

Paula M. Wenger

University of Colorado at Boulder

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Education

M.A. English. Miami University, Oxford, OH. Outstanding Teacher Award. 1987

M.A. Theatre. University of Denver, Denver, CO. 1983

B.A. English/Education. University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO. 1976

Experience

University of Colorado, Boulder, CO

August 2001 to present

Program for Writing and Rhetoric

Instructor/Senior Instructor/Teaching Associate Professor

Design and teach core requirements:

- New Media and Civic Engagement; Writing for Digital Media: Developed courses centered around current pedagogy in digital/new media rhetoric and production.
- First Year Writing: Participated in the development of program-wide learning objectives, curricular design, and program-wide textbook.
- Technical Communication and Design: Contributed to the design of a new service learning course.
- First Year Writing Residential Academic Program (RAP): Designed a course for first year business majors in the Leeds School of Business.
- Writing on Business and Society: Modeled the movement toward a stronger "writing in the disciplines" focus.
- Travel Writing: Developed a new course design, including integration of visual rhetoric and digital media, for both in-class writing course and online Continuing Education course.
- Environmental Writing: Designed an online course reflective of developments in multi-modal communication as well as campus-wide sustainability initiatives.

Committees

- Faculty Advisory Committee (Fall 2023 to present)
- PWR Study Abroad Committee (Fall 2017 to present)
- Information Literacy/Digital Literacy Committee (Fall 2019 to Spring 2023)
- Cohort for Integrating Sustainability, Community Engagement, and Professional Writing (Fall 2017 to Spring 2019)
- Upper Division Curriculum Committee (Fall 2009 to Spring 2017, Chair Fall 2009 to Spring 2017)
- Program Committee (Fall 2009 to Spring 2017)
- Annual Merit Review Committee (Fall 2015 to Spring 2017)
- First Year Committee (Fall 2014 to Spring 2016)
- Information Literacy/Digital Literacy Initiative (Fall 2014 to Spring 2017)
- Sustainability Initiative, campus-wide and within the PWR (Fall 2009 to Spring 2014)
- Program Review (AY 2008-2009)
- Assessment (Fall 2005 to Spring 2009)
- Upper Division Arts and Sciences (Fall 2005 to Spring 2009, Chair Fall 2008 to Spring 2009)
- Professional Writing (Chair, Fall 2002 to Spring 2009)
- Search Committee for Upper Division Associate Director (AY 2006-2007)
- First-year Textbook (AY 2003-2004)
- Professional Development (AY 2001-2002)

Upper Division Coordinator (Fall 2005 to Spring 2017).

- Coordinated all courses, outreach, assessment, and professional development aligned with the upper division curriculum.
- Led reviews and refinement efforts for upper division writing courses, including interface with Business, Engineering, and Arts & Sciences faculty
- Led an initiative to advance coherence in course design, including CCHE compliance, input from ARPAC, currency in the field, and verticality with lower division courses, resulting in program-wide curricular frameworks
- Contributed an upper division perspective to discussions surrounding the 2015-2016 ARPAC review and the A&S Core Curriculum review
- Worked with the reference faculty of Norlin Library and the PWR Information Literacy Coordinator to advance information literacy in upper division courses and integrate IL goals into upper division curricular frameworks
- Worked with the PWR Digital Literacy Coordinator to integrate DL goals into upper division curricular frameworks
- Worked with the chairs of the Service Learning and Sustainability committees to launch an initiative to design writing curriculum that combines community engagement and professional writing
- Participated in curriculum discussions for online and hybrid writing courses
- Guided the development of an online teaching resource site
- Served as advisor to faculty new to teaching in the upper division as well as faculty creating or revising upper division courses
- Coordinated and participated in upper division syllabus reviews
- Worked with the reference faculty of the William M. White Business Library to develop research tools for students.
- Contributed to an intensive strategic planning process based on the ARPAC response to the 2008-2009 Program Review, incorporating nationwide, state, and university trends and initiatives
- Contributed to an extensive Program Review, serving as a liaison to upper division faculty and articulating upper division initiatives
- Spearheaded the development of upper division curricular goals and assessment systems, working with three committees and seventy to eighty faculty members
- Articulated program design for university-wide core requirement review and internal/external program review
- Served as liaison to faculty in the Leeds School of Business, the College of Engineering, and the College of Arts & Sciences.

