

Extended Biography:

Elizabeth (Beth) Giddens, associate professor of English, teaches a variety of writing courses in the English Department, the Master of Arts in Professional Writing program, and the American Studies program. Her courses include managing writing in organizations, grant and proposal writing, organizational writing for external audiences, public policy writing, technical writing, speech writing, and environmental writing and literature. In many of her classes, students complete service-learning projects where they write for or with organizations to produce documents such as reports, plans, articles, brochures, scripts, and speeches that meet pressing local communication needs.

Dr. Giddens earned a Ph.D. in English with a specialty in composition and rhetoric from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. After teaching at Wake Forest University and Auburn University, she worked in the nonprofit sector where she held positions as an editor and associate director of communications at the Southern Regional Education Board in Atlanta, Georgia, and later as a writer and communications director for the Institute for Civil Justice at RAND in Santa Monica, California.

Since her return to academe in 2001, her research has focused on the rhetoric of social change, environmental rhetoric, and helping students develop the knowledge and habits of mind essential for a writing career.

Recent publications include:

- “Saving the Next Tree: The Georgia Hemlock Project, Community Action, and Environmental Literacy,” *Community Literacy Journal*, forthcoming 4.1 (Fall 2009).
- “Creating a Rhetorical Space for Biodiversity: The Great Smoky Mountains Association,” *Rhetorics Literacies, and Narratives of Sustainability*. Ed. Peter Goggin. New York: Routledge, 2009: 55-77.
- “Adding Value for Students and Faculty with a Master’s Degree in Professional Writing,” with Susan M. Hunter and Margaret B. Walters, *College Composition and Communication*, 61.1 (Sept. 2009): W127-48.
- Wintering into Wisdom: A Festschrift for Dr. Betty Siegel*. Ed. Elizabeth Giddens. Kennesaw, GA: Kennesaw University Press, 2007.
- “Context Matters: Recognizing the Effects of Epistemic and Agonistic Contexts in Public Policy Debate,” *Issues in Writing* 16.1 (Spring-Summer 2005): 19-56.

Dr. Giddens is an active birder and volunteer for Atlanta Audubon Society (AAS). She is currently the publicity director for AAS.