

Matthew G. Skillen

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Department of English
Elizabethtown College
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EDUCATION

2002: B.A., English Education,
Friends University, Wichita, KS

2006: M.A., Masters of Arts in Teaching,
Friends University, Wichita, KS

2009: Ph.D., Curriculum and Instruction,
Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS

Dissertation: *"I hope I get it. I do hope I figure it out.": Preservice Secondary Language Arts Teachers' negotiations of high school students' literacies*

TEACHING POSITIONS

Elizabethtown College (2009-)

Associate Professor of English

Director of Secondary English Education

English Department Chair

- Instructor of English and English/Language Arts Methods courses
- College Supervisor for student teachers
- English Department Advisor
- Academic Chair of the English Department

Courses Taught

EN 100 Writing and Language

EN 150 Advanced Writing and Language

EN 170 Introduction to the Digital Humanities

EN 281 Writing and Analyzing The Short Story

EN 301 English Grammar & Linguistics

EN 306 Methods Seminar on Teaching Language & Composition

EN 370 Composing in Digital Platforms

EN 440 American Authors: Hunter S. Thompson, Journalist, Author, Myth

ED 241 Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in the Classroom

ED 305 Secondary Teaching Methods: English

IC 201 Ecology in Short Fiction

Kansas State University (2007-2009)

Graduate Teaching Assistant

University Supervisor of Student Teachers

Teaching Assistant: English/Language Arts Content Area Methods

Editorial Associate: assisted in the preparation of program accreditation folios for Kansas State Department of Education & National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education

Courses Taught

EDCI 886: The History of American Education

Maize South Middle School; USD #266 (2003 – 2007)

Middle School Language Arts Teacher

Four years of teaching experience in seventh and eighth grade language arts

Instructed students in traditional, basic, gifted and inclusion settings

Served on staff leadership team as department co-chair

Sponsored Jr. Thespian troupe and directed school plays and musicals

Developed and launched a new course entitled *Performance Literature*

Managed and maintained district theatre facilities

Courses Taught

7th Grade Literature & Composition

8th Grade Literature & Composition

Performance Literature

TEACHING CERTIFICATION

Kansas (Expires September 2021)

English/Language Arts 7 - 12

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Publications

Sedun, A. & Skillen, M. (2015) The Breath of Life: A Framework for re-storying teens and their teachers in summer school English through the two lungs of storytelling and dialogue. *English Journal*. 104, 5. 102-105.

Skillen, M., Blunk, N., Kirgan, S., Viscardi, A., Orr, R., Walters, M., and Pellegrino, K. (2014) From Innocence to Relevance: Preservice Teachers' Reflections on Attending the 2013 ALAN Workshop. *ALAN Review*. 41, 3. 97-99.

Skillen, M. & Metzger, K. (2012). Secondary orality and emerging literacies in the age of multimodal literacy. *SIGNAL Journal*. Spring/Summer 2012. 57-61.

Skillen, M. & Clark, S. (2011). The key to transforming student reading: Honor stories that students value. *Reading Today*. 29, 2. 8 – 10.

Clark, S. P., & **Skillen, M.** (2010). War in YAL: Interview with Jen Bryant. *SIGNAL Journal*. 34, 1. 30-33.

Skillen, M. (2010). A special guest. *The ALAN Review*. 38, 2. 83.

Goodson, L. & **Skillen, M.** (2010). Small town perspectives big time motivation: Place-based writing for new media. *English Journal*. 100, 1. 53 – 57.

Skillen, M. (2009). A Lasting Impact. *Kansas English*. 93, 1.

Skillen, M. (2009). What did you do? *The ALAN Review*. 37, 1. 73.

Skillen, M. (2008). Enough talk about change. *Kansas English*. 92, 1. 103 - 112

Invited Publications

Skillen, M. (2016). Middle Ground. *Voices from the Middle*. (in press).

