

Kevin Casper
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Dept. of English & Philosophy
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EDUCATION

- Ph.D., English, Louisiana State University, August 2013
Dissertation: *In Spite of Yourself: The Asignifying Force of Laughter*.
Committee: Brooke Rollins (chair), Susan Weinstein, William Demastes.
- M.A., English, California State University Northridge, May 2008 (*With Distinction*)
Thesis: *And Baba Boeey to Ya'll: The Art of Defamiliarization in The Howard Stern Show*.
Committee: Guillermo Bartelt (chair), Joel Athey, Jack Lopez.
- B.A., English, California State University Northridge, May 2005

ARTICLES

- “Outside Meaning and Inside Jokes: The Poems of David Kirby”
Birmingham Poetry Review. Forthcoming.
- “So I Don’t Even Know My Own Name?: Digital Vocality, Affirmative Laughter, and Posthuman Ethics in Soundboard Phony Phone Calls.” *Enculturation: A Journal of Rhetoric, Writing, and Culture*. 26 Feb 2020. http://enculturation.net/digital_vocality.
- “Stand-Up for Freshmen: The Risky Bets and High Rewards of Stand-Up Comedy in the Writing Classroom.” *New Writing: The International Journal for the Practice and Theory of Creative Writing*. 13.3 (2016): 421-433. Print.
- “I’m So Glad You’re Fake: Simulacra Slapstick and The Limits of the Real.”
Ephemera: Theory and Politics in Organization. 15.3 (2015): 581-600. Print.
- “I Didn’t Do It, Man, I Only Said It: The Asignifying Force of *The Lenny Bruce Performance Film*.” *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*. 44.4 (2014): 343-362. Print.

CREATIVE NONFICTION

- “Outer Sunset.” *Five Points: A Journal of Literature and Art*. Forthcoming.

REVIEWS

- Reading Reviewer (credited). *Writing From the Inside Out*. Reviewed for Bedford/St. Martin's Press. Summer 2019.
- Reading Reviewer (credited). *Understanding Rhetoric: A Graphic Guide to Writing, 2E*. Reviewed for Bedford/St. Martin's Press. Summer 2019.

Peer Reviewer. "Comedy Writing as Method: Using Humour to do Research."
Reviewed for *New Writing: The International Journal for the Practice and Theory of Creative Writing*. Summer 2018.

Peer Reviewer. "Control, Practice, and Materialism." Reviewed for JAISA, Journal of the Association for the Interdisciplinary Study of the Arts. Summer 2015.

Copyeditor (credited): *Draculas, Vampires and Other Undead Forms: Essays on Gender, Race and Culture*. Ed. John Edgar Browning and Caroline Joan (Kay) Picart. Foreword David J. Skal. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 2009.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & INVITED TALKS

"Dave Chappelle and American Cancel Culture."
Rhetoric Society of America Conference, Portland, OR (May 21-24, 2020).
Paper accepted; conference cancelled due to pandemic.

"All Them Names You Callin' Me, They Ain't Making No Sense: Digital Vocality, Affirmative Laughter, and the Ethics of Alterity in Soundboard Phony Phone Calls."
Rhetoric Society of America Conference, Minneapolis, MN (June 1, 2018).

"Longer Than the Whole Iliad: The Rhetorical Tradition's Desperate Search for the Limits of Humor and Laughter."
Rhetoric Society of America Conference, Atlanta, GA (May 28, 2016).

"The Big Three of Humor Theory."
Invited Presentation. Advanced Academy Thursday Night Dinners Speaker Series, East Commons, University of West Georgia (January 21, 2016).

"This Here Giraffe Laughed: Animal Rhetorics and the Metaphysical Musical Humor of The Flaming Lips."
South Central Modern Language Association Conference, Nashville, TN (November 2, 2015).

"Supporting Student Success with Block Scheduling."
Innovations in Pedagogy Conference, Center for Teaching and Learning, University of West Georgia (April 28, 2015).

"The High Risk and Higher Rewards of Stand-Up Comedy in the Composition Classroom."
Conference on College Composition & Communication, Tampa, FL (March 20, 2015).

"Improving Work/Life Balance."
Presented at First Year Writing Workshop. University of West Georgia (March 5, 2015).

