

# Stanford

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## Vanessa Seals

Ph.D. Student in English, admitted Autumn 2010

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### Bio

#### BIO

I am a PhD student in English focusing on 20th and 21st century African American, Latino, and Asian American literature. My dissertation project is an exploration of the multiracial family in 20th century American novels. I graduated with an Honors BA in English with a minor in African American Studies from the University of Utah in 2010.

#### HONORS AND AWARDS

- Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Scholar, Westminster College, Salt Lake City, UT (Feb 2009-June 2010)
- Lettie Jane Austen Fellowship, English Department, Stanford University (Sept 2010-June 2014)
- Graduate Scholar-in-Residence, El Centro Chicano y Latino, Stanford University (Sept 2014-Present)
- Centennial Teaching Award, Stanford University (June 2015)
- Diversifying Academia, Recruiting Excellence (DARE) Fellowship, Vice Provost for Graduate Education, Stanford University (September 2015-August 2017)

#### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

- Member, MLA (2011 - present)
- Member, ASA (2011 - present)
- Member, MELUS (2011 - present)

#### EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

- MA, Stanford University , English Literature (2014)
- BA with Honors, University of Utah , English Literature; minor in African American Studies (2010)

#### SERVICE, VOLUNTEER, AND COMMUNITY WORK

- Women's Community Center Graduate Program Coordinator (October 2012 - June 2014)
- CCSRE Graduate Program Coordinator (June 2014)

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### Research & Scholarship

#### CURRENT RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

My interest lies primarily in contemporary American literature. In particular, I look at representations of the multiracial family American novels. I am currently working on my dissertation in which I analyze novels by Danzy Senna, Nelly Rosario, and Charles Chesnutt, to name a few. I look at the connections between character as a way to understand familial relationships as they are conceived of in 20th and 21st century American novels.