

Curriculum Vitae
Leandra A. Preston
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University of Central Florida
Women's Studies Program
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EDUCATION

- M.A. August 2002 (4.0 GPA) University of Central Florida (English, Literature)
-M.A. Thesis: *Reclamation as Resistance: Identity, Individuality and Community in Toni Morrison's Beloved* (Director: Adenike Davidson)
-18 hours of Women's/Gender Studies coursework
B.A. December 1998 (3.9 GPA) University of Central Florida (English)
-Women's Studies minor
A.A. December 1994 (4.0 GPA) Valencia Community College (General)

Awards and Honors

- Graduate Incentive Fellowship, 2000-2001
Women's Studies Scholarship, 1999
Academic Achievement Scholarship, 1998
Magna cum Laude Recognition, B.A., 1998

TEACHING

Teaching Experience

- Instructor and Program Coordinator, Regional Campuses, Fall 2005-present (UCF)
WST3015: Introduction to Women's Studies (online, web-mediated, face-to-face)
WST3500: Women and Community Activism (web-mediated)
WST3561: Third Wave Feminisms (online, face-to-face)
Visiting Instructor, Women's Studies, Brevard, Fall 2003-present (UCF)
WST3015: Introduction to Women's Studies (online, web-mediated, face-to-face)
WST3930: Women and Community Activism (web-mediated)
Visiting Instructor, English, Composition I & II, Fall 2002-Spring 2003 (UCF)
WST3015: Introduction to Women's Studies (face-to-face)
ENC1101: Composition I (face-to-face, web-mediated)
ENC1102: Composition II (face-to-face, web-mediated)
Graduate Teaching Assistant, 2001-2002 (UCF)
ENC1101: Composition I (face-to-face)
ENC1102: Composition II (face-to-face)

Workshops Conducted—UCF

- "Service Learning in Web Environments," Service Learning Track, FCTL Conferences, 2006-2007
"What is Women's Studies?" Presentations sponsored by UCF Brevard Office of Student Activities and Campus Life at New/Transfer Orientations, 2004-present
"Building Creative Assignments in Women's Studies," GTA workshop, November 16, 2005.
"What I Learned About Teaching Women's Studies," GTA workshop, November 11, 2005.
"Service Learning in Women's Studies: Practical Strategies," GTA workshop, October 19, 2005.

“Never Go Back!” sponsored by UCF Women’s Studies Program, October 22, 2003

“What is Feminism?” sponsored by UCF-FMLA, September 18, 2003

“Black Feminism” sponsored by UCF-NOW, March 10, 2003

RESEARCH

Research Interests

Third Wave Feminisms, CyberFeminisms, Girls Studies, Italian-American Women’s Literature, Feminist and Online Pedagogies

Refereed Conference Papers

“A Space of Our Own: Myspace and Feminist Activism in the Classroom,” *MAPACA Annual Conference*. Baltimore, Maryland, October 19-21, 2006.

“You Can’t Fight Violence With Silence: Practical Tools for Service Learning and Activism to Eliminate Violence Against Women.” Workshop, Presented with Christine Mouton, Director, Victim Services. *Florida Women’s Studies Consortium Conference (Many Floridas: Women Envisioning Change)*. USF, Tampa, FL, April 7-8, 2006.

“Cyberpedagogy: Feminism, Activism, and Creative Pedagogy in the (Online) Classroom” Roundtable Discussion, National Women’s Studies Association Conference, refereed, national (chaired by Leandra Preston and presented with Aimee Berger, Greta Gaard, and Sara Zeigler). Orlando, FL, June 9-12, 2005.

“Pedagrrl: Third Wave Pedagogy” Panel/Roundtable, National Women’s Studies Association (NWSA) conference, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, June 2004.

“From Mamma to Mine: Constructing Identity on the *Border(land)s* of Italian-America.” MELUS 17th Annual Conference: Homeplace, Identities, and the Political in U.S. Literature, Boca Raton, Florida, April 2003.

“Of Human Darkness: Sex and Violence in the Novels of Toni Morrison” (co-written and presented with Anthony Crisafi). American Women Writers of Color Conference, Salisbury University, Maryland, October 2001.

