

Danika M. Brown
Curriculum Vitae

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Education

Ph.D., University of Arizona, 2003

Rhetoric, Composition, and the Teaching of English

Dissertation: *Outreach and Containment: The Rhetoric and Practice of Higher Education's Community-Outreach Programs and Possible Alternatives* (Director: Dr. Thomas P. Miller)

M.A., Arizona State University, 1994

English Literature

Thesis: *Wallace Stevens' Prose and Poetry: David Hume as Intertext* (Director: Dr. D.G. Kehl)

B.A., University of Nevada, Reno, 1990

English (Minor: Philosophy), *High Distinction*

Employment

Executive Director, Center for Civic Leadership (March 1, 2023 – Present)

Rice University

- Mentor and collaborate with 12 professional staff members running experiential learning programs, partnerships, assessment, and communication
- Mentor student workers, fellowship applicants, alumni, and residential college presidents
- Oversee a \$1.8 million budget with over 25 different endowment and gift funds
- Maintain relationships with donors for active gift funds and fund raising for grants and gifts
- Lead development of Strategic Plan (most recently, [2025 Strategic Priorities](#)); implement strategic priorities and report outcomes to Dean of Undergraduates and Institutional Data, Evaluation, Analysis, and Strategy
- Convene and communicate with an advisory board of faculty and community partner members
- Collaborate with campus partners, deans, and faculty for faculty development, funding, and support of university strategic initiatives such as general education revision and assessment of high impact experiential learning on campus
- Member Rice Leader Development Council – created a campus Leader Development Framework and process to map leader development programming across campus
- Member Quality Enhancement Proposal Committee: *Global Strengths: Systems Thinking, Reflection, and Engagement for Growth*; plan to build infrastructure and support for developing critical global citizenship outcomes through high impact international and local experiential learning opportunities.
- Member Experiential Learning Steering Committee – committee to implement campus vision for quality experiential learning (co-curricular and curricular opportunities), validation processes, and data collection/analysis.
- Teach Leadership Communication course and support Certificate in Civic Leadership core programming and capstone course

Director, Curriculum and Fellowships (September 1, 2015 – March 1, 2023)

Center for Civic Leadership, Rice University

- Oversaw curriculum development and cohesion across 10 experiential learning programs, academic courses, capstone course, and academic certificate program.
- Directed advising and selection for national fellowships and internal awards; managed a portfolio of 6 major fellowship nominations including advising students, feedback on applications, and interview preparation

- Taught Certificate in Civic Leadership Capstone course
- Supervised 6 program staff in program design, implementation, and assessment
- Developed a holistic advising structure to support civic professional development and trajectory building for careers in public service
- Ran and coordinated faculty engagement and development across schools for engaged teaching, learning, and research
- Developed a comprehensive Canvas Course for community engaged research and community-based learning: *Civic Rice: Curricular Resources for Civic and Community Engagement*

Associate Professor of Rhetoric and Composition (August 2003-August 31, 2015; Promoted Fall 2009)

Department of English, University of Texas, Pan American

- Taught undergraduate and graduate courses in composition, rhetorical theory, and research methods
- Supervised master's theses in composition, pedagogy, and literary studies
- Chair, Faculty Senate (2006-2008)
- Faculty mentor for junior faculty seeking tenure and promotion
- Research areas: critical pedagogy; service learning and university-community partnerships; US higher education; popular culture representation of crime.

Founding Director, Undergraduate Research and Service Learning (January 2012-August 31, 2015)

University of Texas, Pan American

- Created the university's first office to institutionally support undergraduate research and experiential learning
- Managed Undergraduate Research Initiative which supported 12-20 faculty sponsored research projects with undergraduates each year and coordinated an annual university-wide Undergraduate Research Conference with over 300 student research posters and presentations
- Implemented faculty development for Title V grant to expand experiential learning systematically across the institution (over 40 faculty engaged in service learning and undergraduate research training and support)

Selected Grant-Related Activities

Co-Principal Investigator. "Growing STEMs Abroad: Creating a Culture of International Civic Professionalism at Rice University." Increasing and Diversifying Education Abroad for US Students. US Department of State grant competition. June 2022. Not funded, but activities were funded by Rice University's Provost's funding for 2023-24.

Co-Principal Investigator. "Improving Hispanic Student Success through Experiential Learning." Title V, HSI grant competition. Department of Education. 2012. **Funded**, October 2013.

