

Kathryn Ludwig

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English. Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, May 2010

Primary area: Twentieth-century American novel

Secondary area: Jewish philosophy

Dissertation: *Postsecularism and Literature: Prophetic and Apocalyptic Readings in Don DeLillo, E. L. Doctorow and Toni Morrison.*

This dissertation examines a strain of contemporary literature referred to as the postsecular, through readings of Don DeLillo's *Underworld*, E.L. Doctorow's *City of God*, and Toni Morrison's *Paradise* through Martin Buber's notion of the prophetic, and also René Girard's understanding of the sacred.

M.A. in Humanities. University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, June 2001

Thesis: "War Fiction and Social Tensions: the Political Reinterpretation of *Catch-22* and *All Quiet on the Western Front*."

B.A. with honors in English and Communications. Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, December 1998

PUBLICATIONS

"Complicity and Critique." *The Secular and the Literary*. Special issue of *Christianity and Literature*, forthcoming.

"Finding the Prophetic in Failure: A Postsecular Reading of E. L. Doctorow's *City of God*," *Religion and the Arts* 19 (2015), 230-258.

"Don DeLillo's *Underworld* and the Postsecular in Contemporary Fiction," *Religion and Literature* 41.3 (Autumn 2009), 15-24.

"Postsecularism and a Prophetic Sensibility," *Christianity in Literature* 58.2 (Winter 2009): 226-233.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

National Presentations

Session Chair: "Postsecular Prospects in American Literary Studies: In Praxis."
Organized by the American Religion and Literature Society. American Literature Association 28th Annual Conference on American Literature, Boston, MA, May 25-28, 2017.

"'Le Dire' and Meaning Making in Contemporary Literature." North American Levinas Society Annual Meeting. Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, July 27-30, 2015.

Session organizer: "The Post-secular Turn in Literary Studies." Paper presenter: "In Between the Sacred and the Secular: Religious Possibility in Don DeLillo's *Underworld*." American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL, November 1-3, 2008.

"Cultivating a Prophetic Sensibility." Modern Language Association Annual Convention: Conference on Christianity and Literature panel session. Chicago, IL, December 27-30, 2007.

"Beyond the Postmodern: the Post-secular and Martel's *Life of Pi*." Modern Language Association Annual Convention. Washington, D.C., December 27-30, 2005.

Panel participant: "Three Voices from the Holocaust: Arendt, Stein, Weil." 23rd Annual Holocaust Remembrance Conference: Anti-Semitism and Terrorism. Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, March 27, 2004.

International Presentations

"A Time to Live and a Time to Die: Two Temporalities in Emmanuel Levinas and Anna-Teresa Tymieniecka." Written and presented with Sandor Goodhart. Fourth World Congress of Phenomenology: The Phenomenology and Existentialism of the Twentieth Century. Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland, August 17-20, 2008.

"Reading the Akeidah after Girard: The Non-violence of Abraham's God." Colloquium on Violence and Religion. Koblenz, Germany, July 7-10, 2005.

Regional Presentation

Session co-organizer and panel participant: "Sacred-Secular Borderlands: The Postsecular in American Literature." Midwest Modern Language Association Convention: American Religion and Literature Society panel session. St. Louis, MO, November 10-13, 2016.

"A Scattering: The Literary in this Postsecular Age." Southwest Conference on Christianity and Literature. John Brown University, Siloam Springs, AR. November 14-16, 2014.

"Darkness and Light: Religious Conflict and Writers of the WWII Era." Eastern International Regional Conference of the American Academy of Religion. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, April 30-May 1, 2004.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Visiting Instructor and Adjunct Instructor, Division of Modern Languages and Literature, Indiana Wesleyan University. March 2017 to present, February 2015-May 2016 and January 2013-May 2013

"World Literature" (2 sections + substitution teaching, half semester) Guided students in examining major themes of Western culture as expressed in its literature. Aided students in strengthening their critical reading abilities as a means of increasing an appreciation for creative literature.

“British Literature” (substitution teaching, half semester) Lead students in study of the development of British literature, examining primarily Twentieth Century British literature, including Joseph Conrad, Virginia Woolf, Salman Rushdie and J.M. Coetzee.

“English Composition” Prepared first- and second-year college students for academic writing through introduction to rhetorical strategies and organizational principles and practice with narrative, expository, and persuasive writing. Facilitated students’ meta-cognition and confidence as writers.

“Literature and Ideas” (substitution teaching, half semester) Guided students in reading of landmark Christian works by C. Lewis, St. Teresa of Avila and J. R. R. Tolkien. Promoted and enhanced students’ personal and intellectual engagement with literature.

“Seminar on Transcendentalism” Provided advanced students with an introduction to American Transcendentalism and key contributors to literature of that period. Major focus given to Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau, as well as both American and European literary and philosophical influences.

Course Developer/Adjunct Instructor, Indiana Wesleyan University Online/The Masters Study. August 2015-May 2016

“World Literature/Ancient Literature and Mastery Composition” Developed mixed-format dual credit course for homeschooled high school students at The Master’s Study for IWU credit. Created video lectures, prepared lesson plans for TA to implement in weekly class-time and graded students’ weekly submissions or online discussion boards, as well as exams and essays.

Adjunct Instructor, Professional Writing Department, Taylor University. August-December 2014

“The Writers Craft” Guided professional writing majors in reading literature with an eye to improving their own craft as writers. Students applied class discussion of concepts such as characterization, dialogue and gesture to improving one original piece through workshop and revision. Students also conducted research on one major author.