Skillen, M. (2016). Middle Ground. *Voices from the Middle*. 24, 1. 52.

Skillen, M. & Wilson, R. (June 22, 2008). Now that's rural: 86-year-old one of the last one-room school teachers. *Manhattan Mercury*, p. C3.

Book Reviews

Skillen, M. (2008). *Steel Trap*. Ridley Pearson. *The ALAN Review*. 35,4. A8

Skillen, M. (2008). *The Night I Freed John Brown*. John Michael Cummings. *The ALAN Review*. 36,1. A5

Poetry

Skillen, M. (2009). Kansas. *Kansas English*. 93, 1.

PEER-REVIEWED PRESENTATIONS

Coates, T., **Skillen, M.** (2016). *National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention General Session: An Interview with Ta-Nehisi Coates*. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention: Atlanta, GA.

- Skillen, M.**, Clark, S., Garcia, A., Halse Anderson, L., Neil Wallace, S., & Wallace, R. (2016). *National Council of Teachers of English Middle Section Meet-UP*. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention: Atlanta, GA.
- Dandoy, R., McNabb, L., Peeples, S. & **Skillen, M.** (2016). *Advocacy Through the Art of Storytelling*. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention: Atlanta, GA.
- Sedun, A., Shea, T., **Skillen, M.**, White, E. (2015). *Story, the Mind, and The World: Incorporating Narrative Approaches into the Classroom*. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention: Minneapolis, MN.
- Skillen, M.** (2015). *Poetry, Picasso, Rhetoric & Radio: New Conversations in Middle-level Composition*. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention: Minneapolis, MN.
- Bowne, D., **Skillen, M.** (2015). *Fiction and Ecological Awareness: Illustrating Scientific Literacy Through Creative Writing*. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention: Minneapolis, MN.
- Skillen, M.**, Bowne, D. (2015). *Relationships and Interactions: An Eco-Fiction Writing Workshop*. Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting: Baltimore, MD.
- Skillen, M.**, Bowne, D. (2015). *Teaching Ecology Through Creative Writing: An assessment of an innovative, interdisciplinary course*. Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting: Baltimore, MD.
- Skillen, M.** (2015). *Starting with Place: How to leverage the special spaces in our stories*. Hippocampus Magazine HippoCamp Conference for Creative Non-fiction Writers: Lancaster, PA.
- Clark, S., **Skillen, M.**, De La Peña, M., and Hubbard, J. (2014). *Adolescent males' grief in young adult literature: Exploring their survivor's guilt*. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention: Washington, DC.
- Skillen, M.**, Bowne, D. (2014). *Ecology in Short Fiction: An innovative approach to teaching ecology and creative writing*. Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting: Sacramento, CA.
- Sedun, A & **Skillen, M.** (2013). *The Resurrection of Reflective Experience: How the spirit of adventure revives writers and teachers in the reclamation of caring classroom habits*. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention: Boston, MA.

