

Stephanie Dunson, PhD

413-387-9063 / sdunson.phd@gmail.com

EDUCATION

University of Massachusetts (Amherst, MA)

MA/PhD Program in English /American Studies (1988-1990/1996-2004)

Ohio University (Athens, OH)

Master of Arts Program in English (1985-1987; credits transferred to UMass)

Ohio University (Athens, OH)

Bachelor of Arts in English and American Literature (1980-1985)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Liberal Studies Program: Wesleyan University (Middletown, CT)

Guest Lecturer (1997-present)—Courses taught:

- African-American Literature
- Grammar for Grad Students
- American Humor
- Regional Writing and the Slave Experience
- The Short Story Through Imitation
- Elements & Tradition of American Dissent

Office of Writing Programs: Williams College (Williamstown, MA)

Undergraduate Workshop*/ Faculty Seminar** (July 2010-August 2019)—Courses taught:

- Peer Support and the College Essay*
- Summer Training for Writing Tutors*
- Grammar Demystified*
- Reading for Speed and Substance*
- Arguing from the Margins*
- Writing to Explore Visual Texts*
- Deep Research and the Senior Thesis*
- How Watching ESPN Can Improve Your Writing*
- Writing in the Real World*
- Effective Strategies for College Reading*
- Writing Med School Application Essay*
- Writing for Law School Admission*
- Teaching Writing in the Sciences**
- Balancing Scholarship and Teaching**
- Using Writing to Improve Class Discussion**
- Responding to Student Writing**
- Improving Student Research **
- Framing Meaningful Assignments**
- Symposium on Writing Pedagogy**
- Demystifying the Manuscript Proposal**
- Effective Course Planning**
- Syllabus Design**

English Department: University of Rhode Island (Kingston, RI)

Asst. Professor of African-American Literature and American Culture (July 2004-June 2010)—Courses taught:

- Women and Literature
- Major Readings in American Studies
- African American Fiction
- Ethnic Humor
- Mainstream/Margin in American Literature
- Writing in the Discipline
- The Short Story
- Major Readings for Study of American Culture
- Principles of Literary Analysis
- The Graphic Novel

English Department: University of Massachusetts (Amherst, MA)

Teaching Associate (1988-1990/1998-2004)—Courses taught:

- Film and Literature
- Ethnic Literature
- Man and Woman in Literature
- Studies in Post-Modern Fiction
- Society and Literature
- Writing in Sociology
- The Legacy of Slavery in American Culture
- Popular Music and the American Experience
- Business Communication
- Technical Writing for Engineers
- Freshman Composition (under direction of Peter Elbow)

English Department: Mount Holyoke College (South Hadley, MA)

Lecturer in English/Writing Center Director (September 1993-June 1998)—Courses taught:

- Introduction to Literature
- White on Black: Race and Writing
- Reading, Writing, and Reasoning
- Understanding American Grammar
- Paradigms of Learning Math and Science
- Public Speaking

English Department: Springfield Technical Community College (Springfield, MA)

English Instructor (August 1990-August 1993)—Courses taught:

- Freshman Composition
- Business English
- Writing and Literature
- Technical Report Writing
- Fundamentals of Speech
- Intro to Afro-Am Literature

Summerstart/Tech Prep: Chicopee Comprehensive High School (Chicopee, MA)

Communication Skills Instructor/Program Facilitator (July 1993-August 1993)

Community College Connections Program: Smith College (Northampton, MA)

Special Program Faculty (May 1992-July 1992)

English Department: American International College (Springfield, MA)

Adjunct Instructor (January 1990-May 1990)

English Department: Ohio University (Athens, OH)

Teaching Associate (1985-1987)

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Office of Writing Programs: Williams College (Williamstown, MA)

Director of Writing Programs (July 2010-August 2019)

