

# Daisy Ahlstone

Pronouns: They/Them/Theirs

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## EDUCATION

**PhD., Comparative Studies:** The Ohio State University May 2025

*Dissertation Title:* What Holds Us Together: Community, Ecology, and Folklore in the 21st Century.

*Committee:* Dr. Maurice Stevens (Chair), Dr. Merrill Kaplan, Dr. fabian romero, Dr. Thomas Davis, and Dr. Tim Frandy (outside reader).

**M.A., English/Folklore:** Utah State University May 2019

*Thesis Title:* Thylacine Dreams: The Vernacular Resurrection of an Extinct Marsupial.

*Committee:* Dr. Lynne McNeill (Chair), Dr. Christine Cooper-Rompato, and Dr. John McLaughlin.

**B.A., Folklore:** University of Oregon June 2016

*Minors:* Gender Studies, Certificate of Film Studies

## SCHOLARSHIP

### Peer-Reviewed Publications

Tartaglia, Dominick, and Kaitlyn Kinney, Christine J. Widmayer, Anna Morel, **Daisy Ahlstone**, Jared L. Schmidt. 2023. “Becoming *Folkwise*: Sustaining Digital Community while Socially Distant.” *Cultural Analysis* (1): Pandemic & Politics.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2023. “Gaming Extinction: Representations of the Thylacine in Video Games.” *Thylacine: The History, Ecology and Loss of the Tasmanian Tiger*, edited by Gareth Linnard and Branden Holmes, 176-179. CSIRO Publishing [Book received [2023 Whitley Award for Historical Zoology](#)].

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2023. “Narrating Perseverance: An Overview of Thylacines in Fiction.” *Thylacine: The History, Ecology and Loss of the Tasmanian Tiger*, edited by Gareth Linnard and Branden Holmes, 175. CSIRO Publishing [Book received [2023 Whitley Award for Historical Zoology](#)].

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2022. “Giving Life to Legends: Material Representation of Ostensive Behavior.” *Western Folklore*. 82(1): 3-59.

Sleight-Price, Camille, **Daisy Ahlstone**, and Michelle Jones. 2018. “Forbidden Foodways: Tide Pods, Ostensive Practice, and Intergenerational Conflict.” *Contemporary Legend* 3, no. 8: 86-112.

### Book Reviews

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2022. [“Posthuman Folklore”](#) by Tok Thompson. *Western Folklore* 81(1): 75-78.

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**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2021. [“Lifelong Learning and Dementia: A Posthumanist Perspective”](#) by Quinn, Jocey, and Claudia Blandon. *Disability Studies Quarterly* 41(1).

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2019. [“Culture and Value: Heritage, Tourism and Property”](#) by Regina Bendix. *Western Folklore* 78(4): 357-359.

## Other Publications

**Ahlstone, Daisy** and Ang DiNardo. 2024. “Fruit, Folklore and Future: Zines in the Writing Style of Folklorists.” Series of 14 self-published zines utilizing the algorithmic outputs of ChatGPT to demonstrate the use and interpretation of folklore scholarship by AI.

Tartaglia, Dom and Kaitlyn Kinney, Christine J. Widmayer, Anna Morel, **Daisy Ahlstone**, & Jared L. Schmidt. 2021. [“A Case Study: Folkwise.”](#) *Folklore Advocacy Toolkit*, American Folklore Society. 8 September 2021.

## Forthcoming Publications

**Ahlstone, Daisy** and J. S. Jordan. 2025. “Wild Systems Theory and the Contextual Reality of Meaning: Folklore, Embodied Context, and Community” *Journal of Folklore Research*. Special Issue: Disturbed Traditions: Folklore in the Anthropocene.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2025. “MycoLore: A Fungal Guide to Folklore Studies.” *BorderLore*. July 2025. <https://borderlore.org/>

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2025. “The Thyla-Zine: Legendary History of the Tasmanian Tiger.” Under Review with Microcosm Publishing

## Selected Refereed Conference Presentations

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2025. “MycoLore: How to Study Folklore like Fungi.” Presented at the American Folklore Society annual conference. Atlanta, GA. October 2025.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2025. “What is a Quilt About?: Wild Systems Theory, Embodied Context, and Folklore.” To be presented at the Western States Folklore Society annual conference. Logan, UT. April 2025.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2025. “What is a Quilt About?: Wild Systems Theory, Embodied Context, and Folklore.” Presented at the IU/OSU Shared Traditions: More than Human Experiences conference. Columbus, OH. February 2025.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2024. “Wild Systems Theory, Embodied Context, and Folklore.” Presented at the American Folklore Society annual conference. Santa Fe, NM. November 2024.

