

Jennifer L. Griffiths, Ph.D.

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English Literature, CUNY Graduate Center, October 2002
M.A. in English Literature, University of Connecticut, 1994
B.A. in English, Fairfield University, 1992

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS/EMPLOYMENT

Professor of Humanities/Director of Writing	2021-present
Associate Professor of English/Writing Program Coordinator	2012-2021
Assistant Professor of English/Writing Program Coordinator	2006-2012
New York Institute of Technology, NYC Campus	

Director of Composition/Visiting Assistant Professor	2004-2006
Marymount College of Fordham University, Tarrytown, NY	

Lecturer, English and Communications	2003-2004
Leadership Development Center, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, CT	

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

Books

At Risk: Black Youth and the Creative Imperative in the Post-Civil Rights Era. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2023.

Traumatic Possessions: The Body and Memory in African American Women's Writing and Performance University of Virginia Press, 2010.

(Reviewed in *Affilia: Journal of Women and Social Work*, *African American Review*, *Journal of African American History*, *MELUS*, *Obsidian*, *Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies Newsletter* (UCLA), *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*, and *Women's Studies*)

Peer Reviewed Articles/Chapters

"Black Children Matter: Risk and Reckoning in 21st-Century African American Literature." *African American Literature in Transition in the 21st Century*. Ed. Maria Bellamy. Series Editor Joycelyn Moody. Cambridge UP. Invited chapter. Under contract.

“Feminist Interventions in Trauma Studies.” *Trauma and Literature*. Cambridge Critical Concept Series. Ed. J. Roger Kurtz. Cambridge University Press, 2018.

“My body of a free boy. . . . My body of dance?: Violence and the Choreography of Survival in Sapphire’s *The Kid*.” *Obsidian: Literature in the African Diaspora*. Vol 13, No 2 (2012). Published in 2014.

“Sympathy for the Devil: Resiliency and Victim/Perpetrator Dynamics in Paula Vogel’s *How I Learned to Drive*.” *Contemporary Women’s Writing*, Oxford UP Journals. 2011; doi: 10.1093/cww/vpr025 (advance access online; print issue 7.1).

“Uncanny Spaces: Trauma, Cultural Memory, and the Female Body in Gayl Jones’s *Corregidora* and Maxine Hong Kingston’s *The Woman Warrior*.” *Studies in the Novel* 38. 3 (Fall 2006).

“Between Women: The Body, Memory, and Socially-Produced Trauma in Robbie McCauley’s *Sally’s Rape*.” *Frontiers: A Journal of Women’s Studies* 26.3 (2005).

Book Review

“How to Read African American Literature: Post-Civil Rights Fiction and the Task of Interpretation.” Aida Levy-Hussen, *MELUS*, Volume 43, Issue 2, Summer 2018, Pages 232–234, <https://doi.org/10.1093/melus/mly005>. Invited.

Editor (guest)

Special issue of *Obsidian: Literature in the African Diaspora* on violence and Black youth in post-Civil Rights U.S. Vol 13, No 2 (2012). Published in 2014.

GRANTS

Received NYIT Institutional Support of Research and Creativity Grants (ISRC) to support writing/research for 2015, 2014, 2013, 2011, and 2008.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION/PRESENTATIONS

“Robbie’s Works in Context.” Panel at Robbie McCauley ‘n Company: a convening in performance. Emerson College. April 7, 2018. Invited participant.

“On the Verge of Flying Back: The Problematic of the Young, Gifted, and Black Johnnas.” MultiEthnic Literature of the U.S. (MELUS) Conference. College of Charleston, SC. March 2016. Presenter.

“Creative Approaches to Trauma and Healing III.” *Soul Wounds: Trauma and Healing Across Generations*. Stanford University. June 2015. Chair.

" 'You're young, you're Black, and you're on trial. What else do they need to know?': Reading Walter Dean Myer's *Monster*." 2015 National Council for Black Studies Conference. Los Angeles. March 2015. Presenter.

“My body of a free boy. . . . My body of dance: Black Adolescence and *The Kid*.”

Representing African American Adolescence in the Post-Civil-Rights Era Panel. 2014 Annual MLA Convention. Chicago. Jan 2014. Special Session Organizer, Chair, and Presenter.

“‘My portrait is gold’: Resiliency and the Crisis of the Black Child’s Image in Dael Orlandersmith’s *The Gimmick*.” Violence and the Black Child in Post-Civil Rights United States Panel. 2013 Annual MLA Convention. Boston. Jan 2013. Special Session Organizer, Chair, and Presenter.