- Inaugurated, designed, and established the Office of Writing Programs at Williams
- Served as central faculty resource on writing-related pedagogy and course design
- Led workshops and seminars to address the expressed needs of deans, departments, faculty groups, and staff
- Designed and implemented surveys to accurately profile the institutional impact of writing-intensive courses
- Researched and developed models of assessment of student need and faculty effectiveness
- Led orientation workshops for incoming faculty
- Collaborated with library staff on campus-wide reading initiative
- Monitored on-going scholarship and research on best practices in teaching
- Proposed and monitored budgets for established and emerging Writing Program initiatives
- Advised the Dean of the College on issues related to writing and student support
- Reported to the Dean of Faculty on impact of faculty outreach directed at faculty development
- Directed the student Writing Workshop, the college's multifaceted peer-support writing resource
- Collaborated with the Office Academic Resources on reciprocal student support projects
- Advised chairs and program directors on discipline-specific writing issues
- Advised the Committee on Educational Policy on curricular initiatives and course requirements
- Reported to the Board of Trustees on of writing resources, teaching initiatives, and student performance
- Studied relevant technologies for potential application to office operations and compilation of survey data
- Collaborated with the Office of Institutional Technology on writing, teaching, and digital literacy projects
- Worked directly with individual faculty to develop the develop more efficient and effective writing practices
- Advised and supported faculty writing grant proposals
- Helped faculty position manuscripts and navigate the publication process
- Assessed the impact of over 80 writing-intensive courses offered each semester across disciplines
- Organized and led faculty writing retreats

Graduate Program in English: University of Rhode Island (Kingston, RI)

Assistant Director of Graduate Studies (August 2005-June 2006)

- Co-directed department orientation for new graduate students

- Advised MA students on department requirements and thesis writing
- Served on the Graduate Admissions Committee
- Sat on selection committee for the distribution of department grants
- Organized and supervised grad-peer mentoring
- Designed and led grad workshops on topics relating to program advancement and the dissertation process
- Arranged and conducted mock interviews for graduates entering the job market
- Launched and advised the Student Dissertation Peer Writing Group

The Writing Center: Mount Holyoke College (South Hadley, MA)

Director (September 1993-June 1998)

- Managed all administrative matters and day-to-day activities of writing center
- Recruited, selected, and trained all student Writing Assistants and Foreign Language Writing Tutors
- Supervised and provided on-going training and support for staff of thirty-five student Writing Assistants
- Advised faculty leading ESL-specific courses
- Served as program writing consultant for an NSF-funded initiative supporting innovative teaching practice among the faculty of the Five-College consortium (Mount Holyoke, Smith, Hampshire, Amherst, and UMass)
- Advised faculty and students on issues involving student composition
- Acted as writing advisor and editor for faculty working on scholarly publications
- Orchestrated and led faculty workshops on methods for writing-across-the-curriculum
- Served on curriculum, awards, diversity, hiring, and student life committees

Center for Academic Development: Smith College (Northampton, MA)

Supervisor of Tutorial Services (December 1991-August 1993): Served as the part-time supervisor of an office that provided various forms of tutorial assistance to Smith College students.

- Directed the daily efforts of a central student support office
- Recruited and trained students to serve as tutors for students in need of academic assistance
- Created and maintained contacts with the faculty and administration
- Conducted workshops in Study Skills, Test Preparation, and Time Management
- Organized study groups and specialized workshops for specific courses and departments
- Acted as office liaison to academic departments and special needs office

Office of Residential Life: Mount Holyoke College (South Hadley, MA)

Head Resident (August 1988-August 1991): Served as live-in advisor, counselor, and administrative liaison in a resident hall housing 107 undergraduate women.

Office of Admissions: Mount Holyoke College (South Hadley, MA)

Assistant Director of Admissions/Coordinator of Minority Recruitment (1987-1988)

CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

Independent Consultant (New Haven, CT)

Academic Writing Consultant/Teaching Specialist (September 2005-present)

- Lead remote and on-site workshops on writing productivity for faculty groups at colleges and universities
- Produce and host bi-weekly podcast "One Hundred Writing Mistakes Academic Writers Make...and How to Fix Them"
- Serve as individual writing coach to faculty and professional writers in New Haven, New York, and Western Massachusetts
- Act as classroom consultant and teaching advisor for Wilbur Cross High School (New Haven CT), Wilby High School (Waterbury CT), Trumbull High School (Trumbull CT), and Branford High School (Branford CT)

