

**Emmett Joseph Sharkey**

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**Academic Employment**

Associate Professor of Comparative Literature, Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences,  
University of Washington, Tacoma. 2005-present.

Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature, Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences,  
University of Washington, Tacoma. 1999-2005.

Instructor, Comparative Literature, University of California, Davis. 1998-99.

**Education**

Ph.D., Comparative Literature, University of California, Davis, CA. 1998.

Dissertation title: "Linguistic Skepticism in the Twentieth-Century Novel: Applications  
of Gadamer and Wittgenstein to Cortázar, Kafka, and Joyce."

M.A., Creative Writing, The Writing Seminars, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD.  
1991.

B.A., English, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN. 1990.

**Publications**

Book

*Idling the Engine: Linguistic Skepticism in and around Cortázar, Kafka, and Joyce.*  
The Catholic University of America Press. June 2006.

Scholarly Articles (refereed journals)

"Linguistic Finitude as Capability in Borges and Wittgenstein" (invited). *The Romanic  
Review* 98.2-3 (2007): 249-64.

"The Comedy of Language in Borges' 'La busca de Averroes'." *The Rocky Mountain  
Review* 60.1 (2006): 53-69.

"*Rayuela*'s Confused Hermeneutics." *Hispanic Review* 69.4 (2001): 423-42.

"A Gadamerian Reading of the Conclusion of *Rayuela*'s 'First Book'." *Revista  
Canadiense de Estudios Hispánicos* 25.2 (2001): 307-26.

"Wittgensteinian Skepticism in Kafka's *Castle*." *Journal of the Kafka Society of  
America* 21 (1998): 55-65.

Work in Progress

"Drowning in the Flux: the Misuse of Borges in Twentieth-Century Literary Theory."  
Book manuscript.

### Conference Papers / Invited Presentations

- “Don’t Think; Look! Language Does Things It Can’t Do.” UWT Distinguished Research Award Lecture. 2008.
- “The Artistry in Borges.” University of Puget Sound (a lecture to a student group). 2008.
- “Nonsensical Strategies in Borges and Wittgenstein.” Pacific, Ancient, and Modern Language Association. 2003.
- “Narrative Distance in Kafka, Woolf, and García Márquez: the Wife’s Perspective.” Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association. 2003.
- “Borges and Wittgenstein: Finitude in Art and Understanding.” Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association. 2002.
- “Wittgensteinian Skepticism in Kafka’s *Castle*.” Modern Language Association. 1998.

### Awards and Nominations

- UWT Distinguished Research Award. 2008.
- Nominated for UWT Distinguished Teaching Award. 2001, 2002, 2008.
- Nominated for UW Distinguished Graduate Mentor Award. 2004.
- UWT Founders’ Endowment Grant. 2003.
- UWT Junior Faculty Fellowship. 2002.
- UWT Founders’ Endowment Grant. 2001.

### Service

- UWT Excursion to Oregon Shakespeare Festival, organizer. Summers 2002-05, 2007-12.
- Fred Haley-IAS Writing Awards, organizer. 2003, 2011-12.
- Fred Haley-IAS Writing Awards, judge. 2000-2002, 2004, 2006-12.
- Search Committee, 2 Writing Positions, member. 2011.
- IAS Task Force for New IAS Major, member. 2010-11.
- IAS General Studies Concentration Coordinator. 2001-03, 2007-11.
- UWT University Disciplinary Committee, member. 2009-10.
- UWT Academic Hearing Board (academic misconduct), member. 2004-05, 2006-08.
- Search Committee, Writing Position, member. 2008.
- IAS Strategic Planning: Scholarship Task Force, member. 2008.
- IAS Arts, Media, and Culture Concentration Coordinator. 2003-05.
- Tenure and Promotion Committee for Bill Kunz, member. 2006.
- Student Publications Advisory Board, faculty chair. Winter 2001-04.
- IAS Writing Task Force, member. 1999-2005.
- IAS Writing Task Force, chair. 2001-02.
- Nominating Committee for the UWT Graduate School Council Representative, member. 2004.
- UWT Honors College Task Force. Winter-spring, 2003.
- UWT Curriculum Committee. 2002-03.
- Interview Committee (or equivalent before 2005), member, in 17 faculty hires since 1999.