Co-Program Director. "Curricula Development, Experiential Learning, Networking, and Agroecology for a diverse student clientele (CENA): overcoming barriers to agricultural education and careers in south Texas." US Department of Agriculture, HSI grant competition. Dr. Alex Racelis, PI. Spring 2013. **Funded**, 2013.

Key Personnel. "Interdisciplinary Networks for Student Preparation in Research Excellence (INSPIRE)." NIH BUILD grant competition. Dr. Suad Gaddar, PI. Spring 2013. Not funded.

WAC Professional. "Online Professional Development Project: Writing Across the Curriculum." Funded through the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. PI: Pamela Anderson Mejias. 2011-2013. **Funded**.

Selected Publications

Edited Collections:

Entertaining Fear: Rhetoric and the Political Economy of Social Control. Co-editor with Catherine Chaput and Mary Jean Braun. New York: Peter Lange Publishing, 2010.

Monographs:

Pulling it Together: A Methodology for Service-Learning Based in Critical Pedagogy. Washington, D.C.: Corporation for National Service, 2001.

Peer Reviewed Chapters:

With Dr. Elizabeth Vann. "Summer of Civic Action: Empowering Students as Agents of Democratic Access and Inclusion." *Power to the Polls*. Ed. Marianne Magjuka. New York: Routledge, 2023.

"Hegemony and the Discourse of the Land Grant Movement: Critique as a Point of Departure." *Education as Civic Engagement: Toward a More Democratic Society*. Eds. Gary A. Olson and Lynn Worsham. New York: Palgrave, Macmillan, 2012. 95-128. (Originally appeared in: *JAC*, Fall, 2003 23.2: 319-50.)

"Upwardly Mobile by Degrees: Higher Education and the Rhetorics of Fear." *Entertaining Fear: Rhetoric and the Political Economy of Social Control*. New York: Peter Lange Publishing, 2010. 115-134.

"In Service to Capitalism: The Cultural Functions of Higher Education." *Rhetorical Agendas: Political, Ethical, Spiritual*. Ed. Patricia Bizzell. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum and Associates, 2006.

"At Work in the Field." Co-author with Thomas P. Miller. *Culture Shock and the Practice of Profession*. Eds. Virginia Anderson and Susan Romano. Hampton Press, 2006.

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles:

With Dr. Jessica Khalaf. "Critical Reflection: A Foundation for Civic Engagement." *Experiential Learning and Teaching in Higher Education* Special Issue, National Society for Experiential Education 2020 Conference Proceedings (Spring 2021).

"Stop Me If You've Heard This: Dialectical Negations and Program Development Discourses." *Composition Forum*, 23 (Spring 2011).

With Dr. Deborah Cole. "The 'Real' Threat of *Español* in Public Discourse." *Voices: San Antonio College Multicultural Journal* IV (2009): 75-82.

Selected Presentations and Guest Lectures

"Addressing "Unbelonging" for Faculty: The Role of Faculty Development in Civic and Community Engagement". AAC&U Conference on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Henderson, NV, March 2023.

"Building Co-Educational Community Partnerships through Student Leadership, a student and community partner panel". Gulf South Summit Conference Presentation. June 2022.

"Fellowship Advising and Critical Reflection: A framework for influence". National Association of Fellowship Advisors National Conference. Philadelphia, PA, June 2017.

"High-Impact Educational Practices as Rhetorical Pedagogy Across the University." 2013 CCCC Annual Convention. Las Vegas, NV, March 15, 2013.

"Levinas and Buber: Responsibility, Dialogue, and Reframing Rhetorical Pedagogy." Rhetoric Society of America 15th Biennial Conference. Philadelphia, May 2012.

"Levinas and American Crime: Rhetorics of Responsibility and the Philosophy of Obligation." North American Levinas Society Annual Conference. May, 2011.

"Before Rhetoric Stands the Other: A Levinasian Corrective to Critical Theory." Rhetoric Society of America (RSA) 14th Biennial Conference. Minneapolis, MN: May 2010.

