

# CURRICULUM VITAE

University of Idaho

**NAME:** Jamaica Ritcher

**DATE:** October 19, 2021

**RANK OR TITLE:** Instructor, English Department; Director, Writing Center

**DEPARTMENT:** English; College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences

**OFFICE LOCATION AND CAMPUS ZIP:** ISUB, Third Floor, Room 323, 83844

**OFFICE PHONE:** 208-885-4300

**EMAIL:** jritcher@uidaho.edu

**DATE OF FIRST EMPLOYMENT AT UI:** August, 2009

**DATE OF TENURE:** Not applicable

**DATE OF PRESENT RANK OR TITLE:** August, 2020

## **EDUCATION BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL:**

### **Degrees:**

Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho, December 2012. Creative Nonfiction. Thesis: "Little Moons: Essays"

Master of Natural Science, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, December 2001. Plant Biology, with additional foci in urban ecology and science writing. Thesis: "Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungal Species Diversity in Phoenix, Arizona: An Urban Ecosystem." (Published)

Bachelor of Arts, California State University, Chico, California, December 1996. Cultural Anthropology

### **Certificates and Licenses:**

Certificate in Applied Cultural Anthropology from California State University, Chico, CA (1996)

## **EXPERIENCE:**

### **Teaching, Extension and Research Appointments:**

#### **Instructor, English Department, 2019 – present**

University of Idaho Dept. of English – Moscow, Idaho

Teach ENGL 402 (Internship in Tutoring Writing) and ENGL 201 (English Grammar: Key Terms and Concepts). Develop an upper division and graduate level tutor education course grounded in pedagogical theory, contemporary diversity, and disciplinary history; design assignments and course activities; mentor individual research projects,

#### **Instructor, University Honors Program, 2018 – 2019**

University of Idaho Honors Program – Moscow, Idaho

Developed Interdisciplinary Studies 403, a 1-credit workshop-style course focused on production of the student magazine, *The Looking Glass*. Lead students in learning stages of publication including production planning, submission calls, author/contributor correspondence, copy-editing, publication design, graphic design, and outreach.

#### **Lecturer, Department of English, 2012 – 2014**

University of Idaho Dept. of English – Moscow, Idaho

Taught courses in Technical Writing, Personal and Exploratory Writing, Creative Nonfiction, and Composition and Rhetoric. Designed and implemented creative and technical writing readings/activities/assignments in

accordance with departmental curriculum standards; wrote and delivered lectures; facilitated in-class writing activities and discussion; designed and evaluated homework and major essay assignments.

**Graduate Student Teaching Assistant, 2009-2012**

University of Idaho Dept. of English – Moscow, Idaho

Taught courses in Technical Writing, Personal and Exploratory Writing, Creative Nonfiction, and Composition and Rhetoric. Designed and implemented creative and technical writing readings/activities/assignments in accordance with departmental curriculum standards; wrote and delivered lectures; facilitated in-class writing activities and discussion; designed and evaluated homework and major essay assignments.

**Graduate Student Teaching Assistant, 2011**

Writing Center, University of Idaho – Moscow, Idaho

A one-semester assignment as the Writing Center TA. Worked a scheduled 12 hours per week in the Writing Center; developed and led workshops and presentations; supported daily administrative operations; created outreach materials; peer-mentored tutors.

**Graduate Student Teaching Assistant, 1999-2000**

Department of Plant Biology, Arizona State University – Tempe, Arizona

Taught lab sections for courses in General Introductory Biology and Horticulture. Provided instruction and feedback on effective writing conventions in the life sciences; organized and oversaw multi-week labs (e.g., plant propagation and plant growth), drove students to and from field sites; graded writing, lab performance and participation.

**Academic-Administrative Appointments:**

**Faculty Fellow, Honors Program, 2020 – present**

University of Idaho Honors Program – Moscow, Idaho

Mentor honors students writing conference proposals, preparing presentations, and participating in professional conferences; assist with advising; participate in regular Honors staff/faculty meetings and collaborate on development of programming; assist with recruitment events; participate in graduation activities.

