

Delilah Bermudez Brataas, PhD

Professor of English Literature

Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)
Faculty of Social and Educational Sciences (SU)
Department of Teacher Education (ILU) | Section for English and Foreign Languages
Gunnerus gate 1 | G225 | Kalvskinnet | Trondheim, 7012
delilah.brataas@ntnu.no | +47 41292680
<https://www.ntnu.edu/employees/delilah.brataas>
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2721-5576>

Research & Teaching

My research focus is early modern English literature including sixteenth- and seventeenth-century drama and poetry with a particular focus on utopian literature and related themes. I investigate the works of Margaret Cavendish, and William Shakespeare in adaptation. More generally, I study literature in several genres through elements of gender, and other cultural aspects, and adaptations in science fiction, fantasy, graphic novels, and contemporary film and television. Through my research, I strive to reveal the critical intersections between literary studies, contemporary culture, and education.

I have taught first-year writing, courses on diverse English literatures, including Irish literature, and thematic courses including utopian and science fiction literature. In such courses, I incorporated literary theory and methodologies, and integrated history and culture. I now regularly teach survey courses on English literatures designed for teacher education at the BA, MA, and PhD level. My survey courses cover literature and culture in English and often include seminars focusing on Shakespeare's works in adaptation.

Academic Preparation

Tufts University, Boston, MA:

MA in English Literature (2002)

PhD in English Language and Literature (2012)

Dissertation: "Shakespeare and Cavendish: Engendering the Early Modern English Utopia" Doctoral Advisor: [Professor Judith Haber](#)

Florida International University, Miami, FL:

BA in English with Minor in Psychology (1998)

Professional Appointments

Norwegian University of Science and Technology, English Section, Department of Education

August 2010-Present | *Førsteamanuensis i engelsk*/Associate Professor of English Literature

Courses Taught:

- English I and II (ALU)
- English 1 and 2 (GLU1-7) and English 1 and 2 (GLU5-10)
- *Kompetanse for kvalitet* Continuing Education Courses: English 2 (1-7) modules 1 and 2, English 1 (5-10) modules 1 and 2.
- Teacher Education Courses: Third Year English (1-7) and (5-10), MA Fourth Year Courses: "Literature from the English-Speaking World in the Classroom Theoretical and Didactic Perspectives (5-10)" and "Literature from the English-Speaking World in the Classroom: Theoretical and Didactic Perspectives (1-7)", MA Fifth Year Courses: "Methodology of English Didactics" and "Master Thesis in English"
- Masters in Subject Didactic: MA Course "Literature, Text, and Culture in the Classroom"

International Language Schools, Oslo

January 2006-June 2009 | English Course Instructor

- Courses on conversational English, and English for business in groups, and through individual instruction across Norway.

Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Department of Language and Literature

August 2004-January 2006 | Universitetslektor/Lecturer

- Autumn 2004: ENG2334, Irish Literature 1600-1900
- Spring 2005-Autumn 2005: NTNU *Videre*, Take Credit!
- Oral and Written Examination Sensor

Tufts University English Department, Medford, MA, USA

August 2001-Spring 2003|Graduate Student Lecturer

- English I: Freshman Expository Writing
- English II: English Writing Seminar

Tufts University Academic Resource Centre, Medford, MA, USA

Spring 2001-Summer 2003 | Graduate Writing Tutor

- Individual supervision and guidance for undergraduate student writing assignment and projects.

