

Dr. Andrea Spain
Assistant Professor
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Mississippi State University
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Education

- Ph.D. Comparative Literature, University at Buffalo, June 2009.
M.A. Comparative Literature, University at Buffalo, 2004.
M.A. English Studies, Colorado State University, 2000.
B.A. English Literature, Colorado State University, 1994.
- Dissertation: *Temporal Alternatives: Postcoloniality and Politics of the Event*, supervised by Elizabeth Grosz, Carine Mardorossian, Shaun Irlam, and Kalliopi Nikolopoulou.
- Examination fields: Postcolonial Literature and Theory; Philosophies of Materiality and Becoming; Gender, Feminist and Queer Theory.
- Master's Thesis at Colorado State University, with distinction: *Corporeal Passwords: Toward an Active Sense of the Body*, supervised by Donna LeCourt, Paul Trembath, and Brad MacDonald, June 2000.

Publications

- “Sensation and the Art of Capture.” *Time, Politics and Aesthetics*. Spec. issue of *Trickhouse*. 7.1 (2010). Online. <<http://trickhouse.org/vol7>>.
- “Spectral Futures? Responsibility and the Weight of the Past: Necessary Failures of Representation in Zoë Wicomb’s *David’s Story*.” *Ghosts, Stories and Histories: Ghost Stories and Alternative Histories*. Ed. Sladja Blazen. New York: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2007.

Conference and Invited Talks

Conferences:

- “Demand or Promise? The Animal and the Postcolonial Nation.” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, *Creoles, Diasporas, Cosmopolitanisms*. New Orleans. April 2010.
- “The Animal and the Limits of Morality in the Post-Apartheid Fiction of J.M. Coetzee and Lisa Fugard.” Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association. New Orleans. April 2009.
- “Spectral Futures? Responsibility and the Weight of the Past: Necessary Failures of Representation in Zoë Wicomb’s *David’s Story*.” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, *The Human and its Others*. Princeton. March 2006.
- “Temporal Alternatives: Politics of the Event in Nadine Gordimer’s *The Pick-Up*.” Institute for

Research on Women and Gender Graduate Symposium. University at Buffalo, Buffalo.
April 2005.

“Notes on the Hieroglyphs of Everyday Fear.” *Sociology in the Age of Intelligent Machines*.
Buffalo State College, Buffalo. April 2002.

Invited Talks:

“The Human, the Animal and Animality in Post-apartheid South African Literatures.”
Department of English. Ball State University, Muncie. February 2010.

“National Tensions, Postcolonial 'Muscular Tonicity' and Global Politics of Perception.”
Department of Women’s Studies. Hobart and William Smith Colleges. Geneva. July
2009.

“Emergence: Writing the Unseen.” One-Week Workshop and Lecture Series with Bhanu Kapil.
Naropa University Summer Writing Program, Boulder. June 2007.

“Unhinging Time: Postcolonial Politics of the Leap and Fanon’s Bergsonism.” Department of
English and Journalism. Western Illinois University, Macomb. March 2007.

“Lies about Sex: Sexual Shame, Normalcy, and the Limits of Respectability.” Department of
English. St. John Fisher’s College, Rochester. January 2007.

“Deleuze’s Bergson and Space.” *Architecture and Writing*. Naropa University, Boulder. February
2006.

“Writing Workshop for New Mathematical Topographies.” *New Mathematical Topographies*.
Canisius College, Buffalo. November, 2003. http://www.canisius.edu/topos/series_one.asp.

“Refiguring the Body/Rethinking Movement.” *Body/Mind Connections*. Department of
Theatre/Dance. University at Buffalo, Buffalo. November 2000.

Honors and Awards

Honors and Awards:

College of Arts & Sciences Dissertation Fellowship, University at Buffalo, 2006-07.

College of Arts and Sciences Top Teachers as Rated by Students. University at Buffalo, 2003.

Teaching Fellow, Oishei Foundation Project: New Mathematical Topographies. Canisius College, 2003.

Certificate of Achievement in Teaching: Professional Internship in English. Colorado State University, 1996.

BA in English with Honors, cum laude, Colorado State University, 1994.

