



Ph.D. Program in Composition and Rhetoric

Department of English | University of Wisconsin - Madison

An interdisciplinary approach to rhetoric and the teaching of writing

Since 1991, the stand-alone and interdisciplinary doctoral program in Composition and Rhetoric at the University of Wisconsin – Madison has provided graduate students with an outstanding education in issues and problems within rhetoric, language, literacy, and learning. Our faculty is committed to working with a diverse group of students on developing excellence in scholarship, teaching, and professional activism.

Course Offerings Include:

- Discourse and Social Interaction
- History and Theory of Rhetoric
- Race, Ethnicity, Rhetoric
- Research Methods
- Visual Rhetoric

Students in Composition and Rhetoric also have the opportunity to seek out a number of **professional development opportunities**, including **WPA Administration, W-A-C Administration, and Writing Center Teaching and Administration.**



“At UW, I was encouraged to ask big, daring questions about how writing works in the world. I tested out my ideas in field sites, communities, classrooms, and writing programs--guided at each step by thoughtful faculty mentors. As a new faculty member, doing independent research and teaching grad and undergrad classes, I draw from this scholarly training each day. What is writing? And how and why does it matter? The comp/rhet community at UW is passionately committed to these questions.”

Kate Vieira
Assistant Professor
English and Writing Studies
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign



Applications for admission are due December 15.



For more information, scan this image with your smartphone, or write to Professor Michael Bernard-Donals at mbernarddon@wisc.edu



Admitted students are offered **financial support** in the form of **teaching assistantships, a tuition fee waiver, health insurance, and fellowship opportunities.**

Faculty

Michael
Bernard-Donals



Selected Publications:
Forgetful Memory: Representation and Remembrance After Auschwitz
"Synecdochic Memory at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum"

In my research and teaching, I'm interested in what rhetoric is and, more importantly, what it does. I take up this question from a number of different perspectives: the relation between rhetoric and ethics, how memory (and forgetfulness) inform what we can say (and what we can't), how materiality and the body are insinuated in the fabric of discourse, and the relation of the western tradition to other traditions of rhetoric, among others.

Christa
Olson



Selected Publications:
"Performing Embodiable Topoi: Strategic Indigeneity and the Incorporation of Ecuadorian National Identity"
"Casta Painting and the Rhetorical Body"

I study rhetoric in many forms (from spoken language to digital images) and contexts (from ancient Greece to post-colonial Latin America). My academic and professional background is in the arts, and I'm particularly interested in how visual cultures shape arguments about public identity. I teach and do research in visual rhetoric, historical methods, public theory & democracy, rhetorical history, and transnationalism. cjolson6@wisc.edu

Jim Brown



Selected Publications:
"Essay's Ethos: Rethinking Textual Origins and Intellectual Property"; "Speech Hacks"
Composition in the Dromosphe (forthcoming)

I am interested in how digital technologies call for new theories of rhetoric and writing. I am especially interested in thinking of software with the tools of rhetorical theory and composition. I see computer programming as a form of writing and argument, and I think the discipline of Rhetoric and Composition can be part of a discussion about the ethical, rhetorical, and cultural implications of software. I teach courses in both the English Department and the Digital Studies Program. brownjr@wisc.edu

Cecilia Ford



Selected Publications:
Sound Patterns in Interaction
The Language of Turn and Sequence Grammar in Interaction
Women Speaking Up: Getting and Using Turns in Workplace Meetings, Ed.

I am particularly fascinated with the architecture of turns at talk and how humans collaborate and improvise in social interaction, using contingent practices including grammar, sound production, and physical orientations (gesture, gaze, body position). In my recent work with the NSF-funded Women in Science and Engineering Leadership Institute at the University of Wisconsin, I have used conversation analysis for applied and feminist ends. Among the courses I teach are Discourse Analysis, English in Interaction, Gender and Language, Discourse and Institutions, and Language and the Body. ceford@wisc.edu

Morris
Young



Author of *Minor Re/Visions: Asian American Literacy Narratives as a Rhetoric of Citizenship*

My research and teaching focus on composition and rhetoric, literacy studies, and Asian American literature and culture. In particular, I'm interested in the uses of rhetoric and literacy within communities of color and other culturally-arranged groups as a means of identity construction, political work, and community expression. myoung4@wisc.edu

Brad
Hughes



Co-author, "Preparing Faculty, Professionalizing Fellows: Keys to Success with Undergraduate Writing Fellows in WAC," *WAC Journal*; co-author, "What They Take with Them: Findings from the Peer Writing Tutor Alumni Research Project," *The Writing Center Journal*.

I am interested in the multiple ways that writing centers--aggressively cross-curricular writing centers--can support a strong culture of writing across a campus. And I'm interested in helping prepare new generations of innovative writing center and WAC leaders. bthughes@wisc.edu

Brad is the Director of the Writing Center
& the Writing-Across-the-Curriculum Program

You may also visit us at:

<http://www.english.wisc.edu/graduate/programs/compRhet>

