Altman Faculty Scholar for the Race and Racism program, 2021-2022
Upcoming feature in the *Black Agenda Report Book Forum*, 2021
Faculty/Staff Teaching Commendation, 2001-2020 (honored many times since 2001)
Modern Language Association (MLA) award for best essay of the year on twentieth-

BOOKS

"Parallel Perversions: Interracial and Same Sexuality in James Baldwin's *Another Country*." *MELUS*, vol. 26, no. 2, Winter 2001, pp. 95-115. (Peer-reviewed)

"Vegetarianism without Self-righteousness: The Politics of 'Consciousness' and Cultural Identity." *Black Renaissance/Renaissance Noire*, vol. 2, no. 3, Winter 1999, pp. 144-152. (Editorial review)

"Demystifying the Tragic Mulatta: The Biracial Woman as Spectacle." *Stanford Black Arts Quarterly* vol. 2, no. 3, Summer/Spring 1997, pp. 12-14. (Editorial review)

Black Nation/Queer Nations?, dir. Shari Frilot; *Marriage Equality: Byron Rushing and the Fight for Fairness*, dir. Thomas Allen Harris; and *M.I.A: A Different Kind of Girl*, dir. Leslie Cunningham. *Films for the Feminist Classroom*, vol. 6, no. 2, 2018.
http://ffc.twu.edu/issue_6-2/rev_Dunning_6-2.html

Transcending Blackness: From the New Millennial Mulatta to the Exceptional Multiracial, by Ralina L. Joseph; *Tragic No More: Mixed Race Women and the Nexus of Celebrity*, by Caroline A. Streeter; *Body as Evidence: Mediating Race, Globalizing Gender*, by Janell Hobson; *Sounding Like a No-No: Queer Sounds and Eccentric Acts*, by Francesca T. Royer. *Signs*, vol. 39, no. 4, Summer 2014, pp. 1023-1027.

Island of a Thousand Mirrors, by Nayomi Munaweera. *South Asian Review*, vol. 33, no. 3, 2012, pp. 365-367.

Mixed Race, edited by Jonathan Brennan. *Modern Fiction Studies*, vol. 49, no. 4, 2003, pp. 853-854.

ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES

"Alice Walker." *Oxford African American Studies Center*. Print, December 01, 2006. Oxford University Press. Accessed online March 17, 2021.
<https://oxfordaasc.com/view/10.1093/acref/9780195301731.001.0001/acref-9780195301731-e-51201>

"Hanif Kureishi." *The Scribner's British Literature Supplement*, ed. Jay Parini, Charles Scribner's Sons, 2005, pp. 153-164.

"Maya Angelou." *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Literature*. Print, 2004. Published online July 26, 2017. Oxford University Press.
<https://oxfordre.com/literature/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780190201098.001.0001/acrefore-9780190201098-e-625>

"Octavia Butler." *The Scribner's American Literature Supplement XIII*, edited by Jay Parini, Charles Scribner's Sons, 2003, pp. 59-73.

"Eco-Monsters and Somatic Takeovers," University of Michigan, September 2021

"Temporality and Blackness," American Studies Association Conference, October 2021 (Virtual)

"Black Time in *The Watchmen*," College Language Association Conference, April 2021 (Virtual).

Commentator, "Commemorating and (Re)Constructing the African American Canon,"

American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Honolulu, Hawaii, 2019.

Roundtable participant, "On Martin Shuster's *New Television*," Modern Language Association Conference, Chicago, Illinois, 2019.

"Cosmopolitan Crisis and Pastoral Longing in *Queen Sugar*," American Studies Association

"Postcoloniality and Lesbian Erotics in the Works of Michelle Cliff," PAMLA Annual Meeting, Pomona College, November 2000.

"Ethnographic and Pornographic Spectacle: Representing the Body of the Other in Trinh Minh-Ha's *Reassemblage*," Crossroads in Cultural Studies Conference, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, England, June 2000.

"Race and Hybridity in Michelle Cliff's *Abeng*," The International Conference on Caribbean Literature, Nassau, Bahamas, October 1998.

"Biraciality, Spectacle and Caribbean Literature," PAMLA Annual Meeting, Pomona College, November 1998.

"Exile as Castration in *Mississippi Masala*," South Asian Studies Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison, November 1998.

"Race, Sexuality and the Specter of Otherness in Charlotte Dacre's *Zofloya, or the Moor*," Institute on American Studies, Dartmouth University, June 1998.