“Professionalism in the FYW Classroom.”

Presented at First Year Writing Workshop. University of West Georgia (January 23, 2015).

“TurnItIn iPad Grading.”

Inventing the Beyond Focus Group, University of West Georgia (January 13, 2015).

“The Features and Benefits of TurnItIn.”

Quality Enhancement Plan Workshop, University of West Georgia (August 19, 2014).

“So I Don’t Even Know My Own Name?: Approaching Alterity in Soundboard Prank Phone Calls.”

Rhetoric Society of America Conference, San Antonio, TX (May 23, 2014).

“The Triage Approach to Grading First Year Writing.”

Presented at First Year Writing Workshop. University of West Georgia (April 11, 2014).

“I’m So Glad You’re Fake: Postmodern Slapstick and the Creation of the Real.”

Interdisciplinary Conference in the Humanities, University of West Georgia (November 1, 2013).

Chair, “Professing Negative Affect: Fear, Anxiety, and Strain in the English Classroom,” Interdisciplinary Conference in the Humanities, University of West Georgia (November 1, 2013).

“Metacognition and the Writing Process.”

Presented at First Year Writing Workshop. University of West Georgia (October 25, 2013).

“Classical Rhetoric and the Comedy of Lenny Bruce.”

Rhetoric Society of America Conference, Minneapolis, MN (May 30, 2010).

“The Performative Force of Stand-Up Comedy in *The Lenny Bruce Performance Film*.”

Rhetoric Society of America Conference, Philadelphia, PA (May 26, 2012).

Invited presentation, “Defamiliarization in the Howard Stern Show.”

Dr. Brooke Rollins, ENG 4300: Rhetoric of Humor, Louisiana State University (February 26, 2009).

“Keep Some Sunshine of Your Face: Signifying, Lying, and Word Play in the Comedy of Richard Pryor.”

New Directions in Southern Studies Conference, Baton Rouge, LA (December 3, 2008).

“Ghosts and Empties: The Surrealist Mining of the Arcades.”

CSUN Student Research and Creative Works Symposium, Northridge, CA
(November 5, 2005).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of West Georgia, 2013 - present

Composition I (ENGL 1101)
 Composition II (ENGL 1102)
 British Literature - Honors (ENGL 2120H)
 African American Literature (ENGL 2180)
 Research and Methodology (ENGL 3000)
 Pedagogy and Writing (ENGL 3400)
 Professional and Technical Writing (ENGL 3405)
 Studies in Literary Theory (ENGL 4/5310)
 Studies in Genre: Humor in American Film & Literature (ENGL 4/5106)
 Senior Seminar: Ideology of Sports in Literature (ENGL 4384)
 Special Topics: Rhetoric of Humor and Laughter (ENGL 6385)
 Special Topics: Teaching Writing (ENGL 6385)
 Arts & Ideas: Comedy (XIDS 2100)

Online Courses:

Advanced Writing in the Disciplines (ENGL4/5304)
 Studies in Genre: Humor (ENGL 4/5106)
 Professional and Technical Writing (ENGL 3405)
 Composition I (ENGL 1101)
 Composition II (ENGL 1102)

Louisiana State University, 2008 - 2013

Composition (ENGL 1001)
 Advanced Composition (ENGL 2000)
 Advanced Composition: The Rhetoric of Humor (ENGL 2000 Special Emphasis)
 Advanced Composition: Writing in the Health Professions (ENGL 2001)
 Critical Strategies (ENGL 2024)
 Technical Writing (ENGL 3002)

California State University Northridge, 2007 - 2008

Composition (ENGL 155)

FUNDED COURSE DEVELOPMENT

Co-designed ENGL 4304 at UWG with support from “Expanding Impact of Undergraduate Research: Literary Undergraduate Research at the University of West Georgia and Beyond,” a departmental NEH Access Grant.

