

DAGNI BREDESEN

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Eastern Illinois University
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POSITIONS:

Associate Professor, Eastern Illinois University (2006 to present)
Assistant Professor, Eastern Illinois University (2001 to 2006)
Member of Graduate Faculty and Women's Studies Faculty
Acting Instructor, University of Washington (April 1999-June 2001)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. English Literature, University of Washington, Seattle

Dissertation: "Categorical Exceptions: Widows, Sexuality and Fictions of (Dis)Coverture in Victorian Domestic and Imperial Narratives."
Director: Professor Kathleen Blake (1999)

M.A. Literature, University of California, San Diego (1993)

B.A. School of Human and Social Development (with distinction), University of Victoria, British Columbia (1980)

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, and HONORS

College of Arts and Humanities Travel Award (2006)
William G. Kirk International Leadership Award (December 2005)
Faculty Development Mini-Grant, Eastern Illinois University (November 2005)
English Department Travel Grant, Eastern Illinois University (2005)
College of Arts and Humanities Travel Award (2005)
Faculty Development Mini-Grant, Eastern Illinois University (January 2005)
Centre for African Studies Visiting Associate Fellowship, University of Cape Town (2005)
English Department Travel Grant, Eastern Illinois University (2004)
Council for Faculty Research Summer Grant, Eastern Illinois University (2004)
College of Arts and Humanities Travel Award (2004)
Faculty Development Mini-Grant, Eastern Illinois University (2004)
English Department Travel Grant, Eastern Illinois University (2003)
Centre for African Studies Visiting Associate Fellowship, University of Cape Town (2003)
College of Arts and Humanities Travel Award (2003)
Faculty Development Mini-Grant, Eastern Illinois University (2003)
English Department Travel Grant, Eastern Illinois University (2002)
Graduate Dean's Award of Excellence in Research, Eastern Illinois University (2002)
Council on Faculty Research Summer Grant, Eastern Illinois University (2002)
Centre for African Studies Visiting Associate Fellowship, University of Cape Town (2002)
International Programs Initiative Award, Eastern Illinois University (2001)
English Department Travel Grant, Eastern Illinois University (2001)
Faculty Development Mini-Grant, Eastern Illinois University (2001)

Centre for African Studies Visiting Associate Fellowship, University of Cape Town (2000)
Fletcher Jones Foundation Fellowship of the Huntington Library (1999)
University of Washington Graduate School Western European Travel Grant (1997)
David C. Fowler Travel Fellowship, University of Washington (1996, 1995)
Pew Charitable Trusts, Preparing Future Faculty Fellowship (1995)
Graduate School Recruitment Research Assistantship, University of Washington (1993)
Mellon Grant Graduate Student Seminar, UC San Diego, Summer (1993)

PUBLICATIONS

“What’s a Woman to Do?”: Managing Money and Manipulating Fictions in Trollope’s *Can You Forgive Her?* and *The Eustace Diamonds*” *Victorian Review: Special Issue on Literature and Money*. March 2006

“The Widdy’s Empire: Queen Victoria as Widow in Kipling’s Soldier Stories and the *Barrack-Room Ballads*.” Reprinted in *Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism*, Gale Books, 2005

“An Emblem of All the Rest’: Caps and Conventions of Victorian Widowhood.” *Abito e Identita* [Clothing and Identity]. Ed. Cristina Giorelli. Roma: Edizioni Associate (2002).

“At the Drop of a Veil: Widow’s Weeds and Fictions of (Dis)Coverture.” *Conference Proceedings Inter/National Intersections: Law’s Changing Territories*. Vancouver: University of British Columbia, 1998. 200-210.

“The Widdy’s Empire: Queen Victoria as Widow in Kipling’s Soldier Stories and the *Barrack-Room Ballads*.” in *Remaking Queen Victoria* Eds. Margaret Homans and Adrienne Munich. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997. 219-232.

“Property and Parasites: Representations of Widows in *The Pickwick Papers*.” *The Dickens World* 8 (Summer) 1992: 31-53.

FORTHCOMING

“Conformist Subversion: The Ambivalent Agency in *Revelations of a Lady Detective*.” Special Issue on Victorian Detection, *CLUES: A Journal of Detection*. Fall 2006.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

The First Female Detectives in British Fiction: a new edition of *The Female Detective* by Andrew Forrester, Jr. (1864) and *Revelations of a Lady Detective* by W.S. Hayward (1864) edited and introduced by Dagni Bredesen for Scholars’ Facsimiles and Reprints. .