- “On the Job: The Rhetorical Construction of Labor and Alienation in Television Crime Drama.” 7th Annual International Conference on Rethinking Marxism. Amherst, MA, November, 2009.
- “The Rhetorical Construction of Citizen-Responsibility as ‘Taking a Bite Out of Crime’.” Rhetoric Society of America (RSA) 13th Biennial Conference. Seattle, WA, May 2008.
- “The ‘Real’ Threat of Spanish Speakers: The Competing Discourses of ‘estar aqui’ and ‘ser alguien’.” With Dr. Deborah Cole. San Antonio College 13th Annual Multicultural Conference. April 24-26, 2007. San Antonio, Texas.
- “Policing Ourselves: The Rhetoric of Evidence in Popular Culture.” Popular Culture Association National Conference. April 4-7, 2007. Boston, Massachusetts.
- “Negative Dialectics: Rethinking Rhetoric” Invited Proposal. Rethinking Marxism, 2006. Amherst, MA. Oct. 26-29th.
- “Developing a Graduate Program in Rhetoric: Political, Economic, and Cultural Constraints.” Rhetoric Society of America 12th Biennial Conference. Memphis, TN. May 27, 2006.
- “The Stories They Tell: Regional Identities, Cultural Constructions, and Critical Rhetoric in First Year Composition.” Conference on College Composition and Communication. Chicago, IL. March 23, 2006.
- Plenary Speaker (Invited). “Principles for Redefining Community Partnerships for Social Change.” *Connecting Places: Social Transformation and University-Community Partnerships*. Project for Civic Engagement and Social Transformation. Georgia Southern University, April 21, 2005.
- Presenter. New Writing Faculty Orientation. Department of English, Writing Program. University of Texas, Pan American. August 24, 2004. August 21, 2005.
- “Designing Assignments to Promote Critical Thinking.” Writing Across the Curriculum Workshop. University of Texas, Pan American. October 21, 2004 (invited).
- “Community-Based Partnerships and Regional Studies.” Appalachia Up Close: Regional Studies and the Liberal Arts.” NEH Summer Institute. June 15, 2004. (Invited to present as part of the institute I was participating in).
- “Tied to Place: Higher Education, Fear in ‘Communities,’ and the Production of Citizenship.” Rhetoric Society of America Annual Conference. Austin, TX: May 29, 2004.
- “Angel for Hire: Wage Labor, Saving the World, and the End of Obligation.” Composition and Rhetoric Area, Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Conference. San Antonio, TX: April 7, 2004.
- “Marxism and Liberal Education on the Globalized Border: Lessons from a University in Transition.” Marxism and the World Stage. Rethinking Marxism’s 5th Annual International Conference. Amherst, MA: November 6, 2003.
- “Patterns of Containment: Higher Education Partnerships with Community (Re)Development.” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA: March 2003.
- “Community Activism and Scholarly Projects: Considerations for Developing Extensive Community-Based University Research Projects.” Guest Lecture. Cultural Geography Graduate Practicum Program. Dr. Marvin Waterstone. February 2003.
- “Discriminating Practices: Ideology, Activism, and Business Writing Pedagogy.” Writing as a Human Activity: An Interdisciplinary Conference. Santa Barbara, CA. October 5, 2001.
- “Ideology and Community Service in Rhet/Comp Literacy Work.” Guest Lecture. Community Literacy Practicum, Graduate Program in Rhetoric, Composition and the Teaching of English. Dr. Thomas Miller. October, 2002.
- “The Stuff A Place is Made of: Historical Materialism as a Methodology for Rhetorical Analysis.” Guest Lecture. Honors Colloquium, Honors College. Invited by Dr. Richard Kissling, Dean. September 27, 2001.
- “Synchronous Communication Learning Environments as Intervention in the Distance Learning Model: The Case of an Online Business Writing Course Development.” Computers and Writing Online 2001: A Cyber Odyssey, April 2001.
- “MOO Potential: Perspectives and Assessment Guiding Client Design.” Computers and Writing 2000

Online Conference, April 2000.
"Acting out on the MOO: A Justification for Critique Through Guerrilla Theater." Conference on College Composition and Communication, April 2000.
"The MOO Made Us Do It: Utilizing a Critical Theory of Technology to Enact Critical Pedagogy."
Coauthor with Anne Bartlett. MOO--The Missing Link in Education. Virginia Commonwealth University, October 1999.