- Skillen, M.**, Viscardi, A., & Roush, K. (2012). *Push Play: Supporting process writing through creative and engaging approaches to prewriting, revision, and conferring*. Pennsylvania Council of Teachers of English and Language Arts Annual Conference: Lancaster, PA
- Clark, S., Griffith, J., Minnich, C., & **Skillen, M.** (2011). *Remixing, Reinterpreting, and Rewriting: Using technology to reimagine literature*. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention: Chicago, IL.
- Clark, S., Metzger, K. Seglem, R, & **Skillen, M.** (2011). *Visual Intelligence: Utilizing, interpreting, creating, and assessing visual elements in the classroom*. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention: Chicago, IL.
- Skillen, M.** & Metzger, K. (2010). *ACTION! Young adults' response to literature in the new media*. Assembly on Literature for Adolescents Annual Workshop: Orlando, FL.
- Atkins Goodson, L., Goodson, F. T., & **Skillen, M.** (2010). *Playing it forward: High school students, place-based writing, and spoken word*. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention: Orlando, FL.
- Seglem, R., **Skillen, M.**, & Witte, S. (2010). *More than meets the eye: Visual literacy in the English classroom*. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention: Orlando, FL.
- Skillen, M.** (2010). *"I'm not cheating. I'm collaborating.": Exploring collaborative composition pedagogy in a post-secondary setting*. Elizabethtown College Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning Workshop: Elizabethtown, PA.
- Seglem, R., **Skillen, M.**, & Witte, S. (2009). *You've got to see it to believe it*. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention: Philadelphia, PA.
- Goodson, T., **Skillen, M.** (2009). *Bridging two worlds: Addressing literacy and teacher education in a mutually beneficial professional development relationship*. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention: Philadelphia, PA.
- Sherbert, V. & **Skillen, M.** (2009). *The Rural Teacher's Voice: A path to narrative inquiry and identity*. National Writing Project Rural Sites Network Annual Meeting: Kalamazoo, MI.
- Skillen, M.** (2008). *Pre-service Teacher Case Study Research in Service Learning Projects*. Conference on English Education: San Antonio, TX.
- Osenga, K., Seglem, R., Sherbert, V., & **Skillen, M.** (2008). *Relevant Responses to Young Adult Literature at the Middle School Level*. The Assembly on Literature for Adolescence Annual Workshop: San Antonio, TX.

Skillen, M. (2008). *The Developing Expectations of Preservice Language Teachers in Regards to High School Students' Literacies*. Paper presented at the Roman Veal Research Roundtable—a program of the National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention: San Antonio, TX.

Osenga, K., Seglem, R., Sherbert, V., & **Skillen, M** (2008). *Multimodal Responses to Literature at the Middle School Level*. National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention: San Antonio, TX.

Blazek, J., Shipman, L., & **Skillen, M.** (2008). *Revisiting Professional Learning Communities*. Kansas Association of Middle Level Education Annual Conference: Topeka, KS.

Skillen, M. (2008) *Podcasting 1...2...3...* Kansas Association of Teachers of English Annual Conference: Wichita, KS.

Skillen, M. (2007) *On the Farm*: Paper presented as part of the *Teachers as Writers* Panel—a program of the Kansas Association of Teachers of English Annual Conference: Wichita, KS.

Blazek, J., Shipman, L., & **Skillen, M.** (2007). *Learners Teaching Learners: School-wide Solutions that Work*. Kansas Department of Education Annual Conference: Wichita, KS.

Blazek, J., Shipman, L., & **Skillen, M.** (2006). *Learners Teaching Learners: Helping Students Succeed*. Kansas School Board Association Annual Conference: Wichita, KS.

GRANTS

Kenley, D. & **Skillen, M.** (2015). Awarded \$19,700.00 to develop and co-teach an interdisciplinary history/English course through the Elizabethtown College Mellon Humanities Competitive Grant program.

Downing, D. & **Skillen, M.** (2015). Awarded \$9,000.00 to develop and teach a course on digital storytelling through the Elizabethtown College Mellon Humanities Competitive Grant Program.

Bowne, D. & **Skillen, M.** (2013). Awarded \$23,728 to develop and co-teach an interdisciplinary ecology/creative writing course through the Elizabethtown College Collaborative Interdisciplinary Scholarship Program (CISP).

Clark, S., Donaldson, P., Hamera, R., **Skillen, M.** (2011). Awarded \$75,000.00 for continual funding through the National Writing Project 2011 Continued Funding Application for the PA Capital Area Writing Project; Pennsylvania State Harrisburg.

ONGOING PROJECTS

The Life Writes Project—A nonprofit organization dedicated to the art of personal narrative storytelling and community building. Initially raising \$15,000.00 of private funds to launch the organization and fund initial exchange programs with Colombia.

