

Kathryn Weller

weller.kathryn.18@gmail.com · (630) 418-4403 · kathrynmweller.weebly.com

EDUCATION

Master of Arts in Critical Studies in Literacy and Pedagogy
Concentration: Composition and Rhetoric
May 2014
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan

Bachelor of Arts in English; magna cum laude & departmental honors
Emphasis in Creative Fiction
Minor in Music Performance
May 2009
University of Missouri
Columbia, Missouri

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct instructor
English Composition I
Composition
2014-present
College of Lake County; Grayslake, Illinois &
Harper College; Palatine, Illinois

Create and implement first-year writing curricula that challenge students to develop critical inquiry and rhetorical skills through student-centered classroom activities, peer reviews and journal discussions, and low- and high-stakes writing projects. Learning goals also include creating strong theses, evaluating audience expectations, integrating source information to strengthen arguments, and developing academic writing and documentation skills.

Teaching assistant
Evolution of American Thought (First-Year Writing)
2012-2013
Michigan State University

Duties included all course responsibilities for 27 students per section, including writing syllabi, assignment sheets, and rubrics; designing course projects that emphasize student-centered learning and inquiry; facilitating classroom discussions and activities to develop student understanding of rhetorical concepts and academic writing conventions; and providing feedback and assessing student writing

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Coordinator, Brody Neighborhood Satellite Location
The Writing Center at MSU
2013-2014
Michigan State University

Liaised with Brody Neighborhood staff; supervised graduate and undergraduate writing consultants; attended biweekly coordinator meetings; and compiled end-of-semester reports on satellite usage to make recommendations on how to better serve student populations

TUTORING EXPERIENCE

Writing specialist
Harper College Writing Center
2014-present
Harper College

Assist students at any stage of rhetorical assignments for English and various other courses, including readings, speeches, and PowerPoint presentations in addition to standard essays; work one-on-one with traditional and non-traditional students and students of diverse linguistic and educational backgrounds; offer guidance to student writers at all stages of the composition process.

Writing consultant 2013-2014
The Writing Center at MSU Michigan State University

Guided graduate and undergraduate students through several stages of composition, including brainstorming, outlining, revision, and editing; consulted on academic and professional writing; clarified instructor expectations and comments; worked frequently with international students; and tutored synchronously online as well as in face-to-face appointments

Adult literacy tutor 2010-2012
Literacy DuPage Naperville, Illinois

Designed weekly lessons and activities for adult ESL student; assisted student with English vocabulary and pronunciation needed to perform everyday tasks, such as grocery shopping and interacting with coworkers, as well as life skills such as obtaining a driver's license and negotiating for increased wages; attended workshops and lectures addressing issues in literacy education

Writing tutor 2008-2009
MU Writing Center University of Missouri

Consulted with graduate and undergraduate students on academic writing assignments at any stage of the writing process, both in person and in asynchronous online sessions, including numerous ESL students

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Certificate for Teaching Excellence: Connecting to the Classroom October 18, 2014
Continuing Education Harper College

Nominated, Outstanding Faculty Award February 2015
College of Lake County

Member, National Council of Teachers of English July 2015

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Registrar Specialist II 2010-2012
DeVry University Online Naperville, Illinois

Reviewed student transcripts for possible transfer credit; updated and maintained academic records for continuing students; and corresponded with academic advisers to recommend plans of study for new and continuing students.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Participant, assessment pilot study 2015
College of Lake County

Designed and implemented a classroom activity intended to encourage first-year writing students to take a more active role in proofreading or editing their own written work. Submitted a summary and reflection on the activity and its effectiveness to department co-chair and assessment leader.

Research assistant 2013-2014
Michigan State University

Compiled and categorized pieces from various news sources to assess and understand public perceptions of the relationship and transition between higher education and work. Research directed by Dr. Nancy DeJoy.

Research team member 2013-2014
Michigan State University

Recruited and interviewed students to investigate what writing skills and practices developed in their First-Year Writing course have transferred to other academic writing projects. Research directed by Dr. Stuart Blythe.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Community college instruction, adult literacy instruction, writing program administration, teacher research, writing center theory and administration, community literacy, critical pedagogy.

PRESENTATION EXPERIENCE

Workshop presenter March 28-29, 2014
Miami University; Oxford, Ohio
East Central Writing Centers Association Conference

- “Crossing Borders: Inhabiting Multiple Roles as Consultants.” Facilitated with Kimberly Tweedale, this workshop encouraged participants to examine their multiple identities as writing center consultants and how those skills transfer from within the writing center to other roles and back again.

Writing workshop facilitator 2013-2014
Michigan State University
The Writing Center at MSU

Facilitated various workshops designed to encourage students to think about writing in new ways, including digital video composition, and to be more comfortable with academic conventions such as APA citation. Workshops were adjusted for and presented to graduate and undergraduate populations.

