

Brian W. Gastle

Associate Dean, Graduate School
Associate Professor, English
bgastle@wcu.edu

<http://paws.wcu.edu/bgastle>
Office: (828) 227-3173

Western Carolina University
Cullowhee, NC 28723
Fax: (828) 227-7266

Skills

- Six years administrative and supervisory experience
- Eighteen years experience teaching (writing, editing, proofreading, documentation, research, analysis, and literature) and writing professionally
- Wrote and edited print and online materials for major academic and private sector organizations
- Multiple publications/projects in academia and industry (especially education, technology, and medieval literature)
- Facility with multiple technologies: PC / MAC MS Office WebCT Photoshop
HTML DreamWeaver Blackboard Acrobat
Banner ApplyYourself

Education

- Ph.D. English Language and Literature, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware (1998)
M.A. English Language and Literature, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware (1991)
B.A. English Language and Literature, SUNY Buffalo, Amherst, New York (1989)
Minor: Business Administration

Administrative and Related Experience

Associate Dean, Graduate School, Western Carolina University (Jan 2008 – Current)
Associate Professor, English, Western Carolina University (Aug 2004 – Current)
Assistant Professor, Department of English, Western Carolina University (Aug 1998 – Jul 2004)

Associate Dean, Graduate School (Jan 2008 – Current)

Senior administrative official for a graduate school in charge of over 1800 graduate students, 450 faculty, and 40 programs and certificates both resident and distance. Work closely with the Graduate School Dean and the Associate Dean of Research to manage Graduate School operations on a campus with over 9,000 students.

- Direct supervisor for 5-person graduate school staff in charge of:
 - Admitting, enrolling, funding, graduating graduate students
 - Implementing new technologies (Banner, ApplyYourself, NOLIJ)
 - Recruitment
 - Oversight of graduate program and Graduate School requirements
- Chair several university-wide committees in charge of policy, procedure, and curriculum oversight and development
- Organize annual on-campus graduate research symposium
- Manage student appeals
- Supervise production of annual graduate catalogue
- Organize and participate in recruitment events
- Serve as advocate across campus and in the region for graduate students, graduate faculty, graduate programs, and graduate education in general

Editor, WCU's SACS-COC Reaccreditation Compliance Reports (Jan 2005 – Aug 2006)

Edited 300+ page report used to successfully reaccredit an 8,000+ student UNC university. As lead editor:

- Managed 10-20 iterations of over 70 required standards with over 300 accompanying

documents.

- Revised content after working with over 40 faculty (from most academic divisions) and administrative authors.
- Responsible for preserving revision history (over 1000 individual files) while revising documents both on my own and in a committee setting.
- Created electronic versions of all reports (MSWord/HTML/Banner) and most documentation (Acrobat).
- Presented writing/editing workshops at two subsequent SACS-COC conferences.

Director of Professional Writing, Department of English, (June 2002 – May 2005)

- Responsible for program assessment and review for both Professional Writing Program and the Journalism program.
- Organized \$10,000+ Spring Literary Festivals.
- Supervised all professional writing co-ops and internships (10-20/year).
- Directed professional writing curriculum (over a dozen courses and almost 100 majors).

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of English, (Aug 1999 – May 2002)

- Responsible for program assessment and review.
- Developed and supervised recruitment activities focused on increasing number of majors (number of majors doubled from 100 to over 200).
- Advised and supervised English honors society (Sigma Tau Delta) and the English club.
- Organized and led advising seminars, workshops, and training for twenty+ English faculty.

Other Service and Committee Work

Department:	Tenure, Promotion, Review (TPR) Committee	Personnel Committee
	Annual Faculty Evaluation Committee	Technology Committee
	Web Site (Co-Developer)	Executive Committee
	Procedures Committee (chair)	Governance Committee
	Pro Writing Committee	Literature Committee
	Visiting Writers/ Lit Festival	Graduate Committee
College:	A&S Recruitment Committee	A&S Dean's Advisory Board
	A&S Restructuring Committee	CEAP Technology Committee
	A&S Technology Committee	
University:	Graduate Council (Chair)	
	Academic Technology Advisory Committee	
	Visiting Scholars Committee (Chair)	
	Faculty Advising Coordinating Committee (Chair)	
	Student Perception of Teaching Effectiveness	