Book Project in Progress: *Over His Dead Body: Widows in Victorian Fiction and Culture*.

Article in Progress: “The Weight of Motherhood in Postapartheid Fiction” for the collection *(M)Othering the Nation: Constructing and Resisting Regional and National Allegories through the Maternal Body*. Edited by Lisa E. Bernstein and Pamela Monaco for publication by Cambridge Scholars Press.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS and PARTICIPATION

“ ‘Much Dreaded But Little Known’: Investigating the First Professional Female Detectives in Literature.” Panel: Professionalizing the Literary. North American Victorian Studies Association Conference. Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN (August 31-September 3, 2006).

Panel Chair: “Photographs as Sources for Historical Reconstruction.” Images of African Peoples: Photography, History and Culture in Africa and the African Diaspora. 2006 African and African Diaspora Conference. Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL (March 31-April 2, 2006).

“The Weight of Motherhood: Post-Apartheid Fiction and the Figuration of the Maternal.” Panel: Post-colonial Women in Literature. Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA (November 11-13, 2005).

“My Hideous Progeny: *Frankenstein* and the Failure of Enlightenment and Romantic Ideals.” Panel: *Frankenstein: An Introduction to the Booth Library’s* program accompanying the Traveling Exhibition *Frankenstein: Penetrating the Secrets of Nature*. (October 25, 2005).

Workshop Co-Presenter: A Post-Colonial Prometheus: Issues of Race and Gender in Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein* (with Dr. Ashley Tellis). Sixteenth Annual Literature Conference for Teachers and Lovers of Good Books, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL (October 20-21, 2005).

“The First Female Detectives in British (Pulp) Fiction.” Midwest Popular Culture Association. St. Louis, MO (October 14-16, 2005).

“The First Female Detectives in British Fiction.” Panel: Rewriting Women Authors and Reading Formations. Midwest Conference on British Studies. University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN (September 23-25, 2005).

“‘Her Mourning is All Make-Believe’: Performing Widowhood in Victorian Fiction.” Women’s Studies Panel: Passing Zones. Midwest Modern Language Association, St. Louis, MO (November 4-7, 2004).

“Beyond the Conventional Classroom: Study Abroad and On-Site Learning.” Panel: “The Work We Do.” Midwest Modern Language Association, St. Louis, MO (November 4-7, 2004).

“Sons of the Widder/ Soldiers of the Quane”: Idiom and the Royal Family Romance in Kipling’s *Barrack-Room Ballads* and *Soldiers Three*. Panel: British Empire: Imperial Dimensions of British Identities.” Midwest Conference on British Studies. Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, (October 22-24, 2004).

“Coloured Identity in Post-Apartheid South Africa,” African Studies Seminar, University of Washington, Seattle, WA (May 2004).

Panel Organizer and Presenter, “‘I wash my hands of this story’: (E)Racing History in Zoë Wicomb’s *David’s Story* and its Intertexts.” Panel: Interrogating “Mixed-Race” in Colonial and Post-Colonial Narratives. British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Savannah, GA (February 2004).

Panel Organizer and Moderator, “Postcolonial Caribbean Women Writers,” Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, Scripps College, Claremont, CA (November 2003).

“I wash my hands of this story’: (E)racing History in Zoë Wicomb’s *David’s Story*” English Department Colloquium. Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL (October 2003).

Presenter, “Cape Town’s Cityscape: Then and Now,” for Round-Table on “What the Tourist Seldom Sees: History on—and below—the Ground in the British Isles and Beyond” Midwest Conference on British Studies, Bloomington, IL (October 2003).

“Orienteering in the Classroom: Literature as Map/Dictionary as Compass,” Eastern Illinois University Panel: *Teaching the Historically Remote*, Illinois Philological Association, Decatur, IL (March 2003).

“Zoë Wicomb’s *David’s Story* and Post-Apartheid Coloured Identity” Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA (November 2002).

Respondent, Panel: “An Ornamental Orientalism? Legacies of Empire,” Midwest Conference on British Studies, Columbus, OH (October 2002).

“‘The Empire Writes Back’: Teaching Achebe and Conrad Together,” Thirteenth Annual Conference for Teachers, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL (October 2002).

Panel Moderator: “British Women/Indian Women,” Victorian Interdisciplinary Studies of the Western United States Conference, University of California, Los Angeles, CA (October 2001).

