

MATTHEW OVERSTREET

Assistant Professor
American University of Sharjah
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SUMMARY Writing teacher and researcher w/ extensive publication record

INTERESTS Writing technologies, cognition, multimodality

WORK EXPERIENCE (Post-PhD)

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF SHARJAH Assistant Professor, August 2024 – Present	Sharjah, UAE
WENZHOU-KEAN UNIVERSITY Assistant Professor, August 2023 – May 2024	Wenzhou, China
KHALIFA UNIVERSITY Assistant Professor, August 2019 – May 2023	Abu Dhabi, UAE
NEW ECONOMIC SCHOOL Assistant Professor, August 2017 – May 2019	Moscow, Russia

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) – 2018 → Dissertation: <i>Writing the Fragments: William James & Composition in an Age of (Dis)Connection</i> Advisor: David Bartholomae	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO Masters of English Studies (MA) – May 2012	Chicago, Illinois
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS SCHOOL OF LAW Juris Doctor (JD) – May 2005	Lawrence, Kansas
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS Bachelor's (BGS), Political Science – May 2002	Lawrence, Kansas

CURRENT PROJECTS

A Summarizer of Google Search Results: How Students in a Chinese EMI University Use Generative AI, *Journal of English for Academic Purposes* (under review)

RECTifying Transfer: A Non-Representational Approach to Teaching for Transfer, *College Composition and Communication* (in progress)

Writing as Extended Mind, scholarly monograph (in progress)

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

Time, Space and Tools: A Materio-Cognitive Model of Digital Writing Process Development, w/ Silvia Vaccino-Salvadore & Diana Akhmedjanova, *Written Communication* (2026)

Cultivating Networked Literacy: Second Language Writers and the Development of Online Source Evaluation Strategies, *Computers & Composition*, Vol. 75 (2025)

Liberalism in Rhetoric and Composition: An Ideological History and (Re)Definition, *Composition Studies*, 52.2 (2024)

The “Multimodal Spiral:” Rethinking the Communication Curriculum at an EMI Institution, w/ Curtis Carbonell & Diana Akhmedjanova, *The Journal of Technical Writing and Communication*, 54.2 (2023)

Brain-bound vs. Extended: Contrasting Approaches to Second Language Research Writing in Digital Environments, w/ Diana Akhmedjanova & Silvia Vaccino-Salvadore, *The Journal of Second Language Writing*, Vol. 61 (2023)

Writing As Extended Mind: Recentering Cognition, Rethinking Tool Use, *Computers & Composition*, Vol. 63 (2022)

Networked Reading: How Digital Experts Use Their Tools, *College English*, 83.5 (2021)

Writing at the Interface: A Research and Teaching Program for Everyday Digital Media Literacy, *Literacy in Composition Studies*, 8.1 (2020)

First-Year Writing as the Critical Thinking Course: An Interactionist Approach, *Double Helix: A Journal of Critical Thinking and Writing*, Vol. 7 (2019)

Response to Casey Boyle’s “Writing and Rhetoric and/as Posthuman Practice,” *College English*, 79.6 (2017)

Speaking (of) The University: Kant and the Adjunct Labor Crisis, *CEA Critic*, 77.3 (2015)

BOOK CHAPTERS

Generative Combination: A Guiding Principle for the Future of Composition, *Hopes and Anxieties for [the Futures of] Rhetoric and Composition*, Eds Jennifer Juskiewicz & Rachel McCabe. Utah State UP (2023)

Critical Thinking, Writing & Language Learning: A Report from Northwest China, *English Across the Curriculum: Voices from Around the World*. Eds. Bruce Morrison, et. al. The WAC Clearinghouse (2021)

Feeding The Troll: Online Hate Speech as Communal Act, *The Proceedings of the Annual Computers and Writing Conference: Volume 1, 2016-2017*. Eds. Cheryl Ball, et. al. The WAC Clearinghouse (2018)

Text, Theory & Things: Toward a Pedagogy of Vital Being, *Theory Lessons: Putting Theory into Practice in the Contemporary Classroom*. Ed. Becky McLaughlin. Cambridge Scholars Publishing (2017)

Principled/Digital: Composition's 'Ethics of Attunement' and the Writing MOOC, *Writing & Composing in the Age of MOOCs*. Eds. Elizabeth Monske & Kristine Blair. IGI Global (2016)

BOOK REVIEWS

Review of *Yoga Minds, Writing Bodies: Contemplative Writing Pedagogy*, by Christy Wenger, for *The Journal of the Assembly for Expanded Perspectives on Learning* (2022)