Kuo, Kathleen, **Daisy Ahlstone**, Chrissy Widmayer, Ryan Thompson, and Dana Plank. 2024. “Playful Learning on Twitch: Perspectives on Creating Educational and Engaging Livestreams.” Presented at Play Make Learn Conference, Madison, WI. July 2024.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2024. “Previewing the new WSFS website” Presented at the Western States Folklore Society annual conference, Los Angeles, CA. April 2024.

# **Daisy Ahlstone**

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2024. "Crafting Assignments in the Folklore Classroom" Presented at the Western States Folklore Society annual conference, Los Angeles, CA. April 2024.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2023. "Workshop for Online Communication for Folklorists." Hosted at the American Folklore Society annual conference. Portland, OR. November 2023.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2023. "Manufacturing Cryptids." Presented at the Midwest Popular Culture Association annual conference. Chicago, IL. October 2023.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2022. "Decomposition as a Model for Concluding Ethnographic Projects." Presented at the American Folklore Society annual conference, Tulsa, OK. October 2022.

Tartaglia, Dom, Kaitlyn Kinney, Christine J. Widmayer, Anna Morel, **Daisy Ahlstone**, and Jared L. Schmidt. 2021. "Becoming *Folkwise*: Sustaining Digital Community while Socially Distant." Presented at the American Folklore Society annual conference, Virtual. October 2021.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2021. "Ostensive Behavior: The Effect of Storytelling on Non-Human Animals." Presented at the American Folklore Society annual conference, Harrisburg, PA. October 2021.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2021. "The Material Practice of Ostensive Behavior." Presented at the International Society for Contemporary Legend Research annual conference, Virtual, June/July 2021.

Tartaglia, Dom, Kaitlyn Kinney, Christine J. Widmayer, Anna Morel, **Daisy Ahlstone**, and Jared L. Schmidt. 2021. "Texting, Zooming, and Memes: Sustaining Digital Community while Socially Distant." Roundtable presentation given at the Western States Folklore Society annual conference, Virtual, April 2021.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2020. "Ostensive Behavior: The Limitations of Combining Theories" Presented at the Folklore Society of Utah annual conference, Virtual, November 2020.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2020. "Hindsight is 2020: Revisiting and Revising Past Projects." Panel Discussant at the OSU/IU annual student conference, Columbus, OH, February 2020.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2019. "Thylacine Tourism: Marketing the Undead." Presented at the American Folklore Society annual conference, Baltimore, MD, October 2019.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2019. "A Functional Analysis of Legendary Folk Heroes in August Wilson's *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* and *Fences*." Presented at the International Society for Contemporary Legend Research annual conference, Memphis, TN, June 2019.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2018. "A Folklorist's Touch: Applying Ethnographic Interview Techniques in Learning Environments." Presented at the Folklore Society of Utah annual conference, Ephraim, UT, November 2018.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2018. "Thylacine Dreams: Symbolism in the Vernacular Resurrection of an Extinct Marsupial." Presented at the American Folklore Society annual conference, Buffalo, NY, October 2018.

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**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2018. "Thylacine Dreams: Ostensive Practice in the Vernacular Resurrection of an Extinct Marsupial." Presented at the International Society for Contemporary Legend Research annual conference, Brussels, Belgium, June 2018.

Sleight, Camille, **Daisy Ahlstone**, and Michelle Jones. 2018. "Forbidden Foodways: Tide Pods, Ostensive Practice, and Intergenerational Conflict." Presented at the Western States Folklore Society annual conference, Long Beach, CA, April 2018.

## Invited Talks & Workshops

Guest Lecturer. 2025. "Werewolves: What they are, where they come from, and why they matter." [Arrow Senior Living Management](#). Virtual. 06 October 2025.

Guest Speaker. 2024. "[Manufacturing Cryptids: Threatened and Endangered Species Storytelling](#)." Folk Zoology Conference. Virtual. 30 October 2024.

Guest Lecturer. 2023. "Manufacturing Cryptids." Intro to Folklore taught by Patricia Sawin, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 24 April 2023.

Guest Speaker. 2023. "Decomposition as a model for ethnographic community centered research" [Belief Narrative Network Online Lecture Series](#), International Society for Folk Narrative Research. 3 March 2023.

Guest Speaker. 2022. "Quilting and Queer Folklore." Intro to Folklore taught by Zahra Abedi, The Ohio State University, 10 November 2022.

