

FREDRIK DEBOER

fdeboer@purdue.edu • fredrikdeboer.com • 400 N River Road Apt. 1607 West Lafayette, IN 47901 • 860.336.9931

Education

PhD in Rhetoric and Composition, Purdue University, May 2015

Secondary Areas in Writing Programs Administration and English as a Second Language

MA in English, concentration in Writing and Rhetoric, University of Rhode Island, May 2011

BA in English, minor in Philosophy, Central Connecticut State University, December 2004

Academic Employment

Limited-Term Lecturer, Introductory Composition at Purdue Program,
Purdue University, 2015 – 2016

Publications

Dissertation

The CLA+ and the Two Cultures: Writing Assessment and Educational Testing

Committee: Richard Johnson-Sheehan (chair), April Ginther, Bradley Dilger, Janet Alsup

My dissertation concerned the Collegiate Learning Assessment+ (CLA+), a standardized test of college learning, and its implementation at Purdue University. I specifically examined the role of writing in the test's assessment mechanism, and the potential impact of such tests on writing programs. I also documented the history of the higher education assessment movement in American educational policy, tracing the economic and political origins of recent efforts to implement more evidence-based, interoperable assessment of learning within the American university system. I found that writing programs are uniquely vulnerable to this movement, as our resistance to traditional empirical methods leaves us unable to influence these policy developments. I argue that we can introduce more empirical scholarship without sacrificing our theoretical, pedagogical, or political ideals.

Books

Writing Itself (proposal submitted to Melville House Books)

My proposed monograph, titled *Writing Itself*, argues that college writing instructors, programs, and researchers would benefit from highlighting aspects of our work that are related to writing as traditionally defined. In a world where the study of English and the humanities are threatened, writing retains a privileged place even among political and administrative forces that are typically antagonistic to the liberal arts. By foregrounding traditional prose instruction, we can better create space for the theoretical, political, and pedagogical work that our researchers and teachers perform. We need not accept conservative definitions of the work of writing to value and affirm the importance of writing itself.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles and Webtexts

- "White Paper on Assessment of College Learning," The New America Foundation (January 2016, forthcoming)
- "Vignette: Neoliberal Reform and Composition's Failure to Make New Knowledge," *College English* 79.2 (November 2016, forthcoming)
- "Evaluating the Comparability of Two Measures of Lexical Diversity," *System* 47 (2014), 139 –145
- "The Gradebook As Enemy of Public Writing: Assessing Engagement," *College Composition and Communication* (revise and resubmit)
- "The First Person," *Writing Commons* (2012)

Chapters

- "The University," *American Literature in Transition: The 1960s*, Cambridge University Press, (2017, forthcoming)
- "A Proposal: Five Federal Universities," *At Issue: What is the Future of Higher Education?*, Gale Publishing (2015)
- "The First Person in Academic Writing," *Network, Collaborate, Compose: College Writing in the Digital Age*, University of South Florida (2013)
- "The Resentment Machine," *Culture: A Reader for Writers*, Oxford University Press (2013)

Reviews

- "H.19 Collecting, Analyzing, and Talking about Data," CCCC Workshop Review, *Kairos* (2014)
- "Review: *Class Dismissed* by John Marsh," *Teacher-Scholar: The Journal of the Comprehensive University* 6 (Fall 2014)

Selected Popular Press Publications

- "The Last Radical Conservative: Louis Farrakhan and BlackLivesMatter," *Harper's Magazine* (print), forthcoming 2015
- "Why We Should Fear University, Inc.," *The New York Times Magazine* (print), 2015
- "College Students Have Forgotten How to Fight the System," *The New Republic*, 2015
- "Google Deep Dream and the Tech Press," *Full Stop Quarterly*, 2015
- "Is Bernie Sanders a SINO?," *Politico*, 2015
- "Why Rachel Dolezal Would Want to Pass," *The Los Angeles Times* (print), 2015
- "When Good Political Arguments Go Bad: On Critique Drift," *In These Times*, 2015
- "What Progressives Don't Want to Talk About in the UVA Rape Case," *The Week*, 2014
- "Winners Who Identify as Losers," *The New York Times*, 2014
- "Academics, Public Work, and Labor," *AndrewSullivan.com*, 2014
- "No, the Brookings Study Isn't 'Garbage,'" *Talking Points Memo*, 2014
- "Hartford, Connecticut," *n+1*, 2014
- "Gawker's Ugly Crack Addiction," *Salon*, 2013
- "Good Wars, Real or Imagined," *Jacobin Magazine*, 2013
- "International College Students: New Issues for a New Normal," *The Huffington Post*, 2012

