

Jane Chamberlin

7620 Silver Springs Road NW, Calgary, Alberta, T3B 4L3
403-650-1066; jane.e.chamberlin@gmail.com
www.janechamberlin.com @jane_chamberlin

Overview

A recent graduate from the University of Calgary's English Department, I am a Killam Laureate, sessional instructor and professional communicator. During my PhD, I specialized in creative writing and wrote a novel as my dissertation. I've published short stories and a personal essay with Canadian literary journals. My research interests include: global citizenship and immigration, humanitarian advertising strategies, women and labour, pedagogy, empathy, and creative writing. I also have extensive experience as a communications specialist, having worked in advertising and public relations for organizations such as SMART Technologies and the CBC.

Education

PhD in English, specializing in creative writing
Successfully defended 11 Sept. 2019
University of Calgary
Supervisor: Prof. Aritha van Herk

MA in English: 2003–2005
University of Calgary
Supervisor: Prof. Aritha van Herk

BA (Special): 1980–84
Majors: French and English
University of Alberta

Teaching experience

SAIT School of Business Jan. 2020–present
Sessional instructor, currently teaching COMM 256: Professional Communications and
Presentation Skills

- Tailor course materials to best suit each cohort of students
- Develop compelling learning materials and activities
- Help students hone skills in written and verbal communication
- Grade all assignments
- Incorporate online learning activities into the curriculum

Haskayne School of Business, University of Calgary Jan. 2018–Dec. 2019

Instructor of record: BSEN 789.01 “Persuasive Narrative” course for MBA students. I co-developed the course with Prof. Aritha van Herk and have taught two sections of the course. Haskayne has asked me to teach it again in the Fall 2020 term.

- Develop and teach a highly successful creative writing class for Haskayne
- Develop curriculum modules that make connections between business strategies, persuasion and creative writing
- Implement learning activities that require students to apply their knowledge of the elements of narrative in performative and creative ways
- Lead writing workshops and literary study discussions
- Provide regular feedback for students on their creative work

Department of English, University of Calgary Sept. 2016–April 2017

Instructor of Record, English 201: “Subversive Literature”

Taught two sections of a junior-level literature class for non-majors; 50 students per class, in the fall 2016 and winter 2017 terms.

- Developed course theme, syllabus and schedule
- Developed curriculum, including exams, assignments and essay topics
- Fostered the development of persuasive writing skills and literary analysis skills
- Used a variety of educational technologies to facilitate active learning

Department of English, University of Calgary Sept. 2015–April 2016

Teaching Assistant Coordinator

- Mentored five teaching assistants for English 340, a second-year survey course for English majors
- Ensured consistent quality of teaching across the five tutorial sections
- Guest lectured at tutorials on a regular basis; guest lectured for the larger class twice
- Worked with supervisor Dr. Jenny McKenney to ensure pedagogical best practices and resolve issues involving teaching assistants
- Chaired weekly meetings and supported TAs in developing learning activities

Department of English, University of Calgary Sept. 2013–April 2015

Teaching Assistant

TA for: English 205 (Foundations: Shakespeare; Fall 2013); English 265 (Introduction to Creative Writing; Winter 2014); English 302 (Contemporary Theory; Fall/Winter 2014/15).

- Led weekly tutorials for classes of approximately 25 students
- Planned learning activities to teach concepts covered in the larger lecture
- Taught additional concepts arising from ideas covered in lectures
- Implemented creative activities to ensure a varied and stimulating learning environment
- Marked essays and other assignments

Academic employment experience

Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary Jan.–June, 2018

Writer-in-residence

During my PhD program, I was appointed the first writer-in-residence at the UCalgary medical school, reporting to the Health Humanities Committee.

- Collaborated with the Cumming Health Humanities committee to help faculty incorporate humanities-based strategies into coursework, clinical learning environments and the practice of medicine
- Immersed myself in the world of medical students and faculty
- Conceptualized and led creative writing workshops and literature study sessions for medical students, researchers, physicians, and other health care practitioners
- Presented research to faculty
- Shadowed physicians to better understand clinical environment
- Wrote evocative blog posts about my experiences
- Wrote creative response to writer in residence experience, presented Oct. 19 2018

Department of English, University of Calgary Jan.–Nov. 2016

Conference Coordinator/Research Assistant

Supervisor: Aritha van Herk

- Project-managed the *Speaking Her Mind* conference (held Oct. 2016)
- Created and managed work-back schedules for various aspects of the project
- Coordinated publicity, social media, facilities, volunteers, transportation
- Liaised with keynote speakers and researchers to ensure logistical continuity
- Liaised with UCalgary conference staff on catering, accommodations, etc.

