

Lewis E. and Stella G. Buchanan Distinguished Professorship



Pamela Thoma

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Pamela Thoma

Professor of English
Director, Program in Women's, Gender,
and Sexuality Studies

Pamela Thoma is widely recognized for her contributions to the interdisciplinary fields of gender and women's studies and Asian American studies. Her teaching and research interests span feminist, queer, and critical race theory; contemporary literature, film, and television; neoliberal political economy; and the health humanities with a specific focus on reproductive justice studies.

She is the author of *Asian American Women's Popular Literature: Feminizing Genres and Neoliberal Belonging*, coeditor and contributing author of *Approaches to Teaching the Works of Karen Tei Yamashita*, and has published more than 30 peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, and essays. Her current scholarship focuses on cultural narratives that portray pregnancy, fertility, and reproductive labor in crisis.

Thoma frequently shares her expertise on the world stage. In addition to serving as a visiting fellow at the Gender Institute of the London School of Economics and Political Science, and as a Fulbright scholar in Okinawa, she regularly presents her research at academic conferences and professional meetings across the U.S., Canada, England, Japan, Ireland, and The Netherlands. Since 2015, she has been a member of the editorial board for the journal *Asian American Literature: Discourses and Pedagogies*.

In the classroom and as a faculty advisor, Thoma inspires students by fostering a supportive and inclusive learning environment, and by encouraging critical thinking, intersectional analysis, and the deconstruction and re-imagining of normative narratives. She teaches a range of graduate and undergraduate courses and has served as graduate faculty in three PhD programs.

As director of the Program in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies in the Department of English, Thoma has expanded opportunities for students and built a coalition of more than 35 diverse faculty from across the WSU system.



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