

## AVA LINDA FELIZ-SUTTER

Undergraduate Scholar in **Romance Languages & Literatures** and **Religion**

Wesleyan University | Departments of Romance Languages and Literatures and Religion | Middletown, CT

asutter@wesleyan.edu · +1 (774) 438-0880

### EDUCATION

**Wesleyan University**, Middletown, CT

*Expected December 2026*

Bachelor of Arts in **Romance Studies** (Spanish and French) | Minor in **Religion** | **GPA:** 3.96 / 4.00

**Honors Thesis (in progress):** An interdisciplinary study of Latin American magical realism at the intersection of decolonial theory, Indigenous ontologies and metaphysics, and the philosophy of language.

**Honors:** Deans' List (2024, 2025)

**Selected Coursework:** Territories of Dwelling, Desire, and Resistance in Latin America · Language and Power in Latin America · Animate Landscapes: Spirits and Sovereignty in Indigenous Religions · Weird Literature: Tales of the Supernatural, Inexplicable, and Bizarre · Techniques of Fiction · Gothic Bodies

**Reed College**, Portland, OR

**2022 – 2024**

Undergraduate Coursework in Comparative Literature & Philosophy | **GPA:** 3.83

**Honors:** Commendation for Academic Excellence (2023)

**Selected Coursework:** Saints and Sinners: Women in the Early Modern Transatlantic World · Early Modern French Literature and Culture

**The Lawrenceville School**, Lawrenceville, NJ

**2022**

High School Diploma

**Honors:** High Honors · James I. Merrill Award · James I. Merrill Scholarship · Deans' List

### HONORS & AWARDS

**Deans' List** | Wesleyan University

**2024, 2025**

**Commendation for Academic Excellence** | Reed College Administrative Committee

**2023**

**High Honors** | The Lawrenceville School

**2022**

**James I. Merrill Scholar Award** | The Lawrenceville School

**2022**

**James I. Merrill Scholarship** | The Lawrenceville School

**2021**

**Deans' List** | The Lawrenceville School

**2021**

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Research Scholar (Literary Studies)**, Mercer County, NJ

**2021 – 2022**

**James I. Merrill Scholars Program** | **The Lawrenceville School**

In affiliation with Princeton University Special Collections

**Awards:** James I. Merrill Scholar Award; James I. Merrill Scholarship

**Advisors:** Dr. Marta Napiorkowska; Ms. Rebecca Findlay

- Conducted advanced archival and literary research using major academic databases and Princeton University Special Collections.

- Authored a fifty-page interdisciplinary thesis on death and eroticism in the works of Carlos Fuentes, integrating psychoanalytic theory, decolonial criticism, and Nahua (Mexico) cosmology and philosophy.

- Presented research at the Lawrenceville School Student Research Exhibition and published in *The Lawrenceville School Student Research Journal*.

**Thesis:** “*The Dance of Love and Death: The Inseparability of the Erotic and the Macabre in Carlos Fuentes.*”

**DOI:** 10.13140/RG.2.2.18414.52803.

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Teaching & Program Assistant**, Stanford, CA

**June – July 2025**

**Great Books Summer Program** | **Stanford University**

**Subjects:** Literature · Philosophy · Humanities

- Led literature and philosophy instruction; supported humanities faculty; authored student evaluations; designed and taught two interdisciplinary seminar courses: *Magic, Myth, and Memory: On the Marvelous Real in Latin America* and “*Flowers and Songs*”: *The Philosophy of Language and Poetry in the Mesoamerican World*.

**English Language Arts Teaching Assistant**, Middletown, CT  
**Middletown Public Schools (WesReads)**

**2024 – 2025**

*Subjects:* Reading · Writing · Grammar

- Supported 4th–5th grade English Language Arts instruction through small-group teaching, curriculum support, and targeted feedback in reading and writing.

**Academic Tutor**, Middletown, CT

**2024 – 2025**

**Middletown Public Schools | Wesleyan Individual Tutoring Program (WesTutors)**

*Subjects:* English Language Arts · Spanish · Social Studies

- Provided individualized academic tutoring and mentorship, emphasizing close reading, writing, and analytical skill development.

**Creative Writing Instructor**, Middletown, CT

**2024 – 2025**

**Jewett Center for Community Participation (JCCP) | Wesleyan University**

*Subject:* Creative Writing

- Designed and led fiction and nonfiction writing workshops for K–12 students.

