## Current Position

## Associate Professor, Department of English, Western Kentucky University

## Areas of Specialization: U.S. Women’s Popular Culture 1850-1950, Feminist Theory, Social Theory

## Administrative Appointments

## Program Director, Gender & Women’s Studies, Diversity & Community Studies, WKU 2015-2018

## Education

**Ph.D., English, University of Kentucky** 2006

Dissertation: “Who Cares? Women’s Work in American Women’s Fiction and Film”

Committee: Virginia Blum, Chair (U of Ky), Dana D. Nelson (Vanderbilt), Ellen Rosenman (U of Ky), Karen Tice (U of Ky), Lucy Fischer (Pitt)

* Graduate Certificate in Women’s Studies
* Graduate Certificate in Social Theory

**M.A., English, University of Central Florida** 1996

*Thesis*: “Bringing the ‘Goods’ Together”: Gertrude Stein, Luce Irigaray, and *l’écriture féminine*”

**B.A., English, University of Central Florida** 1991

## Fellowships, Honors, and Awards

Class of 2020 Award for Engagement, M.A.S.T.E.R. Plan, Housing & Residence Life, WKU 2016

Faculty Award for Teaching, University College, Western Kentucky University 2014

Faculty Award for Teaching, University College, Western Kentucky University 2010

Catherine Coogan Ward Feminist Action Award, Women’s Studies, Western Kentucky U 2010

Distinguished Visiting Faculty Award, Graduate School, University of Kentucky 2006

Ellershaw Award for Outstanding Ph.D. Candidate, Dept. of English, U of Kentucky 2004

Outstanding Teaching Assistant in Literature,Dept. of English, University of Kentucky 2003

Excellent Writing Program Instructor, Dept. of English, University of Kentucky 2000

Hagin Fellowship,Dept. of English, University of Kentucky 1998-1999

Teacher Appreciation Award, Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, U of Central Florida 1997

## Directory Recognition, American Academy of Distinguished Students 1996

## Stuart Lilie Fellowship, Dept. of English, University of Central Florida 1993-1994

## Outstanding Service, Florida Education & Employment Council for Women and Girls 1993

**Publications**

**Branham**, K. “Imitation of Life,” Books to Film: Cinematic Adaptations of Literary Works, edited by Barry Keith Grant, vol. 1, Gale, 2018, pp. 181-184. Gale Virtual Reference Library.

**Branham**, K. “‘Two Mothers United’: Interclass Female Friendship in *Stella Dallas*,” *Journal of American Studies*, 49.1 (Feb 2015): 125-142*.*

Kerby, M., **Branham**, K., Mallinger, G. “Consumer-based Higher Education: The Uncaring of Learning.” J*ournal of Higher Education Theory and Practice*. 14.5 (Dec 2014): 42-54.

**Branham**, K. “Hung Out to Dry: Laundry Advertising and the American Woman, 1890-1920,” *Home Sweat Home: Perspectives on Housework and Modern Relationships*. Eds. Mimi Choi and Elizabeth Patton. Rowman & Littlefield, Feb 2014. 1-25.

**Branham**, K. Book Review, Elizabeth Podnieks, ed. *Mediating Moms: Mothers in Popular Culture*, 2012, *Journal of American Culture*, 36.2 (June 2013): 146-147.

**Branham**, K. “‘Thrown on Their Own Resources’: Collaboration as Survival Strategy in *Imitation of Life*,” *Literature and Film Quarterly*, 40.4 (Oct 2012): 258-273.

**Branham**, K. Book Review, Diane Halpern and Fanny M. Cheung, *Women at the Top: Powerful Leaders Tell Us How to Combine Work and Family*, 2008, *Journal of International Women’s Studies*, 10.4 (May 2009) 331-333.

**Branham**, K. “Feminisms,” *France and the Americas: Culture, Politics, History*, Bill Marshall, ed., Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2005, 434-439.

Editorial Collective, *disClosure: A Journal of Social Theory*, (in)civilities, no. 12, 2003.

## In Progress

**Branham**, K. "Evolution of Raymond: Ray Romano and Primetime Masculinity into the Twenty-First Century." Journal article.

