

Dr. Marielle R. Risse

Department of Languages and Translation
Dhofar University
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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. University of North Dakota - 1992-1996
English Literature and Education
Dissertation: *Abroad Again: Explorations within the Genre of Travel Writing*
Advisor: Dr. Michael Beard
- M.Ed. University of Maryland, College Park - 1989-1990
Foreign Language and Social Studies Education
- B.A. University of Wisconsin, Madison - 1984-1988
German Literature and Political Science

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor Dhofar University, 2005-present
Salalah, Oman

Course coordinator for Engl 160 and 230, acting chair of department in Summer 2008,
created and taught a variety of classes including:

- English 160 - Introduction to Literature
- English 203 - Academic English
- English 204 - Advanced Academic English
- English 230 - Prose and Fiction
- English 250 - Creative Writing
- English 260 - Shakespeare
- English 265 - Culture in the Classroom
- English 290 - Poetry
- English 315 - The Novel
- English 330 - The Victorian Age
- English 351/ 352 - British Literature 1730s-1830s / 1830s-1930s
- English 354 - Medieval English Literature
- English 360 - Writing for the Professions
- English 365 - Advanced Creative Writing
- English 415 - Romantic and Victorian Poetry
- English 419 - Language and Politics

Volunteer Instructor American Red Cross, Massachusetts Bay Chapter, 2003-2005
English as a Second Language, Citizenship and American History (part-time)

Instructor Community College of Vermont; Montpelier, Vermont, 1999

Assistant Professor American University of Sharjah, 1997-1999, opened 1997
United Arab Emirates

Assisted in writing department curriculum; advised students; ordered literature collection for university library; faculty sponsor for student newspaper and literary magazine; created new classes, including:

- English 110 - British Literature to 1770
- English 118 - World Literature
- English 203 - Writing about Literature
- English 207 - Special Topics in Ancient Literature-Myths
- Communications 202 - Research Writing
- Communications 204 - Advanced Essay Writing

Visiting Professor University of Sharjah, Women's College, United Arab Emirates, 1997
English as a Foreign Language

Adjunct Faculty University of Minnesota-Crookston, 1997
Computer-assisted, interactive television classroom
Arts and Sciences 1013 - Composition II

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

Publications

"Cultural Refraction: Using Travel Writing, Anthropology and Fiction to Understand the Culture of Southern Arabia," *Interdisciplinary Humanities*, Spring/ Summer 2009 (26:1): 63-78.

"An Open Letter to Alice Walker," *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. February 20th, 2009.

Review of *Improbable Journeys*, Robin Magowan. Evanston, IL: Northwestern UP, 2002. *North Dakota Quarterly*. Vol. 70 (2003): 156-159.

Review of *Saddlebag*, Bahiyyih Nakhjavani. Boston: Beacon Press, 2002. *Edebiyat: The Journal of Middle Eastern Literatures*. Vol. 13.1 (2002): 131-32.

"White Knee Socks vs. Photojournalist Vests: Distinguishing between Travelers and Tourists." *Travel Culture*. Ed. Carol Williams. Westport, CT: Praeger, 1997.

"One of the Critters is Missing: The Disappearance of Nancy Durrell from *My Family and Other Animals*." *Selected Papers Presented to the Linguistic Circle of Manitoba and North Dakota: 1989-1993*. Ed. Harold Smith and Gaby Divay. Fargo, ND: NDSU Press, 1996.

Review of *Crossing Borders: An American Woman in the Middle East*, Judith Caesar. Syracuse: Syracuse UP, 1997. *North Dakota Quarterly*. Vol. 66 (1999): 145-146.

Conference Presentations

"Camels, Halwa and a Snowy Day: Linking Arab and Western Texts in the Literature Classroom," Language, Linguistics, Literature and Translation Conference; Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman. March 10-12, 2010.

"Waiting for [both] the Barbarians": Tourism in the Dhofar Region of Oman," Traditions and Transformations: Tourism, Heritage and Cultural Change in the Middle East and North Africa Region; Amman, Jordan. April 6th, 2009. Paper presented by Dr. Sheena Westwood, Associate Professor, College of Communication and Media Sciences, Zayed University, Abu Dhabi.

"How Can You Hate the Sun?: Translating Western Conceptions of Nature," Humanities Education and Research Association; Chicago, Illinois. April 9th, 2009.