“Post-traumatic Literacies and the Material Body in Sapphire’s *Push*.” 2012 Cultural Studies Association Conference. San Diego. March 2012. Presenter.

“Sympathy for the Devil: Resiliency and the Humanized Perpetrator in Paula Vogel’s *How I Learned to Drive*.” College English Association National Conference. Pittsburgh. March 2009. Presenter.

“Betrayal Trauma and the Test of Complicity in Suzan Lori Parks’ *Venus: The Terrible Intimacy* with Dr. Cuvier.” Black Theatre Association Debut Panel, American Association of Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE). New Orleans. July 2007. Presenter.

“Betrayal Trauma and the Test of Complicity in Suzan Lori Parks’ *Venus: The Courtroom Scene*.” *VII Jornadas Internacionales de Estudios de la Mujer: Sites of Female Terror*. Universidad Complutense de Madrid. March 2007. Presenter.

“Between Women: Trauma, Witnessing, and the Legacy of Interracial Rape in Robbie McCauley’s *Sally’s Rape*.” *PSi (Performance Studies International) #12: Performing Rights*. Queen Mary, University of London. June 2006. Presenter.

“Articulating Trauma and Witnessing in Public Space: Anna Deavere Smith’s *Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992*.” *Multi-ethnic Literature of the United States (MELUS)*. Tulane University, New Orleans. March 2000. Presenter.

“Some Reflections on Reading and Race in the Feminist Classroom.” *Feminisms and . . .*, CUNY Graduate Center, NYC. November 1998. Presenter.

“Cultural Identity and the Uncanny in Maxine Hong Kingston’s *Woman Warrior*.” *Psychoanalysis and Postcolonialism: Nation, Identity, Self*. George Washington University, Washington, DC. October 1995. Presenter.

“‘Let Us Trespass at Once’: Virginia Woolf and Reading.” *Third Annual International Virginia Woolf Conference*. Jefferson City, MO. June 1993. Presenter.

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED/CHAIED

Co-Chair, NYIT Interdisciplinary Conferences: Urban Childhoods (2009), Engaging Students in the Global Century (2010), and Latin Cultures of NYC (2011).

Co-Chair, Resistance to Tyranny: Representing the Struggle for Human Rights in Literature. NY College English Association Conference. Marymount College of Fordham University. (2006)

OTHER PRESENTATIONS/PANEL PARTICIPATION

“Insurrection to Inauguration: Where Do We Go from Here?” Co-sponsored by Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force, Students First, and Student Engagement and Development. Virtual. Feb 11, 2021. Invited panelist/co-organizer.

Civic Thursday Panel: The Elections Are Over, What Now? Office of Student Engagement. Office of Student Engagement. Virtual. November 5, 2020. Invited panelist.

“Trauma-Informed Pedagogy and Our Students” presentation. “Building a Community of Care/ We’re in this Together: A Community of Resources to Support our Students” panel. Student Engagement and Development. Virtual. Sept 4, 2020. Invited panelist/co-organizer.

“Breaking the Silence: Women in the Academy.” Student Involvement and Inclusion Office panel. March 29, 2018. New York Institute of Technology. Invited panelist.

“Know Your Rights! A Teach-In on Immigration, Travel Bans, and Surveillance Technology,” featuring Mariko Hirose, senior staff attorney at the New York Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU). Feb 16, 2017. College of Arts and Sciences. New York Institute of Technology. Organizer.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

African American Literature

Travel Literature

Art of Drama

Outlaws and Outcasts

American Short Fiction

The Endangered Child in American Literature

Global Literature and Human Rights

Trauma Studies Introduction

Composition for International Students

Business Writing

Foundations of College Writing

Foundations of Research Writing

Basic Reading and Writing

Foundations of Inquiry

SERVICE at New York Tech (selected)

First Gen Faculty Group, 2021-present.

Member, Diversity Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee 2022-present.

Co-Chair, General Education/Core Curriculum revision, 2021-2022.

Advisor (and developer), Civic Engagement Minor. Spring 2018-present.

Co-Chair, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force. Spring 2018.

Co-Chair, Standard II/Ethics and Integrity Working Group for Middle States Reaccreditation (2016-2018).

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Member, Dean's Faculty Advisory Council, College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), 2016-17 (Dean's appointment).

School Personnel Committee Member, 2016.

Faculty Senate, 2004-2006, 2014-2016, 2022-2024 (elected CAS representative).

Faculty Mentor, 2013-2014.

Core Revision Committee, 2010-2011.