

SHEILA SANDAPEN, Ph.D.
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Contemporary cultural studies in the U.S. and U.K. Specifically, I work in the area of Black British Women literature. I am part of the Black British Women Writers Network, an organization that seeks “to stimulate the discussion of the literary art of women writers of African and African-Caribbean descent living in Britain.” I also teach, study, and write about American and British popular culture including film, graphic novels, adaptations, science fiction, and children’s literature.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Literature and Criticism: Contemporary British Literature, Postcolonial Feminism, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA, 2009.
My dissertation focuses on fiction by Anglo-Caribbean and Anglo-Indian women authors and examines the ways in which these works contribute to the emergence of a new multi-cultural English Literature.

M.A. Writing and Publishing, Emerson College, Boston, MA.

B.A. Communication; minor in French. Cum Laude. Neumann College (now Neumann University), Aston, PA. Study abroad semester. Université Laval, Québec, Canada.

TEACHING AND ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES

Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA

Associate Teaching Professor (Fall 2017-)

- Experienced Instructor in the First-Year Writing Program teaching composition and rhetoric sections focusing on Inquiry (sections ENGL 101), Research (ENGL 102) and Analysis (ENGL 103).
- Teach literature and Writing courses as needed: British Literature, Postcolonial, Short Fiction and African American Literature, Creative Non-Fiction. Special Topic courses I designed focused on black British women authors, censored and uncensored Women, Food, World War I propaganda and Native American Literature.
- Drexel Teaching Faculty teach a 3/3/3 load in a trimester system. In addition, I occasionally teach seminars in the honors college as needed. Recent topics include the internationalization of English Literature and Black Britain and Brexit.
- Senior Projects. As requested I serve on committees for English students (either as Director or Reader) averaging about two per year.

Director for the English Programs (January 2020 – Present)

Coordinate senior projects

- Deliver two information sessions to students on presentations requirements
- Manage the required paperwork and oversee the course work for students
- Plan out the senior presentation (up to 2 per academic year) which includes inviting students, their friends and family and faculty; determining scheduling and organizing the ceremony.
- Work with department manager to coordinate archive of projects.

Scheduling

- Work with FYW and WRIT administrators, the scheduler and department manager to build a working schedule that responsible for building a schedule that adheres to the guidelines of the BA in English.

Miscellaneous duties

- Respond to student complaints
- Review and respond to study abroad approval requests
- Attend student acceptance day events
- Attend meeting on student recruitment as needed
- Participate with EMSS recruitment meetings
- Work with the English major Advisor on retention and ensuring the program requirements are met
- Attend meetings on retention and recruitment

Adjunct Faculty for Pennoni Honors College (2016-2024)

Courses include:

- Instructor for an ENGL 103 Honors section in Civics. Students studied and discussed the role of a good citizen and created multi-modal problem-solution projects relating to Drexel and/or Philadelphia. 2024.
- Introduction to Honors Seminar (1 credit) Topics: Media Consumption 2018 and 2019, Pandemic 2020, Aging 2021, Animals in the City (2022) and Games (2023).
- Instructor-in-training in the Civic Foundation initiative the Honors College is piloting through a Teague Foundation Grant. I participated in a 3-sequence course that taught civics to Honors Students engaged in the program.
- Great Book Series (1 credit). Books include: *Mists of Avalon*, *Faustus*, and Narnia series.
- Seminars: Topics Black British Women Authors, Marriage in Law and Literature, British and Black Identity and Immigration.

Assistant Program Director for the First-Year Writing Program. (Fall 2016-December 2020)

- Coordinate with the Program Director and English Department to schedule all FWP courses (150+) for full-time and Adjunct Faculty in Fall, Winter and Spring.
- Conduct classroom observations for newly hired adjunct faculty.
- Oversee the FWP writing contest including soliciting entries, track student submissions, organize the judging process and supervise the vetting of entries.
- Help facilitate the Writing Award Ceremony and distribution of award money.
- Work with the editorial board of the Drexel Publishing Group to facilitate the publication of winning student entries.
- Meet with the Program director as needed.
- Organize and attend relevant meetings.

- Conduct teaching observations for newly hired adjunct faculty.