ADDITIONAL WRITING INSTRUCTION EXPERIENCE

Volunteer Writing Tutor, UWG Writing Center, Fall 2015
Writing Consultant, California State University Northridge, Fall 2007 – Spring 2008
Supplemental Instructor, California State University Northridge, Spring 2006
Writing Tutor, California State University Northridge, Fall 2006 – Spring 2007
Writing Tutor, Los Angeles Valley College, Spring 2005

HONORS AND AWARDS

- English Department Service Award
University of West Georgia, 2019
- English Department Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award
Louisiana State University, 2012
- Graduate Student Travel Award
Louisiana State University, 2012
- Alumni Association Teaching Graduate Teaching Assistant Award
Louisiana State University, 2011-2012
- Graduate Student Travel Award
Louisiana State University, 2010

SERVICE

University of West Georgia

- ACCESS Block Schedule BFA Cohort, 2014 – present*
- John N. Gardener Institute Gateway to Completion (G2C) Steering Committee, 2016 – 2017*
- Complete College Georgia Learning Support Committee, Fall 2017*
- Faculty Sponsor, League of Legends University Student Organization, Spring 2015 – Spring 2017*

English Department/University of West Georgia

- Chair, First Year Writing Committee, Fall 2013 – Spring 2020*
- English Education Committee, Spring 2020-present*
- EPIC FYW Curriculum Pilot Steering Committee, Spring 2018 – 2020*
- Faculty Status Committee, Spring 2018-present*
- Search Committee, Multi-Ethnic Scholar, Fall 2017*
- Sigma Tau Delta Faculty Advisor, Fall 2014 – Fall 2016*
- First Year Writing MOOC Development Committee, Spring/Summer 2014 – Fall 2015*
- First Year Writing Lab Development Committee, Spring 2014*
- First Year Writing Handbook Selection Committee, Fall 2013*

Director of First Year Writing, Spring 2016 – Spring 2020

- Chair, FYW Funded Faculty Reading Group*
- Writing With Power (Elbow), Fall 2018*
- Teach Students to Learn (McGuire), Fall 2017*
- Engaging Ideas (Bean), Fall 2016*
- Organizer, FYW Faculty Development Workshop and Catered Lunch*
April 13, 2018: Guest Speaker Dr. Claire Major, Chair of Educational Leadership, Technology, and Policy Studies department at University of Alabama
- Organizer, Campus-Wide FYW Shared Text Colloquium*
Spring 2017: Fight Club (film); Faculty representatives: Sal Peralta (Political Science); Neema Noori (Sociology); Marie-Cecile Bertau (Psychology); Mark Hendrix (English); Student speaker: Sam Zimmerman

Organizer, FYW Workshop "Technology Issues in FYW Classroom"

Guest Speakers: David Lloyd (Online Faculty Development); Wendy Grisham (Instruction Design); Stephanie Westine (Center for Academic Success)
UWG, February 17, 2017

Organizer, "Cultivating Inquiry through Research Assignments: A Teaching Workshop"

Speaker: Andrea Baer (Librarian)
UWG, October 19 & 21, 2016

Organizer, 1102 Shared Text High Museum Field Trip

High Museum, March 5, 2016

Research, Conference on College Composition & Communication

Research in information literacy best practices, Portland, OR, May 2017

Faculty Adviser for Student Research and Conference Presentations

Publications:

Kristen Leonard: "Superiority Theory, Humor's Messianic Power, and Changing the Situation in Forrest Gump."

Published in *LURe*, Vol. 6 (2016).

Conference Presentations:

Shaquira Harvey, Achonti Stanley, Sianni Robinson:

Panel Presenters, LURe Undergraduate Research Conference, "Blues People: African American Protest Music and Literature from Gospel to Hip Hop,"
University of West Georgia, February 25, 2021.

Marisa Sorensen: "Grace Paley's Use of Humor: Revealing the Oppressed Female Position"

Presenter: LURe Undergraduate Research Conference, University of West Georgia,
April 4, 2017.

Judy Jones, Kayle Milligan, Marisa Sorensen:

Panel Presenters, Undergraduate Research Conference and LURe Release,
"Indecent Exposure: Humor in American Literature and Film," University of
West Georgia, October 27, 2016.

Anastasia Latson: "Paying the Rent: Ideology, Subjectivity, and Resistant Submission in Octavia Butler's 'Bloodchild'"

Presenter, University of North Carolina-Greensboro Graduate Conference, "The
Power of Place: Investigating the Interactions between Ideology and
Influence," Spring 2015.

