2019 — 2020 INSTRUCTOR NOMINATIONS





INSTRUCTOR ALICE LOPEZ WRTG 2009

Alice was wonderful! She alway made class worth going to and had great teaching skills!



INSTRUCTOR ALICE LOPEZ WRTG 2009

She is the best teacher I have ever had in Fall 2019. She has been really helpful for my writing.



INSTRUCTOR ALLAN BORST WRTG 2010

He always engages with his students and shows that he really cares about helping us and making sure that we understand what he is teaching.



INSTRUCTOR ALLAN BORST WRTG 1010

Allan Borst is a very prepared and strongly well spoken teacher. He does well when teaching his planned lessons by not overwhelming the students with large amounts of information but gives just enough that the students can retain the content from the lesson and applies it to the homework given for that day. The homework given is also very beneficial due to it's relatability to the earlier lesson. The homework also does not over work the students with unnecessary content. In addition to these positive elements within the class, Dr. Borst is certain to meet the expectations that any writing professor should have. He is concise yet informative with his lecturing while having the ability of that lecture flowing like a conversation. Finally, Dr. Borst always has a contained, positive, and kind attitude during each and every class.



INSTRUCTOR ALLANI ROBST

ALLAN BORST WRTG 1009

Because he is Allan.





INSTRUCTOR ALYSSA QUINN WRTG 2010

Alyssa, or Ms. Quinn, inspires me to do my best in my writing! Her good energy and how she interacts with us in class makes glad to have her as my first writing teacher at the U. I always look forward going to my writing class because I know that it won't be boring and I'll be learning important things that will better my writing skills. Thank you for being a great teacher!



INSTRUCTOR AMANDA LAABS WRTG 2010

Amanda Laabs really encouraged me and inspired me to be and do better. I've been thinking I should write a book, and Ms. Laabs provided exactly the right amount of encouragement that I needed to get started.





INSTRUCTOR ANNE MCMURTREY WRTG 4020

Anne was amazing, she was so knowledgeable and open minded. She helped guide many complex discussions and helped each and everyone of us in her class become more aware of the world around us, I know I became a better person.



INSTRUCTOR CASSANDRA GOFF WRTG 2010

Cassandra Goff was very committed to us students. She was always asking us for feedback on how to improve the class and really valued everyone's opinions. She did a great job of keeping her promises and was great at responding to messages in a timely and polite manner. She was also very knowledgeable about the subject material. Overall, she made the class very rewarding and enjoyable for me!

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INSTRUCTOR CATHERINE GOODMAN WRTG 3014

She always provided detailed suggestions and comments to our papers. In class, she expressed her interest and knowledge in teaching writing. She avidly wanted to learn about each of the students major subjects and encouraged student engagement.



INSTRUCTOR CATHERINE GOODMAN WRTG 3016

The coarse design is easy to follow and understand. Prof Goodman frequently sends us updates on assignments (through canvas) and quickly addresses questions. She also creates a respectful classroom environment.



INSTRUCTOR CHRISTIE TOTH WRTG 3870 & WRTG 4050

I came back to school in 2019. Being in a class with Dr. Toth made my experience back so much better in the way she fosters community in her classrooms and helps not only to teach but encourages critical thinking. Many of the skills I developed in her courses, written or otherwise, I have been able to apply outside the writing environment. This has made me a better and more successful student. I think her passion for teaching really affects the overall continuing success of her students, I have recommended her courses to many of my non Writing and rhetorics studies peers.

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Christie Toth is one of my all-time favorite professors at the University of Utah. Her course was both stimulating and stretching, and never something I dreaded to attend. She was a fair grader and provided countless opportunities for feedback and growth within our pieces. She preached and practiced the inclusion described in the Department of Writing and Rhetoric's diversity statement, and I never had a interaction with her that was not thoroughly positive. It became obvious to me that Christie is more concerned with the success (both personal and academic) of her students than any other facet of her career, which is refreshing.



INSTRUCTOR CHRISTIE TOTH WRTG 3020 & WRTG 3870

Christie Toth is an incredible instructor. The organization of her Canvas courses included well-thought out modules, linked files throughout assignments and calendar events, and regularly using Canvas announcements to make sure the entire class was well-informed. Professor Toth's rhetorical awareness of her student's situations and language made the classroom a safe place for discussion. I am very impressed by Professor Toth's use of inclusive language, and how she encouraged students to use language that encouraged a community outlook on events and writing. She is always engaged and interested in what her students had to say, and provides excellent feedback.



Christie was a great instructor who was fair to the students and encouraged engaging discussions. She enabled learning from different perspectives and created a space where students could safely share their own experiences.

