

Sarah L. Peters

Education

Ph.D. in English, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, 2009

Certificate in Women's Studies

Specializations in 20th century American Literature, Southern Literature and Culture, and Religion and Literature.

Dissertation: "Ambivalent Devotion: Religious Imagination in Contemporary Southern Women's Fiction." Director: David McWhirter

Master of Liberal Arts in English, Henderson State University, Arkadelphia, AR, 2003

Thesis: "The Convergence of Vengeance and Grace in Flannery O'Connor's *Everything That Rises Must Converge*." Director: Julia Hall

B.A. in English, Henderson State University, Arkadelphia, AR, 2001

Honors College Scholar

Professional Experience

August 2012-present. Assistant Professor, East Central University, Ada, OK.

August 2010-May 2012. Professor, Collin College, Plano, TX.

August 2009-August 2010. Post-Doctoral Lecturer, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.

January 2010-August 2010. Instructor, Blinn College, Bryan, TX.

August 2003-May 2005; May 2006-July 2009. Graduate Assistant-Teaching, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.

June 2005-May 2006. Editorial Assistant, World Shakespeare Bibliography, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX.

August 2001-May 2003. Graduate Assistant-Teaching and Writing Center Consultant, Henderson State University, Arkadelphia, AR.

Publications

“Solomon Northup.” *American Writers Supplement XXVII*. Ed. Jay Parini. Farmington Hills, MI: Gale, 2017. Forthcoming.

“Trauma Narratives as Rhetorical Acts: Writing to Heal.” Co-authored with Robin Murphy. *Oklahoma English Journal* 28.2 (2016): 36-56.

“Hannah Webster Foster.” *American Writers Supplement XXV*. Ed. Jay Parini. Farmington Hills, MI: Gale, 2015. 35-48.

“‘Moon Lake’ and the American Summer Camp Movement.” *Eudora Welty Review* 6 (2014): 55-67.

“‘Something she had always heard of’: Storytelling, Sexuality, and Community in Eudora Welty’s *The Golden Apples*.” *Narratives of Community: Women’s Short Story Sequences*. Ed. Roxanne Harde. Newcastle, UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2008. 94-112.

“Repulsive to Romantic: The Evolution of Bram Stoker’s *Dracula*.” *Academic Forum* 20 (2002-03): 39-50.

“‘An Axe for the Frozen Sea within Us’: Anne Sexton and the Confessional Poetry Movement.” *Academic Forum* 18 (2000-01): 33-42.

Conference Presentations

“S-Town, Alabama: The Ethical Acrobatics of a Southern Gothic Podcast.” Society for the Study of Southern Literature. Austin, TX. February 15-18, 2017. Forthcoming.

“Bloggers and Politicians and Zombies: Media Migrations in Mira Grant’s *Feed*.” South Central Modern Language Association. Tulsa, OK. October 4-7, 2017.

“Abject Spectacle in José Saramago’s *Blindness*.” South Central Modern Language Association. Dallas, TX. November 3-5, 2016.

“Dance as Torture and Confinement in Anne Sexton’s *Transformations*.” South Central Modern Language Association. Nashville, TN. October 31-November 3, 2015.

“Braiding and Cutting: Women’s Hair as Religious Battleground in Novels of Lee Smith and Sheri Reynolds” American Literature Association. Boston, MA. May 21-24, 2015.

“Mentoring in First-Year Composition.” Trends in Teaching College Composition. Frisco, TX. October 25, 2014.

“Teaching with the B Contract.” Trends in Teaching College Composition. Frisco, TX. October 25, 2014.

“A Wolf Dressed in Frills’: Strange Deceptions in Anne Sexton’s ‘Red Riding Hood.’” South Central Modern Language Association. New Orleans, LA. October 3-5, 2013.

“Welty’s ‘Moon Lake’ and the American Summer Camp Movement.” Eudora Welty Society International Conference. College Station, TX. April 4-7, 2013.

“The Mammy and the Madonna in Sue Monk Kidd’s *The Secret Life of Bees*.” American Studies Association of Texas. Wichita Falls, TX. November 15-17, 2012.

“Women’s Hair as Sign of Commitment and Site of Dissent in Lee Smith’s *Saving Grace* and Sheri Reynolds’s *The Rapture of Canaan*.” South Central Modern Language Association. Hot Springs, AR. October 27-29, 2011.

“the word the herd the blurred the turd the debts incurred the theatrical absurd’: Religion as Linguistic Construct in Barbara Kingsolver’s *The Poisonwood Bible*.” American Literature Association. San Francisco, CA. May 27-30, 2010.

“Submitting to Another Way to Talk’: Fantastical and Metaphorical Rape in Eudora Welty’s *The Golden Apples*.” South Central Modern Language Association. Dallas, TX. October 25-28, 2006.

“The Division of Ways’: Rejection of Inheritance in Anne Sexton’s Familial Elegies.” American Literature Association. San Francisco, CA. May 25-28, 2006.

“Evil and the Abuse of Free Will in Flannery O’Connor’s *The Violent Bear It Away*.” College English Association. San Antonio, TX. April 6-8, 2006.