Research and Teaching Interests

<i>Medieval Lit. & Culture:</i>	Chaucer	Mercantile Rhetoric	Margery Kempe & John Gower
<i>Professional Writing:</i>	Business Writing	Group Editing	Writing for the Web / Media
<i>Other:</i>	Speculative Fiction	Gender Studies	Film Studies

Research and Applied Scholarship

Medieval Literature

- “‘As If She Were Single’: Working Wives and the Late Medieval English Femme Sole.” *The Middle Ages at Work: Practicing Labor in Late Medieval England*. Eds. Kellie Robertson and Michael Uebel. The New Middle Ages Series. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2004. 41-64.
- “Breaking the Stained Glass Ceiling: Mercantile Authority in the Paston Letters and the *Book of Margery Kempe*,” *Studies in the Literary Imagination* 36:1 (Spring 2003): 123-47.
- “The Old and Middle English Beast Fable,” *A Companion to Old and Middle English Literature*. Eds. Bob Lambdin and Laura Lambdin. London: Greenwood Press, 2002. 69-85.
- “Chaucer’s ‘Shaply’ Guildsmen and Mercantile Pretensions,” *Neuphilologische Mitteilungen: Bulletin of the Modern Language Society* 99.2 (Fall 1998) 211-16.

Professional Writing and Editing

- Editor, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Compliance Certification Reaccreditation Report for Western Carolina University (313 page report, 220 supporting documents, & accompanying web site) (2006)
- Lead Online Course Module Editor, *NC TEACH OnLine Program*. LearnNC. North Carolina State Board of Education, Department of Public Instruction. 2004.
- E-learning Technology Developer. *Professional Development for New Teachers: First Days*. In *Professional Development Series for Excellence in Teaching*. NCTEACH. North Carolina State Board of Education, Department of Public Instruction. Multi-CD Educational Development Series. 2003.
- Academic Consultant and Script Editor. *Rings, Kings, And Things*. Cerebellum’s Standard Deviants Series (www.pbs.org/standarddeviantstv/PBS) for PBS TV. Fall 2001.
Rings Kings and Things Interactive DVD ISBN: 1-58198-374-3
Rings, Kings & Things Part 1 -Swords & Sorcery VHS ISBN 1-58198-121-x
Rings, Kings & Things Part 2 - Monsters & Mayhem VHS ISBN 1-59198-122-x
- Author. “The Writing Center,” *The Alphabet Superhighway: A Knowledge Resource for Schools of the 21st Century* Summer, 1996 to Summer 1998. (www.ash.udel.edu/ash/tutor/writing)
- Co-Author. *Study Guide for Technical Communication in the Global Community* (D. Andrews), with Catherine Carter and Marta Kvande. Fall 1997. Prentice Hall (www.prenhall.com/andrews)

Selected Consultations

- Webmaster. International John Gower Society (www.johngower.org) (2005 – present)
- Board of Reviewers. *Business Communication Quarterly* (1997 – present)
- Editorial Reviewer. Kalaidjian, Walter et. al. *Understanding Literature*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 2003.

- Online Reviewer. Markel, Mike. “Tutorial on Evaluating Internet Information,” *Technical Communication*. 7th ed., Bedford, 2002. www.bedfordstmartins.com/markel_tutorial/.

Forthcoming and In-Process

- *Approaches to Teaching John Gower*. Eds. Robert Yeager and Brian Gastle. Modern Languages Association. Proposal accepted by final publications committee after full support from content editorial board and all outside reviewers. Expected Publication: Spring 2009.
- “Historical Context of Medieval Literature,” 30-page chapter for the *Continuum Handbook of Medieval British Literature*, Continuum Press. Essay with press editor.
- “Effects of Maturity on Determining the Factor Structure of a Student Assessment of Instruction Instrument.” 30-page article. Circulating.
- “‘Nevere a Betre Taxe’: Chaucer’s Business with Gower” Currently researching.