Project Excel Instructor, Vincennes University/Blackford High School. November 2013-June 2014

“English Composition I and II” Prepared college-bound students for college reading and writing. Emphasized deep engagement with texts, critical discussion and writing as a process. Focus given to conducting research and using sources in writing.

Adjunct Instructor, Department of English, Taylor University. August-December 2013 and 2012

“Fundamentals of Writing” (4 sections) Worked with first-year students to prepare them for the demands of academic writing. Students read difficult scholarly articles and developed strategies for understanding and engaging with those texts. Students cultivated their own voices as college writers through informal and formal writing assignments, peer and teacher collaboration and a course portfolio.

Graduate Instructor, Department of English, Purdue University. September 2003–May 2004

“First-Year Composition” (3 sections) Provided first-year students with direction in improving composition skills through the use of a variety of genres and media. Focus given to analyzing rhetorical situations in students’ discourse communities and in mass media. Met with students in computer lab, traditional classroom and small-group conferences.

Visiting Instructor, Departments of English and Public Relations, Taylor University-Fort Wayne, Fort Wayne, IN. September 2001–May 2003

“Literature of Cultural Diversity” Formulated course dealing with multi-cultural issues. Provided students at all levels with exposure to literature marginalized in canonical studies; special emphases on Native American Indian literature, Chicano literature and literature of the non-western world.

“World Literature” (2 sections) Guided students in examining major themes of Western culture as expressed in its literature and familiarizing themselves with major contributors to this tradition. Aided students in strengthening their critical reading abilities as a means of increasing an appreciation for creative literature.

“Expository Writing” (5 sections) Provided first-year students with an introduction to writing college papers in various expository genres. Taught MLA style. Conducted classes in computer lab and traditional classroom.

“Desktop Publishing” (2 sections) Provided beginning design students with introduction to effective visual communication. Taught basic design principles, adherence to deadlines and attention to detail. Arranged off-campus visit to PR firm to meet with professionals. Instructed students in the use of Quark XPress 6.0 and Pagemaker.

“Media Lab – Newspaper” (4 sections) Acted as faculty advisor to student-run campus newspaper. Facilitated weekly staff meetings, in which decisions were made regarding article assignments, layout and deadlines. Mentored student editor in managing writing staff and bringing paper to press.

“Broadcast News” Provided students with exposure to broadcast news production. Class time was divided between analyzing various news sources and their coverage of significant events (September 11, elections, etc.) and practicing effective news writing and delivery. Arranged for students to meet radio and television professionals.

Summer 2006

“Editing” Formulated independent study offering an introduction to copy editing as it is practiced in publishing and media professions. Student undertook projects designed to teach effective editing practice, involving consistency, accuracy, and clarity of language.

EDITORIAL/RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Editorial Assistant, RELIGION, Elsevier Publications. May 2005-February 2007

—Coordinated the review, editing and publication of journal submissions.

Graduate Assistant to Dr. Sandor Goodhart, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. January-May 2006

—Assisted with editing of special topic issue of the journal RELIGION; organized invited lecture; assisted with administrative duties.

Graduate Assistant, University of Chicago Press, Chicago, IL. September 2000–June 2001

—Assisted Associate Director with administrative duties.

Staff Writer, School of Liberal Arts, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. May–July 2000

Public Affairs Coordinator, Guggenheim Museum, New York, NY. August 1998–December 1999

— Wrote press releases and other publications. Facilitated interviews with curators, artists, and museum director. Planned and coordinated press previews.

SERVICE

Information Officer, American Religion and Literature Society 2016-present.

Capstone Project Evaluator for Hailey Beard, MA in Public Relations, Ball State University, Spring 2016.

Presenter, “Blended Learning,” Brown-Bag Gathering, Division of Modern Languages and Literature, November 20, 2015.

Guest speaker, “Plagiarism,” English and Social Studies classes, Blackford High School, April 6, 2016.

Guest speaker, “Intertextuality,” Senior English classes, Blackford High School, March 18, 2015.

Presenter, “A Calling to Relation,” Honors Conference, Taylor University, September 28, 2013.

Faculty Advisor, Alpha Chi Honor Society, Taylor University-Fort Wayne. September 2001–May 2003.

Discussion Group Leader, “Foundations” freshman seminar, Taylor University-Fort Wayne. Spring 2002 and Spring 2003.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Modern Language Association, November 2003-present.

American Academy of Religion, February 2004-present.

North American Lévinas Society, 2007-present.

LANGUAGES

Excellent reading and strong spoken French

—Semester of study in Rennes, France, Université d'Haute Bretagne (1997), B.A. minor in French.

—Translation, Jennerjahn Machine, Matthews, IN (2010). Translated Operations and Machine Manuals from English into French for machine going to France.

Basic reading in German

—Coursework at NYU Deutsches Haus (1998), Berlitz Learning Center-New York (1999) and University of Chicago (2000).

AWARDS & HONORS

“Most Influential Educator,” chosen by Jordan Pimental, Top Ten Senior at Blackford High School, 2014.

Introductory Composition at Purdue (IC@P) Excellence in Teaching, Teaching Portfolio Award, 2003-04—Monetary award for portfolio of materials and techniques used in teaching First-Year Composition.

Dean's Ambassador, 1995-98—Elected as student representative for Purdue University School of Liberal Arts.

Purdue University Dean's Scholar, 1994-95—Monetary scholarship and research opportunity.

REFERENCES

Dr. Sandor Goodhart
Associate Professor, Department of
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Purdue University
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