A close-up of a person smiling

Description automatically generated**Karen Armstrong**

**Degrees:**

**Doctorate of Reading Education. Language and Literacy Education (LLED). University of British Columbia.**

**M. A. English literature. Department of English. University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON.**

**B.A. Major: English. Minor: French. Faculty of Arts. McGill University, Montreal Quebec.**

## Employment History: summary

1996-2024 York University: Course Director (since 1996) Extensive experience teaching online, blended and face to face classes at the pre-service and grad level in the areas of Education (Graduate Studies and Pre-service) as well as the area of Leadership and Community Engagement (MLCE program). See below and attached Record of Employment for further details.

1996-2022 University of British Columbia: Distance Education Author and Instructor for Language and Literacy Education and Professional Development and Community Engagement (LLED/PDCE) teaching a variety of post-degree courses: LLED 391: Reading Education; LLED 459: Trends and Issues in Literacy education**;** LLED 452: Content Area literacy(as it was then known);LIBE 462: School library resource Centre Programs**;** and LIBE 469: Resource-based teaching.

**Current projects**:

1. **AI and education**. UNESCO Digital Learning Week International Conference, Paris, France September 1-5.
2. **The language of the image**. Images and Imaginaries of Artificial Intelligence Buenos Aires, Argentina, October 24-16, 2024. “I have no hands to caress my face”: an exploration of the contemporary figure at the edge of invisibility. (In process)
3. **Literacy development for parents: a brief overview of the area and re-examination of post-pandemic changes and challenges (book proposal in process)**
4. **Reader response: a brief history and highlights of today’s developments** (co-authored with Pat Beavan) Article in process.
5. **The crucial role of fathers with respect to children’s literacy development (conference presentation in process)**

**Teaching experience** (including York University graduate and pre-service as well as UBC post degree programs in education and teacher librarianship)

**Graduate courses taught: York University. Toronto, ON.**

**Masters degree in Leadership and Community Engagement Program (MLCE)**

Jan 2020 April 2020 ED 7025: Experienced-based Inquiry II

Jan 2020-April 2020 ED 7020 Initiatives in Program Design, Interpretation and Implementation

Jan 2018 Dec 2018 ED 7025: Experienced-based Inquiry II

**Literacy-related Graduate Courses**

2020 ED 5535.03 Special topics: Narrative

2020 ED 5310.03 Literacy and social context

July 2000 ED 5655.03 Literacy and social context

Jan-March 2000 ED 5604.03 Emergent literacy

Sept –Dec 1999 ED 5683.03 Reading theories: a critical analysis

July 1999 ED 5655.03 Literacy and social context

Apr-June 1999 ED 5683.03 Reading theories: a critical analysis

Apr-June 1998 ED 5683.03 Reading theories: a critical analysis

Sept-Dec 1997 ED 5683.03 Reading theories: a critical analysis

July 1997 ED 5664.03 Teaching writing

Sept-Dec 1996 ED 5683.03 Reading theories: a critical analysis

Sept-Dec 1996 ED 5664.03 Teaching writing

July 1996 ED 5664.03 Teaching writing

Apr-June 1996 ED 5683.03 Reading theories: a critical analysis

Undergraduate and post-degree credit courses taught on-campus: University of British Columbia

1996 ENED 480: Assessment and evaluation (summer session)

1993-4 ENED/READ 310/320: Whole language for pre-service teachers (French-language students); ENED 480 for in-service teachers; ENED 426: Language across the curriculum for pre-service consecutive program; READ 391: Trends and issues in reading instruction (spring and summer sessions); READ 392: Trends and issues in reading (spring and summer sessions).

1992-3 ENED/READ 320: Whole language for pre-service teachers; ENED 480 for in-service teachers; READ 391: Trends and issues in reading instruction; READ 392: Trends and issues in reading; ENED 426: Language across the curriculum for pre-service consecutive program

1991-2 ENED/READ 310/320: Whole language for pre-service teachers; (two sections of 310); ENED 480 for in-service teachers; READ 391 (May); READ 392 (June)

1986-7 READ 305: Elementary reading; EDUC 315: Faculty supervision of elementary student teachers

**Academic Honours and Professional Designations**

Honour Specialist Certificate: English

Permanent Teaching Certificate: Ontario. Number 229-182-548.

