MEGHANN E. O'LEARY

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL May 2019

Disability Studies

Concentration: Gender and Women's Studies

Advisor: Carrie Sandahl

Dissertation: Recovery, Rationality, and Resistance: 20th Century and

Contemporary Memoirs by Mad Women

Master of Arts University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM May 2011

Special Education

Master's Thesis: Medicine Progresses, Disability Stereotypes Remain:

The Portrayal of Disability in the Television Series House M.D.

Bachelor of Arts Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY May 2004

English Literature

Thesis: The Landscape as a Metaphor for Change in Michael Ondaatje's

The English Patient

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

- **O'Leary, Meghann**. Cripping Care for Individuals with Psychiatric Disability: Looking Beyond Self-determination Framework to Address Treatment and Recovery. Review of Disability Studies: An International Journal 13.4 (2017): 1-20. Print.
- O'Leary, Meghann., & Ben-Moshe, L. Homage to Spencer: The Politics of Treatment and Choice in Neoliberal Times. Madness, Violence and Power: A Critical Collection. Ed. by Lucia Costa, Peter Beresford and Andrea Daley. Toronto: University of Toronto Press (2019): 115-135. Print
- Yoshizaki-Gibbons, H.M. & **O'Leary, Meghann**. Deviant Sexuality: The hypersexualization of women with bipolar disorder in film and television. Transforming Disability in the Media. Ed. Joe Leeson-Schatz and Amber George. Jefferson: McFarland Press (2018): 93-106. Print.
- Burke, M.M., Sandman, L., Perez, B., & **O'Leary, M**. The phenomenon of legislative advocacy among parents of children with disabilities. Journal of Research in Special Educational Needs. DOI: 10.1111/1471-3802.12392

FORTHCOMING SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

O'Leary, Meghann. Elissa Washuta's *My Body is a Book of Rules*: A Crip Mad Reading of Psychiatric Compliance and Resistance. Disability Studies Quarterly Special Issue: Disability and Indigeneity, edited by Susan Burch.

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

- **O'Leary, Meghann** (2020): Elissa Washuta's *My Body is a Book of Rules*: A Crip Mad Reading of Psychiatric Compliance and Resistance. Presented at the Society for Disability Studies Strand at Multiple Perspectives on Disability, Access and Inclusion at Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.
- **O'Leary, Meghann** (2019): Mad Time/s of/and Anxiety, Chronic Illness, and Neuroqueerness: Incarcerating Realities, Imagine-Building Futures Roundtable Discussion. Presented at National Women Studies Association Conference in San Francisco, California.

