

Simone Sessolo

Sweetland Center for Writing
The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
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Education

Ph.D. in Comparative Literature, the University of Texas at Austin, August 2012
Dissertation: “Crime and Narrative: Violence as a Master Narrative in Contemporary Crime Novels”
Committee: Katherine Arens (dir.), Michael Hardt (Duke University), Neville Hoad, Michael Johnson, Neil Nehring, Guy Raffa
M.A. in English and Literary Theory, with Honors, the University of Kansas, May 2006
Concentration: British Modernism and Postcolonial Literature
Committee: Byron Caminero-Santangelo (dir.), Philip Barnard, Mary Catherine Davidson
LAUREA in Foreign Languages and Literatures, the University of Padua (Italy), March 2002
Thesis: “Investigating Virginia Woolf’s Style: *The Waves*”
Thesis Director: Mario Melchionda
Socrates Exchange Program, Royal Holloway College (the University of London), January-June 1999

Academic Interests

Digital Rhetoric; Social Media; Multimodal Composition; Writing Center Pedagogy and Practice.

Awards, Honors, and Grants

Digital Studies Teaching Award, the University of Michigan, May 2020
Rackham Dean’s Strategic Initiatives Fund, the University of Michigan, April 2020
CRLT Instructional Development Fund, the University of Michigan, March 2020
Vice Provost for Global Engagement and Interdisciplinary Academic Affairs Funding for Research on Teaching and Learning: Graduate ECoach, the University of Michigan, 2 August 2019
Academic Innovation Fund Award: Graduate ECoach, the University of Michigan, 10 April 2019
Golden Apple Award, Most Outstanding Teachers on Campus (nominated), Golden Apple Committee, the University of Michigan, April 2019.
Rita Hathaway (student), *Granader Family Prize for Outstanding Writing Portfolio*, The University of Michigan, Winter 2018
CRLT Faculty Communities for Inclusive Teaching Grant, the University of Michigan, January 2016
CRLT Lecturers’ Professional Development Fund Award, the University of Michigan, November 2015
LSA Institute on Diversity and Campus Climate, the University of Michigan, May 2015
Senior Fellow, Sweetland Fellows Writing Seminar, the University of Michigan, Winter 2014
Grace Yan Sun (student), *Sweetland Prize for Outstanding Writing Portfolio*, the University of Michigan, Winter 2013
University Continuing Fellowship, the University of Texas at Austin, 2011-12
Outstanding Student Academic Employee (nominee), the University of Texas at Austin, 2010
Love of Learning Award, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, 2009
Teaching Award, the University of Texas at Austin, 2007

Wolfe Award for Fiction, the University of Kansas, 2006
Teaching Award, the University of Kansas, 2005

Workshops Given at the University of Michigan

- “Writing the Teaching Statement.” Rackham/Sweetland Workshops. January 29, 2020.
- “A Guide to Write an Effective Statement of Purpose.” UROP Graduate School Fair. February 12, 2019.
- “Academic Writing.” UMSI Faculty Lunch. October 13, 2017
- “A Guide to Writing Effective Personal Statements.” UROP Explore the World of Research. June 9, 2017
- “The Organic Twitterer: #WWGD [What would Gramsci do?]” LangRhet Hot Topic Event. April 7, 2017
- “Workshop on Reflective Writing.” Shapiro Design Lab Residency. April 4, 2017
- “Multimodal Writing: Teaching in any Forms.” EDWP Colloquium. November 11, 2016
- “Evaluating Student Writing.” GSI Teaching Orientation. September 1, 2015
- “Writing for Blogs and Digital Media.” Sweetland-Rackham Workshop. March 27, 2014; April 10, 2015
- “The Art of Revision.” EDWP Colloquium. October 17, 2014
- “Science Writing Facilitator Training.” Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. October 3, 2014
- “Establishing Effective Writing Groups.” AGEP Writing Series Workshop. August 19, 2013

Publications:

- “It helps to be the joke. A Response to *It helps to be in on the Joke*.” *TheJUMP+* 8.2 (2019)
- “Writing the Selfie.” *Prompt* 2.2 (2018)
- “The Rhetoric of Memes.” *Syllabus* 5.1 (2016)
- “The Rhetoric of Memes.” Website. *The Jump: The Journal of Undergraduate Multimedia Projects* v5.2 (2014).
- “An Epic of Riots: The Multitude as Hero in *Handsworth Songs*.” *The Journal of Popular Culture* 47.4 (2014): 742-59.
- Rev. of *A Hologram for the King*, by Dave Eggers. *E3W Review of Books* 13 Spring 2013: 75-76.
- “The Logic of Violence.” Introduction. *E3W Review of Books* 12 Spring 2012: 54.
- Rev. of *Aspects of Violence: A Critical Theory*, by Willem Schinkel. *E3W Review of Books* 12 Spring 2012: 56-57.
- “Other Monsters: Gender Complexities of (Femi/woma/stiwa)nism in Bessie Head’s *When Rain Clouds Gather*.” *Facts, Fiction, and African Creative Imaginations*. Eds. Toyin Falola and Fallou Ngom. New York: Routledge, 2010. 221-32.
- “When Maturity Has Its Tongue: The Linguistic Alteration in Henry Roth’s *Call It Sleep*.” *Atti e Memorie dell’Accademia Galileiana di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti* CXVII.III (2005): 77-88.
- “Bernard: The Occult Narrator of Virginia Woolf’s *The Waves*?” *Atti e Memorie dell’Accademia Galileiana di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti* CXV.III (2003): 299-315.

Presentations

- “Stephen Toulmin Takes a Selfie: Logical Reasoning in The Age of Instagram.” *Computers and Writing*, Michigan State University, 06/22/2019.
- Invited speaker. “Authenticity in the Digital Age: Diving Below the Surface.” LSA Honors Program Kickoff. 31 August 2018, Power Center, the University of Michigan.
- “Discursive Selfies: Discourse in the Age of Instagram.” *Digital What? Building Digital Research and Making Communities at UM*, University of Michigan, 04/06/2018.
- “Personalization and Engagement in Dissertation Writing Groups,” with Louis Ciccirelli, *Computers and Writing*, the University of Findlay, 06/02/2017
- “Self[ie] Awareness,” Digital Exhibition, North Quad Space 2435, the University of Michigan, 12/01-11/2015

- “Presenting Ourselves: Practicing Social Media Ethos through the Selfie,” *Computers and Writing*, the University of Wisconsin-Stout, 05/29/2015
- “Violence in the Writing Center,” *The Future of Writing Centers Symposium*, the University of Texas at Austin, 02/23/2013
- “An Epic of Riots: The Multitude as Hero in The Black Audio Film Collective’s *Handsworth Songs*,” *ACLA Annual Conference*, Brown University, Providence, RI, 03/31/2012
- “Crime and Narrative: The Epistemological Project of Some Contemporary Crime Novels,” *PCA/ACA National Conference*, San Antonio, TX, 04/23/2011
- “Genre Fiction and Foucault’s *Pendulum*,” *Intimacy: Technologies of Feeling and Fantasy*, the University of Texas at Austin, 10/01/2010
- “*Foucault’s Pendulum* as Metafiction,” *AAIS Annual Conference*, the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 04/24/2010
- “Fractal Meta-Genres: Revisiting Master Narratives through Contemporary Mystery Novels,” *Faculty and Graduate Student Colloquium*, Department of French and Italian, the University of Texas at Austin, 11/11/2009
- “Oh Father, Why Hast Thou Forsaken Me? Or: The Absence of Fathers in *Mamma Roma*, *Il conformista*, and *Una giornata particolare*,” *AAIS Annual Conference*, St. John’s University, New York, NY, 05/08/2009
- “The Color of Death: The Filmic in Derek Jarman’s *Blue*,” *ACLA Annual Conference*, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, 03/27/2009
- “Even Uncertainty is Oriented,” *1968: A Global Perspective*, the University of Texas at Austin, 10/10/2008
- “On the Presence of Part 6 in D.M. Thomas’s *The White Hotel: The Symbolic Order and The Real*,” *ACLA Annual Conference*, Long Beach, CA, 04/26/2008
- “Other Monsters,” *Africa Conference: Popular Cultures in Africa*, the University of Texas at Austin, 04/01/2007
- “The N-word as Ironic Social Signifier in O’Connor’s *The Artificial Nigger*,” *Theory, Activism, Creativity: Navigating Textual Politics*, the University of Florida, Gainesville, 10/28/2005