Assistant Teaching Professor (Fall 2011- Spring 2017)

- Designed and taught upper level graduate literature courses in British literature including the course “Lust & Lies Over Tea” that focused on contemporary Black British women writers and an honors course entitled “State of the Union: Literature in Marriage” which considers the act of marriage as depicted in literature and considers the roles ascribed to “wife” and “husband.”
- Designed classes and taught first-year courses on popular culture, adaptation and short, short stories and taught courses in short fiction and world literature.
- Teach in the First-Year Writing program. I base my writing classes on the concept of community. Students are encouraged to work with each other and develop their own lines of inquiry, and engage with their audience. In my writing classes, we use a portfolio approach so the total output is graded and not individual pieces. Drexel Teaching Faculty teach a 4/4/4 load in a trimester system.

Adjunct Instructor, English & Philosophy Dept. (Fall 2009 – Spring 2010)

Taught hybrid and traditional courses in English composition, research and literature.

Managing Editor, *The 33rd An anthology*. (2015-17)

This annual anthology, published through Drexel Publishing Group, is comprised of student and faculty work and is a designated text in the First-Year Writing program. I created and oversaw the publishing schedule from initial submissions through to design and final galleys, edited the book and worked, and coordinated with production, printer, and co-op students to ensure the book was created, designed, printed and delivered on time. In 2015, the book grew 100 pages and I included a table of context and writing prompts for ease of use by faculty. I also updated contracts and permission forms to streamline the permissions process. I continued to streamline processes for the 2016 edition and managed the editorial process.

Faculty Writing Fellow, Drexel Writing Center (Fall 2012-June 2014)

Worked with graduate students individually on projects, Master Thesis, Dissertations and grant applications, conducted online writing workshops, worked with faculty on a project-by-project basis.

COMMITTEE WORK AND SERVICE

- Committee of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, 2023-4
- Committee on Teaching Faculty, 2023-4
- Departmental Planning Collaborative 2020-present
- Hiring Committee for Faculty in Digital Humanities Spring 2021
- Honors College / Teague Grant / Faculty Liaison 2021
- Hiring Committee for English Department Program Manager 2020
- FYWP Advisory Board 2011-present
- Member, The Teaching Faculty Promotion Committee, 2019
- Organizer, put together a faculty development workshop on Diversity in the Classroom, 2019
- Reviewer, student applications into Honor’s College, Pennoni Honors College, 2019, 2020
- Faculty Advisor, Kappa Phi Gamma Sorority, Inc. 2016-2018

- Faculty Advisor, Drexel Mastering Cosmetics, 2015-2018
- Managing Editor, *The 33rd* 2015-16, 2016-17
- Judge for 33rd Fiction Competition, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
- Judge for English Literature Prize, 2017
- Book and Curriculum Committee, 2015
- Judge for COAS research Day, 2013, 2014
- Scorer for Freshman Portfolios, English & Philosophy Dept. 2012, 2013
- Reader for Freshman Writing Competition 2010, 2013-19
- Teaching excellence panel “group work assessments,” Spring 2013
- Presenter on plagiarism, online workshop for faculty, Spring 2013
- One Book, One Philadelphia short story workshop Leader, 2012, 2013