**Director, University of Idaho Writing Center, 2020 – present**

Teach the tutor education course, English 402, and English grammar fundamentals course, English 201; assist directly or indirectly individual students who use the Writing Center and mentor student tutors; ensure normal operations including hiring student employees, scheduling, budgeting, approving payroll; supervise a staff of approximately twenty student tutors, the graduate writing consultant, and English department TA; track student use of the Writing Center and manage data for programmatic assessment; serve as a liaison between the Writing Center and the composition program; serve on the Rhetoric and Composition Committee; maintain close ties with other student support programs, including Disability Support Services and the Raven Scholars Program, Student Support Services, the Academic Coaches, the College Assistance Migrant Program, Office of Multicultural Affairs, and the Native American Student Center.

**Interim Director, University of Idaho Writing Center, 2019 – 2020**

Teach the tutor education course, English 402; assist directly or indirectly individual students who use the Writing Center and mentor student tutors; ensure normal operations including hiring student employees, scheduling, budgeting, approving payroll; supervise a staff of approximately twenty student tutors, the graduate writing consultant, and English department TA; track student use of the Writing Center and manage data for programmatic assessment; serve as a liaison between the Writing Center and the composition program; serve on the Rhetoric and Composition Committee; maintain close ties with other student support programs, including Disability Support Services and the Raven Scholars Program, Student Support Services, the Academic Coaches, the College Assistance Migrant Program, Office of Multicultural Affairs, and the Native American Student Center.

**Associate Director, University of Idaho Writing Center, 2016 – 2019**

Develop and oversee online tutoring services: research and implement best practices for online writing consultations, customize available online tutoring platforms, troubleshoot and access technical support; train and

mentor tutors in online tutoring tools and practices; develop instructional materials for students and tutors; write usage reports; assess the impact of online tutoring services on student success and retention. Schedule and oversee orientations for English 101/109 students and communicate with English 109 studio tutors about Writing Center services; maintain records of English 109 student attendance in the Writing Center. Conduct outreach across campus; create and lead writing workshops for students across campus and visit classrooms to introduce students to writing center services; assist with daily operations, including hiring, training, and supervising tutors and scheduling tutor shifts.

**Editor, University of Idaho Department of Mathematics, 2016 – 2017**

Provided substantive editing and copy editing of manuscripts and proposals at various stages of the publication process (pre-submission and requested-revisions stages) for mathematics department faculty. Employed critical reading and interpersonal skills to improve the clarity of specialized, technical language; ensured accurate manuscript format according to specific publication guidelines; used online-platforms for communication and editing to achieve successful collaborations in “virtual” environments.

**Writing Tutor, University of Idaho Writing Center, 2010 – 2014**

University of Idaho Writing Center – Moscow, Idaho

Consulted with university students and faculty from all academic disciplines on all stages of the writing process (invention, composition, revision). Built Writing Center wiki; developed and facilitated presentations and workshops; developed handouts related to writing process, conventions, format; represented the Writing Center at university-sponsored student outreach events; collaborated with undergraduates, graduates, professors, and international students; assisted with administrative tasks including tutor scheduling.

**Non-Academic/Consulting:**

**Freelance, Web-Based Writing Consultant and Editor, 2013 – 2017**

Writing consultation and substantive/developmental editing with scholars and peer-review journals representing behavioral sciences, economics, ecology, geology, genetics, mathematics, and plant physiology disciplines. Projects included grant proposals (National Science Foundation and Department of Energy), peer-review journal manuscripts PhD dissertations, master’s degree theses, and academic job application materials; used online digital platforms for written feedback and verbal communication.

**Palouse Pathways, Writing Workshop Facilitator – Moscow, Idaho, 2015-2016**

Facilitated college essay development workshops for high school students on behalf of Palouse Pathways, a college preparedness organization. Presented background information about college applications and essays; analyzed and discussed sample essays; designed and facilitated writing activities; facilitated effective peer discussion; provided feedback on individual essay drafts.

