

Kimberly M. De Vries

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Education

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA. 1992-2002
MA English, 1995
PhD, Concentration in Composition and Rhetoric, 2002

Colgate University, Hamilton, NY
1986-1989
BA in English, 1989.

Dissertation

Title: *Teaching to Their Strengths: Multiple Intelligence Theory in the College Writing Classroom.*

Director: Peter Elbow, Professor Emeritus of English, University of Massachusetts

Readers: John Nelson, Professor of English and Director, Professional Writing and Technical Communication Program, University of Massachusetts
Professor W. Richards Adrion, Co-director of the The Research in Presentation Production for Learning Electronically project (RIPPLES), University of Massachusetts

Research Interests

- Composition theory and pedagogy
- Rhetorical analysis of borders and boundaries
- Online Communities and Social Networks
- Identity studies
- Teaching with Technology
- Comparative Media studies

Teaching Experience

Assistant Professor of English

California State University Stanislaus, Fall 2005-Present

First Year Composition (Computer Assisted Instruction) ENGL 1002

A writing workshop for first year students. From Spring 2005 until the present, the course

has been themed around issues of online identity and community, and in Fall 2007 was tested as a fully online course.

First Year Experience Seminar *MDIS 1040*

A seminar designed to help students in the First Year Experience community practice crucial skills such as stress, time, and financial management; critical reading and thinking; learn about campus resources; and to reflect on their own experiences and goals as they find their places in the campus community. Co-taught with Betsy Eudey.

Teaching Composition and Literature *ENGL 5894*

Graduate students are taught to apply composition and educational theories in their own classrooms. A particular focus is teaching with technology. They learn to design syllabi and assignments, methods for responding to and evaluating student work, how to manage a classroom, and so forth.

Practicum in Teaching Composition and Literature *ENGL 5884*

Graduate teaching associates enroll in this practicum in order to receive mentoring during their first semester of teaching, and beyond if they choose. Weekly discussions focus on translating the skills and theories acquired through coursework into real teaching.

Non-Western Rhetoric *ENGL 5010*

Survey of primary texts and criticism of Chinese, Indian, and Persian/Arabic rhetorical traditions, from the classical to the contemporary. Graduate students also created a class Wiki covering these texts which is now a scholarly resource.

Assessment in Writing *ENGL 5020*

A graduate seminar introducing students to methods and theories of assessment, this class required research papers and an oral presentation. In Fall 2005 students conducted research projects involving local schools and colleges, assessment activities at CSU Stanislaus.

History and Research Methods in Composition and Rhetoric *ENGL 5001*

A graduate seminar that offers a broad historical survey of theories and methods in rhetoric and composition. In particular we followed the development of the major theoretical strands still prevalent today and comparison was made to some non-Western traditions.

Thesis/Intern/Independent Study advisor *ENGL 4960/5941/5940/5960/5890/7005*

Undergraduate and Graduate students pursue individual research projects they have developed with my advice. Weekly meetings and writing culminating in a paper or thesis. Topics have included teaching with technology and addressing diversity in the composition classroom.

Lecturer in the Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2001 — Spring 2005

Spinning Science: The Use of Science and Scientists in Public Debate

Introductory workshop covering written, oral, and visual technical communication, including basic web design. Themed around science and public policy, students explored debate around climate change, stem cell research, GMO crops and other issues of their choice.

Imagined Worlds: Creating Identities in Speculative Fictions

Introductory workshop focusing on the personal essay, themed around science fiction and cultural/gender identity. Authors included Samuel Delany, Larissa Lai, Warren Ellis, and Hayao Miyazaki.

Professional Communication in Technical Organizations

Advanced workshop covering written, oral, and visual technical communication, including web design. Taught in the context of ethical questions about and intellectual history of Western science.

Advanced System Engineering Writing Practicum

Course for upper level students in Computer Engineering, focus on advanced topics such as grant proposals and design reports.

Science & Engineering Writing for Phase II

Seminar for students who need to complete the upper level writing requirement, focused on writing and rhetorical issues in each student's discipline. Additional work on oral presentations.

Thesis Advisor

Senior thesis advisor in the Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies, Master's thesis advisor in Comparative Media Studies.

- “The Role of Traditional Medicine in Chinese and Chinese American Cultural Identity,” Jennifer To, BA. June 2004.
- “Mask and Closet, or, 'Under the Hood': Metaphors and Representations of Homosexuality in American Superhero Comics After 1985,” Susannah Mandel, MS Sept. 2003.

