

Allison (AP) Pierce

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she/her pronouns

EDUCATION

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| Ph.D. UC Santa Barbara, Feminist Studies | 2025 |
| Dissertation: "Disruptive Diffusion: A Feminist Politics of the Digital in the Age of AI" | |
| Committee Chair: Laury Oaks | |
| M.A. UC Santa Barbara, Feminist Studies | 2019 |
| Thesis: "'Don't Be This Guy': Sex Worker Autographics and Labors of Masculinities" | |
| B.A. University of Missouri-Columbia, Interdisciplinary Studies | 2017 |
| Concentration: Women's and Gender Studies | |
| Graduated Summa Cum Laude with Honors | |
| B.J. University of Missouri-Columbia, Journalism | 2017 |
| Concentration: Strategic Communication | |
| Graduated Summa Cum Laude with Honors | |

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor in Residence of Digital Cultures, Rhode Island School of Design

2025-present

Full time faculty member in the Department of History, Philosophy, and Social Sciences. Teaching courses in the politics of digital and social media, critical AI studies, and gender and sexuality studies.

Visiting Lecturer, Boston University

2022 and 2025

Full-time lecturer in the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program designing and teaching courses in feminist theory, feminist social movements, and the politics of violence.

Adjunct Faculty, Roger Williams University

2022-2024

Designed and taught courses in Cultural Studies and General Education in the areas of social science and the humanities, including first-year seminars.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Digital cultures, feminist media studies, artificial intelligence, anti-work theory, affect studies, online cultures, Marxist feminisms, aesthetic theory, digital humanities.

PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapters

Pierce, Allison (AP) (2022). “[The Rise of Bimbo TikTok: Digital Sociality, Postfeminism, and Disidentificatory Subjects](#).” In Ravenscroft, M. and Nixon, P. (eds.) *Identities and Intimacies on Social Media*. Routledge.

Pierce, Allison (AP) and Von Wald, Katie. “Queer Longings for Witch Futures.” In Ward, J. and Chaudhuri, S. (eds.) [The Witch Studies Reader](#). Duke University Press.

Pierce, Allison (AP). “Disruptive Diffusion: Materiality and the Politics of AI-generated Art” in *Feminist Studies: An Introductory Reader*. (ed Hemangini Gupta, Kelly Sharron, Carly Thomsen, Abraham Weil). Routledge.

Book Reviews

Pierce, Allison (AP) (2021). *Superheroes and Masculinity: Unmasking the Gender Performance of Heroism* edited by Sean Parson and J. L. Schatz. *Men and Masculinities* Vol. 24, Iss. 2: pp. 354-356. [<https://doi.org/10.1177/1097184X211004661>].

Pierce, Allison (2018). *The New Mutants: Superheroes and the Radical Imagination of American Comics* by Ramzi Fawaz. *Journal of Popular Culture* Vol. 51, Iss. 6: pp. 1564-1566. [<https://doi.org/10.1111/jpcu.12734>].

COURSES TAUGHT

Boston University

2022 and 2025 CAS WS 347: Feminist Inquiry
 CAS PO 346 / WS 325: Gender and Political Violence
 CAS WS 213: Global Women’s Movements

Roger Williams University

2022-2024 FYS 101: Girls, Gays, Theys, and Bros: Contemporary Genders in Pop Culture
 GSS 100: Introduction to Gender and Sexuality Studies
 FYS 101: Live, Laugh, Labor
 CORE 103: Human Behavior in Perspective: Politics of Digital Media
 CORE 103: Human Behavior in Perspective: Feeling and Digital Politics

UC Santa Barbara

Instructor of Record

2021-2023 FEMST 20: Introduction to Gender and Power
 FEMST 150: Sex, Love, and Romance
 FEMST 80: Introduction to LGBTQ Studies

Teaching Assistant

2018-2025 FEMST 150: Sex, Love, and Romance (5 quarters)
FEMST 50: Global Feminisms and Social Justice (1 quarter)
FEMST 20: Introduction to Gender and Power (5 quarters)
FEMST 80: Introduction to LGBTQ Studies (2 quarters)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2023-2024 **Research Assistant**, UC Santa Barbara
Advisor: Eileen Boris
- Historical work examining legislative documents
- 2019-2023 **Research Assistant**, UC Santa Barbara
Advisor: Laury Oaks
- Projects involving gender, sexuality, reproductive politics, health
 - Helped direct a team of undergraduate researchers
 - Copyediting, indexing
- 2017-2019 **Research Assistant**, UC Santa Barbara
Advisor: Mireille Miller-Young
- Projects regarding Black sexual economies, Porn Studies, and Sex Work Studies
 - Archival work, data collection, indexing of *Black Sexual Economies* anthology
 - Helped direct a team of undergraduate researchers

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2023 **Doctoral Student Travel Grant**, UCSB Academic Senate
- 2021 **Distinguished Teaching Award**, UCSB Department of Feminist Studies
- 2019 **Distinguished Service Award**, UCSB Department of Feminist Studies
- 2017-2023 **Chancellor's Fellowship**, UCSB

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- November 2023 Divergent Diffusion: The politics and problematics of AI-generated art
American Studies Association Conference – Solidarity: What Love Looks Like