Leeds School of Business

Lecturer

- MBA and MS presentations coach and resource (Fall 2014 to Spring 2015)
- MBA writing coach and resource (Fall 2010 to Spring 2014)
- MBA-level Business Writing (Fall 2010, Fall 2011, Fall 2012, Fall 2013)
- Professional communication sessions, MBA-level Leadership (Fall 2006)
- Undergraduate Business and Society (Spring 2006)
- Writing consultant, MBA-level Business and Society (Spring 2005)

Executive Education

- Served as advisor for communication segments of Executive Programs (2010 to 2011)
- Presented professional communication segment of Western Union program (May 2010)

Freelance and contract work. (See Select Publications below.)

1996 to 2001

Clients included:

- McREL (Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning/Mid-continent Regional Educational Laboratory)
- The National Institute of Corrections, U.S. Department of Justice

- Colorado Department of Corrections
- University Writing Program, University of Colorado at Boulder (Instructor)

National Institute of Corrections Information Center, Longmont, CO.

February 1992 to August 1996.

Program Manager. Managed a contract awarded to LIS, Inc. by the National Institute of Corrections, U.S. Department of Justice.

- Designed and directed services for an international clientele of corrections policymakers, managers, and trainers: information collection and dissemination, survey-based research, trend analysis, and publishing
- Negotiated contracts, oversaw contract compliance, managed finances, and served as liaison to Institute executives and professionals
- Directed eight professionals and four support staff, including recruitment and training
- Developed proposals, strategic plans, budgets, promotional initiatives, and policies and procedures
- Worked with staff and field professionals to research issues involving minority, low-income, and women offenders and ex-offenders, including education and rehabilitation aimed at reducing recidivism

The Darden Graduate School of Business Administration, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA.

August 1987 to February 1992.

Speech Coordinator. Coordinated the work of seven speech instructors for a required year-long course, Analysis and Communication.

- Worked with faculty of core first-year MBA courses to develop curriculum, workshops, teaching materials, and joint projects
- Designed and taught the speech segment of Analysis and Communication
- Taught writing segment of Analysis and Communication (1987-1989)
- Participated in business ethics initiatives

Miami University, Oxford, OH. Graduate Teaching Assistant, First Year Composition

1985 to 1987

- Received the Outstanding Teacher award in a theory-driven, workshop-based composition program
- Participated in pedagogy research and presented sessions on teaching techniques through the Center for the Study of Writing, including methods for working with students from culturally diverse backgrounds
- Developed a conference teaching approach
- Assisted in coordinating program-wide outcome assessment

Greeley Central High School, Greeley, CO. Language Arts Teacher and Drama Director

1976 to 1979

- Designed and taught courses in composition, literature, drama, and television and film
- Selected to design and teach courses aimed at low income and minority students, including those with criminal records
- Directed and designed productions for drama program

Professional Activities

Participated in Summer Seminar, focused on ChatGPT capabilities and classroom policies, inclusive teaching, creative non-fiction, and faculty, staff, and student well-being, conducted by the Program for Writing and Rhetoric, University of Colorado Boulder, May 16-17, 2023.

Presented a student design project in Summer Seminar to illustrate the student perspective on the use of ChatGPT in the classroom, for the Program for Writing and Rhetoric, University of Colorado Boulder, May 16, 2023.

Attended the Right Here, Right Now Global Climate Summit co-hosted by United Nations Human Rights and the University of Colorado Boulder, December 2-4, 2022.

