

DR. LAURA OKKEMA

née Laura Moeller

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EDUCATION

University of Central Florida

Ph.D. in Texts and Technology

2019

Thesis: "Hearing the Voices of *The Deserters*: Activist Critical Making in Electronic Literature"

Michigan Technological University

M.Sc. in Rhetoric and Technical Communication

2014

Thesis: "Students' Rhetorical Strategies in Translingual Encounters on Campus"

Technische Universität Dortmund

B.A. in English / American Studies and Physics

2011

As part of a dual curriculum leading to a teaching qualification

Thesis: "Gender and Aesthetics in Tim Burton's Film"

AWARDS

Graduate Dean's Fellowship, UCF

2015 – 2019

Graduate Teaching Assistantship, UCF

2015 – 2019

UCF Presentation Fellowship

2018

Lawrence J. Chastang Global Fellowship

2017

Sibille H. Pritchard Global Peace Fellowship

2016

Graduate Teaching Assistantship, MTU

2011 – 2014

College of Science and Arts Outstanding Teacher

2011 – 2012

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Michigan

GERMAN 232.201 Introduction to German Film, Summer 2021

GERMAN Second Year 231.005 A Study of Identity, Winter 2021

GERMAN Elementary 101.002, Winter 2021

GERMAN Elementary 101.002, Fall 2020

GERMAN Elementary 101.014, Fall 2020

University of Central Florida

DIG3043 Evolution of Video Games, online, Spring 2019

DIG3024 Digital Cultures and Narrative, online, Fall 2018, Spring 2019

ENC1102 Composition 2, 2 sections, Spring 2018, Spring 2017, Fall 2017

ENC1101 Composition 1, 2 sections, Fall 2017

Michigan Technological University

UN1015 Composition, Spring 2015, 2 sections, Spring 2014

HU2281 German Language and Culture, Level 1a, Fall 2014, Spring 2012, Fall 2011

HU3236 German Culture through Film, Fall 2014

HU2282 German Language and Culture, Level 1b, Spring 2012

Technische Universität Dortmund

154622 Proseminar "'Resistence is Futile: American Discourses of Technology,'" Fall 2013

154624 Co-instructor for Intensive Seminar in American Studies, "Herbert Marcuse's *One-Dimensional Man*," Fall 2013

4-week German Language Intensive Course, 4hrs daily, Summer 2013

6-week German Language Course, 3 hrs biweekly, Spring 2013

Secondary Education in Germany

2-week teaching internship at Heinrich-Böll-Gesamtschule Dortmund, Fall 2013

6-week teaching internship at Stadtgymnasium Dortmund, Spring 2013

PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

- L. Okkema, *The Deserters*.
Electronic Literature Collection Vol. 4. Forthcoming. 2022
- L. Okkema, *The Deserters: Activist Critical Making in Electronic Literature*.
Book chapter in B. Mauer and A. Salter, *Reimagining the Humanities*. Forthcoming. 2022
- L. Okkema, *Hearing the Voices of The Deserters: Activist Critical Making in Electronic Literature*
Dissertation, University of Central Florida. 2019
- L. Okkema & E. Murnane, "The Television Crew"
OneShot: A Journal of Critical Games and Play 2019
- A. Hill & L. Okkema, "Meaning-Making and Randomization in E-Poetry Machines,"
Proceedings of the Computers and Writing Conference 2018 in Fairfax, VA, USA 2019
- L. Okkema, "Harvester of Desires: Gaming Amazon Echo through John Cayley's *The Listeners*,"
Proceedings of the Digital Games Association (DIGRA) Conference 2018 in Turin, Italy 2018
- L. Moeller, *Students' Rhetorical Strategies in Translingual Encounters on Campus*
Master's thesis, Michigan Technological University. 2015
- K. Arko, J. Beatty, L. Bowen, C. Delaney, I. Dorpenyo, L. Moeller, E. Roberts, and J. Velat,
"Community Engagement in a Graduate-Level Community Literacy Course," *Community Literacy Journal* vol. 9, no. 1. 2014
- CREATIVE DIGITAL WORK: EXHIBITS
- L. Okkema, E. Murnane, & R. Winter. *Prism Portraits* (social media artwork)
Displayed at ELO Conference 2020, Online / Orlando, FL 2020
- L. Okkema. *The Deserters. Activist Critical Making in Electronic Literature* (artist talk)
Displayed at ELO Conference 2019, Cork, Ireland 2019
- L. Okkema. *HeartBeats* (interactive installation)
Displayed at ELO Conference 2018, Montreal, CA 2018
- L. Okkema. *Wayfarer's Song* (generative poem)
Displayed at HASTAC Conference 2017, Orlando, FL 2017
- TRANSLATIONS
- June Jordan. *Abschiedskuss für Gott. Gedichte in Englisch und Deutsch*.
Ed. Walter Grünzweig and Julia Sattler. Collection of June Jordan's poetry translated to German by
American studies scholars of TU Dortmund University. Bonn: Weidle Verlag, 2013. – contributing
translator 2013
- CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS
- L. Okkema, "Creative Writing Collaboration in GoogleDocs" 2020
Virtual workshop at ELO Conference 2019, online / Orlando, FL
- L. Okkema, "Anarchy in Cyberspace: Framing Twine as the Punk Rock of Electronic Literature" 2019
Paper presentation at ELO Conference 2019, Cork, Ireland
- L. Okkema, "Reading the Ethics and Poetics of the Digital through John Cayley's *The Listeners*" 2018
Paper presentation at ELO Conference 2018, Montreal, CA
- L. Okkema, "Harvester of Desires: Gaming Amazon Echo through John Cayley's *The Listeners*," 2018
Paper presentation at Digital Games Association (DIGRA) Conference 2018 in Turin, Italy
- A. Salter, E. Murnane, and L. Okkema. "Weaving Nonlinear Tales: Constructing Ludic Narratives with Twine 2.x" 2018
Half-day workshop at Computers & Writing Conference, Fairfax, VA
- L. Okkema and A. Hill. "Meaning-Making and Randomization in E-Poetry Machines." 2018
Mini workshop at Computers & Writing Conference, Fairfax, VA