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She is so welcoming in her class and always willing to help, no matter what the questions may be. Her lectures were well thought of and you could tell she put time and effort in them. You can also tell she cares a lot about her students and wants to help them out any way she can.



She gave me good feedback of The University of Utah and some resources they have for transfer students.



INSTRUCTOR DALE ENGASS WRTG 2010

I've only been in Dale's class for a few short weeks but I've enjoyed the time here due to his overall demeanor, intellect, and wit. Dale has a great way of engaging students and is definitely committed to diversity and inclusion of everyone.



INSTRUCTOR DALE ENGASS WRTG 2010

Quality content and teaching.





INSTRUCTOR DIANA CLARKE WRTG 2010

She was an amazing teacher, and incorporated the outside world into our writing assignments. There was never a boring moment. She was inspiring and pushed us to be the best writers. She always gave us personal and detailed feedback on our papers and then told us what we did good and what we could improve. I have never had a teacher as personal and caring as Diana Clarke! I recommend her class to everyone!



INSTRUCTOR DIANA CLARKE WRTG 2010

She's very structured and always knew how to present herself in class.



INSTRUCTOR DIANA CLARKE WRTG 2010

I love that Clarke is not afraid to make us think about controversial subjects. She always encourages open and respectful discussions in class, which has helped me understand more about why I write the ways I write. She pushes us to think about things beyond the surface and I have really appreciated that from her. I'd love to see her continue to succeed as a writer and teacher because she is definitely one of a kind!

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INSTRUCTOR DOUG CHRISTENSEN WRTG 3011

Professor Christensen is always willing to help and if you don't understand anything he will try and help answer any questions you have. He is giving feedback and criticism in a great way and not in a way that makes you feel down. He is one of the best writing instructors I have had so far.



INSTRUCTOR DOUG CHRISTENSEN WRTG 1010

He taught the class well and I enjoyed the philosophical and athenian undertones in the discussions we had.



INSTRUCTOR DOUG CHRISTENSEN WRTG 1010

He was super cool and a very nice, genuine person and he was very smart.



INSTRUCTOR ERIC BLIX WRTG 2010

This course was very organized and laid out with a schedule easy to follow and understand. He was very engaging, approachable, organized, and understanding to students.



INSTRUCTOR ERIC BLIX ENGL 2510

The most important thing I learned in his class was to push through writer's block, which has been enormously helpful in both personal and academic writing.



INSTRUCTOR ERYNN PONTIUS WRTG 2010

Not only did she teach the material in a meaningful way but she made the class enjoyable and cared about each one of her students.



INSTRUCTOR ERYNN PONTIUS WRTG 2010

She gives thought out and meaningful feed back and genuinely cares about how each student can progress and improve.





INSTRUCTOR JACE BRITTAIN WRTG 2010

He helped me more with writing in one semester than I have learned in my whole educational career.



INSTRUCTOR HEATHER BRUCE WRTG 3420

Her classes are interesting and engaging, and uncensored. We can bring up points throughout the discussion, and she actively encourages us not just to write, but to think and speak up.



INSTRUCTOR JACKIE BALDERRAMA WRTG 2010

She is very understanding with students and has made writing more enjoyable.





INSTRUCTOR JENNY ANDRUS

WRTG 5990, 4905, & 3430

Jenny is the most amazing professor I have ever had. She cares a lot about her students and she is very approachable. I appreciate her teaching style. She cares about what she is teaching and she always has good energy.



INSTRUCTOR JENNY ANDRUS WRTG 1010

Professor Jennifer Andrus is a compassionate effective instructor who cares deeply about individual student success.



Mr. Haase has been a very calm and collected writing teacher that makes it easy for his students to understand the point or lesson that he is trying to teach. He's a very fair teacher that doesn't expect too much out of his students. He understands the pace he needs to take to teach his class.



Excellence in course design, grading practices, teaching style + engagement, humor, care for his students success and understanding.



He helped me so much with my writing. He broadened my perspective on college writing and helped me write my papers everyday in class. He was a great instructor and helped however he could.

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Karl Haase was one of the only professors that I felt actually cared about his student's success. He is a very genuine person compared to a lot of the professors at this school. He was willing to help you whenever you needed it and gave you every opportunity to learn and earn a decent grade in his class. Karl Haase is just straight up an amazing person.



INSTRUCTOR KENECHI UZOR WRTG 2010

He is the best professor that I have ever taken. He knows how to keep class interesting and is one of the coolest guys I've ever met.

