

AMY DANSIE WILLIAMS

amy_williams@byu.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Communication/Writing and Rhetoric Studies
University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah

M.Ed., Education, Culture, and Society
University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah

B.A., English, *magna cum laude*
University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah

B.A., Political Science, *magna cum laude*
University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah
Associate Professor, Department of English, 2023-present
Coordinator, University Writing, 2023-2026
Associate Coordinator, University Writing, 2018-2023
Assistant Professor, Department of English, 2017-2023

University of Utah Center for Teaching & Learning Excellence, Salt Lake City, Utah
Graduate Fellow, 2016-2017

University of Utah Department of Rhetoric and Writing Studies, Salt Lake City, Utah
Assistant Writing Program Administrator, 2015-2017
Graduate Teaching Assistant, 2012-2017

Utah Valley University Department of Philosophy and Humanities, Orem, Utah
Adjunct Faculty, 2011-2012

Utah Valley University Department of English Language Learning, Orem, Utah
Instructor, 2010-2012

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Articles

Williams, Amy D. and Jonathan Ostenson. "Rhetoric and Affect: The Role of Faith in Student Writers' Wayfinding." *Written Communication*, vol. 42, no. 2, 2026, pp. 573-603.

Burningham, Kirsten W., and Amy D. Williams. "Teaching Matters: What Students Value in Writing Classrooms." *Utah English Journal*, vol. 54, 2026, pp.16-20.

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Reed, Meridith, and Amy D. Williams. "Teaching Mindful Teachers: Engaging Graduate Student Instructors in Composition Theory through Reflective Writing." *Composition Forum*, vol. 52, 2023.

Williams, Amy D. "Welling Desire and Affective Rupture: Helping Students Become Hopeful Writers." *Composition Forum*, vol. 47, 2021.

Williams, Amy D. "What Are We Doing with This?: How High School Students' Lived and Experienced Curricula Prepare Them for College." *Teaching English in the Two-Year College*, vol. 49, no. 1, 2021, pp. 27-54.

Williams, Amy D., Sarah Kate Johnson, Anika Shumway, and Dennis L. Eggett. "Affect, Fear, and Openness in an Anti-Racist Writing Classroom." *Journal of Basic Writing*, vol. 40, no. 1, 2021, pp. 33-67.

Williams, Amy D. "I Can't Do Cartwheels, so I Write: Students' Writing Affect." *Composition Studies*, vol. 47, no. 2, 2019, pp. 68-87.

Williams, Amy D., and Jonathan Balzotti. "Threading Competencies in Writing Courses for More Effective Transfer." *The WAC Journal*, vol. 30, 2019, pp. 64-85.

Williams, Amy D. "Affecting Argument: Students Learning to Argue and Arguing to Learn." *Journal of Teaching Writing*, vol. 34, no. 2, 2019, pp. 17-40.

Williams, Amy D. "I Don't Know What to Write: Seeing Para-expertise in Students' Writing." *English Journal*, vol. 108, no. 1, 2018, pp. 52-58.

Williams, Amy D. "Beyond Pedagogy: Theorizing without Teachers." *Composition Forum*, vol. 30, 2014.

Book Chapters

Jensen, Amber, and Amy D. Williams. "Those Who Can Write Can Also Teach: Helping Writers Develop as Teachers." *Conversations and Collaborations*. Christina Saidy, Brad Jacobson, and Jessica Rivera-Mueller, eds. NCTE (forthcoming 2026).

Williams, Amy D., and Thomas B. Williams. "'Where is Your Confidence in God?': Lucy Mack Smith's Unexpected Eloquence." *Latter-day Eloquence: Two Centuries of Mormon Oratory*. Richard Benjamin Crosby and Isaac James Richards, eds. University of Illinois Press, 2026, pp. 27-32.

Jensen, Amber; Williams, Amy D.; Weiderhold, Joseph; and Chanel Earl. "The Wicked Problem of High-School-to-College Writing Transition: Interrogating the Metaphors that Guide Our Practice." *When Teaching Writing Gets Tough: Challenges and Possibilities in Secondary Writing Instruction*. Teachers College Press, 2024, pp. 109-119

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Book Review

Williams, Amy D. "Making a Case for Brandt: A Review of Literacy, Economy, and Power." *Enculturation*, no. 20, 2016.