“‘Wot’s the good of sodgerin’: Kipling’s Soldier Talk and the Making of the Modern British Tommy.” Panel on Military Masculinities, Mid-Western Modern Language Association, St. Louis, MO (November 1998).

“What is under the cover? Who is beneath the veil?: Widowhood as ‘Category Crisis’ in the Age of Victoria.” Victorian Sexualities: Victorian Interdisciplinary Studies Association of the Western United States, Vancouver, WA (October 1998).

“Tommyes and Johnnies and Missis Victorier’s Sons: The Anglo-Indian Foot Soldier as Imperial Invention.” 27th Annual Conference of the Victorian Studies Association of Western Canada, Calgary, Alberta (October 1998).

“At the Drop of a Veil: Widow’s Weeds and Fictions of (Dis)Coverture.” Inter/National Intersections: Law’s Changing Territories, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia (April 30-May 2, 1998).

“Travelling Ciphers: The Victorian Widow in *Barchester Towers*, *Revelations of a Lady Detective*, and the Indian Sketchbooks of Mrs. Tonge.” Social Moves: An Interdisciplinary Conference, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA (November 1997).

Panel Moderator, “Gothic Narratives and Travel.” Letters of the Spirit: Conference on the Texts and Contexts of Romanticism, University of Washington, Seattle, WA (April 1997).

“The Widow at Windsor as Woman of Letters.” Sixth Annual 18th- and 19th-century British Women Writers Conference, University of California, Davis, CA (March 1997).

“Legal Fictions: The Widow in Nineteenth-Century Reform Rhetoric and Trollope’s *Barchester Towers*, *Can You Forgive Her?*, and *The Eustace Diamonds*.” The Letter of the Law: Conference on Law and Literature, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA (February 28-March 1, 1997).

“ ‘Suttee Propensities’: Self-Immolation and the Critique of Victorian Widowhood,” 25th Annual Conference of the Victorian Studies Association of Western Canada, Edmonton, Alberta (October 1996).

“The Widow’s (Em)Pyre: Victoria, Sati, and Colonial Discourse.” Conference on Dickens, Empire, Children, Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa (September 1996).

“Preparing Future Faculty in English at the University of Washington.” Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) Hot Topic Panel Discussion on the Preparing Future Faculty Program, Summer Workshop for Graduate Deans. Denver, CO (July 1996).

“Mapping the Spirit: Gothic Locations in *Jane Eyre*.” Second Annual International Gothic Association Conference, Stirling, Scotland (June 1995).

“Angel in the (Public) House: Taverns as Gendered Space in *Barnaby Rudge* and *Our Mutual Friend*.” Contested Spaces: Negotiating Community, an Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Colloquium, Seattle, WA (May 1995).

“Property and Parasites: Representations of Widows in *The Pickwick Papers*.” Dickens Project Winter Conference, Riverside, CA (February 1992).

TEACHING AREAS AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Victorian Literature and Cultural Studies; Women Studies; The Novel; Colonial Discourses and Post-Colonial Theories; South African Literature; Law and Literature; Travel Writing; Narrative Theory; British survey 1780-the twentieth-century; Poetry; Composition.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, English Department, Eastern Illinois University (2001 to present)

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| Engl 5005 | Graduate Seminar in 19 th c. Literature: “Victorian Secrets” |
| Engl 4850 | Third World Literature: “Africa is Woman?” |
| Engl 4303 | Senior Seminar: “Investigating the Literary Detective” |
| Engl 3903 | Women, Language, and Literature |
| Engl 3807 | Victorian Literature: “Little England, Big Empire” |
| | Victorian Literature: “The Woman Question” |
| Engl 3806 | Romanticism |
| Engl 3805 | Eighteenth-Century Literature |
| Engl 3604 | Special Topics: South African Literature |
| Engl 3010 | General Education: Literary Masterworks |
| Engl 3001 | Advanced Composition |
| Engl 2850 | Postcolonial Literature |
| Engl 2602 | World Literature Since the Renaissance |
| Engl 2009 | General Education: Literature and Human Values |
| Engl 1091 | Honors Composition |
| Engl 1092 | Honors Composition: Writing about Literature |
| Engl 1002 | First-year Composition |

Engl 1001 First-year Composition

Instructor, On-Site Orientation for Eastern Illinois University's Family and Consumer Sciences' Semester Study Abroad Program in Cape Town South Africa (August 2006).

Director/Instructor, Eastern Illinois University's Study Abroad Program, "Literary Landscapes." Harlaxton College, Grantham, England (June 2006).