**Branham**, K. *Dirty Laundry: The Secret History of Laundry in the U.S.* Book manuscript.

Susan K. Freeman, S. K., Boisseau, T.J., **Branham**, K., Costello, L., Ernstberger, A. “WGSS 20/20: A Special Issue of *Feminist Formation*.” Journal special issue.

**Branham**, K. and K. Reames, eds. *Women’s Friendships in 20th- and 21st-century Literature and Culture*. Co-edited with Dr. Kelly Reames. Edited collection.

**Conference Activities**

Presenter, ‘“Sob Sisters’: Women’s Friendships in Imitation of Life and Stella Dallas.” Triennial Conference. Society for the Study of American Women Writers. Nov 2018. *Accepted for presentation.*

Presenter, “‘If that’s a mother’s love, I want no part of it’: Mother-Daughter Conflict in the work of Olive Higgins Prouty,” Annual Meeting, Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association (PCA/ACA), Indianapolis, IN, March 28-31, 2018.

Moderator, “Represent! Performing Politics,” Annual Meeting, National Women’s Studies Association, Baltimore, MD, November 17-19, 2017.

Roundtable, “The Urge to Merge: Pressures, Politics, Practicalities,” Program Administration and Development Pre-Conference, Annual Meeting, National Women’s Studies Association, Baltimore, MD, November 16, 2017.

Presenter, "Sacrifice and the New Woman in *Mildred Pierce* and *Imitation of Life*,” Annual Meeting, Popular Culture American Culture Association of the South, Nashville, TN, October 15, 2016.

Presenter, "Marketing Our Programs in Tough Economic Times: A Roundtable,” Annual Meeting, South Eastern Women's Studies Association, Winthrop University, April 1, 2016.

Roundtable. “Identifying Discursive ‘Fissures’ to Make Institutional Change for Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies,” National Women’s Studies Association, Annual Conference, Nov 12-15, 2015.

Presenter, “‘I want no part of it’: Mother-Daughter Conflict in the Work of Fannie Hurst and Olive Higgins Prouty.” Society for the Study of American Women Writers, Triennial Conference, Philadelphia, PA, Nov 4-8, 2015.

Presenter, "Evolution of Raymond: Ray Romano and Primetime Masculinity into the Twenty-First Century,” Popular and American Culture Association, National Conference, New Orleans, April 1-4, 2015.

Presenter, “‘The Whitest of White’: Advertising Laundry to the American Woman (1890-1920),” American Studies Section, Western Social Science Association, Annual Meeting, Albuquerque, NM, Apr. 2-5, 2014.

Presenter, “‘Two Mothers United’: Classifying Motherhood in *Stella Dallas*,” Popular and American Culture Association of the South, Annual Meeting, Savannah, GA, Oct. 3-5, 2013.

Presenter, “Hung Out to Dry: Laundry Advertising and the American Woman, 1890-1920,” Popular and American Culture Association, National Conference, Washington, D.C. Mar. 27-30, 2013.

Presenter, “‘With, like, half a body’: Primetime Masculinity and *Men of a Certain Age*,” Popular and American Culture Association of the South, Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN, Sept. 27-29, 2012.

Presenter, “‘With, like, half a body’: Healing Male Friendships and *Men of a Certain Age*,” Politics of Justice: New Visions of Culture and Society, Southeastern Women’s Studies Association, Annual Meeting, Fairfax, VA, Mar. 29-31, 2012.

Presenter, “‘Mama Keeps Whites Bright’: Selling Laundry Duties to the *American* Lady,” Picturing the Nineteenth Century, Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies, Conference, Lexington, KY, Mar. 22-25, 2012.

Presenter, “Who Cares? University Change and the Ethics of Care,” Feminist Transformations, National Women’s Studies Association, National Conference, Atlanta, GA. Nov. 10-13, 2011.

Presenter, “‘Anecdotal Theory’ as Pedagogical Practice in the Women’s Studies Classroom,” Difficult Dialogues II, National Women’s Studies Association, National Conference, Denver, CO. Nov. 11-14, 2010.

Co-presenter with Michelle Glorioso, Megan Green, and Melissa Rickman, “Traversing the ‘-isms’ in Feminist Service Learning: Four Years of Women and Kids Learning Together Summer Camp,” Difficult Dialogues, National Women’s Studies Association, National Conference, Atlanta, GA, Nov. 12-15, 2009.