- **O'Leary, Meghann** (2019): Imagining Mad Time and Mad Futurity through Community Roundtable Discussion. Presented at American Studies Association Annual Conference in Hawaii.
- O'Leary, Meghann (2019): Disability Disclosure as Pedagogical Practice. Panel Presentation: Performing Disability in Classrooms and Writing Centers. Presented at the College of Composition and Communication Conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- **O'Leary, Meghann** (2018): Recovery's Reliance on Debility. Panel Presentation: Cripistemologies of Crisis. Presented at the American Studies Association Annual Conference, Atlanta, Georgia.
- O'Leary, Meghann (2018) Mad Studies and Disability Studies: Potential Connections for Community Building and Social Transformation. Panel Presentation: Bridging Disability Studies with Marginalized Communities, Movements and Fields. Presented at the Society for Disability Studies Strand at Multiple Perspectives on Disability, Access and Inclusion at Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.
- **O'Leary, Meghann** (2017) Madness as Legitimate and Legible. Panel Presentation: Outsider Art Meets Crip Resistance. Presented at the Disability as Spectacle Conference in Los Angeles, California.
- O'Leary, Meghann (2016) Claiming Experience and Authenticity as a Mad Subject: Resisting the Colonial Compulsions of "Choice" and "Recovery." Panel Presentation: Resisting Settler Logics in Notions of Compulsory Able-Mindedness and the Mad Subject. Presented at the National Women's Studies Association annual meeting, Montreal, Canada.
- **O'Leary, Meghann** (2016) Homage to Spencer: The politics of treatment and choice in neoliberal times. Presented at the Lancaster Disability Studies Conference as part of the Mad Studies stream, Lancaster, England.
- O'Leary, Meghann (2016) The Gendered Construction of Psychiatric Disability in the Film Silver Linings Playbook. Presented at Chicago Disability Studies Conference: Intersectionality and Disability at University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- O'Leary, Meghann, Gibbons, Hailee, (2015) Deviant Sexuality: The hypersexualization of women with bipolar disorder. Presented at Breaking Silences, Demanding Crip Justice: Sex, Sexuality & Disability Conference at Wright State University, Dayton, OH
- **O'Leary, Meghann** (2015) Am I incapable and dangerous or authentic and accepted: the politics of identity management and disability disclosure. Panel presentation: Coming out/right: Navigating the complex territory of disability disclosure as women and emerging scholars. Presented at the Society for Disability Studies annual meeting, Atlanta, GA.
- **O'Leary, Meghann** (2014) Self-determination and sustainability: What makes a life of value and who gets to decide? Presented at the Society for Disability Studies annual meeting, Minneapolis, MN.
- **O'Leary, Meghann** (2013) Deviance, stigma and "crippled" sexuality: The portrayal of disability in the television series House MD. Presented at the Cripping the Comic Con conference at Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY.
- **O'Leary, Meghann** (2010) Medicine progresses, disability stereotypes remain: The portrayal of disability in the television series House MD. Presented at the Society for Disability Studies annual meeting at Temple University, Philadelphia, PA.

TEACHING/PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Professor | Art Therapy Department | School of the Art Institute | Chicago, IL | January-May 2021

- Responsible for development and delivery of the undergraduate course Introduction to Mad Studies:
 Critically Interrogating Deviance and Pathology, which consists of 14 students
- Responsible for ensuring accessible curriculum, readings, and instruction for students with various disabilities in an online format
- Responsible for preparing lectures, guiding discussions, and developing assessments to meet the needs of diverse learners.

Adjunct Professor | Art Therapy Department | School of the Art Institute | Chicago, IL | January-May 2020

- Responsible for development and delivery of the undergraduate course Disability Studies: Reimagining Bodies, which consists of 12 students.
- Responsible for ensuring accessible curriculum, readings, and instruction for students with various disabilities
- Responsible for preparing lectures, guiding discussions, and developing assessments to meet the needs of diverse learners.

Adjunct Professor | Art Therapy Department | School of the Art Institute | Chicago, IL | August 2020-May 2021

- Responsible for the field work supervision of four third year art therapy students
- Responsible for helping to develop the Disability Culture Activism Lab, a grassroots fieldwork lab to support students as they incorporate ideas of disability culture and disability justice into their practice as art therapists.
- Responsible for monitoring the students in their development and facilitation of a mental health support group in which they would interact as peers and allies.
- Responsible for overseeing the students work in a writing workshop led by a disabled activist and writer for disabled people and their allies to tell their stories.
- Responsible for holding weekly supervision meetings to address questions, concerns, and experiences.

Evaluation Coordinator | Next Steps Statewide Consumer Network Grant | Chicago, IL | April 2016- June 2019

- Responsible for collecting and entering quarterly measurable data towards grant goals
- Responsible for compiling biannual and annual reports of grant activities
- Helped build a collaborative team of mental health consumers working to bring self-identified consumers throughout Illinois to the forefront of conversations and policy decisions directly affecting their lives.
- Responsible for organizing panels of consumers addressing mental health disparities based on gender, class, race, sexuality, homelessness, and a dual disability diagnosis.

Teaching Assistant | Disability and Human Development | University of Illinois at Chicago | January-May 2019

- Assist in DHD 401: Foundations of Disability and Human Development during the Spring semester by
 providing comprehensive feedback and engaging up to 30 students in an online format, responding to
 student emails and setting up meetings, holding office hours, and coordinating accommodations for students
 with disabilities.
- Responsible for developing and delivering an accessible weekly lecture online.

