# Renata Ryan Burchfield

**(Cherokee Nation)**

American Indian Studies

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

1204 W. Nevada St.

Urbana, IL 61801

(217) 333-4528 (Office)

(970) 217-7483 (Cell)

[Rlr2@illinois.edu](mailto:Rlr2@illinois.edu)

## Education

**University of Colorado — Boulder, CO**

Ph.D. in English with a focus on Indigenous Literature, Film, and New Media

Awarded December 2021

—Certificate of Native American and Indigenous Studies

—Certificate of Ethnic Studies

**University of Oklahoma — Norman, OK**

M.A. in English Literature and Cultural Studies with a focus on Indigenous Literature and Media

Awarded May 2016

**University of Arkansas — Fayetteville, AR**

B.A. in English with an emphasis in Creative Writing

Awarded May 2013

## Research Interests

Indigenous Sovereignty and Self-Determination; Process and performative Sovereignties (my own classification and term); Indigenous creative cultural production such as film, literature, and new media; Collective Indigenous movements including recent environmental protector movements; Ecocriticisms; Solarpunk; Indigipunk (a term I’m working on); Transnational Indigenous connections; Indigenous critical theory using sacrality, language, and community worldview to diverge from a limiting western framework; Sound Studies; Remix Studies

## Publications

Ryan Burchfield, Renata.“Indigenous Media: Dialogic Resistance to Climate Disruption.”

Section: ‘‘Spiraling Time’ of Climate Change.” Collaborative chapter with Salma Monani, Danika Medak-Saltzman, & Willi Lempert. *Routledge Companion to Contemporary Art, Visual Culture, and Climate Change*. Eds. T.J. Demos, Emily Eliza Scott, and Subhankar Banerjee. Forthcoming Spring 2021.

Ryan, Renata. “Havasupai (The People of the Blue Water),” “the Rhythm Round,” “till tomorrow…but never yesterday,” “Rodin…” poems in *Cherokee Writers from the Flint Hills of Oklahoma: An Anthology*. Edited by Roy Hamilton, Karen Coody Cooper. The Cherokee Arts & Humanities Council, Inc. INDIGITRONIC publishing House, 2010.

## Professional Development

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**NEH Summer Institute: “The Native American West: A Case Study of the Columbia Plateau”**

Full scholarship awarded for the 2018 Summer Program

**Columbia Indigenous Studies Summer Program**

Full scholarship awarded for the 2017 Summer Program

**Newberry Consortium in American Indian Studies Graduate Workshop in Research Methods**

Full scholarship including travel and housing Spring 2017

## Awards and Honors

**Ford Fellowship Honorable Mention**

Dissertation Fellowship 2021

**Summer University Recognition Fellowship**

Competitive Graduate Research Grant awarded for the 2020 summer

**Preston Summer Research Fellowship**

Competitive Graduate Research Grant awarded for the 2019 summer

**Center for Native and Indigenous Studies, University of Colorado**

Graduate Research Assistantship awarded for the 2018-2019 academic year

**Frederick C. and Eleanor Ruth Hager Graduate Fellowship in English**

Fellowship awarded for the 2018-2019 academic year

**Center for Native and Indigenous Studies, University of Colorado**

Graduate Student fellowship awarded for the 2016-2017 academic year

**Cherokee Nation, Tahlequah Oklahoma**

Tribal Service Scholarship awarded annually from 2011-present

**English Department, University of Colorado Boulder**

Graduate Student Fellowship Package (teaching release for years 1, 3 and 5) awarded 2016

**English Department, University of Oklahoma**

Graduate Student Teaching fellowship awarded for the 2013-2016 academic years

## Teaching and Professional Experience

*2020- Present*

*Assistant Reviews Editor for Transmotion: Indigenous Studies Journal*

[*Transmotion*](https://journals.kent.ac.uk/index.php/transmotion/index) is a biannual, fully and permanently open-access journal inspired by the work of Gerald Vizenor.

