

Ama S. Wattley, PhD
Associate Professor of English
Pace University
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EDUCATION:

Ph.D. Rutgers University. Literatures in English.
M.A. Rutgers University. Literatures in English.
B.A. Queens College. English. Magna Cum Laude. Phi Beta Kappa.

DISSERTATION:

“Yonder Comes the Blues: Sexual Politics, Women’s Relationships, and the Plays of Black Women Dramatists.”

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Pace University, Pleasantville. English Department. Associate Professor. 2012-present

Pace University, Pleasantville. English Department. Assistant Professor. 2002-2012

Literature Courses

<u>Course#</u>	<u>Course Title</u>
LIT 376	Slave Narratives
LIT 349A:	African American Drama
LIT 349:	Modern American Drama
LIT 348:	Literature & Film: Screen Adaptations of African American Literature
LIT 345:	Literatures of Diversity (f2f & asynchronously)
LIT 342C:	Studies in American Literature: August Wilson
LIT342H:	The Harlem Renaissance (f2f & synchronously)
LIT 342L:	Studies in American Literature: Toni Morrison (f2f & synchronously)
LIT 342L:	Independent Study: Toni Morrison
LIT 326:	African American Literature (f2f & asynchronously)
LIT 384:	Images of Women in Literature
LIT 315:	The 20 th Century Novel
LIT 212A:	The New American Dream: Literature & Cultural Divisions (f2f & asynchronously)
LIT 212E:	American Literature II (f2f & asynchronously).
LIT 212W	Women in Literature II (f2f & asynchronously)
LIT 212Y:	American Women Writers (f2f & asynchronously)
LIT 211E:	American Literature I (18 th -19 th c.) (f2f & asynchronously)

LIT 211J: American Voices (f2f & asynchronously)

Writing Courses

ENG 110: Composition
ENG 110LC: Composition/Challenge to Achieve (CAP) Learning Community: “Writing the Environment: An Exploration of the World of the Naturalist Through Literature and the Arts”
ENG 120LC: Critical Writing/Learning Community w/ HIST 113B: The American Experience: American Diversity, Immigration, Ethnicity and Race
ENG 120: Critical Writing/Honors Section
ENG 120: Critical Writing
ENG 120LC: Critical Writing /Honors Learning Community: “This Land is Your Land: Reading and Writing about the Environment”
ENG 201: Writing in the Disciplines (f2f & asynchronously)
ENG 105: Composition and Rhetoric
ENG 101/102: Composition I & Composition II

Queens College of the City University of New York. English Department. Adjunct Assistant Professor. 2001. Courses Taught: English Composition I and II

York College of the City University of New York. English Department. Adjunct Assistant Professor. 2001. Course Taught: Introduction to College Writing

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION:

Nineteen and Twentieth-Century African-American Literature
Twentieth-Century American Literature
Twentieth-Century African-American Drama
Twentieth-Century American Drama
Black Feminist Theory
African-American Theory and Methodology

PUBLICATIONS:

Articles in Peer Reviewed Journals:

“An Uncommon Image: The Absent Mother in Pearl Cleage’s ‘Hospice.’” *Obsidian: Literature in the African Diaspora*. 12.2 (Winter/Fall 2011). 11-24.

“August Wilson’s Visibly Scarred Characters.” *College Language Association Journal* 54.2 (December 2010). 121-138.

“The American Dream in Black and White: Father-Son Conflict in Arthur Miller’s *Death of a Salesman* and August Wilson’s *Fences*.” *Arthur Miller Journal* 5.2. (Fall 2010). 1-20.

“Economics and Marital Estrangement in Alice Childress’s ‘Mojo: A Black Love Story’ and P. J.

Gibson's 'Konvergence.'" *Topic: The Washington and Jefferson College Review* 55 (Fall 2007). 77-88.

"Matrilineal Infanticide in Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and Shirley Graham's 'It's Morning.'" *The Journal of Intercultural Disciplines* 6 (Winter 2006): 79-110.

"Barriers to Connecting: Black Sexual Politics in Aishah Rahman's *The Lady and the Tramp*." *Obsidian III* (1): (Spring-Summer 1999). 141-159.

Articles in Edited Collections:

"Myths, Stereotypes, Sexual Politics, and the Black Power Movement in Alice Childress's *Wine in the Wilderness*." *With Fists Raised: Radical Art, Contemporary Activism, and the Iconoclasm of the Black Arts Movement*. Ed. Tru Leverette. Liverpool University Press, 2021. 41-63.

"Teaching Feminist Lessons in Pearl Cleage's 'Late Bus To Mecca.'" *Pearl Cleage and Free Womanhood: Essays on Her Prose Works*. Eds. Tikenya Foster-Singletary and Aisha Francis. McFarland & Company, Inc.. 2012. 127-139.

"Beating Unavailing Palms Against the Stone': Spatiality, Sexual Stereotyping, and the American Dream in Ann Petry's *The Street*." *The Critical Responses to Ann Petry*. Ed. Hazel Arnett Ervin. Praeger, 2005. 342-353.

