

Laura Edmunds
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Education

The University of Georgia, Athens, GA PhD 2014
Comparative Literature

Dissertation:
Containers for Creation: Ifá, the Fantastic, and Women in Literature of the African Diaspora

Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck NJ M.A. 2002
M.A. English and Comparative Literature

Thesis:
Civil War and Coming of Age: The Child Soldier in *The Red Badge of Courage* and *Sozaboy*

York College of Pennsylvania, York, PA B.A. 1994
B.A. English and Writing

Publications

Edmunds, Laura. "Reading Sango in Esmeralda Ribeiro's 'A procura de uma borboleta preta.'" *Sàngó in Africa and the African Diaspora* Edited: Joel Tishken, Toyin Falola, and Akintunde Akinyemi Indiana University Press: 2009.

Conference Presentations

Papers Given:

"New Directions in Nnedi Okorafor's *Binti* Series" South Atlantic Modern Language Association Annual Conference, Atlanta, Georgia USA. November 4, 2017.

"Coming of Age in 'The World': Re-imagining genre in Nnedi Okorafor's Young Adult Novels" African Literature Association Annual Conference, New Haven, Connecticut, USA, June 2017.

"Social Justice in *Binti*" African Literature Association Annual Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, USA, April 2016

"Ọpọń -Ifá: A Paradigm for the Future" African Literature Association Annual Conference, Bayreuth, GERMANY, June 2015

"It's in the Water: Cultural and Environmental Sustainability in Nnedi Okorafor's *Lagoon*" South Atlantic Modern Language Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, USA November 2014

“Playing Wonn and Swallowing Frogs: Narrating from the Transitional Gulf in Edwidge Danticat’s *Claire of the Sea Light*” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting & Conference, New York, New York, USA March 2014

“Globalization and Literary Theory: A Review of Laura Murphy’s *Metaphor and the Slave Trade*.” Second Annual Conference on Africa and Its Diaspora: African Studies Institute, University of Georgia, Athens, USA October 2013

“Esu at His Limits: Exchanging Esu for Ezili in *Midnight Robber*, *The Salt Roads*, and *The New Moon’s Arms*” Southern Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Charlotte, North Carolina, USA Sept 2011

“Shifting Dynamics: The Many Uses of Esu in the Novels of Nalo Hopkinson” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting & Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA April 2010

“Living Myth: Nationalizing Sango in Carril’s “Shango de Ima” and Amado’s *Tenda dos milagres*” Southern Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference Raleigh, North Carolina, USA September 2007

“Building Community: Reading Sango in Esmeralda Ribeiro’s “A procura de uma borboleta preta” and Jorge Amado’s *Tenda dos milagres*” American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting & Conference, Puebla, MEXICO April 2007

“Reading Sango in Esmeralda Ribeiro’s “A procura de uma borboleta preta”” Northeast Modern Language Association Annual Conference, Baltimore, Maryland, USA March 2007

“Deleuzian Analysis and African Film: Guimba, a Case Study” Southern Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference, Athens, Georgia, September 2006

“Orality in Wend Kuuni and Buud Yam” African Literature Association Annual Conference, Madison Wisconsin, USA March, 2004

Panels Chaired:

“African Literature and Sustainability” South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Atlanta, Georgia, USA, November 2014

"Language Planning and Policy," "Stylistics and Language Use," and "Semantics-Pragmatics" Panels at the 39th Annual Conference on African Linguistics, Athens, Georgia, USA, April 2009

Conference, Workshops, and Training Attended

2022 The Chronicle’s Strategic Leadership Workshop, January 10-14, 2022

- 2021 BOR Workshop, Documenting Effective Teaching Behaviors, July 20, 2021
- 2021 BOR Workshop, Building a Certified Peer Observation Program: Improving Teaching and Removing Biases, July 28, 2021
- 2017-2021 BOR: Learning Support Academy, Implementation of Co-Requisite Model for Learning Support: October 2017, March 2018, October 2018, April 2019, November 2019, April 2020, October 2020, February 2021
- 2020 Academic Chairpersons Conference, Savannah, GA, February 5-8, 2020
- 2018-2019 Gateways to Completion: Retreat, April 2018 and Summit, October 2019

Teaching Experience

- 2009-present Georgia State University: Perimeter College
Associate (2019) Professor of English,
 Department Chair (2015), English, Arts, and Humanities Decatur,
 Associate Chair, English, Dunwoody (2016-2017)
 Department Chair (2018), English A [Clarkston, Decatur, Newton]
- 2009 (Spring) Gainesville State College, Oconee Campus
 Instructor of English, Adjunct
- 2003-2009 The University of Georgia
 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Instructor of Record
- 2002-2003 Raritan Valley Community College, NJ
 Full Time Replacement Faculty (Spring 2003) and Adjunct (Fall 2002 and Summers 2003-4)
- 2002-2003 Middlesex County College, NJ
 Instructor of English, Adjunct
- 2002 County College of Morris, NJ
 Instructor of English, Adjunct

Courses Taught

- Perimeter College
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| AAS 2010 | Introduction to Africana Studies |
| ENGL 0098 | Basic Composition |
| ENGL 0099 | Pre-College Composition |
| ENGL 1101 | Composition I |
| ENGL 1102 | Composition II |
| ENGL 2110 | World Literature |
| ENGL 2111 | World Literature I |