Communication Intensive Courses in the Department of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences

Observational Techniques of Optical Astronomy

Taught communication skills in an Astronomy lab class, co-edited a lab manual, and supervised graduate writing TAs.

Weather and Climate Laboratory

Worked with faculty to better integrate writing activities to a laboratory class, and assisted

faculty in developing writing assessment methods.

Senior Thesis workshop

Worked with undergraduates in a thesis preparation seminar/thesis writing sequence in which they produced literature reviews for and papers on original research.

Course Designer for Projects MANIC/RIPPLES

University of Massachusetts, 1999--2001

Research associate in the Department of Computer Science, created online course material for three different classes using HTML, JavaScript, PhotoShop, and in-house software tools; also responsible for print and online documentation, and demonstrations at conferences.

Introduction to Technical Writing

Created an online tutorial for advanced undergraduates and beginning graduate students. The tutorial introduced scientists and professionals to basic tenets of technical communication, including rhetoric, ethics, and design.

Ideal Worlds: Writers Entranced by Imperfection

An introductory literature class taught in the English Dept. using Literature of the Fantastic to interrogate visions of more desirable realities in terms of race, gender, class, and post-industrialism. On-line material was combined with a live class to explore the work of authors such as Tolkien, Delany, Gaiman, and Borges.

Technical Writing

Collaborated with instructor to produce on-line material for a Junior-year writing class for Engineering students, a course aimed at introducing advanced undergraduates to the professional discourse of their chosen field.

Course Designer for Projects MANIC/RIPPLES

University of Massachusetts, 1999--2001

As part of a research group in the Department of Computer Science, created online course material for three different classes using HTML, JavaScript, PhotoShop, Real Producer and in-house software tools; additionally responsible for print and online documentation, and demonstrations at conferences.

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Created an online tutorial for advanced undergraduates and beginning graduate students. The tutorial was designed to introduce scientists and professionals to basic tenets of technical communication, including rhetoric, ethics, and design.

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Collaborated with instructor to produce on-line material for a Junior-year writing class for Engineering students, a course aimed at introducing advanced undergraduates to the professional discourse of their chosen field.

Instructor for the Department of English

University of Massachusetts, 1992--2001

First Year Composition

University of Massachusetts Amherst. First year course to improving writing, facility with academic discourse, and rhetorical sophistication through drafting, peer work, publication, and individual student conferences. Taught several semesters in computer labs and in residential programs.

Introduction to Shakespeare

Worked primarily with English majors to demonstrate the range of critical methods that might be applied to Shakespeare's work and the modes of discourse practiced in the field.

Literature and Society: Writing Our Lives

Explored how authors such as Webb, Silko, and Braithwaite used fictional autobiography to question social constructions of gender, class, and race, in a class designed to fulfill General Education diversity requirements.

Expository Writing

Taught advanced undergraduates and lifelong learning students through a focus on real documents they needed to write, such as cover letters, book proposals, and technical articles. Received Certificate of Appreciation.

Refereed Publications

- "Writing Wonder Women: How Playful Resistance Leads to Sustained Authorial Participation at Sequential Tart," Forthcoming in *Writing and the Digital Generation*, Heather Urbanski ed., McFarland, 2009.
- "Bridges or Breaches? Thoughts on how people use blogs in China" in *International Blogging*, Russell, Adrienne and Nabil Echachaibi eds., forthcoming, Peter Lang, 2008.
- "Desire, Dissent and Differentiation: Sustaining Growth in Virtual Networks," *New Network Theory Reader*, Summer 2007. Institute of Network Cultures/University of Amsterdam.
- "Sharing the Language of Power: Turning Silent Resistance into Voiced Response in First Year Composition," *Faculty Voices* Fall 2006.

- “A Tart Point of View: Building a Community of Resistance Online,” Under review.
- “Writing 'Clearly': Differing Perceptions of Clarity in Chinese and American Texts,” *Proceedings of the International Symposium on Contrastive and Translation Studies Between Chinese and English, 2002*. East China Normal University, Shanghai, PRC.
- “Challenges and Solutions to Creating and Delivering Multimedia Content for Asynchronous Courses,” *Proceedings, IASTED International Conference on Computers and Advanced Technology in Education (CATE 2001)* (ACTA Press, Banff, Alberta, Canada, June 2001). De Vries, Thampuran.
- “MANIC: An Open-Source System to Create and Deliver Courses over the Internet,” *Proceedings, 2001 Symposium On Applications and the Internet* (IEEE Computer Society Press) (San Diego, Calif., USA, Jan. 2001). Schapira, De Vries, Martin.
- “Seeing Texts, Writing the World,” *Textual Studies in Canada*, Volume 10/11.