Participated in Summer Seminar, focused on inclusive teaching, goal-oriented teaching through course mapping, Canvas course design, teaching exercises, First Year textbook resources, and “making our scholarly teaching visible,” conducted by the Program for Writing and Rhetoric, University of Colorado Boulder, May 10-11, 2022.

Attended the CU Boulder MLK Commemorative Event, part of the equity training series: talk by and conversation with Nikole Hannah-Jones, creator of the 1619 Project, January 21, 2022.

Participated in the CU Boulder Center for Teaching and Learning workshop, “Buffscreate: Claim your Possibility Space,” March 8, 2022.

Participated in a two-day event on Hip Hop and Social Justice, part of the Art, Activism, and the Engaged Humanities series at CU Boulder. Participated in the workshop on Artmaking, Activism, and Political Engagement with Mariah Parker and attended the Mariah Parker/Linqua Franqa performance, September 21-22.

Participated in training for a Program for Writing and Rhetoric climate narrative initiative sponsored by Mission Zero, an organization partnering with the University of Colorado Boulder to address climate change, November 12 and December 10, 2021.

Participated in Summer Seminar, focused on Canvas course design and creative nonfiction exercises, conducted by the Program for Writing and Rhetoric, University of Colorado Boulder, May 12-13, 2021.

Attended the virtual talk by author David Brooks sponsored by the Center for Leadership, University of Colorado Boulder, February 23, 2021.

Participated in Dialogic Practices, focused on integrating principles of dialogue in online learning to promote inclusive student engagement and a sense of community in remote settings, conducted by the CU Engage Dialogues Program, Center for Teaching & Learning, University of Colorado Boulder, July 15, 2020.

Participated in Summer Seminar, focused on curriculum development for remote and hybrid teaching, conducted by the Program for Writing and Rhetoric, University of Colorado Boulder, June 3-4, 2020.

Participated in the Digital Storytelling workshop conducted by the StoryCenter and sponsored by the Program for Writing and Rhetoric, University of Colorado Boulder, May 15, 29, and 30, 2019.

Participated in Summer Seminar, a study of composition and rhetoric theory and practice offered through the Program for Writing and Rhetoric, University of Colorado Boulder, May 14, 2019.

Participated in contemplative pedagogy events conducted by Stephanie Briggs, Assistant Professor of English at the Community College of Baltimore County: a lecture on “Contemplative Pedagogy 101: Education as Practice” and a workshop in “Contemplative Pedagogy: Shifting Perspectives,” February 13 and 14, 2019.

Participated in events conducted by cultural ecologist and philosopher David Abram: a lecture on “The Commonwealth of the Breath: On Climate and Consciousness” and a workshop in “The Forgotten Intimacy Between Language and Land: The Ecology of Orality and Literacy,” March 7 and 8, 2019.

Participated in Summer Seminar, a study of composition and rhetoric theory and practice offered through the Program for Writing and Rhetoric, University of Colorado Boulder, May 15-17, 2018.

Participated in the Sustainability Forum, on pedagogy for teaching sustainability, sponsored by the Program for Writing and Rhetoric, University of Colorado Boulder, March 9, 2018.

Attended and served as docent for the Conference on Community Writing, “Engaging Networks and Ecologies,” University of Colorado Boulder, October 19-21, 2017.

Attended the Highlander Center Pre-Conference Workshop, Conference on Community Writing,

University of Colorado Boulder, October 18, 2017.

Participated in Campus Compact of the Mountain West, Advanced Practitioner Roundtable, Nadine Cruz and Dwight Giles, Red Rocks Community College, May 17, 2017.

Attended the lecture by Kathleen Stewart, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Texas at Austin, who writes and teaches on affect and ethnographic engagement: "Writing Affect ~ Composing Precarity," February 9, 2017.

Participated in the writing workshop conducted by Kathleen Stewart, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Texas at Austin, who writes and teaches on affect and ethnographic engagement: "Writing, Worlding," February 10, 2017.