Review of *Translingual Practice: Global Englishes and Cosmopolitan Relations*, by Suresh Canagarajah, for *Enculturation* (2016)

DIGITAL MEDIA PROJECTS

Ambient Propaganda: A Study in Chinese Rhetorical Ecology. *Rhetorics Change/Rhetoric's Change*. Eds. Jenny Rice, Chelsea Graham & Eric Detweiler. Parlor Press (2018)

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

What Can Expert Digital Readers Teach Us About Reading Pedagogy?, invited blog post on ncte.org/blog, the official site of the National Council of Teachers of English (2022)

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

Digital Ecologies of Second Language Writing, Computers and Writing, Athens, GA, USA (May 2025)

Co-intelligence in the EMI University: Second Language Writers & Generative AI, College Composition and Communication (CCCC), Baltimore, MD, USA (April 2025)

More Effective Coupling: The Development of L2 Writing Strategies in Digital Environments, SIG Biennial Writing Conference, Paris, France (June 2024)

Taking the Low Road: A RECTified Approach to Teaching for Transfer, CCCC, Chicago, IL, USA (Feb 2023)

Extending Minds: A Longitudinal Study of L2 Writers at an EMI Institution, SIG Biennial Writing Conference, Umeå, Sweden (June 2022)

Translanguaging Research Practices of Multilingual Emirati Students, w/ Diana Akhmedjanova & Silvia Vaccino-Salvadore, TESOL Arabia, Dubai, UAE (March 2022)

Writing as Extended Mind: Recentering Cognition, Rematerializing Process, CCCC, Chicago, IL, USA (March 2022) (accepted, session cancelled)

Remediation as Revision: Composition Beyond the Text / Multimodal Binary, CCCC, Spokane, WA, USA (April 2021) (accepted, session cancelled)

Making Students *Really* Think: Freewriting Task Design and Content Learning, International Writing Across the Curriculum (IWAC) Conference, Ft. Collins, CO, USA (June 2020) (accepted, conference cancelled)

Teach Critical Thinking as (an Intersubjective, Metacognitive, Context-Dependent) Process, CCCC, Milwaukee, WI, USA (March 2020) (accepted, conference cancelled)

Teaching the Fragments: English Education, Democracy and Digital Media, Modern Language Association (MLA) Annual Convention, New York, NY, USA (Jan 2018)

Writing Instruction in US English Departments: Some Basic Principles. 4th Annual MISiS ESL/ESP Conference, Moscow, Russia (Nov 2017)

Mind-Body-Self-Object-Other: Composition's Ethics of Attunement, CCCC, Portland, OR, USA (April 2017)

William James and the Teaching of Writing, Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA) Conference, Baltimore, MD, USA (March 2017)

Ambient Propaganda: Attunement, Affect and the Chinese Dream, Rhetoric Society of America (RSA) Biennial Conference, Atlanta, GA, USA (May 2016)

Sensation, Ethics & Writing the Other, CCCC, Houston, TX, USA (April 2016)

Paper vs. Screen: Evolving Reading Practices & Composition Pedagogy, New York College English Association (NYCEA) Conference, Hamburg, NY, USA (Oct 2015)

Speaking (of) The University: Kant and the Adjunct Labor Crisis, College English Association (CEA) Conference, Indianapolis, IN (March 2015)

WORK EXPERIENCE (Pre-PhD)

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Graduate Instructor, August 2013 – January 2018

- For teaching and service activities, see below

PRINCE MOHAMMAD BIN FAHD UNIVERSITY

Al Khobar, Saudi Arabia

Instructor, August 2012 – May 2013

- Instructed Arab college students in academic English

AL-IMAM MOHAMMAD IBN SAUD ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Lecturer & Program Coordinator, August 2010 – May 2011

- Instructed Arab college students in academic English
- Coordinated multiple ESL courses

CHINA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

Beijing, China

Lecturer, September 2009 – July 2010

- Instructed Chinese college students in oral and written English
- Taught academic writing and TOEFL / IELTS prep

SHANGHAI INTERNATIONAL STUDIES UNIVERSITY

Shanghai, China

Lecturer, September 2008 – July 2009

- Instructed Chinese college students in English, business and law
- Taught legal and business English (ESP)

FULCHER & BROOKS, LLC

Kansas City, Missouri

Attorney, May 2005 – June 2008

- Attorney at mid-sized, urban law firm
- Conducted bench trials and acted as co-counsel in multiple jury trials

KANSAS LEGISLATURE

Topeka, Kansas

Legislative Intern, January - May 2004

- Researched legal, social and economic topics for Rep. David McKinney

TEACHING

American University of Sharjah (2024-Present)