Director/Instructor, Eastern Illinois University's Study Abroad Program, "Building a Non-Racial Society in the New South Africa," Cape Town, South Africa (May-June 2005)

Director/Instructor, Eastern Illinois University's Study Abroad Program, "Building a Non-Racial Society in the New South Africa," Cape Town, South Africa (May-June 2003)

Faculty, University of Washington's Comparative History of Ideas' Program on "Memory, Identity, Conflict, and Dialogue" in Cape Town, South Africa (Winter 2002)

Co-Director, Comparative History of Ideas/Women Studies Joint Program on Curriculum Transformation in Cape Town, South Africa (Spring 2000)

Post-doctoral Instructor, English, University of Washington (1999-2001)

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| Engl 381 | Advanced Composition: "Writing about Travel Writing" |
| Engl 334 | The Mid- to Late-Victorian Novel: "The Woman Question" |
| Engl 333 | The Early Nineteenth-Century Novel: "Orphans and Outsiders" |
| Engl 329 | The Eighteenth-Century Novel: "Tales of Seduction" |
| Engl 229 | British Survey 1600-1800: "Negotiating Authority" |
| Engl 281 | Intermediate Composition: "Read and Write about Travel" |
| Engl 212 | Enlightenment and Revolution |
| Engl 200 | Reading and Writing about Literature: "Figurations of Widowhood from Petronius to the Present" |
| Engl 198 | Interdisciplinary Writing Link with Political Science 203: International Relations |

Visiting Lecturer, Cornell College, Mt. Vernon, Iowa, English (September Term)

Engl 331 Romanticism

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE

Eastern Illinois University

English Department

- Chair, Visiting Speaker Committee (2005-present)
- Chair, Social Committee (2002-2005)
- Member, Graduate Studies Committee (2003-present)
- Member, Visiting Speaker Committee (2004-2005)
- Organized visiting speaker Lauren Goodlad (Spring 2004)
- Faculty Graduate Student Mentor, (Spring 2004)
- Presentation for Daiva Markelis' class English 3009, Myth and Culture (Fall 2003)
- Presentation for Richard Sylvia's Graduate Seminar on the Victorian Novel (Fall 2003)
- Organized Visiting speaker Joycelyn Moody (Fall 2003)
- Faculty Graduate Student mentor, (Fall 2003, Spring 2004, Spring 2005)

Presenter, Panel on Preparation for Graduate School (November 2002)
Moderator, Humanities Forum on “Huck Finn’s Moral Compass” (November 2002)
Faculty Advisor, Sigma Tau Delta (2001-2003)
Reviewer, Cultural Diversity Essay Contest (2001, 2002)
English Department Representative, Library Committee, Eastern Illinois University (2001)

University Service

Chair, International Program Advisory Committee (2005-present)
School of Humanities Representative on International Program Advisory Committee (2003 to present)
Chair, IPAC Subcommittee on Special Projects: Blair Hall International Courtyard (2004 to present)
Co-Convenor, 16th Annual Conference for Teachers (October, 2005)
Co-Convenor, 15th Annual Conference for Teachers (October, 2004)
Member, Search Advisory Committee for Director of International Admissions (2004)
International Forum Presentation on South Africa Study Abroad Program (October 2003)
Co-Convenor, 14th Annual Conference for Teachers (October, 2003)
Director, Eastern Illinois University Study Abroad Program to Cape Town, South Africa (May-June 2003 and 2005)
International Programs Committee replacement for Dr. Luis Clay Mendez (2002)
Co-Convenor, 13th Annual Conference for Teachers (October, 2002)
English Competency Examination Scoring (2001 to 2004)

University of Washington

Manuscript Reviewer, *Signs: Journal of Women and Culture* (1998)
Summer Faculty, Minority Medical Examination Preparation Program (1996, 1997, 1998)
Senator, Graduate and Professional Student Senate (1996-97)
Reviewer, Huckabay Teaching Fellowship Selection Committee, University (1996)
Organizer, Victorianist Colloquium (1994-1996)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Midwest Modern Language Association
American Friends of the Institute of Historical Research
Illinois Philological Association
Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association
Midwest Conference on British Studies
Victorian Interdisciplinary Studies Association of Western United States
Victorian Studies Association of Western Canada
Modern Language Association

REFERENCES

Professor Kathleen Blake, English, University of Washington
Professor Lauren Goodlad, English, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Professor John O. Jordan, The Dickens Project, University of California, Santa Cruz
Professor Ranjana Khanna, English, Duke University