

Peter W. Bixby, Ph.D.

69 Glenwood Avenue, Dover, NH 03820
603-749-5659 peter.bixby.sy.83@aya.yale.edu

Summary of Qualifications: My experience includes teaching college-level writing and literature; serving a senior consultant at the University of New Hampshire Writing Center; and teaching English, math, and study skills to learning-disabled secondary and middle school students in a private school setting.

Degrees Earned:

- Ph.D. Indiana University, Bloomington, 1999: Comparative Literature with minors in Folklore and Semiotic Studies. Dissertation: *Reading over a Character's Shoulder: Embedded Texts in Fictional Worlds*.
- M.A. Indiana University, Bloomington, 1993: Comparative Literature.
- B.A. Yale University, 1984: Literature.

Non-Degree Coursework:

University of New Hampshire 2003-2004 Courses leading to certification in secondary school English
University of New Hampshire, 1998-99: Technical writing, environmental conservation, woodworking.
Free University of Berlin, 1993: German.
Middlebury College, 1991: French.
Harvard Extension, 1989-90: French.
Middlebury College, 1988: German.
Yale University, 1979-1984: Computer science, physical and organic chemistry, biochemistry, forestry.

Positions Held:

Special Editions Coordinator, Northern Light Technology, Cambridge, MA, Feb. - Oct. 2001. Special Editions Editor, Feb. 2000 - Feb. 2001. Trained new editors; developed style guide; reviewed drafts and updates for clarity of writing, quality of content selection, and effectiveness of queries; streamlined update process; managed weekly update process. Special Editions are web pages that facilitate research on particular topics via customized search queries and links to selected websites and articles. As an editor I developed and maintained Special Editions on topics including wireless technology, energy technology, automotive technology, material technology, and pharmacology.

Senior Writing Consultant, University of New Hampshire Writing Center, 1998-99. Writing Consultant, 1997-98. Provided individualized writing consultations for clients ranging from freshmen preparing first year English papers to faculty preparing grant proposals and articles for publication.

Instructor, Indiana University Collins Living Learning Center, Spring 1996. Developed and taught an undergraduate seminar on "Creating Fictional Worlds," which was chosen by the LLC in a competitive selection process. The course examined the semiotics of world creation in science fiction and fantasy.

Associate Instructor, Department of Comparative Literature, Indiana University, Bloomington, Fall 1995, Fall 1992, Spring 1992, Fall 1991. Taught the introductory world literature course "Major Characters and Themes in Western Literature." This course had a significant writing component.

Associate Instructor, Department of English, Indiana University, Bloomington, 1993-1994. Freshman Composition.

Elementary School Librarian, East Somerville Community School, Somerville, MA, 1989-1990. Taught elementary students to use and appreciate the library. Maintained the school's library.

Study Skills Tutor, Darrow School, New Lebanon, NY, 1986-1988. Tutored learning-disabled secondary school students in study skills, writing, and word processing, taught a small English class for L.D. students, served as dorm parent, coached bicycling and recreational skiing, served as faculty advisor, led weekend activities, etc.

Language Training Tutor, Rocky Hill School Summer Reading Clinic, East Greenwich, RI, 1986. Tutored dyslexic students in reading, writing, and spelling skills using the Orton-Gillingham method.

Language Training Tutor, Kildonan School, Amenia, NY, 1985-1986. Tutored dyslexic boys in reading, writing, and spelling skills using the Orton-Gillingham method, tutored basic math, coached bicycling and cross country skiing, served as dorm parent, etc.

Teaching Assistant, Andover Summer Session, Phillips Academy, Andover, MA, 1984. Assisted teaching courses in English and computer programming. Coordinated fencing program.

Other Work Experience:

Freelance editor, translator, and writing consultant in a variety of fields including developmental biology, ethology, engineering, comparative literature, folklore, and education.

Horticultural technician, restaurant cook/night manager, dairy plant worker, assistant ranger at a nature preserve, film series director, Lab tech (pharmacology), tester for circuit design teaching stations, precious metal processing plant worker, plastic embedding plant worker.

Research Interests:

Fictional worlds, narrative poetics, semiotics, folklore, romanticism

Avocational Interests:

Gardening, cooking, woodworking and other crafts, fencing, contra dance, morris dance, folk music, bicycling, canoeing, camping, cross country and alpine skiing

Departmental/University Service:

Active member of Indiana University Comparative Literature Student Advisory Board (SAB) 1990-1996, president of Board 1994-5. Developed a handbook for incoming graduate students, took part in discussions leading to revised Ph.D. exam system, co-organized the SAB colloquium series, represented graduate students at faculty meetings, worked with department chairman to reduce college-mandated class sizes for freshman writing courses, worked with the Comparative Literature faculty to revise the graduate student advising system, helped develop a peer mentor system for incoming graduate students, helped initiate an ongoing publicity campaign to increase undergraduate enrollment in the department, worked with SAB and faculty to resolve perceived

difficulties with the new Ph.D. exam system, initiated workshop series on academic survival techniques such as long-range preparation for qualifying exams, preparing for the job market, publishing, conference presentations, etc.

Competitive Fellowships:

U.S. Department of Education Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship	1994-95
American Council of Learned Societies Language Training Grant	Summer 1994
U.S. Department of Education Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship	Summer 1994
Heart of Germany Fellowship	Spring 1993

Publications and Presentations:

"Literate Bias in Sir Walter Scott's Ballad Research." Society for Ethnomusicology, Midwest Chapter, 1992 Papers. Proc. of Society for Ethnomusicology Midwest Chapter 1992 conference. Ed. Elizabeth Falconer. Rockland, IL: Augustana College, 1992.

"A Young Lady's Illustrated Primer: The Imbedded (Hyper)text as a Model of the Reading Process." Presented at the American Comparative Literature Association annual conference, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, April 1997.

"Are Science and Literature Studies Really 'Higher Superstition'?" Presented at the American Comparative Literature Association annual conference, Athens, Georgia, March 1995.

"Fictional Intertextuality as a Contextualizing Device." Presented at the Fourth Annual English Graduate Student Conference, University of Missouri, February 1995.

"Literate Bias in Sir Walter Scott's Ballad Research." Presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Augustana College, Rockland IL, March 1992.

Professional Organizations:

American Comparative Literature Association