

Laura Wilder

Curriculum Vitae

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(518) 442-4090

University at Albany, SUNY
Department of English
Humanities 349
1400 Washington Ave.
Albany, NY 12222

Academic Appointments

University at Albany, SUNY, Department of English, Associate Professor, 2012-present
Provost Fellow, Writing and Critical Inquiry Program, 2013-2014

University at Albany, SUNY, Department of English, Assistant Professor, 2005-2012

Yale University, Department of English, Senior Lecturer and Course Director for ENG 114 Reading and Writing Prose, 2003-2005

Education

Ph.D. English (Rhetoric and Composition), University of Texas at Austin, May 2003

Dissertation: *Critics, Classrooms, and Commonplaces: Literary Studies as a Disciplinary Discourse Community*

Committee: Davida Charney (Chair), Linda Ferreira-Buckley, Diane Schallert, Jaqueline Henkel, Marie Secor (Penn State), and Rosa Eberly (Penn State)

M.A. English (Rhetoric and Composition), University of Texas at Austin, May 2000

Master's Report: *"Get Comfortable with Uncertainty": A Study of the Conventional Values of Literary Analysis in an Undergraduate Literature Course*

Readers: Davida Charney (Chair) and Diane Schallert

M.F.A. English (Poetry Writing), University of Iowa, May 1995

Master's Thesis: *Storm Front Cherry*

Committee: Robert Hass (Supervisor), Marvin Bell, and Brenda Hillman

B.A. English with high honors and minor in History, University of Florida, May 1993

Additional Education

Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Summer Institute, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, June 2007

Selected seminar participant: "Rhetoric in the World." Seminar leaders: Sharon Crowley, Ralph Cintron, Nan Johnson, Gwendolyn Pough, and Susan Romano

Workshop participant: "Kenneth Burke and Big Rhetoric"

Publications

Monograph

Rhetorical Strategies and Genre Conventions in Literary Studies: Teaching and Writing in the Disciplines. Carbondale and Edwardsville: Southern Illinois UP, 2012.

Reviewed by Poe, Mya. "Review of Laura Wilder's Rhetorical Strategies and Genre Conventions in Literary Studies." *Composition Forum*, vol. 31, 2015, <http://compositionforum.com/issue/31/poe-wilder-review.php>.

Reviewed by Lancaster, Zak. "Review of Rhetorical Strategies and Genre Conventions in Literary Studies: Teaching and Writing in the Disciplines" *Journal of Teaching Writing*, vol. 29, no. 2, Nov. 2014, pp. 117-34.

Textbook

Digging into Literature: Strategies for Analytic Reading and Writing. Co-authored with Joanna Wolfe. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, November 2015.

Roundtable review of *Digging into Literature* and *Rhetorical Strategies and Genre Conventions in Literary Studies in Pedagogy*:

Chick, Nancy L. "Beginning Where the Students Are Beginning." *Pedagogy*, vol. 17, no. 3, Sept. 2017, pp. 563–69.

Corrigan, Paul T. "Teaching What We Do in Literary Studies." *Pedagogy*, vol. 17, no. 3, Sept. 2017, pp. 549–56.

Paton, Jamie K. "From the Parlor to the Classroom: An Undergraduate Perspective." *Pedagogy*, vol. 17, no. 3, Sept. 2017, pp. 557–62.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

"Borders Crossed: A Nationwide Survey on the Influence of Rhetorical Theory on Creative Writing." Co-authored with Janelle Adsit. *Pedagogy: Critical Approaches to Teaching Literature, Language, Composition, and Culture*. 20.3 (2020): 401-429.

"Describing Cross-Disciplinary Analytic Moves in First-Year College Student Writing." Co-authored with Robert Yagelski. *Research in the Teaching of English*. 52.4 (2018): 382-403.

"Knowing What We Know about Writing in the Disciplines: A New Approach to Teaching for Transfer in FYC." Co-authored with Joanna Wolfe and Barrie Olson. *The WAC Journal*. 25 (2014): 42-77.

