

# Devon C. Fitzgerald

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## Education

Ph.D. English Studies, Research Area: Media Studies, Rhetoric and Technology,  
Illinois State University, Expected June, 2008

Dissertation: *Architectures of Social Media: the Location(s) of User Interface Design*, Committee: Dr. James Kalmbach, Director, Dr. Lee Brasseur, and Dr. Cheryl Ball

Applying design theories from architecture and interior design as well as space and place theory, this dissertation examines user interfaces of social media such as blogs, last.fm and Facebook. I explore Heidegger's concept of "dwelling" and "lived-in spaces" in terms of social media. Can we say that interfaces create lived-in spaces for users? And if so, how do design principles change with such an approach? In what ways might a deeper understanding of social media, its interfaces and users lead to new pedagogical approaches for composition, design and technical writing?

M.A. English, Concentration: Creative Writing, University of South Alabama,  
2003, Thesis: *Mosaic: The Shaping of a Poet, Woman, Daughter*, Advisor: Dr. Sue Walker

B.A. English, University of South Alabama, 2001

## Publications

*Articles/Chapters under Review*

"Reading the Monstrous Body: The Commodification of Frankenstein, A Beloved and Grotesque American Icon," *Journal of American Culture*, 2007.

"Living In-Between: Stories of a Southern Girlhood," *The Violence of Class* ed. Amy Robillard. (2007), collection under review Boynton/Cook.

## Conference Presentations

"Bodily (Un)Realities: Ethics and Medical Discourse(s)", Conference on College Composition and Communication, New Orleans, Louisiana, April 2008.

"Preventative Rhetorics of Fear: The Female Body as Civic Discourse,"  
Feminism(s) and Rhetoric(s), Little Rock, Arkansas, October 4, 2007.

“Women’s Bodies as Medical Discourse: A Rhetorical Analysis of Women’s Healthcare Websites,” Graduate Research Network, Computers and Writing, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan, May 17, 2007.

“Won’t You Be My Digital Neighbor?: Narratives of Preference on last.fm and Vox,” Computers and Writing, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan, May 19, 2007.

“Uncanny Fascination and Horror: Reading the Monstrous Body in Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein or the Modern Prometheus*,” American Culture/Popular Culture Association Conference, Boston, MA, April 6, 2007.

“Friending and Un-Friending You: Negotiating Audience on/of/through Social Network Sites,” Great Plains Alliance for Computers and Writing, Minnesota State University, Mankato, Minnesota, November 11, 2006.

“Blogging’s Identity Crisis: Digital Meta-genre and Narrative Space,” Thomas R. Watson Conference, University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky, October 5, 2006.

“The Economics of Information: Authorship and Genre in the Digital Age,” Graduate Research Network, Computers and Writing, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, May 25, 2006.

“What’s Blog Got to Do With It?: Identity in the Writing Classroom,” Computers and Writing, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, May 27, 2006.

“Digital Villages: Responsibility and Authorship in the Blogosphere,” English Graduate Organization, Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL, April 2, 2005.

“See Dick and Jane Chat: Multiple Literacies and the Digital Classroom,” M-MLA, St. Louis, MO, November 6, 2004.

### **Workshop Presentations**

“The What, Why, When and How of Blogging,” Illinois State University, October 2007.

“The Rhetoric of Design: Why User Interfaces Matter,” Colloquium on Teaching with Technology, Faulkner State Community College, September, 2007.

“Strategies for the Computer Classroom,” Teacher Training and Orientation, Illinois State University, August, 2007.

“Digital Publishing: Creative Writing and the Web,” Workshop for *Euphemism*, The Student Literary Journal, Illinois State University, November, 2006.

“Beyond Word Processing: Teaching and Researching New Media,” Dr. Julie Jung’s Introduction to Composing Processes Seminar, October, 2006.

“Technologies, Possibilities and Conflicts: Using Technology in the Composition Classroom,” Professional Development Event, Illinois State University, September 2006.

### **Website Production Experience**

Technology Liaison, FOCUS (Faculty Opportunities for Creating Civic and Community Understanding Among Students), Summer Internship working with the 2006 FOCUS Fellows to Design and Create FOCUS Modules on Civic and Community Engagement, Responsibilities: Web Programming, Editing, Design ([http://www.focus.ilstu.edu/module\\_series](http://www.focus.ilstu.edu/module_series)).

