

JENNIFER LYNN HEUSON

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EDUCATION

Postdoctoral The Wenner-Gren Foundation Fejos Fellowship in Ethnographic Film, 2017 – 18

Ph.D. Media, Culture, and Communication; New York University, 2008 – 2015

Certificate Program in Culture and Media (Dept. of Anthropology), 2008 – 2010

Degree granted with Departmental Distinction

Dissertation Sounding Western: Frontier Aurality, Tourism, and Heritage Production in South Dakota's Black Hills (approved by the Oglala Sioux Tribe RRB)

MA (with honors) Film and Television Studies; Universiteit van Amsterdam, 1999 – 2000

MA (with honors) Philosophy and Cultural Analysis; Universiteit van Amsterdam, 1998 – 99

BA (with honors) Philosophy/Writing minor; University of Northern Colorado, 1996 – 98

AA (with honors) Liberal Arts; Aims Community College, 1995 – 96

ACADEMIC AND PUBLIC TEACHING POSITIONS

2020 – present, Lecturer – Rutgers Filmmaking Center; Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

2020 – present, Lecturer – Rutgers Arts Online; Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

2016 – 2026, Lecturer – Media Studies BPATS; The New School, NYC

2021, Assistant Professor – Department of Film; Brooklyn College CUNY

2016 – 17, Co-Director – Collaborative Studio; UnionDocs Center for Documentary Arts, NYC

Advised and co-directed documentary film residency for 12 fellows, including running seminars and master classes, organizing critique sessions, and consulting on final short films.

2016 – 17, Instructor – Public workshops; UnionDocs Center for Documentary Arts, NYC

2016, Lecturer – Department of English; Princeton University

2011 – 13, Instructor – Media, Culture, and Communication; New York University

2008 – 09, Teaching Assistant – Media, Culture, and Communication; New York University

2006 – 08, Lecturer – Communications Technology; York College, CUNY

2005 – 08, Lecturer – Communications; College of New Rochelle, DC-37 Campus

2005 – 06, Humanities Teacher (grades 9-12) – School for Young Performers, NYC

College courses taught: Essay Filmmaking (forthcoming); Community Engaged Filmmaking; Intro to Filmmaking for Non-Majors; History of Film 2; The Art of Documentary Filmmaking, Sensory Ethnography, Movements in World Cinema 1 and 2, Art of Film, Media Ethics, Media and Cultural Analysis, Film History and Form, Principles of the Moving Image (writing intensive), Art of Film and Television, Teaching with Multimedia Technology, Intro to Communications, Foundations in Communication Tech, Organizational Communication, Mass Media and Society, Representation in Media, Media and the Black Experience, Introduction to Philosophy, Introduction to Media Studies (TA), History of Communication (TA), Children's Literature (TA)

Public and college workshops taught: Ethnographic Filmmaking, Sound Ethnographies, Field Recording, Resistance Radio, Queer Documentary, Documentary Source Protection, Digital Portfolio Design, Super-8mm Filmmaking, Found Footage Film, Stop-Motion Animation, Kids Make Movies

High school courses taught: Film History (12th grade elective), Comparative Literature (12th grade elective), World Literature (9th grade required), and World History (9th grade required)

ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

After School Club Instructor – Community Park Elementary, Princeton, NJ 2017 – 20
Parent-to-Parent Workshop Instructor – Special Education PTO, Princeton, NJ 2016 – 19
Volunteer Writing Tutor – College of New Rochelle, DC-37 2006
Teaching Assistant – Global Explorers, Peru 2006
After School Program Teaching Assistant – St. Luke’s School, New York City 2005
Volunthai ESL Teacher – Khorat, Thailand 2004
Volunteer ESL Teacher – Tibetan Children’s Village; McLeod Ganj, India 2004
Documentary Production Teaching Assistant – Northwest Film Center, Portland 2003
Teatro Consejo Video Instructor – Youth Development Inc., Albuquerque 2001 – 02
ESL Writing Tutor – International Student Advisory Panel, UvA Amsterdam 1998 – 2000
Writing Tutor – Department of Philosophy, University of Northern CO 1996 – 98