<http://lifewrites.org>

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Elizabethtown College

2015- Elizabethtown College Professional Standards Committee

2011 Elizabethtown College Strategic Planning
Outreach and Advancement Working Group

2011—2014 Elizabethtown College Campus Life Council

2010—2014 Elizabethtown College Academic Council
Council Member 2010-2014
Council Secretary 2011-2014

2009 – 2010 Elizabethtown College Nominations Committee
Committee Member

Professional Organizations

2014-2016 National Council of Teachers of English Executive Committee

2012- 2016 NCTE Middle Level Steering Committee
Committee Member 2012-2014
Committee Chairman 2014 - 2016

2011- 2016 International Reading Association Special Interest Group Network on
Adolescent Literature Board of Directors

2009-2012 Capital Area Writing Project
Co-director 2011- 2012
Teacher Consultant and Technology Liaison 2009-2012

2008-2011 Assembly on Literature for Adolescents (ALAN)
Webmaster and Board Member

Friends University

2008 - 2013 Masters of Arts of Teaching Program Advisory Council
Council Member

Kansas State University College of Education

2008 - 2009 Kansas State University Curriculum and Instruction Committee
Committee Member and Secretary

2008 - 2009 Kansas State University Education Graduate Student Organization
President

AWARDS

2013: Elizabethtown College Merit Award in Teaching
2004: Kansas Department of Education Horizon Award

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

“Planning and Conducting Productive Writing Conferences”

- For Elizabethtown College Writing Consultants; Elizabethtown, PA November 2010
- For Elizabethtown College Writing Consultants; Elizabethtown, PA March 2011

“Writing Across the Curriculum: Composition Instructional and Evaluation Methods”

- For Spring Grove, PA School District; Spring Grove, PA November 2010

“Composing with Technology”

- For the Capital Area Writing Project Invitational Summer Institute; Penn State Harrisburg July 2010
- For the Capital Area Writing Project Invitation Summer Institute; Penn State Harrisburg July 2011

“Speak Up! Writing for the World Wide Web”

- For Dr. Lori Atkins-Goodson’s High School English Classes; Wamego High School January 2009

“Leadership and the Professional Learning School”

- For John Blazek’s Course, Curriculum for Administrators; Baker University April 2007
- For John Blazek’s Course, Curriculum for Administrators; Baker University December 2006

“Becoming a Teacher: Methods and Management”

- For Dr. Lori Atkins-Goodson’s Course, Middle School Methods; Kansas State University
February 2009
- For Dr. Lori Atkins-Goodson’s Course, Middle School Methods; Kansas State University
April 2008
- For Dr. Lori Atkins-Goodson’s Future Educators of America Club; Wamego High School; Wamego, KS
October 2008

“Blogs, Wikis, and Social Media: Collaborative Writing in the Classroom”

- For Marcia Hersh’s course, Web-based Collaborative Tools for Enrichment; Fort Hayes State University
Spring 2007

“Learners Teaching Learners: The Professional Learning School”

- Maize South Middle School
August 2006
- Maize South Middle School
January 2007
- Haysville Middle School
March 2007

Community Outreach

- 2016 57th Annual *LNP* Spelling Bee Pronouncer
- 2014 Summer School Life Writes Project Coordinator Central Dauphin School District
- 2014 56th Annual *Lancaster Intelligencer* Spelling Bee Judge
- 2013 Summer School Life Writes Project Coordinator Central Dauphin School District
- 2013 55th Annual *Lancaster Intelligencer* Spelling Bee Judge

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATION

- National Council of Teachers of English- Member 2004-
- International Reading Association- Member 2010-
- Ecological Society of America- Member 2014-
- Assembly on Literature for Adolescents- Member 2007-2012
- Flint Hills Writing Project- Teacher Consultant 2007 – 2009
- Kansas Association of Teachers of English- Member 2002 – 2008
- Sigma Tau Delta/Alpha Theta Beta- Life Member & Chapter President 2000 – 2001