

MICHELLE NIEMANN
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2024- Academic Writing Coach and Founder, Draft by Draft

2016-2024 Independent Academic Writing Coach

- Coached dozens of faculty members and researchers writing in disciplines including anthropology, art history, architectural history, comparative literature, demography, design history, English literature, history, international law, rhetoric, Spanish and Portuguese literature, and sociology.

2016-2021 Independent Academic Editor

- Edited book manuscripts that went on to be published by Bloomsbury, Cambridge UP, Columbia UP, Duke UP, Edinburgh UP, University of Nevada Press, Northwestern UP, Oxford UP, Routledge, University of Virginia Press, and Yale UP.

2014-2016 Postdoctoral Fellow in Environmental Humanities, Department of English, University of California, Los Angeles.

EDUCATION

2014 Ph.D. in English, Literary Studies, minor in U.S. history, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2007 M.A. in English, Literary Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2002 B.A. in Religious Studies, *magna cum laude*, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island.

PUBLICATIONS

Articles

“Niedecker’s New Goose: Settler Colonialism on the Cusp of the Great Acceleration,” in Locating Lorine Niedecker, edited by Brandon Menke and Sarah Dimick, Post45: Contemporaries, February 29, 2024.

“Towards an Ecopoetics of Food: Plants, Agricultural Politics, and Colonized Landscapes in Lorine Niedecker’s Condensery.” *Modernism/modernity* 25 (January 2018): 135-160.

“Playing in the Planetary Field: Vulnerability and Syncretic Myth-Making in Robert Duncan’s Ecopoetics,” in *Ecopoetics: Essays in the Field*, edited by Angela Hume and Gillian Osborne. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 2018. 84-101.

“Browning’s Critique of Organic Form in *The Ring and the Book*.” *Victorian Poetry* 52 (Fall 2014): 445-464.

“Rethinking Organic Metaphors in Poetry and Ecology: Rhizomes and Detritus Words in Oni Buchanan’s ‘Mandrake Vehicles.’” *Journal of Modern Literature* 35 (Fall 2011): 99-121.

Edited books

Bending the Curve: Climate Change Solutions. Editor: V. Ramanathan. Co-Editors: Adam Millard-Ball; Michelle Niemann; Scott Friese. Open access digital textbook published by the Regents of the University of California, 2019. <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/6kr8p5rq>.

The Routledge Companion to the Environmental Humanities, edited by Ursula K. Heise, Jon Christensen, and Michelle Niemann. London: Routledge, 2017.

Online essays and book chapters

“Composting’s Colonial Roots and Microbial Offshoots,” *Edge Effects* digital magazine, April 7, 2020. <https://edgeeffects.net/composting-colonial-roots/>

“Organic Farming’s Political History,” *Edge Effects* digital magazine, January 23, 2020. <https://edgeeffects.net/organic-farmings-political-history/>

“Hubris and Humility in Environmental Thought,” in *The Routledge Companion to the Environmental Humanities*. London: Routledge, 2017. 247-257.

“Posthuman Revisions of Organic Form in Poetry.” *eTopia: Canadian Journal of Cultural Studies*. Selected Papers from The Inhuman: Investigating Continental Thought in the Humanities. York University, 12 March 2010.

“‘Not borne of women’: The Gendering of Space and Place in Thomas Hariot’s *A briefe and true report* and Paul Green’s *The Lost Colony*,” in *On and Off the Page: Mapping Place in Text and Culture*. Ed. Matthew B. Hackler and Ari J. Adipurwawidjana. Newcastle upon Tyne, UK: Cambridge Scholars, 2009. 269-292.

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2019	Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature’s David D. Anderson Award for Outstanding Essay in Midwestern Literary Studies, honorable mention for “Towards an Ecopoetics of Food: Plants, Agricultural Politics, and Colonized Landscapes in Lorine Niedecker’s Condensery.”
Fall 2015	Affordable Course Materials Award for “Introduction to Environmental Humanities,” UCLA Library.
2011-2012	Dissertation Fellowship, Mellon Sawyer Seminar on Biopolitics, Center for the Humanities, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
2009	Chair’s Doctoral Essay Prize, English Department, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2019	“A Compost-Based Ecopoetics?” Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment
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Biennial Conference. University of California, Davis. June.

2018 "Food, Pleasure, and Environmental Justice in Kevin Young's Poetry." American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting. Los Angeles, California. March.

2015 "Envisioning the Future, Turning Toward the Present: The Dark Mountain Project." Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment Biennial Conference. Moscow, Idaho. June.

