

AVA LINDA FELIZ-SUTTER

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EDUCATION

Wesleyan University , Middletown, CT B.A., Romance Languages and Literatures, with Honors; Minor in Religion GPA: 3.92/4.00 Honors Thesis: <i>The Flowering Word: Nahua Cosmovisión, Language, and Reality in Twentieth-Century Mexican Narrative</i> Advisors: María Ospina Pizano and Carolina Díaz	December 2026
Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile , Santiago, Chile Facultad de Letras · Facultad de Teología Promedio general: 6.80/7.00	Fall 2025
Sorbonne Université , Paris, France Faculté des Lettres Moyenne générale: 18.00/20.00	Spring 2024
Reed College , Portland, OR Comparative Literature, with an allied field in Linguistics GPA: 3.83/4.00	2022–2023

HONORS & AWARDS

Mann Prize in Romance Languages , Wesleyan University	2026
Dean's List , Wesleyan University	2024–2026
Commendation for Excellence in Scholarship , Reed College	2023
James I. Merrill Scholar Award , The Lawrenceville School	2022
James I. Merrill Scholarship , The Lawrenceville School	2021

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Latin American literature, history, and culture; Mexican literature; Indigenous literatures, philosophies, and cosmologies of the Americas; Mesoamerican and Nahua studies; philosophy of language; linguistic anthropology; literary and critical theory; religion, metaphysics, and cosmology; environmental humanities and ecocriticism; Gothic and fantastic literature

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Honors Thesis , Middletown, CT Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, Wesleyan University Thesis: <i>The Flowering Word: Nahua Cosmovisión, Language, and Reality in Twentieth-Century Mexican Narrative</i> Advisors: María Ospina Pizano and Carolina Díaz • Conduct interdisciplinary research on Juan Rulfo's <i>Pedro Páramo</i>, Elena Garro's "La culpa es de los tlaxcaltecas," and fiction by Carlos Fuentes, examining how voice, memory, temporality, embodiment, and desire unsettle distinctions between language and reality. • Read twentieth-century Mexican narrative in critical dialogue with Nahua concepts and expressive forms—including <i>nepantla</i>, <i>teotl</i>, difrasismo, and <i>in xōchitl in cuīcatl</i>—with sustained attention to colonial mediation, mestizaje, and the ethical limits of cross-cultural comparison. • Integrate close reading, narratology, philosophy of language, Indigenous studies, and intellectual history to examine language as representation, mediation, performance, and world-constituting practice.	Spring 2026–Fall 2026
James I. Merrill Scholar , Mercer County, NJ The Lawrenceville School and Princeton University Special Collections Thesis: <i>The Dance of Love and Death: The Inseparability of the Erotic and the Macabre in Carlos Fuentes</i> Advisors: Marta Napiorkowska and Rebecca Findlay • Conducted archival and literary research using scholarly databases, primary sources, and materials held in Princeton University Library Special Collections. • Authored a fifty-page interdisciplinary thesis on eroticism, mortality, and the macabre in the fiction of Carlos Fuentes, drawing on psychoanalytic theory, decolonial criticism, and Nahua cosmology and philosophy.	2021–2022

- Presented the project at the Lawrenceville Student Research Exhibition and published the study in the school's student research journal.

DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.18414.52803.

PUBLICATIONS

LITERARY FICTION

Feliz-Sutter, Ava Linda. "The Virgin Ceiba." *Poetries in English Magazine*, no. 1.8, April 2026.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching and Program Assistant, Stanford, CA June 2025–July 2025

Great Books Summer Program, Stanford University Campus

Teaching Areas: Literature · Philosophy · Humanities

- Facilitated literature and philosophy instruction, supported humanities faculty, prepared individualized student evaluations, and designed and taught two original interdisciplinary seminars: *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*.

Teaching Assistant, Middletown, CT September 2024–May 2026

Middletown Public Schools, MacDonough School (*WesReads*)

Teaching Areas: Reading · Writing · Grammar

- Supported fourth- and fifth-grade English language arts instruction through individualized and small-group teaching, curricular assistance, and targeted feedback in reading, writing, grammar, and vocabulary.

