

MATT WHITAKER

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Education

Ph.D. English: Composition & Rhetoric, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Lincoln, NE (expected graduation date: December 2022)

- *Dissertation Title*: Animals in Rhetoric and Composition: Toward a Theory and Pedagogy of the Ethological Encounter
- *Committee Members*: Robert Brooke (chair), Tom Lynch, Stacey Waite, Rachael W. Shah, David Wishart (Geography)

M.A. Writing: Composition & Rhetoric, Missouri State University; Springfield, MO; 2015

- *Thesis Title*: Self-Efficacy and Transience: The Habitus of Placelessness

B.A. Creative Writing, Missouri State University; Springfield, MO; 2012

- International Student Exchange Program, Karlstad University, Karlstad, Sweden, 2010

Research & Teaching Interests

Composition Theory & Pedagogy; Rhetorical Theory; Place-Based Education; Community Literacy; Animal Rhetorics; Social Movement Rhetorics; New Materialism; Environmental Rhetorics; Indigenous Rhetorics; Decolonial Praxis; Ecocriticism; Critical Theory/Pedagogy; Spatial Theory; Posthumanism

Publications

“Corn and Oil: Cultivating Dissent through ‘Seeds of Resistance,’ a Case Study on Rhetorics of Survivance and the Protest Assemblage.” Accepted for inclusion in *Decolonial Conversations in Posthuman and New Material Rhetorics*. Eds. David M. Grant and Jennifer Clary-Lemon. Book manuscript submitted to The Ohio State University Press.

“Unruly Rhetorics: Protest, Persuasion, and Publics ed. by Jonathan Alexander, Susan Jarratt, and Nancy Welch.” *Great Plains Quarterly*, 40.2 (2020): 178-179.

Conference Presentations

Conference on College Composition and Communication, Spring 2019; Pittsburg, PA; “Composing the Nonhuman Subject: Teaching and Thinking Environmental Rhetorics in a Posthuman World”

Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment, Summer 2017; Detroit, MI; “Reading the Bioregions: Toward a Critical Spatial Literacy.”

Center for Great Plains Symposium, Fall 2017; Lincoln, NE; “Mapping a Bioregional Identity: A Personal Essay on Reinhabiting the Platte River Watershed”

International Writing Centers Association, Fall 2016; Denver, CO; “Neoliberalism and the Discourse of Success in Writing Center Assessment.”

Popular Culture Association, Spring 2016; Seattle, WA; “A View from Outer Space: Technological Fetishism and the Environmental Ethics of *Interstellar*.”

Conference on College Composition and Communication, Spring 2015; Tampa, FL; “Self-Efficacy in Basic Writers: Marking the Intersection of Place and Pedagogy”

Writing Program & Writing Center Administrative Experience

Associate Director of Composition at UNL January, 2019—January, 2020

- Mentored first-year TAs in the teaching of writing
- Planned and led first-year orientation for incoming TAs
- Organized and facilitated Composition meetings
- Edited and revised the *Writing Teacher’s Sourcebook*
- Developed assessment protocols for writing-intensive courses

Assistant Director of the Writing Center at UNL August, 2017—December, 2018

- Oversaw 17 writing consultants and 5 assistants at four locations across campus ● Helped coordinate the Nebraska Writing Center Consortium in 2018
- Planned and facilitated bi-weekly staff meetings
- Designed and led orientation for new and returning consultants

- Hired undergraduate applicants
- Created, led, and facilitated workshops on academic writing for the Social Sciences, Natural Sciences, and Humanities.

Teaching Experience

Utah State University

- ENGL 1010: Introduction to Writing: Academic Prose
- ENGL 2010: Intermediate Writing: Research Writing in a Persuasive Mode
- ENGL 3040: Animals in Writing and Rhetoric

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

- ENGL 354: Writing: Uses of Literacy (1 section)
- ENGL 254 Writing and Communities (8 sections)
- ENGL 151 Writing and Argument (3 sections)
- ENGL 150 Writing and Inquiry (1 section)

Missouri State University

- ENG 205 Creative Writing: Nonfiction (1 section-online)
- ENG 110 Writing I: First-Year Composition (5 sections)
- ENG 100 Introduction to College Composition (2 sections)

Writing Across the Curriculum Experience

Writing Fellows Program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Spring, 2018

- Conferenced one-to-one with graduate writers in an Agricultural Leadership course
- Collaborated on writing curriculum with faculty from the Department of Agricultural Leadership

Writing Center Consultant at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Fall & Spring, 2016

- Worked one-to-one with writers across the university; faculty, graduates, and undergraduates
- Facilitated workshops on writing for the Social Sciences, Natural Sciences, and Humanities

Community Based Education & Leadership

Missouri State Public Affairs Academy at Missouri State University Summer 2015-2019

- Developed public affairs curricula to engage students in service-learning projects
- Counseled 22 high schools students on effective strategies for implementing their own community service projects; collaborated with other counselors and the Director

Husker Writers Program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Spring, 2017

- Designed a community-oriented curricula that combined public rhetoric and social activism
- Partnered with a secondary education class and a local nonprofit

Summer Institute with the Nebraska Writing Project Summer, 2016

- Shared, discussed, and generated pedagogical strategies with other teachers of writing.
- Designed a place-conscious teaching unit for advanced composition.

Writing Lincoln Initiative at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Fall, 2015- Fall, 2016

- Participated in community-outreach program for troubled youth
- Led and designed writing activities; facilitated events; exchanged writing with students

Academic Advising Experience

Distance Learning Academic Advisor at Ozarks Technical Community College 2017-2018

- Guided remote students through the orientation process; managed three email accounts.
- Corresponded with current, prospective, and returning students; collaborated with college administrative staff

Academic Advisor at Ozarks Technical Community College 2012-2017

- Conferenced with current students about their academic progress.
- Educated prospective students on college policies and programs.

Fellowships & Awards

Stuff Memorial Teaching Fellowship, Spring 2020

Robert L. Hough Graduate Teaching Award, Spring 2018

Husker Writers Teaching Award, Spring 2018

Husker Writers Fellowship, Spring 2018

Graduate Fellowship with the Center for Great Plains Studies, Fall 2016

Joy Currie Graduate Travel Fellowship, Fall 2015

Teaching Assistant at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Fall 2015

Graduate Teaching Assistant at Missouri State University, Fall 2013

Committee Work & Academic Service

Undergraduate Program Committee, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; 2017

First-Year Writing Assessment Committee, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Spring 2017

Graduate Orientation Leader, Missouri State University; Fall 2014

Editing Experience

Assistant editor of *The Writing Teacher's Sourcebook*, 2018

Assistant editor of *The Ethical Citizen*, 2014.

Professional Affiliations

Conference on College Composition and Communication

Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment

References

Robert Brooke
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