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INSTRUCTOR KENECHI UZOR WRTG 2010

I went into the course seeking help on how to become a better writer and now I feel my writing is more cohesive and I can better express myself. He is fair and inclusive as a professor and he is committed to helping his students succeed.



INSTRUCTOR KENECHI UZOR WRTG 2010

Professor Uzor was a fantastic teacher. I learned a lot in his class, and it is one of the few writing classes I have ever enjoyed. Our class discussions were always engaging and interesting.



What I liked most about this class is Professor Lipski focused on teaching and improving our writing. She looked for improvement rather than mastery.



Lauren Lipski was a supportive and instructional instructor. Her course design and organization of canvas was clear and understandable.



Her grading was extremely fair and she always gave very specific and clear feedback on every writing assignment. I learned more in this class than any other writing class I've taken.



Professor Lipski was engaged every day of class and I am better prepared for the rest of my education thanks to her informative class.



INSTRUCTOR LINDSEY WEBB WRTG 2010

Instructor Webb is a highly effective teacher. I feel I was able to learn a lot from her class. I continue to use the techniques I learned in my writing class this semester. The course design was logical and timely. I appreciate her as an instructor!

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INSTRUCTOR MATHEW SILLITO WRTG 2009

He has an outstanding manner of driving the class activity and he performs nicely in explaining everything in simple words.

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Maria turned the classroom into a fun learning environment. She always gave us a room to improve in our writing assignments and her course really made me grow as a writer.



Maria Alberto has a very unique way of designing assignments that allowed students to incorporate their own personal skills and interests into the assignment while gaining a better understanding of and applying the different pieces of rhetoric.



She made sure that every student got individual help if they needed it and she was very open, making it easy to come to her about concepts that a student might need more info on.



Her feedback on projects was incredibly helpful, especially when it came to written pieces, so the students could take that feedback and apply it to the next assignment.



INSTRUCTOR MARIANNE MADSEN WRTG 3014

She was a very understanding professor and graded our assignments with helpful feedback. She was very organized with the coursework and catered to our needs.



INSTRUCTOR MAUREEN CLARK WRTG 3012

All students feel important and know they can each get personal help if needed. Professor Clark is very good at making students feel that their discipline is an important one. I know many of my classmates feel valued both as a person and a future worker in their field.

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INSTRUCTOR MEGAN TYLER WRTG 2010

In addition to great course design and presentation, Professor Tyler cares a great deal about working with students and improving their individual writing.



INSTRUCTOR MAX WERNER WRTG 2010

Professor Werner is nothing short of a rockstar. His passionate dedication to the success of every student is unquestionably superior to any professor I have ever encountered. Professor Werner taught me and every student under his charge that every word used means something. To avoid using words carelessly and instead to deliberately select words strategically based on the purpose/intent. Professor Werner's teaching style is exactly what students coming up in today's society needs and will ultimately appreciate throughout their professional careers.



INSTRUCTOR

MAX WERNER WRTG 2010

He made the class fun and interesting.





INSTRUCTOR MAX WERNER WRTG 3019

Professor Werner is dedicated to bridging the gap between veterans and civilians in his class Writing About War (WRTG 3019). He offers inclusion of all the classmates (regardless of diverse backgrounds) and encourages safe and open discussions about war (from both civilians perspectives and veteran perspectives).



INSTRUCTOR MAX WERNER WRTG 2010

Excellent in teaching engagement & has introduced me to a new ways on how to think about my writing, which is making me a more creative and formal writer. He teaches things in a way no other teacher has before.



INSTRUCTOR

MAX WERNER WRTG 2010

Before attending Mr. Werner's writing class, I extremely disliked writing and thought I was very bad at it. But after attending Mr. Werner's class I actually enjoyed writing and he taught me a lot of writing techniques and skills that greatly improved my writing. Without Mr. Werner as my teacher, my writing experience at the U would have been far different and most likely worse at the U. Mr. Werner is the best writing teacher I've ever had and I am looking forward to having him again for environmental writing!

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INSTRUCTOR MAX WERNER WRTG 2010

Professor Werner always goes beyond what is expected from him when it comes to help students succeed.



He made comeing to class fun every day and gave me a reason to come. Always had something interesting to say or say an interesting story about his life.



He comes everyday whether he feels up to it or not and he has the largest smile on his face and legitimately makes every Tuesday and Thursday better for me.



Michael engages with all of his students, and makes class both interesting and fun. He includes everyone, and inspires his students alike.



