

curriculum vita

Mitzi McFarland
Lecturer of English

Email: mmcfar@westga.edu
<http://www.westga.edu/~mmcfar>

September 4, 2012

Department of English
University of West Georgia
30141 Carrollton, GA 30118-2200
678-839-4859

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Institution</u>
August 2009 – present	Senior Lecturer in English	University of West Georgia
August 2003 – May 2009	Lecturer in English	University of West Georgia
August 1998 – May 2003	Instructor of English	University of West Georgia

Courses taught at West Georgia:

- Freshman Composition, 1101 and 1102 (countless sections, including Learning Communities and experimental multi-section courses consisting of 80 students)
- Sophomore survey of American Literature (2130)
- Practical Criticism: Research and Methodology (2300)
- Studies in English Language Grammar (4300)

SERVICE TO INSTITUTION

Committee Membership:

University-Wide Committee:

Fall 2007 – Spring 2010: Member of the Arts and Sciences Classroom Instructional Technology Committee. Chaired by Professors Duane Yoder and Michael de Nie. The broad purpose of this committee is to effect a faculty-driven effort to represent the needs of A&S as a whole in the area of classroom technology. We have been active in our commission to develop a well-defined, proactive approach to the priority, design, implementation, assessment, maintenance, upgrade, and retirement of classroom technology.

Department Committees:

Spring 2012: Member of the First-Year Writing Subcommittee.

Fall 2011 – present: Member of the Assessment Committee. Dir. Dr. Maria Doyle.

Summer 2011: Member of the Search Committee for FYW instructors.

Fall 2009: Member of the Advisory Committee. Dir. Dr. Lisa Crafton.

Fall 2007 – Spring 2008: Member of the Advisory Committee. Dir. Dr. Josh Masters.

Fall 2004 – Spring 2005: Member of the First-Year Writing Committee. Dir. Dr. Greg Fraser.

Fall 2002: Assistant Director of ENGL 1101 for the First-Year Writing Program. Dir. Dr. Peter Morgan.

Fall 2000: Member of the Writing Committee. Dir. Dr. Joe Wilfreth.

Spring 2000: Member of Ad Hoc Committee for the Department of English; assisted in reviewing and developing departmental criteria for 1101 and 1102 syllabi and course objectives. Dir. Dr. Michael Crafton.

Counseling Experience:

New-Faculty Peer Mentor, 2003 – present.

Summer 2008-09: Transitions Orientation Leader / advisor for New Student Orientations

Summer 2007: Transitions Orientation Instructor: P. M. Forni's *Choosing Civility*.

Administration:

Fall 2006 – Spring 2007: Department Liaison between first-year faculty and the Director of Learning Communities, Julie Bartley. This entailed a) fielding student and faculty complaints in the classroom, b) helping LC coordinators to make decisions about courses to include, and c) working with them on strategies for marketing the LCs to align student and faculty expectations for particular LCs.

Fall 2005 – Spring 2012: Working with the Graduate Director to mentor and supervisor graduate teaching assistants. Responsibilities entail acting as a day-to-day point-person and mentor, helping them to make decisions about book orders, course design, pedagogy, strategic course planning, classroom management, etc. It also requires scheduling and conducting class observations, surveying graded papers to ensure consistency with the department-approved rubric, mentoring on a one-to-one basis and being available for office consultations. Logistically, I have handled such things as the administrative withdrawal of students, verification of all class rolls, and posting final grades for sometimes as many as twelve sections of ENGL 1101 and 1102. I have worked closely with the graduate instructors to make available technology training in WebCT, Frontpage and web design (if they want it), as well as in the use of classroom technology (i.e., Smartboard, Synchronize). I have also proctored and facilitated workshops on technology in the classroom, grading and assessment, effective use of group work in the composition setting, and classroom management.

Fall 2005 – Spring 2008: Assistant to the Chair. Some of the more clerical duties included assisting the Chair in drafting annual evaluations for FYW faculty; checking faculty book orders for 2000-level courses and against SACS requirements; approving faculty requests for library book purchases; and approving faculty requests to use WebCT in their courses.

Fall 2004: In the absence of Brandy James, I worked with Patricia Reinhard as Co-Director of the First-Year program. Responsibilities included coordinating and facilitating professional development workshops (one workshop, for example, on constructing assignments for the shared texts by Gregory Fraser and Chad Davidson); mentoring new faculty; conducting Fall orientation for new faculty; observing classes for new and returning faculty; and working in the Writing Center, assisting both faculty and graduate students in the transition to an all-professional staff of tutors.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

<u>Degree</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Years</u>
M.A.	State University of West Georgia	August 1998
B.A. <u>Major:</u> English <u>Minor:</u> French	West Georgia College	August 1996

M.A. Thesis: "Frankenstein's Other Daughter: Resurrecting the Monstrous Female Body in Toni Morrison's *Beloved*." Directed by Dr. Lisa P. Crafton.

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

Conferences, Presentations, and Panels:

Chair, "Theoretical Journeys: *American Born Chinese*." Cultural Journeys: From the Local to the Global, An Undergraduate Conference. Macon State College (March 23-24, 2012).