Honors and Awards

Mary Gitzen Award for Teaching Excellence, Oral English Proficiency Program, Spring 2014
Purdue Research Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, Summer 2014
Council of Writing Program Administrators Graduate Student Travel Grant, July 2014
Emerging Scholars Travel Grant, Graduate Student English Association, Spring 2014
Walter Johnson Essay Award in ESL, Purdue Literary Awards, Spring 2014 (Honorable Mention)
R.W. Babcock Essay Award, Purdue Literary Awards, Spring 2012 (First Place)
Quintilian Award for Excellence in Teaching, Introductory Composition Program, Spring 2012

Research Assistantships

Research Assistant

Transcription and Coding, The Online Writing Network (TOWN)
Assisting Linda Bergmann, Fall 2013

For this semester-long project, I assisted a team of researchers in developing and piloting an educational, literacy-focused online social network for high school students funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. In my capacity as a per-hour research assistant, I transcribed interviews with high school teachers who had utilized the network and helped code interviews to answer research questions.

Research Assistant

Data Collation and Analysis, First-Year Composition for International Students Program
Assisting Tony Silva, Summer 2013

For this summer-long project, I organized and analyzed survey data for Purdue's introductory composition program for international students. This research involved collecting demographic and educational data from Purdue's large, diverse international student population, in order to learn more about their personal and educational histories and in so doing better understand their skills and learning in English literacy. In my capacity as a per-hour research assistant, I organized this survey data and represented it visually, and helped Dr. Silva identify trends and patterns within it.

Administrative Positions

Assessment Coordinator

Comprehensive Assessment, Introductory Composition at Purdue Program
Assisting Jennifer Bay, 2014 – 2015

I coordinated and implemented a comprehensive assessment of the Introductory Composition at Purdue (ICAP) program, working under the Director of ICAP. This assessment involved the collection of texts from classes within ICAP's 185 sections of English 106. These texts were independently rated by trained raters, working under the training of guidance of the Director,

myself, and another graduate assistant. I helped analyze these results statistically and qualitatively. I also helped to organize focus groups of English 106 instructors, in order to discuss their pedagogy and experiences.

Selected Conference Presentations

- "Corporatism and the Future of the American University,"
2016 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Colleges & Universities, 2016 (invited speaker)
- "Assessment and Administrative Self Defense"
67th Annual Conference on College Composition and Communication, 2016 (forthcoming)
- "What's Writing? Who's Asking?"
WIDE-EMU, 2015
- "Responding to No: Lessons for Service Learning When Community Partners Resist"
2014 Thomas R. Watson Conference, 2014
- "Beyond International and Domestic: Class Divisions Among International Student Writers"
2014 Council of Writing Program Administrators, 2014
- "Statistical Hands, Rhetorical Hearts: Opening the Methods"
65th Annual Conference on College Composition and Communication, 2014
- "The Epideictic Functions of American Celebrity"
Making Meaning: Language, Rhetoric, and Enculturation, 2013
- "Material Rhetorics, Feminism, and the (Methodological) Spaces Left"
Ninth Biennial Feminisms and Rhetorics Conference, 2013
- "The Syllabus as the Enemy of Public Writing"
64th Annual Conference on College Composition and Communication, 2013

Teaching Experience

<i>Course Name</i>	<i>Institution</i>	<i>Position</i>
Professional Development in ESL Spring 2015	Purdue University	Instructor
Classroom Communication in ESL Fall 2013 – Fall 2014	Purdue University	Instructor and Rater
Introductory Composition Fall 2011 – Fall 2013, Fall 2015	Purdue University	Instructor
Seminar in Public Writing Spring 2011	University of Rhode Island	Instructor
Writing to Inform and Explain Fall 2010 - Spring 2011	University of Rhode Island	Instructor

Professional Experience

Communications Editor, *Kairos*, Fall 2014 – present

For the peer-reviewed open-access journal *Kairos*, I work as Communications Editor. In that role, I manage the journal's social media accounts, review initial submissions for appropriateness and worthiness for peer review, perform final editing and proofreading, and contribute to web design, among other duties.

Rater and Test Developer, Oral English Proficiency Program, Fall 2013 – present

I work as a rater and test developer for the Oral English Proficiency Test, a proprietary test of oral English ability developed at Purdue University. I rate student language samples from the test, using an internally-developed rubric that assesses student prosody, fluency, grammar, coherence, and similar aspects. I also participate in the development of the test mechanism and scale.