Co-Edited Books:

Gloria Naylor's Fiction: Contemporary Explorations of Class and Capitalism. Co-Edited with Sharon A. Lewis. Cambridge Scholars Publishers. September 2017.

Between Worlds: An Anthology of Contemporary Fiction and Criticism. Co-Edited with Deborah Poe. Peter Lang. September 2012.

Articles in Reference Books and Electronic Databases:

"August Wilson." An entry in the forthcoming ABC-CLIO reference book *Twentieth Century and Contemporary American Literature in Context*. Ed. Linda De Roche. ABC-CLIO, LLC, 2021. 1259-1262.

"Fences." An entry in the forthcoming ABC-CLIO reference book *Twentieth Century and Contemporary American Literature in Context*. Ed. Linda De Roche. ABC-CLIO, LLC, 2021. 374-376.

"Gloria Naylor." An entry in the forthcoming ABC-CLIO reference book *Twentieth Century and Contemporary American Literature in Context*. Ed. Linda De Roche. ABC-CLIO, LLC, 2021. 855-857.

"The Black Arts Movement." *The Facts on File Companion to 20th Century American Poetry*. Ed. Burt Kimmelman. Checkmark Books, 2005. 47-49.

“Vinnette Carroll.” *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of African American Literature*. Greenwood Press, 2005. 237-238.

“Randolph Edmonds.” *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of African American Literature*. Greenwood Press, 2005. 480-481.

“Woodie King, Jr.” *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of African American Literature*. Greenwood Press, 2005. 934-936.

“Douglass Turner Ward.” *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of African American Literature*. Greenwood Press, 2005. 1688-1690.

“Ben Caldwell.” *Black Drama*. Alexander Street Press. 2002. www.alexanderstreet.com.

“Vinnette Carroll.” *Black Drama*. Alexander Street Press. 2002. www.alexanderstreet.com.

“Steve Carter.” *Black Drama*. Alexander Street Press. 2002. www.alexanderstreet.com.

CONFERENCES:

Presenter. “A Psychological Study of Sergeant Waters in Charles Fuller’s *A Soldier’s Play*. National Association of African American Studies. Dallas, TX. February 2020.

Moderator. Sessions 193 & 203. National Association of African American Studies. Dallas, TX. February 2020.

Presenter. “Father-Son Conflict and the American Dream in Arthur Miller’s *Death of a Salesman* and August Wilson’s *Fences*.” NeMLA Conference. Pittsburgh, PA. April 2018.

Presenter. “Breaking the Bonds of the Past: The Cathartic Quality of the Blues in Aishah Rahman’s *Transcendental Blues*.” Eastern Regional Conference. National Association of African American Studies. Tampa, FL. June 2015.

Presenter. “Death is Better than Slavery: Matrilineal Infanticide in Toni Morrison’s *Beloved* and Shirley Graham’s *It’s Morning*.” Transforming the World Through Knowledge and Service. Mellon-Mays Fellows Professional Network Inaugural Conference. University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA. February 2014.

Moderator. Panel: “Examining Performance.” Transforming the World Through Knowledge and Service. Mellon-Mays Fellows Professional Network Inaugural Conference. University of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, PA. February 2014.

Presenter. “Sexual Politics and Women’s Relationships in P. J. Gibson’s *Long Time Since Yesterday*.” Race, Gender, and Sexuality Conference. National Association of African American Studies. Orlando, FL. June 2012.

- Chair. Panel: "Women Writing Urban Spaces and Communities." Freedom's Visions and Urban Landscapes: Spaces and Places in Language and Literature. College Language Association Convention. Brooklyn College. April 2010.
- Presenter. "Father-Son Conflict and the American Dream in Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* and August Wilson's *Fences*." American Drama Conference. St. Francis College. Brooklyn, NY. November 2008.
- Presenter. "Physical and Psychic Wounds in Three August Wilson Characters." The Horton Foote Playwright Festival. Baylor University. Waco, TX. October 2007.
- Presenter. "August Wilson's Visibly Scarred Characters." National Association of African American Studies: Fulfilling Our Dreams By Bringing All Cultures Together. Baton Rouge, LA. February 2007.
- Presenter. "The Absent Mother in Pearl Cleage's *Hospice*." The Central New York Language and Literature Conference: Haunted By The Future. SUNY-Cortland. Cortland, NY. October 2004.
- Chair. Panel: "Mining the Database Depths: Useful Library Resources and Services for Faculty" & "Information Delivery Services in University Libraries." "Reflecting on the Classroom: New Designs for Learning." 3rd Annual Faculty Institute. Pace University-New York. May 2004.
- Discussant. MMUF Postdoctoral Fellows Conference. The Graduate Center of the City University of New York. March 2004.
- Presenter. "Death is Better than Slavery: Matrilineal Infanticide in Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and Shirley Graham's 'It's Morning.'" National Association of African American Studies Conference. Houston, Texas. February 2004.
- Moderator. Sessions 36, 96, and 140. National Association of African American Studies Conference. Houston, Texas. February 2004.
- Presenter. "Breaking the Bonds of the Past: The Cathartic Quality of the Blues in Aishah Rahman's *Transcendental Blues*." International Conference on the Blues Tradition: Memory, Criticism, and Pedagogy. Penn State University. June 2000.
- Presenter. "Speaking the Blues: Self-Image, Self-Analysis, and Relationships." African Literature Association Conference. University of Kansas. April 2000.
- Chair. African Literature Association Conference. University of Kansas. April 2000.
- Presenter. "Competing Knowledge: Home Learning vs. School Learning in Developing Self-Concept." Mellon Mays Fellows Conference. Hampton University. June 1997.
- Presenter. "The Classroom as Site of Identity Formation in Alice Walker's *The Third Life of Grange*