"Tangled Roots." *College Composition and Communication*. 66.3 (2014): 501-506.

"Sharing the Tacit Rhetorical Knowledge of the Literary Scholar: The Effects of Making Disciplinary Conventions Explicit in Undergraduate Writing about Literature Courses." Co-authored with Joanna Wolfe. *Research in the Teaching of English*. 44.2 (2009): 170-209.

"'Into the Laboratories of the University': A Rhetorical Analysis of the First Publication of the Modern Language Association." *Rhetoric Review* 25.2 (2006): 162-184.

"The Rhetoric of Literary Criticism' Revisited: Mistaken Critics, Complex Contexts, and Social Justice." *Written Communication* 22.1 (2005): 76-119.

"'Get Comfortable with Uncertainty': A Study of the Conventional Values of Literary Analysis in an Undergraduate Literature Course." *Written Communication* 19.1 (2002): 175-221.

Book Reviews

"Entering the Classroom through the Archive." *Resources for American Literary Study*, vol. 43, no. 1–2, 2021, pp. 206–15. (Invited review essay on *The Teaching Archive: A New History for Literary Study* by Rachel Sagner Burma and Laura Heffernan.)

Grants and Awards

Research Awards

2014 CCCC Research Impact Award for *Rhetorical Strategies and Genre Conventions in Literary Studies: Teaching and Writing in the Disciplines*.

The Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) is a constituent organization within the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). This award honors an empirical research publication in the previous two years that most advances the mission of the organization or the needs of the profession.

Dr. Nuala McGann Drescher Fellowship, Fall 2008. Research leave awarded to complete book manuscript, *Rhetorical Strategies and Genre Conventions in Literary Studies: Teaching and Writing in the Disciplines*.

Thaman Dissertation Fellowship, English Department, University of Texas at Austin, 2002.

Liberal Arts Graduate Research Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin, 2001. For "Professional Assumptions, Pedagogical Applications: Rhetorical Strategies in an Undergraduate Literature Course."

Outstanding Master's Report, Department of English, University of Texas at Austin, 2000.

"Discovery"/*The Nation*, poetry prize semi-finalist, 1996.

Teaching Awards

English Graduate Student Organization 2016-2017 Outstanding Faculty Member Award.

Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, State University of New York System-wide Award, May 2015.

President's Award for Excellence in Teaching, University at Albany, March 2015.

Maxine Hairston Prize for Excellence in Teaching Finalist, Division of Rhetoric and Composition, University of Texas at Austin, 2000 and 2001.

External Grants

CCCC Research Initiative Grant, 2015-2017. \$9,750 for "Investigating the Impact of First-Year Composition: A Comparative Study on One Campus." Robert Yagelski, co-investigator.

Spencer Foundation Research Grant, 2004-2008. \$28,300 for "Sharing the Tacit Knowledge of the Literary Scholar: The Effects of Making Disciplinary Conventions Explicit in Undergraduate Literature Courses," a study conducted in collaboration with Professor Joanna Wolfe of the University of Louisville.

University Grants

Faculty Research Award Program, University at Albany, 2018-2020. \$1,494 for study titled "Investigating the Impact of First-Year Composition: A Comparative and Longitudinal Study on One Campus."

Faculty Research Award Program, CAS University at Albany, 2014-2016. \$2,800 for study titled "Borders Crossed: A Nationwide Survey on the Influence of Rhetoric and Composition on Creative Writing."

Faculty Research Award Program, CAS University at Albany, 2007-2008. \$3110 for study titled "Students' Perceptions of an Experimental Method of Teaching Writing about Literature."

Griswold Faculty Research Award, Whitney Humanities Center, Yale University, 2004-2005. \$2,500 for "Sharing the Tacit Knowledge of the Literary Scholar: The Effects of Making Disciplinary Conventions Explicit in Undergraduate Literature Courses."

College of Arts and Sciences Conference Travel Fund Award, University at Albany, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2012, 2007, and 2006.

Individual Development Award, NYS/UUP, 2009, 2008, 2007, and 2023.