Contributed to developing and participated in Summer Seminar, a study of composition and rhetoric theory and practice offered through the Program for Writing and Rhetoric, on information literacy and community engagement and professional communication, May 11-13, 2016.

Served as a docent for and participated in the inaugural Conference on Community Writing: Building Engaged Infrastructure, at the University of Colorado Boulder, October 15-17, 2015.

Participated in the Conference on Communication and the Environment (COCE), presented by the International Environmental Communication Association (IECA): Bridging Divides: Spaces of Scholarship and Practice in Environmental Communication, at the University of Colorado Boulder, June 11-14, 2015.

Participated in Summer Seminar, a study of composition and rhetoric theory and practice offered through the Program for Writing and Rhetoric, on digital composition and multimodality, social media, and copyright, May 12-13, 2015.

Participated in Contemporary Communication and Composition Practices seminars, Program for Writing and Rhetoric, University of Colorado Boulder, January 23, 2015 and April 17, 2015

Participated in the Digital Storytelling Workshop, conducted by the Center for Digital Storytelling for the Program for Writing and Rhetoric, University of Colorado at Boulder. August 18-20 and October 16-27, 2014.

Participated in the 35th Annual Martz Summer Conference, "Water and Air Quality Issues in Oil and Gas Development: The Evolving Framework of Regulation and Management," Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment, University of Colorado at Boulder Law School. June 5-6 2014.

Presented for and participated in Summer Seminar IV, an advanced study of composition and rhetoric theory and practice, offered through the Program for Writing and Rhetoric. Emphasis in 2013 on genre and multi-modal composition. Presented and facilitated discussion of readings on genre acquisition and transfer for professional writing. May 20-22, 2013.

Participated in "Writing and Responding in the Digital Age," workshops led by Nancy Sommers of Harvard University, one of the foremost experts on teaching and responding to student writing. Workshops covered the topics, "Beyond Gutenberg: Handbooks and Language Conventions in the Digital Age" and "The Pleasures of Reading and Responding to Student Writers." October 26, 2012.

Attended the international climate conference, "Culture, Politics, and Climate Change." Contributed to planning and arranging the sponsorship of a talk by Maxwell Boykoff of the University of Colorado Environmental Studies Program. September 13-15, 2012.

Participated in workshops led by Cheryl Ball of Illinois State University, nationally recognized scholar and teacher and editor of the multimodal scholarly journal, *Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy*. The workshops addressed "Digital Literacy in the Writing Curriculum." April 6-7, 2012.

Participated in the University of Colorado campus-wide Peak to Peak Project: Teaching Sustainability, aimed at integrating sustainability into discipline-specific courses as well as identifying prospects for interdisciplinary work. The project featured CU faculty such as Jim White, Director of the Institute of

Arctic and Alpine Research, and Patricia Limerick, Center for the American West; campus sustainability administrators such as Moe Tabrizi, Director of Sustainability, and Kevin Krizek, faculty liaison to the CU Environmental Center; and a representative from the nationwide Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (ASSHE). August 15-16, 2011.

Participated in the Rhetoric Society of America Summer Institute at the University of Colorado, in the "Emerging Genres" workshop led by Victoria Gallagher and foremost genre scholar Carolyn Miller. June 24-26, 2011.

Participated in two scoring sessions for the Critical Thinking Assessment Test (CAT) at Colorado College in Colorado Springs, September 30, 2010 and May 20, 2011.

Contributed to designing and attended the Program for Writing and Rhetoric Sustainability Training, aimed at building foundations for rhetorical analysis and critical thinking for PWR courses that explore sustainability issues. Trainers included Lisa Barlow, Environmental Studies and Baker Academic Program; Mark McCaffrey, researcher with the Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences (CIRES), Kevin Krizek, Architecture and Planning and faculty liaison to the CU Environmental Center; Jim White, Geological Sciences and Environmental Studies; and Rebecca Dickson and Lonni Pierce, Program for Writing and Rhetoric. March 11, 2011.