Academic Scholarships and Assistantships:

Graduate Assistantship, Department of Comparative Literature, University at Buffalo, 2000-04;
2006-07; 2008 to present.

Research Assistantship, Institute for Research and Education on Women and Gender (IREWG),
University at Buffalo, 2004-06.

Tuition Scholarship, University at Buffalo, 2000-06.

Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Colorado State University, 1994-97.

Tuition Scholarship, Colorado State University, 1994-97.

Grants:

Provost Faculty Travel Award. Western Illinois University, Spring 2010.

Julian Park Chair Research Grant. Department of Comparative Literature, University at Buffalo, Fall 2001.

UB Graduate Student Association Graduate Symposium Funding for “Gender Across Borders II: Research Subjects.” University at Buffalo, Spring 2006.

UB Graduate Student Association Special Activities Funding for IREWG's International Women's Film Festival. University at Buffalo, Spring 2005/2006.

UB Graduate Student Association Graduate Symposium Funding for “Navigating the (Gendered) Job Market,” University at Buffalo, Spring 2005.

UB Graduate Student Association Special Activities Funding for Gender Week. University at Buffalo 2005/06.

Teaching Positions and Experience

Visiting Assistant Professor. Western Illinois University. 2009-Present. Courses taught include:

LAS503 *Focus on the Humanities: The Human and Other Animals*

LAS195 *Introduction to Liberal Arts and Sciences*

ENG258 *Introduction to World Literature*

ENG301 *Women and Literature* (Cross-listed with Women's Studies)

ENG290 *Introduction to Film* (cross-listed with Broadcasting)

ENG202 *Introduction to Drama*

ENG353 *Great Books*

Part Time Faculty. Naropa University. Naropa Summer Writing Program, 2007.

Graduate Assistant. Department of Comparative Literature, University at Buffalo, 2000-04; 2006-07; Present. Courses taught include:

UGC 111 *World Civilizations*

ENG 101 *College Composition*

ENG 201 *Advanced Composition*

WS 213 *Women in Contemporary Society*

COL 314 *Signs and Representation*

WS 401 *Marked Bodies* (cross-listed with English and Comparative Literature)

Composition Instructor. Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado, 1998-2000.

Graduate Teaching Assistant. English department, Colorado State University, 1994-97.

CO 150 *College Composition*

CO 301 *Intermediate Composition*

Writing Center Tutor. Colorado State University, 1996-97.

Selected Courses Designed and Taught

Focus on the Humanities: The Human and Other Animals (Liberal Arts and Sciences 503) This graduate seminar examines philosophical, historical and sociological distinctions between the Human and the Animal within the humanities, and the ways in which this distinction undergirds concepts of consciousness, actions and passions, racialization, the inhuman, and the concept of "a life" itself. The course split in two directions: it charts both epistemological distinctions and ontological considerations of the human/other animal divide within contemporary debates across the humanities. The course also provides an overview of the human/animal divisions that undergird colonial, neocolonial and global human rights discourse, environmental discourses, and the emergence of “the humanities” at all. The

course also considers radical rethinking of that divide by engaging with trauma theorists such as Dominique LaCapra and Frantz Fanon, postcolonial and global fiction writers such as Lisa Fugard and Bhanu Kapil, and philosophers such as Giorgio Agamben, Peter Singer, and Elizabeth Grosz.

Signs and Representation (Comparative Literature 314). This course is designed to introduce students to major theories and issues arising in critical theory's linguistic turn, from the work of key founders of structuralism – Saussure, Pierce and Levi-Strauss – to the late 20th century critiques of structuralism developed by post-structuralists (Barthes, Kristeva, Foucault, Derrida, Irigaray). The course emphasizes various analyses of social power, including critiques of bourgeois cultural life, and disciplinary power and its investments in the production, dissemination and control of discourses.

Marked Bodies (Women's Studies 401; crosslisted with English 406 and Comparative Literature 408). This course provides an interdisciplinary feminist introduction to philosophical backgrounds of contemporary theoretical work on the body, materiality and language. It includes sections on phenomenological and psychoanalytic conceptions of the lived body, the body of experience or the corporeal schema (Fanon, Merleau-Ponty, Freud, Lacan); a section on the body as a surface of social inscription, marking, training, and normalization (Nietzsche, de Certeau, Foucault, Canguilhem). In conjunction with these background texts, students examined contemporary feminist, gender, queer and 'race' theorists' adaptations, transformation, and dissemination of philosophies of corporeality, and rigorously analyzed their ethical and political implications and relevance (Haraway, Butler, Grosz, Warner, Weigman, Carby, Gilroy).

