

Curriculum Vitae  
Dr. Maisha Wester

**Education**

Ph.D, English, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 2006  
M.A., English, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 2001  
B.A., English, University of North Florida, Jacksonville, Florida 1999

**Academic Positions**

Associate Professor, African American and African Diaspora Studies, Indiana University, August 2013-present  
Assistant Professor, English Department and American Culture Studies, Bowling Green State University. August 2006-July 2013  
Graduate Assistant, English Department, University of Florida, August 1999-December 2006  
Adjunct, English Department, Santa Fe Community College, January 2003-May 2006  
Writing Tutor, Writing Lab, Santa Fe Community College, August 2004-December 2004

**Professional Honors**

Institute of Cultural Studies Fellow, Bowling Green State University, 2010-2011  
Teaching Award, University of Florida, 2006  
Alumni Doctoral Fellowship, University of Florida, 2001-2005

**Scholarly Monograph**

*African American Gothic: Screams from Shadowed Places*, Palgrave (November 2012)

**Articles and Book Chapters**

- “‘St. Domingue/ Haiti, Villain/ Hero: Gothic Revisions of the Haitian Revolution in Victor Séjour's ‘The Mulatto’,” *Callaloo* (forthcoming)
- “Keys to a Hurricane: Reading Race, Class, and Abjection in *The Skeleton Key*,” *Film International* (forthcoming)
- “Gothic and the Politics of Race” in *The Cambridge Companion to the Modern Gothic*. Ed Jerrold E. Hogle, Cambridge University Press (forthcoming)
- “Toni Morrison's Gothic: Headless Brides and Haunted Communes” in *A Companion to the American Gothic*. Ed. Charles Crow, Wiley Blackwell Publishing (Fall 2013)
- “Torture Porn and Uneasy Feminisms: Re-thinking (Wo)men in Eli Roth’s *Hostel* Films,” *Quarterly Review of Film and Video* 29.5 (August 2012): 384-400.
- “The Abject Oath: British Psychosis and the Mythos of Mau Mau Oathing,” *Ofo: Journal of Transatlantic Studies* 1.1 (May 2011): 67-80.
- “Forgetting to Re-member: ‘Post-racial’ Amnesia and Racial History,” *Reconstruction* 9.3 (2009): online.
- “Haunting and Haunted Queerness: Randall Kenan’s Re-inscription of Difference in A Visitation of Spirits,” *Callaloo* 30.4 (Fall 2007): 1035-1053.
- “A Review of Donal Moriarty’s *The Art of Brian Coffey*,” *Nua: Studies in Contemporary Irish Writing* 3.1-2 (Spring 2001): 207-212.

## **In Progress**

“Slave Narratives and Slave Revolts,” in *Handbook of Southern Gothic*. Ed. Charles Crow, Palgrave

“Misdirection and Slights of Hand: Queerness and the Abject in Randall Kenan’s Fiction,” *Callaloo*

## **Selected Conference Presentations**

“Gothic Technology in ‘Sawney Bean’ and Sweeny Todd,” *International Gothic Association Biennial Conference*. Surrey, England. Aug 2013

“Cannibal Capitalism and Savage Materialism: Autography and Consumer Culture,” *Society for Media and Cinema Studies*. Boston, MA. Mar. 2012

“The Haunting of Haiti and the Problem of American Empire,” *American Studies Association Annual Convention*. Baltimore, MD. Oct. 2011

“Tim’s Creek’s (Not So) Normal Folks: Figurations of the Scapegoat in Randall Kenan’s *Let the Dead Bury Their Dead*,” *Celebrating African American Literature Conference*. Philadelphia, PA. Sept. 2011

“African American Gothic,” *International Gothic Association Biennial Conference*. Heidelberg, Germany. Aug. 2011

“Forgetting to Re-member: “Post-racial” Amnesia and Racial History,” *Cultural Studies Association Annual Conference*. Berkeley, CA. Mar. 2010

“Torture Porn and Uneasy Feminisms,” *Popular Culture Association/ American Culture Association Annual Conference*. New Orleans, LA. Apr. 2009

“Katrina on Film: Representations of Race and Disaster in Popular Media,” *Popular Culture Association/ American Culture Association*. San Francisco, CA. Mar. 2008

“Nineteenth Century Slave Narratives and Gothic Racial Revisions” *Popular Culture Association/ American Culture Association Annual Conference*. Boston, MA. Apr. 2007

“The Bondswoman’s Narrative: Fictionalizing the Slave’s Narrative,” *American Women Writers of Color Conference*. Baltimore, MD. Nov. 2004

“Speaking the Mother’s Narrative: Theories of Opposition to/ and Infanticidal Silences in Toni Morrison’s *Beloved*,” *South Atlantic Modern Language Association Annual Conference*. Atlanta, GA. Nov. 2001

“Contamination and Consumption: Transgression Anxieties in Hawthorne and Society,” *Reading the Lines, CUNY Graduate School and University Center Conference*. New York, NY. Mar. 2001

“Exile in Literature: Bilingualism and Memory,” *Tenth Annual Central New York Conference on Language and Literature*. Cortland, NY. Oct. 2000

## **Invited Lectures**

“Beloved as Gothic Text,” University of Lausanne. Nov 2013

“Mammy/ Jezebel/ Hottentot/ Hoodrat...Everything but Me: The Destructive Politics of Representation,” Bowling Green State University. *Women’s Studies Brown Bag Lecture Series*, Feb. 2010

“Torture Porn and the Gendered Body: Reading Horror Films as Feminist Discourse,” University of Michigan. *Women’s Studies Lecturer Series*, Mar. 2009

