

Eastern Illinois University

***English Studies
Student Conference***

Presented by
***English Undergraduate and
Graduate Students***

April 6, 2013
Third Floor Coleman Hall
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Coleman Hall 3130, 3140, and 3150

**Sessions
10:00 a.m.**

Room 3130

Composition Instruction Across the Curriculum

Courtney Walton

Journal Writing

I will focus on using journal writing in the classroom. My presentation will include the misconceptions of journal writing from the students' point of view, types of journals, the benefits of journals, critical responses to journals, and grading journals as a teacher.

Taryn DeVries

Writing Across the Curriculum: English Teachers and Beyond

The use and inclusion of Writing Across the Curriculum in schools calls for teachers in all disciplines to use writing in their classrooms. For many, this appears a monumental task. It then falls onto English Language Arts Teachers to lead the way.

10:00 a.m.

Room 3140

Creative Writing In and Outside the Classroom

Matt Montag

A Room Full of Actors

Through the use of humor and drama, this one-act play portrays a man's struggle with a mental illness that has worn out him and his loved ones. Now, our main character, Norman, seeks to have himself committed. The only obstacle he faces is himself.

Grace Gustafson

The Benefits of Creative Writing for Students

This presentation will cover the ways in which incorporating creative writing into a high school curriculum can help students both in the classroom and beyond. This presentation will also include interdisciplinary approaches for teaching creative writing.

Kristina Kastl

Teaching Playwriting in the Classroom

Playwriting in the high school classroom has long been ignored and rejected because teachers do not think the material is relevant to what they need to teach. Playwriting teaches valuable skills students will use throughout their academic and professional lives.

**Women and Children First: Reading American
and South African Fiction**

Natalie Wiechert

Social Norms in *The House of Mirth* and *McTeague*

This academic paper focuses on what the social norm was for women when dealing with money and jobs during the late 19th and early 20th Centuries. It is structured around Edith Wharton's *The House of Mirth* and Frank Norris' *McTeague*.

Lisa Dulaney

Children of Apartheid

This paper examines the portrayal of children in South African post-apartheid literature by contrasting their roles in three novels: Nadine Gordimer's *July's People*, Zakes Mda's *The Madonna of Excelsior*, and Achmat Dangor's *Bitter Fruit*. It also discusses the lingering effects of apartheid on South Africa in general and children specifically.

Sessions
11:00 a.m.

Room 3130

Technology In and Outside the Classroom

Abriana Iwanski
Stephanie Gribbin

Unique Technologies: Student and Professional Use

Presenters will demonstrate the various uses of unique technologies (specifically Prezi and Wordle) for both students and teachers. Demonstration will include activity examples, assessment ideas, and tutorial resources.

Andrew Crivilare

Pop Up Classroom

Learn how to make students' presentations a hands-on analytical experience using Mozilla Popcorn. Integrates maps, links, social media, and video all into one seamless webpage that is as much fun to share as it is to build.



Student-Centered Approaches in the English Classroom

Vanessa Perez

English Language Learners: How Can Teachers Make a Difference?

English Language Learners go through daily struggles that are often not seen by the teacher's naked eye. Many argue that bilingual education will not ensure that students will speak fluently and that schools spend too much money on programs where many do not learn the English language in a specific amount of years. As a future educator, I believe that each child has the capacity to learn, no matter how long it may take. Being an English Language Learner, I currently speak English fluently and believe one hundred percent in education. If schools really want their students to succeed, they will make sure that they have the staff and the tools to help make that happen. I want to be the change that I want to see in my community, and the best way to make a difference is to be the difference. I want my audience to recognize what the struggles are and how students feel, and engage ideas on how educators can use writing to prepare students for the work place.

Becca Gervais

Alternatives to the Standard Research Presentation

The presentation discusses the need for alternatives to the standard research paper and provides other activities that are more effective and enjoyable for students. These alternatives are also methods to achieve and meet the new Common Core Standards.

**Sessions
12:00 p.m.**

Room 3130

**Alternative Approaches to Teaching Literature
in the High School Classroom**

*Jaclyn Capps
Miranda Buob*

Literature Presented with Two Approaches

In this workshop, there will be a lesson that will focus on literature for high school students. There will be two different approaches to this lesson to show the differentiated instruction of a lesson. This workshop will be beneficial to future teachers, as well as administration. Showing the two different approaches to a lesson can help students reach their utmost potential in the classroom. Using literature circles, the Smartboard, and the text will help create a positive reading atmosphere for students. Another approach will be to use more indirect instruction by approaching the literature from a theatrical perspective.

Kelsey Parks

Using Nonfiction in Literature Classes

This presentation will discuss the various ways and provide examples of how nonfiction can be used to supplement primary texts in literature classes at the secondary level to adhere to new Common Core Learning Standards.

**Minor Status and Characterization in Kazuo Ishiguro's
Never Let Me Go and George Eliot's *Middlemarch***

Solomohn Ennis-Klyczek

Rachel Walls

Katelyn Pfaff

**Minor Status and Characterization in Kazuo Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go*
and George Eliot's *Middlemarch***

Using recent theories of characterization, this panel seeks to address the role of the minor character in two novels, Kazuo Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go* and George Eliot's *Middlemarch*.

Solomohn Ennis-Klyczek...**Becoming Minor: The "Apparitional" Status of Characters in Kazuo Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go***

Rachel Walls.....**Clones as Minor Characters in Kazuo Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go***

Katelyn Pfaff.....**Minor Characterization in George Eliot's *Middlemarch***

**Session
1:00 p.m.**

Room 3130

Life in the (Teaching) Trenches

*Stacy Pollack
Danielle Shirtino
Rachel Kocurek
Ashley Wiberg*

After you grab your free lunch, you are welcome to join us for a panel presentation by two first-year teachers and two student teachers from our English Language Arts teacher certification program. They will discuss their classroom experiences and answer your questions about their transitions from student to teacher.



The English Department thanks the Dean of the College of Arts & Humanities, Dr. Bonnie Irwin, for supporting our English Studies Student Conference.



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