Teaching Assistant | Disability and Human Development | University of Illinois at Chicago | January 2016-December 2018

- Assist in DHD 102: Disability in American Film in the Fall semesters by conducting weekly discussion sections of up to 40 students, developing and conducting a guest lecture and filling in as guest lecturer for professor when needed.
- Responsible for grading, responding to student emails and setting up meetings, holding office hours and coordinating accommodations for students with disabilities
- Assist in DHD 102 in the Spring semesters by providing comprehensive feedback and engaging up to 45 students in an online format, responding to student emails and setting up meetings, holding office hours, and coordinating accommodations for students with disabilities

Teaching Assistant | Disability and Human Development | University of Illinois at Chicago | August- December 2016

- Assist in DHD 204: Disability in the Humanities with grading, lecturing and providing verbal feedback to students in class
- Responsible for designing and delivering a 65 minute guest lecture

Teaching Assistant | Disability and Human Development | University of Illinois at Chicago | Summer 2016

Assist in DHD 102 in by providing comprehensive feedback and engaging up to 36 students in an online

format, responding to student emails and setting up meetings, holding office hours, and coordinating accommodations for students with disabilities

Teaching Assistant | Disability and Human Development | University of Illinois at Chicago | January-May 2016

Assist in DHD 400: Capstone Course with grading and providing verbal feedback to students in class

Teaching Assistant | Disability and Human Development | University of Illinois at Chicago | August- December 2014

- Assist in DHD 102: Disability in American Film with various aspects of teaching, including lecturing, developing evaluations, classroom management and grading.
- Coordinate accommodations for students with disabilities

Special Education Teacher | Albuquerque Public Schools | Albuquerque, NM | August 2008-May 2012

- Responsible for a caseload of 5-9 students with the eligibility of autism and /or other social communication disabilities addressing the unique needs of students diagnosed with autism in general education settings and self-contained social and organizational skills intervention classes and self- contained language arts class
- Responsible for co-teaching seventh grade Math and Science in an inclusion setting as well as two 45 minute periods of Math Strategies for seventh grade students who scored at the lowest level (emergent) on the Assess 2 Learn Standardized Test.
- Responsible for teaching all four content areas in a self-contained classroom of three seventh graders and two eighth graders for the first nine-weeks of school year, followed by transition to science inclusion and general education classrooms.
- Prepared regular unit and daily lesson plans addressing New Mexico Content Standards in Math, Science, Language Arts, Social Studies and research based social skills interventions.
- Responsible for modifying general education curriculum and developing supports to meet the needs of diverse learners
- Developed positive and cooperative relationship with general-education teachers, regularly assisting with modifications, as well as various behavioral and academic supports
- Prepared Individual Education Plans and worked to foster communication between parents, students and teachers during IEP meetings
- Prepared regular assessments and data collection methods geared towards individual IEP goals and content standards
- Developed and implemented a self-advocacy and empowerment unit working to foster student strengths. The unit culminated in students leading their own Individual Education Plan meetings

General Education Student Teacher | Albuquerque Public Schools | Albuquerque, NM | January-May 2007

- Responsible for taking on the lesson planning and instruction for two 90 minute sections of seventh grade Language Arts and Literature Classes
- Instructed Students on various writing techniques, including persuasive, expository and creative techniques
- Instructed Students on literacy comprehension techniques and analysis, developing unit plans for poetry, mythology, folklore, young adult novels, and an introductory unit on Shakespeare's poetry and plays.
- Prepared regular unit and daily lesson plans geared towards 7th grade New Mexico Content Standards in Language Arts and Literature
- Developed classroom management skills and implemented strategies to address a wide range of learning levels and behavioral needs.

