

Christine E. Kephart, Ph.D.  
Curriculum Vitae

Teaching writing through a social justice lens: demystifying the writing process; interrogating and de-centering colonizing perspectives in writing practices; centering the narratives of diverse voices and identities; developing innovative writing strategies and concepts that challenge writerly and readerly assumptions; positioning writing as a platform for advocacy.

## EDUCATION

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- 2007 Ph.D., English Literature, Drew University, Madison, NJ  
Honors: Distinction for dissertation and qualifying exams  
Dissertation: "Gothic Cathedral Iconography in Willa Cather's Fiction"; Dissertation Chair: Merrill Maguire Skaggs  
Areas: Willa Cather, Medieval Literature, Drama, Romantic Literature, Medieval Philosophy  
Languages: French, Old English
- 2015 Graduate Certificate, Instructional Design, University of Wisconsin-Stout (online)  
Concentration: Project Management
- 1993 M. Phil., English Literature, Drew University, Madison, NJ
- 1990 B.A., English; second major in Music, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ  
Honors: *cum laude*; Sigma Tau Delta

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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2019-present

**Writing Instructor**, Teaching Faculty, Rutgers University, Doctor of Social Work Program, New Brunswick, NJ  
Writing a Case Study  
Writing Qualitative Research  
Writing for the Web

Fall 2022-present

**Group Facilitator**, Rutgers University, Center for Faculty Success

- Faculty Success Community Group Pilot, F22
- Faculty Success Community Group, Fall & Spring Semesters ongoing
- 6-Week Summer Intensive, Summer23

Fall 2023-present

**Writing Mentor and Group Facilitator**, Female International Faculty Mutual Mentoring Network, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

2013-2019

**Adjunct Instructor**, Stevens Institute of Technology, NJ  
Research and Writing Seminar (Preparation for writing the Senior Thesis)  
Writing & Communications (Critical thinking and composition; text-based research, writing, and presenting)

Western Literature (Survey of Western Literature)  
British Literature (Survey of British Literature)

2013-2017

**Director**, Writing & Communications Center, Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, NJ

- Created operational and reporting efficiency, e.g., implemented online scheduling and management software, developed data and measures of effectiveness, e.g., student surveys, to evaluate program outcomes and ensure alignment with university goals
- Professionalized writing center operations, e.g., provided leadership and training, identified and addressed staff development needs, created and implemented center protocols
- Taught PhD candidates to write dissertations in various STEM and business disciplines; worked directly with students in one-on-one writing coaching for PhD candidates toward degree completion and with students across the disciplines and degree programs; created and delivered student-facing workshops, e.g., written and oral communications, academic vocabulary building, academic job portfolios, technical writing, writing for business
- Collaborated with faculty, administrators, and professional staff across campus to actualize the center's responsibility to the university
- Upgraded center space and implemented technologies to foster student and faculty well-being and academic learning
- Provided editing of university grant proposals in science and technology
- Developed, delivered, and managed academic and accreditation assessments for the College of Arts & Letters, the School of Business, and the Mechanical Engineering program at Stevens Institute of Technology; assessed writing of ESL graduate students

2011-2013

**Director**, Writing Center & Tutoring Resources, Ocean County College, Toms River, NJ

- Conceived, created, and led a Tutoring Resources unit to address the escalating demand for a structured learning resources center encompassing writing, math, and sciences for a large and diverse student population, including ESL students, military veterans, and adult learners
- Carried out all aspects of administration, e.g., departmental budgeting and planning, annual personnel performance reviews, analysis and reporting of program outcomes, comprehensive records
- Provided leadership and training, e.g., identifying and supporting professional development opportunities for staff, establishing guidelines for standardizing and professionalizing departmental activities and ensuring operational efficiency, developing instructional and practical training materials, and evaluating and coordinating online tutoring with the Office of E-learning
- Created and implemented career development materials (e.g., cover letters, resumes, interview skills) and consulted one-on-one with community college and university students seeking to transfer to a new college, apply to graduate school, or apply for job opportunities
- Consulted and partnered with faculty and college offices to develop, deliver, and assess academic strategy development workshops for students and professional development opportunities for faculty; supported grant-funded tutoring in other college units

- Worked directly with the diverse student body across disciplines at the college and at Kean University to develop written and oral communication skills, e.g., effective academic strategies and study skills

2017-2018; 1995-2010

**Adjunct Instructor**, Georgian Court University, NJ. Courses taught:

Contemporary British Literature (Survey of contemporary British literature)  
 British Literature I (Survey of British literature from Anglo-Saxon literature to the 1500s)  
 British Literature II (Survey of British literature from the 1500s to the present day)  
 Humanities Senior Seminar (Capstone course: intensive study and research of a humanities topic)  
 Medieval Literature (Survey of European Medieval literature)  
 Women in Literature (Survey of literature written by women)  
 World Literature I (Survey of world literature from the epic to the 1500s)  
 World Literature II (Survey of world literature from the 1500s to the present day)  
 American Literature II (Survey of American literature from the Realists to the present day)

