

Kathleen Rose Dillon
Curriculum Vitae

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Education

Ph.D. in English: Composition & Rhetoric, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, expected 2025

M.A. in English (on the 'Teaching Track'), Loyola University Chicago, 2015

B.A. in English, with a minor in Politics & Government, North Park University, 2011

Employment

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Department of English, Lincoln, NE

Graduate Teaching Assistant

August 2020 – present

- Teaches two sections of English 151: Writing & Argument

Loyola University Chicago, Achieving College Excellence (ACE), TRIO SSS, Chicago, IL

Senior Academic Advisor/Counselor & Program Coordinator

February 2016 – August 2020

- Served as ACE's Senior Academic Advisor/Counselor, training and supervising the Advising team while also personally advising a caseload of about 100 ACE Scholars, who are the first in their family to go to college, have high financial need, and/or a documented disability, on course selection, major discernment, graduate school and career discernment and preparation, study skills and strategies, time management, civic engagement, self-advocacy, college-level writing, and on general academic, personal, and professional development
- Developed and implemented a week-long Summer Transition Program for incoming first-year students, which focuses on making connections within the cohort and with campus partners, identity development, financial literacy, and overall college readiness
- Taught two sections of the college-readiness course, UNIV 101, each fall for first-semester ACE Scholars, as well as a multitude of workshops ranging from writing at the college level to demystifying Chicago elections to how to file your taxes
- Hosted bi-weekly discussion group – Ramblers Advocating for Global Equity (RAGE), which focused on discussing the intersections between environmental degradation, capitalism, the war economy, racism, and sexism, and how we can take action to create a better world
- Trained and supervised a team of Peer Mentors, through one-on-one and monthly staff meetings, monitoring mentors' progress in coaching mentees and planning community enrichment activities
- Supervised the Graduate Assistant Tutoring Coordinator as well as the ACE Tutoring program and its team of Tutor-Mentors, developing trainings and assisting in pairing tutors with Scholars
- Collected & managed data for tracking the progress of students in the program to submit to the Department of Education, writing the Advising, Mentor, & Tutoring portions of the grant for our 2020 competition
- Received the *Rising Star Award*, given to members of Student Academic Services (SAS) who go above and beyond what is expected of an employee within their first three years at the university, as well as the *Impact Award*, which honors members of SAS who have a demonstrable impact on the lives of students and who go above and beyond in supporting students & their goals; nominated for university-wide *Rising Star* and *Student Service* awards
- Co-Chair of Student Academic Services (SAS) Divisional Standards Committee

Heartland Café**Fall 2015-Fall 2018***Political Coordinator*

- Planned, organized, and hosted a monthly community organizing & civic engagement forum, *First Mondays*
- Collaborated with *Network 49*, the neighborhood Independent Political Organization, on voter registration, down ballot reviews, and general civic engagement initiatives
- Convened forums at which elected officials and candidates for public office may speak to and be questioned by their constituents

North Park University, Chicago, IL**Fall 2015***Adjunct Instructor*

- Taught a Fundamentals of Composition course to students under-prepared for college-level writing

College of Lake County, Chicago, IL**Fall 2015***Adjunct Instructor*

- Taught Composition, an introductory, college-level writing course, to students ages 17-65

Loyola University Chicago, Achieving College Excellence (ACE), TRIO SSS, Chicago, IL**August 2014 to August 2015***Graduate Assistant Tutoring Coordinator*

- Tutored and mentored ACE Scholars in writing skills across the curriculum
- Recruited, trained, supervised, and evaluated team of undergraduate tutors; led meetings designed to foster their professional development; managed online scheduling platform
- Designed and taught a variety of workshops on topics such as meditation, writing, and adult skills
- Recipient of *Curis Apostolica Person for the Institution*, awarded to employees who exhibit great devotion to and care for their department

The People's Church, Ludington, MI**Fall 2013 to July 2014***Religious Education Teacher*

- Prepared weekly stories, lessons, and activities which educated children 8-12 on global, philosophic, and religious traditions

Professional Education Services Group, LLC, Mason County, MI**Fall 2011 to Spring 2014***Substitute Teacher & Title 1 Instructional Aide*

- Full-time substitute for the West Shore ESD tri-county school district, grades pre-K through 12
- Served as the Scottville Upper Elementary English Language Arts Title 1 Paraprofessional for 4th graders, primarily assisting students that were deemed 'at-risk' due to educational, economic, or emotional factors; hosted reading groups and directed Reader's Theater productions; provided and tracked the progress of subject tutoring
- Served as an Instructional Aide at Scottville Elementary for two Kindergarten teachers, helping with classroom functions and assisting students who needed intense practice and specific remediation to achieve Kindergarten Benchmarks (MI State Goals) in one or more areas of study

West Shore Community College: STARS Center, Scottville, MI**2011 to 2013***Professional Tutor*

- Met two days a week to tutor two-three students in Composition, English Literature, Speech, Sociology, Psychology, and Environmental Science

North Park University, Chicago, IL**2009 to 2011***Writing & Peer Academic Advisor*

- Worked at the Writing Center, particularly with ESL students and student athletes

- Served as a Peer Advisor teaching assistant for sections of a university humanities course, tutoring the students and leading enrichment workshops

Research and Teaching Interests

I have spent the past ten years working with or supervising students from the pre-kindergarten to doctoral-level. With each student, my main focus is to show through my words and actions that they are important and respected. I take an active interest in the values, beliefs, questions, fears, goals, and wishes of each student. Especially with college first-years, I seek to help them discern their values, which, as I say, are the bedrock on which all their big life choices can be built. It is through discerning our values that we can discover not only what we believe and why but also, and more importantly, how we are going to action on our beliefs. I seek to help each student with whom I work better understand how they can act to protect and enrich their communities. I also seek to facilitate meaningful ways for them to connect to and strengthen their identities. As for my own scholarship, I am particularly interested in understanding the ways in which rhetoric is used to frame political conversations and movements, particularly how dualistic, simplistic, and adversarial rhetoric dilutes and debases political discourse and what we believe is possible for the future. I am also extremely interested in educational policy and how educators, especially when utilizing and encouraging dialectical thinking, can foster civic engagement and systematic change.