**Peer Tutor, Romance Languages & Literatures Peer Tutor**, Middletown, CT

**January – May 2025**

**Deans' Peer Tutoring Program | Wesleyan University**

*Subject:* Spanish Language and Literature

- Provided small-group tutoring in upper-level Spanish language and literature courses.

**Educational & Afterschool Program Assistant**, Fall River, MA

**April – September 2021**

**Fall River Public Schools | Henry Lord Community School | Morton Middle School**

*Subjects:* Core Academics · Arts

- Supported classroom instruction and co-developed summer curricula in a high-need district; led after-school enrichment and provided individualized academic tutoring across core subjects.

**ACADEMIC & INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE**

---

**International Exchange Student**, Santiago, Chile

**July – December 2025**

**Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile | Faculties of Letters and Theology**

**The Middlebury School in Chile**

- Completed Spanish-language coursework through full academic and cultural immersion, including host-family residence and engagement with campus organizations.

*Selected Coursework:* Indigenous Religions and Worldviews in Latin America · Chilean and Latin American Narrative I · Quechua Language and Culture I · Chile and Indigenous America

**International Exchange Student**, Paris, France

**January – May 2024**

**Sorbonne Université | Faculté des Lettres**

**Center for University Programs Abroad (CUPA)**

- Completed upper-level coursework alongside active participation in Sorbonne-affiliated student intellectual and cultural organizations; GPA: 4.00 (17/20 French national scale).

*Selected Coursework:* Romance Language Linguistics · Women, Gender, and Sexuality in France (19<sup>th</sup>–21<sup>st</sup> Centuries) · Writing the Self · Intermediate Spanish Language and Culture

**Spanish Language Immersion Student**, Middlebury, VT

**June – August 2024**

**Middlebury College School of Spanish**

- Completed advanced Spanish-language and cultural studies coursework under Middlebury's seven-week language pledge; GPA: 4.00.

**RESEARCH & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

---

**Human Rights Research Intern**, Santiago, Chile

**August – November 2025**

**CODEPU (Corporación de Promoción y Defensa de los Derechos del Pueblo)**

- Conducted Spanish-language legal and archival research on state violence, transitional justice, and Indigenous rights, including case analysis related to the disappearance of Mapuche activist Julia del Carmen Chuñil Catricura.

**Assistant Campaign Manager**, Fall River, MA

**May – November 2023**

## **Mayoral Campaign of C. Samuel Sutter**

- Supported campaign strategy through bilingual voter outreach (Spanish, Portuguese), K–12 education policy research, speechwriting, digital communications, and event coordination.

## **SERVICE & ACTIVITIES**

---

### **Wesleyan University**

WesReads | Volunteer Tutor (*2024–Present*)

WesTutors | Volunteer Tutor (*2024–Present*)

*The Lavender Literary Magazine* | Writer & Editorial Contributor (*2025 – Present*)

Pianist | Student and Performer (*2024 – Present*)

Deans' Peer Tutoring Program | Spanish Language and Literature (*Spring 2025*)

### **Reed College**

Students for Education, Equity, and Direct Service (SEEDS) | Member (*2022 – 2024*)

## **RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS**

---

Comparative Literature · Latin American Literature (20<sup>th</sup>–21<sup>st</sup> Centuries) · Romance Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics · Indigenous Literatures and Philosophical Traditions of the Americas · Decolonial Theory and Criticism · Philosophy of Language · Metaphysics and Ontology (with emphasis on Mesoamerican cosmologies) · Magical Realism and the Marvelous Real · Literary Theory and Criticism (Poststructuralism, Deconstruction) · Gothic, Fantastic, and Surrealist Traditions · Myth, Ritual, and Symbolic Systems · Comparative Religion and Indigenous Spiritual Traditions · Mysticism and Religious Phenomenology · Environmental Humanities and Ecocriticism · Multilingual Pedagogy and Literacy Education · Teaching Literature, Philosophy, and Religion in Comparative Contexts

## **LANGUAGES**

---

**English** (Native)

**Spanish** (Advanced)

**French** (Advanced)

**Quechua** (Intermediate; reading and conversational proficiency)

**Portuguese** (Elementary; some reading proficiency)

**Nahuatl** (Elementary)