

## **BJORN SMARS**

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Department  
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## **EDUCATION**

M.A. in English Literature, University of Oregon, 2014  
B.A. in English Literature, *cum laude*, Walla Walla University, 2012

## **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

Career NTTF, University of Oregon, 2017-present  
Pro-Tem Faculty, University of Oregon, 2014-2017  
Part-Time Faculty, Linn-Benton Community College, 2016-present  
College Skills Zone Instructional Assistant, Linn-Benton Community College, 2017-present  
Graduate Teaching Fellow, University of Oregon, 2013-2014  
Writing Center Tutor, University of Oregon, Teaching and Learning Center, 2012-2013  
Writing Center Coordinator, Walla Walla University, Teaching Learning Center, 2010-2012  
Writing Center Tutor, Walla Walla University, Teaching Learning Center, 2009-2010

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

*University of Oregon*, 2013-present

WR121 College Composition I – *Written Reasoning as Discovery and Inquiry*: An introduction to college-level argumentative writing and critical inquiry required for all undergraduates. This course focuses on developing skills in critical reading and thinking, writing, and developing and revising argumentative essays.

WR122 College Composition II – *Written Reasoning as a Process of Argument*: Building upon the concepts covered in WR 121, WR 122 focuses on specific ways to develop argumentative essays in response to the challenges of complex contexts, which include increasingly sophisticated competing arguments and issues.

WR123 College Composition III – *Written Reasoning in the Context of Research*: WR123 addresses the problems of controlling the structures and strategies of writing that makes appropriate use of information, arguments, and counter-arguments found in relevant sources. As such, its objectives parallel those of WR122, which focuses on argumentative writing based on the logical development of an adequate thesis, generated in response to critical reading and discussion.

ENG104 Introduction to Literature: Fiction – ENG104 offers students a broad introduction to the study of literary fiction. Whether readings focus on the stories and novels of major writers or on works from a specific period or national tradition, students develop analytical skills that will allow them to think, write, and speak intelligently about fiction. The course addresses basic questions about the nature of prose narrative and the interrelated activities of reading, writing, and interpretation. Narrative technique, point of view, and character development are some of

the terms and concepts examined in the course. Weekly readings of short stories and novels are substantial in scope and difficulty, and students will be asked to compose critical essays of varying length, totaling at least 8-10 pages.

*Linn-Benton Community College, 2016-present*

WR95 College Writing Fundamentals: Prepares students to successfully use the writing process (plan, draft, revise, edit, proofread); use specific, sufficient, relevant support as evidence to support ideas; effectively use appropriate writer's resources; and edit and proofread for standard English and correct punctuation.

WR115 Introduction to College Writing: Introduces college-level critical inquiry in academic and professional reading and writing. WR115 students identify, analyze, and critically use: (1) a variety of writing situations and modes, often field-specific; (2) appropriate language, formats, and conventions; and (3) recursive, social and collaborative writing processes.

WR121 Composition: Introduces students to the processes and fundamentals of writing expository essays, including structure, organization and development, diction and style, revision and editing, mechanics and standard usage required for college-level writing. WR121 students practice different modes of expository writing in response to reading, including explanations, summary & response, comparisons, cause & effect analysis, and persuasion.

Accelerated Learning Program (ALP): Students who enroll in ALP take WR121 and WR115 concurrently in the same term. The WR115 class is a seminar-style support class in which a small cohort of ten or fewer students practice the skills introduced in WR121 and receive additional support and guidance on WR121 assignments.

## **TEACHING WORK AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT – UNIVERSITY OF OREGON**

Inclusive Pedagogies Reading Group (Spring 2018, Fall 2018)

Online Course Development Training (September 2018)

Contract-Grading and Labor-Based Grading Curriculum Development and Pilot Instructor (Spring 2018, Fall 2018)

Composition Program Mentor for Teachers-In-Training (Winter 2015; Winter 2017; Fall 2018)

WR121 Two-Essay Cycle Pilot Instructor (2014-2015; Spring 2016)

"Minding the Body" Casebook Pilot Instructor (Winter 2014)

Emergency Midterm Instructor Replacement (Fall 2014)

## **COMPOSITION PROGRAM SERVICE – UNIVERSITY OF OREGON**

Composition Committee Member (Fall 2018-present)

Composition Program Learning Outcomes Drafting Session (June 13, 2018)

Composition Conference Discussion Leader: "Staging Stasis Session," *2017-18 University of Oregon Composition Conference* (September 20, 2017)

ENG 613 Teacher Training: Casebooks Presentation (Winter 2017)

Panel Presentation: "WR121 Two Essay Cycle Pilot Design," *2016-17 University of Oregon Composition Conference* (September 19, 2016)

Panel Presentation: "Generating Counterarguments by Mapping Competing Lines of Reasoning,"  
*"Mapping Composition: Surveying the Composition Classroom" 2014-15 University of Oregon  
Composition Conference* (September 22, 2014)

### **AWARDS, NOMINATIONS, AND HONORABLE MENTIONS**

Nominated for the University of Oregon Composition Program's Excellence in Teaching Award (2017;  
2018)

### **LINN-BENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE SERVICE**

WritePlacer Assessment Committee (Winter 2018)

Part-Time Faculty Orientation and Resource Guide Work Group (Winter 2017 to Fall 2017)

### **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

Panel Presentation: "(Super)Natural Families: Eco-Horror and Transgressive Relationships in *The  
Saga of the Swamp Thing*," *Natures 2015*, La Sierra University (February 13, 2015)

### **PRINT PUBLICATIONS IN UNIVERSITY MAGAZINES**

"Unspeakable Words and Images: Primordial Language and Cosmic Horror in Alan Moore's "The  
Courtyard" and *Neonomicon*," Essay, *Art Ducko Comics Magazine* Vol. 2, Issue 4, March,  
2016.

"Storm," After Tomas Tranströmer, Poem, *Gadfly: Walla Walla University Journal of Art and Literature*  
*2011/2013*, June, 2013.