Professional Affiliations

- British Shakespeare Society
- European Shakespeare Research Association
- European Society for the Study of English
- Margaret Cavendish Society, Previously Secretary, Currently President
- Modern Language Association

- Nordic Shakespeare Society, Norwegian Representative
- Renaissance Society of America
- Society for the Study of Early Modern Women and Gender
- Utopian Studies Society

Research Affiliations

- [Bergen-Hamar Shakespeare Network](#), Member (2019-Present)
- ILU\ISL English and Foreign Language Seminar Series, Founder and Speaker (2015-Present)
- NTNU Decolonial Research Group. Member, 2018–2019
- [NTNU Gender Hub](#). Affiliated Researcher. KULT/HF, (2019–Present)
- [SHINE](#), Shakespeare in Education, Founder (2016-Present)

Awards and Honours

- Foundation Essay Contest 2005: “Becoming Utopia in Octavia Butler’s *Xenogenesis Series*”
- Mariangela Tempera Award for Shakespeare on Screen 2018, awarded by the European Shakespeare Research Association: “The Shadow’s Shadow, or Gendered Ambition in Svend Gade and Asta Nielsen’s 1921 *Hamlet*.”

Scholarly Publications

- “Either Vixen or Virago, Either Gertrude or Gudrún: ‘the Violence of either Grief or Joy’ in Film Portrayals of Queen Gertrude” Forthcoming in Collection with Bloomsbury\Arden, Shakespeare and Performance Series, 2025.
- “‘Let this Deadly Draught purge clean my Soul from Sin’: Poisons and Remedies in Margaret Cavendish’s Drama” in [Poison on the Early Modern English Stage: Plants, Paints, Potions](#), Manchester University Press, 2023 ISBN: 978-1-5261-5992-2
- “Echoes and Enclosures, or Utopia in *Love’s Labour’s Lost*” in [Shakespeare/Nature Contemporary Readings in the Human and Nonhuman](#), Bloomsbury: The Arden Shakespeare, 2023 ISBN: 9781350259843.
- “Affecting the Anguish of Youth in Film Adaptations of *Romeo and Juliet*” in [Shakespeare on Screen: Romeo and Juliet](#), Cambridge University Press, Autumn 2023 ISBN: 9781009200905.
- “‘With Such Perfection: Imagining Utopia through Shakespeare” in *Multicultural Shakespeare: Translation, Appropriation, and Performance*, Volume 26, No. 41 (2022). <https://doi.org/10.18778/2083-8530.26.01>
- “Gods and Monsters: The Presence of Shakespeare and His Characters in Gaiman’s *Sandman* and McCreery and Del Col’s *Kill Shakespeare*.” *Journal of Graphic Novels and Comics*, January 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21504857.2020.1727543>

- "Teaching Shakespeare through Collaborative Writing and Performance in a Norwegian Primary School ESL Classroom: An Interview with Ellen Marie Kvaale. Special Issue: Shakespeare in/and Education, *Early Modern Culture Online*, Volume 7, 2019. <https://doi.org/10.15845/emco.v7i1.2975>
- "Re-posing the Question: Shakespeare in/and Education" *Early Modern Culture Online*, Special Issue: Shakespeare in/and Education, Volume 7, 2019. <https://doi.org/10.15845/emco.v7i1.2972>
- "Peculiar Circles: The Fluid Utopia at the Northern Pole in Margaret Cavendish's *Blazing World*." *Utopian Studies* (30.2) 2019. <https://10.5325/utopianstudies.30.2.0214>
- "The Blurring of Genus, Genre, and Gender in Margaret Cavendish's *Sociable Letters*." *Sederi Yearbook* (29) 2019. <https://10.34136/sederi.2019.2>
- "The Shadow's Shadow, or Gendered Ambition in Svend Gade and Asta Nielsen's 1921 *Hamlet*" *Cahiers Élisabéthains: A Journal of English Renaissance Studies*, Nov 2018. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0184767818813001>
- "The Alternating Utopic Revisions of *The Tempest* on Film," in *Shakespeare on Screen: The Tempest and the Late Romances*. Cambridge University Press, April 2017, ISBN 978-1-10-711350-3.
- "Shakespeare's Presence and Cavendish's Absence in *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*," in *Shakespeare*, 2015. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17450918.2015.1012553>
- "A Utopia of Words: *Doctor Who*, Shakespeare, and the Gendering of Utopia" in *The Language of Doctor Who: From Shakespeare to Alien Tongues*. Rowman and Littlefield. May 2014. ISBN: 978-1-4422-3480-2.
- Doctoral Dissertation: "Shakespeare and Cavendish: Engendering the Early Modern English Utopia," Tufts University, 2012 (PhD). <https://dl.tufts.edu/concern/pdfs/0v838b479>
- "Becoming Utopia in Octavia Butler's *Xenogenesis* Series" Spring 2006 in *Foundation: The International Review of Science Fiction*. ISSN: 0306-4964.