PUBLICATIONS

- “Girl Rebooted: Transforming *Doctor Who*’s Sarah Jane Smith from Sidekick to Hero.” *Buffy to Batgirl*. Eds. Julie M. Stills and Zara T. Wilkinson. NC: McFarland, 2019.
- The 33rd: An Anthology*. Sandapen, Sheila and Kathleen Volk Miller, eds. Philadelphia: Drexel Publishing Group, 2016.
- The 33rd: An Anthology*. Sandapen, Sheila, Kathleen Volk Miller, Marshall Warfield, eds. Philadelphia: Drexel Publishing Group, 2015.
- “The Doctor’s Wondrous Wandering Dialectic Approach to the Universe.” *Dr Who and Language*. Jason Barr and Camille Mustachio, eds. Scarecrow Press, May 2014.77-94.
- “Reading... Passing it on.” *The 33rd: An Anthology*. Stein, Scott, Albert DiBartolomeo, and Kathleen Volk Miller, eds. Philadelphia: Drexel Publishing Group, 2013. 241-2.
- “Spider Princess.” *The 33rd: An Anthology*. Stein, Scott, Albert DiBartolomeo, and Kathleen Volk Miller, eds. Philadelphia: Drexel Publishing Group, 2012. 74.
- “My Favorite Jane.” *Bits & Scraps Newsletter*. Jane Austen Society Eastern Pennsylvania Region, VII. 2 (April 2011) 3.
- “Skin Deep: Visual Representations of White/British Identity and Black/Foreign Identity in Commercially Successful Popular Cinema.” *Mapping Minds*. Ed. Monika Raesch. Oxford, UK: The Inter-Disciplinary Press, 2010. 163-169.
- “Raoul Lufbery, the Man and the Myth.” *Over the Front*. 24.1 (Spring 2009) 55-61. Film Review: *Brick Lane*. *Journal of Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies* 14.2. (January 2009) 107-10.
- “White Thighs: A Question of Fate and Sexual Politics in Tayeb Salih’s *Season of Migration to the North*.” *EAPSU ONLINE*. 5 (Fall 2008).
- “A Purple Heart for Raoul Lufbery.” *Over The Front*, 19.2. (Summer 2004) 98-99. Awarded 2009 Hooper Award for best biography.
- “A Review of *Principles of Web Design*.” *Kairos* 7.3 (Fall 2002).

PROFESSIONAL PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Feminism Studies

- “They Should Have Known Better: Inside the World of Naomi Alderman’s *The Power*” Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association, Philadelphia, November 2023.
- “Reporting on A Woman of Very Bad Character: Public Opinion and The Death of a Factory Girl” Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association, November 2021.
- “Subversion in the Domestic Scenes of Jane Austen’s Novels” 34th Annual Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Conference, Auburn, AL, February 2008.

Science Fiction

- Session Chair. “Fantastic Women.” Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association,

Baltimore, MD, November 2014.

“Stand Up the Real Sarah Jane: Gendered Politics in *Doctor Who*” Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association, Baltimore, MD, November 2014.

Fantastic Women Panel, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA, June 2014.

“The Evolution of Sarah Jane Smith in the *Doctor Who* Universe from Girl Friday to Warrior” Buffy to Batgirl Conference, Rutgers University, Camden, NJ, May 2014.

Children’s Literature

“The Radical Potential of Young Adult Literature Roundtable” Mid-Atlantic P Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association, Pittsburgh, PA, November 2019.

“An Ungolden Silence. Danger, Detours and Damnation in Narnia” IRSCS Congress 2019, Stockholm, Sweden, August 2019.

“Anxiety and Magic in The Works of Edward Eager” IRSCS Congress 2017, York University, Toronto, Canada July 2017.

“The Sorry Present and Future Imperfect as portrayed by E. Nesbit and Edward Eager” ChLA Tampa, Florida 2017.

Session Chair. “The Child on Screen: Youth, Adaptation, and Film.” Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association, Atlantic City, NJ, November 2016.

“Using Animation as a bridge to Translate High Culture into Children’s Popular Culture” Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association, Atlantic City, NJ, Nov 2016.

“Swan Lake, Princesses and Barbie: Culture and Animation” International Conference of the Children’s Literature Association, Columbus, OH, June 2016.

“Ordinary Heroes and Magic: A close up View of the Stories of Edward Eager” Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association, Philadelphia, PA, November 2015.

Black British Literature

Panel Presentation: “Identity and Culture in Black British Literature” Philosophy Week Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA, Spring 2014.

“(De) Meaning Through Linguistic Choices” Afro Europe VI, Senate House, London, England, October 2013.

“Skin Deep: Visual Representations of White/British Identity and Black/Foreign Identity in Commercially Successful Popular Cinema.” 4th Global Conference: Visual Literacies Exploring Critical Issues at Mansfield College, Oxford University, Oxford, U.K. July 2010.

Session Chair. Seeing the Visual in Different Frames. 4th Global Conference: Visual Literacies Exploring Critical Issues at Mansfield College, Oxford University, Oxford, U.K. July 2010.

“Imagined and Re-Imagined Communities of Women in Black British Novels” Novel and its Borders International Conference at University of Aberdeen, Scotland, July 2008.

Session Chair. “Crossing Real and Imaginary Borders.” Novel and its Borders International Conference at University of Aberdeen, Scotland, July 2008.