- “Introduction to The Writing Center” outlines the various services offered by The Writing Center at MSU.
- “The Writing Process” helps student writers understand the value of examining their own writing process and provides tips.
- “Integrating Sources & Plagiarism and Copyright” offers insights to students who may be unclear on how to integrate sources into their writing without committing plagiarism.
- “APA Citation” introduces formatting guidelines and resources for citing sources using APA.
- “Effective Peer Review” asks students to examine the qualities of an effective peer review.
- “What is Scholarly Writing?” examines the importance of audience awareness and genre expectations in writing in various academic situations.
- “Digital Video” helps students recognize the rhetorical decisions made in effective digital videos, such as sounds, visuals, and texts.
- “Communicating Effectively with Visuals” offers insight into understanding the rhetorical decisions made in effective visual designs, including color, arrangement, and text

PUBLICATION

Co-Author, Teaching with Technology 2013: Educators Talking Tech 2014
Michigan State University

Contributed to a collection of essays focusing on technology use in language classrooms. Explored issues regarding computerized essay grading and an ideal technology-infused composition classroom. Edited by Dr. Dustin De Felice. Text can be downloaded at <http://bit.ly/1qdsCCU>

SERVICE EXPERIENCE

English Language Learners Committee member 2014
The Writing Center at MSU Michigan State University

Examined the unique challenges faced by English language learners and assessed the most effective methods of assisting these students in the Writing Center, including facilitating ELL-focused consultant training and creating writing and research resources for both students and consultants

Literacy Labs volunteer April 29, 2014
CAITLAH Michigan State University

In conjunction with the Center for Applied Inclusive Teaching and Learning in the Arts, facilitated and guided junior high students as they worked to write and produce songs, poems, and comics in response to social injustices they see in their own lives

Creativity Exploratory volunteer February 13, 2014
The Writing Center at MSU Michigan State University

Facilitated creative writing activity for large group of sixth-grade students; led discussions on several literary terms; guided students through writing short stories in various genres; encouraged students to share their short stories with the large group

Graduate Report reviewer 2013
Dept. of Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures Michigan State University

Reviewed and offered feedback on a report compiled by the Rhetoric & Writing graduate student committee, in preparation of submission to department administrators

MA Job Group founding member 2013-2014
Dept. of Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures Michigan State University

Founded a group to support members of the MA cohort as they commenced their job searches; organized and facilitated weekly meetings and workshops designed to develop skills such as writing cover letters and delivering elevator speeches

Recruitment Committee member 2013-2014
Dept. of Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures Michigan State University

Assisted in planning and implementing recruitment events and activities for potential incoming doctoral students to the Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures program at Michigan State University

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Michigan State University

2012-2014

- **Seminar in Language, Literacy, and Pedagogy** (Spring 2014, Dr. Ellen Cushman) challenged me to think critically about issues of colonialism, power, and culture in relation to literacy education, not only in abstract theory but directly impacting my own pedagogical practices.
- **Studying Language and Culture Across Local and Global Contexts** (Spring 2014, Dr. Steven Fraiberg) invited me to better understand and apply to my composition pedagogy important themes in linguistics and education such as globalization, translingualism, and multimodality.
- **Curriculum Deliberation and Development** (Fall 2013, Dr. Lynn Fendler) studied a broad variety of educational theorists and philosophers, as well as participated in interesting pedagogical experiences and exercises that I hope to implement when appropriate into my teaching.
- **Teaching with Technology** (Fall 2013, Dr. Dustin De Felice) allowed me to consider and engage with various technologies and pedagogical approaches to composition instruction, such as facilitating peer review through Desire2Learn and investigating the impacts of automated essay grading.
- **Independent Study on Adult Literacy Education** (Summer 2013, Dr. Ellen Cushman) provided an opportunity to research and create an inquiry- and experience-focused curriculum attuned to the unique needs of adult and non-traditional students in a community college composition classroom.
- **Literacy Leadership** (Spring 2013, Dr. Patricia Edwards) allowed me to understand the great pressures and challenges we all face as literacy educators, and to assess and demonstrate what I consider to be quality literacy education and valuable leadership among educators.
- **Community Literacies** (Spring 2013, Dr. David Kirkland) gave me the opportunity to engage with ethnography and critical theory as well as the broad landscape of the study of community literacies, those literacy practices and customs that while not borne of the educational system, can have huge positive benefits to the educations of those who embrace them.
- **Composition Studies** (Fall 2012, Dr. Nancy DeJoy) offered an overview of the pedagogical and ideological movements in composition over the last fifty years and looked forward to the future of the field.
- **History and Theory of Rhetoric** (Fall 2012, Dr. Stuart Blythe) traced several abiding themes of rhetoric helped me develop valuable understandings on questions of research, literacy, epistemology, and historiography.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Technical Proficiencies

Blackboard and Desire2Learn course management systems
Microsoft Office Suite, including Word, Excel, and PowerPoint
MovieMaker, iMovie, and ComicLife software
Bubbl.us graphic organizer
Weebly website creation

Language Skills

Proficiency in reading Spanish
Limited proficiency in writing, speaking, and listening to Spanish