Textbook

Williams, Amy D. Editor and chapter author, *Becoming Writers*. Norton, 2026.

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations

Good People Speaking Well: Teaching Character Education in First-Year Writing. Presented at Jubilee Center Conference for Character Education: Oxford, UK; January 2026

Knotted and Complicated: Teaching Writing in Secondary Contexts Can Be Tough. Presented at NCTE: Boston; November 2024.

Writing for Audiences: Faculty and Student Perspectives/Undergraduate Students Writing for Audiences across Time and Place. Presented at Writing Research across Borders Conference: Trondheim, Norway; February 2023 (panel organizer).

Elevating Graduate Student Voices: Reconsidering Spaces of Professionalization. Presented at Conference on College Composition and Communication: Chicago, IL; February 2023 (paper read by another scholar due to conflict with WRAB conference).

We Are All Writing Teachers: Returning to a Common Place. Presented at Conference on College Composition and Communication, live virtual session; March 2021.

Moments of Confluence: From the Writing Classroom to New and Public Contexts. Accepted to National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention: Denver, CO; November 2020 (conference cancelled for COVID).

Beyond Measurable and Replicable: How Writing Studies Can Research Affect. Presented at Conference on College Composition and Communication; Pittsburgh, PA; March 2019.

Argument: Waging War against the Other Guy. Presented at Rhetoric Society of America Conference; Minneapolis, MN; May 2018.

Breaking new ground: Cultivating Teacher/Scholar/Activist Development across Institutional Contexts. Presented at Conference on College Composition and Communication; Portland, OR; March 2017.

Cartographic Literacy: An Analysis of Student Texts through Metaphors of Movement. Presented at Literacy Research Association Conference; Nashville, TN; December 2016.

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Literacy on the Border: Complicating Linearity with the Nonlinear. Presented at Western States Rhetoric and Literacy Conference, University of California San Diego, October 2016.

“Existing As If You Were a God”: The Consequences of Literacy’s Pathway. Presented at Conference on College Composition and Communication; Houston, TX; April 2016.

Reading is Still the Path: Literacy and Metaphors of Motion. Presented at Western States Rhetoric and Literacy Conference, Arizona State University, October 2015.

Writing Software into Theories of Invention and Intertextuality. Presented at Computers and Writing Conference, University of Wisconsin-Stout, May 2015.

Writing with Writing: The Role of Software in Written Communication. Presented at Western States Communication Association Conference; Spokane, WA; February 2015.

Imagining Method in Community Literacy: Beyond Action Research. Presented at Conference on College Composition and Communication; Indianapolis, IN; March 2014.

Invited Presentations

- 2025 *Effective and Ethical Arguments*, Intermountain Health Executive Team
- 2022 *Researching Student Writers*, Weber State University Composition Conversations
- 2022 *Writing, Affect, and Hope: How Students Become Writers*, Colorado Mesa University Invited Speakers Series

Invited Presentations (BYU)

- 2026 *Character Education in the University*, Humanities and Belief Workshop, BYU College of Humanities
- 2025 *Leading with Peace: Handling Conflict in Troubling Times* (invited panelist), Marriott Inclusion and Belonging Society, BYU Marriott School of Business
- 2025 *The Virtue of Reflection*, GE Academy
- 2025 *Becoming Christlike Communicators: The Double Heritage of WRTG 150*, BYU All-Faculty Meeting
- 2024 *Transferring Transfer*, WAC Lunch
- 2023 *Reflection as Writing and Course Design*, BYU GE First-year Foundations Faculty Workshop
- 2023 *Creating a Campus-Wide Culture of Reflection*, BYU GE Academy
- 2023 *Using Conferences to Build Knowledge and Relationships*, BYU Writing Across the Curriculum
- 2021 *Experiential Learning and Writing: Getting Real in and Outside of Classrooms*, BYU Writing across the Curriculum
- 2021 *Professional Writing*, BYU Financial Management Forum
- 2020 *Women in Academia*, BYU English Department, panelist
- 2020 *Giving Writers Feedback*, BYU Writing across the Curriculum
- 2019 *How to Give Great Feedback and Still Have Time for Netflix*, BYU Writing across the Curriculum
- 2019 *Experiential Learning in the Classroom*, BYU Humanities Center Colloquium