Guest Lecturer. 2022. "Manufacturing Cryptids." Queer Ecology taught by Robin Cremins, The Ohio State University, 4 November 2022.

Guest Speaker. 2022. "[Ecology and Folklore as Tools for Resistance](#)," *Folklore & Resistance Roundtable*, The Carterhaugh School for Folklore and the Fantastic, 24 July 2022.

Guest Speaker. 2022. "Using Folklore to Bring Communities Together Online," Intro to Folklore taught by Jeanmarie Rouhier-Willoughby, 24 February 2022.

Guest Speaker. 2021. [Storytelling on Social Platforms Twitch & Discord](#), Artists Standing Strong Together, 9 August 2021.

Guest Speaker. 2021. Intro to Folklore taught by Rachel Ross, Penn State Harrisburg, 19 April 2021.

Guest Lecturer. 2021. "Manufacturing Cryptids." Intro to Folklore taught by Dr. Mary Sellers, Penn State Harrisburg, 1 March 2021.

Guest Lecturer. 20018. "Curriculum Vitae Workshop." Utah State University, November 2018.

Guest Lecturer. 2018. "Legends and Ostension." Co-led with Michelle Jones. ENGL 2210 Introduction to Folklore, Utah State University, October 2018.

Guest Speaker. 2017. "Organizing Your Way Through Grad School." ENGL 6820 Practicum in Teaching Writing, Utah State University, October 2017.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Instructor of Record

[Comparative Studies Department](#) | The Ohio State University; Columbus, OH 2023 - 2025

# Daisy Ahlstone

COMPSTD 2350, Intro to Folklore, Online

COMPSTD 2350, Intro to Folklore, Hybrid

English Department | Columbus State Community College; Columbus, OH 2020

English 2367, English Composition II, Online

English 2367, English Composition II

\*Transferred courses online mid-semester due to COVID-19

English Department | Utah State University; Logan, UT 2017 – 2019

English 1010 Introduction to Writing: Academic Prose

English 2010, Intermediate Writing: Research in a Persuasive Mode

## Teaching Assistant

Comparative Studies Department | The Ohio State University; Columbus, OH 2022

CS1100, Intro to Comparative Studies, Online

## Writing Center Tutor

Utah State University; Logan, UT 2017 – 2019

## TEACHING, RESEARCH, & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Summer Intensive on Community-Engaged Scholarship June 2023

Michigan State University

COMPSTD 1100 Course Design Institute Summer 2022

The Ohio State University Drake Institute for Teaching and Learning

Advanced Methods Institute June 2021

The Ohio State University

Faculty Professional Development Initiative (FPDI) Spring 2020

Columbus States Community College

## Pedagogical Development Courses

COMPSTD 6500, Transformative Access Pedagogy, Ohio State University Spring 2022

ENGL 6820, Pedagogical Practicum, Utah State University Fall 2017

## PUBLIC-FACING RESEARCH AND PROJECT EXPERIENCE

**Director and Owner:** WiseFolk Productions, LLC 2021 – Present

WiseFolk Productions explores the study of tradition non-traditionally through digital content creation, public education, and direct community engagement.

**Operations Manager:** Western States Folklore Society 2025 – Present

Coordinates production of the Society's peer-reviewed journal, *Western Folklore*. Manages membership, website, and communications. Develops and implements outreach and retention strategies.

**Graduate Engagement Assistant:** The Ohio State University August 2024 – May 2025

# Daisy Ahlstone

The Graduate Engagement Assistant Pilot project included a collaborative focus group of graduate students from across departments building support for their community-engaged research projects. The group developed shared understandings of Engaged Research and Community-Driven Participatory Theorizing practices and created and executed a strategic plan for community-facing programming that shared knowledge and skill sets cultivated over the course of the year with broader communities.

**Researcher, Interviewer, Film Editor:** [National Folklife Network](#) June 2024 - August 2024

Partnership between the National Folklife Network and WiseFolk Productions to co-produce *Wise Words*: a series of educational videos, personal interviews, and educational infographics for NFN members. Funded by the National Endowment for the Arts. \*\*\*Films viewable upon request.

**Digital Storytelling Editor:** [Livelihoods Knowledge Exchange Network](#) 2020 – 2024

Worked with programs, constituents, and collaborators to develop the organization's capacity to tell stories by visually weaving film, photos, and images together with spoken and written work. For the Sharing Successes in agroforestry project, conducted on-site, ethnographic video production and film editing for LiKEN's project on sustainable forest farming. Assisted the communications team developing a social media and website to model accessible digital conversations.