A Brief Guide to Integrating Technology in the Writing Classroom (<http://www.english.ilstu.edu/dcfitzg/tech/guide/index.html>), Designed for graduate student teaching assistants and other instructors who seek ways to integrate technology into their course. The site began as a seminar project in a graduate course and has since been used during Teacher Training and Orientation.

Blogging and Composition Research, Currents Past and Present (<http://www.english.ilstu.edu/dcfitzg/blogcomp>), Created for a Professional Development Event focusing on composition research, the site is intended to complement the presentations and provide information for those who were unable to attend the physical meeting.

Teaching Website: (<http://www.english.ilstu.edu/dcfitzg>), The main index to my various course websites.

### **Writing Program Administration**

Writing Program Assistant, Writing Program Leadership Team, Illinois State University, Spring 2006-Spring 2008. Responsibilities: Mentoring graduate student teaching assistants, facilitating professional development events, conferences and workshops

English 101 Curriculum Task Force, Illinois State University, 2006-2007. Responsibilities: Examining and revising the English 101 Curriculum

*Co-edited Instructional Materials*

Fitzgerald, Devon C, and Marie E. Moeller, eds. *English 101/101.10 Course Guide*, Champaign, Illinois: Stipes, 2007. (Each section of 101/101.10 uses the *Course Guide* as its main textbook)

Fitzgerald, Devon C. and Marie E. Moeller, eds. *Instructor's Manual for Teachers of Composition*. Bloomington, Illinois: In-house: 2007. (Distributed to each instructor of English 101/101.10. 145, 145.13.)

## Teaching Experience

*Illinois State University, Department of English*

*Graduate Student Teaching Assistant, August 2003-present*

- English 289.22: Multimedia Writing Workshop: Digital Storytelling (Spring 2008)
- English 249: Introduction to Technical Writing: Process, Production, Delivery (Fall 2007)
- English 145.13: Business and Government Writing: Document Design and Workplace Writing (Spring 2007)
- English 246: Advanced Exposition: Multimodal Narrative (Fall 2006)
- English 246: Advanced Exposition: Technology, the Machine and Writing Culture (Spring 2006)
- English 246: Advanced Exposition: Digital Rhetoric (Fall 2005)
- English 145: Writing in the Academic Disciplines (Spring 2005)
- English 101: Language and Composition I: Reading and Writing Cultural Texts (Fall 2003-2005)

*Heartland Community College, Department of Humanities and Fine Arts*  
*Adjunct, Fall 2005*

- English 102: Composition II: Workplace Writing (Fall 2005)

*University of South Alabama, Department of English*

*Graduate Student Teaching Assistant, Fall 2001-Summer 2003*

- English 102: Composition II (Summer 2003)
- English 237: Literature and Gender (Spring 2003)
- English 101: Composition I (Fall 2001-Summer 2003)

## Departmental Service

Professional Growth Committee, Illinois State University 2004-2005.

Co-Chair of The New Directions in English Studies Conference 2007

Theme: "Location, Locations, Localities: Spatial Metaphors and English Studies Research," Bone Student Center, Normal, Illinois, March, 2007.

Co-Chair of The Ewing Symposium 2006 Theme: "Voices on the Verge: Innovative Pedagogy in Action," Ewing Cultural Center, Normal, Illinois, May 2006.

## **Professional Memberships**

Modern Language Association  
National Council of Teachers of English  
Association of Teachers of Technical Writing  
Popular Culture/American Culture Association  
TechRhet

## **References**

Dr. James Kalmbach, Professor, Associate Chair, Illinois State University (309) 438-7648,  
kalmbach@ilstu.edu

Dr. Lee Brasseur, Professor, Illinois State University (309) 438-7907, lbrasseu@ilstu.edu

Dr. Julie Jung, Associate Professor, Illinois State University (309) 438-7590

Dr. Amy Robillard, Assistant Professor, Illinois State University (309) 438-7970

Dr. Bob Broad, Director Writing Program, Illinois State University (309) 438-7704 rlbroad@ilstu.edu