Travel Grant, Bass Writing Program, Yale University, 2004.

Professional Development Award, 2001, Graduate Studies Program, University of Texas at Austin. Conference travel expenses.

Invited Presentations

"You Say 'Kairos,' I Say 'Craft': Is Rhetoric Influencing Creative Writing Instruction?" Goldtrap Lecture Series. Iowa State University, Department of English. Ames, Iowa. April 23, 2018.

Duke University Writing in the Disciplines "Journal Club" Discussion of "Knowing What We Know about Writing in the Disciplines." Participation via webcam. March 28, 2018.

"Transparent Teaching: Rhetorical Invention and Literary Argument." Keynote. Erotema: A Conference on Rhetoric and Literature. Karlstad University, Karlstad, Sweden. September 14, 2017.

"Demystifying Invention in Academic Writing." Writing Program, Davidson College, Davidson, NC, May 11, 2017.

"Become a More Productive, Prolific, and *Contented* Writer." Tenure Trek invited panelist, Institute for Teaching, Learning, and Academic Leadership. University at Albany, September 16, 2015.

"Developing Effective Assignments for Connections." Faculty Center, Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, PA, June 5, 2014.

"Making Disciplinary Conventions Explicit for Ourselves, for Our Students." Department of English, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC, November 7, 2013.

"Making Disciplinary Conventions Explicit to Undergraduate Writers: A Study in Teaching the Conventions of Literary Analysis," with Professor Joanna Wolfe. Department of English, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY, March 1, 2011.

"Integrating Research on Rhetorical Conventions into Writing in the Disciplines Instruction: Students' Views on Making the Rhetorical Practices of Literary Scholars Explicit in 'Writing about Literature'." Department of Language, Literature, and Communication Colloquium Series: Teaching Writing in the 21st Century: Challenges and Possibilities, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY, February 6, 2008.

"Beyond Lecturing: Engaging Students in Classroom Discussion." Graduate Student Orientation, Institute for Teaching, Learning, and Academic Leadership, University at Albany, August 23, 2007.

"Beyond 'Because the Expert Says So': Using Secondary Sources When Writing About Literature." University in the High Schools English Colloquium, University at Albany, SUNY, April 28, 2006.

"The Rhetoric of Literary and Cultural Analysis: Bringing Writing in the Disciplines Research into the Literature Classroom," with Professor Joanna Wolfe. The Commonwealth Center for the Humanities and Society Faculty Research Forum, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, November 4, 2005.

"The Influence of Carolyn Miller's 'Genre as Social Action,'" Department of English Inaugural Lunchtime Series on Using Theory, Yale University, April 18, 2005.

"Collaborative Brainstorming in Online Discussion Forums: Reinvigorating Rhetorical Invention in a Writing Class," Innovation Fair, Spring Teaching Forum, Yale University, March 26, 2004.

Conference Papers

"Listening to and Learning from Low Self-Efficacy Student Writers: A Longitudinal Study of Eight Students' Theories of Writing." Conference on College Composition and Communication, Chicago, IL. February 18, 2023.

"Writing Lessons: The Humanities Undergraduate as Public Intellectual." Co-presenter with Eric Keenaghan. Conversations in the Disciplines: Methods and Models in Undergraduate Research Across the

Disciplines. Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Engagement (CURCE), The University at Albany, SUNY, Albany, NY, November 22, 2019.

"Using CGA to Promote Healthy Genre Curiosity in Writing Center Tutors." Conference on College Composition and Communication, Kansas City, MO, March 16, 2018.

"Describing the Signposts that Signal Positive Transfer." Conference on College Composition and Communication, Portland, OR, March 16, 2017. *Paper delivered in absentia due to weather.*

"'I'd Rather Stab My Hand with a Knitting Needle than Use *Kairos* in a Creative Writing Class': Characterizing the Divide between Creative Writing Instructors Who Use Rhetorical Theory and Those Who Do Not." 17th Biennial Rhetoric Society of America Conference. Atlanta, GA. May 27, 2016.