Publications

“You Can’t Fight Violence With Silence: Practical Tools for Service Learning and Activism to Eliminate Violence Against Women.” *Many Floridas: Women Envisioning Change*. Eds. Judy A. Hayden, Sharon Kay Masters, Rhonda L. S. Ovist and Kim Vaz. UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2007.

Contributor, *The Women's Movement Today: An Encyclopedia of Third-Wave Feminism*. Ed. Leslie Heywood. Greenwood Press, November 2005. *terms: academic feminism, single-sex education, women’s colleges, third-wave pedagogy, Carol Gilligan*

“Women’s Studies in Action: Seeds of Revolutions Blooming Wild.” *Faculty Focus* 2.4 (September 2003).

Works in Progress

Strangling the Muse, poetry collection

Mamma Mia, Vita Mia, Fronteira Mia (collection of memoir/border writings)

SERVICE

Professional Service

Member, National Women's Studies Association (NWSA)
Member, South Eastern Women's Studies Association (SEWSA)
Member, Florida Consortium for Women's Studies
Member, Commission on the Status of Women, Brevard County, 2007-present
Member, Domestic Violence Task Force of Brevard County, 2005-present
Vice President, Silent Witness Executive Committee, 2005-present
Member, Faculty Advisory Committee, Regional Campuses, 2004-present
Member, Search Committee for Vice-Provost (Regional Campuses), Spring 2004
Member, UCF Women's Studies Executive Committee, 2003-present
Member, UCF/Campus Compact Service Learning Initiative Committee, 2003-Present
Advisor, Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance (FMLA), 2002-present
Advisor, National Organization of Women (NOW), 2003-present
Advisor, Black Female Development Circle (BFDC), 2003-present
Women's Studies Administrators' Pre-Conference, National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) Loyola University, New Orleans, June 2003
Editor, Gender Gazette (Women's Studies Online 'Zine), 2003-2004
Composition Essay Contest Committee, English Department, UCF, 2002-2003

Community Activism Initiatives

Animal Safehouse Domestic Violence Protection Program, In-Progress, 2007
Invisible Victims Display, UCF/Brevard Community College, Fall 2007
Silent Witness Display, UCF/Brevard Community College, 2005-present, annually
Fighting Violence Against Women workshop, UCF Cocoa Campus, 2005
Love Your Body Day Workshop, UCF/Brevard Community College, 2005
Women in Action Conference, UCF Orlando Campus (Co-Organizer), 2003-2005
March for Freedom Delegation Organizer, Spring 2004
Clothesline Project, Orlando campus, February 25, 2002-present, each semester
Take Back the Night, UCF Orlando, 2004-2005, each semester
Benefit show for Don't Skirt the Issue, February 23, 2004
Benefit Art Show, Harbor House Domestic Violence Shelter (Co-Organizer), Fall 2003
R-LEED (Real Life Education for Eating Disorders), advisor, 2002-current
Benefit show for Response Sexual Assault Center, Organizer, 1996
Benefit show for Arnold Palmer Sexual Trauma Recovery Center, Organizer, 1995
Benefit show for Children's Defense Fund, Co-Organizer, 1994
Benefit Show for Kids in Danger of Sexploitation (KIDS), Co-Organizer, 1993
Amnesty International, Women's Council member/letter writer, 1992-current

Community Partnerships Established

The Yellow Umbrella, Brevard
Crosswinds Youth Services, Brevard
Rainwater Center for Girls, Brevard
Silent Witness Program, Brevard
Genesis Houses (I, II, III), Brevard
The Women's Center of Brevard
The Sharing Center, Brevard
Orange County Sexual Assault Treatment Center
National Organization of Women, Orlando and Brevard Chapters
Planned Parenthood (Community/Campus Liason), Orlando
The Healing Tree (Arnold Palmer Center for Children and Families), Orlando

Domestic Violence Task Force of Brevard
Salvation Army Domestic Violence Program, Cocoa
Sexual Assault Victim Services of Brevard, Cocoa
Serene Harbor Rape Crisis Center of Brevard, Palm Bay

Other Professional Experience

Editing/Writing, *Perfect Care Medical Solutions*, Antonio Arias (President)

Languages

Italian
Spanish (Limited)