**TEACHING ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

**Areas of Specialization:**

Writing Center Pedagogy, Composition/Prose, Technical and Science Writing, Creative Writing and Publishing

**Courses Taught:**

University of Idaho

English Grammar: Key Concepts and Terms, ENGL 201 – Spring 2020, Fall 2020

Honors Workshop: Writing *The Looking Glass*, INTR 403 – Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Spring 2019

Personal and Exploratory Writing, ENGL 208 – Fall 2013, Fall 2014

Technical Writing, ENGL 317 – Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Summer 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2014

Introduction to Creative Nonfiction, ENGL 293 – Spring 2012, Fall 2012

Writing and Rhetoric II, ENGL 102 – Spring 2010, Fall 2010, Spring 2011, Fall 2011

Writing and Rhetoric I, ENGL 101 – Fall 2009

Arizona State University

Introduction to Biology (Lab), BIO 101 – Fall 1998, Spring 1999, Fall 1999, Spring 2000, Fall 2000

Introduction to Horticulture (Lab), BIO – Spring 2001

**Students Advised:**

Prior to Fall 2020, my position at the university precluded advising duties; however, since August 2016, as Associate Director of the Writing Center, Interim Director, and Director, I have participated in the training and mentorship of sixty (60) undergraduate and graduate student peer tutors and three (3) graduate writing consultants.

I have mentored six (6) Writing Centers tutors in successfully proposing and preparing conference presentations for the Rocky Mountain Writing Center Association biennial conference (2020), and one (1) student in successfully seek funding to support conference participation and travel to the Colorado-Wyoming Writing Centers Association (2019) and preparing a subsequent poster presentation for the U of I OUR research symposium (Spring 2019).

I have mentored four (4) Writing Center tutors in successfully proposing conference presentations to the Pacific Northwest Writing Centers Association Tutor Conference (Spring 2020). The conference was subsequently canceled due to Covid-19 restrictions.

**Materials Developed (non-scholarship activity):**

“Writing Center Tutors on College Writing” (2018). A 21-page writing manual developed in collaboration with Professor Omi Hodwitz, created for incarcerated students enrolled in the Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program, with Writing Center peer tutors Corrin Bond, Abigail Dunn, and Xena Lunsford.

“WC Online User Instructions” (2017). A 15-page instruction manual for the Writing Center’s online scheduling program. The manual includes a section of information specific to Writing Center staff, and section of information relevant for student/client users.

“A Quick Guide to Getting Started with the Writing Center’s Online Calendar” (2017). A 1-page quick-reference page to assist Writing Center clients using the center’s new, online system.

WC Online screencast series (2018). A series of four screencasts that lead Writing Center clients through the process of registering for a Writing Center account, making and modifying appointments, and accessing online appointments.

“Citing Films in MLA” (2018). A slidecast explaining when and how to appropriately cite films according to MLA guidelines. Created at the request of Professor Anna Banks (U of I Dept. of English), and in collaboration with undergraduate tutor Abigail Dunn.

**Courses Developed:**

Honors Workshop: Writing *The Looking Glass*, INTR 403 – Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Spring 2019

**Non-credit Classes, Workshops, Seminars, Invited Lectures, etc.:**

“Honors Graduation Program Faculty Keynote.” By invitation from the UI Honors Program, Admin Auditorium, University of Idaho, May 2021.

“Introduction to the Writing Center.” By invitation from Nicholas Ketchum, Residence Life Student Success Program, Wallace Complex, University of Idaho, Fall 2020.

“Revision.” By invitation from Residence Life Student Success Program, Wallace Complex, University of Idaho, Fall 2019.

“Citation Insights: Learning to Use Outside Sources Like an Expert.” With Diane Prorak and Sarah VanGundy. By invitation from College Tutoring Success, U of I Library, Fall 2019.

“Peer Tutors on Peer Review.” By invitation from Professor Tom Drake, U of I Dept. of English, Spring, 2018.

“Writing through the Roadblocks.” By invitation from the Tutoring and College Success program. U of I Library, Rm 121, Spring 2018.

“Citing Films in MLA.” By invitation from Professor Anna Banks, U of I Department of English, Spring 2018.

“Writing Effective Assignments Sheets.” By invitation from U of I Department of English EGA. Paul Joyce Faculty Lounge, Fall 2017.

“From Revision to Reflection: Preparing English 101’s Final Assignment.” By invitation from the Tutoring and College Success program. U of I Library, Fall 2017.

“Connecting the Pieces.” By invitation from the Tutoring and College Success program. U of I Library, Rm 121, Fall 2017.