Academic Appointments

- Co-Director, Dissertation Writing Institute, the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor: Winter 2018 – Present
- Affiliate Faculty, Digital Studies Institute: Fall 2017 – Present
- LEO Lecturer IV, Sweetland Center for Writing, the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor: Fall 2016 – Present
- Assistant Director, Sweetland Digital Rhetoric Collaborative, the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor: Fall 2015 – Present
- LEO Lecturer III, Sweetland Center for Writing, the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor: Fall 2012 – Summer 2016
- University Writing Center Consultant, the University of Texas at Austin: Fall 2010 – Summer 2012
- Assistant Instructor, Department of Rhetoric and Writing, the University of Texas at Austin: Fall 2010 – Summer 2011
- Assistant Instructor, Department of French and Italian, the University of Texas at Austin: Fall 2006 – Spring 2010
- Associate Director, *Summer Language and Culture Program* in Florence, Italy, the University of Kansas: Summer 2004 – Summer 2008
- Teaching Assistant, Department of French and Italian, the University of Kansas: Fall 2003 – Spring 2006

Courses Designed and Taught

The University of Michigan

W 100: Transition to College Writing. F 2012, F 2013, F 2015, F 2016, F 2017, F 2018, F 2019

W 200: Ethos and New Media. F 2014, F 2015
W 200: Writing the Selfie. F 2016, F 2017, F 2018
W 200: Creating Narratives in Augmented Reality. F 2019
W 201: The Rhetoric of Social Blogging. W 2013, F 2013
W 201: The Rhetoric of Memes. F 2013, W 2016
W 201: The Rhetoric of Micro-blogging: Twitter. W 2017
W 300: Seminar in Peer Tutoring. F 2012, W 2013, W 2014, F 2014, W 2015, W 2016, W 2017, W 2018
W 301: Directed Peer Tutoring. W 2013
W 303: Consulting on Multimodal Assignments. W 2017
W 630: Advanced Writing for Graduate Students. W 2014, W 2015, W 2016, W 2017, W 2018, W 2019, W 2020
W 631: Dissertation Writing. W 2019, W 2020

Other Universities

RHE 306: Rhetoric and Writing, the University of Texas at Austin.
ITL 118K: Non-topic Italian Composition and Conversation, the University of Texas at Austin
ITL 118L: Contemporary Italy through Italian Popular Music, the University of Texas at Austin.
ITL 506: First Semester Italian, the University of Texas at Austin
ITL 507: Second Semester Italian, the University of Texas at Austin
ITA 230: Third Semester Italian, the University of Kansas
ITA 240: Fourth Semester Italian, the University of Kansas
ITA 300: Non-topic Italian Composition and Conversation, the University of Kansas
ITA 315: The Italian Novel and Film at the End of the Fifties, the University of Kansas.

