

SUNNIE R. CLAHCHISCHILIGI

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Education

Ph.D., English, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, N.M., May 2023

Primary Area: Rhetoric and Composition

Dissertation: *“The Value of Storytelling Through Digital Family Narratives: A Case Study of a Diné Storyteller”*

Dissertation Committee: Tiffany Bourelle (Chair), Bethany Davila, Cristyn Elder, and Tiffany S. Lee

M.A., Rhetoric, Writing, and Digital Media Studies, Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, A.Z., May 2018

Thesis: *“Cultural awareness, culturally appropriate curriculum, and teaching methods for community college teachers teaching Navajo students.”*

B.A., Print Journalism and Mass Communication, University of New Mexico Albuquerque, N.M., May 2008

Teaching Experience

Fall 2023 –

Instructor, Full Time, The Writers’ Studio, School of Applied Sciences & Arts, Arizona State University, Tempe, Ariz.
ENG 101: First-Year Composition (Online).

Fall 2019-Spring 2022

Teaching Assistant in English at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, N.M.
ENGL 1110: Composition I
ENGL 1110X/Y: Composition I Stretch I and Stretch II
ENGL 1120: Composition II

Fall 2013-Fall 2019

Professional Writing Tutor at Diné College in Shiprock, N.M.

June, 2012-2015

Mentor/Instructor at the Oklahoma Institute for Diversity in Journalism (OIDJ) held at the University of Oklahoma.

July, 2013

Lead high school mentor/instructor for Project Phoenix at the Native American Journalists Association annual convention held in Phoenix, A.Z.

July, 2012

College mentor/instructor at UNITY Journalist of Color convention in Las Vegas, Nev.

August, 2009

Lead college mentor/instructor for Native Voices at the Native American Journalists Association annual convention held in Albuquerque, N.M.

2008-2012

Professional mentor/instructor/editor for Dawn of Nations Today newspaper at the University of New Mexico.

Scholarly Work

Clahchischiligi, Sunnie. (2023). *“The Value of Storytelling Through Digital Family Narratives: A Case Study of a Diné Storyteller”* (Doctoral dissertation). University of New Mexico.

Clahchischiligi, Sunnie, Newmark, Julie, and Joseph Bartolotta. “This is a Viral Story about Viral Stories: Image and Graphical Power in COVID Communication in the Navajo Nation.” *Global Rhetorics of Science*. (6,511, published September 2023).

Bourelle, Tiffany, Clahchischiligi, Sunnie, and Cyrus Stuvland. “Critical, Culturally Sustaining, and Intentional Pedagogies: Restructuring Composition Practicum Courses.” *(Un)Commonplaces in Graduate Teaching Assistantship Training & Experiences*. (Conference on College Composition and Communication, scheduled for 2023).

Conference Presentations

“Critical, Culturally Sustaining, and Intentional Pedagogies: Restructuring Composition Practicum Courses.” Conference on College Composition & Communication; Chicago, IL. February 15-18, 2023.

Invited Presentations/Workshops

Presenter. Adobe Premiere Suite Workshop. University of New Mexico. January 13, 2022.

Presenter. Adobe Premiere Suite Workshop. University of New Mexico. November 30, 2021.

Presenter. “Interview Techniques & Conduct an Interview.” Institute for American Indian Research. University of New Mexico. March 26, 2021.

Workshops Attended

Preparing to Teach Technical Writing. University of New Mexico. Fall 2022, Spring 2023, with Dr. Julie Newmark.

Remote Teaching. University of New Mexico. July 31, 2020, with Dr. Tiffany Bourelle.

Academic Awards/Fellowships/Scholarships

Spring 2023

Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski Fellowship 2022-2023
Navajo Nation Scholarship
Native Forward Scholars Fund
UNM A&S Frances M. Phillips Fund
UNM Department of English Language and Literature Graduate Student Award in Rhetoric and Writing
Cumulative 4.11 GPA

Fall 2022

Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski Fellowship 2022-2023
Navajo Nation Scholarship
Native Forward Scholars Fund
Cumulative 4.11 GPA

Summer 2022

2022 Institute for American Indian Research Summer Research Award
Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski Fellowship 2022-2023

Spring 2022

Navajo Nation Scholarship
American Indian Graduate Center Scholarship
Howard Dean Everett Memorial Scholarship
Russell J. and Dorothy S. Bilinski Fellowship 2022-2023
Completed the semester with a 4.11 GPA

Fall 2021

Navajo Nation Scholarship
American Indian Graduate Center Scholarship
Completed the semester with a 4.33 GPA

Spring 2021

Navajo Nation Scholarship
American Indian Graduate Center Scholarship
Completed the semester with a 4.22 GPA

Fall 2020

Navajo Nation Scholarship
American Indian Education Fund Scholarship
Completed the semester with a 4.22 GPA

Spring 2020

American Indian Graduate Center (AIGC) Scholarship
Navajo Nation Scholarship
Teec Nos Pos Chapter Scholarship
Catching the Dream Scholarship
Howard Dean Everett Memorial Scholarship
Named Outstanding Core Writing Instructor- University of New Mexico's Department of English

Language and Literature for 2019-2020
Completed the semester with a 4.0 GPA

Fall 2019

American Indian Graduate Center (AIGC) Scholarship
Navajo Nation Scholarship
Teec Nos Pos Chapter Scholarship
Catching the Dream Scholarship
Completed the semester with a 4.0 GPA

May, 2018

Graduated with Distinction – 4.0 GPA
Northern Arizona University

Fall 2017-Spring 2018

Louis H. and Betty J. Quayle Scholarship. Northern Arizona University.
American Indian Graduate Center (AIGC) Scholarship
Navajo Nation Scholarship
Teec Nos Pos Chapter Scholarship

Fall 2016-Spring 2017

American Indian Graduate Center (AIGC) Scholarship
Navajo Nation Scholarship

September 2008

UWIRE 100, “which honors the nation’s top collegiate journalists.”