"Zora Neale Hurston and Maxine Hong Kingston: Beyond Feminism?" Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society Conference, St. Louis, Missouri, March 1995.

Black to Nature book talk, Forthcoming, Rohiwa Books and Earthseed Land Collective, Durham, NC, April 2022.

"The Flesh of the Earth," University of Rochester, Forthcoming, April 2022

"The Dogon, Sun-Ra, and Black Ecologies of Outer Space," University of Kentucky, Forthcoming, March 2022

"Other/World(ly): A Black Ecology of Outer Space," Technische Universität Dresden, November, 2021

"Abolition, Apocalypse, and *Parable of the Sower*," University of Massachusetts, Amherst, November 2021

"Engaging Refusal," Roundtable Participant, Michigan State University/Labor Tech, October 2021

"Plant Life: Notes on the End of the World," Kenyon College, Spring 2021.

"Racism and Climate Justice," Albany State University, Spring 2021.

"Botanical Modalities and Apocalypse in the work of Octavia Butler," Humboldt State

English 603: Theories and Their Histories
English 690: "Every Goodbye Ain't Gone": Representations of Africa in the African American Literary Tradition
English 740: Theoretical Blackness: New Critical Race Theory
English 750: Histories and Methodologies
English 751: Special Problems (independent study)

Professional

Mentor in the *Engaged Scholars Initiative* (co-sponsored by Swarthmore College), 2021-Present

Manuscript reviewer for *Cultural Critique*
Manuscript reviewer for *MELUS*
Manuscript reviewer for *Modern Fiction Studies*
Manuscript reviewer for *Meridians*
Manuscript reviewer for *Signs*
Manuscript reviewer for *African American Review*
Manuscript reviewer for *GLQ*
Manuscript reviewer for *Mosaic*
Manuscript reviewer for *Modernism/modernity*
Manuscript reviewer for University of Illinois Press
Manuscript reviewer for University of Virginia Press
Member of the Ohio Humanities Speaker's Bureau
Consultant for The Black American Tree Project
Board member, Cancer Justice Network

Miami University

University and College Level:

Chair, Petitions Committee of Graduate Council, 2021-2023
Receive and process petitions from graduate students across the University.
Share the petitions with subcommittee members.
Oversee and facilitate discussion of petitions.
Collate subcommittee responses and share with the Graduate Council.
Faculty Advisor, *Black Books Matter*, 2019-present
Graduate Council, 2018-present
CRES Curriculum Development Committee, 2017-2018
Liberal Education Council, 2016-2017 present

Feminist Seminar, 2001

Department Level:

Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2020-present

Literature Committee, 2001-07, 2009-present

Director of the Literature Program, 2007-10

I was the first faculty member to hold this position which was newly created in 2007.

Convene monthly meetings of literature faculty.

Collaboratively review Literature curriculum.

Oversee programs that invited speakers to Miami University.

Coordinate with Associate Chair on issues related to the Literature program.

Coordinate with the Department chair on issues related to the Literature program.

Sponsor and plan a lecture series of invited speakers.

Chair of Grade Review Subcommittee, Composition Committee, 2015-2019.

Receive and process petitions to rendered grades by undergraduates.

Share petitions with committee members.

Natasha Allen, Committee member (inactive)

M.A.

Andrea Mouchil-Lordes, Chair (Present)

Darryn Edwards, Committee member (Defended 2020)

Emily O'Brien, Chair (Defended 2018)

Dhanuka Bandara, Committee member (Defended 2018)

Samitha Senanayake, Chair (Defended 2017)

Evan Fackler, Chair (Defended 2017)

Charlynn Estes, Committee member (Defended 2016)

Kristin Rutter, Committee member (Defended 2015)

Chelsea Tadeyeskye, Committee member (Defended 2015)

Joseph Thornton (poetry), Committee member (Defended 2015)

Matt Young (fiction), Committee member (Defended 2015)

Mosisah Mavity, Chair (Defended 2014)

Alex Friedman, fiction, Committee member (Defended 2014)

Curtis Dickerson, fiction, Committee member (Defended 2014)

Allison Nettnin, Committee member (Defended 2013)

Chamere Poole, Chair (Defended 2010)

Jordan Carroll, Chair (Defended 2009)

Alexander Jenkin, Committee member (Defended 2009)

Lloyd Garrison, Committee member (Defended 2005)

Carmen Elliott, Committee member (Defended 2005)

Shawna Rushford, Committee member (Defended 2004)

Rayna Robinson, Committee member (Defended 2003)