Academic Service

The University of Michigan

Chair, Sweetland Digital and Social Media Curriculum Committee, Fall 2019 – Present
 Curriculum Committee, Digital Studies Institute, Winter 2019 – Present
 Graduate Studies Committee, Sweetland Center for Writing, Fall 2018 – Present
 Lecturer Review Committee, Sweetland Center for Writing, 2015/16, 2018/19, 2019/20
 Editorial Consultant for Lockridge and Van Ittersum's *Writing Workflows: Beyond Word Processing*, DRC Book Price, Winter 2018
 Editorial Consultant for Laura Gonzales' *Sites of Translation: What Multilingual Can Teach us about Digital Writing and Rhetoric*, DRC Book Price, Fall 2016, Winter 2017
 Chair, DWG Working Group, Sweetland Center for Writing, Summer 2016
 Writing Expert, Dr. Stuart Kirsch's Anthrocul 349 *Indigenous Political Movements*, Winter 2016
 LSA IT Faculty Advisory Committee, Fall 2015 – Winter 2018
 IWCA 2016 Conference Committee
 Co-coordinator (with Louis Ciccirelli), Dissertation Writing Groups, Sweetland Center for Writing, Fall 2012 – Present
 Sections Coordinator for *Writing 630: Advanced Writing for Graduate Students*, Winter 2014 – Present
 Sweetland Center for Writing Outreaches, Fall 2012 – Present
 Multilingual Students Committee, Sweetland Center for Writing, Fall 2013 – Winter 2017
 Peer Writing Committee, Sweetland Center for Writing, Fall 2012 – Present
 Sweetland Representative, *Rackham's Info Fair*, August 2014, January 2015, August 2015, August 2017
 Chair, Multilingual Working Group, Sweetland Center for Writing, Summer 2014
 Chair, Resources Working Group, Sweetland Center for Writing, Summer 2013
 Hiring Committee, *Graduate Interns for the Sweetland Summer Internship*, Winter 2013

New Media Committee, Sweetland Center for Writing, Fall 2012 – Winter 2013
 Organizing committee, *Turning the Tables*, National Day on Writing, Sweetland Center for Writing,
 10/18/2012

Elsewhere

Editorial Board, *The Jump: The Journal for Undergraduate Multimedia Projects*, Fall 2013 – Present
 Editorial Review Board, *Praxis: A Writing Center Journal*, Summer 2012 – Present
 Assistant Editor, *Praxis: A Writing Center Journal*, The University of Texas at Austin, Fall 2011 – Summer
 2012
 Special Section Editor, *E3W Review of Books*, the University of Texas at Austin, Fall 2011 – Spring 2012
 Review Board, *Texas Studies in Literature and Language*, 2010 – Summer 2012
 Panel Organizer, “The Violence of Economics and the Economics of Violence,” ACLA Annual Conference,
 Providence, RI, 03/29 – 04/01/2012
 Panel Organizer, “Philosophical Issues in Popular Trends,” PCA/ACA National Conference, San Antonio,
 TX, 04/23/2011
 Panel Chair, “Cultural Exchanges: Politics by Other Means,” *Cold War Cultures*, the University of Texas at
 Austin, 10/03/2010
 Panel Chair, “Desire: Literature and Psychoanalysis,” *Intimacy: Technologies of Feeling and Fantasy*, the
 University of Texas at Austin, 10/02/2010
 Chair of the Organizing Committee, *Postcolonial Actualities: Past and Present*, Sixth Annual Graduate
 Comparative Literature Conference, the University of Texas at Austin, 10/16-17/2009
 Organizing Committee, *1968: A Global Perspective*, the University of Texas at Austin, 10/10-12/2008
 Translation Consultant (paid), Dr. Anthony Corbeill, Department of Classics, the University of Kansas, 2005
 Translator (paid), *Agreement of Cultural, Educational and Scientific Cooperation Between the University of
 Kansas and the University of Trento, Italy*, Diana Bartelli Carlin, Dean of Graduate School and
 International Programs, the University of Kansas, 2004
 Organizing Committee (undergraduate member), *MESEA (Multi Ethnic Society of Europe and America)
 Conference*, the University of Padua, Italy, 06/26-29/2002

Languages

Italian: native
 English: native fluency
 German: near fluent
 French: reading knowledge
 Spanish: reading knowledge
 Latin: reading knowledge

Associations

National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)
 Modern Languages Association (MLA)