“Women and the Cultural War in the Novel *White Teeth*: A Postcolonial Feminist Critique” 17th Annual British Commonwealth & Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, GA, February 2008.

Teaching/Pedagogy

“Leaping from the 5 Paragraph without a Net” New Jersey Writing Alliance Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, NJ, May 2016.

Round Table: “Recognizing and Rewarding Process over Product in the Classroom” Drexel Showcase of Teaching, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA, April 2014.

Round Table: “Collaboration” Drexel Showcase of Teaching, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA, June 2013.

“Student Writing and Culture” Making Our World Conference at Shippensburg University, Shippensburg, PA, October 2009.

- “Student Writers, Student Authors and Technology: How Can Teachers Help Students Assert Their Voice” 4th International Conference on the Book, Boston, MA, November 2006.
“Incorporating Franciscan values into the Curriculum” Invited Speaker. Faculty Day, Neumann, Aston, PA, May 2006.

Literary History

“Lufbery: The Man and the Myth” World War I Aviation Historians Conference, Seattle, WA, September 2005.

PRIOR TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Peirce College, Philadelphia, PA

Associate Professor, General Education-English (Fall 2010 – Spring 2011)

- Taught online and traditional courses in English composition, and literature (American, Shakespeare). Took my students to see a live production and had them create oral projects on their experiences with the text.
- Course Coordinator [Intro to Literature and Composition]: designed course master including assignments and assessments. Conducted course adjuncts teaching evaluations.

COMMITTEE WORK AND SERVICE

- Writing and Literacy Information Committee
Co-chair. Established goals and membership of committee and implement tasks.
- QA Committee
Member. Reviewed core online courses for consistency.
- Gap Research Taskforce
Member. Reviewed current course, surveyed area college’s curriculums and made course recommendations for General Education division courses.

Eastern University, St. Davids, PA

Adviser to *Waltonian*, student newspaper, and Faculty (Fall 2008 – Fall 2010)

Under my supervision, the paper expanded its content online and updated news between issues to stay relevant to its readership.

- Trained and directed editorial staff of biweekly newspaper.
- Created and tracked budget.
- Conducted weekly student workshops.
- Taught journalism courses and workshops.
- Took students to College Media Adviser Conference in NYC (2009, 2010).

Neumann University (formerly Neumann College), Aston, PA

Full-time Instructor of Communication Arts and English (January 2002- May 2007)

- Taught courses in: English composition, English literature (Mythology, American and British), journalism, speech, web page design and creative writing. I was hired to teach web design, a course the University did not offer in 2002. I designed the course and taught HTML, Design Aesthetics and Page Management. Later the class became a staple of the Major.
- Supervised student co-ops and internships on and off campus.
- Advised students on course selection, co-ops and academic goals.
- Incorporated Community Service Learning Projects into three courses
In keeping with the mission of the University, Students created a meditation garden on campus, read to children at the Aston Township Public Library and participated in campus clean up. I

- Co-Adviser of student newspaper, *The Joust* (2005, 2006). Under my supervision, the paper was published on a regular schedule.
- Judge for Delta Epsilon Writing Contest (2005, 2006).
- Created and hosted a student literary reading forum (2003, 2006).

COMMITTEE WORK AND SERVICE

- Communication Arts Workgroup
Researched, drafted, and revised a proposal to add a Performing Arts Media Major and replace the existing Communication major with Communication and Media Arts.
- Personnel Committee
Managed online voting system for Excellent in Teaching Award.
- Writing and Developmental Workgroup
Conducted end of term modified portfolio assessments.
- Faculty Development Committee
Served as acting representative for SEPCHE, a consortium of eight Catholic universities and colleges.
- Assets and Reallocation Workgroup
Assessed needs of the college in academic, student life and services department for accreditation.
- Liberal Arts Self Study Group
Reviewed liberal arts major and compiled and edited a report on the major.

ASSOCIATIONS/MEMBERSHIPS

The Rosenbach Library

International Research Society for Children's Literature (IRSCL)

Children's Literature Association (ChLA)

Mid-Atlantic Popular & American Culture Association (MAPACA)

Black British Women's Writing Network

Philadelphia Writing Program Administrators (PWPA, Board member 2008-2011)

The Modern Language Association (MLA)

Jane Austen Society of North America (JASNA)

Delta Epsilon Sigma Honor Society