

Melinda Grant | Curriculum Vitae

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MGailGrant.com

Experience:

Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA

2019 - Current

Limited-Term Instructor of English:

Teacher of Record:

- Collegiate instructor of English Composition 1101 and 1102
- Curriculum design implementing a scaffolded delivery system throughout the course, facilitating a commitment to inclusivity within the English Composition classroom; major assignments include a literacy narrative, rhetorical analysis, position statement and response argumentative essay, multimodal composition, annotated bibliography, literature review, research proposal, and an argumentative academic research-based paper.
- Experience teaching via remote synchronous, rotational face-to-face, and 100% classroom in-person modalities
- English Composition I (argumentative and persuasive writing) and II (academic research-based writing) instructional teaching and delivery
- Integration of Blackboard Collaborate Ultra, Zoom, and Microsoft Teams technology to facilitate an inclusive and dynamic learning environment for all students
- Student-centered process-based (WAP) curriculum design tailored to meet the academic university's departmental and the University System of Georgia's learning objectives
- Continuing education in dynamic technology-based face-to-face learning/best practices research throughout a global pandemic
- Capstone/thesis research project data collection and analysis focused on classroom and writing assignment inclusivity and diverse components as suggested by the CCCC and WPA objectives
- Syllabi and classroom policies and procedures design/implementation via D2L Brightspace
- Evaluation of student performance to include grading rubric design
- Student advisement and individual conferences as needed to facilitate additional student learning and success

Graduate Teaching Assistant:

- Tutor students in English composition and writing across the curriculum

- Peer feedback and composition tutoring in both remote synchronous, online asynchronous, and in-person modalities
- Types of instruction: Rhetorical Analysis, Literature Review, Research Paper, Annotated Bibliography, Argumentative Essays, Compare and Contrast Essays, Business Case Law Reviews, Journalism Press Releases, Personal and Literacy Narratives, Graduate School Application Essays, Resumes, Doctoral Thesis Abstracts, PowerPoint Presentations, etc.
- Workshop presentations to include style guides (APA, MLA, Chicago, IEEE), comma usage rules, and composing scholarship essays
- Writing center outreach program to include visiting classrooms across the curriculum, conducting a presentation regarding the numerous resources offered by the KSU Writing Center
- Writing across the curriculum initiative to include set-up and operation of information booths providing students and professors resources related to the KSU Writing Center
- Meet and greet students and faculty into the KSU Writing Center while providing customer service in response to questions or concerns
- Interact with students across all academic disciplines and provide writing instruction for each student's individualistic needs
- Attend and represent the KSU Writing Center at student orientation/discipline awareness trade fairs

Keebie Press, Canton, GA

June 2017 - Current

Book Publisher/Author

- Author, editor, and book publisher
- Author and self-publisher of three modern poetry books
- Author and self-publisher of three middle-grade fantasy fiction books
- Website design for MGailGrant.com (book promotion, publishing, and teaching best practices blog)
- eBook interior book design/formatting on various platforms to include Amazon Kindle and ePub conversions
- Paperback and hardcover interior book design and layout via IngramSpark and Amazon KDP platforms
- Book cover design utilizing Adobe In-Design, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Acrobat DC, and Canva
- Wholesale global book distribution to retail marketplaces, including Barnes & Noble, Walmart, and Amazon through IngramSpark and Amazon KDP
- Blog writer, marketing, and social media management

Lindi's Custom Designs, Canton, GA

February 2011 - Current

Online Digital Boutique Designer/Retailer

- Created web-based [online boutique](#) featuring custom-made embroidery and baby shower décor/gift designs, wedding/flower girl dresses, and handmade child and adult costumes
- Designed and formulated website to include SEO optimization
- Development of marketing strategy across digital and print venues
- Utilization of Google Analytics to increase website views
- Graphic design of advertising print and digital publication ads
- Accounting/bookkeeping of all sales, expenses, profits/losses
- Handmade all design items, including weddings/bridal designs, child and adult costumes, crochet, corporate baby gifts, and professional photography props
- Managed multiple social media outlets to market and advertise products continuously

Publications:

