

Emron Esplin is Assistant Professor of English and American Studies at Kennesaw State University, and he spent July 2008 working as the academic liaison for the University of Graz's summer schools on English/American Studies and the Americas. In both his scholarship and in his teaching, Emron approaches the terms "America" and "American" in their original hemispheric context and seeks to offer his readers and his students new insight into both canonized and obscure texts from the U.S. and Spanish American literary traditions by analyzing and teaching these works side by side.

Emron's publications include articles on Katherine Anne Porter's time in Mexico, Nellie Campobello's "profane hagiography" of Pancho Villa, and Edgar Allan Poe's influence on and affinities with nineteenth- and twentieth-century Spanish American writers. He is currently working on several smaller projects that are offshoots from his doctoral dissertation, including an article on the representation of black Mexicans in the novels of William Faulkner and Carlos Fuentes and another article on the discourses of miscegenation and mestizaje and their connections to the U.S. Civil War and the Mexican Revolution, respectively. He is also beginning the preliminary work on a book-length project on Poe and twentieth-century Spanish America.

Emron has taught courses in U.S. literature, the literatures of the Americas, Latin American literature and history, and college writing. He was awarded the Somers Excellence in Teaching Award in 2006 and the Michigan State University Excellence-In-Teaching Citation in 2007, both while teaching as a graduate student. He lives with his wife, Marlene, and his two children—Moses and Anya. He is excited to be "moving south" because several authors from the U.S. South are critical to his work, because he can now bike to work in January without worrying about whether the roads have been plowed, and because he can't wait to hear his children speaking with southern accents (or, perhaps, in some strange tongue in which Michigander meets Georgian).