Presenter, “Anatomy of a Woman Writer: Fannie Hurst in the ‘Backstreet’ of American Modernism,” Society for the Study of American Women Writers, National Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,Oct. 21-24, 2009.

Presenter, “Playful Learning in Community-Campus Coalitions,” Association for Integrative Studies, Annual Meeting, Tuscaloosa, AL, Oct. 8-11, 2009.

Presenter, “Blue Monday and Laundry’s Big Lie,” Popular and American Culture Association of the South, Annual Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky, Oct. 2008.

Presenter, “‘Live Dangerously’: Rejecting Motherhood in Fannie Hurst’s *Back Street*,” National Women’s Studies Association, Annual Meeting, Cincinnati, Ohio, June 2008.

Presenter, “Mother’s Work: Love and Sacrifice in King Vidor’s *Stella Dallas*,” Popular Culture Association/ American Culture Association in the South, Annual Meeting, Savannah, Georgia, Oct. 2006.

Presenter, “Not Afraid of Hard Work”: Women’s Alliances in John Stahl’s *Imitation of Life*,” Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association in the South, Annual Meeting, Jacksonville, Florida, Oct. 2005.

Presenter, “Virginia Woolf and the Androgyny Debate: A Case for Wonder,” Twentieth-Century Literature Conference, University of Louisville, Feb. 2003.

Presenter, “*Celebrity Skin*: Courtney Love and Didier Anzieu’s Skin Ego,” Midwest Modern Language Association, Annual Meeting, Cleveland, Ohio, Nov. 2001.

Co-presenter with Christina Parker, “‘Making a Current’: A Coming of Age (Re)Vision,” Southeastern Women’s Studies Association, Annual Conference, Appalachian State University, Apr. 2000.

Presenter, “Gender Neutral ‘He’ and Language Change: A Study,” *Languaging* 2000, University of North Texas, Mar. 2000.

Presenter, “Resisting Content in Gertrude Stein’s *Three Lives*,” Twentieth-Century Literature Conference, University of Louisville, Feb. 1998.

Presenter, “Everybody Hates Courtney Love: One Feminist’s Theoretical Explanation,” Connections Conference, University of Kentucky, Feb. 1997.

**Invited Talks**

Guest Lecture, “Lugones and Spelman’s ‘Have we got a theory for you!’” PHIL212: Philosophy and Gender Theory, Instructor Grace Hunt, Western Kentucky University, Oct 6, 2015.

Guest Lecture, “Beyoncé Feminism,” SUS 295: Pop Culture and Gender, Instructor Dawn Hall, Western Kentucky University, April 15, 2015.

Guest Lecture, “Maria Lugones’ *Pilgrimages/ Peregrinajes: Theorizing Coalition Against Multiple Oppressions*,” PHIL 208: Philosophy of Public Space, Instructor Grace Hunt, Western Kentucky University, Feb 26, 2015.

Guest Lecture, “Flawless, Bootylicious, or No Angel? Debating Beyoncé Feminism,” Thoughts on Pop, Western Kentucky University, Nov 11, 2014.

Panelist, Roundtable, “Beyond DOMA: What the Recent Supreme Court Decision Means for Marriage Equality in Kentucky and Beyond,” ACLU of Kentucky, Bowling Green Fairness, and Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, Sept 10, 2013.

Guest Lecture, “Gender and Pop Culture,” POP 201: Introduction to Popular Culture Studies, Instructor Sam Ford, Western Kentucky University, March 2013, April 2014.

Guest Lecture, “Gender and Image,” Shades of Gender, Gender & Communication Conference, WKU Housing and Residence Life, March 16, 2012.

Guest Lecture, “On Being Jr. Faculty (whereby the subject teaches a heavy course load, serves on too many committees, weathers budget cuts, neglects her research, and learns to live again),” Department of English, University of Kentucky, April 25, 2012.

Guest Lecture, “Gay Marriage in the United States,” FLK280: Cultural Diversity in the U.S., Instructor Nadia de Leon Sautu, Western Kentucky University, Apr 6, 2011, Nov 12, 2011, Apr 11, 2012.