- **Multimodal Mondays: Bridging Cultural Divides Through Code Meshing** June 2022
- Collaborative publication with Dr. Kim Haines-Korn, Professor of English and Digital Writing at Kennesaw State University, as guest presenters on scholar [Andrea Lunsford's Bits Blog](#), introducing a multimodal assignment that celebrates linguistic diversity. One purpose of the assignment is to provide students with an opportunity to explore topics of translanguaging, such as code meshing, in a real-world setting. The assignment facilitates multicultural and multilingual awareness and engagement via group collaboration in the composition classroom, supporting pedagogical initiatives of classroom inclusivity.
- **Seasons of Healing, Keebie Press** April 2022
- A poetry collection that acknowledges and explores the notion that life mimics the seasons found in nature, providing the reader with an organizational structure for life events—utilizing poetry as a metaphorical lens. The collection encourages readers to embrace the idea that every aspect of life requires learning, growth, and analysis while being kind to our inner-being because self-love and kindness will lead to more robust living.
- **Student Perceived Inclusivity in the FYC Classroom: Embracing Multilingualism** December 2021

- [Master's thesis/capstone](#) comparing student perspectives on inclusivity in the first-year English composition classroom viewed explicitly through two distinct lenses: 1. a pre-post survey design that measures students' perceptions of classroom inclusivity and 2. instructor-perceived observations that reflect upon methods of pedagogical delivery within a multimodal framework.

- **Poetic Christian Discourse, Volume 1, Keebie Press** September 2021

- A collection of inspirational poetry that offers readers a sense of hope, acknowledging the idea that humanity is not, never has been, and never will be perfect. The collection embraces Christian living.
- **Elephant Wisdom, Keebie Press** May 2021

- A poetry collection that utilizes free-verse, narrative, and rhythmic components, to encourage readers to broaden their minds and consider connections between science and religion while introducing the paradox of collective consciousness and universal forces. Elephant Wisdom addresses the gap in communal support through taboo themes such as infant death.
- **Bluebirds and Faith, Keebie Press** October 2020

- A poetry collection that celebrates God's gift of eternal grace by finding joy, humility, and comfort in our surroundings. Inspired by the death of a beloved father, Grant shares her journey of sorrow and healing through narrative-style free verse and Haiku poetic forms.
- **Magdalena Gottschalk: Lindtzi Kingdom, Keebie Press** November 2018

- Book #3 of the coming of age middle-grade to preteen fantasy fiction series that challenges friendships found within the pages of the book but features an underlying faith-based support system, combining an enchanted world and belief in a higher power.
- **Magdalena Gottschalk: The Slippery Slope, Keebie Press** November 2017

- *2018 NYC Big Book Award Winner in Juvenile Fiction*; book #2 of the coming of age series blends suspense, intrigue, and supernatural haunts while incorporating preteen and middle-grade life lessons of friendship, courage, communal responsibility, and loyalty.

- **Magdalena Gottschalk: The Crooked Trail, Keebie Press**

June 2017

- 2018 Readers' Favorite Finalist in Children-Preteen; 2017 NYC Big Book Award Winner in Juvenile Fiction; book #1 of the middle-grade to preteen epic fantasy fiction series that explores faith, unity, differences, belief in a higher power, magic, and teamwork.

Education:

Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA

August 2019 - December 2021

Master of Arts in Professional Writing, 4.0 GPA

Area of Concentration: Composition & Rhetoric

Concurrent Areas of Discipline: Creative and Applied Writing

Coursework:

- **Issues in Research: Fall 2019**

- Introduction to key components of professional writing to include pedagogical theories, discourse conventions, and methods of research across the curriculum

- **Understanding Writing as a Process: Fall 2019**

- Embracing writing as a recursive process to include brainstorming, freewriting, outlining, drafting, peer review, revision, and reflection

- Theories of pedagogical design to include how to prepare and scaffold assignments

- Multimodal composition and genre awareness – primary components of the course include website/blog design for academic purposes and adapting writing to various modalities

- **Professional & Academic Editing: Fall 2019**

- An in-depth view of professional and academic editing for magazines, journals, books, and textbooks to include the division of labor.

- White paper research, analysis, and presentation on industry topics.

- Website design to include HTML coding for an interactive electronic literature compilation based upon academic research.

- **World Englishes: Spring 2020**

- A study of the globalization of World Englishes to include usage for an international audience. Considerations of ESL (English as a Second Language), EFL (English as a Foreign Language), and ELF (English as a Lingua Franca) are explored to gain

awareness of how the usage of language and its delivery will affect a global audience.

- Variations of World Englishes are explored to better understand how syntax and lexical components vary worldwide, including socio-cultural influences.

- **Fiction Writing: Spring 2020**

- An exploration of the fundamental concepts and genre expectations for fiction writing to include commercial, literary, and genre-based conventions.

- In-class workshop peer review sessions are woven throughout the course as a benefit for all writers to learn collaboratively.

