

## “Eating Our Feelings”: Queer Food Politics and Affect”

Prof. Dr. Nicole Seymour | California State University, Fullerton | Department of English,  
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Nicole Seymour's talk will begin with an introduction to the environmental humanities subfields of queer ecologies and affective ecocriticism, drawing on her monographs *Strange Natures: Futurity, Empathy, and the Queer Ecological Imagination* (University of Illinois Press, 2013) and *Bad Environmentalism: Irony and Irreverence in the Ecological Age* (University of Minnesota Press, 2018). She will then turn to her current research project on queer food politics, offering a focused look at the work of U.S. Indigenous poet Tommy Pico (Kumeyaay). Reading Pico's satirical *Nature Poem* (2017) alongside his subsequent book-length poems *Junk* (2018) and *Feed* (2020), Seymour argues that Pico's critique of the "Ecological Indian" trope has developed into a rather unique call for Indigenous food sovereignty—one that is both ambivalent and hilarious, and that reminds us of the deep emotional intersections among sexuality, colonialism, environment, and diet.