"'Treachery in the Kitchen': Traveling Foreign, Eating Familiar," College English Association Annual Conference; St. Louis, MO. March 28th, 2008. Co-authored with Dr. Traci Kelly, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

- “Marlowe in Salalah: Making English Poetry Relevant,” TESOL in a Globalized World - 2008 Conference; Sharjah. February 24th, 2008.
- “Where are the cute tap-dancing Penguins?: Illustrations in Artic/ Antarctic Travel Books,” Modern Language Association Annual Conference; Chicago. December 28th, 2007.
- “‘Waiting for the Barbarians’: Teaching Literature as a Cultural Bridge in Salalah,” April 9th, 2007. CAAS Seminar Series, Dhofar University.
- “What to do After You Have the Right Answer: Introducing Uncertainty while Teaching Literature in the Middle East,” 2007 Conference of the National Association of Humanities Education; San Francisco. February, 2007.
- “Acting Your Way to Better Spoken English,” TESOL Arabia Conference; Dubai. March, 2007.
- “Do You Have Anything on Cowboys?: Creating a University Library in the Middle East,” Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association Conference; Albuquerque. February, 2000. with Chris Sugnet.
- “Athena in the Desert: Using Myths to Teach Writing Skills,” TESOL Arabia Conference; Al Ain, United Arab Emirates, 1999.
- “Dragon-spotting: Travelers Making Myths and Myths Making Travelers,” British Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference; University of Lancaster, 1998.
- “Flying Banknotes and Shuttlecocks: Ford Maddox Ford’s Post-modern Travels,” Conrad Society Annual Conference; London, 1998.
- “The Norton Anthology in Arabia: Teaching Literature in the EFL Classroom,” TESOL Arabia Conference; Al Ain, United Arab Emirates, 1998.
- “Zu Golde Gehn: John Marston’s *The Wonder of Women or The Tragedie of Sophonisba* (1606) and von Lohenstein’s *Sophonisbe* (1666),” Modern Language Association Conference; Toronto, 1997.
- “Misplacing the Map: Post World War II Travelers Lost and Found” Snapshots from Abroad: A Conference on American and British Travel Writers and Writing; University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, 1997.
- “White Knee Socks vs. Photojournalist Vests: Distinguishing between Travelers and Tourists,” Popular Culture Association Conference; San Antonio, 1997.
- “Seat in a Saddle, Nose in a Book: What Travelers Read,” Linguistic Circle of Manitoba and North Dakota; Winnipeg, 1996.

Professional Service

Dhofar University - university service:

- University Research Board - member, Fall 2005 - present
- Liaison between DU and the Omani Research Council, Fall 2009 - present
- Graduation Committee - member, 2008 - present
- Working with the Center for Teachign and Learning and the Public Relations Office to improve and expand materials for new faculty at DU, including up-dating the New Faculty Handbook, creating a Academic Honesty Guide and a Guide to Omani Culture in the Classroom
- Presented workshop with Dr. Basma Jadayel on Writing across the Curriculum for non-English subject teachers, May 16th and 18th, 2010
- Committee on Student Coursework and Learning Resources - member, Spring 2008
- Created display of faculty research in the library, Spring 2009
- Represented DU at Mazoon College’s Conference on Plagiarism in Oman, Spring 2008
- University Council - member, Fall 2007
- Learning Resources Committee - member, 2005-2006

Dhofar University - College of Arts and Applied Science service:

- College Research Committee - member, Fall 2009 - present
- Created displays of students' work for Open Day, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010

Dhofar University - Department of Languages and Translation service:

- Presented workshop on Effective Assessment for Department of Languages and Translation, (to help teachers stop plagiarism and write effective assignments), with Helen Woerner and Dr. Basma Jadayel, February 23rd, 2010
- Editor, Department of L & T Gazette, 2009-2010
- Acting chair, Summer 2008 and when current chair is away on administrative business

Chair - Library Committee; American University of Sharjah

Faculty advisor of *The Leopard* (student newspaper) and *Realms* (student literary magazine); AUS
Co-founder of the AUS Literary Society (established book club, sponsored poetry readings, organized field trips); AUS

Artist in Residence - Thief River Falls Community College and Challenger Elementary School, 1997

"Where Do You Want To Go?: Reading, Geography and Maps," Graduate Class for Secondary English and Geography Teachers; North Dakota Geographic Alliance, 1996

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Office of the Dean, School of Engineering - 2003-2005

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Writing and editing correspondence and scholarly papers, independent research

Sloan School of Management - 2000-2003

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Coordinating faculty job search; editing grant proposals, correspondence, course materials, and dissertations; assisting visiting international faculty; managing Harvard-MIT Economic Sociology Seminar; independent research

FOREIGN LANGUAGE EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

Beginning Arabic classes, 2008-present, 1998-1999

Frederick Institute; Nicosia, Cyprus - 1995

Independent research for dissertation

Friedrich Wilhelms Universität; Bonn, Germany - 1985-1986

Full-time student, classes taught in German

Middlebury College; Middlebury College, Vermont - 1985

Completed German Language Program

AFFILIATIONS

Fellow:

- Royal Geographical Society, 1997 - present
- American Geographical Society, 2005 - present

Member:

- Hakulyt Society, 1997 - present
- Modern Language Association, 1997 - present
- College English Association, 2007 - present
- TESOL Arabia, 2006 - present