Co-Presenter with Sallie Bingham and Lynne Holland, “How I Came to Feminism,” *Gen(d)erations Luncheon*, Gender & Women’s Studies Program, WKU, Oct. 27, 2011.

Co-Presenter with Nicholas L. Simmons, KYCAN Mini-Grant Recipient Panel, Kentucky CAN Annual Meeting and Legislative Appreciation Breakfast, Capitol Annex, Frankfort, KY, February 17, 2010.

Panelist, Interdisciplinary Teaching Workshop, University College, Western Kentucky University, May 20-21, 2009.

Presenter, “Blue Monday and Laundry’s Big Lie,” *Gen(d)erations Luncheon*, Women’s Studies Program, Western Kentucky University, April 2008.

Guest Lecture, “‘What does ladies know ‘bout work?’: Women’s Work in John Stahl’s *Imitation of Life*,” ENG281: Introduction to Film, Professor Virginia Blum, University of Kentucky, October 2004.

Panelist, “How We Teach: The Details of Preparing a Class,” Literature Pedagogy Colloquium, Department of English, University of Kentucky, April 2002.

**Grants**

New Faculty Grant (“Mama Keeps Whites Bright as the Sunlight”: Selling Laundry Duties to America’s Women), Office of Sponsored Programs, Western Kentucky University, Summer 2011. $2833.

Art Meets Activism (WKU WS’s Program Women and Kids Learning Together Summer Camp), Kentucky Foundation for Women, 2010, $2000.

Community Partnership Incentive (WKU WS’s Program Women and Kids Learning Together Summer Camp), WKU Alive Center for Community Partnerships, 2009-2010, $9700.

## Service

**Discipline-Related**

* Reviewer, *FUDAN: Journal of the Humanities and Social Sciences*, 2018.
* Proposal Reviewer, National Women’s Studies Association, Conference Proposals, 2013-2018.
* Reviewer, *Journal of Undergraduate Research*, 2017.
* Participant, National Women’s Studies Association Curriculum Institute, Cincinnati, OH, June 26-27, 2014.
* Textbook Reviewer, Academic Advisory Board, *Taking Sides: Clashing Views in Women’s Studies*, McGraw-Hill, 2011-2012.
* Scholarship Reviewer, Lesbian Caucus Scholarship Committee, National Women’s Studies Association, 2011-2012.
* Textbook Reviewer, Addison-Wesley Longman Publishers, Fall 2000.

**University**

* Member, Provost Search Committee, Western Kentucky University, 2017-2018.
* Member, Committee on Credits and Graduation, Academic Affairs, WKU, 2014-2018.
* Department Representative, Faculty Senate, Western Kentucky University, 2011-2013. 2016-2018.
* Interviewer, Scholarship Mock Interviews, Office of Scholar Development, Honors College, WKU, 2013-2018.
* Faculty Advisor, Project CLASS, Office of Diversity Programs, WKU, 2012-2016.
* Reviewer, Presidential Scholarship Committee, Honors College, Western Kentucky University, 2010-2015, 2018.
* Member, University Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Western Kentucky University, 2011-2012.
* Member, Coalition for Gender and Racial Equality Now and After Graduation, WKU, 2011-2012.
* Member, Faculty Scholarship Council, Western Kentucky University, 2009-2010.
* Writing Consultant, Writing Center, University of Kentucky, Fall 2001, Spring 2003, Spring 2004.
* Assistant Director, Student Academic Resource Center, University of Central Florida, 1996-1997.

**College**

* Member, Curriculum Committee, Potter College, Western Kentucky University, Fall 2018.
* Member, Sabbatical Review Committee, Potter College, Western Kentucky University, Fall 2018.
* Member, Graduate Curriculum Committee, University College, Western Kentucky University, 2009-2018.
* Member, Curriculum Committee, University College, Western Kentucky University, 2009-2014, 2015-2018.
* Member, Student Grievance Committee, University College, Western Kentucky University, 2009-2015.
* Vice-Chair, Curriculum Committee, University College, Western Kentucky University, 2008-2009.

