

ELIZABETH ROBERTSON

curriculum vitae

Department of English
Drake University
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EDUCATION

- 1982 Ph.D. in English, University of Iowa
1972 M.A. in English, Northwestern University
1970 B.A. in English and Music, College of Wooster

Major Areas: Medieval Language and Literature, Myth Theory and Archetypes,
Teaching of Writing and Composition Theory

Dissertation: Representations of "the word": Essays on Myth and Mythopoesis

Languages: Greek, Latin, Old and Middle English, Old Norse, French, Swedish

POSITIONS

- 2000-01 Fulbright Professor. American Literature and Civilization, National
University of Benin, Benin, West Africa
2000- Associate Professor of English, Drake University
1987- Assistant Professor of English, Drake University
1987- Director of Writing, Director of Writing Workshop, Drake University
1991-92 Visiting Professor of English, Institut Teknologi Mara, Malaysia
1982-86 Assistant Professor of Rhetoric and English, University of Iowa
1976-82 Teaching Assistant, University of Iowa

SCHOLARSHIP

Book

Teaching College Students to Read Analytically: An Individualized Approach.
Co-authored with Jan Cooper and Rick Evans. Urbana, IL: National
Council of Teachers of English, 1985.

Essays in Refereed Journals

" Culture as Catalyst and Constraint: Toward a New Perspective On Difference."
With Bruce Martin, College English (Spring, 2000)

"Life Writing as a Social Act." With Min-Zhan Lu. College Composition and Communication (Winter 1999).

"Aristotle's Poetics and the Plot of the Iliad." With Theodore Stroud. Classical World 89.3 (1996): 179-196.

"Immigrant." North Dakota Quarterly Volume 62, Number 4 (1994-95): 132-139.

"Moving from Expressive to Academic Discourse." The Writing Center Journal Volume IX, No. 1 (1988): 21-28.

Essays in Non-refereed Journals

"On Writing a Travel Essay: Malaysia, 1991." Grand Tour, The Journal of Travel Literature. Volume II, Issue 1 (Winter 1997): 43-59.

"Ethiopia—1975." Iowa Woman, Summer 1992. 6-14.

Reprinted in Fifteen Years: A Retrospective Anthology, Iowa Woman. Iowa City, Iowa: Iowa Woman, 1995.

"Response and Recollection: Excerpts from a Literature Course Journal." Iowa English Bulletin, Spring, 1981: 8-17.

Conference Papers

NATIONAL (Refereed)

"Tilling Ground that is Not Ours: Letters from Benin" Conference on College Composition and Communication, San Antonio, Texas, March, 2004

"Postcolonial Theory and the Composition Classroom." Conference on Composition and Communication. Atlanta, Georgia, 1999.

"Crossing the Continental Divide: Travel Essay as Form and Metaphor." Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, 1998.

"Cultural Conflict, Cultural Constraints." Conference on College Composition and Communication. Washington, DC, March 1995.

"A Critical Pedagogy for Teaching Writing Abroad." Conference on College Composition and Communication. Nashville, TN, March 1994.

"Turning Writers into Readers: The Enabling Process." Conference on College Composition and Communication. Minneapolis, MN, 1985.

"Developing a Sense of Self as Reader: An Individualized Reading Course for Basic Writing Student." Conference on College Composition and Communication. Detroit, 1983.

"How Do Students "Read" Their Teachers: Commenting on Student Papers."
Iowa College College Composition and Communication. San Francisco,
1982.

"Serving the Needs of the Individual in the Composition Class."
Conference on College Composition and Communication. Dallas, TX,
1981.

"Writing: The Course Content for Teaching Learners and Learning
Teachers." Conference on College Composition and Communication.
Denver, 1978.

REGIONAL (non-refereed)

"Issues for Writing Program Administrators." Iowa Council of Teachers of
English. Des Moines, IA, Oct 1993.

"Somerset Maugham's The Malaysian Stories: Domesticity, Exotica and
the Colonial Presence." Iowa Council of Teachers of English. Des
Moines, IA, Oct 1993.

"Writing Across the Curriculum: Institutional Resistance and Change." Iowa
Council of Teachers of English, 1990.

"What's Really Basic about the Basic Writing Course." Iowa Council of
Teachers of English, 1989.

"Writing Program Issues at Drake." Iowa Council of Teachers of English.
Cedar Falls, IA, Fall 1988.

"Ritual and Inquiry in the Teaching of Writing." Iowa Council of
Teachers of English. Cedar Falls, IA, Fall 1988

"Re-reading, Re-writing: Working Toward Re-vision." North Central Reading
Association. Minneapolis, MN, Oct 1993. Council of Teachers of English,
Fall 1987.

"Testing and Teaching for Competency: A Model Reading Test. North
Central Reading Association Conference, Notre Dame, IN, Oct 1986.

"A Writing Lab Course for the Underprepared." Midwest Writing Center
Conference. Iowa City, Oct 1983.

"A Covenantal Relationship with Nature in Faulkner's "Delta Autumn." Lilly
Foundation Workshop for the Liberal Arts. Colorado Springs, CO, 1983.

"Adapting Sequences for Individual Writers." Iowa Council of Teachers
of English. Ames, IA, Oct 1982.

"Writing as Learning in the Literature Class." Iowa Council of Teachers
of English. Ankeny, IA, 1981.

"Ekphrasis in 'The Golden Targe.'" MidAmerica Medieval Association
Conference. Emporia, KS, 1980.

"Sequenced Writing in the Freshman Course." National Endowment for the Humanities Institute on Writing, Iowa City, IA, Spring, 1979.

