

ERICA L. DURIAN

*Writing Instructor and
Ambassador for Human
Intelligence*

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State College, PA

[LinkedIn](#) | [Academia.edu](#)

[Teaching Portfolio](#)

I believe in and actively promote our power as the one and only, uniquely human race to explore our universe, pursue knowledge, think critically, seek truth, analyze situations, apply evidence, make decisions, select strategies, use both ethics and logic, design to improve, care about others, and create a better world.

When we stop using any of these basic skills, we stop being human.

If I don't teach my students to value and make their best efforts to use these skills, then I directly contribute to the decline of humankind.

Therefore, as an educator, it is essential that I am a proud Ambassador for Human Intelligence.

*Why am I an
Ambassador for
Human Intelligence?*



Teaching Experience

LECTURER | 2019-PRESENT

Program in Writing and Rhetoric, Department of English

The Pennsylvania State University | University Park, PA; World Campus

Significant Courses: Rhetoric and Composition, Business Writing, Technical Writing, Writing in Social Sciences

LECTURER | 2017-2018

Program in Writing and Communication

Rice University | Houston, TX

Significant Courses: Developmental Level Writing, First-Year Writing Intensive Seminar

LECTURER | 2017-2018

Department of English

University of Houston-Downtown | Houston, TX

Significant Courses: Composition I, Composition II

INSTRUCTOR | 2016-2017

Department of English and World Languages

Joliet Junior College | Joliet, IL; Romeoville, IL

Significant Courses: Rhetoric I, Rhetoric II

INSTRUCTOR | 2016-2017

Department of Communication

Moraine Valley Community College | Palos Hills, IL; Tinley Park, IL

Significant Courses: Composition I, Composition II

LECTURER | 2016

Department of English

North Central College | Naperville, IL

Significant Courses: First-Year Writing

FIRST-YEAR COMPOSITION INSTRUCTOR | 2014-2016

Department of English

Northern Illinois University | DeKalb, IL

Significant Courses: Rhetoric & Composition I, Rhetoric & Composition II, Research Writing in the Domains, Writing Across the Curriculum

Certificates and Certifications

IRB CITI TRAINING | DECEMBER 2024

The Pennsylvania State University

- Social and Behavioral Human Subjects Research (IRB) Course | December 2024
- Research in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools – SBR | December 2024

PROVOST ENDORSEMENTS

The Pennsylvania State University

- Inclusive and Equitable Teaching | May 2024
- Teaching Online Program (TOP) “Lion Leader” | March 2024
- Teaching Online Program (TOP) Level 3
- Teaching Online Program (TOP) Level 2
- Teaching Online Program (TOP) Level 1

FROM THE SCHREYER INSTITUTE FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

The Pennsylvania State University

- Targeted Teaching Transformation (T3) Program | May 2024 – August 2024
 - Teach to Reach with Universal Design for Learning | April 2024
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Education

MASTER OF ARTS | MAY 2016

English Literature and Rhetoric/Composition

Northern Illinois University | DeKalb, IL

BACHELOR OF ARTS | DECEMBER 2010

Linguistics

The Ohio State University | Columbus, OH

Continuing Education and Faculty Development

THROUGH THE SCHREYER INSTITUTE FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

The Pennsylvania State University

- Teaching and Assessing with Artificial Intelligence (AI) | February 2025
- Talking about Teaching: Talking about Academic Integrity | February 2025

- Talking about Teaching: Talking about Microaggressions | January 2025
- Talking about Teaching: Talking about Neurodiverse Students | January 2025
- Teaching in the Age of AI - Introductory Workshop | January 2025
- Accessibility & Belonging: Course Documents | October 2024
- Introduction to Active Learning | September 2024
- Assessing Student Learning | August 2024
- Setting the Tone for an Inclusive Learning Environment: From Syllabus Design to the First Day of Class | August 2024
- Teaching in an Era of Divisive Topics | August 2024
- Cultivating Students' Sense of Belonging | August 2024
- Teach to Reach with Universal Design for Learning | April 2024
- Preparing to Teach a Summer Course Workshop | April 2024
- Accessible Syllabus Templates Workshop | March 2023
- Inclusive Teaching Practices Workshop | March 2023

THROUGH PENN STATE'S WORLD CAMPUS FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

The Pennsylvania State University

- Gamification in Online Teaching and Learning | April 2025
- Excellence in Academic Advising: Excellence in Academic Advising: Under-Resourced Students II | January 2025
- Excellence in Academic Advising: Excellence in Academic Advising: Under-Resourced Students | January 2025
- Empowering Conversations: Interacting with Student Supporters | November 2024
- Canvas Hands On | August 2024
- Assessment of Online Learners | June 2024
- Integrating Open Educational Resources in Your Course | June 2024
- Online Course Design | May 2024
- Essentials of Online Teaching | April 2024
- Student Support and Advocacy in Online Learning | March 2024
- Accessible Online Course Authoring | March 2024
- Supporting Accommodations for Online Learners | March 2024
- Teaching the Adult Learner | March 2024
- Serving the Military and Veteran Student | March 2024
- Universal Design for Learning | March 2024
- Excellence in Academic Advising | March 2024
- Excellence in Academic Advising: Career Advising | March 2024

