

EDUCATION

The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania, ABD
Doctor of Philosophy in Comparative Literature, Doctoral Minor in Women's Studies

The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania, 2006
Master of Arts in Comparative Literature

Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois, 2000
Master of Arts in Foreign Languages (Spanish)

Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois, 1998
Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages (Spanish)

MASTER'S THESIS

“Impotent Imminence in Lispector's *A hora da estrela* and Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*”

DISSERTATION

American Copula: Sex and Text in New World Narratives

ADVISOR

Sophia A. McClennen. Associate Professor of Comparative Literature, Spanish, and Women's Studies; Director of the Graduate Program in Comparative Literature. The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.

TEACHING

Seattle University (Seattle, Washington), Department of English, 2009-present

Introduction to Literature: Literary Appetites, Food Matters. Literary analysis of the material and symbolic implications of food as manifested in novels, nonfiction, and films. Course fulfilled SU's diversity and writing requirements, and two sections carried a significant service learning component. Five sections taught; responsible for planning and instruction.

Inquiry Seminar in Humanities: Dystopian Fictions. Exploration of the worlds of dystopian literature. Course begins with a discussion of the dystopian model of fiction in general—its tendency toward envisioning oppressive societies and regimes—and reflections on why writers create such alternative models of the world. Deep exploration of just what the term “dystopian” means, and how it applies to various narrative genres: poetry, the short story, the novel, comics, film, art, and video games, as well as how it connects to dystopic moments in history (World War II, Latin America's Dirty Wars, etc.). Culminated in student creation of dystopian

narratives. One section taught; responsible for planning and instruction.

Academic Writing Seminar: The Politics of Food. Students use the lens of food politics to ask questions and pose problems in various academic writing projects. Students explore fundamental writing mechanics; master argument construction and use of evidence; and develop rhetorical thinking to address various situations, audiences, and genres. Course contained several thematically relevant co-curricular activities. Four sections taught; responsible for planning and instruction.

The Pennsylvania State University (University Park, Pennsylvania), Department of Comparative Literature, 2004-2008

Introduction to Literatures of the Americas. Comparative interpretation of the oral and written literary traditions of North, Central, and South America. Three sections taught; responsible for planning and instruction.

Myths and Mythologies. World mythology: myths of non-Western cultures, based on selected areas and traditions around the world. Four sections taught; syllabus provided, responsible for instruction. Two sections were taught completely online.

The Forms of World Literature: A Global Perspective. The development of literature around the world, from epic, legend, lyric, etc. in the oral tradition to modern written forms. Two sections taught; responsible for planning and instruction.

The Short Story. Lectures, discussion, readings in translation, with primary emphasis on major writers of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Hyperfiction, fan fiction, and other non-traditional writing modes were studied. Cross-listed in English. Two sections taught; responsible for planning and instruction.

The Theme of Identity in World Literature: Race, Gender, and Other Issues of Diversity. Themes of gender and heritage, centrality and marginality, self and other, as expressed in literary works from around the world. Two sections taught; responsible for planning and instruction.

International Cultures Through Literature and Film. Comparison of narrative techniques employed by literature and film in portraying different cultures. Two sections taught; responsible for planning and instruction.

University of Washington (Seattle, Washington), Department of Spanish and Portuguese, 2000-2004

Approximately 30 Spanish language classes taught communicatively at the beginning (100), intermediate (200), and advanced (300) levels. Syllabi provided.

Seattle Central Community College (Seattle, Washington), Department of Spanish,

2001

One section of beginning Spanish. Syllabus provided.

Illinois State University (Normal, Illinois), Department of Foreign Languages, 1999-2000

Literary Narrative. Critical readings on a variety of literary narratives that reflect human experience from around the world. One section taught; syllabus and lectures provided.

Cultural Expressions in Social Contexts: Women of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Interdisciplinary and comparative studies of varieties of women's experiences from around Asia, Africa, and Latin America. One section taught; syllabus and lectures provided.