Courses Published:

- *Introduction to Technical Communication*, MIT OpenCourseware, Fall 2002. Available at: <http://ocw.mit.edu/OcwWeb/Writing-and-Humanistic-Studies/21W-732-2Intro-to-Tech-CommunicationFall2002/CourseHome/index.htm> .
- *Introduction to Technical Writing*, UMass/RIPPLES, 1999. Available at: <http://www-aml.cs.umass.edu/~itw/itwhome.html>

Academic Handbooks and Manuals:

- *Observational Techniques of Optical Astronomy Lab Manual*, Department of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences, MIT, Fall 2004. Co-editor.
- *Undergraduate Thesis Handbook*, Department of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences, MIT, Summer 2002. Contributing Author and Co-editor.

Other Publications:

- *Else-If-Then*, else-if-then.blogspot.com, my research blog which collects my notes, drafts, and other writing related to my work and research, from June 2007-present.
- *Exterminating Angel Press*, www.exterminatingangel.com , a monthly journal focusing on “mutuality over hierarchy and equity over power.” Staff Writer contributing monthly articles on writing, higher education, community design, and other topics of shared interest.
- *Sequential Tart*, www.sequentialtart.com. Publishing articles on comic books, film, and pop culture monthly, from 1999-present. Staff Writer.

- Review of *Education in China Since 1976*, by Xiufang Wang. In *China Information*, Vol. 18, no. 3, 2004.
- Review of *Education in the New China: Shaping Ideas at Work*, by Yvonne Turner and Amy Acker. In *China Information*, Vol. 18, no. 1, 2004.
- Review of *Floating Lives: The Media and Asian Diasporas*, Editors: Cunningham, Stuart and Sinclair, John. *American Communication Journal*, Vol. 6 Issue 1, 2002.
- *Zhong Mei Dui Xie Zuo Xing Xi Dou de Ren Shi Cha Yi*. ("Differences in Understanding Between China and the US Regarding Clarity in Writing"). *East West Forum*, September 2002. — Condensed and translated into Chinese with help from Li Lu and Newton X. Liu

Invited Talks

- "The Evolution of Wonder Women" for the De Geuzen Foundation for Multi-visual Research, *Female Icons* Series, January 2008. Webcast archived at http://www.geuzen.org/female_icons/?p=448

Conference Presentations

- "Your Friend has just tackled you. Bite, lick, or tackle them back, or click here to theorize about what this all means': Adventures of an Academic on Facebook" IFIP WG 9.5 International Working Conference on Virtuality and Society: Massive Virtual Communities. Leuphana University, Lüneburg, Germany, July 1-2, 2008.
- "Let's Pretend," Communication and Digital Culture Area of the Popular Culture/American Culture (PCA/ACA) Conference, San Francisco, California, March 19 – 22, 2008.
- "Coding Reality: From the Spells of Neil Gaiman to the Programs of Second Life," Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts, 21st Annual Conference, Portland, ME. Nov. 1-4, 2007
- "Desire, Dissent, and Differentiation: Sustaining Growth in Virtual Networks," New Network Theory Conference, Amsterdam, NL. June 28-30, 2007.
- "Liminal Myths: heroes of the fin de siecle in the work of Neil Gaiman," PCA/ACA 2007 National Conference, Boston MA. April 4 - 7, 2007.
- "Mapping the Reel China: Identity, Authenticity, and Authority in Chinese Film," *Empire 2: Borders, Borderlands, & Border Cultures*, March 17-18, 2006. CSU Stanislaus.