Professional Development

INTERDEPARTMENTAL DISCUSSION GROUPS FOR GENED INSTRUCTORS AT PENN STATE

- GenEd Curiosity and Collaboration Colloquium | February 2025
 - *Seeing Differently: A Conversation about Spatial Thinking across the Disciplines*
- General Education Faculty Book Club | February 2025
 - *Curious Minds: The Power of Connection* by Perry Zurn and Dani S. Bassett

HOSTED BY SCHREYER INSTITUTE FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

The Pennsylvania State University

- Transforming the Teaching and Learning Environment Virtual Conference | 03 February 2025 – 14 - February 2025
 - Hosted by The Dutton Institute for Teaching and Learning Excellence, The Schreyer Institute for Teaching Excellence, The World Campus, and Teaching and Learning with Technology
- Equity-Minded Syllabi: Strategies for Fostering Growth Mindset & Belonging | November 2024
 - Presentation by Mary Murphy, Eliot Johnson, Cobi Michael, Roderick Lee, and Chris Gamrat
- Targeted Teaching Transformation (T3) Program | May 2024 – August 2024
 - Revised English 202C: Technical Writing
- Schreyer Institute Summer Read | June-July 2024
 - *The Spark of Learning* by Sara Rose Cavanagh
- Schreyer Conference 2024 | March 2024
 - Keynote Speaker Sara Rose Cavanagh
- “Beyond Content: Teaching for Civic Engagement and Participation” | March 2024
 - Presentation by Bryan Dewsbury
- Inclusive and Equitable Teaching | May 2024
 - Developed materials for writing courses with focus on English 202D: Business Writing
- Teach to Reach with Universal Design for Learning | April 2024
 - Developed UDL materials for English 202D: Business Writing

PRESENTED BY TEACHING WITH TECHNOLOGY AT PENN STATE

The Pennsylvania State University

- ePortfolios | October 2024
- Learning Tool Exploration: Tools for Student Engagement | October 2024
- Learning Tool Exploration: AI Tools for Teaching and Learning | September 2024
- Prep and Practice: Preparing Your Penn State Syllabus | August 2024

COMPLETED THROUGH THE PROGRAM IN WRITING AND RHETORIC AT PENN STATE

The Pennsylvania State University

- Supervised Experience in Teaching Writing in Social Sciences | Spring 2025
 - Teaching with Technology | Fall 2024
 - Supervised Experience in Teaching Technical Writing | Spring 2022
 - Supervised Experience in Teaching Business Writing | Fall 2022
 - Supervised Experience in Teaching Online | Spring 2021
 - Supervised Experience in College Teaching | Fall 2019-Spring 2020
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Service, Outreach, Publications, Presentations, and Research

PEER REVIEW OF TEXTBOOK | SEPTEMBER 2024 – OCTOBER 2024

Review of *The New Harbrace Guide: Genres for Composing*

Completed for Cengage Learning

TEACHING FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE | FALL 2024 (UNTIL SPRING 2026)

College of Liberal Arts

The Pennsylvania State University

GRADE APPEAL COMMITTEE | MARCH 2023

Program in Writing and Rhetoric

The Pennsylvania State University

RESEARCHED BY U(GRADS) | 2017-2021

Journal for FY Comp Research Papers

Founder, Editor-in-Chief

THE RHETOR'S AUDIENCE IS ALSO A FICTION | 2016

A Unified Theory of Rhetorical Situation and a Universal Example

MA Thesis, Northern Illinois University

PRODUCTIVITY OF /ɪ/ - /æ/ - /ʌ/ STEM CHANGE VERBS | 2015

Are We Drifting Further from Our German Roots?

Midwestern Conference on Language, Literature, and Media (MCLLM) 23

RESEARCH ANALYST AND CONSULTANT FOR CHICAGO DIALECT PROJECT | 2013-2018

Durian Linguistics Lab

RESEARCH INTERN TO PH.D. STUDENT FOR CENTRAL OHIO DIALECT PROJECT | 2009-2010

Department of Linguistics

The Ohio State University

Tutoring Experience

WRITING TUTOR | 2018-2021

Pearson Smarthinking Online Writing Lab

Asynchronous Essay/Document Review

Live Whiteboard Tutoring

PRIVATE TUTOR | 2002-PRESENT

In-Person and/or Virtual Sessions

Writing, Linguistics, Foreign Language, Mathematics

Professional Memberships and Organizations

PEDAGOGY

National Council of Teachers of English | 2015-Present

SCHOLARSHIP

Association of Literary Scholars, Critics, And Writers | 2015-Present

Rhetoric Society of America | 2015-Present

Modern Language Association | 2014-Present