Non-academic employment experience

Chamberlin Communications Dec. 2002–present

Principal

- Write marketing articles for a variety of clients in the health care, non-profit and higher education sectors
- Provide creative and strategic direction for corporate branding campaigns
- Lead workshops in storytelling and empathy
- Write newsletters, grant applications and advocacy articles for Shift: The Project to End Domestic Violence
- Project manage a variety of marketing communications projects
- Write e-books and online articles for the University of Calgary's University Relations Department
- Translate complex technical or academic information into compelling, accessible narratives
- Clients include Nexen, University of Calgary, Caltech Surveys, NeuroArm
- Develop/implement national publicity for Decidedly Jazz Danceworks
- Develop/ implement publicity campaigns for National Film Board programs
- Write, edit, proofread and annotate for local/national publishing houses
- Act as publicist for 2006 Commonwealth Writers' Prize (Caribbean and Canada Region)

Alberta Health Services

Feb.–Sept. 2019

Communications/strategic planning consultant

Writing a 5-year strategic plan and technical report for the Continuing Care program within the Seniors Health group at AHS.

- Engage with senior leadership team to define and articulate program goals and objectives
- Synthesize information from a wide variety of sources to create a cohesive strategic plan
- Drawing from complex technical information, create a strong, easy-to-follow argument
- Clearly convey the risks, strengths and challenges relevant to the Continuing Care program
- Build a convincing argument for ongoing funding: outline the long-term benefits of Continuing Care, and detail the consequences of reduced funding to the larger healthcare system

SMART Technologies

Manager, marketing communications writing team

Jan. 2008–Dec. 2012

Writer

Aug. 2006–Jan. 2008

- Conceptualized multiple global ad campaigns
- Managed and mentored a team of six writers
- Established and developed the SMART brand for global markets
- Collaborated with design and web teams to create new SMART website
- Developed and implemented writing courses for creative and non-creative staff
- Project managed flagship projects such as corporate video with a +100K budget
- Wrote copy for global marketing campaigns, including emails, presentations, brochures, direct mail pieces, video scripts, print ads, corporate strategy docs

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation

Sept. 1985–April 1994

Communications coordinator

- Performed media relations/ special event management/ promotional production functions for national and local radio and TV programs

Publications

Creative writing publications

Falling Straight Down: A Novel. PhD dissertation. University of Calgary, 2019.

“Indeed a Peach.” Essay from *A Writer in Scrubs*. *filling station* literary magazine, issue 72, Fall 2019. p. 48–52.

“Introduction.” *The Longview*. University of Calgary Health Humanities Journal. Jan. 2018. P. ii.

“The Demise of the Wooden Boat.” Short story/excerpt from *The Present: filling station*, issue 33, Fall 2005. p. 54-55.

“Excerpt from *The Present*.” *Matrix* magazine, issue 75: fall 2006. p 46-47.

The Present: A Novel. Master’s thesis. University of Calgary, 2005.

Creative writing pieces taught in academic classes

“On the Theater of Surgery.” Blog post. Taught by Dr. Dawn Bryan in two sections of a course titled “The Fundamentals of Rhetoric.” Mount Royal University. Calgary, fall, 2019.

Creative writing pieces (submitted)

“Minimalist;” “Receiving Line;” and “Agenda Boots.” Three short stories, part of an anthology titled *Manners*. The anthology features stories and poems from my PhD cohort, and is under consideration by the University of Calgary Press.

A Writer in Scrubs. Collection of personal essays about my experience as writer-in-residence at the University of Calgary’s Cumming School of Medicine. Under consideration by Signature Editions.

Blog publications

Series of blog posts about my experience as writer in residence at the University of Calgary’s Cumming School of Medicine. <http://janechamberlin.com/blog/>. Note that these posts are part of a larger ongoing blog.

Guest blog post: “Let’s Talk about Women and Public Discourse.” *Hook & Eye* feminist academic blog. 23 Sept. 2015.

Conference paper publications

“Empathic Fiction: Modeling Understanding Across Borders.” *E-book: First Global Conference on Empathy*. Publication of papers presented at First Global Conference on Empathy, Prague, Czech Republic. 7-9 Nov. 2014.