Instructor, English Preparatory Program, Purdue Computer Science, Summer 2014

I ran a five-day workshop for international graduate students in the Computer Science department, preparing them for their oral English tasks as teaching assistants at Purdue University. In this role, I worked with future teaching assistants on prosody, fluency, grammar, and other oral language skills.

Content Developer, Listen to Purdue Program, Purdue University, Spring 2014

I helped develop web resources, including interactive videos and quizzes, for a website introducing second language undergraduates to Purdue University, which provides support for English as a second language, information about life as an international student, and an introduction to the Purdue University community.

Copy Editor, Pearson, Spring 2014 – present

I participated in visual design, copy editing, and proofreading for revisions to popular textbooks.

Academic Director, Abbey Road Programs, Summer 2012

I developed and supervised a summer academic program for domestic and international high school students who intended to apply to American colleges. In this capacity, I focused on essay and personal statement writing. I developed a curriculum, taught a class, and supervised other instructors.

Service

Thesis Committee, Joseph Staten, New School University, 2014 – 2015
Representative, Purdue Graduate Student Government, 2014 – 2015
Graduate Student Labor Task Force, Council of Writing Program Administrators, 2014 – 2015
Proposal Reviewer, Association of Teachers of Technical Writing, 2013 – 2014
President, Rhetoric Society of America, Purdue Chapter, 2013
Peer Reviewer, *Language Testing* (Elsevier), 2012 – present
Technical Coordinator, URI Graduate Conference Committee, 2010 – 2011
Member, URI English Department Graduate Liaison Committee, 2009 – 2011

Affiliations

American Association for Applied Linguistics, 2014 – present
Council of Writing Program Administrators – Graduate Organization, 2014 – present
4C4Equality, 2014
Council of Writing Program Administrators, 2013 – present
Rhetoric Society of America, Purdue Chapter, 2012 – present
National Council of Teachers of English, 2011 – present
Modern Languages Association of America, 2011 – present

Selected Graduate Coursework

Writing Programs Administration

Seminar in Writing Programs Administration (L. Bergmann)
Seminar in Writing Assessment (R. Johnson-Sheehan)
Curriculum Design in English as a Second Language (M. Berns)
Computers in Language and Writing (P. Sullivan)
History and Theory of Composition Studies (S. Blackmon)
Teaching Freshman Composition (practicum) (T. Rickert; M. Pennell)

Research Methods and Methodology

Empirical Approaches to Writing Research (M. Pennell)
Comparing First and Second Language Writing (T. Silva)
Rhetorical Methodologies (P. Sullivan)
Quantitative Research Design (T. Silva)
Advanced Qualitative Research Design (K. Obenchain)
Seminar in Language Testing (A. Ginther)
Syntax and Generative Grammar (E. Benedicto)
Experimental Statistics (T. Culver)
Applied Regression Analysis and Other Multivariable Models (T. Culver)

Rhetoric

Rhetoric of the Classical Period (R. Johnson-Sheehan)

Rhetoric of the Modern Period (P. Sullivan)

Rhetoric of the Postmodern Period (J. Bay)

Seminar in Public Rhetoric (L. Shamoon)

Seminar in Environmental Writing and Rhetoric (M. Ortoleva)

Medical Rhetoric and Writing (R. Johnson-Sheehan)

References

Richard Johnson-Sheehan, Dissertation Chair

Professor of English, Purdue University

rjohnso@purdue.edu

Department of English

Purdue University

500 Oval Drive

West Lafayette, IN 47907-2038

April Ginther, Dissertation Committee Member and Teaching Supervisor

Associate Professor of English & Director, Oral English Proficiency Program, Purdue University

aginther@purdue.edu

Oral English Proficiency Program

155 S. Grant Street

810 Young Hall

West Lafayette, IN 47907-2114

Jennifer Bay, Supervisor of Assessment Coordinator Position

Associate Professor of English & Director, Introductory Composition, Purdue University

jbay@purdue.edu

Department of English

Purdue University

500 Oval Drive

West Lafayette, IN 47907-2038

Tony Silva, Supervisor of Research Assistantship

Professor of English & Director, Second Language Studies, Purdue University

silvat@purdue.edu

Department of English

Purdue University

500 Oval Drive

West Lafayette, IN 47907-2038