*2017-2021*

*Literature Instructor*

The University of Colorado, Department of English — Boulder, CO

English 3005 Literature of New World Encounters: Filming From the Shore: Indigenous Perspectives of Colonial Contact (1 Sections of 28 students)

* + Course designed with Indigenous perspectives of colonial contact at the forefront.
  + Used Barry Barclay’s notion of “filming from the shore” to illustrate an Indigenous perspective of contact from occupied spaces watching foreigners land in ships.

Fall 2021. Continuing Education, Asynchronous Online.

English 3060 Modern & Contemporary Literature: Technological Relationships & Redemptive Futures: Ethnic & Indigenous Futurisms Remake the World (2 Sections of 28 students)

* + Course designed with non-western technological relationships in mind.
  + Used the Singularity theory to emphasize the need for humanities to structure ethical thinking around the use and potential consequences of the exponential speed of technology.

Spring 2020. In-person and Online.

English 4717 NAIS Capstone Seminar (1 Section, Independent Study)

* + Co-assembled a reading list with the student that emphasized the student’s interest in Indigenous Education, pulling from previous iterations of the syllabus.
  + Met with the student once a week in a one-on-one setting and discussed the readings.

Fall 2019.

English 1800 American Ethnic Literatures: “Racial Ecologies” and the Logics of Land in Ethnic Literatures, Film, and Digital Media (2 Sections of 28 students)

* + Constructed a course based on the idea of “racial ecologies” which focused on the impact of environmental catastrophes for peoples on the margin.
  + Utilized Indigenous concepts of land to illustrate different perspectives on more-than-human actors and kinship.

Fall 2019.

English 3060 Modern & Contemporary Literature: Ethnic Futurisms and Film (2 Sections of 28 students)

* + Included film as a storytelling mode particularly emphasizing non-Hollywood productions to highlight varying global & Indigenous perspectives.
  + Focused on Utopia and Dystopia as a critical mode of engagement with varying modes of storytelling.

Spring 2018.

English 1600 Masterpieces of American Literature: Imagined Communities and Identity in American Literatures (1 Section of 28 students)

* + Created entire course design utilizing Benedict Anderson’s concept of Imagined Communities to articulate different perspectives of belonging and identity in America.
  + Included diverse Ethnic American literatures to emphasize the varying viewpoints of nationalism within America.

Fall 2017.

*2013-2016*

*Composition Instructor*

The University of Oklahoma, Department of English — Norman, OK

English 1113: Principles of English Composition I (4 Sections of 19 students)

* + Designed lesson plans for English Composition I focusing on issues of scholarly discourse, discourse community analyses, and persuasiveness.
  + Constructed an alternative curriculum for Fall 2015 with a scaffolded structure that emphasized audience appeal and visual rhetoric, starting with a literacy narrative unit, progressing to an issue analysis unit, and ending with a persuasive unit.

Fall 2013, Fall 2015.

English 1213: Principles of English Composition II (10 Sections of 19 students)

* + Created entire course design emphasizing different forms of academic arguments, namely definitional, evaluation, ethical, and proposal arguments.
  + Integrated lessons that include multimedia to emphasize the complexities of argument and to break down the pro/con dichotomy.

Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Summer 2015, Spring 2016.

*2015*

*Graduate Teaching Assistant*

The University of Oklahoma, Department of Film and Media Studies — Norman, OK

Film and Media Studies 1013: Introduction to Film and Media Studies (1 Section of 200 students)

* + Assisted Dr. Katrina Boyd during class time.
  + Responded to student questions and provided in depth feedback for graded assignments.
  + Facilitated Mid-term and Final tests.

Fall 2015

Conference Presentations

Panel: “Resistance in the Materials of American Myth-making: Media, Race, and Power.” Paper: “No Boys Allowed: Indigenous Feminisms Speak Back to the Spaghetti Western Genre.” American Studies Association. Baltimore, MD, 2020. (Cancelled because of COVID—Forthcoming for November 2021)

Panel: “Indigenous Women’s Film and Media: Histories and Historiographies.” Paper: “Body as Story: Indigenous Feminisms in Elle-Máijá Tailfeathers Films.” Native American Indigenous Studies Association. Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 2020. (Cancelled because of COVID—Forthcoming for Virtual 2021 Conference)

Roundtable: “Immersive and Speculative Indigenous Media.” Paper: “Technologies as Dynamic Relations.” Society for Cinema and Media Studies. Virtual, 2021. (Denver, CO, 2020 cancelled because of COVID)

Panel: “Mapping Indigenous Futures: Strategies of Resistance and Resilience in American Indian Literature, Film, and Digital Media.” Paper: “How to Remake the World: Escaping Settler Colonialism Through Indigenous Futurities.” Native American Indigenous Studies Association. Hamilton, Waikato, New Zealand, 2019.