Copeland.” African Literature Association Conference. Michigan State University. April 1997.

Presenter. “Architectural Spaces, Sexual Stereotypes, and the American Dream in Ann Petry’s *The Street*.” Women Work Conference. Rutgers University-New Brunswick. May 1996.

SERVICE:

Department Level:

- Interim Chair, Department of English & Modern Language Studies. Spring 2020.
- Chair, Department Search Committee for English & Modern Language Studies Chair, Fall 2019-Spring 2020.
- Chair, Department TAP Committee, Fall 2019.
- Associate Chair, English & Modern Languages Department, Fall 2012-present.
- Chair, Department TAP Committee, Fall 2018.
- Member, English Department Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Rhetoric & Composition, (Affirmative Action Representative), Fall 2017-2018.
- Member, English Department Search Committee for Lecturer of Rhetoric & Composition, (Affirmative Action Representative), Fall 2017-2018.
- English Program Assessment Committee. Summer 2014-present.
- English Department Search Committee for Chair/Associate Professor of Composition & Rhetoric, (Affirmative Action Representative), Fall 2015-2016
- Department TAP Committee. Fall 2013.
- Chair, English Department Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Composition & Rhetoric, Fall 2013-2014.
- Chair, English Department Search Committee for Writing Director/Assistant Professor of Composition & Rhetoric, Fall 2012—2013.
- Chair, English Department Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Composition & Rhetoric, Fall 2012-2013.
- English Department Search Committee for Writing Director/Assistant Professor of Composition & Rhetoric, (Affirmative Action Representative), Spring 2012.
- Freshmen Entrance Essay Reader, 2010-present.
- English Department Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Creative Writing, 2008
- English Department Internship Program, 2006-2011.
- English Department Website Manager, 2006-2008.
- English Department Writing Committee, 2003-2004.

School Level:

- Dyson Curriculum Anti-Racist Education Advisory Sub Committee. 2020-2021.
- Dyson Sabbatical Committee, 2014-2016.
- Dyson Scholastic Standing Committee, 2010-2012; July 2012.
- Dyson Ad Hoc Committee for Interdisciplinary Programs’ Advisory Board, 2011-2012.
- Dyson Undergraduate Appeals Committee, 2010-2012; July 2010.
- Dyson/Co-op & Career Services Task Force, 2008-2009.

- Dyson American Studies Major Committee, 2005-2006

University Level:

- Member, Search Committee for Director of Multicultural Affairs, June -August 2019.
- Member, Search Committee for Chief Diversity Officer, July-September 2018.
- Member, University Scheduling and Calendar Committee, 2017-
- Member, Admission & Retention Committee, 2017-
- Teaching Excellence Award Selection Committee for Part-time Faculty, 2014.
- Writing Enhanced Course Coordinator, PLV Campus, 2011-2015.
- Writing Center Advisory Board, 2012-2015.
- Kenan Teaching Excellence Award Selection Committee 2009-2015.
- CDFPT Committee, (Secretary 2010-2011), 2010-2012.
- CAE Commuter Task Force, 2006
- Westchester Executive Council Committee Secretary, 2003-2005

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Advisory Board Member. Gloria Naylor Archives. July 2020-present.

ACADEMIC HONORS:

Kenan Travel Award, 2018.
 Diversity Leadership Award, 2017
 Kenan Scholarly Research Grant. 2009
 SSRC-Mellon-Mays Dissertation Research Grant. 1996
 Teaching Assistantship. Rutgers University. 1996-1999
 Excellence Fellowship. Rutgers University. 1994-1996
 Marion Johnson Fellowship. Rutgers University. 1992-1994
 Mellon Mays Alumni Fellow. Queens College. 1992-present
 Charlotte S. Garfinkel Memorial Alumni Scholarship. Queens College. 1992
 Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship. Queens College. 1989-1991

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

Modern Language Association (MLA)
 National Association of African American Studies (NAAAS)
 College Language Association (CLA)
 Mellon-Mays Fellows Professional Network