- **Teaching Writing in High School & College: Spring 2020**

- Study of pedagogical theories and best practices of teaching writing instruction to high school and college students, including methods of assessment and diverse modalities.

- Curriculum design and presentation for teaching English 1101/1102.

- **Readings for Writers: Summer 2020**

- Reading, analysis, discussion, and presentation of literary fiction to include *The Fifth Child* by Doris Lessing, *The Mothers* by Brit Bennett, and *Inheritance from Mother* by Minae Mizumera, including Flannery O'Connor's "Everything that Rises Must Converge."

- **Rhetorical Theory: Fall 2020**

- The history of rhetoric as a discipline to include writings and theories from industry-recognized scholars to include Gorgias, Plato, Richard Weaver, William Purcell, Robert Chamberlain, Aristotle, Kenneth Burke, Sarah Grimke, Frances Willard, Frances Bacon, Chaim Perelman, Stephen Toulmin, Michel Foucault, etc.

- Composition and analysis of how theoretical elements of note-worthy scholars may be applied in teaching and written composition in the usage of persuasive rhetoric to influence the intended audience.

- **Teaching Assistant Practicum: Spring 2020/Fall 2020**

Weekly meetings with supervisors and peers to discuss the unique challenges and successes of teaching English 1101/1102, including reflective speaking, writing, and journaling.

- **Teaching Writing to Speakers of Other Languages: Spring 2021**

- Concepts in writing and learning to write in a second language

- Student populations and instructional context

- Composition pedagogies (socio-cultural, socio-literate, cognitive)
- Task design, course design, lesson planning for L2 writing courses
- Classroom assessment of L2 composition writing
- Giving corrective feedback to L2 writers

- **Capstone Project / Thesis / Presentation: Spring 2021/Fall 2021**
 - Independent academic research regarding student perceptions of inclusivity in the FYC (first-year composition) classroom
 - Completion of IRB (institutional review board) approval
 - Student survey design and administration
 - Data analysis utilizing Qualtrics
 - Thesis composition to include the recursive process of writing and capstone committee presentation and oral defense
 - Publication of research capstone /thesis in the Kennesaw State University Digital Commons: [Student Perceived Inclusivity in the FYC Classroom: Embracing Multilingualism](#)

Earned Certificates and Awards:

MAPW RCHSS Outstanding Graduate Student for 2021-22, *April 2022*

MAPW Exceptional Teaching Award, *April 2022*

Enhanced Remote Delivery Bootcamp Certificate, *July 2020*

Rotational Teaching Digital Workshop Certificate, *Spring 2021*

Professional Writing for International Audiences Certificate, *Spring 2021*

Building and Teaching Hybrids Certificate, *Fall 2021*

Guest Lectures & Presentations:

Mastering Formats & Citations Workshop, KSU Writing Center, *September 2019*

Understanding Commas, KSU Writing Center, *October 2019*

Kennesaw State University Campus Trade Fair, *November 2019*

Writing Scholarship Essay Applications, KSU Campus, *November 2020*

Composing Professional Emails, Prof. Owens, KSU Campus, *February 2020*

Integrating Sources, KSU Writing Center Workshop, *February 2020*

California State University, Hayward, CA

August 2009 - 2010

Post-Baccalaureate, 3.72 GPA

Coursework in Mathematics and Sciences

University of Akron, Akron, OH

August - December 2002

Post-Baccalaureate, 3.825 GPA

Coursework in Mathematics and Sciences

Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA

January 1999 - July 2001

Bachelor of Science in Psychology, 3.41 GPA,

PSI CHI Honor Society

Formal minor in Sociology

Industry Skills & Abilities:

- Collegiate-level English Composition instruction via remote synchronous, rotational face-to-face, and 100% classroom modalities
- Student-centered pedagogy curriculum design and delivery fostering inclusivity in diverse socio-cultural student populations
- Tutoring (composition and grammar, online and in-person) across the curriculum
- Website/blog design
- Book self-publishing
- Experience working with Calibre, WordPress, KDP platform, Ingram Spark-Lightning Source platform, Atom, HTML5 coding, Microsoft Office Suite, Blackboard, Microsoft Teams, Zoom, D2L Digital Brightspace, Kaltura, VoiceThread, Adobe products
- Creative fiction writing to include middle-grade fantasy and inspirational/religious poetry
- Previous corporate recruiter with sales, administrative, managerial, and public speaking experience

Professional Memberships:

- Christian Indie Publishing Association (CIPA)
- IBPA (Independent Book Publishers Association)
- Psi Chi (International Honor Society in Psychology)