

ALANNA M. BREEN

Department of Languages, Literature and Cultures
University of South Carolina
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EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin

Ph.D. Spanish Literature, May 2010

Dissertation: "Resistance and Remembrance: 21st Century Spain Reengaging 20th Century Trauma."

Middlebury College

M.A. Spanish, May 2002

College of the Holy Cross

B.A. English and Spanish. Cum Laude, May, 2000

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Fall 2017-Present

Senior Instructor, Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, University of South Carolina

August 2011- May 2017

Instructor, DLLC, University of South Carolina

Summer 2014

Program Director, Costa Rica Study Abroad

Summer 2013

Coordinator and Instructor, Portuguese Language Institute at UofSC

Fall 2010

Adjunct Faculty, Huston-Tillotson University

2010-2011

Faculty, Texas Intensive English Project

PUBLICATIONS

Breen, Alanna M. and Christine Guedri Giacalone. "Unplugging to Reconnect: Using Oral Proficiencies to Strengthen Interpersonal Communication Skills." *Hispania* 102.2 (June 2019): 165-169.

Breen, Alanna M. "Teaching Culture in Portuguese Class." *La Vela. Newsletter of AATSP in SC.* (October 2016).

AWARDS AND HONORS

Spring 2020 Undergraduate Teacher of the Year in Arts and Humanities.

Fall 2014 Outstanding Professor. (*Nominated by Delta Zeta Sorority.*)

Spring 2014 Professional Development Award. Funds used for language immersion with five weeks spent in Portugal and two in Spain.

Fall 2011 Excellence in Teaching (Portuguese). Selected based on a nomination by a member of the Mortar Board Honor Society as the most effective professor in undergrad career.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA (Full-Time Faculty, 2011-present)

DMSB700F and 703F, "Language Training in International Business I and II." Accelerated Portuguese courses for MBA students. 2nd -5th semester covered in 20 weeks. Proficiency enhanced through study of basic through advanced grammar, culture; business topics, essays, and presentations.

SCHC390. Project Seminar to prepare research plan for Honors Thesis.

SCHC499. Honors Thesis. "The Business of Saving Lives: EMS in the US & Spain."

CPLT 150, “Values and Ethics in Literature.” Online course based on recorded faculty lectures.

SPAN 305, “Working with Hispanic Clients.” Experiential learning course with 15 hours of volunteer work using language beyond the classroom. Focus on improving cultural competency and on enhancing fluency through documentaries, readings and discussions.

SPAN 121, “Honors Elementary Spanish.” Created semester-long discussion board activity themed on Central America and immigration requiring weekly responses to small research tasks.

SPAN 109, “Basic First Semester Spanish.”

SPAN 121, “Elementary Spanish.”

SPAN 122, “Basic Proficiency in Spanish.”

SPAN 350, “Spanish Language Study Abroad.”

PORT 121, “Elementary Portuguese.”

PORT 122, “Basic Proficiency in Portuguese.”

PORT 201, “Intermediate Portuguese I.”

PORT 202, “Intermediate Portuguese II.”

PORT130, “Accelerated Basic Proficiency.” Portuguese Language Institute. (1st & 2nd Semester)

PORT 299, “Accelerated Portuguese for Speakers of Spanish.” (1st, 2nd & 3rd Semester)

TEXAS INTENSIVE ENGLISH PROGRAM, AUSTIN, TEXAS (Faculty, 2010-2011)

Intermediate-Low English for ELL Learners: “Listening, Speaking and Grammar.”

HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY, AUSTIN, TEXAS (Adjunct Faculty, fall 2010)

Beginning First Semester Spanish.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN (Graduate Teaching Assistant, 2003-2010)

First Semester Spanish. Four day a week language class, communicative teaching.

Second Semester Spanish. Four day a week language class taught in communicative teaching.

Accelerated First Year Spanish. First & second semester, five days a week.

Third Semester Spanish. Three day a week language course with a focus on subjunctive.

Fourth Semester Spanish. Focus on culture, with film component as well as grammar.

SPANISH MEDUCATION, AUSTIN, TEXAS (Teacher, 2008-2009)

Second Semester Spanish for Health Professionals.

Third Semester Spanish for Health Professionals.

INCUBATOR FOR TEACHING INNOVATION, NOMINATED PARTICIPATION

2019 Gamecock Teaching Days. Featured Faculty Member for SPAN305. October 3.

2019 CAT Corner 3. “Strategies for Better Communication in the Classroom” Interviewed by Ronda Sanders. Published March 6.

2019 INCUBATE Design Challenge. 36 faculty members proposed ideas for an event. March 1.

INVITED TALKS

2017 River Bluff High School. 2nd International Conference. Co-presenters: Patricia Davis and three students of Portuguese. “Studying Business and Languages at UofSC.” February 7.

2016 U.S. Attorney’s Office District of South Carolina. Hispanic Heritage Month. “UofSC and the Hispanic Community: Internships with Student Action with Farmworkers and Other Organizations.” September 15.

2016 University of South Carolina. Academic Conversations. Promoting language programs. “Welcome to Portugal, Spain, and Costa Rica.” February 18.

2016 River Bluff High School. 1st International Conference. “UofSC and the World.” February 2.

2010 Texas Lutheran University. Alpha Mu Gamma Induction Speech. “Self-Awareness and Communication: Language Learners as Peacemakers.” April 18.