ACADEMIC AND COMMUNITY SERVICE WORK

New Lens Jury – Rutgers Filmmaking Center, NJ 2026
Faculty Mentor – First-year Interest Group Seminar (FIGS), Rutgers New Brunswick, NJ 2025
Student Advising – Rutgers Filmmaking + RAO, New Brunswick, NJ 2020 – present
Advise students on film projects outside of class, including thesis and dissertation work in filmmaking, cinema studies, anthropology, and honors programs. Assist with career options and reference letters.
Course Development – Rutgers Filmmaking + RAO, New Brunswick, NJ 2020 – present
Special Education Advisory Board, Princeton Public Schools – Princeton, NJ 2016 – 19
Workshop Production + Curriculum Development – UnionDocs, NYC 2016 – 17
Native and Indigenous Student’s Club Member – NYU 2008 – 15
Graduate Student Organization Member – NYU 2008 – 15
Events Committee Member – Media, Culture, and Communication, NYU 2009 – 10
Digital Portfolio Curriculum Development – York College, CUNY 2008
Technology Tutorial Development – York College, CUNY 2007 – 08
Fourth Floor Productions Faculty Co-Advisor – York College, CUNY 2007 – 08
Writing Curriculum Development – York College, CUNY 2007 – 08
Communications Advisor – College of New Rochelle, DC-37 2006 – 08
Writing/Editing Consultant, Women’s Press Collective – NYC 2006 – 2008
Travel Education Coordinator – School for Young Performers, Greece 2006
Experimental Ethnography Film Series Curator – Columbia University 2006
Youth Encounters for Peace Outreach Volunteer – Oregon Peace Institute, Portland 2003
Mental Health Case Manager – St. Martin’s Behavioral Health, Albuquerque 2001 – 02
Student Advisor – Summer Institute on Sexuality and Culture, UvA Amsterdam 2000
Projects Coordinator – International Student Advisory Panel, UvA Amsterdam 1999 – 2000
Audience Award Volunteer – International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam 1998 – 2000

SPECIALIZED TRAINING

CANVAS Online Faculty Training – The New School University, NYC 2020
DJ Training – WPRB 103.3fm, Princeton, NJ 2019
Theorizing Sound Writing Working Group – NYU’s Humanities Initiative, 2010 – 12
Certificate in Ethnographic Video Production – NYU’s Program in Culture & Media, 2008 – 10
Tourism Research Methods Workshop – American Anthropological Association, Montreal 2011
Designing Online Portfolios Workshop – CUNY, 2008
Writing Across the Curriculum Teaching Workshop – CUNY, 2006 – 07
Experimental Ethnography – Columbia University, New York 2006
ESL/Intercultural Communication Training – Volunthai, Thailand 2004
Conflict Mediation Training – Oregon Peace Institute, Portland 2003
Documentary Film Writing and Production – Northwest Film Center, Portland 2002 – 03
Radio News Writing and Production – KUNM, Albuquerque 2001
Crisis-intervention Certification – St. Martin’s Behavioral Health, Albuquerque 2001
Print News Writing and Production – University of Northern Colorado 1997 – 98

Coursework: ethnographic filmmaking, media ethnography, ethnography of sound, experimental ethnography, decolonization theory, affect theory, communication research methods, tourism studies, memory studies, critical theories of culture, phenomenology, psychoanalysis, ethics, metaphysics, cultural anthropology, media history, interactive narrative, poetics, creative writing

Tech proficiencies: DSM field recording; digital and analog film production; DaVinci Resolve; Adobe Creative Suite; Final Cut Pro; Canvas LMS; WordPress

SELECT MEDIA POSITIONS

Co-Founder, Small Gauge, Ltd. – New York City 2010 – 18
ESL Writer, Reading Comprehension Series – San Min Book Co., Taiwan 2005 – 06
ELL Writer, K12 Learning Services – Kaplan Inc., New York City 2005 – 06
Freelance Writer, *Farang* – Bangkok, Thailand 2004
Film Equipment Intern – Northwest Film Center, Portland 2003
News Reporter/Producer – KUNM, Albuquerque 2001 – 02