WRI 101: Academic Writing I
WRI 102: Academic Writing II
ENG 204: Advanced Academic Writing

Wenzhou-Kean University (2023-24)

ENG 3080: Writing for Digital Spaces
ENG 3090: Business & Professional Writing
ENG 4817: Senior Writing Seminar

Khalifa University (2019-23)

ENGL 101: Academic English I
ENGL 102: Academic English II
LTCM 224: Digital Composition
LTCM 311: Technical Communication
COMM 601: Writing for Scientific Purposes

New Economic School (2017-19)

ENG 101: Academic Writing
ENG 200: Advanced Business Communication
ENG 305: Digital Media Composition & Critique (special topics course)
ENG 305: How We Think (special topics course)
ENG 400: Formal Writing (MA-level)

University of Pittsburgh (2013-17)

ENG 0152: Workshop in Composition (for ESL learners)
ENG 0200: Seminar in Composition
ENG 0400: Written Professional Communication

SERVICE -- University & Department

Administration

COURSE COORDINATOR, English 204, American University of Sharjah, 2025 to present

- ➔ Coordinate advanced research writing course
- ➔ Design and share course materials; organize instructor meetings

COURSE COORDINATOR, English 102, Khalifa University, 2021-2023

- ➔ Coordinated first-year writing course
- ➔ Conducted teacher training; monitored student attainment of learning outcomes; acted as liaison between faculty and administrators

WRITING CENTER DIRECTOR (ACTING), New Economic School, 2018-2019

- ➔ Managed writing center with over 700 consultations annually
- ➔ Operated scheduling and budget system; conducted writing workshops for students and faculty; trained writing center tutors

COORDINATOR, University of Pittsburgh Rhet-Comp Reading Group, 2016-2017

- ➔ Scheduled, promoted and selected the readings for a bi-monthly reading group composed of Pitt faculty and graduate students

VICE PRESIDENT, Pitt Chapter of the Rhetoric Society of America, 2015-2016

- ➔ Arranged funding and logistics for workshop and presentation by Prof. Debra Hawhee of Penn State University

ESL PROGRAM COORDINATOR, Al-Imam Mohammad University, 2010-2011

- ➔ Managed ESL program for the engineering department of a large university
- ➔ Scheduled classes and set teaching assignments; evaluated teacher and student performance; acted as liaison between faculty and administrators

Assessment

MEMBER, Program Assessment Committee, Pitt English Dept, 2015, 2016 & 2017

- ➔ Participated in three broad assessments of student writer performance
- ➔ Read and discussed dozens of student essays in multiple day-long sessions

Curriculum Design

MEMBER, Collaborative Pedagogy Committee, AUS English Dept, 2024 to present

- ➔ Create and pilot group assignments for first-year writing courses

MEMBER, First-Year Writing Redesign Committee, WKU English Dept, 2023-2024

- ➔ Assisted in the redesign of the university's two course first-year writing sequence
- ➔ Created business and science/technology themed writing courses

CHAIR, Program Improvement Committee, Khalifa English Dept, 2020-2022

- Helped design and coordinate a newly created minor in digital media composition
- Created and piloted syllabi and assignment sequences for courses involving multimodal, visual and technical communication
- Worked to create a minor-wide rubric of desired learning outcomes

MEMBER, Steering Committee, Khalifa English Dept, 2019-2020

- Assisted in the redesign of the university's two course first-year writing sequence
- Created and piloted model syllabi and assignment sequences
- Helped introduce faculty to the new curriculum

MEMBER, Composition Curriculum Committee, Pitt English Dept, 2013 & 2014

- Assisted in setting and evaluating the curriculum for Pitt's writing program

Hiring

MEMBER, Hiring Committee, AUS English Dept, 2024-2025

- Helped select candidates for open rank positions in writing studies
- Reviewed over 100 CVs and participated in multiple online interviews

Research Talks

Cultivating Networked Literacy: L2 Writers & the Development of Online Source Evaluation Strategies, AUS English Dept (Nov 2024)

More Effective Coupling: The Development of L2 Writing Strategies in Digital Environments, WKU English Dept (May 2024)

Critical Thinking as Material Process, Khalifa English Dept (Nov 2019)

Workshops

When Students Make the Rules: An Experiment in Gen AI Pedagogy, AUS English Dept, Gen AI Chalk Talk Series (March 2025)

SERVICE -- Discipline

Conference Panels

ORGANIZER & CHAIR, “Teaching the Fragments: English Education, Democracy and Digital Media,” a roundtable at the Modern Language Association (MLA) Annual Conference, New York, NY, USA (Jan 2018)