- L. Okkema and E. Murnane. "EnTwined Storytelling: Bringing Interactive Creative Nonfiction into the Classroom."
Mini workshop at Computers & Writing Conference, Fairfax, VA 2018
- L. Okkema, E. Murnane, and V. Ruiz. "Twine Games: Using interactive storytelling to empower students and connect with underrepresented identities
How to workshop at ODH Conference, Bethlehem, PA 2018
- L. Okkema and A. Hill. "Pattern and Randomness in Code and Poetry."
Interactive Workshop at HASTAC Conference, Orlando, FL 2017
- L. Okkema. "Reading Generative Poetry through a Lens of Pattern and Randomness:
A Creative Case Study."
Presentation at PCAS/ACAS Regional Conference in Savannah, Georgia. 2017
- L. Okkema. "'Your Story Isn't Over:' The Semicolon Tattoo as a Social Media Movement."
Presentation at PCA/ACA National Conference in San Diego 2017
- L. Moeller. "Representations of Mental Illness in Netflix' Bojack Horseman."
Presentation at PCA/ACA National Conference in Seattle 2016
- L. Moeller. "American Discourses of Technology."
Presentation as ERASMUS guest scholar at the University of Trieste, Italy 2013

SERVICE AND EXTRACURRICULAR ENGAGEMENT

- UCF department-level service, Department of Writing and Rhetoric
Committee for student portfolio evaluation 2017
Hiring committee for 2 full time instructors 2016
- UCF program-level service: Texts and Technology Student Organization, UCF
Event Planning Committee 2018
Officer position: President 2017
Officer position: Secretary 2016
- UCF volunteering as event assistant with UCF Global Perspectives - select events listed below:
2017 Lou Fry Institute Symposium (UCF) 2017
2017 Florida International Summit (UF, Tampa) 2017
Interfaith Forum (UCF) 2016
LGBTQ+ Issues Forum (UCF) 2016
- At Michigan Technological University
Graduate assistant at Multiliteracies Center (MTU writing center) 2015
Organized and hosted writing group for graduate students in thesis mode 2015
Organized and hosted German Club meetings for students learning German 2015
Organized and hosted *Women's Technology Workshop* with K. Arko, MTU 2014
Organized and hosted *Breaking Digital Barriers*, Technology Workshop for Older Adults, MTU 2014
- At Technische Universität Dortmund
International Exchange Coordinator between MTU and TU Dortmund 2013
Dortmund Doubles International Exchange Mentor to Michael Roberts (TRU, CA) 2012
TU Dortmund International Exchange Advisor to Madelyn Gordon (NDSU, USA) 2012
Writing Coach, TU Dortmund Writing Center 2010
- Non-academic
Counselor at English Language Youth Camp, Dresden, Germany 2014
2 months volunteering on organic farms in Australia with *HelpXchange*, NSW, Australia 2011

LANGUAGES

- German – native language
English – bilingual / academic proficiency
French – intermediate competency
Spanish – intermediate competency
Latin – read and write with intermediate competency

MEMBERSHIPS

Electronic Literature Organization
Rhetoric Society of America
Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association

MEDIA SKILLS

Course management systems

Canvas
Blackboard
Moodle

Video conferencing

Zoom
Skype
Google Hangouts
Microsoft Teams

Coding and programming:

HTML/CSS
D3.js (JavaScript library for producing interactive visualization)
JavaScript
jQuery
PHP
SQL
Twine (software for making interactive fiction)

Content management systems:

Omeka
WordPress

Document preparation:

LaTeX (typesetting software)
MS Word Suite
Open Office Suite

Photo and video manipulation:

Adobe Photoshop
Avid Media Composer
GIMP
Final Cut Pro