## Previous Related Teaching Positions

1996-7 Internet consultant/teacher educator. Rogers [WAVE@school](mailto:WAVE@school) project. Rogers Cablesystems, Inc. Toronto, ON.

1995 Business and writing communications instructor (ENG 349). Seneca College. Toronto, ON.

1995 Teacher on call. Branksome Hall. Toronto, ON.

1992-4 Visiting Assistant Professor. Department of Language Education (LANE). University of British Columbia. Vancouver, B.C.

1984-5 York House School and Vancouver College, Vancouver, B.C.: Secondary School Reading Consultant for ReadWrite Educational Services, San Diego, Ca. Taught study skills course to grades 8-12.

1983-90 Sessional Lecturer. Department of Language Education (LANE). University of British Columbia. Vancouver, B.C.

1974-6 High School Reading Resource Teacher. Midland Avenue Collegiate Institute. Scarborough, ON. (Sept-Mar)

1976 Elementary school Grade 7 and 8 teacher. Math Science Arts. Occasional Teacher.

1973-4 Elementary and High school Occasional Teacher. K-12.

1972-3 High school reading resource teacher. Massey-Vanier Regional High School, Cowansville, Que.

1971-2 Grade eight language arts teacher. Grade eleven ESL teacher. Massey-Vanier Regional High School, Cowansville, Que.

**Editorial Positions**

1989-90 Froese, Victor & Eberdt, Karen. Eds. Comp2. National Newsletter on computers and writing. AT&T Canada.

1987-88. Eberdt, Karen. Ed. LOMCIRA Newsletter. Lower Mainland Council of the International Reading Association. Vancouver, BC.

**Press and interviews**

https://educationnewscanada.com/article/education/level/university/1/788150/b-simulated-person-methodology-provides-education-students-with-a-unique-experiential-learning-opportunity.html

## Service: University Committees York

## 2000-2002 Member. Senate subcommittee on Teaching and Learning. York University. Toronto, ON.

## Service: University Committees UBC

1993-4 Member. President’s Advisory Committee on the Status of Women. University of British Columbia. Vancouver, BC.

1993-4 Member; Progressing through the Ranks Committee. University of British Columbia. Vancouver, BC

1993 Member. Faculty Retention subcommittee. University of British Columbia. Vancouver, BC. (July-August)

1993-4 Appointed representative of sessional lecturers. Faculty of Education Council. University of British Columbia. Vancouver, BC. Departmental Committees.

1993 Member. Mission Statement Committee. Department of Language Education. University of British Columbia.

1992-3 Elected Representative. Language Education Consultative Committee. University of British Columbia.

1991-2 Member. Language Education Resource Centre Committee. University of British Columbia.

**Innovations: York University Faculty of Education**

2019 **Simulated Person Methodology: “a ‘first’ in York University’s Faculty of Education”.**

https://yfile.news.yorku.ca/2019/09/11/simulated-person-methodology-provides-education-students-with-a-unique-experiential-learning-opportunity/

**Professional Workshops for administrators and teachers and technicians connecting to the internet for the first time through a gift from Rogers**

1995-6 Rogers WAVE@School. Training sessions for school board personel, technicians and teachers. These workshop sessions ranged from full-day sessions of five hours to smaller two-hour sessions for those boards in which only three or four people were involved. (Introductory training dates as follows: October 17: London Roman Catholic Separate School Board; October 18: London Board of Education; October 23: Ottawa Roman Catholic Separate School Board; October 24: Ottawa Board of education; October 25: Ottawa French language Protestant and Separate School Boards of Education. January: Peel Board of Education; Oxford Board of Education, Woodstock; Etobicoke Board of Education; April: Oxford Roman Catholic Separate School Board. Various other dates for each of the boards as well as a number of individual follow-up sessions for teachers and principals were conducted in each of the 39 schools.