"The Learner-Teacher Dialogue in the Writing Lab." Iowa Council of Teachers of English. Cedar Rapids, IA, 1979.

LOCAL (non-refereed)--all presentations invited

"Immigrant." Invited Benefit Reading for Iowa Woman. {Iowa City, Iowa} Nov 1992.

"Error Analysis in the ESL Classroom." Institut Teknologi Mara at Shah Alam, lecture series for ESL faculty, spring, 1992. Shah Alam, Malaysia

"Reading for Multiple Perspectives: Theory and Applications." Insitut Teknologi Mara at Shah Alam research and teaching lecture series, fall, 1991. Shah Alam, Malaysia.

"Writing Across Cultures: The Mythic Past and the (Post)Colonial Present." Drake University Writers and Critics lecture series. Dec 1990.

Grants

Fulbright Fellowship, Benin, 2000-2001

Drake University Humanities Center Grant, "Teaching Writing in Malaysia," 1993

Sears Roebuck Foundation Grant, Writing Across the Curriculum Summer Seminar, 1990-91

Drake University Center for the Humanities Grant, "Summer Study Seminar," 1989

TEACHING

Courses taught at Drake

English 001: Freshman Seminar in Reading and Writing

English 001: Intensive English I (for underprepared students)

English 001: First Year Seminar: Ethnographic Writing

Reading Culture

Language Awareness

Debating Democracy: Reacting to the Past: the French Revolution (1791) and India on the Eve of Independence

Athens and Democracy; Confucianism and the

Succession Crisis of the Wan Li Emperor, South Africa

Engaged Citizen: INTD 1085: French Revolution/ South Africa and Apartheid (1984)

English 15: Writing Tutorial

English 60: Intro to Literary Study

English 61: Writing Seminar: Vision and Re-Vision

English 99: Reading and Writing the Travel Essay

English 102: Structure of Modern American English

English 108: History of the English Language

English 109: Prose Stylistics: Analysis and Applications (honors course)

English 111: Reading and Writing the Personal Essay

English 117: Expository and Persuasive Prose (old numbering system)
English 130: British Domestic Novel of the 19th Century
English 131: Major Figures: Willa Cather
English 133: Theories of Myths and Archetypes
English 142: Reading Early English Texts
English 171: Teaching Writing: Theory and Applications
English 172: Teaching Tutorial Writing
English 173: Literary and Critical Theory
English 174: Friendship and Marriage in the 19th-Century Novel
English 175: Topics in Authorship: Jane Austen; Willa Cather and Her Contemporaries
English 175: Romance, Courtly Love and the Medieval Love Lyric
English 196: Writing Portfolio for Senior Writing Majors
English 202: Graduate Seminar in Theories of Writing and Writing Pedagogy

Independent studies taught at Drake (sample topics)

Elementary Greek
Teaching Freshman Writing
Writing Lab Pedagogy/Research
Sequential Approaches to Teaching Writing
Advanced Expository Writing
Reading Travel Writing/ Travel Essay
Readings in Arthurian Literature

SERVICE

Profession

Adel Public Library Humanities Series, Lecture and Workshop, "How to Get Started as a Writer," Adel, Ia., 1999.

Iowa Humanities Series Lecture, "Landscape in Literature," Knoxville, IA, 1994-95

Lecturer for Public Library Iowa Humanities Grant Series, "Stranger in Our Midst," Knoxville and Des Moines, 1993

Iowa Writing Project Leader, 1988-1989

Test Consultant, Iowa Testing Program, 1987, 1991, 1992

Chair, Local Arrangements Committee, Iowa Council of Teachers of English College Section Conference, Iowa City, IA, 1984.

College Section Secretary, Iowa Council of Teachers of English, 1983-85

Writing-Across-the-Curriculum program committee, Lilly Foundation Workshop on the Liberal Arts, Colorado Springs, CO, 1983

Associate Editor, Iowa English Bulletin, 1978-82

Editorial Assistant, Iowa English Bulletin, 1977-78

University Service (Drake University)

- Promotion and Tenure Committee for World Languages Department: 2010-2011
- College Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2007-2010
- College Promotion and Tenure: Ad Hoc Committee to review Guidelines (2008)
- Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee, 2008-2010
- Critical Thinking Assessment Committee: 2007--2009
- Curriculum Committee, 2001-2003
- First Year Experience Committee, 2002-2003
- Writing Workshop Director, 1995-2000, 2002- to present
- Humanities Board, 1997-2000
- First-Year Seminar Committee, 1997-98
- General Education Committee, 1993-94
- Leader, Drake University Faculty Summer Seminar, Writing across the Curriculum, 1991
- Minorities Scholarship Committee, 1989-90
- Chair, Sheslow Prize Committee, 1989
- Faculty Advisor, Drake Interaction Group Uniting Students, 1988-89

Drake University English Department Service

- Curriculum Committee, 2008-2009; 2010-2011
- Promotion and Tenure Committee (chair) 2003-2004; 2006-2009; 2010-2011
- Director of Writing Workshop, 1995--present
- Director of Writing Program, 1987-1999
- Curriculum Committee, 1997
- Search Committee, 1989, 1990, 1995, 2002-2003
- Graduate Program Committee, 1990-91, 1993-94
- Ad Hoc Graduate Program Committee, 1993
- Undergraduate Program Committee, 1987-88, 1992-93
- Chair, Writing Committee, 1987-1991

Search Committee Co-Chair, 1987-88

Ad Hoc Committee on Hiring, 1987-88