Presentations & Work Submitted

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| 2019 | “Advising to Adulthood: Encouraging Self-Efficacy and Advocacy in UNIV 101” at Loyola University Chicago UNIV Curriculum Conference |
| 2019 | “Advising to Adulthood: Encouraging Self-Efficacy and Advocacy in College Students” at the 45 th Annual Illinois TRIO Professional Conference |
| 2018 | Lead author and Steering Committee Chair of the Rogers Park Independent Political Organization <i>Network 49</i> 's Candidate Endorsement By-Laws and various candidate questionnaires |
| 2017 | “Infusing Expressive (and Ignatian) Pedagogical Practices into TRIO SSS Academic Advising” at the 42 nd Annual Educational Opportunity Association (EOA) Professional Conference |

Community Involvement

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| 2019 – 2020 | Member of <i>Rogers Park for Bernie</i> and Bernie Sanders 2020 Presidential campaign volunteer |
| 2018 – 2020 | Member of <i>Socialist Alternative</i> , a national organization fighting in our workplaces, communities, and campuses against the exploitation and injustices working people face daily |
| 2017 – 2020 | Steering Committee member of <i>Network 49</i> , Rogers Park's independent, political organization |
| 2017 – 2020 | Co-Chair of the <i>Network 49</i> Politics Committee, running meetings, community canvasses, voter registration drives, grassroots campaigns, civic engagement workshops, and the like |
| 2018 – 2019 | Precinct and Area Captain for Maria Hadden's successful 49 th Ward Aldermanic Campaign |
| 2016 – 2018 | Host of <i>First Mondays</i> , a monthly political and community organizing meeting at the Heartland Café, at which community members, organizations, politicians, and activists engage in solution-oriented discourse |
| 2015 – 2016 | Bernie Sanders 2016 Presidential campaign volunteer; host of Rogers Park fundraiser & GOTV |

Awards & Professional Memberships

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| 2016 – 2020 | Illinois TRIO Member, 44 th & 45 th Annual Illinois TRIO Professional Conference Co-Chair, and 2020 Illinois TRIO Legislation & Education Committee Chair |
| 2016 – 2020 | Member of the Educational Opportunity Association (EOA), TRIO's Midwest association |
| 2016 – 2020 | Member of COE, TRIO's national association, participating annually in a policy seminar and lobbying campaign in Washington, D.C. |
| 2019 | <i>Impact Award</i> for Student Academic Services employee who has had a demonstrable impact on the lives of students and who goes above and beyond in supporting students & their goals |

2017	<i>Rising Star Award</i> for work above and beyond that expected for a Student Academic Services professional within their first three years at Loyola University Chicago
2015	<i>Curis Apostolica Person for the Institution Award</i> for work with Loyola University Chicago's Achieving College Excellence (ACE) program
2012	American Merchant Mariner
2010	<i>Louis Kokoris Memorial Scholarship</i> for Outstanding Political Science Students
2010	Pi Sigma Alpha, National Political Science Honor Society
2010	Sigma Tau Delta, International English Honor Society
2008	Phi Theta Kappa, International Honor Society of Two-Year Colleges

Extracurricular Activities

2017- 2019	Trumpeter in Lakeside Pride's concert & marching bands, a LGBTQIA+ non-profit that pushes for equity and inclusivity in Chicago, IL
2014	Cast member of three-woman show, <i>Fighting Words</i> , at AM Galleries, Ludington, MI
2013-2014	Sister Jane in <i>Doubt: A Parable</i> and Pia in <i>Crime on Goat Island</i> at West Shore Community College, Scottville, MI
2012-2014	Trumpeter in West Shore Community College's Wind Symphony, Chamber Winds, Jazz Band, and Brass Band groups, Scottville, MI
2012	Rona in <i>25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee</i> , Ramsdell Theater, Manistee, MI
2011-2013	Trumpeter in Salt City Dixieland Jazz Band, Manistee, MI
2010-2011	Founding member of North Park University's Social Justice & Activism organization
2009-2011	Nation/World Editor for the North Park University Press
2009-2011	Secretary for and member of North Park University's <i>Queers & Allies</i>
2009	Volunteer for week-long service trip in the Appalachian mountain range, working on home repairs, tutoring in schools, partnering with local non-profits, and meeting with local activists
2008-2011	Trumpeter in North Park University's Jazz Band, Concert Band, and Orchestra
2008-2010	Alto singer in North Park University's Gospel Choir
2007-2008	Regular cast member for West Shore Community College's Theater; cast as Hanna in <i>A Shayna Maidel</i> , Mary Jane in <i>Big River</i> , and Cordelia in <i>Queen Lear: A Celtic Tragedy</i>