PUBLICATIONS

“Outcasts and the Future of LGBT Documentary”
20 on 20: Essays in Celebration of FLEFF, March 2017
“Small Gauge Scholarship: A Roundtable Discussion” – *Mediapolis*, June 2016
“On Hearing Together Critically: Making Aural Politics Sensible through Art and Ethnography”
EthnoScripts 17/1, April 2015
“Heidegger’s Ears: Hearing, Attunement, and the Acoustic Shaping of *Being and Time*”
Music in Contemporary Philosophy, Routledge, July 2014
Contemporary Music Review Vol. 31, Nos. 5/6, October – December 2012
“Asynchronicity: Rethinking the Relation Between Eye and Ear in Ethnographic Practice”
Experimental Film and Anthropology, Bloomsbury, June 2014
“We Are Alive & On Fire”
Humanities in the Next Quarter Century, The Humanities Initiative eBook, April 2014

“Hearing the Hills: An Acoustic Encounter with South Dakota’s Black Hills”
Sensate: A Journal for Experiments in Critical Media Practice, April 2011
 “Listening With/Through Mead: An Acoustic Review of the 33rd Margaret Mead Film & Video Festival” – *Edward Curtis Meets the Kwakwaka’wakw* Project Press, November 2009
An Introduction to the Movies: High school ESL reading comprehension series
 San Min Book Co., Taiwan, 2005

FILM AND MEDIA PROJECTS

We Love Kate (video, 2026) with students at Rutgers Filmmaking Center (forthcoming)
 Creative reenactment of Kate Bush’s “Wuthering Heights” music video with testimonials
It Happened at Grover’s Mill (video, 2026) with students at Rutgers Filmmaking Center (forthcoming)
 Sensory folkloric portrait of Grover’s Mill, NJ, the site of alien invasion in *War of the Worlds*
Sounding Western: Aural Sovereignty in a Sacred Land (12m, video, 2020, SD) – Fejos Postdoctoral film
 A film and website created in collaboration with Lakota tourist producers
Lead (3m, super-8mm, 2015) – Sensory ethnography of Lead, South Dakota
Air, Water, Earth (audio+map, 2010, Brooklyn) – Exhibit, NYU’s Neil Postman Graduate Conference
Sweet Clover (17m, super-8mm, 2010) – NYU Program in Culture +Media, dissertation film
 Auto-ethnographic essay film on family, memory, and the Black Hills
Soundscapes of the Black Hills (audio+map, 2009) – Sound ethnography of tourism in South Dakota
Immokalee, My Home (18m, super8mm, 2009) with Kevin T. Allen + Coalition of Immokalee Workers
 Super-8mm documentary on migrant farm workers in Florida
Human Voices (20m, audio, 2008) with StoryCorps + students at College of New Rochelle, DC-37
 Audio portrait of diversity in NYC collected as oral histories with poetry performances
Desamparados (11m, super-8mm, 2007) with Kevin T. Allen
 Super-8mm documentary of postcolonial relics in Peru, Bolivia, Argentina
 |rays| (20m, video, 2007) with students at College of New Rochelle, DC-37
 Video documentary on race in NYC highlighting community testimonials
Colors of New York City (2007) with Chashama + students at College of New Rochelle, DC-37
 Multimedia exhibit + performance on race and color in NYC
Maps of Ordinary Things (2007) – Sound/photo installation for Porches Inn at MassMOCA
Sounds of the Amazon (4m, super-8mm, 2006) – Amazon Explorama Lodges, Peru
 Sensory ethnography of the Peruvian Amazon
Sa Wa de Ka (Welcome) (6m, super-8mm, 2004) – Essay film of backpacking in SE Asia
How To Make 80 Grande a Year (15m, video, 2003) – Northwest Film Center, Portland, OR
 Video documentary of garage sale culture
24 Hour Life (20m, video, 2001) with Youth Development Inc., Albuquerque, NM
 Narrative HIV-intervention film made in collaboration with gang-intervention participants
Claire (44m, video, 1998) – University of Northern Colorado, honors thesis film (philosophy)
 Narrative following an amnesiac in search of her identity