Professor Mathison wasn't afraid to be vulnerable with his class, which is what writing is all about. He didn't just teach me, he led me to be a better writer. Yes, his course structure was organized and his grading was very fair and all that, but I'm nominating Michael because his stories and anecdotes made me think beyond just improving my writing. That only happened inevitably because he has compassion and can relate to his students on such a level playing field. I appreciate you, Professor Mathison. Thank you for one of the best writing classes I'll ever be part of!





INSTRUCTOR MORGAN LAWRENCE WRTG 2010

[She makes me] feel like I am actually getting something out of my education because I am being encouraged to write about my surroundings, making the class relevant rather than just writing another paper because it's for a grade.



INSTRUCTOR MORGAN LAWRENCE WRTG 2010

Being in writing 2010 with her improved my writing ability significantly.



INSTRUCTOR NANCY JENSEN WRTG 3015

Hands down one of the best writing classes I have taken. She is very caring and so kind. Provided excellent feedback on each of the assignments to help us excel in our writing.



INSTRUCTOR NANCY JENSEN WRTG 2010

She gives really good instruction. She has helped me gain confidence in my writing ability. That is something that no other instructor here at the University has done.



INSTRUCTOR NATALIE STILLMAN-WEBB WRTG 6100

Dr. Stillman-Webb was fantastic! A very inspiring and engaging course instructor. I learned a lot from her and appreciate how much she advanced my writing skills.



INSTRUCTOR NATALIE STILLMANN-WEBB WRTG 7080

I am not a student in the writing department, but in the health sciences field. I took WRTG 7080 as a half-semester summer course. Dr. Stillmann-Webb warned me that the course would be like drinking from a fire hose--and it was! It was incredibly intense and pushed me to the brink; however, I grew in leaps and bounds. I learned writing techniques that I would have never picked up from my own field's professors. She had a wonderful way of understanding my specialized topic and then gently pushing me to ideas that will improve my project. In fact, when I presented mt completed project to my thesis adviser, he called it "the best literature review he's ever read from a student." I refer back to her course materials often and my writing will forever be stronger because of her instruction. She was encouraging and challenging at the same time. Most importantly, I will always be forever grateful for her introducing me to the em dash. I love the em dash! Thanks Dr. Stillmann-Webb!!



INSTRUCTOR NATHAN OVERTURF-LACY WRTG 2010

Every time I went to class it always felt like he wanted to be there and it never seemed like a chore for him to teach. Overall was an incredibly nice person and a great teacher.



INSTRUCTOR NATHAN OVERTURF-LACY WRTG 2010

He was able to make a writing class at 8 in the morning likable. I felt Hearned a lot in his class and it was easy to understand the concepts being taught.



INSTRUCTOR NINA FENG WRTG 2010

She's amazing, she taught in an entirely new way that was engaging and the best way I've found to learn. She's just really awesome.

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INSTRUCTOR NINA FENG WRTG 2010

She is the most caring professor I've ever had. She takes time out of her day to respond to students fast outside of class, and will do anything to help her students succeed. She truly cares about every student and their well being. She does an excellent job at teaching her class and making sure everyone knows what is going on, she also made the course very diverse to include everyone.



INSTRUCTOR NKENNA ONWUZURUOHA WRITE4U

Nkenna was a great instructor who helped students learn in the way that was was best for them. She was engaging and I loved that she was always available and willing to talk with students.



INSTRUCTOR NKENNA ONWUZURUOHA WRTG 3020

This class content and her guest speakers gave more confidence about my decision to transfer to the U of U and the opportunity to write a research paper about my major.



INSTRUCTOR PIETERA PINCOCK WRTG 2010

Pietera Pincock created a learning environment that was relaxed enough that it was comfortable to learn and make mistakes, but structured enough that it was greatly beneficial to my writing skills. She is definitely one of the best instructors I have ever had.



INSTRUCTOR NONA BROWN WRTG 4030

She is a very engaged professor in how well outlined each week is in Canvas. Adding to that, she gives great feedback on writing in a way that makes the student not feel dumb and genuinely about helping her students succeed in the course.



INSTRUCTOR NONA BROWN WRTG 3018

I would like to nominate Nona Brown for excellence in teaching ability, inclusivity, creative freedom and overall excellence in the way she manages her courses.



INSTRUCTOR ROMEO GARCÍA WRTG 3875

Dr. García's course now looking back- was about timing. I took the course in the first semester at the U. García's pedagogical maturity was on full display with his ability to breakdown threshold concepts and prepare students for future exploration within the scholarship. García always made himself available to student. Now looking back and seeing Dr. García around the department, it is clear of his care for the University community. For these reasons, I am grateful to nominate Romeo García for all awards available.





INSTRUCTOR SARAH SMITH WRTG 2010

She genuinely cares about her students success by providing constructive feedback on every written draft.