November 2022	“They say it’s soulless”: AI-generated art, immateriality, and queer use <i>National Women’s Association Conference: killing the rage</i>
November 2022	TikTok’s New Age Bimbos: Sensing an Emerging Antiwork Politics in Digital Space <i>National Women’s Association Conference: killing the rage</i>
June 2022	Doing Too Much, Knowing Too Little: Camp Affects and Aesthetics on Bimbo TikTok in (Post-)Postfeminist Media Culture <i>Console-ing Passions: International Conference on Television, Video, Audio, New Media, and Feminism</i>
April 2022	Deep-Fried Memes and ShitPost-irony: Affective Flows of Unproductive Digital Objects <i>Objects of Affection: Itineraries, Sensations, and “Thingness,” UCSB Annual Academic Symposium</i>
September 2021	Imagining an Unproductive Aesthetics: Laboring and Alienation in the Work of Exotic Cancer Panel Chair <i>National Women’s Studies Association Conference: “We Are Family: Feminist Community Formations Across Borders and Experience”</i>
Summer 2021	Roundtable: We’re Still Teaching to Transgress and with Tenderness <i>National Women’s Studies Association Conference: “We Are Family: Feminist Community Formations Across Borders and Experience”</i>
November 2019	“Don’t Be This Guy”: Sex Worker Autographics and Labors of Masculinities <i>National Women’s Studies Association Conference: “Protest, Justice, and Transnational Organizing”</i>
November 2019	“Don’t Panic But We’re Maybe All Gonna Die Soon”: <i>Night in the Woods</i> as Anticapitalist Affective System <i>National Women’s Studies Association Conference: “Protest, Justice, and Transnational Organizing”</i>
November 2019	Roundtable: Race, Gender, and Video Games: Exploring Alternatives (invited as alternate) <i>National Women’s Studies Association Conference: “Protest, Justice, and Transnational Organizing”</i>
April 2019	“I know where we’re going, and it’s beautiful”: Black Feminist Geographies and <i>Concrete Park</i> <i>To Freedom!: Imagining Black Feminist Futures Colloquium</i>
November 2018	<i>Beaver Show</i> and Beyond: Sex Workers’ Use of the Comic Form in

Resistance and World-making
National Women's Studies Association Conference: "Just Imagine: Imagining Justice"

February 2018 Zona de Resistancia: Colonialism, Agency, and the Photograph Form in Resistance and World-making
 Panel Chair
Queer Hemisphere/ América Cuir Conference, UCSB

INVITED LECTURES

February 2024 **TikTok Bimbos and Beyond** in Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies Course in Department of Community, Culture and Global Studies At University of British Columbia (virtual)

November 2023 **"Doing too much, knowing too little: The Rise and Lives of Bimbo TikTok"** in Gender Sexuality, and Women's Studies course at University of British Columbia (taught by Layla Cameron)

October 2023 **"ChatGPT and Feminist Pedagogies in the Neoliberal University"** in graduate Feminist Epistemologies course at UCSB.

October 2023 **"Doing too much, knowing too little: The Rise and Lives of Bimbo TikTok"** in Gender Sexuality, and Women's Studies course at University of British Columbia (taught by Layla Cameron)

Summer 2022 **"The Rise of Bimbo TikTok: Queer Camp Engagements and Disidentificatory Subjects"** in "Technologies of Gender and Sexuality" undergraduate course (taught by Layla Cameron, Simon Fraser University).

Spring 2022 **"The Combahee River Collective Statement: Forebears and Afterlives"** for "Global Feminism and Social Justice" undergraduate course (taught by María del Socorro Gutiérrez Magallanes, UCSB).

Winter 2019 **"Comics and Queerness"** for "Introduction to LGBTQ Studies" undergraduate course (taught by Anita Stahl, UCSB).

Fall 2018 **"Sex Workers and Comics"** for "Introduction to Gender and Power" undergraduate course (taught by Laury Oaks, UCSB).

Winter 2018 **"Gazing Back: The Colonial Gaze and the Women of Casa X".**
 Lecture at *Bridging Differences Symposium: Conversations on Gender, Race, and Equality* at William Woods University.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2023-2024	Expert Advisor for Advanced Placement Research project on Bimbo TikTok
2023	Graduate Assistant for Center for Feminist Futures at UCSB; developed Center for Feminist Futures website via Wordpress
2019-2022	Lead Teaching Assistant for Feminist Studies at UCSB
2019-2020	Co-organizer , Feminist Pedagogies Graduate Conference at UCSB [cancelled due to COVID-19]
2019	Co-organizer , Feminist Pedagogies Workshop for TAs
2018-2019	Graduate Representative for graduate students in Feminist Studies

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

July 2023	“ Barbie obliterates all of America’s dumbest arguments about gender norms ” by Soleil Ho, in the <i>San Francisco Chronicle</i> .
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PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Summer 2023-present	Digital Humanities Writing Group and Workshop
Spring 2023	First-Year Seminar Development Program , Roger Williams University
2020-2022	Center on Modern Culture, Materialism, and Aesthetics Reading Group , UCSB English Department
Summer 2021	Summer Teaching Institute for Associates , UCSB Instructional Development
Summer 2021	Teaching Troublesome Knowledge Workshop , Center for Innovative Teaching, Research, and Learning at UCSB
Fall 2019-present	Graduate Student Writing Group , Feminist Studies at UCSB
Fall 2017-Winter 2021	Sex Work Studies Research Group , UCSB
Fall 2017-present	New Sexualities Research Group , UCSB
2017-2018	“Becoming Undisciplined” Collective and Zine
Spring 2017	Feminist Technology Lab “Care Playground” Performance , UCSB

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Women's Studies Association
American Studies Association