1993 “Reading to learn: linking integrating and transforming” Workshop for Adult Basic Educators teaching in BC Community Colleges, March 11.

1993 Proposal reviewer for National Reading Conference.

1992 Proposal reviewer for National Reading Conference.

**Conference Co-chair with Mary Sakari at UBC**

1991 Department of Language Education Annual Summer Conference: “Language Assessment: measuring the magic”. University of British Columbia.

**International Conference Presentations and Publications:**

2024. “I have no hands to caress my face”: an exploration of the contemporary figure at the edge of invisibility. *Images and Imaginaries of Artificial Intelligence* Buenos Aires, Argentina, October 24-16, 2024. (*in process*).

2023 Disciplinary Literacies: today’s challenges and opportunities. *International Conference on Language, Literature, Culture, and Education* (ICLLCE-23) Vienna, Austria February 3, 2023

2022. Gender issues in literacy research. *Que(e)rying Gender conference: International Conference on Gender studies* London, UK. September 3-4.

2020 Documenting the ascendancy of the gaze: the rise of ocular centrism. Paper accepted for presentation at *The Eleventh International Conference of The Image.* University of New South Wales, Sydney Australia, Sept 9-10, 2020. NB accepted but not presented. Searching for a new venue.

2020 Ephemerality, liminality and the optical unconscious: the image of the self in a virtual world. Paper accepted for the *Conference of the College English Association,* Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, March 26-28. Conference cancelled due to Covid-19 Pandemic. Searching for a new venue.

2020 Father figures in popular culture: from *Boss Baby,* to *Bad Santa*. Paper accepted for the *Popular Culture Association Conference*, Philadelphia, April 15-18. Conference cancelled due to Covid-19 Pandemic. Searching for a new venue.

2019 Intersections of Literature, Politics and Narrative in a Fake News World: Huck Finn, Alice in Wonderland and Hannah Arendt’s conception of the “new” in Narrative. *America Literature in an era of Trump. Clinton Institute for American Studies*, University College Dublin, Ireland Dec 13-14.

2018 with Natasha Boskic. Paradox as a crucial element of online course design. *Online Learning 2018*, Toronto ON, October 17-19.

2018 The idea of internationalization in Higher Education and Smart Cities. *5th Annual Global Congress of Knowledge Economy: Seeking Sustainable Future in a Smart World.* Qingdao, China, September 7-9. (NB. Also Session Chair)

2017a “My eyes”: Vladimir and Vèra Nabokov. Beyond Genius and Muse. *Collaborating Couples: Conference* at the University of Bristol, Bristol, UK, April 17-19.

2017b Issues of time’s urgency and ritual in children’s literature: the role of grandparents. *International Conference on Arts, Social Sciences, History and Interdisciplinary Studies* (ASSHIS-2017), Kyoto, Japan, April 27-28.

2017c [Liminality and the optical unconscious: a closer look at the selfie. *Eighth International Conference on the Image.* Venice International University. Venice Italy. Oct 31-Nov 1](https://ontheimage.com/assets/downloads/image/X17FinalProgram.pdf).

2015 To what extent has the prevalence of online communication eliminated the need for handwriting instruction in schools? Paper presented at *Canadian Association for Studies in Education (CSSE)*, Ottawa, ON. June 1.

2014a Cursive writing in an internet age. Paper presented and published in the conference proceedings. *International Conference on Computer and Media Studies,* Venice, Italy, November 14-15.

2014b Haunted pilgrims: the absence of touch, the sounds of silence in online communication. Paper presented and published in the conference proceedings. *International Conference on Communication and Cultural Sciences*, Paris France, November 21-22.

2013a The masquerade of life, our many selves, and issues of privacy. Paper presented at the *International Conference on Open Learning and Distance Education (ICOLDE)* in Madrid, Spain, March 28-29, 2013.

2013b The importance of creating private space in an online world of constant surveillance. Paper presented at *International Perspectives on Technology-Enhanced Learning: lessons, challenges, possibilities*. July 11-13. University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC.

2013c Surveillance, privacy, and the postmodern self. *Ontario Access, Privacy, Security and Records Management Forum. Verney Conference Management.* Toronto ON, June 18-19, Metro Toronto Convention Centre. Plenary speaker.

