

Emron Esplin received his Ph.D. from the English Department at Michigan State University with an emphasis on the literatures of the Americas and a graduate minor in Latin American and Caribbean Studies in May 2008. He holds a joint appointment with the English Department and the American Studies Program at KSU. He is also a faculty member and the academic moderator/liaison for the annual summer school sponsored by the Center for the Study of the Americas at the University of Graz, Austria. In both his scholarship and his teaching, Emron approaches the terms “America” and “American” in their hemispheric context and seeks to offer his readers and his students new insight into both canonized and lesser-known 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. Emron has lived in both Guatemala and Brazil, and his research interests have taken him to various parts of Latin America. He is currently in the research stage of a book-length project on Poe and twentieth-century Spanish America for which he is conducting archival research in Mexico, Texas, and Argentina. At KSU, he has taught courses on “Racial Mixtures in the Americas,” “The New Latino/a Literatures,” “The Fiction of Jorge Luis Borges,” “Portrayals of Pancho Villa,” and “Detective, Fantastic, and Horror Fiction in the Americas.” Emron lives with his wife, Marlene, and their two children—Moses and Anya—within biking distance from campus. He likes to grill pork, make popcorn with real butter, and, on occasion, brew five-gallon vats of dry ice root beer.