

Bruce Bowles Jr.
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Killeen, TX 76549

Education

Ph. D. in English, The Florida State University (April 2016)

- Major Area: Rhetoric and Composition
- Minor Area: Writing Assessment
- Dissertation: *Taken Out of Context?: Examining the Influence of Context on Teachers' Written Responses to Student Writing*—Through student interviews and discourse analysis, my dissertation explores how students articulate the ways assignment descriptions, student/teacher interactions, and grading materials help them interpret teachers' written commentary. Since the three contextual factors are primarily text-based, the study examines how these classroom texts—what I call (con)texts—may potentially inform our response practices. Using this approach, a new model for response scholarship is created, one that moves beyond focusing on the written comment in isolation to understand the complex dynamic of response.

M. A. in English, The University of North Carolina at Charlotte (May 2012)

B. A. in Literature, The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey (May 2005)

Education Related Employment

Texas A&M University – Central Texas. Assistant Professor of English and Director of the University Writing Center (Sept. 2016-Present)

Research

Publications:

Forthcoming. "The Five-Paragraph Theme and Standardized Testing." *Bad Ideas About Writing*. Eds. Drew Loewe and Cheryl Ball.

"The Devil's (Advocate) is in the Details: Exploring Both Sides of an Argument." *On Writing*—Florida State FYC Textbook Supplement (September 2015)

Conference Presentations:

“Taken Out of Context?: Examining the Influence of Context on Teachers’ Written Responses to Student Writing.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication—Writing Strategies for Action*, Houston, TX (April 2016)

“Working with Graduate Students: Different Clients, Different Practice?” *International Writing Centers Association Conference—Writing Center (r)Evolution*s, Pittsburgh, PA (October 2015)

“Moneyball Writing Assessment.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication—Risk and Reward*, Tampa Bay, FL (March 2015)

“The Ethics of Assessing Multimodal Student Composition.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication—Open | Source(s), Access, Futures*, Indianapolis, IN (March 2014)

“Who is Inventing Whom?: Templates, Prescripts, and Agency.” *SAMLA—Cultures, Contexts, Images, and Texts: Making Meaning in Print, Digital, and Networked Worlds*, Atlanta, GA (November 2013)

“Enabling Student Agency Through Response.” *University of Florida Writing Program Conference—Classroom Matters: Pedagogy in Practice and Philosophy*, Gainesville, FL (February 2013)

“Evolving Explication: ‘Changing the Game’ of Criticism.” *NC State AEGS 2012 Conference—So What? Exploring the Importance of Humanities Studies in the 21st Century*, Raleigh, NC (February 2012)

Editorial

Co-editor for the *Journal of Writing Assessment Reading List* (2014-Current)

- Identified potential publications for review
- Solicited reviewers to write reviews of major assessment publications
- Provided feedback and edit reviews for publication
- Published reviews to the *JWA Reading List*

Teaching

ENG 1101/Writing and Inquiry in Academic Contexts I (UNC-Charlotte)

- Taught the first course in a two-course FYC sequence
- Took a *Writing about Writing* pedagogical approach

ENC 1101/Investigating Communities: How We See Ourselves and Others (Florida State)

- Taught the first course in a two-course FYC sequence
- Class discussions, readings, assignments, etc., were geared towards examining the influence of the social and how language influences identity

ENC 1102/American Culture: The Popular, The Personal, The Political (Florida State)

- Taught the second course in a two-course FYC sequence
- Emphasized academic writing and research techniques
- Class discussions, readings, assignments, etc., were geared towards examining the influence of popular culture on both the individual and society

ENC 1145/Writing about Sports and Society (Florida State)

- Designed and taught the second course in a two-course FYC sequence as a special topics class focusing on sports and examining the influence of athletics on various societal issues (e.g. racism, labor issues, academic integrity, etc.)
- Emphasized academic research, genre, multimodality, digital composing practices, and information literacy

ENC 3021/Rhetoric (Florida State)

- Taught a survey course of the history of rhetorical thought
- Emphasized argumentation strategies, epistemology, and the connection between rhetoric and our understanding of reality

Writing Center Tutor (UNC-Charlotte and Florida State University)

- Collaborated in one-on-one tutoring sessions with students working on a variety of different writing assignments
- Gained extensive experience working with ESL clients and graduate-level clients
- Conducted research and gave a presentation with two colleagues on grammar instruction in writing centers
- Conducted research and presented on working with graduate students in writing centers

Teaching Awards and Honors

- Nominated for a Teaching Excellence Award at Florida State for both the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 academic years
- Presented one of my students with the 2014 James A. McCrimmon Award for outstanding essay in First-Year Composition for his essay entitled “Athletic Departments and the Collegiate Financial Landscape”

Administration/Service

Director of the University Writing Center, Texas A&M University – Central Texas
(Sept. 2016-Present)

Assistant Administrator for the Reading Writing Center—Johnston Ground Coordinator, Florida State (May 2015-April 2016)

- Aided the Director of the Reading Writing Center with administrative tasks, specifically in relation to the Johnston Ground location and the Graduate Writing Center
- Assisted with the training class for new tutors
- Collaborated with the Director of the Reading Writing Center on assessment projects

English Department Essay Placement Test (EDEPT), Florida State (June 2013-June 2016)

- Served as a reader for the EDEPT (2013-2016)
- Administered the EDEPT (2014-2015)
- Redesigned the EDEPT placement exam to be a hybrid between direct assessment and directed self-placement, enabling students to have more agency in their selection of classes while also receiving expert guidance from the English department (2014)

First-Year Composition Teaching Mentor, Florida State (August 2013-May 2014)

- Assisted a group of teaching assistants new to the Florida State First-Year Composition program
- Held mentor meetings throughout the semester to discuss teaching issues, effective strategies, general program concerns, etc.
- Observed each of the members of my mentor group teaching and wrote an observation letter for their files

First-Year Composition Committee, Florida State (August 2012-April 2016)

- Assisted with developing curricular materials for the new ENC 2135/Research, Genre, and Context course (2014-2015)
- Served as leader of a sub-committee tasked with reorganizing the McCrimmon Award essays (2013-2014)
- Conceptualized and designed a website (along with my sub-committee) for all FSU teaching assistants to upload and tag their teaching materials in a searchable database so that more communal sharing of teaching resources could be enabled (2013-2014)
- Served on the sub-committee that was responsible for revising *On Writing* (the FSU FYC textbook) for the 2014 edition (2012-2013)
- Assisted in composing the introductory materials for, and arranging, the chapter on critical thinking (2012-2013)

English Graduate Student Association (EGSA) Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG) Senator, UNC-Charlotte (2011-2012)

- Made sure EGSA was in compliance with our charter
- Voiced any EGSA concerns in relation to GPSG
- Organized volunteer activities for EGSA in conjunction with GPSG
- Voted on behalf of EGSA at GPSG meetings
- Played an integral role in revising and editing the GPSG by-laws after being nominated to the committee assigned this task by the GPSG President
- Aided in planning the 12th Annual EGSA Conference "Language: It's Alive!"
- Nominated for Outstanding Graduate Student Organization by the GPSG President during my tenure as Senator