May, 2008

Graduated Cum Laude. University of New Mexico.
Dean’s List-College of Arts & Sciences. University of New Mexico.

August 2007-May 2008

Jim Crow Memorial Scholarship. University of New Mexico.

Summer 2006

Chips Quinn Scholar
Chips Quinn Scholarship

Journalism Experience

April 2020- Present

Freelance Journalist: The New York Times, The Guardian, Arizona Highways Magazine, BuzzFeed, and others.

March 2020-December 2021

Contributing Writer/Investigative Reporter at SearchlightNM.com

June 2013-August 2019

Sportswriter for the Navajo Times.

February 2012-June 2013

Freelance writer for numerous local and national media outlets.

February 2011-February 2012

Sports and features writer for the Osage News in Pawhuska, O.K.

September 2008-February 2011

Sportswriter for the Navajo Times.

October 2005-September 2008

Reporter for reznets.org.

May-September 2008

Reporter for Salt Lake Tribune as a Sport Journalism Institute intern.

October 2007-January 2008

Sports Reporter for Santa Fe New Mexican (intern)

June-August 2007

Reporter at Sports Illustrated in New York City (intern)

October 28-31, 2006

Reporter at the United Nation Youth Assembly (UNITY: Journalists of Color)

September 2006-May 2007

Reporter at the Albuquerque Journal (intern)

May-August 2006

Reporter at the St. Cloud (Minn.) Times as a Chips Quinn Scholars Program intern.

June-August 2005

Reporter at the St. Cloud (Minn.) Times as an American Indian Journalism Institute intern.

Professional Journalism Awards

2022

First place. Richard LaCourse Award for Investigative Reporting. Native American Journalists Association.

Inducted into the inaugural class of the North American Indigenous Athletics Hall of Fame in the Media category for sports writing.

Second place. Education Feature. Society of Professional Journalists Colorado Pro Chapter: Top of the Rockies Award.

Second place. Health Feature. Society of Professional Journalists Colorado Pro Chapter: Top of the Rockies Award.

2021

First place. Best Elder Coverage. Native American Journalists Association.

First place. \$20,000 Doris O'Donnell Innovations in Investigation Journalism Fellowship from the Center for Media Innovation at Point Park University.

First place. Team series award. COVID-19 Reporting. Society of Professional Journalists 2020 Sigma

Delta Chi Awards for excellence in journalism. Hitting Home Series, SearchlightNM.

2020

Second place. Best Team, Sports or Sports Beat Coverage. Arizona Newspaper Association.
Third place. Best Sports Story. Native American Journalists Association.

2019

First place. Best sports story. Native American Journalists Association.
First place. Best sports story. Arizona Newspapers Association.

2018

First place. Best community sports investigative reporting. Arizona Press Club.
First place. Best sports story. Native American Journalists Association.

2017

First place. Best sports column. Arizona Newspaper Association.
First place. Best sports story. Native American Journalists Association.

2016

First place. Best sustained coverage or series. Arizona Newspaper Association.
First place. Best sports story. Native American Journalists Association.

2015

First place. Best sports story. Native American Journalists Association.

2014

First place. Best sports story. Native American Journalists Association.

2013

First place. Best feature story. Native American Journalists Association.
First place. Best sports story. Native American Journalists Association.

2012

First place. Best feature story. Native American Journalists Association.
First place. Best personal column. Oklahoma Press Association.

2011

First place. Best sports story. Native American Journalists Association.

2010

First place. Best sports story. Native American Journalists Association.

Journalism Presentations and Workshops

Panelist. "What the Media Got Right and Wrong About Coverage of COVID-19 in Native Nations."
National Native Media Conference. Native American Journalists Association. Aug. 25-27, 2022.

Panelist. "Data Deserts: How to Close Information Gaps in Minority, Rural, and Tribal Communities."
National Freedom of Information Coalition Summit, Fall 2021. National Freedom of Information
Coalition. Sept. 28, 2021.

Panelist. “Investigative Reporting: Finding the Story, Sources, Documents and Getting Results.” Society of Professional Journalists, virtual, Sept. 4, 2021.

Panelist. “Native American Health and the Pandemic.” 2021 Center for Health Journalism Data Fellowship, University of Southern California-Annenberg. July 23, 2021.

Attendee. Power of Diverse Voices: Writing Workshop for Journalists of Color. Poynter. Spring 2021.

Workshop Facilitator. “Interview Techniques & Conduct an Interview.” Institute for American Indian Research, virtual, March 26, 2021.

Panelist. “How Journalists Can Rebuild Trust.” Society of Professional Journalists, virtual, August 25, 2020.

Professional Organizations

Board Member – Indigenous Journalist Association (formally Native American Journalists Association)

Member - College Composition and Communication

Languages

Diné

English