“Formatting in Microsoft Word.” By invitation from the U of I College of Graduate Studies, as part of their Professional Development Initiative series, Fall 2017.

“Writing Abstracts.” By invitation from the U of I College of Graduate Studies, as part of their Professional Development Initiative series, Fall 2017.

I have also conducted numerous class visits to introduce students to Writing Center services at the University of Idaho.

#### **Honors and Awards:**

2012 Disability Support Services Outstanding Faculty Award, University of Idaho.

#### **SCHOLARSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

##### **Projects in Process:**

“Academic Hospitality, Belonging, and Gain in Web-Based Speaker Events.” And IRB-approved survey driven investigation of whether participants who identify as hosts are more likely to engage with and apply speaker series content. Currently analyzing survey data. With Rachel Herzl-Betz, Nevada State College.

##### **Selected Publications, Exhibitions, Performances, Recitals:**

###### **Refereed/Adjudicated:**

“Review: *Radical Writing Center Praxis: A Paradigm for Ethical Political Engagement* by Laura Greenfield” with Lisa Bell, Lori Brock, Clint Gardner, Rachel Herzl-Betz, Victoria Vertain, and Eduardo Mabilog. *Praxis: A Writing Center Journal*. Forthcoming Spring 2021.

“A Memoir that Beautifully Examines an Ordinary Life.” *Off the Shelf*. May 2015.

<<http://offtheshelf.com/2015/05/safekeeping-by-abigail-thomas/>>

“Four Pieces.” With Amiya Sharma. *Kahini Magazine*, January 2015.

<<http://kahini.org/kahini-magazine/>>

“Notes on Gastropoda.” *Split Rock Review*. Issue 4, 2015.

<<http://www.splitrockreview.org/issue4-1/>>

“Interview with Lia Purpura.” *Fugue*. Winter-Spring, 2012.

<[http://issuu.com/uidahodigital/docs/fugue\\_42embed](http://issuu.com/uidahodigital/docs/fugue_42embed)>

“At the Threshold.” *Labor Pains and Birth Stories*. Ed. Jessica Powers. San Bruno: Catalyst Press, 2009.

“The Two Year Old’s Personal Laundress, the Writer and the Mom.” *Literary Mama*.

December 2006. <<http://www.literarymama.com/litreflections/essays/archives/001271.html>>

“There is More to Life than My Life.” *This I Believe*. April 2006.

<<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=5355301>>

-Day to Day on National Public Radio. April, 2006. This was one of NPR’s top

emailed stories for the day after broadcast.

-*This I Believe: The Personal Philosophies of Remarkable Men and Women*. Eds.

Jay Allison and Dan Gediman. New York: Henry Holt, 2006. ISBN-13: 978-0-8050-8087-2, ISBN -10: 0-8050-8087-2.

-*A Mother's Gift*. Eds. Jay Allison and Dan Gediman. New York: MacMillan Audio, 2011. ISBN: 978-1-4272-1269-6.

**Peer Reviewed/Evaluated:**

Ritcher, Jamaica. "What Happens Next?: Understanding the Impact of Required Writing Center Visits for Students Enrolled in a Co-Requisite English Composition Studio." (Abstract) International Writing Center Association 2018 Conference. Atlanta, Georgia. October 2018.

Jamaica R. Cousins, Diane Hope, Corinna Gries and Jean C. Stutz. "Preliminary assessment of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungal diversity and community structure in an urban ecosystem." *Mycorrhiza*. 13 (2003): 19-326.

**Presentations and Other Creative Activities:**

"The Unique and Universal in the Personal Essay: Graduate Student Readings" (Panel Presentation with Brandon Schrand, Aaron Poor, Ann Stebner-Steel, and Cara Stoddard). *Turning of the Wheel: A Humanities Exploration*. Pritchard Art Gallery, University of Idaho. November 2011.

**Professional Meeting Papers, Workshops, Showings, Recitals:**

"Author Discussion with Rebecca Day Babcock and Jo Mackiewicz" (Moderator). Rocky Mountain Writing Centers Association webinar. August 2020.