2011-2012; 1995-2008

**Adjunct Instructor**, Ocean County College, NJ. Courses taught:

World Literature I, developed and taught the online master course and traditional delivery (Survey of world literature from the epic to the 1500s)  
 English I (Text-based writing; critical reading and thinking)  
 English II (Introduction to the study of fiction, poetry, and drama; text-based writing and research)  
 Fundamentals of Reading and Study  
 Fundamentals of Writing

2010-2013

**Adjunct Instructor**, Kean University, NJ. Courses taught:

Senior Seminar: Critical Perspectives on Willa Cather (Capstone course)
 

- *Honors*: Student awarded first place award (Haselton Award) in 2013 for outstanding capstone paper

 Senior Seminar: Critical Perspectives on Edith Wharton (Capstone course)  
 Special Subjects in Women and Literature: Willa Cather (Intensive study and research)  
 Medieval Prose and Poetry (Survey of the prose and poetry of the European Medieval period)  
 Critical Perspectives (Literary theory, perspectives, and research)

2008-2011

**Writing Skills Tutor** (Full-time Administration), Ocean County College, Toms River, NJ

- Conceptualized and created a writing center to meet the writing and reading challenges of a sizable and diverse student population, including ESL students, military veterans, and adult learners

- Performed all aspects of administration and management, e.g., innovative and efficient approaches to delivery, workflow, and practice, data measurements for academic program review, reports on usage; implemented standards and best practices for operating a writing center
- Worked directly with all students to improve and expand writing, reading, literacy, critical thinking and study skills
- Collaborated and interacted interdepartmentally with faculty and administrators to develop, implement, and evaluate workshops and programming for assessing student progress and addressing academic challenges, such as Pass the Class Workshops, First Year Writing Seminar, Developmental Education pilot program

2008-present

**Editor & Writing Coach**, *Writing Mechanics*; [www.writingmechanics.com](http://www.writingmechanics.com)

- Writing/time management/success coach to master and doctoral degree students seeking help persisting to degree completion; English as a second/foreign language learners (ESL) expertise
- Job coach
- Editor & Writer:
  - Developmental and structural editing and writing for ebooks, such as “Living with Babyloss” for the Center for Growth, Philadelphia
  - Journal submissions, theses, dissertations, paper proposals, and PowerPoint presentations for various disciplines, including STEM, nursing, education, social work, and business

1999-2000

**Interim Director**, Summer Sessions, Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ

Hired, scheduled, and oriented summer faculty and supervised support staff; Developed summer session brochure to publicize procedures, schedules; Responded to student concerns and summer session queries

1992-1994

**Personal Reader** to Charles Scribner, Jr., New York City and Bernardsville, NJ; story in “Memoir by a Scribner,” by Shirley Horner. *New York Times*. March 6, 1995.  
<https://www.nytimes.com/1994/03/06/nyregion/about-books.html>

## SCHOLARSHIP

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### BOOKS, BOOK CHAPTERS, & ARTICLES

**Kephart, C.** (2012). *The Catherian cathedral: Gothic cathedral iconography in Willa Cather’s fiction*. Fairleigh Dickinson University Press.

**Kephart, C.** (2013). On becoming Neighbor Rosicky: Willa Cather, William James and the constructs of well-being. In J. O. Pawelski & D. J. Moores (eds.) *The eudaimonic turn: Human flourishing in literary studies* (pp. 227-246). Fairleigh Dickinson University Press.

**Kephart, C.** (1993-94). 'He turned off the lights': A study of darkness in *My Mortal Enemy*." *Willa Cather Review*, 37(3-4), 36-39.

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

**Kephart, C.** (2021). Review of *Becoming Willa Cather: Creation and career*, by Daryl W. Palmer [book]. University of Nevada Press, 2019. 264 pp. In *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*, Spring 2021, 40(1).

## **INVITED SPEAKER**

2022 Guest Speaker. "Introduction to asset framing for Social Work." Graduate course: Lifespan Development (SOWK 500). Loyola University Chicago.

2022 Guest Speaker. "Introduction to asset framing for Social Work." Undergraduate course: Developmental Theory Across the Lifespan (SOWK 305). Loyola University Chicago.

2014 Plenary Speaker. The spirit of space: Cather's cathedral narratives. Cather Symposium, Rome.

## **CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION**

2024 Decolonizing writing instruction in a Doctorate of Social Work program. With E Goldblatt Hyatt. 2024 National DSW Conference on Social Work Education and Practice. March 8. University of Alabama, online.

2023 But this isn't a writing course! Designing a writing rubric for non-writing instructors. Consortium for Graduate Communication Summer Institute, University of Maryland College Park.

2022 Moving toward equity in graduate communication support. Special Interest Networking Session. With Shelley Hawthorne Smith (University of Arizona), Keith O'Regan (York University), & Leslie Dupont (University of Arizona). Consortium for Graduate Communication Summer Institute, Online.

2021 Tips for empowering online student learning at the outset. Ignite Session. Rutgers Online Learning Conference.

2013 Screaming Eve and the silent recluse: Cather's female atonement figures. The International Cather Seminar, Flagstaff, AZ.