Reviews and Reference Publications:

- "Poems and Fancies with The Animal Parliament." Margaret Cavendish, Duchess of Newcastle. Ed. Brandie R. Siegfried, Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (2018), in *Renaissance Quarterly* (72.4) Winter 2019. <https://doi.org/10.1017/rqx.2019.471>
- "Review: *Twelfth Night*, directed by Simon Godwin, The National Theatre, Olivier Theatre, London, UK, 15 February–13 May 2017. Filmed for NT Live (screen director: Robin Lough), 2017. Accessed via NT Live in Trondheim, Norway, 23 April 2020". *Cahiers Élisabéthains: A Journal of English Renaissance Studies* 2020, Volume 103 (1) 115-118. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0184767820946175b>
- "Bathsua Makin" in *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Early Modern Women's Writing: Restoration*. https://link.springer.com/referenceworkentry/10.1007/978-3-030-01537-4_200-1

- "Margaret Cavendish: An Interdisciplinary Perspective." Eds. Lisa Walters and Brandie Siegfried. Cambridge University Press (2022) in *Early Modern Women: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, Forthcoming in Autumn 2023.
- "A Companion to the Cavendishes" Eds. Lisa Hopkins and Tom Rutter. ARC Humanities Press (2020) in *Early Modern Women: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, Forthcoming in Autumn 2023.
- "Anne Killigrew" in *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Early Modern Women's Writing: Restoration*, Forthcoming in Autumn 2023.
- "Possible Knowledge: The Literary Forms of Early Modern Science" Debapriya Sarkar. University of Pennsylvania Press (2023) in *Renaissance Quarterly*, Forthcoming in Spring 2024.

Conference Presentations:

- "Either Vixen or Virago, Either Gertrude or Gudrún: 'the Violence of either Grief or Joy' in Film Portrayals of Queen Gertrude," European Shakespeare Research Association Conference: Budapest, July 2023.
- "The Glass of Uncreated Light: Margaret Cavendish considers the Nature and Society of Angels," Renaissance Society of America: Puerto Rico, Spring 2023.
- "Shakespeare in Second and Foreign Language Learning," Seminar: European Shakespeare Research Association, Virtual Conference 2021.
- "Shakespeare and the Nature of Utopia/Utopian Nature," Seminar: European Shakespeare Research Association, Virtual Conference 2021.
- "Restart: Fantasizing Creation, Cosmogony and Utopic Nothingness in *Lucifer* and the *Sandman Universe*" Utopia & Dystopia Conference on the Fantastic in Media Entertainment, Virtual Conference, May 2020.
- "'Let this Deadly Draught purge clean my Soul from Sin': Poisons and Remedies in Margaret Cavendish's Drama" Renaissance Society of America, Virtual Conference, April 2021.
- "Romeo and Juliet on Screen" Seminar: Shakespeare on Screen in the Digital Age, Montpellier, September 2019.
- "Something Rich and Strange: Remapping Shakespeare's Utopia," European Shakespeare Research Association, Rome, July 2019.
- "Utopia as By-product: The Affinity of Anthropogenic Creation in Marge Piercy's *He, She, and It*," Utopian Studies Society Conference: Utopia, Dystopia, and Climate Change, Monash University, Prato Centre, June 2019.
- "Affecting the Anguish of Youth in Film Adaptations of *Romeo and Juliet*," Affect Theory and Praxis: Transdisciplinary Methodologies, Trondheim, Norway, November 2018.
- "Shakespeare's Critics: Utopic Time in Cavendish, Dickinson, and Woolf," British Shakespeare Association Conference, Hull, UK, September 2016.
- "Shakespeare in the Second Language Classroom: A Roundtable," European Society for the Study of English, Galway, Ireland, August 2016.

