

SHARESE TERRELL WILLIS, PhD

480-331-8428

www.linkedin.com/in/shareseterrellwillis/

sharese.willis@gmail.com

Instructor with focus on documents written for academic purposes. Former editor at **Mayo Clinic**. **PhD** in English (Professional Writing). Background editing manuscripts intended for journals. Experience writing articles, encyclopedia entries, newsletters, press releases, and reports. **Courses Taken:** “Technical Editing,” “ESL Grammar,” “Medical Writing.” **Sample of College Courses Taught:** “Technical Editing,” “Technical Writing,” and “Writing for Healthcare Management.” **Software:** Microsoft Office, Adobe Acrobat Professional, Photoshop (beginner), Illustrator (beginner).

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS, Memphis, TN

Doctor of Philosophy in English, Professional Writing Concentration, 2010

Committee Chairperson: Loel Kim

A BURKEIAN ANALYSIS OF THE EMBRYO IN THE CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE OVER FEDERALLY FUNDING EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH (1998-2001)

I analyzed transcripts from Congressional hearings held on embryonic stem cell research from 1998 to 2001. In the study, I centered my analysis on how supporters and opponents of the research variously defined the embryo and embryonic stem cells according to their own interests. To accomplish this, I used Kenneth Burke’s dramatic pentad as a rubric to identify components of the embryo’s journey from its creation to the end proposed by the hearing witness, whether implantation in a womb or transplantation in a patient. The results of the study indicated that hearing participants defined the embryo according to its context, its procedural origin, and its future direction. Also, supporters of the research portrayed the embryo as a treatment by surrounding the embryo and embryonic stem cells with people and settings that suggest research and then medical application. The findings suggested that definitions are malleable and can be used effectively as tools of persuasion. In addition, members of the lay public who wish to participate in debates about publicly funded science should be aware of the definitional perspective of government entities and the resources that they have to construct their arguments. Finally, budding scientists also would benefit from training in argumentative strategies because contemporary public science requires that efforts be made outside of the laboratory in order to pursue the research of the laboratory itself.

CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY, Atlanta, GA

Master of Arts in English, 2000

Advisors: Daniel Black and Janice Liddell

HIS-STORY, HER-STORY: NAMES MAKING OUR-STORY IN GLORIA NAYLOR’S *LINDEN HILLS*, *MAMA DAY*, AND *BAILEY’S CAFÉ*

The thesis is an examination of the onomastic consistencies in three of Gloria Naylor’s novels. The naming patterns exhibited by Naylor in the triad demonstrate a similar practice used by other African American writers. In the thesis, I explore her use of the motif as well as her expansion of it to include feminist and theological tenets in order to challenge hegemonic systems. To explicate the use of names in the three texts discussed in the thesis, a framework is utilized to embrace all three of Naylor’s clear influences—Afrocentrism, Feminism, and Theology—in the naming traditions evident in her works.

TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY, Nashville, TN

Bachelor of Arts in English, 1996

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

FREELANCE EDITING

2010 – Present

Editing for professionals, students, and organizations.

Editor

Owner of Doc's Editing Shop (2014–Present)

- Maintain style consistency according to style guides, including the *American Medical Association Manual of Style* and the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*.
- Edit documents in neurosurgery, nursing, business, and education.
- Consult with students applying to graduate programs, offering assistance with personal statements and curriculum vitae.
- Work with academic professionals to craft employment documents that fully reflect their contributions to their fields.

Consultant for Editing-Writing.com (2010–2011; 2014–Present)

- Edit journal manuscripts, dissertations, master's theses, book manuscripts, and web site pages.
- Work with clients across the globe, coordinating projects by phone and e-mail contact.
- Maintain relationship with editing network by responding promptly to potential clients and submitting weekly reports to network coordinator.
- Initiate contact with potential clients; secure clients by preparing proposals tailored to their projects.

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY, Department of Technical Communication, Mesa, AZ

2010–2011; 2015–Present

The campus of ASU that is home to more than 40 professional and technical degree programs.

Faculty Associate (Part Time)

- Taught the following courses: “Writing for Healthcare Management,” “Technical Editing,” and “Technical Writing.”

JOURNAL OF PEDIATRIC PHARMACOLOGY AND THERAPEUTICS, Memphis, TN

2002 – 2007; 2010 – 2010

A journal published by the Pediatric Pharmacy Advocacy Group.