Academic and ACT/SAT Tutor | Huntington Learning Center | Albuquerque, NM | September 2006-May 2012

- Responsible for tutoring high school students, including those with learning and intellectual disabilities, on effective strategies for scoring well on the ACT and SAT college entrance exams.
- Responsible for tutoring elementary, middle, and high school students on effective reading fluency and comprehension.

- Responsible for teaching four Sophomore English Classes and serving as the school newspaper advisor
- Instructed students on various essay formats and persuasive writing techniques
- Taught content ranging from Greek Tragedy and Shakespeare to Contemporary short stories and 20th Century novels
- Prepared regular unit and daily lesson plans geared towards national standards
- Addressed wide range of academic abilities and motivation in lesson planning and instruction
- Developed effective classroom management skills
- Advised students on basics of journalistic writing, photography, design, publication and advertising
- Produced a monthly publication of eight pages and a final publication of 16 pages

Assistant Editor and Staff Writer | Crosswinds Weekly | Albuquerque, NM | September 2004-May 2005

- Responsible for putting together the weekly calendar containing various arts, culture, and music events throughout the city of Albuquerque and surrounding areas.
- Responsible for writing a variety of cultural stories, including movie reviews and more in-depth stories on special art exhibitions, and theater performances throughout Albuquerque and Santa Fe.
- Responsible for writing in-depth cover stories on issues ranging from domestic violence to plans for urban development throughout the state of New Mexico.
- Responsible for copy-editing entire newspaper before weekly publication.
- Developed strong interview and research techniques
- Developed a strong ability to synthesize a wide range of information into cohesive, well-written articles.
- Developed a strong rapport with the rest of the staff and became integral to the smooth functioning of the weekly newspaper.

CONSULTATIONS, LECTURES, AND COURSE FACILITATIONS

- O'Leary, Meghann (March, 2019) Representations of Madness. Guest Lecture for ARTTHER 3018-001 / VCS 3001-005 Disability Studies: Re-imagining Bodies, School of the Art Institute Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- O'Leary, Meghann (February, 2019) Access, Accommodation, and Accessibility in the Museum. Guest lecture for DHD 401: Foundations of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- **O'Leary, Meghann**. (September, 2018) Disability as Narrative Device, Case Study: Mental Illness. Guest Lecture for DHD 102: Disability in American Film, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago IL.
- **O'Leary, Meghann** (August, 2018) Introduction to Disability in American Film. Guest Lecture for DHD 102: Disability in American Film, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago IL.
- **O'Leary, Meghann**. (January, 2018) Participated in Disability Panel for ECPP 1: Essentials of Clinical Practice and Professionalism 1, a course taken by medical students, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- **O'Leary, Meghann**. (November, 2017) Participated in Disability Panel for ECPP 1: Essentials of Clinical Practice and Professionalism 1, a course taken by medical students, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- **O'Leary, Meghann** (October, 2017) Literature Review vs. Literary Analysis. Guest Lecture for DHD 301: Disability Research and Interdisciplinary Methods, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- **O'Leary, Meghann** (September, 2017) Disability as Narrative Device, Case Study: Mental Illness. Guest Lecture for DHD 102: Disability in American Film, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago IL.
- **O'Leary, Meghann** (February, 2017) Participated in disability panel for DHD 202: Disability, Health and Society, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago IL.
- **O'Leary, Meghann** (March 2016) Participated in disability panel for PT 622: Psychosocial Theory and Practice 1, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL.
- **O'Leary, Meghann** (November, 2015) Mental Health Disability. Guest lecture for DSST 501: Disability, Culture and Society, Eastern Washington University, Cheney, WA.
- O'Leary, Meghann (March, 2015) Participated in disability panel for PT 622: Psychosocial Theory and Practice 1, University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, IL.

O'Leary, Meghann (March, 2014) Participated in disability panel for DHD 202: Disability, Health and Society, University of Illinois Chicago, IL.