Conference Presentations

Research Presentations

- “Doing His Business: Gower’s Urban Rhetoric,” 43rd International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (scheduled 2008)
- “‘Nevere a Betre Taxe’: Chaucer’s Business with Gower” International Congress on John Gower, London, England (scheduled 2008)
- “The Femme Sole Juridical Subject in The Book of Margery Kempe and the Paston’s Letters,” Law and Vernacular Literature: Law and Women session, International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2005)
- “Chaucer’s Household Economies,” Chaucer and Home Session, Fourteenth International Congress of the New Chaucer Society, Glasgow, Scotland (2004)
- “Chaucer’s Pandarus: Desire as Illicit Investment,” Medieval Romance Society session, International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2003)
- “‘Encresse or Maken Dymynucioun of My Langage’: Translation as Investment in Chaucer’s Troilus and Criseyde,” Medieval Translation Theory and Practice session, International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2001)
- “‘Yef me this labour and this bisynesse’: Chaucer, Romance, and the Matter of Business,” Chaucer and Philosophy Session, Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting of the Southeast Medieval Association, Asheville, NC (2000)
- “Genre, Gender and Sexualities,” E-Seminar Participant, Twelfth International Congress of the New Chaucer Society, London, England (2000)
- “Chaucer and the Business of Romance,” at the *Chaucer Yearbook’s* Seeing Chaucer Through His Genres panel of the International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2000)
- “Balancing the Books: Merchants, Marriages, and the Femme Sole Textual Tradition in the Early Fifteenth Century,” Seventh Annual Conference of the Group for Early Modern Cultural Studies (GEMCS), Coral Gables, FL (1999)
- “Chaucer and the Rural Femme Sole,” Construction of Marriage in the Later Middle Ages Session, International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (1998)
- “The Late Medieval Female Mercantile Subject,” Female Subjectivity in Medieval Literature Session, International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (1997)

- “Marriage, Narrative Debt, and Chaucer’s Mercantile Romances,” Narrators in Medieval Romance Session, International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (1996)
- “Working Women: The Trope of the Businesswoman in Late Medieval Literature and Society,” Women as Authority: Text, Image and History Session, International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (1993)
- “A Moral Tale Vertuous’: Chaucer’s *Melibee* and the Conduct of Style,” Fictive Advice: Exempla in Conduct Literature Session, Twentieth Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Medievalist Association (SEMA), Arlington, VA (1992)
- “Patriarchal Hermeneutics: The Engendering of Class in Late Medieval Literature and Society,” Old and Middle English Session, NEMLA, Buffalo, NY (1992)

Pedagogy and Writing Presentations

- “Writing and Editing Strategies for Compliance Certification,” Half-day workshop with Ann Hallyburton, 2006 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools – Commission on Colleges (SACS-COC) Annual meeting, New Orleans, LA (2007)
- “Writing and Editing for Compliance,” with Carol Burton, 2006 SACS-COC Annual meeting, Orlando, FL (2006)
- “Teacher-Ed / Student-Ed: Selling Medieval Studies in the Age of Engagement”, Roundtable Participant for “Devayne Service Perpetuell”: Service Learning and the Medieval Studies Curriculum,” TEAMS (Consortium for the Teaching of the Middle Ages), Forty-First International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2006)
- “Words Revising Words: A Modified Peer Editing Technique,” Association for Business Communication Conference, Toronto, ON (2003)
- Appalachian Rural Teachers of Technology Alliance Group Leader - Technology Lesson Plans for K-12 Language Arts Instruction, Asheville, NC (2002)
- “Medieval Studies and Teacher Education Technology Portfolios,” Thirty-Seventh International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2002)
- Appalachian Rural Teachers of Technology Alliance Group Leader - Technology Lesson Plans for Learning Disabled 11-12th grade Language Arts Instruction, Asheville, NC (2001)
- “Technology, Humanities Courses, and the Public Good,” invited speaker at Teaching for the Public Good: The Future of the Humanities in Public Higher Education, Chapel Hill, NC (2000)
- “Writing with the Web,” 1997 Summer Gateway Project, University of Delaware (<http://www.ash.udel.edu/ash/misc/gateway/>), Newark, DE (1997)
- “The Delphi Workshop: Low Pressure Self-Help,” Sixth Annual Colloquium on Assisting Under-Prepared Students, Miller Learning Resource Center, Wilmington, DE (1990)
- “Students Teaching Students: Peer Editing,” Annual Conference for Graduate Teaching Assistants, University of Delaware, Newark, DE (1990)