2013d Privacy: why does it matter? *Paper accepted for publication and presentation at the International Conference on Open Learning and Distance Education (ICOLDE).* Madrid, Spain, March 28-29, 2013.

2012a Managing your online reputation: issues of ethics, trust and privacy in a wired, “no place to hide world”. *World Academy of Science, engineering and Technology, Issue 64, April 2012*, Paris France, pp.848-853.

2012b The importance of happiness with respect to individual and group learning. Paper presented at the *Investigating Our Practices 15th Annual Conference (IOP)*, University of British Columbia Faculty of Education and British Columbia Teacher’s Federation, Vancouver, BC, May 5, 2012.

2011a Online discussions: developing insight through asynchronous and synchronous conversations. Paper presented at the *Ubiquitous Learning Conference*, Vancouver, BC. Later published in the *Ubiquitous learning journal*, v 3, 2, pp. 1-8.

2011b The para-universe of a collaborative group: Strategies to ensure success. Paper published in the conference proceedings. *International Conference on Communication and Instructional Technology (ICCIT)* Bali, Indonesia, October 24-26, 2011.

2010a High wire act: the perils, pitfalls and possibilities of online discussions. *International Conference on Communication and Information Technologies*. Paris, France, October 27-29, 2010.

2010b (with Margaret Manson) What is lost and what remains: an exploration of pedagogical benefits of online discussions in two online teacher education learning communities, one in an exclusively web-based environment and one supplemented with face to face contact. *Language and Literacy, 12,2,*18-29*.*

2009a What is lost and what remains: an exploration of pedagogical benefits of online discussions in two online teacher education learning communities, one in an exclusively web-based environment and one supplemented with face-to-face contact. Paper presented at the *Language and Literacy Education Pre-Conference,* Ottawa, May 22, 2009.

2009b Wolf in sheep’s clothing?: ‘reading’ online. Paper presented at the *World Academy of Science, engineering and technology.* Paris, France, June 24-26. In Ardil, Cemil. Ed. *World Academy of Science, engineering and technology, 54*, 1077-1081.

2009c From I.A. Richards to Web 2.0: preparing our students for the future. Paper presented at the *World Congress on the Knowledge Society*. Venice, Italy. October 24-26, 2009.

2005 The work of three women researchers of the 1940s. Paper presented at the first *History of Reading Conference: The Reading Problem*. University of London, England, July 27-28.

2001 Learning about the future of literacy research through an examination of the past. Paper accepted for presentation at the *12th European Conference on Reading*, Dublin, Ireland, July 1-4.

2000a Lost threads in reading research: the forgotten contributions of women researchers of the thirties and forties. Paper accepted for presentation at *Canadian Society for Studies in Education (CSSE)* May 24.

2000b Moving beyond print literacy: seven implications for teachers. Paper presented at *National Council of Teachers of English Conference (NCTE)*, Milwaukee, WI, November 18.

1998 From Gutenberg to Gump: literacy how you’ve changed. Paper accepted for the *Educational Computing Organization of Ontario (ECCO*). April 30.

1996 The challenges and rewards of a free Internet connection. Paper presented at the *Arizona State University Computer Conference*, Phoenix, Arizona, March 8.

1995 Rogers CableLink-SCHOOL: an introduction. Paper presented at the *Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation Conference*. Woodstock, ON, November 17.

1994 Whose story is this, anyway?: changing narrative voice in twentieth century research on response to literature*. International Conference on Narrative Literature*. Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, BC, April 28-May 1.

1993a I am my brother’s keeper: reader response, Salman Rushdie and political correctness in the classroom. *Canadian Council of Teachers of English (CCTE)*, Regina, Saskatchewan, May 7.

1993b Bringing back the magic: language arts teacher as shaman. *Canadian Society for the studies in Education Conference (CSSE)*, Ottawa, June 12.