Participated in an intensive workshop led by Patti Clayton, one of the foremost national experts in service learning, on "Design for Learning: Integrating Critical Reflection and Assessment" and "Conceptualizing, Facilitating, and Assessing Civic Learning," November 4, 2010.

Attended Edward Tufte's "Presenting Data and Information" course, based on his ground-breaking and widely adopted approach to visual rhetoric. June 11, 2010.

Attended a reading by Robert Root, Professor Emeritus of English at Central Michigan State, and participated in his workshop on "Creative Non-fiction in the Composition/Rhetoric Classroom," April 15 and 17, 2010.

Participated in a workshop and attended a presentation by Michael Palmquist, Associate Vice Provost for Learning and Teaching at Colorado State University, on "Why Digital Literacy Matters for Undergraduate Teaching and Learning" and "The Future of the Book in a Digital Age: Reflections on Scholarly Publishing and the Teaching of Writing," April 2, 2010.

Attended presentations sponsored by the Institute for Ethical and Civic Engagement, "Student Contributions to Social Entrepreneurship and Community Development: Student Learning at Leeds," February 24, 2010.

Attended the Workshop on Sustainability Research and Teaching at CU-Boulder, January 29, 2010.

Participated in the first annual Summer Seminar II, an advanced study of composition and rhetoric theory and practice, offered through the Program for Writing and Rhetoric, May 17-21, 2010.

Participated in the first annual Summer Seminar in composition and rhetoric theory and practice, offered through the Program for Writing and Rhetoric, May 18-29, 2009.

Attended "Breaking Through Walls: Connecting Service & Learning," hosted by the Institute for Ethical and Civic Engagement, University of Colorado at Boulder, October 29, 2008.

Participated in the "Train the Trainers" conference for the CAT (Critical thinking Assessment Test), Chicago, IL, October 8-10, 2008.

Attended the Program Review Fall Forum for the Arts and Humanities, University of Colorado at Boulder, September 26, 2008.

Participated in sessions presented by Chris Anson, University Distinguished Professor at North Carolina State University, on "Assessing Student Writing" and "Writing Across the Curriculum," sponsored by the Program for Writing and Rhetoric, University of Colorado at Boulder, September 21-22, 2007.

Completed the weeklong 2006 Summer Institute for Classroom Learning Assessment, University of

Colorado at Boulder, June 5-8, 2006.

Attended the Japha Symposium on business ethics (including diversity), sponsored by the Leeds School of Business Center for Business and Society, 2005 and 2006.

Attended the Teaching Business Ethics conference (including diversity), sponsored by the Leeds School of Business Center for Business and Society, 2005 and 2006.

Select Publications

Contributed assignment questions and biographical head notes to *Composing Knowledge: Literacy. Community. Inquiry*, by Rolf Norgaard, Bedford/St. Martin's Press, New York: 2006.

Developed learning objectives and contributed key text and editing to *Knowing Words*, the required first-year writing textbook for the Program for Writing and Rhetoric, University of Colorado at Boulder. Fall 2005.

Services for Families of Inmates, National Institute of Corrections (NIC) Information Center: February 2002.

State Sex Offender Treatment Programs: 50-State Survey, Colorado Department of Corrections: November 2000.

"Mentoring program 'inducts' new teachers" and "Work force study reveals importance of soft skills," *Changing Schools*, Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL): September 2000.

"Selecting and implementing research-based instruction," *Noteworthy Perspectives on Comprehensive School Reform*, Mid-continent Regional Educational Laboratory (McREL)¹: 1999.

Recruitment, Hiring and Retention: Current Practices in U.S. Jails, National Institute of Corrections (NIC) Information Center: November 1999.

¹ McREL changed the wording of their acronym between 1999 and 2000.