Panel Administration

- Chair: “Romance and History I: The Subject of History” session, Sponsored by the Medieval Romance Society, Thirty Ninth International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, MI (2004)
- Chair: “Justice” session, Seventh Annual Conference of the Group for Early Modern Cultural Studies (GEMCS), Coral Gables, FL (1999)
- Chair: “Women at Work in Medieval Literature” session, International Congress on Medieval Studies,

Kalamazoo, MI (1999)

Chair: “The Textual Environment of Old and Middle English Literature” Old and Middle English Session, Twenty-Fifth Annual NEMLA Convention, Boston, MA (1995)

Secretary: Old and Middle English Session, NEMLA, Pittsburgh, PA (1992)

Courses Taught

Western Carolina University (1998-Present)

Graduate English (ENGL) Seminars and Cross-Listed Classes

- 620 – Chaucer – Graduate Seminar
- 621 – Middle English Language and Literature – Graduate Seminar
- 618 – Methods of Research and Bibliography
- 604 – Writing for Electronic Environments – Graduate Seminar
- 603 – Writing for the Marketplace
- 501 – Writing for Careers – Graduate Seminar

Undergraduate English (ENGL) Classes

- 498 – Senior Seminar in Literature
- 467 – Science Fiction Film
- 420 – Chaucer and His Age
- 401 – Writing for Careers
- 305 – Technical Writing
- 304 – Writing for Electronic Environments – Undergraduate & Graduate
- 303 – Introduction to Professional Writing and Editing
- 251 – Survey of English Literature I
- 231 – Introduction to Literature
- 209 – Past Times: Literature and History
- 201 – Literary Landmarks of Western Culture
- 102 – Composition II
- Independent Study – Introduction to Latin

University of Delaware (1989-1998)

Graduate Instructor, University of Delaware (1989-98). Taught courses for:

- Department of English
- Honors Program
- Comparative Literature Program
- Research Assistant, Educational Technology Laboratory (1997-98)
- M.A. Representative to the Graduate Committee (1990-91)
- Treasurer, Graduate Student Association (1993-95)

Medieval Culture & Daily Life (I)

Medieval & Renaissance Women and Religion (I)

Masterpieces of the Western World I (TA & I)

Representations of the Heroic (I)

Gender and Myth in Speculative Fiction (I)

Critical Reading and Writing (I)

Shakespeare (TA)

Great English Writers I (TA)

Biblical & Classical Literature (TA & I)

Speculative Fiction and the Medieval (I)

Written Communications in Business (I)

(Graduate TA (TA) or Primary Instructor (I))

Web Developer, College of Education (May 1996 – Aug 1998)

Wrote content and coded (HTML) pages devoted to improving writing skills in k-12 students for a 5000+ page award-winning web site (*The Alphabet Superhighway: A Knowledge Resource for Schools of the 21st Century* ash.udel.edu/ash/tutor/writing)) sponsored by the US Dept. of Education.

Awards and Honors

- Mobile Laptop/ Multimedia Editing Cart: A Technology Development Grant - \$1,000 (2005-2006)
- Vice Chancellor's Instructional Improvement Grant: Digital Video Integration - \$1,000 (2003-2004)
- Finalist for Arts & Sciences Distinguished Teaching Award (2002-2003)
- Finalist for Research and Graduate Studies Teaching & Research Award (2002-2003)
- Participant 2000 NEH Summer Seminar, Penn State Univ. – “Chaucer: Ancient and Modern”
 - Visiting Fellow of the Institute for the Arts and Humanistic Studies, Penn State Univ.
 - Visiting Scholar, Department of English, Penn State Univ.
 - Associate of the Center for Medieval Studies, Penn State Univ.
 - NEH Summer Seminar Stipend - \$3,500
- New Chaucer Society Travel Grant - \$1,000 (2000)
- Nominated for University of Delaware's Excellence in Teaching Award (1997)
- University of Delaware English Department Travel Grants (1992, 1993, 1995, 1996, 1997)
- University of Delaware Office of Women's Affairs Travel Grants (1993, 1996)
- English Department Fellowship, University of Delaware (1992-93)
- George Knight Houpt Prize for Scholarly Excellence in English, SUNY Buffalo (1989)