

Curriculum Vitae 2025

Deborah Galle

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EDUCATION

MFA in English / Writing, University of Pittsburgh, main campus, 2003 – included a 225-page creative-nonfiction manuscript, *Jumping In*, a collection of stories – Graduated first in class with 3.85 grade-point average and more than 15 courses. Graduate committee included Jeanne-Marie Laskas, Chair, Dr. Jean Ferguson Carr, Patsy Sims, and Bruce Dobler.

BA in English and Liberal Arts, Western Connecticut State University, Danbury – Major primarily emphasized in-depth literary analysis.

TEACHING

[@University of Pittsburgh](#) - **Teaching Assistant, Instructor, Visiting Lecturer in English and Part-time Lecturer in English - August 2000 – present** (with short breaks for professional development, writing/editing work, or relocation)

Seminar in Composition - Emphasizes small-group and whole-class workshops, directed revisions, and reflection on analysis as a process. Mini-lessons include PowerPoint slides that lead into small-group and homework prompts.

- **The Literary Essay** – Staff sequence that examines and discusses creative non-fiction and narrative journalism. Readings from *The Best American Essays of the Century*, Joyce Carol Oates., ed.
- **Education** - Book-recommended sequence that explores aspects and effects of higher education. Sequence and readings from *Ways of Reading*, 6th edition, Drs. David Bartholomae/Anthony Petrosky, eds.
- **The Culture and Science of Argument** - My sequence with themes that explore how culture and science impact us. Literary essays about Native American and Hispanic cultures inspire essays about our own. A second theme explores science and its impact. Readings from the works of Ruth Behar, Gloria Bird, Atul Gawande, Michael Pollan and Michael Specter.
- **Engineering** - A writing-across-the-curriculum, First-year Engineering Composition Program course. See FYECP, below.

Freshman Seminar/Learning Communities: - A course designed to introduce students to our School of arts and Sciences, composition skills and the urban Pittsburgh community. Students enroll in three courses across the curriculum related to one theme. Includes written assignments, workshops, revision and reflection. It also requires students to complete an ongoing visual rhetoric assignment wherein students attend Pittsburgh events and explore neighborhoods with our direction and attend university events sponsored by Freshman Programs. As the lead instructor, I create curricula, teach, and direct a graduate teaching assistant.

- **FS/LC: Transnational Religious and Spiritual Literature** - My sequence with a theme that explores the beliefs that shape us: includes fiction and literary essays by Saul Bellow, Jack Kerouac, Nawal El Saadawi, and Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn.
- **FS/LC: Culture, Identity, and Native America** – My sequence with a theme that explores the cultures and identities that shape us: includes fiction, film, literary essays and narrative journalism by Sherman Alexie, N. Scott Momaday, Leslie Marmon Silko and Dorothy Westerman.

Writing for the Public – sophomores through seniors – Students produce and workshop original, detailed media such as a 7-page full-color brochure that explores a social or environmental issue. As students research and compose, they workshop professional examples and discuss readings about communication, both written and visual. Utilizes Canvas CMS (formerly used Blackboard CMS) and digital software applications.

First-Year Engineering Composition Program - These courses fulfill the English composition requirement for all freshman engineering students. I have enjoyed teaching them from the Program's inception, 20+ years ago. Courses include **0210 Seminar in Composition: Engineering**, which in 2019 replaced Intro to Engineering Analysis (fall), and **0412 Engineering Communication in a Professional Context**, which replaced Intro to Engineering Computing (spring). More than a dozen assignments, with an extensive support system that includes peer mentors, Writing Center consultants, librarians, etc., lead students ultimately to write detailed and precisely formatted professional journal articles that double as conference papers. In addition to the final paper, students create a supporting PowerPoint presentation. Until 2025, they also created a detailed conference-room entrance poster. In April, the year culminates in a large conference of students, parents, regional and out-of-state engineers, and faculty. Students make formal presentations, network, and win conference paper awards. Roughly 200 teams compete for approximately 6 awards. More than one dozen of my teams have won in their category.

Mini-workshops -

@Writing Center - Weekly: **Creative Nonfiction Writing & Poetry; Flash Fiction; Filmscript Writing; and Business Portfolios**

Composition Tutorial / General Writing Intensive includes most Seminar in Composition students who meet weekly at The Writing Center with faculty consultants. Consultants customize tutorials and grade students - pass/fail.

@Office of International Services - Demonstrated Native American cooking.

@Washington & Jefferson College - **Adjunct Instructor – Spring 2011**

Composition – Taught an in-class seminar/workshop sequence from *Ways of Reading*, Drs. Bartholomae/Petrosky to freshmen with the aid of PowerPoint mini-lectures and visual prompts. Utilized Sakai CMS.

@Chatham University – **Adjunct Lecturer – Fall 2010**

Business Writing, (Distance Learning) tailored to sophomores. Utilized Moodle CMS.

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION AND OTHER SERVICE

@ Pittsburgh Region

Co-judge, The Congressional Essay Contest – Fall 2019 – present - The annual essay contest is a major project of the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America held under the auspices of the Washington Workshops Foundation, a private nonprofit educational program in American government for high-school students. Winners receive full tuition, including seminar materials, university campus housing and two meals daily for a week of citizenship education about the national government, as well as tours of the nation's capital.

Active Committee Member, Philanthropic Education Organization International (PEO) 2017 to present - The PEO is a US-based nonprofit organization that grew out of a college sorority. The organization awards scholarships and grants to women internationally with funds raised by its members. It also helps support Cottey College, a women's arts and sciences college in Nevada, Missouri.