Copyeditor

- Verified grammar and spelling accuracy for manuscripts on topics such as asthma, diabetes, endocarditis, neonatology, and general professional practice; used Microsoft tracking tools in the editing process.
- Maintained style consistency according to the *American Medical Association Manual of Style*.

MAYO CLINIC, Section of Scientific Publications, Scottsdale, AZ

2007 – 2009

The largest in-house editorial service at a medical institution.

Scientific Editor

- Edited scientific manuscripts through several rounds; manuscripts written by clinicians at all 3 Mayo Clinic sites in various specialty areas.
- Tactfully queried authors about gaps in logic; used the *American Medical Association Manual of Style*.
- Used Microsoft tracking tools in the editing process, completing most editing tasks electronically through multiple rounds.
- Worked with templates to do first level of formatting.
- Prepared cover letters to journal editors to accompany revisions.
- Checked galley proof pages for errors.
- Collaborated with administrative staff and proofreaders.

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY, Jonesboro, AR

2006 – 2007

A comprehensive regional university serving students in the Arkansas Delta.

Minority Teaching Fellow

- Served as the first Minority Teaching Fellow; taught two sections of Freshman Composition and mentored students.

INSTITUTE FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT EVALUATION, Memphis, TN

2003 – 2005

A joint venture between the Tennessee Department of Health and the University of Memphis.

Editor (Summer and Fall Internships)

- Prepared documents by writing and editing government reports, newsletters, and brief white papers.
- Copyedited book chapters.
- Performed literature searches, using a variety of databases/library resources; summarized primary sources.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS, Memphis, TN 2002 – 2004
A major metropolitan university with more than 20,000 students.

Teaching Assistant, Department of English

- Taught Freshman Composition courses in addition to African American literature.

EMORY UNIVERSITY, Atlanta, GA 2001 – 2002
A university that includes a liberal arts college and professional schools.

Prospect Research Analyst

- Synthesized large bodies of information into concise deliverables for advancement staff.
- Identified foundations; located information on individuals, including civic activities and board memberships.

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE, Atlanta, GA 1998 – 2001
The nation's largest private liberal arts college for African American males.

Research Associate, Howard Thurman Papers Project (2000 – 2001)

- Researched archival material and conducted interviews to locate information related to the compilation of the Howard Thurman Papers.
- Wrote and edited entries, assisting the senior editor.

Lecturer (1999 – 2001)

- Managed classroom and facilitated writing instruction through in-class and online lecture.
- Designed courses and initiated technology integration of writing lab and sections of expository writing.
- Co-chaired writing assessment committee; implemented assessment structures for Composition curriculum.

Media Technical Specialist (1998 – 1999)

- Coordinated Mellon Foundation–funded project placing computers in African American churches to broaden public access.

SCHOLARLY WORK

Under Review

- The Rhetorical Disaggregation of the Embryo in the Federal Debate over Embryonic Stem Cell Research (1998-2001) —This manuscript is under consideration for the upcoming *Science Communication Ethics: State of the Art*.
- The Price of Identity in *Linden Hills*—The proposal was accepted, and the manuscript is under review for the upcoming *Gloria Naylor: Contemporary Critical Analyses*.

Published

- Gloria Naylor. In: Beaulieu B, ed. *Writing African American Women: An Encyclopedia of Literature by and about Women of Color*. Westport, CT: Greenwood; 2006:664–668.
- Linden Hills. In: Beaulieu B, ed. *Writing African American Women: An Encyclopedia of Literature by and about Women of Color*. Westport, CT: Greenwood; 2006:547–549.
- Mama Day. In: Beaulieu B, ed. *Writing African American Women: An Encyclopedia of Literature by and about Women of Color*. Westport, CT: Greenwood; 2006:595–597.
- Bailey's Café. In: Beaulieu B, ed. *Writing African American Women: An Encyclopedia of Literature by and about Women of Color*. Westport, CT: Greenwood; 2006:34–36.
- The Women of Brewster Place. In: Beaulieu B, ed. *Writing African American Women: An Encyclopedia of Literature by and about Women of Color*. Westport, CT: Greenwood; 2006:925–927.

SCHOLARLY WORK (CONTINUED)

- Ida B. Wells. In: Ostrom H, Macey JD, eds. *The Encyclopedia of African American Literature*. New York, NY: Greenwood; 2005:1708-1711.
- A few tips on writing well. *Journal of the American Medical Women's Association*. 2004;59(3):157–159.
- Graphic barriers: enhanced comprehension of patient education material. *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Society for Technical Communication*. Baltimore, MD; May 2004.