"Perceived Affordances and Costs of Bringing Rhetoric into the Creative Writing Classroom." SUNY Council on Writing Conference. Albany, NY, March 5, 2016.

"Integrating Research, Assessment, and Practice to Improve First-Year College Writing." 10th IAIMTE Conference 2015: Languages, Literatures, and Literacies, Odense, Denmark, June 3, 2015.

"Rhetoric in the Creative Writing Classroom: A Nationwide Survey of Creative Writing Instructors." Conference on College Composition and Communication, Tampa, FL, March 19, 2015.

"Describing Cross-Disciplinary Analytic Moves in First-Year College Writing." Co-authored with Robert Yagelski. International Conference on Writing Research, Amsterdam, NL, August 28, 2014.

"Genre Awareness vs. Acquisition, Genre Description vs. Prescription." Conference on College Composition and Communication, Las Vegas, NV, March 15, 2013.

"Is There a Community in this Discourse? Reasons to Retain the Discourse Community Concept." International Writing across the Curriculum Conference, Savannah, GA, June 8, 2012.

"What's So Different Really about Writing about Literature?" Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference, Philadelphia, PA, May 28, 2012.

"'This Is How We Do Things': The Discipline in Literature Professors' Evaluation Practices." Conference on College Composition and Communication, St. Louis, MO, March 23, 2012.

"Failures in Quasi-experimental Research." Conference on College Composition and Communication, San Francisco, CA, March 13, 2009.

"The Explicit Teaching of Disciplinary Conventions Debate Revisited: Students' Views on Making the Rhetorical Practices of Literary Scholars Explicit in 'Writing about Literature.'" International Writing across the Curriculum Conference, Austin, TX, May 30, 2008.

"Approaching the Literature Course as Writing in the Disciplines." Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Chicago, IL, December 27, 2007.

"Assessment in an Age of Disciplinarity." SUNY Conference on Writing, Albany, NY, April 21, 2007.

"Sizing Up WID: The Difficulties of Bringing WID Research to WID Instruction." Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference, Memphis, TN, May 27, 2006.

"Building Coalitions between Rhetoric, WAC, and Literature: Using Special Topoi to Introduce Students to the Work of Literary Analysis." Conference on College Composition and Communication, Chicago, IL, March 23, 2006.

“Uncommon Ground.” Nation Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention, Pittsburgh, PA, November 18, 2005.

“What the ‘Natural Student’ Knows: The Implicit Rhetorical Pedagogy of ‘Predisciplinary’ Course Work.” Rhetoric Society of American Biennial Conference, Austin, TX, May 29, 2004.

“Disciplinary Rhetoric and the Politics of Progress in Literary Criticism.” Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference, Austin, TX, May 28, 2004.

“The Stases of Literary Criticism and the Continued Usefulness of Classical Rhetoric in Investigations of Contemporary Disciplinary Discourse Communities.” South Central Modern Language Association Annual Meeting, Austin, TX, November 1, 2002.

“Tensions between Common and Special Topoi: Their Relative Weight in an Undergraduate Literature Course.” Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference, Las Vegas, NV, May 25, 2002.

“‘Get Comfortable with Uncertainty’: A Study of the Conventional Values of Literary Analysis in an Undergraduate Literature Course.” Conference on College Composition and Communication, Denver, CO, March 16, 2001.

“Recognizing the Argument: Results of a Survey Given as Part of a Study of the Conventional Values of Literary Analysis in an Undergraduate Literature Course,” South Central Modern Language Association Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, November 11, 2000.

“‘Into the Laboratories of the University’: A Rhetorical Analysis of the First Publication of the Modern Language Association,” Federation of North Texas Area Universities Annual Conference on Rhetoric, Denton, TX, February 25, 2000.