- ➔ Organized & chaired an 8-person roundtable under the auspices of the College English Association (CEA)
- ➔ Arranged for a response by noted critical pedagogue Ira Shor

ORGANIZER, “Experience and Education: Pragmatism in the English Studies Classroom,” a panel at NeMLA, Baltimore, MD (March 2017)

Editorial

ASSOCIATE EDITOR, WAC Clearinghouse / University Press of Colorado, *International Exchanges on the Study of Writing* (book series), 2018-2021

- ➔ Helped identify contributors & subject matter for an international book series published by an open-access scholarly press
- ➔ Promoted the series through social media & work at international conferences

Peer Review

ARTICLES

- ➔ *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications* (June 2025)
- ➔ *Written Communication* (June 2023)
- ➔ *Computers & Composition* (April 2023)
- ➔ *Intercultural Education* (Jan 2021)
- ➔ *Double Helix: A Journal of Critical Thinking and Writing* (April 2021)

BOOKS

- ➔ *Essays Only You Can Write*, for Broadview Press (Sept 2022)
- ➔ Series Reviewer, WAC Clearinghouse / University Press of Colorado, *International Exchanges on the Study of Writing* (2021 – 2024)

CONFERENCES

- ➔ College Composition & Communication Conference (2020, 2021, 2022, 2025)

Teacher Training

ORGANIZER & INSTRUCTOR, “AI Tools in the Writing Classroom,” Providence University (Taichung, Taiwan), March 2023

- ➔ Designed and led workshop for faculty on generative AI and writing instruction

CO-ORGANIZER & GROUP LEADER, Higher School of Economics Summer Writing Retreat (Moscow, Russia), August 2018

- ➔ Worked with Russian university faculty in small-group setting to promote productive academic writing practices

ORGANIZER & INSTRUCTOR, “Writing Instruction in the American University: An Interactive Teaching Workshop,” Lanzhou University (Lanzhou, China), June 2018

- ➔ Designed and led intensive three-week (18 hour) course for faculty on best practices in ESL writing instruction

INSTRUCTOR, “Teaching Multimodal Composition,” National University of Science & Technology (Moscow, Russia), Nov 2017

- ➔ Conducted workshop on the use of digital media tools in the writing classroom

INVITED LECTURES

Writing & AI: Necessary Evolution, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, Connecticut, USA (Dec 2023)

How to Use ChatGPT in Language Classes, Universitas Airlangga, Faculty of Humanities, Surabaya, Indonesia (May 2023)

AI Tools in the Writing Class, National Taiwan University of Science and Technology, English Language Center, Taipei, Taiwan (March 2023)

The Interactionist Approach to Critical Thinking: Implications for Science Education, Khalifa University, Earth Sciences Dept, Abu Dhabi (Feb 2020)

Embracing the Excess: William James and a New Materialist Ethics for Rhetoric and Composition, Lanzhou University, Modern Languages Dept, Lanzhou, China (June 2019)

Mapping the Scholarly Conversation: Templates of Academic Argument, Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia (Dec 2018)

Political Rhetoric in China Under Xi Jinping, Pittsburgh Chinese-American Committee, Annual Scholarship Dinner (Oct 2014)

GRANTS & AWARDS

INTERNAL START-UP GRANT, American University of Sharjah, 2024-2026

- Awarded internal research funding of 62,000 UAE to study new ways to theorize and teach learning transfer

INTERNAL START-UP GRANT, Khalifa University, 2020-2022

- Awarded internal research funding in excess of \$100,000 to conduct large empirical study of student writing and digital literacy practices
- Hired and managed post-doc researcher and undergraduate research assistant
- Collected over 80 hours of video data and 60 hours of interview data
- Produced multiple “Q1” publications

CHINESE NATIONALITY ROOM SCHOLARSHIP, University of Pittsburgh, 2014

- Awarded \$4000 scholarship for international research
- Completed research project on Chinese political rhetoric

PITT ENGLISH R&D FUNDING, University of Pittsburgh, 2013-2018

- Awarded over \$5000 in competitive departmental grants for travel and research expenses

REFERENCES

Mark Dressman, Emeritus Professor, University of Illinois / Former Chair, Khalifa University English Department (mdressma@illinois.edu)

Curtis Carbonell, Associate Professor, Ex-Khalifa University / Former Acting Chair, Khalifa University English Department (curt.carb@gmail.com)

Silvia Vaccino-Salvadore, Assistant Professor, American University of Sharjah (silviavaccino@gmail.com)