"Pen to Paper, Mind to Calm: Journaling Practices for Greater Well-Being in the Workplace and Beyond" (Proposed and accepted – conference canceled due to Covid-19). University of Idaho and Washington State University Women's Leadership Conference. March 2020.

"Author Discussion with Laura Greenfield" (Moderator). Rocky Mountain Writing Centers Association webinar. August 2019.

"The Power of the Pause: Creating Spaces for Reflection and Action in Text-Based Resources" (Proposed and Accepted). International Writing Center Association 2019 Conference. Cleveland, Ohio. October 2019.

"Enacting a Vision: The Tutor as Production Artist in Asynchronous Tutoring" (Proposed and Accepted). International Writing Center Association 2019 Conference. Cleveland, Ohio. October 2019.

"What Happens Next?: Understanding the Impact of Required Writing Center Visits for Students Enrolled in a Co-Requisite English Composition Studio" (Presentation). International Writing Center Association 2018 Conference. Atlanta, Georgia. October 2018.

"Rewriting Disempowerments" (Panel Presentation with Alexandra Teague, Sandi Day, Wendy Silva, and Cara Stoddard). Northwest Women's Studies Association Annual Conference, Faces of Feminism: From Furious to Funny. University of Idaho. April 2013.

**Grants and Contracts Awarded:**

2011 University of Idaho Student Grant Program project grant (Primary Investigator).

**Honors and Awards:**

2016 IWCA Summer Institute Lodging Scholarship, International Writing Center Association.

2009 – 2012 Grace V. Nixon Teaching Scholarship, University of Idaho.

2009 – 2012 University of Idaho Graduate Fee Waiver.

2005 Australian Capital Territory Writers' Centre Poetry Prize. "Beautiful Naiveté."

**SERVICE:**

**Major Committee Assignments:**

University Committee on General Education (UCGE), University of Idaho, 2021 – present.

Rhetoric and Composition Committee Dept. of English, University of Idaho, 2013 – 2014, 2019 – present.

Executive Committee Dept. of English, University of Idaho, 2012 – 2013, 2020 – present.

**Professional and Scholarly Organizations:**

International Writing Centers Association, Member, 2016 – present.  
 Rocky Mountain Writing Centers Association (RMWCA), Member, 2016 – present; Executive Board Member (Outreach Coordinator) 2016 – 2020 (Two elected terms).  
 Athena (University of Idaho Women's Professional Organization), Member, 2019 – present.

**Outreach Service:**

Writing Consultation for incarcerated student writers at Orofino State Prison. With U of I Asst. Professor Omi Hodwitz (Dept. of Sociology and Anthropology), offer face-to-face writing consultation with incarcerated writers as they make progress on a book project about the history of prison systems in Western culture. Summer 2019.

As part of RMWCA, participated on a committee to establish a new set of financial policies and procedures for awarding funding for research and travel. Spring 2019.

“Training Peer Tutors.” By invitation from Rachel Lyon, Moscow High School (MHS) English teacher and faculty advisor for the MHS National Honor Society. A two-hour workshop for new writing tutors participation in the MHS writing center program. Fall 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019.

RMWCA “Tutor Talk” webinar series. Developed with Jess McDermott (Aurora Community College, Colorado), Fall 2018.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:****Scholarship:**

International Writing Centers Association 2020 Mentor Match Program. (Selected Participant – Mentee)  
 International Writing Centers Association 2018 Annual Conference. Atlanta, Georgia. October, 2018. (Presenter)

Inland InfoLit Retreat. Spokane, Washington. November, 2016. (Participant)

International Writing Centers Association 2016 Annual Conference. Denver, Colorado. October, 2016. (Participant)

Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI Program) course completion for IRB Investigators and Student Researchers. May 29, 2018. (Certification)

WLN Webinar: Writing Center Administrator as Hero: A Scholar's Journey to Publication. Sponsored by *WLN: A Journal of Writing Center Scholarship*. October 26, 2018. (Participant)

International Writing Centers Association 2016 Annual Conference. Denver, Colorado. October, 2016. (Participant)

**Administration/Management:**

International Writing Centers Association Summer Institute. A selective, one-week institute for new writing center administrators. Vancouver, B.C., Canada. June 16-23, 2017. (Selected participant)