Women in Contemporary Society (Women's Studies 213). This course is collaboratively designed by the Women's Studies Teaching Collective, a body of graduate students working with faculty and undergraduates to design, revise and teach 5-8 sections of WS213 per semester. The course functions as an introduction to the field of Women's Studies. In conjunction with brief histories of feminism within and outside the academy, this course is designed to familiarize students with major issues within the field: the analysis of culture, power, and identity construction; politics of representation; sexual identity, gender diversity and compulsory heterosexuality; women and social policy; violence against women and LGBT community (sexual, domestic, institutional, global); and women, nationalism and globalization.

Professional Experience

Conference Organizer:

Gender Across Borders II: Research Subjects. University at Buffalo, Buffalo. April 2006.

Navigating the (Gendered) Job Market, University at Buffalo, Buffalo. April 2005.

Conference Panel Chair:

Issues in Film, Media, Pedagogy. *The Humanities in a Digital Age*. English Graduate Organization Annual Conference. Western Illinois University. October 2010.

Globalization and Critiques of Representation. *Questioning Identity: Representations of Class and Working Class Identity*. English Graduate Organization Annual Conference. Western Illinois University. November 2009.

Multi-media Curator:

Guest Curator. *Trickhouse*. Vol 7. Winter 2010. <http://trickhouse.org>.

IREWG's 10th Anniversary International Women's Film Festival. University at Buffalo, Spring 2006.

IREWG's 9th Annual International Women's Film Festival. University at Buffalo, Spring 2005.

Research Assistant:

Research Assistant. Institute for Research and Education on Women and Gender, University at Buffalo, 2004-2006.

Research Assistant to Professor Elizabeth Grosz, 2001.

Copy Editor:

Long, Margherita. *This Perversion Called Love: Tanizaki, Feminist Theory, Freud*. Stanford University Press, 2009.

Gasché, Rodolphe. "Critique, Authentic Biographism and Ethical Judgment." *The Honor of Thinking: Critique, Theory, Philosophy*. Stanford University Press, 2006.

_____. "Thinking Within Thought." *The Honor of Thinking: Critique, Theory, Philosophy*. Stanford University Press, 2006.

University Leadership

Faculty Advisor, Liberal Arts & Sciences Graduate Student Organization, 2010-present.

International Women's Film Festival Selection Committee, 2004-10.

Conference Chair, *Gender Across Borders II: Research Subjects*, 2006.

Department of Women's Studies Advisory Committee, 2004-7.

Executive and Steering Committees, IREWG, 2004-06.

Chair, Graduate Student Steering Committee, IREWG, 2004-06.

Women's Studies Teaching Collective. 2003-04.

Graduate Students Employees Union, 2000-present.

President, Comparative Literature Graduate Student Association, 2002-03.

Senator, Comparative Literature Graduate Student Association, 2004-06; 2000-02.

Community Activism

Educate-a-bull Pitbull Rescue, 2009-2010.

Member, Western New York Peace Center, 2002-06.

Women in Black (WIB), weekly silent vigils for peace, 2001-04.

Instructor, Open Self-Defense Class for Women, weekly, 2003-05.

References

Professor Elizabeth Grosz, Department of Women's Studies, Rutgers University.

Associate Professor Carine Mardorossian, Department of English, University at Buffalo.

Assistant Professor Kalliopi Nikolopoulou, Department of Comparative Literature, UB.

Associate Professor Barbara Bono, Department of English, University at Buffalo.

Professor Mark Mossman, Chair, Department of English and Journalism, Western Illinois University.

Additional references available upon request:

Associate Professor Shaun Irlam, Department of Comparative Literature, University at Buffalo.

Professor Rodolphe Gasché, Department of Comparative Literature, University at Buffalo.

Assistant Professor Margherita Long, Department of Comparative Literature, University of California at Riverside.