Instructional Appointments and Courses Developed and Taught

Director of Curriculum

Adjunct Lecturer

Rice University, 2105 – present

Visiting Scholar: Learning Together Program

Cambridge University, UK, November 2019 (taught short courses in men's prisons)

Associate Professor

University of Texas – Pan American, 2003 - 2015

Graduate Teaching Associate:

University of Arizona, 1997-2003

Iowa State University, 1996-1997

Arizona State University, 1992-1994

Adjunct Teaching Faculty:

Saddleback College, Irvine Community College District, 1994-1995

The Washington Center, 1995

Community Education Instructor:

California State University, San Marcos, 1994-1996

Courses Taught

Capstone – Certificate in Civic Leadership

Leadership Communication

Civic Education and Criminal Justice: Alternative Recess Program

(Rice University)

English 1A: Basic Composition

(Saddleback College)

English 101/1301: First-Year Composition, Introduction to Writing

(Arizona State University, Saddleback College, Iowa State University, The University of Arizona, The University of Arizona Minority Student Services—"Newstart Program", University of Texas – Pan American)

English 102/1302: First Year Composition, Rhetorical Analysis and Critique

(Arizona State University, Iowa State University, The University of Arizona, University of Texas – Pan American)

English 104: First Year Composition, Honors

(Arizona State University)

English 307: Business Writing and Professional Communication

(The University of Arizona)

Traditions in Culture 104: Key Cultural Concepts in Literature

(The University of Arizona, Teaching Assistant for Dr. J. Douglas Canfield)

English 4325: Composition Techniques (Pedagogy)

(University of Texas – Pan American)

English 3326: Writing and Culture

(University of Texas, Pan American)

English 3323: Applied Discourse Analysis

(University of Texas, Pan American)

English 3320: Special Topics—Rhetoric of Sports

(University of Texas, Pan American)

English 3320: Special Topics—Rhetoric of Power

(University of Texas, Pan American)

English 4324: Survey of Rhetorical Theory

(University of Texas, Pan American)

Graduate Courses

English 6320: Introduction to Graduate Studies in Rhet/Comp

English 6322: Rhetorical Theory – Latin American Rhetorics

English 6324: Pedagogy in Rhetoric and Composition (Critical Pedagogy)

English 6326: History of Rhetoric

English 6390: Graduate Level Special Topics – Research Methods

English 6390: Graduate Level Special Topics – Rhetorical Criticism

(University of Texas, Pan American)

Service Learning and Nonprofit Leadership

Peer Reviewer: Learn and Serve America and Ameri*Corps National Grant Competition

(Corporation for National Community Service, April 2004; April 2005; April 2006)

Project Coordinator

(Tucson Service Learning Coalition, Summer 2002 – Spring 2003)

National Service Fellow

Grant awarded to fund service learning pilot program and published monograph.

(Corporation for National Service, September 2000 – June 2001)

Member: Service Learning in Composition Advisory Group

(The University of Arizona, 1997-2003)

Faculty Leader: Leadership in the Nonprofit Sector

(The Washington Center, Fall 1995)

Instructor: Grant Writing Workshop Series

(California State University, San Marcos, 1995-1996)

Coordinator: Certificate in Nonprofit Leadership

(California State University, San Marcos, 1995-1996)

Participant: Community Literacy Conversation

(Tucson Area Literacy Council, Spring 1998)

Member/Coordinator: Neighborhood Conversations Project

(Maverick Institute Fall 1997)

Board Member: Office of Service Learning Advisory Board

(Office of Service Learning, California State University, San Marcos, 1995-1996)

Project Coordinator: "Make a Difference Day"

(California State University, San Marcos, 1995 and 1996)

Instructional Technology

Instructional Technology Consultant

(College of Humanities, The University of Arizona, Summer 2001 – Spring 2003)

Instructional Materials and Technology Designer, *Profcomm*

Professional and Business Communication Online Learning, led by Dr. Thomas P. Miller

(Composition Program, The University of Arizona, Summer 2000, Fall 2000, Summer 2001)

Research Assistant: Curriculum and Technology Designer/Programmer

Digital learning project led by Dr. Roxanne Mountford

(MOO Pilot Project, The University of Arizona Summer, 1998-Fall 1999)

Research Assistant: Technology Development, Website Design: AgComm

Writing Across the Curriculum project led by Dr. David Russell
(Iowa State University, 1996-1997)

Academic Honors and Awards

Rice Dean of Undergraduates Staff Recognition Award, 2025.

Rice MILE Staff Award for outstanding service. 2018.

Faculty Excellence Award in University Service, College of Arts and Humanities, 2010.

Institute Scholar, National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute. "Regional Studies and the Liberal Arts: Appalachia Up Close." Ferrum College. 2004.

Faculty Research Release Award. "Rhetoric and Dialogue: Social Interlocution, Pedagogy, and Ethical Philosophy, Book Project." University of Texas, Pan American. 2004-2007.

National Service Fellow, Corporation for National and Community Service, 2000-2001.