- "Gods and Monsters: Shakespeare in Gaiman's *Sandman* and McCreery and Del Col's *Kill Shakespeare*.", Elsinore Conference 2016: The Next 400 Years, Helsingborg, Denmark, April 2016.
- "A Shadow's Shadow: The Chiaroscuro of Gendered Ambition in Svend Gade's 1921 *Hamlet*", Shakespeare in Scandinavia, Kingston-Upon-Thames, UK, October 2015.
- "Reading and Misreading in Margaret Cavendish's *Sociable Letters*," Renaissance Society of America, Berlin, Germany, March 2015.
- "The Blurring of Genus, Genre, and Gender in Margaret Cavendish's *Sociable Letters*", Eleventh International Margaret Cavendish Society, Cyprus, June 2015.
- "'Most Majestic' or 'Baseless Fabric': The Alternating Utopic (re)Visions of The Tempest," Shakespeare450: *Société Française Shakespeare*, Paris, France, April 2014.
- "The Extraordinary Presence of Shakespeare and his Characters in Alan Moore's *League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*." Shakespeare450: *Société Française Shakespeare*, Paris, France, April 2014.
- "The Imperfect Lens: The Self in *Sociable Letters*, *The Blazing World*, and Alan Moore's *League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*." Renaissance Society of America 2014, New York City, NY, March 2014.
- "Margaret Cavendish's Utopian Desire: Choice as Dissent through Progress and Form," Tenth Biennial International Margaret Cavendish Society, Sundance, UT, July 2013.
- "For Want of Well Reading: Reading and Misreading in Margaret Cavendish's *Sociable Letters*," Northeast Modern Language Association 44th Annual Conference, Boston, MA, March 2013.
- "The Doctor and the Bard: Doctor Who, Shakespeare, and the Gendering of Utopia," Society of Utopian Studies 37th Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada, October 2012.
- "Digging out Colour: The Mexican Image in Maria Cristina Mena's Short Stories" Presented at the American Literature Association 13th Annual Conference on American Literatures, Long Beach, CA, May 2002 and at SUNY Stonybrook Latin American and Caribbean Studies Center Conference "Refiguring the Americas: Disciplines, Genres, Histories", Stony Brook, NY, April 2002.

Supervision:

Doctoral Degree Supervision:

- Ann Elise Albertsen (2023-2027), "Aesthetic Engagement and Theatre in Language Learning" as part of the *ShINE: Shakespeare in Education* Research Group at NTNU, ILU

MA Degree Supervision:

- Kristine Wilhelmsen (2023) "Representation of Refugees in Children's Literature and their Value in the EFL Classroom"
- Amalie Kapstad Bruland (2022) "A Qualitative Case Study on how Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* can be Used when Teaching Young Learners English as a Second Language Through Drama Activities."
- Pål Myrnes (2022) "Graphic Novels and Mental Health in the EFL Classroom."
- Frida Solberg (2022), "Using Drama to Foster Oral Activity in the EFL Classroom" (Co-Supervision)
- Lena Hirsch (2021) "Language Learning Through Extensive Reading in EFL: Teaching EFL in Norwegian Primary Schools."
- Marthe Holm (2020) "Drama Activities in the English Classroom: A Qualitative Study on Oral Participation."
- Ole-Martin Olsen (2019) "Exploring Graphic Literature as Reading in Norwegian Upper Secondary ESL-Teaching."
- Elise Olaussen (2018) "Influences and Considerations Involved in EFL Teachers' Selections: A Qualitative Interview Study."