“Conflict between Individual and Community in Flannery O’Connor’s ‘A View of the Woods.’” Conflict in Southern Literature Conference. Montgomery, AL. September 23-25, 2004.

“*Dracula*, the Contagious Diseases Acts, and AIDS Awareness.” Popular Culture/American Culture Association Conference. San Antonio, TX. April 7-10, 2004.

Public Lecture

“A Wolf Dress in Frills’: Anne Sexton’s Grimm Retellings.” East Central University Women’s Club Lecture. Ada, OK. November 14, 2015.

Classroom Guest Lectures

“Teaching Composition with the B Contract” ENG 3343 Fall 2016

“Reading Bollywood” HNRS 1213 Spring 2015

“Faces of Trauma in *Persepolis*” HNRS 1213 Spring 2015

“Flannery O’Connor’s ‘Good Country People.’” HUM 2413 Spring 2014

“Gender Performativity in Eudora Welty’s ‘Moon Lake.’” ENG 4553 Spring 2013

“Gender and Queer Theory in Literary Studies,” ENG 4943 Fall 2012

Courses Taught

Composition and Rhetoric:

First-year Composition (traditional and blended)
Advanced Composition (traditional, online, and blended)
Persuasive Writing and Logic
Technical and Professional Writing (traditional, online, and blended; Service Learning)
Business Communication and Report Writing (offered in ECU's Stonecipher School of Business)
Special Topics: Rhetoric of Social Media
Rhetoric of American Love (team-taught Learning Community course for credit in English and Sociology)

Literature:

Introduction to Literature
Responding to Literature
World Literature surveys
American Literature surveys
American Literature: Southern Gothic
World Literature: Narratives of Contagion
Retellings: Myth to Modern (cross-listed with Humanities)
American Literature: Images of God in Contemporary Novels
Major Author: Flannery O'Connor (cross-listed with Women's Studies)
The Bible as Literature (cross-listed with Religious Studies)

Interdisciplinary Honors Courses:

Enduring Questions: Perspectives from the Western Humanities
Enduring Questions: Perspectives from the Non-Western Humanities

Individual Studies and Directed Student Research:

Literature and Photography, Arian Skye Norman Honors Thesis 2017-2018
Death and the Sentimental Novel 2017
"Perhaps it is better to wake up after all': Naturalist Awakenings in Kate Chopin," Allyson Gregory Honors Thesis 2016-2017
Retellings, Graduate level 2015
LatinX American Literature 2014

Honors and Awards

Honors Teacher of the Year, East Central University 2017
Teaching Excellence Award, East Central University 2014
Phi Beta Kappa 2009
P.E.O. Scholar Award, P.E.O. International 2007-08 (\$10,000 dissertation award)
Creswell Graduate Teaching Assistant Award, Texas A&M Department of English 2007
Glasscock Center for Humanities Research Graduate Stipendiary Fellowship 2006-07
Texas A&M Women's Studies Travel Award 2006
Texas A&M English Graduate Student Association Teaching Award 2005
Texas A&M University Regents Fellowship 2003

Service to English and Languages Department

Faculty Sponsor, Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society 2013-2016
Co-authored *Guide to Composition at ECU* 2015
Introduction of Featured Speaker, September Poetry Series 2014-2015
Introduction of Featured Speaker, Scissortail Creative Writing Festival 2014-2016
Session Leader, "Seven Deadly Sins of Logic," Oklahoma Literary Arts Festival 2014
Scholarship Committee 2015-17
Academic Committee 2013-2017
Student Issues Committee 2012-2015
Administrative Committee 2012-2013
Session Leader, "A Way with Sesquipedalian Words," Oklahoma Literary Arts Festival 2012
Coordinator, English and Languages Events, ECU Interscholastic Meet 2012-2013

Service to East Central University

Faculty Advisor, Presidential Leadership Program 2017-18
Co-director and Treasurer, ECU Screens (sponsoring National Theatre Live series and Foreign Film Festival) 2014-18
Honors Committee 2016-18
Ad-Hoc Committee on Faculty Evaluation 2017-18
General Education Committee 2015-16
Service Learning Committee 2014-15

Service to Profession

Consulting Editor for *American Literature*, *South Central Review* 2016-18
Panel Chair, Short Fiction, South Central Modern Language Association, Tulsa, OK. October 4-7, 2017
Peer Reviewer, *South Central Review* 2014-15
Panel Organizer, "The Con Artist in American Literature," South Central Modern Language Association, New Orleans, LA. October 3-5, 2013
Panel Chair, "Welty at Home and Abroad," Eudora Welty Society Conference, College Station, TX. April 4-7, 2013
Panel Organizer, "Confessional Elegies: Confronting Inheritance." American Literature Association, San Francisco, CA. May 25-28, 2006
Panel Chair, "Monsters and Teachers." College English Association, San Antonio, TX. April 6-8, 2006

Professional Memberships

South Central Modern Language Association
Eudora Welty Society
National Council of Teachers of English