- “Virtual Communities, New Identities: Blogs, Boards, and Webring as a Source of Ethnic Empowerment and Change,” National Association for Ethnic Studies 34th Annual Conference, March 30-April 1, 2006. San Francisco, CA.
- “Composing in the Techno-Meritocracy,” Conference on College Composition and Communication, March 16-19, 2005. San Francisco, CA.
- “Local Classrooms, Global Rhetorics,” 10th Biennial UNH Composition Studies Conference, October 15-16, 2004. University of New Hampshire, Durham.
- “What is your favorite food/music/film?” Marking identity in virtual intercultural communication,” The 9th International Conference on Cross-Cultural Communication Studies, July 22-26, 2003. California State University Fullerton.
- “From Shang Chi to “Same Difference”: Evolving Asian Identities in the Comic Book Industry,” The 11th Annual Comic Arts Conference, July 17-20, 2003. Held annually as part of Comic-Con International, San Diego, CA.
- “What do you mean?!: Writing Across and Within the Cultural Expectations of China and the United States,” Conference of College Composition and Communication, March 4-9, 2003. New York, NY.
- “Virtual Communities, Resistant Voices: Women's Online Magazines as a Source of Empowerment and Change,” Symposium, Gender and ICT: Where are We At? January 17, 2003. University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, NL.
- “Writing “Clearly”: Differing Perceptions of Clarity in Chinese and American Texts,” International Symposium on Contrastive and Translation Studies Between Chinese and English, August 7-11, 2002. East China Normal University, Shanghai, PRC.
- “‘Just Tell Them You're Chinese’: Cultural Stereotypes and Reception of Academic Discourse,” Knowledge and Discourse 2, June 25-29, 2002. University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, PRC.
- “A Tart Point of View: Building a Community of Resistance Online,” Media in Transition 2: Convergence, May 10-12, 2002. MIT, Cambridge, MA.
- “Challenges and Solutions to Creating and Delivering Multimedia Content for Asynchronous Courses,” De Vries, Thampuran. IASTED International Conference on Computers and Advanced Technology in Education (CATE 2001), June 27-29, 2001 in Banff, Alberta, Canada.
- “MANIC: An open-source system to create and deliver courses over the Internet,” Schapira, De Vries, Martin. First International Workshop on Internet Supported Education (WISE 2001). San Diego, CA, January 2001

- “Clear, Explicit Prose—Universal Truth or Cultural Bias?” Writing Across the Curriculum 4th Annual Conference. Cornell University, June 1999.
- “Teaching With Technology: Stories From the Front/Online,” Conference on College Composition and Communication, Chicago, IL, 1998.
- “Seeing Texts, Writing the World,” Conference on College Composition and Communication, Phoenix, AZ, 1997.
- “Stylistic Clues to Visual Thought in Advanced Writers: Experimental Methods” Conference on College Composition and Communication, Milwaukee, WI, 1996.
- “Challenging Lexical Primacy in a Multi-Literate World,” Conference on College Composition and Communication, Washington, DC, 1995.

Grants

NEH Faculty Humanities Workshops/Digital Humanities Initiative: "Bringing Digital Humanities into Mainstream Culture"

Submitted September 17, 2007.

Served as Primary Investigator on a proposal to support a series of eight digital humanities workshops for twenty participants, facilitated by visiting scholars who are expert in various aspects of digital humanities work. This proposal is still under consideration.

American Philosophical Society Franklin Research Grant: "Institutionalization of Knowledge and Discourse: The Case of New Media"

Submitted October 1, 2007. I requested funding to support several trips to the Netherlands in order to conduct interviews and institutional observations in order to understand how the New Media field is being transformed from an open, interdisciplinary arena in which anyone may speak to a more traditional academic discipline with its own canon, discursive practice, and gate-keeping mechanisms. This proposal is still under consideration.

NEH Digital Start-Up Program: "Center for Technology, Culture Communication and Design"

Submitted May 4, 2007. Served as Co-Investigator on a proposal to develop a center that would support study and instruction in new media. Further, a low cost wireless mesh network was proposed to make the materials developed more accessible to our local community. This project was not funded, but I was encouraged to revise and resubmit, which I plan to do in Spring 08.

Provost's Special Funding

Awarded May 2007. I requested and received funding from the Provost to cover summer travel to two conferences and some research in the Netherlands during summer 2007.

Dean's Teaching Initiative Grant

Awarded May 2007. I received \$350 from Dean Jaasma to cover the purchase of books and the production of photocopies in order to run a workshop/colloquium on teaching with and about New

Media in 2007/2008.

NEA Learning and Leadership Grant: "Research of Best Practices in Teaching New Media."
Submitted February 1, 2007. I requested funding to support travel to and research on New Media programs in the Netherlands, with a particular focus on those that blended theory, practice, and social activism. This proposal was not funded.

Research and Creative Activity Grant

Awarded November 2006. I received \$1340 to publish *Raising Our Voices* a journal collecting the best essays from the Composition Program. We have been collecting essays and expect to publish the first issue in Spring 2008.