**Department**

* Program Coordinator, Diversity & Community Studies, WKU, 2013-Present.
* Director, Gender & Women’s Studies Program, WKU, 2015-2018.
* Chair, Faculty Search Committee, Diversity & Community Studies, WKU, 2016-2017.
* Chair, Curriculum Committee, Diversity & Community Studies, WKU, 2012-2016.
* Merit Weekend Advanced Placement Evaluator, Writing Program, Dept. of English, University of Kentucky, 1999-2004.
* Mentor for Incoming Teaching Assistants, Writing Program, Department of English, University of Kentucky, 2000-2001.
* Graduate Student Representative, Writing Program Committee, Department of English, University of Kentucky, 1999-2000.
* Assistant to the Chair, Department of English, University of Central Florida, Spring 1998.
* Undergraduate Advisor, Department of English, University of Central Florida, Fall 1997.

**Program**

* Member, Curriculum Committee, Gender & Women’s Studies, Western Kentucky University, 2007-2018.
* Member, Steering Committee, Women’s Studies Program, Western Kentucky University, 2008-2014.
* Chair, Planning Committee, 3rd Annual Women’s Studies Graduate Student Conference, Women’s Studies, University of Kentucky, 2000-2001.

**Community**

* Board Member, Community Options, Inc. Bowling Green, KY, Jul 2016-Jul 2017.
* Faculty Advisor, Women and Kids Learning Together Summer Camp, Women’s Studies Program, Western Kentucky University, 2008-2011.
* Co-Planner with Kelly Reames, A Community Reading of Toni Morrison’s *Beloved*, Women’s Studies and Dept. of English, Western Kentucky University, February 2008.
* Instructor, Writer’s Workshop, Robinson Scholars Program, University of Kentucky, 2003-2008.
* E-structor, The Write Place, Kentucky Virtual University, Fall 2001, Spring 2003.

**Student Research**

Supervisor. Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) Bailey, H., Diversity & Community Studies Department, August 2017-2018.

Third Reader. Master’s Thesis Committee. Neat, A., English Department, “George Orwell *1984* and *Hunger Games*,” In-Process.

Third Reader. Master's Thesis Committee. Martin, C., Sociology Department, "Call Her Beautiful: A Qualitative Assessment of Lesbian Beauty Norms and Their Implications within the Lesbian Subculture." In-Process.

Supervisor. Graduate Teaching Assistant/Associate (GTA) Maddern, M., Diversity & Community Studies Department, August 2016 – August 2017.

Supervisor. Graduate Teaching Assistant/Associate (GTA) Neat, A., English Department. Aug 2015 - May 2016.

Third Reader. Master’s Thesis Committee. Yousofi, Z. English Department, “No Country for Diasporic Men: The Psychological Development of South Asian Masculinities in *The Buddha of Suburbia* and *The Mimic Men*.” Completed. April 2016.

Individual/Independent Study, Hernandez, A., Department of Diversity & Community Studies, ICSR 579, 3 credit hours, “Teaching Corporate Social Responsibility,” Completed. Jan 2015.

Individual/Independent Study, Hadden, A., Sociology Department, GWS 590, 3 credit hours, “U.S. Women and Work,” Completed. May 2014.

Second Reader. Master's Thesis Committee. Button, B., Diversity & Community Studies Department, "Plain and Simple: The Will to Live Sustainably in an Unsustainable World," Completed. June 2013.

Second Reader. Undergraduate Honors Thesis, Callis, M., Folk Studies & Anthropology Department, "Gender and Gravestone Epitaphs: A Warren County Cemetery," Completed. May 2013.

Supervisor. Graduate Teaching Assistant/Associate (GTA) Button, B., Diversity & Community Studies Department. Aug 2012 - May 2013.

Individual/Independent Study, Miller, J., Diversity & Community Studies Department, WOMN 590, 3 credit hours, "Masculinities," Completed. Dec 2011.

Chair, Honor's Thesis Committee. Bishop, A., Psychology Department, "Fighting Stranger Harassment on Campus: Finding the links between women’s self-objectification, views on harassment, and sex-role agreement." Completed. Dec 2011.

Third Reader. Honor's Thesis Committee. Smith, A. Biology Department. "Assessment of Prenatal Care and Perinatal Outcomes in Kasigau Kenya." Completed. May 2011.

Third Reader. Honor's Thesis Committee. Delahanty, G., Theatre & Dance Department, “A Turn of the Century Lady.” Completed. May 2011.