Mark Hendrix: "Diffusing the Disgusting: The Power of Reclaiming Ownership in Spalding Gray's Confessional Monologues"

Presenter, National Creative Writing Conference, University of West Georgia, Spring
2015.

Wanjiku Kibanya, Destin Gordon, Courtney Arndt, Shelly Bressner, William Brown, Katherine Trial:

Panel Presenters, Undergraduate Research Conference and *LURe* Release, “Indecent Exposure: Humor in American Literature and Film,” University of West Georgia, November 12, 2015

Katie Saba, Christopher Wilson, Sheldon Hunter:

Panel Presenters, Research Day Humanities Division, “Professional & Technical Writing,” University of West Georgia, March 26, 2014.

Graduate Capstone Reader and Exam Committees

Melissa Johnson, Spring 2021
 Katherine Trial, Fall 2020
 Ashley Carroll, Fall 2020
 Katherine Trial (Chair), Fall 2018
 Emani Collins (Chair), Fall 2018
 Nathan Keener, Spring 2016
 Mark Hendrix, Spring 2016
 Lucas Chance, Summer 2016
 Anastasia Latson (Chair), Summer 2016
 Jess Bohlens, Fall 2016
 Bryan Murphy, Fall 2016
 Aubrey Wilson, Fall 2015

Additional Student Mentorship

Mentor to Matt Rood (XIDS 2100), Fall 2016
 Mentor to Mark Hendrix (ENGL 1101), Fall 2015
 Mentor to Elizabeth Wood (ENGL 1101), Fall 2013
 EGADS “Let’s Get Childish,” January 14, 2014; September 10, 2015
 EGADS “Prom Night,” February 21, 2014

Faculty Mentorship

Mentor to colleague Matt Franks, Fall 2015
 Mentor to First Year Writing instructor Ashley Dycus, Spring 2015
 Mentor to First Year Writing instructor Elizabeth Steele, Fall 2014
 Written observations of First Year Writing instructors: Matt Rood (2017),
 Mark Hendrix (2016), Crystal Shelnut (2016), Ashley Dycus (2015), Elizabeth
 Steele (2014)

Additional Service to Department

English Department Representative, Preview Day, 2014, 2017, 2019.
 Host, English Department Honors Day, Spring 2015, Spring 2014.
 Organizer, Michael and Andrea Stone Visiting Artist Series (filmmaker Zack
 Godshall), October 28, 2014
 TurnItIn e-portfolio Consultant, May 13, 2014

Louisiana State University

Contributor (photography), New Delta Review, Winter 2011 issue 2.1

Rhetoric, Writing, and Culture Program Development Committee, 2010
Advanced Composition Implementation Committee, 2009

California State University, Northridge

Writing Center Faculty Outreach Committee, 2006-2008

GRANTS

ACCESS Block Schedule BFA Cohort Grant
University of West Georgia, 2014, 2015
 First Year Writing MOOC Grant
University of West Georgia, 2014
 University Corporation Research Grant
California State University, Northridge 2007-2008
 Graduate Equity Fellowship
California State University, Northridge 2005-2006, 2006-2007

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Quality Matters Training
Designing Class Module, March 2016; Applying Rubric Module, April 2016.
 Faculty Study Group
How Learning Works, University of West Georgia, Spring 2014.
 Research and Interdisciplinary Collaboration
"Transadaptation," Louisiana State University, February 8-9, 2012.
 Research and Interdisciplinary Collaboration
"The Modern Rhetoric Project," University of Minnesota, May 27, 2010.
 Teaching Associate Program
Dr. Irene Clark, Director of Rhetoric and Composition, California State University Northridge, Spring 2006 – Fall 2007
 Research Assistant
Dr. Irene Clark, Director of Rhetoric and Composition, California State University Northridge, Spring 2007 – Fall 2008.

MEMBERSHIPS

Rhetoric Society of America
 Modern Language Association
 South Central Modern Language Association
 American Humor Studies Association
 National Council of Teachers of English
 American Association of University Professors
 United Campus Workers of Georgia Local 3265

REFERENCES

Chad Davidson, Director of the School of the Arts, University of West Georgia
 David Newton, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, University of West Georgia
 Meg Pearson, Dean of University College, University of West Georgia
 Brooke Rollins, English Department, Lehigh University