Leadership Experience

Lead for Technology and Culture working group

CSU Stanislaus, June 2006–Present

- Organize meetings of participating faculty
- Develop community connections
- Research best practices and programs at other institutions
- Identify funding opportunities
- Collaborate on grant proposals

Co-Chair Empire: Migrations Diaspora, Networks

CSU Stanislaus, April 2007–Present

- Organize meetings of the conference committee and supervise work of members
- Recruit plenary speakers and arrange travel, accommodation, honoraria, etc.
- Create and maintain conference website
- Evaluate proposals and communicate with participants
- Facilitate publication of conference proceedings

Director of Composition

CSU Stanislaus, June 2006–Present

- Supervise composition classes in the department, from ENGL 0111 to ENGL 3009
- Train and mentor graduate TAs teaching composition
- Mentor part-time instructors
- Coordinate with First Year Programs and the Writing Center to offer appropriate numbers and levels of composition classes each term
- Supervise graduate interns
- Serve on Department and University committees

Writing Across the Curriculum Liaison for Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2002--Present

- Work with faculty to develop writing-intensive science curriculum
- Co-teach writing intensive courses with science faculty

- Assist in creation of an undergraduate thesis workshop and writing guide
- Train graduate TAs

Service At CSU Stanislaus

Chair, English Department Faculty Search Committee *Fall 2007--Present*

Organized meetings of the search committee for a position in professional/creative writing, evaluated candidates, developed interview questions and procedures, conducted phone interviews, made periodic reports to the department about the progress of the search and organized campus visits.

College of Humanities and Social Sciences Film/TV Ad Hoc Committee *Fall 2007--Present*

Member of a group tasked to develop a new major in Film, TV, and New Media

English Department Faculty Search Committee *Fall 2006--Spring 2007*

Evaluated candidates for a position in composition/rhetoric; conducted interviews at the MLA conference in 2006, assisted in organizing campus visits.

English Department Composition Committee *Fall 2005--Present*

This committee observes and evaluates current graduate TAs, part-time instructors and visiting lecturers and evaluates applications for these positions, then making recommendations to the Chair for new and continuing hires. Evaluates requests from other colleges for articulation agreements, works with other faculty to strengthen the connection between upper and lower division writing classes.

University Writing Committee *Fall 2006--Present*

Member

University Committee on Successful Remediation *Spring 2005--Present*

Member

Assessment committee, English Department *Fall 2005--Spring 2006*

Member

Phi Kappa Phi Graduate School Information Event *Fall 2005*

Participant

Contented Acres Community Liaison *Fall 2006--Present*

Organized faculty and communicated with the Contented Acres Produce organic farm in Gustine to establish a local weekly drop-off. Now working on including members from the larger Turlock/Modesto area and on producing a flyer for the New Faculty Orientation.

Service at MIT

Presentations to Writing Program Faculty

Made informal presentation to faculty on the rhetorical practices of international and ESL students, and on incorporating technology in their classes as part of biannual workshops.

Grant Writing

Collaborated with colleagues in the Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies, MIT, on writing grants to support professional development in the First-Year Writing Program. This included proposals to the Dean of the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences at MIT and to the Fund for the Improvement of Post-secondary Education (FIPSE).

Committee Member

Goetze Award for Undergraduate Research committee, Dept. of Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences, MIT 2002-present.

The committee selects the best undergraduate thesis for a departmental award.

Consulting Editor

International and Intercultural Communication Annual, vol. 27, 2004; "Dialogue Among Diversities."

Professional Memberships

- Modern Language Association
- National Council for Teachers of English
- Popular Culture Association
- Association of Internet Researchers
- Science Fiction Research Association
- Society for Literature, Science and the Arts
- Association for Chinese Communication Studies

References

Betsy Eudey Ph.D., Director of Gender Studies, *CSU Stanislaus*, Turlock, CA 95382; (209) 664-6673; beudey@csustan.edu .

Mark Thompson Ph.D., Chair, English Department, *CSU Stanislaus*, Turlock, CA 95382; (209) 667-3591; mthompson@csustan.edu .

Peter Elbow Ph.D., Professor Emeritus Department of English, Bartlett Hall, *University of Massachusetts*, Amherst, MA 01003; (413)545-5460; elbow@english.umass.edu .

Anthony Lioi Ph.D., Assistant Professor Liberal Arts Interdivision, *The Juilliard School*, 60

Lincoln Center Plaza, New York, NY 10023; alioi@juilliard.edu .