PEDAGOGICAL PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 “Culture: Teaching to the Test vs. Teaching for Life.” FLANC. “Hindsight is FLANC 2020.” Winston-Salem, NC. October 9-10. *Accepted*.
- 2020 “Better Together: Let’s collaborate for classes at the college level!” Co-presenters: Erin Carlson and Rocio Zalba. FLANC. “Hindsight is FLANC 2020.” Winston-Salem, NC. October 9-10. *Accepted*.
- 2019 “Using L1 Literacies an in L2 Classroom to Grow Empathy in Students.” Co-presenters: Erin Carlson and Stephanie Schenck. Round Table Discussion. 69th Annual Literacy Research Association Meeting. Tampa, FL. December 4-7.
- 2018 “Choose Your Own Proficiencies! How (and Why) to Use a Peer-to-Peer Task-Based Oral Activity in Any Class and at Any Level.” SCFLTA. “Choose your Own Adventure. Lead with Languages.” Lexington, SC. February 3.
- 2018 “Lead with Languages, Follow with Cultures: Promoting Discoveries by Limiting Teaching.” SCFLTA. “Choose your Own Adventure. Lead with Languages.” Lexington, SC. February 3.
- 2018 “Portuguese for Spanish Speakers. Creating an Accelerated, Culture(s) Focused Language Course.” SCFLTA. “Choose your Own Adventure. Lead with Languages.” Lexington, SC. February 3.
- 2017 “Using ‘Proficiencies’ in the Language Classroom.” AATSP of the Carolinas Fall Conference. “Learn, Share and Flourish.” Winthrop University. November 4.
- 2017 “Discovering Cultures Rather than ‘Teaching’ Culture.” AATSP of the Carolinas Fall Conference. “Learn, Share and Flourish.” Winthrop University. November 4.
- 2017 “Portuguese for Spanish Speakers. Making the Course.” AATSP of the Carolinas Fall Conference. “Learn, Share and Flourish.” Winthrop University. November 4.
- 2016 “Unplugging the Classroom to Reconnect: Using Oral Proficiencies.” Co-Presented with Christine Giacalone. 2016 ACTFL Annual Convention and World Languages Expo: “IMPACTFL.” Boston, MA. November 18-20.
- 2013 “Why So Blue? The Role of First Language Reflection in Portuguese As a Foreign Language.” NeMLA 2013, 44th Annual Convention. Boston, MA. March 21-23.

LITERARY PRESENTATIONS

- 2012 “The Prison Within: Witnessing, Mourning and Writing Trauma.” SAMLA 84 Annual Conference. “Text as Memoir: Tales of Travel, Immigration and Exile.” Durham, NC. November 9-11.
- 2009 “Now That You Mention It: Witnessing and Postmemory in *El lápiz del carpintero* and *Autobiografía del General Franco*.” 2nd International Conference. “‘Spanishness’ in the Spanish Novel and Cinema of the 20th-21st Century.” University of North Texas: May 1-2.
- 2009 “Spain’s Cultural Postmemory: Remembrance as an Individual and Collective Endeavor.” ACLA 2009 Annual Meeting. “Global Languages, Local Cultures.” Harvard University. March 26-29.
- 2008 “*La voz dormida*: Exiling Tragic Memory for Nostalgic Postmemory?” 17th Annual Graduate Student Colloquium on Spanish and Lusophone Literature and Linguistics. “New Geographies and Localities in Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Literatures and Linguistics.” University of Texas at Austin. November 7-8.
- 2008 “Fiction Seeking Truth: Memory and History in 21st Century Spain.” 2nd International Conference. “‘Spanishness’ in the Spanish Novel and Cinema of the 20th-21st Century.” University of North Texas. March 14-15.
- 2007 “His-Story or History? Engaging the Issue of Fact vs. Fiction in Historical Memory.” 4th Annual Graduate Comparative Literature Conference. “Un(bound): The Humanities in Transition.” University of Texas at Austin. October 5-6.

- 2007 “Resistance and Remembrance: *Soldados de Salamina*.” 16th Annual Graduate Student Colloquium. “Conflicts and Encounters: Languages and Literatures in Contact.” University of Texas at Austin. March 23-24.
- 2005 “El papel de los títulos en *Don Quixote*.” 15th Annual Graduate Student Colloquium on Spanish and Lusophone Literature and Linguistics. University of Texas at Austin. April 2.
- 2004 “Manipulando el tiempo: Carpentier y Borges.” 14th Annual Graduate Student Colloquium on Spanish and Lusophone Literature and Linguistics. University of Texas at Austin. April 10.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- Spring 2020 Faculty Committee. Teaching Development Awards.
- 2018-2020 Faculty Advisor. Amigos del Buen Samaritano. Student group for volunteer-work.
- 2017-2020 Faculty Senator. Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures.
- Summer 2019 Search Committee. Arabic Instructor.
- Spring 2019 Honors Thesis Second Reader. “Analyzing Institutional Distance Theory: The Case Study of Citibank Brazil.”
- 2018 FeriaSCSC Judge. Assessed high school students for Spanish levels. April 28.
- 2011-2017 Bate Papo Coordinator. Advertised and led Portuguese conversation group.
- Spring 2016 Search Committee. Portuguese Instructor.
- 2011-2013 Mentor. Assisted new hires and graduate assistants in Spanish and Portuguese.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)
 American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP)
 South Carolina Foreign Language Teachers’ Association (SCFLTA)
 Foreign Language Association of North Carolina (FLANC)
 Literacy Research Association (LRA)

LANGUAGES

English, native speaker
 Spanish, near-native fluency
 Portuguese, near-native fluency
 German, proficient (Zertificat Deutsch, 2005)