Internship Advisor, Herndon, S., Sociology Department, WOMN 589, 3 credit hours, "Wisecrack: Feminism and Comedy." Completed. August 2009.

Internship Advisor, Glorioso, M., Women’s Studies Program, WOMN 589, 3 credit hours, “Women and Kids Learning Together Summer Camp,” Completed. July 2009.

Third Reader Master's Thesis Committee. Wyatt-Hughes, B., Sociology Department, "The Heat is On: Variations Among Male and Female Chefs," Completed. May 2009.

Individual/Independent Study, Rerras, T. Photojournalism, Women’s Studies Program, WOMN 499, 3 credit hours, “International Women’s Day: Afghanistan,” Completed. May 2008.

**Media Appearances**

Interview. “Campuses cautious as they adjust to new sexual assault guidelines” by Tovia Smith. NPREd. Sept 28, 2017. Online.

Interview. “Universities will see increased flexibility in sexual assault investigation” by Aaron Mudd. *Bowling Green Daily News*. Sept 23, 2017. Newspaper. Print and Online.

Interview. “Federal Comments Signal Title IX Change” by Rebekah Alvey. *College Heights Herald*. Sept 12, 2017. Newspaper. Print and Online.

Interview. “2015 Kentucky Hopeline Drive helps victims of domestic abuse” by Samantha Wright. *College Heights Herald*. Oct 13, 2015. Newspaper. Print and Online.

Interview. “Cell Phone Drive.” View from the Hill with Amy Bingham. Oct 1, 2015. Television and Online.

Interview. “Gender & Women’s Studies Program to host film series” by Samantha Wright. *College Heights Herald*. Sept 29, 2015. Newspaper. Print and Online.

Interview. “New director coming to gender and women’s studies” by Samantha Wright. *College Heights Herald*. May 5, 2015. Newspaper. Print and Online.

Interview. “Supreme Court Hobby Lobby Case: Ruling Gets Mixed Reviews” by Laurel Wilson. *Bowling Green Daily News*. July 1, 2014. Newspaper. Print and Online.

Interview. “Why cleanliness is next to impossible these days” by Kate Taylor. *The Globe and Mail*. Canada. Mar. 27, 2014. Newspaper. Print and Online.

Interview. “Life on the ‘out’ side: gay students take pride in sexuality” by Whitney Allen. *College Heights Herald*. Feb. 6, 2014. Newspaper.

Letter to the Editor. “Disappointed in Thursday’s Photo.” *College Heights Herald*. Feb. 4, 2014. Newspaper.

Interview. Platform Report. “Understanding the importance of Gender and Women's Studies for young college students” by Marquise Alexander. 91.7 Revolution. Nov. 14, 2013. Radio.

Interview. “WKU Gender & Women's Studies Gender Images Film Series: Spring 2012 semester.” *College Heights Herald*. Mar. 5, 2013. Newspaper.

Interview. *College Heights Herald*. "Student searches for natural beauty" by Mercedes Trent. Mar. 22, 2011. Newspaper.

Interview. "Gender wage gap lower than national average" by Laurel Wilson. *College Heights Herald*. Oct. 19, 2010. Newspaper.

Interview. “View from the Hill: WKU Women and Kids Learning Together Summer Camp.” WNKY. Jun. 11, 2010. Television.

**Courses Developed and Taught**

**Undergraduate Courses:**

## American Literature Survey I and II

American Masculinities

British Literature Survey I

Business Writing

## Foundations of Liberal Arts I and II

First-Year Composition I and II

Honors English Special Topics: “Prisoners, Convicts, and Fugitives”

Honors Introduction to Gender & Women’s Studies

Introduction to Fiction

Introduction to Gender & Women’s Studies

Introduction to Women’s Studies in the Humanities

Western Feminist Thought

Women’s Studies Special Topics: “Gender & Work: Fact, Fiction, and Film”

**Graduate Courses:**

Feminist Pedagogies (web-based)

Global and Cross Cultural Perspectives on Women (web-based)

Roots of Feminism (web-based)

Special Topics: American Masculinities (web-based)

**Professional Associations**

National Women’s Studies Association

Popular and American Culture Association

Popular and American Culture Association of the South

Society for the Study of American Women Writers