Panel Organizer: “Emergent Vitalities: Resurgence as Emergence in Indigenous Visualities.” Paper:

“‘Emergent Vitalities’ Within Indian Country: Indigenous Futures in Fourth World Cinema.”

American Studies Association. Atlanta, GA, 2018.

Paper: “Sonic Sovereignty through Embodied Practice: Remix as Representation, Relationality, and Resistance” Native American Literature Symposium. Prior Lake, MN, 2018.

Paper: “‘Native Realities,’ How New Modes of Storytelling Imagine Survivance” Returning the Gift: Native & Indigenous Literary Festival, 25th Anniversary. Norman, OK, 2017.

Paper: “Going to Water: Transnational Indigenous Collectivity Flows from Standing Rock,” Center for Native and Indigenous Studies Graduate Research Showcase. Boulder, CO, 2016.

Paper: “Rhetorical Sedimentation: Claiming Sovereignty in the Borderlands,” Rice University English Graduate Symposium. Houston, TX, 2014.

## Community and Academic Service

**Colorado History Museum**. “Filming from the Shore” is a Lunch and Learn presentation on Indigenous worldviews and Indigenous perspectives on the construction of history. May, 2021.

**Center for Native American and Indigenous Studies Board**. Graduate student representative for academic year 2020-2021.

**Colorado History Museum**. Created and taught an Adult Extended Learning Class on Indigenous Futurisms. January, 2021.

**Native Graduate Student Group**. Founding member of student group jointly responsible for monthly Graduate student and Faculty writing group and organizing semester visiting speaker events. Established Fall 2017-Present.

**Cherokee Heritage Center** teaching traditional Cherokee skills such as basket weaving, pottery, stickball, blowguns, and more, through the outreach program to children in schools, 2005-present.

**White Antelope Mountain Scholarship & First Nations Scholarship**. Graduate Student Assistant responsible for organizing and conducting required scholarship events focusing on Native American Studies Curriculum. Also, maintain a caseload of Native American students for academic counseling through bi-semester meetings, 2017-Present.

**Kyle Whyte Speaker Event.** Native Graduate Student Group event at University of Colorado, Boulder. Graduate Student Organizer, 2020 (Cancelled due to COVID).

**Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Conference.** University of Colorado School of Law. Graduate Student Assistant, 2019.

**Coll Thrush Speaker Event.** Native Graduate Student Group event at University of Colorado, Boulder. Graduate Student Organizer, 2019.

**LatinX**: **A Roundtable on the X.** English Language Notes event at University of Colorado, Boulder. Graduate Student Organizer, 2019.

**English Graduate Student Council**. Elected Graduate Student Representative responsible for various functions such as Town Halls, Works in Progress Workshops, PhD Application Workshops, Humanities Career Workshops, etc. 2017-2018.

**American Studies Association Conference**. Student Volunteer responsible for registering and checking in attendees in Denver Colorado, 2016.

***Native Crossroads Film Festival and Symposium****.* University of Oklahoma. Graduate Student Volunteer, 2015. Volunteer Organizer, 2016.

***Shakespeare First Folio Family Day****.* Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, University of Oklahoma. Student Volunteer, 2015.

## Professional Associations

* Native American and Indigenous Studies Association
* Association for the Study of American Indian Literatures
* Society for Cinema and Media Studies
* American Studies Association
* Modern Language Association

## Languages

* Elementary Spanish II and Intermediate Spanish I
  + Basic reading and speaking knowledge
* Online Cherokee Course and Beginning Cherokee
  + Beginning speaking knowledge