The Institute for Writing and Thinking: Bard College (Annandale-on-Hudson, NY)

Institute Associate/Advisory Board Member (1994-present)

- Serve as consultant for schools and faculty exploring means of improving the critical skills of students through use of writing techniques and innovative teaching strategies; lead one-day- to three-week-long workshops for students, teachers, and writers

- *Appointed faculty mentor, providing guidance and support to fellow faculty of the institute*

Academic Coaching and Writing: Online Consulting Group

Professional Academic Writing Coach (July 2018-December 2018)

- *Acted as a member of a private consulting group working remotely as writing coaches to faculty from colleges and universities across the country*
- *Maintained a client load of five to eight faculty, advising them on best practices for reaching publication goals*
- *Utilized the Zoom Conferencing platform to hold weekly video consultations with clients and group meetings with fellow coach consultants*
- *Applied online learning platforms and practices to maintain records, oversee productivity, design workplans, and provide interventions for faculty clients to assure their scholarly productivity*

PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

- *"Writing Retreat for Faculty Women." Faculty Program. George Washington University, Remote via Webex. 6-8 January 2021.*
- *"Owning Your Authority: How Valuing Your Strengths Can Make You a More Productive Scholar." Faculty Workshop, George Washington University, Remote via Webex. 13 November 2020.*
- *"Developing a Sustainable Writing Routine: Tips for Getting Writing Done in the Real World." Faculty Workshop, George Washington University, Remote via Webex. 16 October 2020.*
- *"Immersive Thinking: A New Approach to Innovative Problem Solving." Meeting of the Association for Talent Development (DC Chapter), George Mason University, Arlington VA. 13 Feb 2020.*
- *"Design Thinkers Facilitation Workshop." Design Thinkers Academy, Washington DC. 11-12 September 2019.*
- *"Teaching the Short Story Through Imitation." Writer as Reader Workshops: Discovering New Ways Into the Text, Bard College Institute for Writing and Thinking, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY. 2 Nov 2018.*
- *"Encouraging Effective Argument" (Invited Program Speaker). Annual Faculty Pedagogy Workshops, Amherst College, Amherst, MA. 21 May 2018.*
- *"Effective Approaches to the Faculty Writing Retreat" (Invited Program Consultant). Worcester Polytechnic Institute Faculty Training, Worcester, MA. 18 Oct 2017.*
- *"Demystifying the Teaching of Writing." Ninth Conference of the European Association for the Teaching of Academic Writing, Royal Holloway, University of London, Egham UK. 19 June 2017.*
- *Invited participant in Yale School of Management Interpersonal and Group Dynamics Facilitator Training Program. New Haven, CT. 22-25 Sept 2016*
- *Interviewed by Jon Jordås of Swedish Public Radio 1 for report "Swedish Culture Minister Asked to Resign For Her Role in 'Racist Spectacle' at Stockholm Museum of Modern Art" aired 24 April 2014.*
- *"Propriety and Perversion: Minstrel Sheet Music and Female Desire." New England American Studies Association Conference. Brown University, Providence, RI. 2 Nov 2007.*
- *"Transatlantic Negotiations of the Black Body in Nineteenth-Century Sheet Music." American Studies Association. Philadelphia, PA. 11 Oct 2007.*
- *"Black Representation in Nineteenth-Century Sheet Music Illustration." African Americans and the Advent of American Mass Culture: A Symposium. University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC. 5 Oct 2007.*
- *"Music Making Minstrels: Blackface Melodies in the Parlor." Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Conference. Boston, MA. 5 April 2007.*
- *"Not the 'What' But the 'How': The Problem of Methodology in the American Studies Dissertation." National Conference for the American Studies Association. Oakland, CA. 14 Oct 2006.*
- *"Great Expectations: Re-Visioning the Academic Paper." Bard College Spring Conference. Annandale-on-Hudson, NY. 21 April 2006.*
- *Interviewed by Barbara Neely for WUMB radio program Commonwealth Journal on the topic of Blackface Minstrelsy in Nineteenth-Century Massachusetts, aired 12 Feb 2006.*
- *"Passing Through Asian America: From Tin Pan Alley to 'The Matrix.'" Wellesley College, MA. 12 Oct 2004.*
- *"Misplaced Minstrels: Reading Blackface Minstral Musical Texts in Appropriate Context." Society for Textual Scholarship International Interdisciplinary Conference. New York, NY. 18 March 2004*
- *"...And the Women Wicky Wacky Woo': Tin Pan Alley and the Consumption of Asian Identity." Association for Asian American Studies National Conference. Boston, MA. 26 March 2004.*

