

SHARON A. COTE
Curriculum Vitae
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James Madison University
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EDUCATION

Ph.D.: University of Pennsylvania
Thesis: "Grammatical and Discourse Properties of Null Arguments in English," December 1996
Honors: Dean's Scholarship

MA: New York University
Field: Linguistics, 1986
Honors: University Scholarship

BA: State University of New York at Binghamton, Harpur College
Field: English Literature and Rhetoric, 1982
Honors: Phi Beta Kappa

CURRENT POSITION

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH AND ENGLISH LINGUISTICS
(fall 1997 – present, tenure and promotion awarded fall 2003)
English Department, James Madison University

COURSES TAUGHT

MODERN GRAMMAR: STRUCTURE OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE (*Cross-listed as a graduate course* spring 2001, spring 2002, spring 2007, spring 2008)
James Madison University (fall 1997, spring 1998, fall 1998, spring 1999, fall 1999, spring 2000-2008)

CONTEMPORARY APPROACHES TO ENGLISH LINGUISTICS (*Graduate Course*)
James Madison University (fall 1997)

SURVEY OF LINGUISTICS (*Cross-listed as a graduate course* fall 2000, fall 2001, fall 2004)
James Madison University (fall 1998-2007)

TRADITIONAL GRAMMAR (*Cross-listed as a graduate course* fall 2000, fall 2001, fall 2007)
James Madison University (fall 1998, spring 1999, fall 1999-2007)

COURSES TAUGHT (CONT.)

SURVEY OF BRITISH LITERATURE I

James Madison University (fall 1997, fall 1999, spring 2000, fall 2000, fall 2001, spring 2002, spring 2005, fall 2004-2007)

SURVEY OF PROSE FICTION

James Madison University (spring 1998)

GREAT WORKS: FICTION

James Madison University (spring 1999)

ENGLISH IN CONTEXT: PRAGMATICS AND DISCOURSE (*Cross-listed as a Graduate Course*)

James Madison University (spring 2000, spring 2005)

GREAT WORKS: SPECULATIVE FICTION - HONORS

James Madison University (spring 2001)

GREAT WORKS: SPECULATIVE FICTION

James Madison University (fall 2001, fall 2002, fall 2003, spring 2004, spring 2006-2008)

SUPERVISED UNDERGRADUATE HONORS THESIS BY MARCUS HAMILTON ON KURT

VONNEGUT JR (in progress)

GRADUATE THESIS COMMITTEE MEMBER FOR STEVEN CUMMINGS'S CREATIVE WRITING

PROJECT (in progress)

SUPERVISED UNDERGRADUATE HONORS THESIS BY ROBIN SMITH ON SEMANTIC AND

SYNTACTIC PROPERTIES OF THE SUBJUNCTIVE IN ENGLISH (completed fall 2005)

SUPERVISED BACHELOR OF INDIVIDUALIZED STUDIES THESIS BY MICHAEL MORRISON

ON DESIGNING A FANTASY ROLE-PLAYING WORLD AND GAME (completed spring 2005)

SUPERVISED MASTERS THESIS BY JEREMIAH FORSHEY – William Gibson and the Fiction of

Unreality (completed spring 2004)

GRADUATE THESIS COMMITTEE MEMBER FOR REBECCA DEEL'S CREATIVE WRITING

PROJECT (completed spring 2005)

READER FOR UNDERGRADUATE HONORS THESIS BY BRIAN KIM ON EXPERIMENTAL

CREATIVE WRITING PROJECT (completed spring 2006)

INDEPENDENT STUDIES ON TOPICS IN SOUTHERN DIALECTS, GENDER DIFFERENCES AND CHANGES IN AMERICAN SLANG, MODELLING REFERENCE RESOLUTION, AND THEORIES OF SYNTAX

PUBLICATIONS

“Saying Differently and Thinking Differently: Science Fiction as ‘Namshub’” (UNDER REVISION FOR RE-SUBMISSION) (With Dabney Bankert)

"The Flexibility of Inference in Triggers for Inferable Entities: Evidence for an Interpretability Constraint" in *Pragmatics and the Flexibility of Word Meaning*, Eniko Nemeth and Karoly Bibok (eds.), Elsevier Science Press, 2001.

"Lexical Conceptual Structure and Inferable Entities in Discourse" in *Selected Papers from the 7th International Pragmatics Conference*, 2001.

“Elaboration: A Function and a Form”, in *Proceedings of the 23rd Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistic Society*, 2000.