2012 Incorporating workforce writing skills into the classroom. College Reading and Learning Association NJ-PA Chapter Conference, Montclair University.

2010 Differentiating instructional strategies: Accommodating diversity in a community college writing center. College Reading and Learning Association NJ-PA Chapter Conference, Rutgers University.

2009 Parroting Flaubert: Cather's parrots and Flaubert's 'A Simple Heart.' The International Cather Seminar, Chicago.

2003 Light on adobe walls. NJCEA Conference, Seton Hall University.

1998 Gothic cathedral light in *Shadows on the Rock*. Cather Colloquium, Drew University.

## **WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS**

### *Faculty Development*

2021 Using your practice wisdom to build and disseminate scholarship. Rutgers School of Social Work. With E Goldblatt Hyatt, Michael LaSala, and Carol Cassidy

2013-2017

Providing Effective Feedback, Stevens University  
Designing Collaborative Student Projects, Stevens University  
Teaching ESL Speakers of English, Stevens University  
Understanding the First-Generation Student, Stevens University  
Writing Effective Assignments and Rubrics, Stevens University  
2012 Writing for the First Year Experience (ACAD155), Ocean County College

#### *PhD and Masters Student Development*

2015-2017

Writers Group: Dissertation Writing Series for the PhD Student in STEM, Stevens University  
Preparing the Academic Job Portfolio, Stevens University  
Preparing to Publish, Stevens University

2013-2017

Technical Writing, Stevens University  
Professional Presentations, Stevens University  
Graduate Student Enrichment Series, Stevens University

#### *Undergraduate Student Development*

2013-2017

Technical Writing, Stevens University  
Professional Presentations, Stevens University

2012 "You in 5 objects." Summer Writing Workshop for students in EOF, Ocean County College

### **MEDIA RECOGNITION & ADVOCACY**

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2022 **Ocean County Rally is First Step in Opposing Overturn of Roe.** (2022, June 29). In *Jersey Shore Online*: <https://www.jerseyshoreonline.com/ocean-county/ocean-county-rally-is-first-step-in-opposing-overturn-of-roe/>

**Manchester Day Returns After Two Year Absence** (2022, July 15), focus on presence of Ocean County chapter of National Organization for Women. In *Jersey Shore Online*: <https://www.jerseyshoreonline.com/manchester/manchester-day-returns-after-two-year-absence/>

2021 **What Loss Looks Like: Object of Remembrance Project.** (2021, April 7). New York Times. <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/well/covid-death-grief-loss.html?action=click&module=Spotlight&pgtype=Homepage>

1995 **Memoir by a Scribner**, by Shirley Horn. Story of C. Kephart as personal reader to Charles Scribner, Jr. *New York Times*. March 6, 1995. <https://www.nytimes.com/1994/03/06/nyregion/about-books.html>

### **SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY**

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2023 Invited Writing Consultant and Facilitator, Female International Faculty Mutual Mentoring Network, grant funded by the RU Faculty Diversity Collaborative

- 2022 School of Social Work faculty focus group for recommendations for an Institute for Teaching, Learning, and Inclusive Pedagogy for Rutgers–New Brunswick
- 2021 Rutgers University: Environmental and Health Safety RU COVID-19 Test Kit Assembly Volunteer

2013-2017

Stevens Institute of Technology:  
Judge for student creative writing competitions  
Member of search and ad hoc university committees  
Participant in fundraising and outreach programs for the office of Development  
Editor for Stevens Math Olympiad

2012-2013

Kean University: Acting adviser and mentor for the Kean University (Toms River campus) chapter of Sigma Tau Delta

2008-2013

Ocean County College:  
Chapter writer and co-leader, Middle States Self Study accreditation process  
Presenter in college programs, such as Women’s History Month musical performances and skits  
Chair and member of the Tutoring Committee to assess academic support on campus  
Member of the Foundations of Excellence self-study team to evaluate the college’s first-year programming  
Writing Across the Curriculum consultant for faculty  
Host, Write All Nite (4pm to midnight), at the Writing Center

2000-2002

Georgian Court University:  
Director, Court Players (theater group)

## **SERVICE TO THE LOCAL/NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY\_\_\_\_\_**

2020-present **Member & Planning Committee.** National Organization of Women (NOW), local chapter.

2020-present **Elections Worker.** Ocean County Board of Elections.

2017-2020 **Online Writing Tutor.** Jesuits Worldwide Learning. Educating and supporting students learning in English but living at the margins (Bamyan Province, Afghanistan; Dzaleka refugee camp, Malawi).

2019-2020 **Member.** Board Development Committee, Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore.

2018-2020 **Member & Corresponding Secretary.** Soroptimist International, Central Jersey Coast chapter. Advocating for women and girls at the local level who need financial, educational and career assistance.

2018-2019 **Commissioner.** Ocean County Advisory Commission on the Status of Women. Addressing “the needs, concerns, problems and interests ... [and] services and resources for women in Ocean County.”