**Graduate Field School Research Assistant:** [The Ohio State University](#) 2021 – 2022

Networked, designed, and collaborated on the sustainability of a graduate-level field school course focused on ethnographic and community-based participatory research connecting Appalachian Forest communities, students, and the Center for Folklore Studies.

**Women Owning Woodlands: Ohio Field School** January 2021 – May 2021

The Ohio State University

Trained in Participatory Action Research and Ethnographic fieldwork methods as part of an ongoing project researching oral histories of place-making in Southeast Ohio; archived and processed collected data into Center for Folklore Studies Archives.

**Internship:** [American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress](#) May 2018 – July 2018

Archived and transcribed materials from the Civil Rights History Project. Designed an accessible search engine for the AFC website and selected main content for demonstration. Attended and assisted staff with event planning.

**Bear River Heritage Area Cattle-Branding Project** January 2018 – May 2018

Utah State University

Interviewed and photographed individuals as part of an ethnographic project on cattle-branding practices in Cache County; archived and processed collected data into Fife Folklore Archives.

## Other Multimedia Projects

***MycоЛore*:** [Substack](#) March 2023 – Present

Essays, zines, artwork, and more on mycology, folklore, community, collaboration, research, and philosophy.

**Solo Exhibition.** 2023. *Extinction in Stripes: Artwork of the Thylacine*, Humanities Institute Mini-Exhibit, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.

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Website Design Lead: Richland Grow-Op (RGO) January 2021 – April 2021

Co-writer, designer, and coordinator throughout website redesign for RGO, a microfarm model co-op in Mansfield, OH.

Dir. *Yellow Creek Hellbenders: A Comparison Between Wildlife Biologists and Folklorists*. Film. 2020, Columbus, OH: Ahlstone Productions. (Film viewable upon request).

Dir. *Pins, Balls, and Beyond: Juggling as Meditative Practice*. Film. 2015, Eugene, OR: Ahlstone Productions.

## FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, & AWARDS

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| <b>CFS Graduate Student Travel Grant</b>  | 2024; 2025       |
| The Ohio State University Center for Folklore Studies                               |                  |
| <b>Graduate Research Small Grants Program</b>                                       | 2022; 2023; 2024 |
| The Ohio State University College of Arts & Sciences                                |                  |
| <b>Don Yoder Religious &amp; Folk Belief Section Prize</b>                          | 2022             |
| American Folklore Society   |                  |
| <b>Folklore and Science Section Junior Prize</b>                                    | 2022             |
| American Folklore Society   |                  |
| <b>WSFS Technology Grant; \$1,000</b>   | 2021             |
| Western States Folklore Society   |                  |
| <b>COVID Relief Folklore Student Association Award</b>                              | 2021             |
| The Ohio State University Center for Folklore Studies                               |                  |
| <b>Graduate Enrichment Fellowship</b>   | 2020 – 2021      |
| The Ohio State University   |                  |
| <b>Department Scholarship; \$2,500</b>  | 2019             |
| Utah State University   |                  |
| <b>Janice Judge Dee Scholarship; \$2,000</b>  | 2018             |
| Utah State University   |                  |
| <b>Folklore Fellow Scholarship; \$11,000</b>  | 2017 – 2018      |
| Utah State University; scholarship awarded to one student when funds are available. |                  |

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

### Discipline

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|--|-------------------------|
| <b>Grant Application Reviewer</b> : MidAtlantic Arts                     | 2025 – Present          |
| <b>Board Member</b> : Belief Narrative Network                           | 2025 – Present          |
| <b>Blind Peer Reviewer</b> : <i>English Studies</i> (journal)            | 2025 – Present          |
| <b>Junior Co-Convener</b> : Folklore & Science AFS Section Student Prize | 2023 – Present          |
| <b>Membership Committee Chair</b> : Western States Folklore Society      | 2023 – Present          |
| <b>Copyeditor</b> : <i>Cultural Analysis</i> (journal)                   | May 2021 – October 2025 |
| <b>Conference Planning</b> : Western States Folklore Society Conference  | 2021 – 2022             |

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| <b>Conference Hybridization:</b> American Folklore Society & WiseFolk | 2021 – 2022 |
| <b>Graduate Co-Convener:</b> American Folklore Society                | 2017 – 2019 |

## Institution

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|---|----------------------------|
| <b>President:</b> The Ohio State University Folklore Student Association                      | 2021 – 2024                |
| <b>Conference Planning:</b> OSU/IU Folklore Student Conference                                | 2020; 2022; 2025           |
| <b>Conference Planning:</b> <a href="#">A Collective Address to Death Graduate Conference</a> | May 2022                   |
| <b>Graduate Mentor:</b> Utah State University English Department                              | 2018 – 2019                |
| <b>President:</b> Utah State University Folklore Club   | August 2017 – January 2019 |