HONORS AND AWARDS

The Mason Gross Inclusive Community Award for Teaching, Rutgers University 2025
 The Wenner-Gren Foundation Fejos Postdoctoral Fellowship in Ethnographic Film, 2017 – 18
 NYU Media, Culture, and Communication Distinguished Dissertation Award, 2015
 NYU Humanities Initiative Honorary Fellowship, 2013 – 14

Big Muddy Best Experimental Film for *Sweet Clover*, 2010
Black Maria Director's Choice Award for *Sweet Clover*, 2010
Best Film International Super 8 Festival for *Immokalee*, Hungary 2010
Second Place Government Reporting, Wyoming Press Association 1998
University of Northern Colorado Philosophy Departmental Scholar, 1997 and 1998
Golden Key National Honor's Society, 1997 – 98
Aims Community College Dean's Honor Roll, 1995 – 96

RESEARCH AND TEACHING GRANTS

Rutgers Classroom Enrichment Activity Fund (\$1350), 2025
NYU Phyllis and Gerald LeBoff Dissertation Research Grant (\$2000), 2014
NYU Media, Culture, and Communication Doctoral Travel Grant (\$500), 2014
Ruth Landes Memorial Research Fund, The Reed Foundation (\$15,000), 2013 – 14
The Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Fieldwork Grant (\$11,940), 2013
NYU Phyllis and Gerald LeBoff Dissertation Research Grant (\$3000), 2013
NYU MCC Doctoral Travel Grant (\$500), 2012
NYU Council for Media & Culture Dissertation Research Grant (\$2000), 2012
NYU Media, Culture, and Communication Summer Research Grant (\$900), 2012
NYU GSO Competitive Professional Development Fund (\$250), 2011
NYU Media, Culture, and Communication Doctoral Travel Grant (\$500), 2011
NYU Media, Culture, and Communication Summer Research Grant (\$600), 2011
NYU Media, Culture, and Communication Doctoral Travel Grant (\$600), 2010
NYU Steinhardt Doctoral Travel Grant (\$500), 2010
NYU Council for Media & Culture Writing and Production Grant (\$1000), 2009
NYU Steinhardt Dean's Grant to Support Graduate Student Research (\$1000), 2009
St. Luke's School Curriculum Development Grant (\$3000), 2009
NYU Steinhardt Doctoral Fellowship (\$24,330 annual stipend + health/tuition/fees), 2008 –13

RESEARCH PRESS COVERAGE

"Filmmaker Talks About Using Sound to Preserve History"
Brendyn Medina, *KEVN Black Hills Fox*, August 4, 2014
"Listen Closer: PhD Candidate's Dissertation Investigates Tourist Soundscapes in Black Hills"
Jaci Conrad Pearson, *The Black Hills Pioneer*, August 2, 2014

INVITED PUBLIC TALKS AND SEMINARS

"Sensory Ethnographic Impulses" – Rutgers Anthropology Department 2026 (forthcoming)
"Sound Ethnographies: Theory and Practice for Nonfiction Media"
Union Docs (3-day immersive workshop), NYC 2016, 2017, 2018
"Experimenting with Ethnographic Forms" – Princeton University 2016
"Stone Tape Theories: Hearing, Haunting, and the Memory of Materials"
Union Docs (master class + public event), NYC 2015
"Preserving Aural Heritage in Deadwood"
Professionalization seminar for Deadwood History, Inc., July 2014