“Ranking Forward-Looking Centers”, in *Centering in Discourse*, Ellen Prince, Aravind Joshi, and Marilyn Walker (eds.), Oxford University Press, 1998.

“Japanese Discourse and the Process of Centering”, in *Computational Linguistics*, Vol. 20, No. 2, June 1994, (with Lyn Walker and Masayo Iida).

“A Lexicalized Tree Adjoining Grammar for English”, Technical Report, University of Pennsylvania, 1990, (with Anne Abeille, Kathleen Bishop, Aravind K. Joshi, and Yves Schabes).

“Centering in Japanese Discourse” in *Papers Presented to the 13th International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING)*, 1990, (with Lyn Walker and Masayo Iida).

“Lexicalized TAGs, Parsing and Lexicons” in *Proceedings of the Speech and Natural Language Workshop*, Feb. 1989, (with Anne Abeille, Kathleen Bishop, Aravind K. Joshi, and Yves Schabes).

“ ‘Certain’ Adverbials and Non-Monotonicity in Natural Language” in *The Penn Review of Linguistics*, Vol. 14, 1990.

“Even/Still” in *The Penn Review of Linguistics*, Vol. 11, 1987.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS AND PANEL CHAIRING AT REFEREED CONFERENCES

Moderator: Panel on ** – Thirty-Ninth Annual CEA Conference, St. Louis Antonio (forthcoming March 2008)

“Analogical Assumptions and Writing Errors”– Thirty-Eighth Annual CEA Conference, New Orleans (forthcoming March 2008)

Moderator: Panel on Responses to Tragedy and Discrimination – Thirty-Eighth Annual CEA Conference, New Orleans (April 2007)

“What do You Know: Cognitive Re-modeling in Science Fiction” – Thirty-Eighth Annual CEA Conference, New Orleans (April 2007)

Moderator: Panel on Surreal Regions: Historical, Cultural, and Cognitive Regions of Science Fiction – Thirty-Seventh Annual CEA Conference, San Antonio (April 2006)

“The Rock and the Word: Metaphors for Science Fiction in Science Fiction” – Thirty-Seventh Annual CEA Conference, San Antonio (April 2006)

PAPER PRESENTATIONS AND PANEL CHAIRING AT REFEREED CONFERENCES(Cont.)

“Communicative Intentions and Discourse Structures: Speaker Imposed Interpretability Constraints” – Workshop on the Syntax-Pragmatics Interface, University of Pennsylvania (April 2005)

“The Pragmatic Author: Comparing Pragmatic Constraints on Linguistic Choices in Everyday Language Use and in Literary Texts” – MLA Convention, Philadelphia (December 2004)

“On a ‘Need to Know’ Basis?: Communicative Intentions, Relevance, and Discourse Reference Resolution” – MLA Convention, New York. (December 2002)

“Lexical Conceptual Structure and Inferable Entities in Discourse” – Seventh International Pragmatics Conference, Budapest (July 2000)

“Teaching Modern Grammar to English Majors” – Thirty-First Annual CEA Conference, Charlotte (April 2000)

“Inferable Entities in Discourse and in Narrative” – Linguaging 2000 (March 2000)

“‘Been there. Done that.’: Comparing Null Subject Use in Naturally-Occurring Utterances and Scripted or Literary Dialogue” – Linguaging 99 (March 1999)

“Elaborations: a Function and a Form” – 23rd Annual Meeting of the Berkeley Linguistic Society (1997)

“Discourse Constraints on Null Subject Utterances” – 71st Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (1997)

“Discourse Constraints on Implicit Arbitrary Objects in English” – 19th Penn Linguistics Colloquium (1995)

“Elaborations and Subjectless Sentences in Conversational English” – 69th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (1995)

“Arbitrary Null Objects in English and Pro-Arb” – 68th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (1994).

“Ranking of Forward-Looking Centers” – Workshop on Centering Theory in Naturally-Occurring Discourse (1993).

“Discourse Functions of Two Types of Null Objects in English” – 66th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (1992).

“Centering in Japanese Discourse” – 13th International Conference on Computational Linguistics – COLING-90, Helsinki, Finland (1990).

“Features in a Lexicalized Tree Adjoining Grammar For English” – First International Workshop on Tree Adjoining Grammars, Dagstuhl , Germany (1990).

“‘Certain’ Adverbials and Non-Monotonicity in Natural Language” – 14th Penn Linguistics Colloq. (1990).