ENGL 2112 World Literature II
ENGL 2132 American Literature II (African-American)
ENGL 2131 American Literature I
HUMN 1301 Humanities Through the Arts
GPCS 1010 Freshman Experience Seminar

Gainesville State College

ENGL 1102 Composition II

University of Georgia

GRSC 7770 Pedagogy
CMLT 2400 Asian-American Literature
CMLT 2500 Comparative Ethnic-American Literature
CMLT 2600 Black Diaspora Literature
Special Topics: Introduction to Comparative Black Literature, The Yoruba and the Diaspora, and Diaspora, Migration, Movement IN Africa

Raritan Valley Community College

ENGL 099 Learning Support (Writing)
ENGL 1101 Composition I
ENGL 1102 Composition II

Middlesex County College

ENGL 099 Learning Support (Writing & ESL)
ENGL 1102 Composition II

County College of Morris

ENGL 099 Learning Support (Reading & Writing)
ENGL 1101 Composition I

Honors and Awards

2011 Outstanding Service to the Two Year College English Association
2007 Latin American and Caribbean Studies Institute Tinker Grant Award for Field Research
2006 Inducted into Chi Gamma Lambda, National Honor Society for Comparative Literature
2005-6 UGA Teaching Assistant Mentor Program Participant
2005 Fulbright-Hayes Group Projects Abroad Grant for Travel & Study in Nigeria
2005 Graduate Teaching Assistant Excellence in Teaching Award
2004-5 President, Comparative Literature Graduate Student Organization

Service

Perimeter College at Georgia State University

2021-2022	GSU: Provost's Committee – Annual Review Administrators Group
2021	Dean's COACHE Action Sub-Committee for Communications
2021	University-Wide Search Committee for Assessment Manager
2021	Accelerator Program Task Force
2020-2021	Perimeter College Dean's Task Force on Summer Pay Process, Steering Committee and Working Group
2020-2021	GSU: Steering Committee Chair, University-wide Women's Interest Group of the Diverse Faculty Alliance
2020-2022	GSU: Writing Across the Curriculum Advisory Board
2019-2020	GSU: Office of Faculty Affairs Council Perimeter College Representative
2018-2021	Perimeter College Executive Committee
2017-2021	Perimeter College Bylaws Committee Chair
2017-2019	Faculty Senator, GSU Senate
2017	Search Committee Chair, Campus Wide English Lecturers (2 positions)
2016-2018	African Student Association, Dunwoody Campus Faculty Advisor
2016	BORAACE Representative for Perimeter College, Board of Regents' Academic Advisory Committee on English
2016	Chair, Celebration of Excellence English Award
2014-15	English Executive Council Representative
2010-present	Faculty Search Committees
2011-15	Assistant Department Chair: English, Humanities, Fine Arts, and Foreign Language, Newton Campus
2010-present	World Literature Curriculum Committee 2012-14 Committee Chairperson
2009-14	Newton Campus Symposium Committee 2012 Co-Chair

2010-11 Chairperson

2010-12 Daffodil Festival Committee Member

2009-14 Newton Humanities Faculty Senate Alternate

2010-11 Newton Campus Music Club Founder & Faculty Advisor

2011 TYCA Conference Organizing Committee

2011 Department Secretary Search Committee, Newton, Nov/Dec

University of Georgia

2006-2009 Student Academic Honesty Council
2006-8 Panelist
2008-9 Honesty Educator
2008-9 Multiple Violations Review Board

2007-2008 Organizing Committee for ACAL (Annual Conference on African Linguistics)

2008 Second Reader/Advisor for Senior Honors Thesis: "Slave, Untouchable, Outcast, Sacrifice: The Complexity of the Osu Issue Among the Igbo People of Nigeria" by Shannon Deere

2006 Co-Organizer, with Dr. Joel Black, Department Roundtable discussion "What is World Literature?"

2006 Conference Volunteer: Annual Conference of the Southern Comparative Literature Association

Invited Lectures and Presentations:

Fall 2021 Navigating the Promotion & Tenure Process at Perimeter College, Moderator, New Faculty Orientation, August 2021

Fall 2020 Invited Panelist for GSU Faculty Affairs New Chair Orientation, August 6, 2020

Fall 2019 Invited Panelist for GSU Faculty Affairs New Chair Orientation, August 7, 2020

Fall 2009 "Kwanzaa Introduction" Holidays Around the World Celebration, International Education Event at Georgia Perimeter College, Newton Campus

Summer 2006 Best Practices for Teaching Undergraduates Seminar: CTL University Orientation for new Teaching Assistants

Fall 2005 African Studies Institute Welcome Address "Cultural Awareness" Program

Fall 2005 African Studies Institute "Africa Talk" lecture series "Yoruba GPA in Nigeria"

Fall 2005 African Studies Institute "African Perspectives" Radio Show Interview "Yoruba GPA Program in Nigeria"

Raritan Valley Community College

Spring 2002 New Course Development Committee (Departmental): Research, Design, and Propose "Technical Writing" Course

Faculty Forum (Institutional)