Courses Taught

University at Albany, SUNY

Undergraduate

Writing and Critical Inquiry in the Humanities

Introduction to Creative Writing: The *Progymnasmata* (ENG102, Honors College)

Introduction to Studies in Rhetoric and Poetics: Public Argumentation (ENG202H, Honors College)

Introduction to Writing in English Studies (ENG205Z)

Expository Writing: Documenting Experience (ENG300W)

Studies in Writing about Texts: Courtship and Colonization: The British Novel (ENG305Z)

Studies in Film: The Rhetoric and Ethics of Documentary Film and Reality TV (ENG355)

Tutoring and Writing (ENG360Y)

Advanced Writing Workshop: The *Progymnasmata* (ENG402Z)

Topics in Writing Studies: “Expertise” in Reading and Writing (ENG450Y)

Topics in Writing Studies: Introduction to the Ancient Greek and Roman Roots of Rhetorical Theory

Graduate

Composition Theory: Writing Across the Curriculum (ENG521)

The History of Rhetoric (ENG522)

The History of English Studies (ENG 583)

Longitudinal Studies of College Writers (ENG621)

Research Methods in Rhetoric and Composition (ENG621)

Teaching Writing and Literature (ENG770)

Practicum in Teaching Writing and Literature (ENG 771)

Yale University:

Reading and Writing Prose (English 114a): Academics In and Out of the Academy: Science, Research, and Education of the People, by the People, for the People

Introductory Seminar in Literature and Writing (English 118b): How the “Experts” Read and Write: The Composing Processes of Scholars and Practitioners across the Arts and Sciences
Introductory Seminar in Literature and Writing (English 118b): Documenting Experience: The Rhetoric and Ethics of Documentary Film, “Reality” TV, and “True Stories”
Introduction to Literary Study II (English 115b): Techniques of Fiction: The Novel

University of Texas at Austin:

Introduction to Creative Writing (English 318L): Poetics and Rhetorics
Topics in Writing (RHE 309k): The Rhetoric of Documenting Experience
Rhetoric and Composition (RHE 306)

The University of Iowa:

Creative Writing

Departmental Service

University at Albany, SUNY:

Paul Stasi Promotion Committee, Fall 2022-present
Elliot Tetreault pre-tenure review committee, Fall 2022-present
English/WCI Liaison, 2012-2023
Writing Center Committee, Chair, 2020-2021
Ed Schwarzschild’s Promotion Committee, Fall 2020
Student Awards Committee, Chair, 2019-2020
Director of Undergraduate Studies, 2015-2019
Ad hoc Writing Center Committee, Chair, 2019
Ad hoc Writing Concentration Proposal Committee, Chair, 2017-2018
Search committee chair, Professional Writing/Digital Rhetoric, 2017-2018
Rhetoric and Composition Reading Group Faculty Sponsor, Department of English, Fall 2008-2017
Tamika Carey, tenure committee, Fall 2016-2017
Undergraduate Advisory Committee member, 2012-2014
Tamika Carey reappointment committee, Spring 2016
Tomas Noel reappointment committee, Spring 2014
Derik Smith reappointment committee, Chair, Spring 2013
Search Committee Member, Rhetoric and Writing hire, 2011-2012
Ad-hoc Committee Chair to Plan Revising and Redesigning the Department of English website, 2010
Events Committee, Department of English, Fall 2009-Spring 2010
Professionalization Committee Chair, Department of English Fall 2006-Spring 2008, Fall 2022-present
Graduate Advisory Committee, Department of English, Spring 2007-Fall 2007
MA Admissions Committee, Department of English, Spring-Summer 2007
Professionalization Committee member, Department of English, Fall 2005-Spring 2006

Yale University:

Course Director, Reading and Writing Prose, Department of English, Yale University, 2003-2005
Undergraduate Studies Committee, Department of English, 2003-2005
Honors and Prizes Committee, Department of English, 2003-2005

University of Texas at Austin:

Assistant Director, Division of Rhetoric and Composition, University of Texas at Austin, 2000-2001
Secretary, RHE 306 Committee, Division of Rhetoric and Composition, 2000-2001
RHE 306 Curriculum Review Sub-committee, Division of Rhetoric and Composition, 2000-2001
Coordinator, 2000-2001, and Member, 1998-2001, Rhetoric and Composition Reading Group, University of Texas at Austin
Writing Consultant, Undergraduate Writing Center, University of Texas at Austin, 1998-2000

