

DONALD W. DOW

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EDUCATION

PhD, Literatures in English, Rutgers University, 2008
MA, Literatures in English, Rutgers University, 1999
MA, English, George Mason University, 1995
BA, International Studies with a minor in Religion, College of William and Mary, 1986

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Teaching Professor, Writing Program, English Department, Rutgers University, 2015-present
Assistant Director, Writing Program, English Department, Rutgers University, 2005-2009, 2015-present
Instructor, Writing Program, English Department, Rutgers University, 2009-2015

AWARDS

Faculty Merit Award, Fall 2012 & Fall 2015, Rutgers University

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

"Academic Integrity: Addressing 'Contract Cheating' and Motivating Independent Thought," Writing Program Professional Development Series, Rutgers University, November 2018.

"Argument as Sign," Teaching Writing at Rutgers, Rutgers University, December 2017.

"Formalizing the Informal: Using Pre-Formal Writing Assignments to Enculturate Undergraduate Composition Students into Professional Discourses," panel with William Magrino and Lynda Dexheimer, New Jersey Writing Alliance, Rutgers University, May 2017.

"Love, Signs, & Struggle: Pragmatism and Teaching Nature Writing," Northeast Modern Languages Association annual conference, Baltimore, MD, March 2017.

"'Yeah, But What Do You Think?': Helping Basic Composition Students Find a Voice," with Tracy Budd, New Jersey Writing Alliance, Rutgers University, May 2010.

University of California Humanities Research Initiative (UCHRI) 4th Annual Seminar in Experimental Critical Theory (SECT IV). "Cartographies of the Theological-Political." University of California, Irvine. August 6-17, 2007

"'A Charge Transmitted and Gift Occult': Democracy, Intimacy, and the Erotics of Spirituality in *Leaves of Grass*," Intimacy/Proximity: A National Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference, Indiana University, April 2005.

“‘O Something Ecstatic and Undemonstrable’: Religion, Death, and Contingency in *Leaves of Grass*,”
“Fools by Heavenly Compulsion”: A Conference on Literary Depictions of Belief and Non-belief, Fordham University, February 2005.

“Religion, Self, and Nature: John Burroughs’s Writings on Walt Whitman,” Sharp Eyes III: John Burroughs and His Contemporaries Near and Far, SUNY Oneonta, June 2004

“Science and Wakefulness: Walt Whitman and Forrest Gander,” 13th Annual Central New York Conference on Language and Literature, SUNY Cortland, October 2003

Final conference roundtable presentation, The Traffic in Poems: Nineteenth-Century Poetry and Transatlantic Exchange, Rutgers University, September 2002

“You Shall Possess the Origin of All Poems,” Secularism, a year-long faculty and graduate program, Center for the Critical Analysis of Contemporary Culture, January 2001

Co-organizer, The Secular and the Sacred: Western and Nonwestern Contexts, 11th Annual Interdisciplinary Conference for Graduate Scholarship, Center for the Critical Analysis of Contemporary Culture, December 2000

“‘You Shall Possess the Origin of All Poems’: Whitman and the Poetics of Savagery,” In the Beginnings, Temporal, Spatial, and Textual Origins, 10th Annual Conference for Graduate Scholarship, Center for the Critical Analysis of Contemporary Culture, March 2000

“Whitman, Longfellow, and the Epic Gesture,” The Many Cultures of Walt Whitman, Rutgers University – Camden, October 1998

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSIGNMENTS

Academic Integrity Task Force, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Academic Affairs, 2017-2018

PERFORMANCES

Doctor Faustus Lights the Lights, by Gerturde Stein. Adapted, produced, and performed in. Eidolon Arts Theatre Company. Princeton, New Jersey, 2002.

The Frederick Papers. Wrote and performed in. Eidolon Arts Theatre Company. Princeton, New Jersey, 2000

“The Car of Jagganath.” Co-wrote, cast, directed, and performed in. Poetry Theatre, George Mason University. Fairfax, Virginia, 1994.

“Samantha’s Speech Remembered.” Wrote, cast, directed, and performed in. Poetry Theatre, George Mason University. Fairfax, Virginia, 1993.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Assistant Director for Business and Technical Writing Program, Rutgers University, 2018-present
Writing Program Academic Integrity Coordinator, Rutgers University, 2015-2018
Busch Campus Coordinator, Writing Program, Rutgers University, 2015-2018
Livingston Campus Writing Center Coordinator, Rutgers University, 2005-2009

TEACHING

Areas of Interest

19th and 20th Century American Literature
Ecocriticism and Nature Writing
Science Writing
Modern Poetry
Literary Theory, Pragmatism, and the Philosophy of Language
The Bible as Literature
Composition

Courses Taught

Composition

Basic Composition, Fall 2005, Fall 2009, Fall 2010, Fall 2011, Fall 2012, Fall 2013
College Writing & Research
 The Internet, Fall 2009
 The Culture of Work, Fall 2009
Expository Writing, Fall 1997, Spring & Fall 1998, Fall 2001, Fall 2002, Summer 2003, Fall 2005,
 Spring 2006, Fall 2007, Spring 2008
Preparation for College Writing – EOF Summer Institute, Summer 2008, Summer 2009, Summer 2010,
 Summer 2017
Preparation for College Writing – Rutgers Stepped-Up Bridge Program, Summer 2012
Research in the Disciplines
 The Family, Spring 2006
 Popular Culture, Spring 2007
 The Secular and the Spiritual, Spring 2009, Spring 2014, Fall 2015, Spring 2016
Science Writing, Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2013, Spring 2014, Spring 2015, Spring 2016, Spring
 2017
Scientific & Technical Writing, Spring 2010, Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2014, Spring
 2017
Writing as a Naturalist, Fall 2008, Fall 2010, Fall 2011, Fall 2012, Fall 2013, Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Fall
 2017

Literature

Principles of Literary Study – Poetry and Drama, Fall 1999, Fall 2002, Fall 2004, Spring 2005
Introduction to Literature, Fall 2001
Twentieth-Century Poetry I, Summer 2001
Twentieth-Century Poetry II, Summer 1999

GRADUATE COURSEWORK

Rutgers University

Dissertation

The Internal Differences: Secularism, Religion, and Poetic Form in Nineteenth-Century America
Michael Warner (director), Meredith McGill, Brad Evans, Virginia Jackson (outside reader),
defended September, 2008.

Qualifying Examination Fields

Historical Period: 1845-1945

Figure: William Carlos Williams

Genre: The Long Poem

Methodology: Pragmatism

Whitman and Dickinson (Virginia Jackson)

19th Century American Poetry & Poetics (Meredith McGill)

Literature of the Romantic Period (William Galperin & Adela Pinch)

Institutions of the British Enlightenment (Jonathan Kramnick)

Poetry & Pragmatism (Richard Poirier)

American Literary Women: Gertrude Stein (Catharine Stimpson)

Literary Modernism (Marcia Ian)

Teaching Writing (Kurt Spellmeyer)

George Mason University

Masters Thesis

“Vachel Lindsay and the Higher Vaudeville: Poetry in Performance”

Director: Zofia Burr

The Poetry of Witness (Carolyn Forché)

Frankfurt School (David Kaufmann)

Fantasy & the Fantastic (Amelia Rutledge)

Literary Scholarship (Barbara Melosh)

Science Fiction: Theory & Texts (Tom Moylan)

Literary Theory (Joel Foreman & Donald Lavoie)

Contemporary Poetry: Directed Readings in John Ashbery (David Kaufman)

Postwar American Poets (David Kaufmann)

Spenser (Winifred Keaney)