

# LORELEI BLACKBURN

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WRD Department, McGaw Hall, DePaul University  
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## Education

### **Master of Arts degree, Writing**

Concentration: Rhetoric and Composition Pedagogy  
DePaul University, Chicago, Illinois  
Received: June 2008  
Graduated with distinction

### **Bachelor of Arts degree, English**

Minor: Spanish  
Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN  
Received: August 2005

## Relevant Coursework

- Essay Theory and Practice
- Modern Rhetoric
- Multicultural Rhetorics
- Renaissance Rhetoric
- Structure of Modern English
- Teaching Writing
- Writing Center Theory and Pedagogy

## Teaching, Tutoring, and Administrative Experience

### **DePaul University • Chicago, IL • Dec. 2008 – Present**

#### ***Suburban Campus Writing Centers Coordinator, University Center for Writing-based Learning***

- Supervise and coordinate graduate and undergraduate tutors.
- Coordinate tutor training.
- Serve as liaison between Writing Center and Suburban Campus Directors.
- Create preliminary marketing to students and faculty.

### **DePaul University • Chicago, IL • Sept. 2008 – Present**

#### ***Adjunct Faculty, Writing, Rhetoric, and Discourse Department***

- Instructor for two sections of Basic College Writing II for Fall Quarter.
- Instructor for two sections of Composition and Rhetoric II for Winter Quarter.

#### ***Adjunct Faculty, School of New Learning***

- Instructor for Writing Workshop for Summer Quarter and Fall Quarter.
- Instructor for Academic Writing for Adults for Winter Quarter.

### **Lewis University • Romeoville, IL • Aug. 2008 – Dec. 2008**

#### ***Adjunct Faculty, English Department***

- Instructor for College Writing I for Fall Semester.

#### ***Adjunct Faculty, ESL Department***

- Instructor for ESL Essay Writing for Fall Semester.

**Living Hope College • Palisa District, Uganda • Sept. 2007**  
***Visiting Instructor***

- Taught composition and grammar, poetry, rhetoric, and EFL classes.
- Developed culturally appropriate curriculum for former child-soldiers.
- Set up a library for student use.
- Offered feedback on exercises and essays.
- Facilitated extracurricular events including film and book discussions, cultural exchanges, debates, and creative writing workshops.
- Tutored students individually.
- Assisted with child soldiers' transitions into mainstream society.

**DePaul University • Chicago, IL • Sept. 2006 – June 2008**  
***Graduate Assistant/Writing Center Coordinator/Tutor at the DePaul University Center for Writing-based Learning***

- Consulted with students face-to-face, and via e-mail, instant messenger, and webcam.
- Consulted with graduate students on theses and dissertations.
- Tutored ESL students.
- Assisted the Assistant Director of the Writing Center in interviewing prospective tutors.
- Helped implement and participated in new-tutor mentoring program.
- Coordinated and conducted promotional presentations.
- Scheduled 40 tutors at the Lincoln Park Campus Writing Center.
- Coordinated office operations at Lincoln Park Campus Writing Center.
- Assisted with coordinating operations at the Loop office and the Library Outpost.
- Compiled quarter-end and year-end statistics.
- Helped organize in-service training sessions for Writing Center staff.
- Participated in the job interview process of prospective faculty applicants in the Department of English and submitted written evaluations about each applicant.

**DePaul University • Chicago, IL • Sept. 2006 – June 2007**  
***Tutor at the DePaul University Athletic Academic Advising Office***

- Worked with student athletes on writing assignments from across the curriculum.
- Developed and presented writing and grammar workshops.
- Collaborated with advisors to develop appropriate learning strategies for athletes.

**Scholarly  
Presentations**

"Abduction, Recolonization, and Cash: The Costs of Literacy in (Post)Colonial, (Post)War Uganda." Expanding Literacy Studies: The Ohio State University Interdisciplinary Conference for Graduate Students, Columbus, OH. Proposal accepted. April 3, 2009.

"Forging New Pathways in Teaching Traumatized Refugee Populations." Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) Convention, Denver, CO. Proposal accepted. March 27, 2009.

Invited Panelist, Spirituality in Higher Education Conference, Chicago, IL. October 24, 2008.

"eXtreme Teaching: The Practical Realities of Teaching Former Child-Soldiers in Uganda and How They Apply to Teaching Traumatized Populations in the U.S." Conference on College Composition and Communication, New Orleans, Louisiana. April 5, 2008.

"Cinematic Sublimity: The Exclusion of Love in Contemporary Faith-Healing Media." Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Conference, San Francisco, CA. March 19, 2008.

"Toward a Holistic Rhetoric: The recovery of scripture as a viable rhetorical appeal." University of New Hampshire Graduate Conference, Durham, NH. March 8, 2008.

"Fear Factor: Sublimity and the Exclusion of Love in Modern-day Christian Evangelism." Midwest Modern Language Association Convention, Cleveland, Ohio. November 10, 2007.

"The Journey Across Town, Across Worlds: Graduate Student Teaching Interns in the Two-Year College." The Two-Year College English Association Conference, Chicago, Illinois. October 4, 2007.

## Ongoing Projects

Revolving Goat and Bicycle Project, Soroti and Mbale, Uganda.

"Yours, Mine, and Ours: Developing Collaborative Relationships in the Academic Sphere." Collaborative book chapter proposal under consideration for Metamorphosis: The Effects of Professional Development on Graduate Students.

## Awards and Honors

TESOL Professional Development Scholarship for the 43rd Annual Convention and Exhibit, Denver, CO, March 26–28, 2009.

Graduate Assistantship, University Center for Writing-based Learning, DePaul University, 2006-2008.

## Research Assistant

**Research Assistant to Dr. Christine Skolnik • Chicago, IL • Sept. 2007 - present**

Completed manuscript, Rhetoric and the Plastic Brain, currently under review at the University of South Carolina Press.