Academic Tutor and Mentor, Middletown, CT September 2024–May 2026

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

Teaching Areas: English Language Arts · Spanish · Social Studies

- Provided individualized tutoring and academic mentorship in English language arts, Spanish, and social studies, with emphasis on close reading, analytical writing, critical thinking, and academic independence.

Creative Writing Instructor, Middletown, CT September 2024–May 2025

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

Teaching Areas: Creative Writing · English Language Arts

- Designed and led fiction and nonfiction workshops for K–12 students centered on generative writing, collaborative storytelling, peer response, and revision-based instruction.

Academic Peer Tutor, Spanish Language and Hispanic Literatures, Middletown, CT January 2025–May 2026

Dean's Peer Tutoring Program, Wesleyan University

Teaching Areas: Spanish · Hispanic Literatures and Cultures

- Conducted individual and small-group tutoring for upper-level Spanish language and literature courses, supporting linguistic proficiency, close reading, literary interpretation, and analytical writing.

Teaching and Extracurricular Program Assistant, Fall River, MA April 2021–September 2021

Fall River Public Schools, Henry Lord Community School and Morton Middle School

Teaching Areas: Core Academic Subjects · Arts

- Supported classroom instruction, co-developed summer curricula, provided individualized tutoring across core academic subjects, and led afterschool arts enrichment.

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Human Rights Research Intern, Santiago, Chile August 2025–November 2025

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

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

Assistant Campaign Manager, Fall River, MA May 2023–November 2023

Mayoral Campaign of C. Samuel Sutter

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

SELECTED COURSEWORK

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

Latin American & Hispanic Studies

Territories of Desire in Latin America · Narratives of the Latin American Jungle · Language and Power in Latin America

French & Francophone Studies

Weird Literature: Tales of the Supernatural, Inexplicable, and Bizarre

Religion & Indigenous Studies

Animate Landscapes: Spirits and Sovereignty in Indigenous Religions · What Is Religion? Cults, Cosmic Orders, and the First Amendment

Literary & Critical Theory

Reading Theories

English & Creative Writing

Gothic Bodies · Advanced Fiction Workshop · Techniques of Fiction

PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA DE CHILE / MIDDLEBURY SCHOOL IN CHILE

Latin American & Hispanic Studies

Narrativa Chilena e Hispanoamericana I · Escritura para Competencias Culturales y Lingüísticas

Religion & Indigenous Studies

Religiones y Cosmovisiones Indígenas en América Latina · Chile y América Indígena · Lengua y Cultura Quechua I

REED COLLEGE

Spanish & Transatlantic Studies

Women in the Early Modern Transatlantic World · First-Year Spanish

French & Francophone Studies

Modern French Literature and Culture · Second-Year French

Philosophy & Humanities

Persons and Their Lives · Introduction to Humanities

SORBONNE UNIVERSITÉ / CENTER FOR UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS ABROAD

French & Francophone Studies

Writing the Self: Exploring Literature Through the Concept of Intimacy

Spanish Studies

Intermediate Spanish Language and Culture

Linguistics

Romance Language Linguistics

History & Gender Studies

Women, Gender, and Sexuality in France, 19th–21st Centuries

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE, SCHOOL OF SPANISH

Spanish Language & Culture

Advanced Intermediate Spanish: Communication in Context · Oral and Written Skills Through Film · Spanish Musics

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

African & Francophone Film Studies

African Cinema

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & SERVICE

Writer and Editorial Contributor, *The Lavender Literary Magazine*, Wesleyan University 2025–2026

- Evaluated literary submissions, participated in editorial selection, and contributed original fiction and prose.

Pianist and Performer, Wesleyan University 2024–2026

- Pursued private study and performance in classical piano, with additional work in composition.

Member and Volunteer, Students for Education, Equity, and Direct Service (*SEEDS*), Reed College 2022–2023

- Contributed to community-based service initiatives centered on educational equity and direct service.

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

Linguistic Society of America
Modern Language Association
International Gothic Association

LANGUAGES

English	Native
Spanish	Near-fluent proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing
French	Advanced proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing
Portuguese	Intermediate reading proficiency; elementary speaking proficiency
Quechua	High-beginner proficiency in reading and conversation
Nahuatl	Beginning proficiency