

STEVE BENTON

1100 E. 14th PMB-B7
Ada, OK 74820
580-559-5877
sbenton@ecok.edu

Professional Experience (since 2010)

Director, Honors Program, East Central University, Ada, Oklahoma. Summer 2012-Present.

Associate Professor, Department of English and Languages, East Central University, Ada, Oklahoma. Fall 2008-Present.

Education

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO

Ph. D. in English, Specializing in Language, Literacy and Rhetoric, Spring 2008.

Dissertation: *Ichabod's Children: Anti-Intellectualism and the Pedagogical Imagination*

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

M.A. in Humanities, Spring 1999.

TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

B.A. in English, Writing Emphasis, with honors, May 1989.

Recent Publications (since 2010)

“Pinioned by a Chain of Reasoning”?: Anti-Intellectualism and Models of Rationality in Tim Burton’s *Sleepy Hollow*.” *The Philosophy of Tim Burton*. Ed. Jennifer McMahon. Lexington, KY: University Press of Kentucky, 2014.

“Two Heads are Better than One (and Three are Better than Two): Challenging the Individualist Ethos of the Educator Hero Film.” *Journal of Popular Film and Television*, Ed. Geert Vandermeersche, Ronald Soetaert and Kris Rutten. Volume 41, Issue 2, 2013.

“Great Teachers Can't Save America's Schools.” With Gerald Graff. *The Atlantic*, February 13, 2013.
<<http://www.theatlantic.com>>

“Louisa May Alcott’s Wild Indians: Pedagogy of Love, Politics of Empire.” *Where No One Else Has Gone Before: Proceedings of the Ninth Native American Symposium and Film Festival*. Edited by Mark Spencer. Durant, OK: Southeastern Oklahoma State University, 2012.

“The Story: *Baal* (Brecht, Bertolt).” *Masterplots*, Fourth Revised Edition, ed. Laurence Mazzeno, Jr. Pasadena, CA, Salem Press, 2010.

Recent Conference Presentations (since 2010)

“*Tell No One*: Webcam as Truth Portal” at the Literature/Film Association Conference at the University of Kansas, in Lawrence, KS, October, 2013.

“Princess, Queen, Monster, Crone: Teaching Femininity in *Brave* and *Snow White*.” Literature/Film Association Conference, York, PA, October, 2012.

“*Blackboard Jungle* and The Schoolhouse Western.” Literature/Film Association Annual Conference, New Britain, CN, November, 2011.

“Extermination by Any Other Name: Louisa May Alcott, Horace Greeley, and the American Educational Imperative.” Ninth Native American Symposium, Durant, OK, November, 2011.

“Louisa May Alcott: Keeping America's Schools Safe from Intellectuals.” Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Conference, San Antonio, TX, April 2011.

“Movies Love Teachers Who Love (and Hate Schools, which Don’t).” Literature/History Association Conference, Milwaukee, WI, November 2010.

“Washington Irving: Shaping the American Imagination.” American Studies Association of Texas Annual Conference, Commerce, TX, November 2010.

“Losing My Religion on a Post-Soviet Train.” Scissortail Creative Writing Festival, Ada, OK, April 2010.

Academic Awards and Recognitions (since 2010)

Granted Tenure, East Central University, 2013.

Exceptional Merit, Annual Faculty Performance Evaluation, East Central University: 2012-2013.

Teaching Excellence Award, nominated, East Central University: 2013.

Exceptional Merit, Annual Faculty Performance Evaluation, East Central University: 2011-2012.

Funded Grant Incentive Award, East Central University, Principal Investigator, 2012.

Exceptional Merit, Annual Faculty Performance Evaluation, East Central University: 2010-2011.

Funded Grant Incentive Award, East Central University, Principal Investigator, 2011.

Exceptional Merit, Annual Faculty Performance Evaluation, East Central University: 2009-2010.

Professional Service (since 2010)

Co-director and grant writer, *The Tournees Film Festival*, sponsored by the French-American Cultural Exchange, East Central University, February, 2011, February 2012, February 2013, February 2014.

Panel moderator, “*Prepared to Teach? The 3rd Annual Education Symposium*,” Ada, OK, February 4, 2014.

Director and grant writer, “Fake Indian: Why America Bought a White Supremacist’s Native American Memoir,” public screening of documentary film and discussion with filmmakers sponsored by the Hayes Native American Center, the Oklahoma Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the East Central University Alumni Foundation, East Central University, 27 November, 2012.

University representative, Oklahoma Scholar Leadership Enrichment Program, 2012-Present.

Curator, “Page One Literary Art Gallery” in association with the Scissortail Creative Writing Festival, Ada Arts and Heritage Cultural Center, April 2010, April 2011, April 2012, April 2013, April 2014.

Invited speaker, *Building Educators for Success Symposium*, Ada, OK, February 1, 2012. “The Function and Value of Panel Discussions in Academia.”

Director, *Rotten Apples Symposium: What Popular Culture Gets Wrong (and Right) about Educators*, Ada, OK, November 17th, 2011.

Designer and webmaster of “ecu honors” Enduring Questions website (Fall 2011-present); “ecuscissortail” website for Scissortail Creative Writing Festival (Spring 2010-present); “ecu flick talk” departmental website for film discussion (Fall 2009-present); “ecu english talk” departmental website for English majors (Spring 2009-present).

Co-director, *The Red River Colloquium*, an all-day seminar for high school and college composition instructors held at East Central University in June, 2011.

Co-sponsor, Sigma Tau Delta, international honor society for English majors, 2009-present.

Courses Designed and Taught (since 2010)

Seminar in American Literature: The Educator in American Fiction and Film; Enduring Questions: Perspectives from the Western Humanities (Honors Seminar); General Humanities I; Reading and Writing Advanced Essays; Approaches to Grammar; Interpreting Film; Introduction to Linguistics; Composition I; Composition II; Responding to Literature; Fundamentals of English