“Hostel Feminisms: Reading Eli Roth’s Films as Feminist Discourse,” Bowling Green State University. *Popular Culture Colloquia Series*, Feb. 2009

## **Professional Service**

### *Professional*

External Reviewer for African American Review October, 2008-present

### *University Level*

Faculty Advisor for African American Graduate Student Association, August 2007-May 2010

### *College Level*

African Studies Advisory Committee (Africana Studies), August 2010-May 2012

School of Critical Studies/ Popular Culture Search Committee, October 2011-March 2012

McNair Scholars Mentor, September 2008-May 2009, February 2010-May 2011

External Member, Jacob Turner Dissertation (Communication Sciences and Disorders Department), May 2006-July 2008

### *Department Level*

Organizer for Living Life Lecture Series (African American and African Diaspora Studies),  
August 2013-present

M.A. Executive Committee (American Culture Studies), August 2012-May 2013

Ph.D Advisory Committee (American Culture Studies), August 2012-May 2013

Undergraduate Committee (English), August 2011-May 2013

Graduate Faculty in Literature Committee (English Department), August 2007-May 2013

Undergraduate Committee (American Culture Studies), August 2011-May 2012

Ombudsman Committee (English), August 2010-May 2011

Merit Review Committee (English), August 2009-May 2010

Ph.D Executive Committee (American Culture Studies), August 2009-May 2010

Promotion, Retention, and Tenure Committee (English Department), August 2008-July 2009

Annual Director Review Committee (American Culture Studies), March 2008

Nominating Committee for Snook Awards (American Culture Studies), January 2007-May 2010

Chairs Advisory Council (English Department), August 2007-May 2008

M.A. Executive Committee (American Culture Studies and English Department), August 2006-July 2009, August 2011-May 2012

## **Professional Development**

American Association for University Professors Summer Institute. Chicago, IL, July 2012

Oxford Fellow: International Politics and History Seminar. Oxford, UK, July 2010  
UCD Clinton Institute Fellow. Dublin, Ireland, July 2009, July 2011  
The Future of American Studies Institute. Dartmouth, NH, June 2008, June 2007  
Annual Conference of the Modern Literature Association. Chicago, IL, December 2007  
27<sup>th</sup> Annual Lilly Conference on College Teaching. Oxford, OH, November 2007  
Institute of Cultural Studies Writing Group. Bowling Green, OH, September 2006 thru April 2007

### **Teaching Experience**

I developed syllabi for and taught the following courses. I was completely responsible for choosing texts, determining themes and relationships among readings, devising writing assignments, organizing class discussions, and grading all student work.

#### Graduate Courses:

- Studies in Ethnic American Literature (ENG 7790), Bowling Green State University, Fall 2011
- Faces of Death in American Gothic Literature (ACS/ ENG 6750), Bowling Green State University, Spring 2010
- The Horrors of Race: Race and Class in American Horror Film (ACS 7800), Bowling Green State University, Fall 2009
- Haunting New Orleans: (Dis)locations of Race in American Culture (ACS 6750), Bowling Green State University, Spring 2009
- Contemporary Vampires: Metaphors of Oppression in 21<sup>st</sup> Century America (ENG 6750), Bowling Green State University, Fall 2008
- Monstrous Maidens, Consuming Queerness: Gender and Sexuality in Contemporary Horror Films (ACS 6750), Bowling Green State University, Spring 2008
- The Horrors of Blackness: African Americans Revising the Gothic (ENG 6750), Bowling Green State University, Fall 2011, 2007
- (Sub)Urban Blackness: Constructing Race and Class in American Culture (ACS 6750), Bowling Green State University, Spring 2007

#### Upper Division Courses:

- Writing the Black (Wo)man's Body (AAAD 399), Indiana University, Spring 2014
- The Black Novel: Geographies of Progress (AAAD 480), Indiana University, Fall 2013
- The End of Black Literature? (AAAD 399), Indiana University, Fall 2013
- The End of Black Literature? (ENG 4240), Bowling Green State University, Spring 2012
- Senior Thesis Seminar (ENG 4990), Bowling Green State University, Fall 2010
- The Gothic in Film and Literature (ENG 4800), Bowling Green State University, Fall 2009
- Introduction to Literary Interpretation (ENG 3020), Bowling Green State University, Spring 2009
- 100 Years of Terror: Twentieth Century American Gothic Fiction (ENG 4340), Bowling Green State University, Spring 2008
- Survey of African American Literature I: 1785 to 1930 (AML 3270), University of Florida, Spring 2006

- Writing the Black (Wo)Man's Body in Twentieth Century American Literature (AML 4242), University of Florida, Fall 2005

Lower Division Courses:

- Black Horror Fiction and the Nightmare of Race (AAAD 299), Indiana University, Spring 2014
- Cultural Pluralism in the United States (ACS 2500 values sect.), Bowling Green State University, Fall 2011, Fall 2010, Fall 2008, Fall 2007
- Survey of African American Literature (ENG 2110), Bowling Green State University, Spring 2007, Spring 2010
- Film and Literature: Reading and Watching Horror (ENG 2000), Bowling Green State University, Fall 2006
- Introduction to American Literature: Theories of African American Literature (AML 2070), University of Florida, Spring 2003
- Issues in American Literature: Race in American Gothic Literature (AML 2410), University of Florida, Fall 2002
- Monstrous 'Others': The Nature and Face of Terror in American Gothic Fiction (AML 2410), University of Florida, Spring 2002
- Introduction to Reading and Writing About Literature (ENC 1102), University of Florida, Spring 2000 & 2001
- Introduction to Expository and Argumentative Writing (ENC 1101), University of Florida, Summer 2000, Fall 2000, Fall 2005