Beginning Spanish. Introduction to the Spanish language. Three sections taught communicatively; syllabus provided.

Richland Community College (Decatur, Illinois), Project READ, 1994-1995

English as a Second Language. One section assisted; syllabus and lectures provided.

LANGUAGES

English: Native ability

Spanish: Near-native speaking, reading, and writing ability (spoken since 1990)

Portuguese: Advanced speaking, reading, and writing ability

STUDY ABROAD/LANGUAGE IMMERSION

Taxco, Guerrero, Mexico: May-July 1998

Salvador, Bahia, Brazil: May-July 2006

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Literatures of the Americas; film and graphic novels; representations of race, gender, and sexuality; language

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Journal article, "Impotent Imminence in Lispector's *A hora da estrela* and Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*." Article submitted to *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*, November 2014

Paper presentation at the ACLA conference ("The Tyranny and Chaos of Language: Terror, Torture, and Trauma in Argentina and the U.S."), March 2005

Article, "Dr. Seuss, with a Guatemalan Touch," by Nancy Joseph. *A&S Perspectives*, summer 2004, Vol. 15 No. 3

Spanish Poetry Editor, *Raven Chronicles*, 2003-2004

Founder and Editor-in-Chief, *Washer* (Central Illinois' feminist magazine), 1998-2000

Contributing writer for Pandora's Rag (the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's feminist magazine), spring 1999

Paper presentation at the Winterfest Conference for the Illinois Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages ("The Effects of Cultural Stereotyping on the Enrollment in French, German and Spanish Courses at the University Level"), January 1999

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Member, Sigma Delta Pi (La Sociedad Nacional Honoraria Hispánica), 1997-present
- Departmental Outstanding Graduate Student Award and Scholarship, Illinois State University, 2000
- Allie Ward Billingsley Academic Excellence Award and Scholarship, Illinois State University, 2000
- Charter Department Excellence Award, Illinois State University, 2000

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

- Vice President, PSU Americanists, 2007-2008
- Vice President, Women's Studies Graduate Student Association, 2007-2008
- Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Penn State, fall 2004-summer 2008
- Conference Organizer, PSU Americanists Focus Group Annual Conference, 2006
- Public Relations Officer, PSU Americanists Focus Group, 2005-2006
- Editorial Assistant, Comparative Literature Studies, 2005-2006
- Newsletter Committee, UW, Division of Spanish and Portuguese, 2002-2004
- President, Sigma Delta Pi (La Sociedad Nacional Honoraria Hispánica), ISU chapter, 1999-2000
- Founder and Executive Board Member, Progressive Student Alliance, ISU, 1999-2000
- Founder and President, Cine Club, ISU, fall 1998-2000
- Graduate Assistantship, ISU, Department of Foreign Languages, 1998-2000
- Graduate Student Representative, Search Committee (for a new Chair of the Department of Foreign Languages), ISU, fall 1999-2000
- Graduate Student Representative, Foreign Language Department Graduate Committee, ISU, fall 1999-2000
- Research Assistant for Dr. Diane F. Urey (Distinguished Professor), 1998-1999
- Assistant, Foreign Languages Audio-Visual Laboratory, ISU, fall 1998
- Student Representative, Search Committee (for a new Director of University College), ISU, 1998

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Comparative Literature Association, fall 2004-present
- International American Studies Association, fall 2004-present
- American Association of University Professors, 2003-present
- Penn State Americanists Focus Group, fall 2004-present
- Modern Language Association, fall 1998-present
- Graduate Student Association, Penn State, fall 2004-present and ISU, 1998-2000

- Member (spring 1997-present) and Chapter President (spring 1999-summer 2000), Sigma Delta Pi

ADDITIONAL RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Editor and transcriptionist at 3Play Media, October 2012-present

REFERENCES

Available upon request.