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

### **Operations Manager** (role began 2025)

- Western States Folklore Society 2017 – Present

### **Member**

- North American Mycological Society 2024 – Present
- International Association for Environmental Philosophy 2023 – Present
- Association for Community Organization and Social Action 2023 – Present
- American Folklore Society 2016 – Present
  - Also serves on Website Images Committee
- International Society for Contemporary Legend Research 2017 – Present
- Folklore Society of Utah 2017 – 2022
- Society for Ethnology and Folklore (SEIF) 2019 – 2020
  - Facilitates Belief Narrative Network
- Citizen's Climate Lobby 2016 – 2022

### **Other Affiliations**

- Engagement Scholarship Consortium 2023 – Present
- Midwest Pop Culture Association 2023 – Present

## **Media Appearances**

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2025. “ReggieCon celebrates Native American Heritage Month with ‘Wheetago War: Roth’” [ReggieCon](#) at Illinois State University. Virtual. 1 December 2025.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2024. “ReggieCon celebrates Native American Heritage Month with ‘Hero Twins!’” [ReggieCon](#) at Illinois State University. Virtual. 3 November 2024.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2024. “[Ep 57: From Extinction to Legend: The Tasmanian Tiger's Journey in Popular Culture with Daisy Ahlstone](#)” Interviewed by Vanessa Rogers. Fabric of Folklore Podcast, Spotify Podcasts. 16 July 2024. Audio, 01:12:00.

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**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2024. “[Letters of Rec for Thylacines | S2E8 Floaties for Krakens](#)” Interviewed by Camille Acosta. Floaties for Krakens Podcast, Spotify Podcasts. 30 March 2024. Audio, 02:04:06.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2024. “[EP 29: Daisy Ahlstone](#)” Interviewed by Spencer George. Good Folk Podcast, Substack Podcasts. 01 February 2024. Audio, 01:07:45.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2023. “[S2E1 Mark My Wizard \(Research, Inclusivity, & Collaboration\)](#)” Interviewed by Perry Carpenter and Mason Amadeus. Digital Folklore Podcast, Apple Podcasts. 06 September 2023. Audio, 00:48:37.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2022. “[Decomposition and Collaboration: Presented by Daisy Ahlstone](#)” Video Essay. *Folkwise*, YouTube. 06 June 2022. Audio, 00:21:04.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2021. “[Episode 156 - Thylacines with Folklorist Daisy Ahlstone](#)” Interviewed by Paul Romero and Ben Radford. *Squaring the Strange*, Apple Podcasts. 16 August 2021. Audio, 01:36:49.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2021. “[The TMC Podcast \(The Movie Club\): O Brother, Where Art Thou?](#)” Interviewed by Toemas Pappas. *The TMC Podcast*, YouTube. 28 January 2021. Audio, 03:28:16.

**Ahlstone, Daisy** and Kerry Kaleba. 2021. “[Cicada Brood X Mini Lecture with Kerry Kaleba and Daisy Ahlstone!](#)” Virtual Lecture. Discusses the relationship between Brood X, Ecology, and Foodways. *Folkwise*, YouTube. 31 May 2021.

Bringerud, Lydia, **Daisy Ahlstone**, and Dominick Tartaglia. 2021. “[Feasts & Festivals of Ice & Fire \(Virtual Ice & Fire Con 2021\)](#)” Convention presentation. Theory-crafted holidays and festivals from the book series *A Song of Ice and Fire* by George R. R. Martin. *Ice and Fire Con*, YouTube. 25 April 2021.

**Ahlstone, Daisy.** 2021. “[Interview with... Daisy from Folkwise?](#)” Interview by Dom Tartaglia. Discusses current dissertation research, environmental folklore, extinction, and thylacines. *Folkwise*, YouTube. 16 March 2021. Video, 01:03:20.

## LANGUAGES & OTHER SKILLS

### Languages

- Spanish (intermediary reading and writing; proficient conversationally)
- German (intermediary reading & translation)

### Software & Digital Production

- Archiving and data management
- WordPress and basic website design
- Social media management utilizing Buffer, Canva & Adobe Express (content creation/design)
- Adobe Premiere & Adobe Rush, and iMovie
- On-location videography and audio engineering
- Green screen studio production
- Live streaming on Twitch and YouTube (See [Folkwise](#))