Panelist, "At War With the Culture of Consumption in Stephen Crane's *The Red Badge of Courage*." Mid-Atlantic Popular / American Culture Association Conference in Boston (November 5-7, 2009).

Panelist, "'Without a Cross': The Carnivalization of Sex, Race, and Culture in James Fenimore Cooper's *The Last of the Mohicans*." South Atlantic Modern Language Association. Atlanta, Georgia (November 12 – 14, 2000).

Panelist, "'Unspeakable Things Unspoken': Writing and the Act of Self-Definition in Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*." AGES Conference on Corporeal Discourse at Kent State University. Kent, Ohio (March 13 – 14, 1998).

Panelist, "Discourse in the Wilderness: Bakhtin and the Carnavalesque in James Fenimore Cooper's *The Last of the Mohicans*." Sigma Tau Delta International Convention. Anaheim, California (March 19 – 21, 1998).

Invited speaker, "Discourse in the Wilderness: Bakhtin and the Carnavalesque in James Fenimore Cooper's *The Last of the Mohicans*." Graduate Colloquium Series Sponsored by the Graduate Program Committee in the Department of English. Held at the University of West Georgia (March 4, 1998).

Invited as a guest speaker to attend the Sigma Tau Delta Annual Spring Induction at Kennesaw State University. Presented a paper on Bakhtin and Cooper (May 16, 1998).

"Graduate Students and the Life of the Mind." A symposium sponsored by the Department of English, Sociology, and Business, highlighting students whose scholarly achievements have been published or presented at conferences. Held at the University of West Georgia, May 19, 1998.

Awards, Honors, Certifications:

Awarded the inaugural College of Arts and Sciences Excellence in Teaching Award, Spring 2005.

Awarded the Martha Sanders Award for Excellence in Teaching First-Year Writing, Spring 2004.

Participated in a Writing Across the Curriculum Workshop for certification in the WAC program. University of West Georgia, Spring 2002.

“Distinguished Service Award,” an appreciation certificate for working with students who have disabilities.
University of West Georgia, Spring semester 2001.

Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, August 1998.

My paper, “Discourse in the Wilderness: Bakhtin and the Carnavalesque in James Fenimore Cooper’s *The Last of the Mohicans*,” was judge “Best of Session” in the analytical category at the Sigma Tau Delta International Convention in Anaheim, CA, March 1998.

March 1997 – June 1998: Research assistantships in the English Department working with Professors Lisa Crafton, Debra MacComb, Peter Morgan, Cheryl Thrash, and David Newton.

Awarded the Willie Maude Thompson Scholarship for academic merit, March 1997.

August 1996 – December 1996: Teaching assistantship with Dr. Lisa Crafton; ENGL 1101.

March 1996 – June 1996: Spring quarter internship in playwriting, working with Professors Sonja Bagby and Phillip DePoy; adaptation of Edgar Allan Poe short stories into script.

August 1995 – December 1995: Tutor in the Writing Center for the Department of English.

Dean’s List as an undergraduate for four years and as a graduate student.

Professional Development ~ Training Seminars, Teaching Symposiums, Pedagogy Workshops:

February 6th, 2009: Attended the 11th Annual Student Success in the First-Year Composition Conference. The conference offered practical, strategy-oriented teaching workshops, as well as theoretical presentations of composition topics that focus on the link between high school and college.

October 26th, 2007: Attended a professional forum at Georgia State University, “Composition Assessment: A Teaching Symposium.” Topics of discussion included outcomes-based assessment and writing portfolios, assessing critical thinking through writing, the use of rubrics, and the creation and dissemination of program assessment materials.

May 2007: Attended a teacher training workshop at UGA for the implementation of a specific classroom technology called <e.m.m.a.> (“electronic markup management application”) in the composition classroom. My part in this pilot program intersects vitally with issues central to our FYW program (as well as my training of graduate teaching assistants): outcomes-based assessment, writing portfolios, grading rubrics, and methods of assessing critical thinking.

June 15th – 18th, 2006: Attended the Association of Departments of English Summer Seminar East in Nashville, Tennessee.

FYW Professional Development Workshops, Fall 2002 – present: covering a range of topics, including training in classroom management and campus safety, Regents’ reading preparation, interpreting the rubric, sequencing assignments, ESL in the classroom and university Writing Center, and utilizing technology to facilitate learning (i.e., Connect Comp workshops).

Scholarly Publications:

In Spring 2008, Sarah Tomasek contacted me to request permission to reprint my article (“Without a Cross’: The Carnivalization of Sex, Race, and Culture in Cooper’s *The Last of the Mohicans*,” from *ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance*, vol. 48, 2002) in *Nineteenth Century Literature Criticism*, Volume 203.

“Without a Cross’: The Carnivalization of Sex, Race, and Culture in James Fenimore Cooper’s *The Last of the Mohicans*.” *ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance*. Poe Studies / Dark Romanticism. 48 (2002): 247 – 273.

Works Submitted for Publication:

“Romancing the Code: New Eyes for the Marketplace: in Stephen Crane’s *The Red Badge of Courage*.” (article submitted to *American Quarterly*)

Professional Memberships:

MAPACA (Mid-Atlantic Popular/American Culture Association)

CCCC/NCTE (Conference on College Composition and Communication/ National Council of Teachers of English)