

Eric A. Pitz

Los Angeles, CA

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EDUCATION

- UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES Los Angeles, CA
UCLA SCHOOL OF THEATER, FILM & TELEVISION
PhD in Cinema and Media Studies, expected Spring 2027.
- Areas of Focus: Media Industry Studies; American Film History; Film Genres (Comedy); Animation History and Theory; Race and Ethnicity
 - Graduate Certificate in English Writing Pedagogy, expected Spring 2027
 - CIRTL Associate
- MA in Cinema & Media Studies, Spring 2022; 4.0 GPA
- NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY (Honors Program) Marquette, MI
BA: December 2019; 3.99 GPA (*summa cum laude*)
Majors: English & Spanish, Minor: Film Studies
Graduated with Full Honors with World Language Studies
- UNIVERSIDAD DE SALAMANCA (Study Abroad) Salamanca, Spain
Certificate in Spanish Language, May 2018

GRANTS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

- The Kemp R. Niver Scholarship in Film History at UCLA – 2024
Outstanding Graduating Student in the Department of Languages, Literatures, and International Studies Award (Language Major) – 2019-2020 academic year
Anna & Rich Lundin Summer Research Fellowship – 2019
- Awarded annually to five upper-class undergraduate Honors students pursuing individual academic research.
 - Conducted research on Chaplin's *The Great Dictator* and expanded on previous presentation of "Chaplin as an Auteur."
- James Cloyd Bowman Scholarship – Outstanding English Department Student (2019)
Sigma Tau Delta – International English Student Honor Society (Admitted 2017)

PUBLISHED WORK

- Pitz, Eric A.** (revising and resubmitting to *Queer Studies in Media and Popular Culture*) "Queer Coding and Cross-Dressing: The Censorship of the Kiss in Hollywood Gender Impersonation Cinema, 1925-1959."
- Pitz, Eric A.** (2018) "In Another Person's Skin: Adaptations of *To Kill a Mockingbird* and the Characterization of Scout Finch," *Conspectus Borealis*: Vol. 4: Iss. 1, Article 5.
- Pitz, Eric A.** (2017) "Homosexuality in Michael Radford's *The Merchant of Venice*," *Conspectus Borealis*: Vol. 3: Iss. 1, Article 3.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- (Forthcoming)** Pitz, Eric A. "Considering Cab Calloway: The Fleischer Studios' *Minnie the Moocher* and Rotoscoping Black Performance." Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference (Chicago, IL: March 2026)
- Pitz, Eric A. "Reelin' In the Years: The Talkie Compilation Short and the Turn from Silent Cinema." The Hollywood Conference at USC (Los Angeles, CA 2025).
- Pitz, Eric A. "'The Colossus of Clout (The Colossus of Clout):' *The Sandlot*, Babe Ruth, and the (Hi)story of Baseball." Southwest Popular/American Culture Association Summer Salon Conference (Albuquerque, NM 2025).
- Pitz, Eric A. "Ho-di-ho-di-Ro-to-scope: Black Performance in the Fleischer Studios' *Minnie the Moocher*." Popular Culture Association Conference (New Orleans, LA 2025).
- Pitz, Eric A. "Queer Coding and Cross-Dressing: The Censorship of the Kiss in Hollywood Gender Impersonation Cinema, 1925-1959 – Case Study: *Some Like it Hot*." Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference (Chicago, IL 2025).
- Pitz, Eric A. "Chaplin as an Auteur: The Case of *The Great Dictator*." Northern Michigan University Celebration of Student Scholarship (Marquette, MI 2017).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES, Los Angeles, CA June 2021 – Present
Teaching Fellow
- Courses Taught: "Introduction to Art & Technique of Filmmaking," "History of American Motion Picture," "American Television History," "Digital Media Studies," "Overview of the Contemporary Film Industry," "Film and Social Change," "Film Authors," "Film Genres."
 - Course Led: Teaching Practicum for Cinema and Media Studies (TA Training)
 - Assisted a diverse array of students in understanding course materials; evaluated & graded coursework.
 - Led discussion sections of up to twenty-five students each, two sections per quarter.
 - Fostered community of inclusivity in classroom.
 - Navigated challenging issues involving student performance and ethics.
 - Received highly favorable teaching evaluations.
 - Enhanced curriculum through providing greater historical and analytic content.
 - Advised students on applying to graduate school and working in film industry.
 - Wrote letters of recommendation for scholarships and graduate school applications.
 - Promoted from Teaching Assistant to Teaching Associate to Teaching Fellow after reaching requisite steps.

GUEST LECTURES

- Pitz, Eric A. "Archival Research and Practices, Media Archaeology, and Preserving Film History" – University of California, Irvine School of Humanities (Irvine, CA 2026).
- Pitz, Eric A. "'And You Gotta Be Girls:' Cross-Dressing, Censorship, and *Some Like it Hot*" – UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television (Los Angeles, CA 2025).
- Pitz, Eric A. "'We're Going to Die Out Here:' The History, Marketing, and Culture of the Found Footage Film" – UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television (Los Angeles, CA 2024).

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Provided a safe environment for children to develop socially and emotionally.

FRESH COAST FILM FESTIVAL, Marquette, MI
Programming Intern

May 2019 – September 2019

- Critiqued and gave input on over two hundred documentaries and short films submitted for festival inclusion.
- Created themed film festival programming blocks.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR AND LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

CINEPOSIUM – Film Programming Organization at UCLA
Member

October 2020 – October 2022

- Practices curating and exhibiting diverse types of media in an academic setting.
- Featured Cineposium Podcast interviewee, “Curation of Charlie Chaplin’s *The Kid*” and “Movies from Our Hometown.”

CULTURE-SHOCK FILM SOCIETY
President & Founder

April 2019 – December 2019

- Presented classic, art-house, cult, independent, and international films to university and local communities.
- Facilitated discussions of film history and analysis.
- Communicated with film distributors as to screening rights.
- Proposed and gained approval for semester-long budgets in partnership with Student Finance Committee.

CONSPECTUS BOREALIS

September 2016 – December 2019

Editor – NMU Undergraduate Research Journal

- Performed peer reviews and edited scholarly and creative works submitted for publication by students.

NMU HONORS STUDENT ORGANIZATION
President & Member

September 2016 – December 2019

- Appointed president in November 2017 in consideration of ongoing leadership contributions to the organization.
- Facilitated the building of a stimulating and supportive community for Honors students.
- Served as member of Northern Michigan University’s Honors Board.
- Created volunteer opportunities with local non-profits and businesses.

NMU QUIZ BOWL TEAM
President & Team Member

December 2016 – December 2019

- Became president in May 2018 by nomination and election.
- Led team in absence of coach/advisor.
- Competed in academic competitions across Midwest U.S.
- Arranged academic competitions for high school students in Northern Michigan.

WUPX/RADIO X - NMU Campus Radio Station

September 2016 – December 2019

Disc Jockey: station coverage includes Upper Michigan & Northern Wisconsin

- Trained new DJs in how to adhere to FCC guidelines.
- Curated dynamic radio programming for 1–2-hour weekly shows.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

SPANISH – Intermediate fluency

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

SOCIETY FOR ANIMATION STUDIES (SAS)	2025 – Present
CRITICAL HUMOR STUDIES ASSOCIATION (CHSA)	2025 – Present
POPULAR CULTURE ASSOCIATION (PCA)	2024 – Present
SOCIETY FOR CINEMA AND MEDIA STUDIES (SCMS)	2020 – Present