- *“Sex, Social Commentary, and Sensationalism: The ‘Screened’ Politics of Peyton Place.”* Mid-Atlantic Popular Culture/American Culture Association Conference. Wilmington, DE. 9 Nov 2003.
- *Monte Sol Writing Workshop for High School Students.* St. John’s College, Santa Fe, NM. 5-19 July 2003.
- *“‘For One Night Only!’: Blackface Minstrelsy in Nineteenth-Century Northampton, Massachusetts.”* Dublin Seminar Conference on Slavery/Anti-Slavery in New England. Deerfield, MA. 22 June 2003.
- *“‘The Heathen Chinees’ and Other Parlor Entertainments: Depictions of Asians in American Sheet Music.”* Association for Asian American Studies National Conference. San Francisco, CA. 8 May 2003.
- *“Privileged Things and Corporeal Erasure: Trans-Performance and the Legacy of Blackface Minstrelsy.”* American Society for Theatre Research Conference. San Diego, CA. 17 Nov 2001.
- *“Family and Race in Nineteenth-Century Sheet Music.”* Northeast Popular Culture/American Studies Association Conference. Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven, CT. 3 Nov 2001.
- *“Privileging the Pantomime: Corporeal Imperialism and the Performance of Ethnic Invisibility.”* Canadian Association of American Studies Conference. Toronto, ON. 20 Oct 2001.
- *“Methods for Writing Curriculum Reform.”* Andover Academy, Andover, MA. 3 Sept 2000.
- *“Writing from the Margins: Workshop for Arguing ‘Differently’ in the Classroom.”* Warren Wilson College, Asheville, NC. 27-28 May 2000.
- *“Teaching the Conflicts: Toni Morrison’s Beloved.”* Bard College Conference on Writer as Reader. Annandale-on-Hudson, NY. 15 Nov 1999.
- *“Inquiry into Essay: The Role of Process in Expository Writing.”* Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY. 6 July 1998.
- *“‘Writing to Learn’ Workshop: Methods for Meaningful Integration of Writing Across the Curriculum.”* Western Connecticut State University, Danbury, CT. 22-24 Oct 1997.

CERTIFICATIONS

Design Thinking Facilitators Program (Design Thinkers Academy, DC)

Completed Design Thinking Facilitator’s Certification (Sept 2019)

Co-Active Coach Training Program (Co-Active Training Institute, NYC)

Completed Co-Active Coach Training Program (Jan 2019)

PUBLICATIONS AND CURRENT WRITING PROJECTS

- *“Immersive Thinking: How a Simple Technology Can Transform How Work Teams Ideate, Collaborate, and Communicate.”* (book manuscript in process).
- *“Black Representation in Nineteenth-Century Sheet Music Illustration.”* *Beyond Blackface: African Americans and the Advent of American Mass Culture.* Fitz Brundage, ed. Chapel Hill, NC: UNC Press, 2011.
- *“‘For One Night Only!’: Blackface Minstrelsy in Nineteenth-Century Northampton, Massachusetts.”* 2003 *Proceedings of the Dublin Seminar.* Peter Benes, ed.
- *“The Minstrel in the Parlor: Nineteenth-Century Sheet Music, Race, and American Domestic Identity.”* *ATQ: The American Transcendental Quarterly* 16.4 (Dec 2002), 241-256.

AWARDS

- *Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship for Minority Scholars, 2003-2004*
(The National Academies, Washington D.C.)
- *Enrollment grant for Mellon Seminar in African-American Studies, Fall 2000*
(University of Massachusetts W.E.B. DuBois Afro-American Studies Department, New Africa House)
- *University Fellowship for Graduate Study, 1988-89*
(University of Massachusetts)

(References upon request)