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Series

2018 *Responding to Student Writing: Principles and Practices*, BYU Writing across the Curriculum Spring Modules

2018 *Women in Academia*, BYU English Department, panelist

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer

English Journal

Composition Studies

Composition Forum

Emotion Review

BYU Studies Quarterly

Journal of Basic Writing, guest reviewer for special issue

Everyone's an Author (4th Edition), W.W. Norton & Co.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

University

Member, Faculty GE Council, 2023-present

Member, Advanced Writing and Oral Communication Committee, 2018-present

Member, Faculty GE Subcommittee on writing, 2021

Member, First-Generation Outreach Committee, 2019-2022

College

Member, College of Humanities ChatGPT Task Force, 2023

Member, Information Literacy Study Group, 2021-2023

Member, Humanities+ Faculty Fellows, 2021-2022

Department

Associate Chair, Department of English, 2026 to present

Coordinator of University Writing, 2023-2026

Associate Coordinator of University Writing, 2018-2023

Hiring Committee, ad hoc member, 2023

English Major Degree Redesign Committee, member, 2020

Student Advisement Committee, member 2017-2020

THESIS MENTORING

Member for Kristie Jolley, (2024-2026)

Member for Lacy Hamilton (2023-2025)

Thesis: First-Year Writing Student Perceptions of Graduate Student Instructor Authority

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Member for Rebekah Jakeman (2022- 2024)

Thesis: "Information Literacy in First Year Writing: A Case Study in Instruction"

Chair for Emily Hopwood Durney (2021-2023)

Thesis: "The Impact of Independence: A Look at First-Generation College Student Writers' Help-Seeking Behaviors"

Member for Emily Brown (2021-2023)

Thesis: "How Student Writers Understand Audiences in Nonacademic Digital Writing"

Member for Maren Johnson (2021-2023)

Thesis: "The Rhetoric of Teaching a Crisis: Incorporating Rhetorical Pedagogy into Crisis Communications Textbooks"

Member for Ashley Nef (2021-2023)

Thesis: "Dead Men Tell No Tales: How the British Empire Killed Pirates with Monstrous Legal Rhetoric"

Member for Chelsea Ames (2020-2022)

Thesis: "Literacy, Identity, and Motherhood: Implications of Hermans' Dialogical Self Theory"

Member for Emily Morgan (2020-2022)

Thesis: "Affective Transfer in Writing: Utilizing Affect in Teaching for Transfer"

Chair for Jessica Haws (2020-2022)

Thesis: "Cherry Red Greenwashing: The Rhetoric Behind Corporate Recycling Narratives"

Chair for Shaila Bringhurst (2019-2021)

Thesis: "Understanding How Temporal Duration and Rhetorical Influence Shape Student Writing Processes"

Member for Anika Shumway (2019-2021)

Thesis: "Experiential Learning in the Writing Classroom"

Member for Ben Metcalf (2019-2021)

Thesis: "From Trump Tower to Trump White House: Exposing Donald Trump's Use of the 'Winner' Narrative"

Chair for Katie Johnson (2018-2020)

Thesis: "Connection and Self-Efficacy: Linking and Reimagining Writing Connection and Predictors of Self-Efficacy"

Member for Shannon Tuttle (2017-2018)

Thesis: "Transfer in the Writing Center: Tutors Facilitating Students' Understanding of Transfer"

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Department of English Citizenship Award, 2026

Brigham Young University Early Career Teaching Award, 2023

Kennedy Center Travel Grant, 2023

Humanities Mentored Experiential Learning Grant, 2019

Phi Beta Kappa, University of Utah