"An Ecopoetics in Organic Form? Organisms and Urns in Modernist Poetry and the New Criticism." American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting. Seattle, Washington. March.

2013 "Sustainable Farming and the Poetics of Food: Lorine Niedecker and Wendell Berry." American Studies Association Annual Meeting. Washington, DC. November.

"Food Politics in Lorine Niedecker's 'New Goose' Poems." The Lorine Niedecker Wisconsin Poetry Festival. Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin. October.

"Organic Forms and Organic Farms: Literary Politics, Food Politics, and the Local." Futures of American Studies Institute, Dartmouth College. Hanover, New Hampshire. June.

"Organic Forms and Organic Farms: Compost in Wendell Berry's Poetry and Prose." Association for the Study of Literature and Environment Biennial Conference. Lawrence, Kansas. May.

"Muriel Rukeyser's Poetics and Politics in the 1940s and 50s." The Muriel Rukeyser Centenary Symposium. Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti. March.

"Concrete and Organic: Ronald Johnson's Poems and Cookbooks." Conference on Ecopoetics. University of California, Berkeley. February.

2012 "What's farming got to do with poetry?" Invited talk. FH King Students for Sustainable Agriculture. University of Wisconsin-Madison. October.

"Opening Up Organic Form: Charles Olson's Poetics and Politics at Black Mountain." American Literature Association Conference. San Francisco, California. May.

2011 "Organic Forms and Ecology: Poetry, Alternative Agriculture, and the Changing Concept of the Organic in the Postwar U.S." Center for Culture, History, and Environment Colloquium. University of Wisconsin-Madison. November.

2009 "Web Metaphors, Web Forms: Ecology, the Internet, and Oni Buchanan's 'Mandrake Vehicles.'" Pre-conference seminar on Ecological Media. Association for the Study of Literature and Environment Eighth Conference. Victoria, British Columbia. June.

"The Ecological Implications of Organic Form in Poetry." Center for Culture, History, and Environment. Second Annual Graduate Student Symposium. University of Wisconsin-Madison. April.

2008 "The Aesthetics of Decomposition: Ruin as Renewal in Alan Weisman's *The World Without Us*." Annual Convention of the Modern Language Association. San Francisco, California. December.

“Posthuman Revisions of Organic Form in Poetry.” The Inhuman: Investigating Continental Thought in the Humanities. Graduate Student Conference, York University, Toronto, Ontario. October.

“Redemption through Matter: Death and Organic Transformation in Frank Bidart’s Long Poems.” Annual Meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association. Long Beach, California. April.

“‘Not borne of women’: The Gendering of Space and Place in Thomas Hariot’s *A briefe and true report* and Paul Green’s *The Lost Colony*.” The Louisiana Conference on Language and Literature. University of Louisiana at Lafayette. February.

2007 “‘Remember Iphigenia’: H.D.’s *Helen in Egypt* as a Reversal of Aeschylus’s *Oresteia*.” MadLit: Graduate Student Conference on Language and Literature. University of Wisconsin-Madison. February.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Classes at the Indiana Writers Center, Indianapolis

“Overcoming Perfectionism,” December 2, 2018, and January 26, 2020.

“Begin Anywhere = Begin Somewhere,” April 14, 2019.

Lecturer at UCLA

Fall 2015 Introduction to Environmental Humanities, a general education course cross-listed in English and Environmental Studies.

Writing Center leadership and teaching

2013-2014 Assistant Director of the Writing Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2010-2011 Writing Center Outreach staff, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2009-2011, & 2012-2014 Instructor, Writing Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2003-2004 Tutor, Writing Center, Indiana University-Purdue University, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Teaching assistant for literature courses at the University of Wisconsin-Madison

Spring 2011 Introduction to Modern American Literature: Violence and the American Psyche, introductory literature course with emphasis on composition, Professor Lynn Keller.

Spring 2010 Revolution: Literature and Revolt, 1776-2006, sophomore survey of American literature for English majors, Professor Russ Castronovo.

Fall 2009 British and Anglophone Literature, 1750 to the present, sophomore survey for English majors, Lecturer Jonathan Ewell.

Spring 2008 Introduction to Modern Literature since 1900, Lecturer Holly McBee.

Fall 2007 Misfits and Mass Culture: Introduction to Modern American Literature, Professor David Zimmerman.

Instructor of record for composition courses at the University of Wisconsin-Madison

Fall 2010 Media, Rhetoric, and Composition: Digital First-Year Composition.

Spring 2009 Food Choices and the Art of Persuasion: First-Year Composition.

Fall 2008 Space and Place: First-Year Composition.