March 2019, Seventieth Annual Convention Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC), David L. Lawrence Convention Center Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania - Attended and volunteered several hours of service.

@ University of Pittsburgh - Spring 2000 to Spring 2014

Swanson School of Engineering Freshman Conference 2020 - Canceled - COVID-19

Composition Program events, 2012-2019

- Participated in orientation for new faculty and workshops in assignment sequencing and grading/responding to students' work, portfolios, etc.

Composition Program Assistant, 2007-08

- Worked with and reported to Composition Program Director Dr. Nicholas Coles
- Served as liaison between program director and 100+ English tenure-stream and adjunct faculty
- Planned monthly Composition Curriculum Committee agenda with program director
- Planned, publicized, and implemented annual Composition Program Spring Conference and planned/hosted other events
- Planned, publicized, oversaw, and chaired Composition Program Undergraduate Writing Awards
- Recorded and distributed detailed preview and minutes for CCC meetings

Composition Curriculum Committee Member, 2005-08

- Undergraduate English Composition Awards Subcommittee – Chair and judge
- Web-site Subcommittee – co-designed new Composition Program web-site using Adobe.

- Online Courses Subcommittee

Non-tenure Stream Faculty Committee Member, 2005-08

Native American Student Organization (NASO) Sponsor, 2005-08

Office of International Services Participant (OIS), 2006

Writing Center Consultant, 2004-05

- Writer's Café Committee Member– conducted Writing Center instruction through Friday afternoon creative writing workshops
- Outreach Committee Member– taught Writing Center business writing workshop
- Composition in Engineering Initiative Committee Member– developed curriculum and best tutoring practices for WAC Freshman Engineering Writing Program students
- Readings Committee Member– examined texts for ongoing Writing Center staff development
- Tutored undergraduate and graduate students, adhering to International Writing Center Association's best practices
- Instructed / Tutored WAC course, Freshman Engineering Writing Program – see description under Teaching above
- Participated in weekly staff meetings - developed goals, initiatives and instructional approaches; developed instructional handouts
- Tutored ESL
- Tutored Writing Tutorial, a pass/fail complement to Seminar in Composition

History East and West Writing Competition Judge, 2004

- Co-judged WAC effort within History Department and several schools within the tri-state area

Hemingway's Readings Series Participant, 2000-2003

Visiting Writers Series Participant, 2000-2003

Research Assistant for English Department Chair, Dr. David Bartholomae, 2000

- Researched *Ways of Reading*, 6th ed, Drs. David Bartholomae/Anthony Petrosky, eds.

@Western Connecticut State University, Danbury, CT

Assistant Editor of university's alumni publication, *The Wesconn Alumni News* - hired

Reporter for award-winning student newspaper, *The Echo* - volunteered

Student Government Organization (SGO) Senator - elected

SGO Newbury Hall Dormitory Representative - elected

RECENT PUBLICATIONS, HIGH SCHOOL TO PRESENT ACHIEVEMENTS -

- Published realist fiction story, “Malfunctions 101,” in *The Saturday Evening Post Magazine* and website, edited by Andrew Hollandbeck, Sr. Managing Editor, Indianapolis, IN.
- Published poem, “Autumn Refrain,” in *evermore: Edgar Allan Poe inspired international poetry* anthology series, Book 1, Raven’s Quoth Press, Melbourne, Australia.
- Published literary essay, “Fourth of July,” in *Forever* anthology series, *Book 1*, Shelagh Watkins, ed., Mandinam/Lulu Press, Manchester, England.
- 2000 to present –
 - Edited and researched books published in the US and Asia including academic theses.
 - More than a dozen of my Engineering Communication in a Professional Context teams have won the Engineering Writing Program’s annual Best Paper Award in their engineering field category for conference paper excellence. These include roughly 200 papers competing for approximately a half-dozen awards each year.
 - 2000 – 2003 –
 - 2003 – Commissioned to write documentary video script to promote the Pittsburgh Region to businesses worldwide: Spence Communications, producer, WTAE News Anchor Sally Wiggin, narrator.
 - Graduated first in MFA class with a concentration in CNF.
 - Awarded Graduate Creative Nonfiction Award for MFA manuscript title chapter, “Jumping In,” judged by Michael Rosenwald, Pitt MFA Program alum, New York Times reporter and author.
 - Awarded research and teaching assistant appointments for academic achievement.
 - 2000 - Researched chapter introductions for *Ways of Reading*, 6th ed., Drs. David Bartholomae and Anthony Petrosky, eds.
- High school through 1995 –
 - Worked at first city daily paper, *The Stamford Advocate*, summers, full-time, beginning junior year of high school.
 - Published more than 350 newspaper articles, columns, and essays since then in various daily papers. These included the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, *the Beaver County Times*, and *the Allegheny Times* as correspondent, beat reporter, features writer and/or columnist. Subjects ranged from ecology to previews of art/photography shows and world music concerts, stories of human interest, coverage of local government, crime, and education, general beat reporting. In-person profiles ranged from everyday people to actors and other celebrities. Edwina Kaikai, Len Barcousky, Michael Pellegrini, and Mark Murphy, PPG eds.

OTHER RELATED EXPERIENCE

1992 to Present – Have earned memberships in Published Authors, AWP, The Society of Professional Journalists, The Society of Environmental Journalists, and served as a board member and treasurer of the Women’s Press Club of Pittsburgh. In addition, have mentored at-risk teens and adults with learning disabilities; volunteered for humanitarian causes and places of worship; assisted and tutored students in local elementary and high schools; and co-raised two children.