Advisement/Mentorship/Professional Development

Faculty mentor to Assistant Professor Elliot Tetreault, Fall 2018-present
Faculty mentor to Assistant Professor Tamika Carey, Fall 2012-Spring 2018

Annual Faculty Advisor to approximately 10 junior-year students, University at Albany, SUNY, 2006-present
Faculty discussion leader of English Department's Initiatives in Teaching session on "Student Apathy," March 3, 2010
Panelist on English Department's Undergraduate Advisory Committee's workshop for English majors on applying to graduate school, October 29, 2009
Presentation to University at Albany English Honors Thesis Writers on Techniques for Creating and Establishing Exigency for Your Honors Project, delivered in Fall 2005, Fall 2006, and Spring 2007
Chaired panels for the annual English Graduate Student Organization Conference in 2006 and 2011.
Sigma Tau Delta Induction Speech, SUNY Albany, Fall 2005
Faculty Advisor to five second-year students, Yale University, 2004-2005
Panelist, Introduction to Writing and Writing Resources at Yale, Cultural Connections, an orientation program targeting entering minority students, Yale University, August 2003

College of Arts and Sciences Service

University at Albany, SUNY:
Academic Programs Committee, Member, 2019-2021

University Service

University at Albany, SUNY:
Undergraduate Academic Council, September 2022-present
Interdisciplinary Studies Committee, September 2022-present
Curriculum and Honors Committee, September 2022-present
Panelist for "Demonstrating Excellence in Teaching – from the Classroom to the Teaching Portfolio for Successful Tenure," March 10, 2020 and March 31, 2021.
United University Professions (faculty union) Albany Chapter Executive Committee, 2013-present
JLM Individual Development Awards selection committee, 2020-2021
UUP Membership Committee, Fall 2018-present
UUP Website Committee, 2015-2018
Writing and Critical Inquiry Lecturer Promotion Review Committee, March 2020
Writing and Critical Inquiry Instructor Search Co-chair, April-July 2015
Provost Fellow, Writing and Critical Inquiry Program, 2013-2014
Writing and Critical Inquiry Textbook Committee member, 2013-2014
Writing and Critical Inquiry Instructor Search Committee Member, Summer 2013
Departmental Faculty Senate representative, Fall 2009
Undergraduate Academic Council, Fall 2009
General Education Committee, Fall 2009
Subcommittee on Teaching & Learning and the Integration of Student and Academic Life, 2006-2007
Advisory Committee to the Gen. Ed. Writing Assessment Committee, 2005-2006

Yale University:
Advisory Committee of the Center for Writing Instruction, Yale College, 2004-2005

Community Service

Delaware Community School PTA recording secretary, Albany, NY, 2019-2021
Writing Tutor, Greene Correctional Facility, Coxsackie, NY, 2015-2020.

Professional Service and Activities

Reviewer, *Pedagogy*, 2019
Reviewer, Bloomsbury Publishing, 2016
Reviewer for Tenure and Promotion: Hofstra University, 2013

Reviewer, *College Composition and Communication*, 2014, 2015, 2018, 2023
Reviewer, *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, 2014
Reviewer, NCTE conference, 2014, 2015
Reviewer, *College English*, 2010, 2012
Reviewer, *Written Communication*, 2005, 2010, 2017, 2019, 2020, 2023
Reviewer, *Research in the Teaching of English*, 2008, 2011, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2019
SUNY Conference on Writing Co-Director, 2006-2007 and 2015-2016
Editorial Assistant, *The American Poetry Review*, Philadelphia, PA, 1995-1998
Assistant Poetry Editor, *The Iowa Review*, Iowa City, IA, 1994-1995

Professional Affiliations

Rhetoric Society of America
College Composition and Communication
Modern Language Association
National Council of Teachers of English