“Sounding Western: Listening Critically to Aural Heritage in Black Hills ‘Tourism’”
 Public talk at The Journey Museum, Rapid City, SD, July 2014
 “Stone Tapes: The Materiality of Hearing the Black Hills’ Past”
 Pheobe Apperson Hearst Library, Lead, SD, July 2014
 “Listening and Remembering Hike” – Outdoor Campus West, Rapid City, SD, July 2014
 “Sounding the Black Hills: A Tourist Acoustemology of the American West”
 Deadwood History, Inc., July 2013
 “How Does Sound Shape Knowledge?” – Electric Fields, Ottawa 2012
 “Super8 Snapshots” – The Robert Flaherty Film Seminar, NYC 2011
 “The Soundscape: Its Genesis, Influence, and Contemporary Forms” – NYU 2011
 “The Sound of America: Sound, Sensation, Sentiment, and Knowledge in American West
 Tourism” – Critical Themes in Media Studies, The New School 2011
 “Super-8mm Filmmaking as Documentary Practice” – Union Docs, NYC 2010

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS AND SCREENINGS

“Make Strange the Senses: Asynchronicity as Method and Argument”
 The Third Work – Hunter College CUNY 2015
 “When Will You Hear Me Hearing?”
 Encountering the 21st Century Archive – The Humanities Initiative, NYU 2014
 “Sounding Western: Performing Acoustic Borders in South Dakota’s Black Hills”
 Western History Association, Denver 2012
 “Tourism as Heritage Interface” – Indigenous Interfaces, NYU 2012
Participant in the first all-indigenous symposium at NYU. Archived at Bobst Library.
 “Asynchronicity: Rethinking the Relation Between Eye and Ear in Ethnographic Practice”
 American Anthropological Association, Montreal 2011
 “Sound Studies, Sound Traces: Critical Engagements with Sound Inquiries, Modes, and
 Methods” – Panel Organizer; American Anthropological Association, Montreal 2011
 “Granite Battles: The Ritualized Performance of History in South Dakota’s Stone Memorials”
 American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore 2011
 “Producing Sensual History: Tourism, Sound, and Performing the ‘Wild’ American West in
 South Dakota’s Black Hills” – American Anthropological Association, New Orleans 2010
 “The Urban and the Rural” – Organizer; Neil Postman Graduate Conference, NYU 2010
 “Soundscapes of the Black Hills: An Acoustemology of the American West”
 Theorizing Sound Writing, NYU Humanities Initiative 2010
 Welcome Roundtable, NYU’s Native and Indigenous Student’s Club 2010
 Presences: Representations of/by Native Americans and Indigenous Peoples, NYU 2009 MCC
 Neil Postman Graduate Conference, NYU 2009
 “Analog Media in a Digital Era” – The New Everyday, NYU Humanities Institute 2009
Sweet Clover screenings – FLEX Fest, Big Muddy Film Festival, Black Maria Film & Video Festival,
 Black Hills Film Festival, SVA Film & Interactive Media Festival, 2011
Immokalee, My Home screenings – Indie Grits, Ann Arbor Film Festival, FLEX Fest, 2011; SVA Media
 Fest, Hungary International Super 8 Fest, Cambridge International Super 8 Festival, Singapore
 International Film Festival, 2010; Margaret Mead Film & Video Festival, 2009

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH (unpublished)

- “Producing Sublime Encounters: *Sublime Frequencies*’ Punk Rock Ethnomusicology and Auditory Tourism Today” – NYU 2010
- “In Pursuit of Sound: Suspicion, Listening, and the Production of Meaning” – NYU 2009
- “Narrating the Hills: Linking History, Memory, and Imagination in BH Tourism” – NYU 2009
- “Technologies of Travel: Mapping the Earth through Travel Writing” – NYU 2008
- “Ethical Encounters: Exploring Media, Politics, and Ethnography in Immokalee” – NYU 2008
- “An Embodied Ethnography of Sri Lanka” – Columbia University 2006
- “Judgment and the Aporia: Re-Thinking Bazinian Realism After *The Blair Witch Project* and *The Idiots*” – MA thesis, UvA 2000
- “Viewing-in-the-World: A Phenomenological Critique of Film-Object Theory” – MA thesis, UvA 1999
- “*Who Am I? Is Who I Am*” (plus video, Claire) – BA honors thesis, UNC 1998
- “The Impact of Mount Rushmore on Lakota Religious Practices” – Aims College 1996

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Rutgers AAUP-AFT
Art House Convergence
World Forum for Acoustic Ecology