Marketing/journalism publications (selection)

Note: I have written more than 15 long-form articles and e-books for the University of Calgary’s marketing department. They are posted on the UCalgary website as part of their Explore UCalgary campaign.

“Can Machines Make Us More Human? Digital Technology and the Future of Work.” *Explore.UCalgary.ca*. Part of a national awareness campaign for the University of Calgary’s University Relations Dept. July 2018.

E-book: “Cannabis Legalization: A Policy Primer.” *Explore.UCalgary.ca*. Part of a national awareness campaign for the University of Calgary’s University Relations Dept. June 2018.

Magazine article: “Stem Cell Research: Paving the way for effective joint repair.” *Schulich Engineer* magazine. Spring 2013. p. 4–9.

Magazine article: “Roman Baths: Studying the past with an eye on the future.” *Schulich Engineer* magazine. Spring 2013. p. 20–25.

Book review: “Struggle to adulthood is bound to strike a chord” *Calgary Herald*, 17 Sept. 1994.

Academic publications

Biographical summary: “Thomas Lovell Beddoes.” *The Age of Romanticism. Broadview Anthology of British Literature: Online Resource*. Ed. Black, Joseph, et al. Broadview Press, 2006.

Conference panel organization

“And Now for a Creative Perspective: A Graduate Student Roundtable.” I conceptualized and coordinated a graduate student creative writing panel at Congress 2018, co-sponsored by CACLALS, ACCUTE and ACQL. 26 May 2018.

Conference papers (selection)

“How Real is Fictional Empathy? The Role of Literature in the Discourse on Global Migration.” Presented at the First Global Conference on Migration and Diasporas. Vienna, Austria. Dec. 2-3 2017.

“Metafictional Empathy in Camilla Gibb’s *The Beauty of Humanity Movement*: Altering Affect During the Syrian Refugee Crisis.” Canadian Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies. University of Calgary. 30 May 2016.

“The Post-Humanitarian Appeal: Who Wins this Amazing Race?” Canadian Communications Association conference, University of Calgary. 31 May 2016.

“Justin Trudeau: Empathetic Politician or Celebrity Humanitarian?” Everyday Humanitarianism. London School of Economics, London, UK. 14 April 2016.

“Empathic Fiction: Modeling Understanding Across Borders.” First Global Conference on Empathy (Inter-Disciplinary.net) Prague, Czech Republic. 7–9 Nov. 2014.

“Lynching the Look: The Lynching Drama in *Intruder in the Dust* and *Autobiography of an Ex-Coloured Man*.” 2005 Gender Research Symposium: Institute for Gender Research at the University of Calgary, March 2005.

“India or *Bharat*? Translating Cultures in *A Passage to India*.” Free Exchange Conference. University of Calgary, March 2004.

Awards (selection)

Killam Laureate, University of Calgary (Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Scholarship): 2015 – 2017. Included an annual research scholarship.

Government of Canada: Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Award: Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Doctoral Scholarships: 2015-2018: awarded for academic excellence.

Government of Canada: Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement (SSHRC): Sept. – Dec. 2017. Note: I studied at the University of Kent (Canterbury, UK) Sept. – Dec. 2017, under Dr. Carolyn Pedwell, senior lecturer in the School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research.

Brenda Strathern Writing Prize: October, 2005. Awarded by The Calgary Foundation: for excellence in creative writing.

Government of Canada SSHRC Award: 2004-2005. Canada Graduate Scholarship Program – Master's Scholarship.

Service / professional associations

Immigration volunteer/family mentor
Calgary Catholic Immigration Society
2014–present

President/VP/Member, Board of Directors
Decidedly Jazz Danceworks
1986–1993

Refugee Support UK
November 2017
LM Village refugee camp
Kyllini, Greece

Free Exchange conference volunteer
University of Calgary English Department
2004, 2013–2017

Executive committee member
Canadian Association for
Commonwealth Literature and
Language Studies 2016–18

Academic job search committee
Associate professor, creative writing
Department of English
University of Calgary
Dec. 2016–April 2017

Steering Committee member
Global Conference on Empathy
InterDisciplinary.net
Nov. 2014–Nov. 2016

Undergraduate Program Committee
Department of English
University of Calgary
2015–16

Member: International Association of Business Communicators

References:

Prof. Aritha van Herk
vanherk@ucalgary.ca
403-220-5481

Dr. Jenny McKenney
mckennej@ucalgary.ca
403-220-6371

Prof. Pamela McCallum
pmmccall@ucalgary.ca