## Other Professional Experience

**Freelance Work • Chicago, IL • April 1997 – Present**

***Freelance Writer/Editor/Proofreader***

- Wrote web and print copy for political campaign.
- Completed contract assignments including writing, editing and proofreading work for high-profile clients including Disney and Sears.
- Prepared manuscripts for publication and assisted in editing workbooks concerning police shift work and jails in the United States for the Justice Research Institute.
- Translated web copy and print ads from Spanish to English for Vital Hierbas Naturales.
- Proofread grant proposals, business plans, and tax returns for business, not-for-profit, and individual clients.
- Created marketing materials for small businesses.

**Plainfield Public Library • Plainfield, IL • Aug. 2004 – Sept. 2008**  
***Teen Librarian/Outreach Assistant***

- Made presentations and represented the library on behalf of outreach initiatives at events including expos, fairs, and literacy events.
- Developed and organized annual writing contests including the Teen Short Story Competition, Teen Poetry Contest, Young Adult Short Story Competition, and a community-wide “Why I Love My Library” Essay Contest.
- Edited and proofread Plainfield Public Library Poetry Journal and Plainfield Public Library Short Story Journal.
- Created monthly newsletter reaching audience of more than 2,000, resulting in 370% increase in outreach visits.
- Wrote press releases for teen programming and outreach events.
- Initiated and developed children’s educational programs to serve the needs of the community.
- Served as liaison between Library and Illinois School District 202.
- Served as liaison between Library and community.

**PALSnet Library System • Aug. 2004 - present**  
***Workshop Presenter***

- Developed, marketed, and presented writing workshops for teens, college students, and adults, including:
  - ❖ Back to the Basics: Everything About Grammar They Should Have Taught You in High School
  - ❖ Self-Expression Through Art: Poetry for Absolute Beginners
  - ❖ Let’s Talk About Writing: Getting Started
  - ❖ Let’s Talk About Writing: Grammar and Other Essentials
  - ❖ Let’s Talk About Writing: How to Write and Evaluate Poetry
- Developed, marketed, and presented art workshops for adults, including:
  - ❖ Sculpt Your Way to Sanity: Pinch Pots
  - ❖ Sculpt Your Way to Sanity: Playing With Clay
  - ❖ Self-Expression Through Art: Collage and Emotion
  - ❖ Self-Expression Through Art: Dance and Movement

**marchFirst • Chicago, IL • Nov. 2001 - April 2002**  
***Editor/Senior Proofreader***

- Served as grammatical and editing advisor to copywriters.
- Wrote in-house style guides.
- Developed in-house research library for writers, editors and proofreaders.
- Created and conducted copy-editing and proofreading workshops.
- Supervised technical and internal marketing proofreading.
- Edited technical copy to meet publishing guidelines and to comply with legal requirements.

**Service  
Learning and  
Volunteer  
Work**

**PDI Inc. (a division of FERS) • Chicago, IL • May 1999 – Nov. 2001**

***Associate Editor/Senior Proofreader***

- Correlated corrections and proofread print and press proofs with 100% accuracy for two years.
- Edited technical copy to meet publishing guidelines and to comply with legal requirements.
- Assisted in redesigning quality-assurance procedures, contributing to retaining a \$1.7 million client.
- Initiated new employee program resulting in improved interdepartmental relations.

**Cottle & Cottle, Ltd. (merged with FERS) • Chicago, IL • Sept. 1997 – May 1999**

***Executive Assistant***

- Coordinated and executed special projects.
- Generated external office correspondence.
- Acted as liaison between partners, associates, clients and financial institutes.
- Coordinated day-to-day office operations.

**Excel Academy • Chicago, IL • Oct. 2006 – Dec. 2006**

***Volunteer Tutor***

- Worked on a quarter-long service learning project coordinated by the Stean Center at DePaul University.
- Tutored inner-city teens both individually and in small groups.
- Assisted with computer aided tutoring (CAT).

**POWER Connection • Bolingbrook, IL • Feb. 2003 – Dec. 2005**

***Food Pantry Volunteer***

- Made calls to raise funds to support POWER Connection's education initiatives.
- Assisted in unpacking and distributing donations at food pantry.

**SNC Research Journal • Barnardsville, NC • Dec. 1998 – Dec. 2002**

***Managing Editor***

- Served as Managing Editor for a small, non-profit quarterly Native American cultural research publication.
- Edited and proofread all articles.
- Regularly submitted research articles.
- Acted as liaison between Editor-in-Chief and contributing writers.
- Created print and web marketing materials.

**Educator • Various Locations • Oct. 1994 – Aug. 2005**

***Volunteer Educator***

Served as volunteer educator for:

- Sauder Village, Archbold, OH.
- Wisconsin Alliance for Fire Safety (WAFS).
- The United States Department of the Interior.
- The Alabama Historical Commission.

- Schoenbrunn Village State Memorial, New Philadelphia, OH.
- Tippecanoe County Historical Society, Lafayette, IN.

## **Languages**

- Intermediate understanding of written and spoken Spanish
- Basic understanding of written and spoken French
- Beginning understanding of written and spoken Choctaw

## **Technological Literacy**

- Expert in Blackboard
- Expert in Microsoft Office
- Proficient with Mac OS and Windows
- Proficient with WordPress
- Intermediate knowledge of SightSpeed (webcam software)
- Working knowledge of HTML
- Working knowledge of CSS
- Working knowledge of Audacity
- Working knowledge of Quark

## **Professional Memberships**

- American Culture Association (ACA)
- Illinois Library Association (ILA)
- Midwest Modern Language Association (MMLA)
- National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)
- Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
- Two-Year College English Association (TYCA)