“Even/Still” – 11th Penn Linguistics Colloquium (1987).

OTHER PRESENTATIONS

“Speculation, Language, and Reality,” JMU Honors Symposium Series, January 2005

“Science Fiction and Mental Models of the World” – Brown Bag Talk sponsored by the JMU Honors Program, October 2002 (with Dabney Bankert)

“Teaching H.A.L. to Understand English: Natural Language Processing” – sponsored by the JMU Neuroscience Club, spring 1999

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

“LLAMA (Linguistics Labs And Multimedia Activities) - Syntax” : a JAVA parsing applet used for pedagogical purposes in the Modern Grammar course

EDITORIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Paper Referee: *Discourse Processes*, 2002

Paper Referee: Twenty-Second Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, 2000

Paper Referee: *Centering Theory in Discourse*, 1998

Editor: *The Penn Review of Linguistics*, Vol. 12, 1988

Abstract Referee: Eastern States Conference on Linguistics, 1988

SERVICE

TREASURER OF THE FACULTY SENATE and STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER
James Madison University (2007-2008)

CO-CHAIR, CURRICULUM COMMITTEE
English Department (2007 – 2008)

CHAIR, AWARDS COMMITTEE
English Department (2005-present)

CHAIR, AFRICAN-AMERICANIST SEARCH COMMITTEE
English Department (2004 –2005)

CHAIR, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE
Honors Program, James Madison University (2003 – 2004)

CHAIR, PERSONNEL ACTION COMMITTEE
English Department (2004 –2005)

CHAIR, MEDIEVALIST SEARCH COMMITTEE
English Department (2003 – 2004)

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT STEERING COMMITTEE
(spring 2007-present)

SERVICE (Cont.)

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEW

English Department (2007-2008)

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PROGRAM STRUCTURE (INTERNAL REVIEW)

English Department (1998, 2007-2008)

FACULTY SENATOR

James Madison University (fall 2000-spring 2002, 2005- 2006 (alternative stand-in), 2007-2008)

ACADEMIC POLICIES COMMITTEE

Faculty Senate, James Madison University (2007-2008)

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

English Department, James Madison University (fall 1999-2000, fall 2005 – current)

LIBRARY REPRESENTATIVE

English Department (2005-present)

WEBSITE COMMITTEE

English Department (Spring 2005 – present)

PERSONNEL ACTION COMMITTEE (PAC)

English Department (fall 1998-spring 2000, fall 2002-spring 2005)

FACULTY CONCERNS COMMITTEE (fall 2001-spring 2002)

Faculty Senate, James Madison University

FACULTY/STUDENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Faculty Senate, James Madison University (fall 2000-spring 2001)

IDLS ENGLISH SEARCH COMMITTEE

English Department, (fall 2000-spring 2001)

ADVISING/TRANSFER ADVISING/ HEAD OF ADVISING

English Department, James Madison University (1998-present, Head/transfer advising spring 1999-2001)

INTERDISCIPLINARY LIBERAL STUDIES REVISION/STEERING COMMITTEE

School of Arts and Letters, James Madison University (January 2000-April 2001)

ARTS AND SCIENCES ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE TEACHER EDUCATION UNIT

(1998-1999)

COMMITTEE(S) TO CREATE AN INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAM IN COGNITIVE SCIENCE

James Madison University (intermittent 1998-2006)

HONORS PROGRAM COMMITTEE

James Madison University (fall 2001-spring 2006)

FACULTY ADVISOR – Science Fiction and Fantasy Guild

James Madison University (fall 1999-spring 2007)

GENERAL EDUCATION CLUSTER TWO INSTITUTE

James Madison University (June 2006)

CURRENT RESEARCH INTERESTS

Interrelationships between Syntax/Semantics and Discourse

Functions of English Syntax

Discourse Modeling

Pragmatics

Differences between Spoken and Written Language

Differences between Literary and Non-Literary Language

Speculative Fiction

Magic Realism in the United States

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Linguistic Society of America

International Pragmatics Association

Cognitive Science Society

Modern Language Association

College English Association

RELATED EXPERIENCE

1997 LITERACY TUTOR - Literacy Volunteers of America, Mercer County, NJ

1996-1997 CONSULTANT - XTAG Grammar Project, University of Pennsylvania

1988-1991 RESEARCH ASSISTANT - Institute for Research in Cognitive Science, University of Pennsylvania