DOCTORAL GRADUATE EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant | Disability and Human Development | University of Illinois at Chicago | August 2013-May 2016

- Responsible for planning and coordinating various disability arts and culture events through Bodies of Work, a network of artists and organizations that works as a catalyst for disability arts and culture to illuminate the disability experience in new and unexpected ways.
- Worked with a team to plan and implement disability art and culture panels to promote artist residencies
 geared towards the needs of artists with disabilities, which spurred an ongoing collaboration with Bodies of
 Work and 3Arts, an organization that provides fellowships to disabled artists
- Developed and compiled the data of various audience surveys of events geared towards collecting information for funders and generating feedback for the future improvement of events.
- Developed 20 page final report on 2013 Bodies of Work Festival, a 10-day festival featuring national and international disabled artists and artist groups showcasing their work through a various media, including visual and performing art and film.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND RELEVANT ACTIVITIES

Co-Chair | American Studies Association Critical Disability Studies Caucus | October 2019-Present

- Responsible for reviewing and selecting caucus sponsored panels for the annual American Studies Association Conference
- Responsible for working with a team of disability studies scholars and activists to ensure the overall accessibility of the conference.

Member | Advance Your Leadership Power | Chicago | January 2020- Present

- Attend biweekly meetings with disabled activists advancing racial and disability justice in Illinois and beyond
- Participate in campaigns and advocacy to get critical legislation and policy passed in Illinois that enhances the equity and opportunity of disabled people of color.

President | Disability and Human Development Student Association | UIC | August 2016-May 2018

- Responsible for serving as a representative of the student body and communicating the needs of the student body to the administration
- Responsible for overseeing the operations of the association as a whole, scheduling weekly meetings and maintaining contact and providing support for the organization of various academic and professional programs, as well as community building programs.
- Responsible for co-coordinating Chicago Disability Studies Conference in partnership with University of Chicago, which included organizing an internationally known guest speaker, reading a national selection of paper proposals and helping to organize multiple panels, as well as a disability art and culture performance over the span of two days.

Co-Moderator | Mad Studies Facebook Page | August 2017-Present

- Responsible for approving posts and potential members of group
- Responsible for working collaboratively with co-moderator to resolve conflicts that occur among the participants of the group.
- Responsible for ensuring that more marginalized voices are given a platform on the page

Treasurer | Disability Studies Student Council | UIC | August 2015-May 2016

- Responsible for planning the budget, paying all charges, collecting all receipts, maintaining a balanced account, and presenting financial information to the Council at least once every semester
- Responsible for co-coordinating Disability Studies Student Council annual conference, applying for funding, seeking applicants from various departments, organizing panels, developing flyer and ordering food.

Disability Pride Parade | Chicago | July 2015-2016

- Volunteered at booth for the Disability and Human Development Department at the University of Illinois Chicago
- Passed out pamphlets and answered questions

Volunteer | Just the Way You Are: Relaxed and Accessible Valentine's Day Dance | Access Living | Chicago

• Served as Disability and Human Development Student Association (DHDSA) representative, coordinated food and volunteered at event, collecting tickets, and welcoming guests.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Guest Reviewer | Book Proposal: *The Mad Scholars Anthology: Disability in/as Academia*? | Routledge Press | Spring 2020.
- Guest Reviewer | Scandinavian Journal of Disability Research Article Submission: "Involuntary Care and Treatment in Psychiatric Settings: Manifestations of Power and Violence?" | Spring 2020.
- Guest Reviewer | Disability Studies Quarterly Article Submission: "Mad Bodyminds in Critical Disability Studies: Reconciling Non-Autonomous Agency with Psychiatric Disabilities" | Fall 2019.
- Guest Editor | Asylum: The Magazine for Democratic Psychiatry | Volume 21, Number 4, winter 2014 | U.S. Prison Issue
- Chancellors Student Service and Leadership Award
 University of Illinois at Chicago 2016
- Diversity Travel Award 2016 University of Illinois at Chicago
- Guest Reviewer for Reelabilities Film Festival 2017 Chicago, IL