INSTRUCTOR SARAH SMITH WRTG 2010

Sarah has made writing much more enjoyable for me rather than a painful task with a specific page length.

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INSTRUCTOR SARAH SMITH WRTG 2010

She did a fine job teaching the online class. She was responsive to messages and helpful with grading. She really made an effort to get to know the student even though it was more difficult because it was online.



INSTRUCTOR SARAH SMYLIE WRTG 2010

She was amazing in teaching us various writing techniques that can assist us in our majors.



INSTRUCTOR SARAH SMYLIE WRTG 2010

She made it interesting and interactive.



INSTRUCTOR SARAH SMYLIE WRTG 2010

She does an effective job with explaining new materials, and is helpful explaining it.





He seems to legitimately care about what might be holding a person down and displays an acute understanding of these factors in class. He has made me want to put forward my best effort.



Sean Collins really helped me enjoy the class. I hate writing, but he really made it fun and was able to help me improve my writing skills.



Never have I ever had more of a passion for critically analyzing sources and writing. Sean has instilled a love of writing which will go far beyond this class.



He is a great teacher! Very patient and available to us. He taught the material using a variety of methods and resources, always listening and asking for our feedback on his teaching methods. He is organized, kept to the schedule he outlined at the beginning of the semester and encouraged us to explore in our writing.



INSTRUCTOR SHERTOK LAMA WRTG 2010

He worked very hard to make the course accessible and challenging and had a strong commitment to diversity. He cared about each student and worked to better their individual writing.

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INSTRUCTOR STEPHEN HINKLE WRTG 2010

Best writing course I have ever taken. He really set it up well to teach us bit by bit throughout the semester.



INSTRUCTOR STEPHEN HINKLE WRTG 2010

He was really good at focusing his grading on what we were learning. Loved it. Great teacher. Pay him more.



INSTRUCTOR STEPHEN HINKLE WRTG 2010

Mr. Hinkle is an exceptional teacher whose character is reflected in the quality of his work. He constantly strives to meet with students for extra help, and add his own wit and humor to make grammar and writing an excellent experience.



Professor was very dedicated, helpful, and worked on every student to improve their writing. The course was very broad and interesting with space for a lot of creative thinking and writing. She was always pushing us to perform, practice, and mold our writing to be the best.



Professor Watanabe shows a genuine interest and care for the students she teaches in her class. She goes above and beyond in her curriculum as well, exposing us students to a wide variety of different perspectives. She brought in a few guests speakers who were valuable to learn from. She was also accommodating and encouraging when I faced struggles and fears in my writing.



She is friendly and care for her students throughout the whole semester.



She is an amazing professor and helped me a lot in improving my writing skills.



You could tell she really cares about the success of her students. She wanted to see us all do well in the class. She offered helpful feedback on each assignment which definitely helped me become a better writer. She also has us all engage in multiple discussions about diversity. She brought in different guests with different experiences to help teach us about a lot of environmental issues I didn't previously know about. Overall, I learned a lot in her class, and her lessons have helped me in all my other classes.



She is a very kind instructor. Her course is designed in a way that really helps us out as freshmen just entering college. She is very patient and works really hard to help us out in improving our writing. She gave every assignment very helpful feedbacks and in class, she also gave us ways to improve our writing.



Dr. Watanabe went above and beyond for her duties as a teacher. I felt as if I was writing for a purpose rather than writing for a grade. She really took the time to know each of us individually and pushed us to be better than we could have ever imagined.



Before I joined this class I had a high school concept of writing. Now I understand it's more than just reading and writing; it's on a more personal level.





INSTRUCTOR TRACE DANIELS-LERBERG WRTG 1010

Trace was such a marvelous teacher and really has changed my writing for the better. She was clear in her lectures, pushed us to do our best, and instructed in clarity that really made the student learn.



INSTRUCTOR ZAC CHATTERLEY WRTG 1010

He had such an excellent way of presenting material and really strived to help all students. He took time after class and before to go over paper topics with me, and he was great about sending helpful ideas through email. He certainly made everyone feel comfortable and included in the class. I leaner more from him than any other writing professor I've had.



INSTRUCTOR ZEB PISCHNOTTE WRTG 1010

Zeb was a great teacher and genuinely cared about his students getting good grades.



INSTRUCTOR ZEB PISCHNOTTE WRTG 1010

The way he teaches not only helps me learn but keeps me focused and entertained.







INSTRUCTOR ZEB PISCHNOTTE WRTG 1010

He was helpful and very actively engaging in class, he allowed for a better analysis of themes and explained in depth what was needed.