1993c Unseen partner in the dance: the crucial part played by science in twentieth century literary response research. Paper presented in English with simultaneous translation in Spanish at the *Ometeca Institute and the Universidad Autonoma Metropolitana-Zochimileo Working Conference on the relationship of the Humanities and Science* in Pueblo, Mexico, June 23-27.

1993d Individual and collective choice: two pivotal works of twentieth century research on response to literature. *National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)*, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, November 21.

1993e Is correctness a racist concept?: re-evaluating our notion of standards. *Canadian Ethnic Studies Association Twelfth Biennial Conference, Vancouver, BC*, November 29,

1992 The face in the mirror: changing perceptions of the reader in twentieth century research on response to literature. *National Reading Conference*, San Antonio, Texas, December 4. ERIC Document number 353 595.

1991a Response to literature: a retrospective look at the research. *National Reading Conference*. Palm Springs, California. December 5. ERIC Document number 353 594.

1991b Dynamics of change: speculation on a forthcoming model of response to literature. *National Reading Conference*. Palm Springs, California, December 5.

**Juries, Boards of Arts Organizations**

1996 One of five judges. A&E Teacher Grant competition. (Competition for the best teaching unit incorporating a television broadcast in a classroom learning unit plan.) Arts and Entertainment Channel. (A&E). Toronto ON.

1996 Judge. Fulford Debating Competition. The Bishop Strachan School. Toronto, ON.

**York University Research Funding**

2023 Travel Grant to present: “Disciplinary Literacies: today’s challenges and opportunities”. *International Conference on Language, Literature, Culture, and Education* (ICLLCE-23) Vienna, Austria February 3, 2023.

2022 Travel Grant to present: “Gender issues in literacy research”. *Que(e)rying Gender conference: International Conference on Gender studies* London, UK. September 3-4.

2021 with Steven Pinter. CUPE Research Grant. Solidarity through purpose, solidarity through technology: York University, community groups and social movements in the time of pandemics.

## 2021 CUPE Research Grant. Understanding the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on a sampling of Non-profit Community Organizations

2019a Research Grant to give a presentation in Ireland. Intersections of Literature, Politics and Narrative in a Fake News World: Huck Finn, Alice in Wonderland and Hannah Arendt’s conception of the “new” in Narrative. America Literature in an era of Trump. Clinton Institute for American Studies, University College Dublin, Ireland Dec 13-14.

2019b Travel Grant awarded to participate in the UNESCO Mobile Learning Week. Theme: Artificial Intelligence. Paris, France. March 1-5.

2017a Research Grant: awarded to present the paper, “Liminality and the optical unconscious: a closer look at the selfie.” Eighth International Conference on the Image. Venice International University. Venice Italy. Oct 31-Nov 1. 480138

2017b AIF Category 2 Grant 400. Awarded for the development of the Professional Masters’ Program in Leadership and Community Engagement course EDUC 7025. 480138

2017c Travel grant to present paper, “My eyes”: Vladimir and Vèra Nabokov. Beyond Genius and Muse. Collaborating Couples: Conference at the University of Bristol, Bristol, UK, April 17-19.

2005 York University Travel Grant to present paper at the first History of Reading Conference: The Reading Problem. University of London, UK. July 27-28.

2002 York University CUPE Unit 2 Minor Teaching Development Grant: *Overcoming homophobia in the classroom: a bibliography of resources.* April 11.

2000 York University Travel Grant to present paper at the National Council of Teachers of English, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, November 17-22. Generic research grant 496065.

1999 York University Travel grant to attend the Developmental Studies centre Pre-service Teacher Educator’s Institute at the University of California. Berkeley California. Generic Research Grant 496065.

## Service: Professional

2021 *International Journal of Early Years Education*. Reviewer of manuscript entitled, “When and Why do Early Childhood Educators Reminisce with Children about their Past Experiences?”

2013a Member of the International Advisory Committee for a Conference in India entitled, "Education as a right across all levels: challenges, opportunities and strategies" which will take place March 10-11, 2014.

2013b Member of the editorial review board for the *Himgiri Education Review* in India.

2013c Guest reviewer for *Archivaria* of "Archives and the State of Surveillance: Ethical Challenges in the Post-Panoptic World"

2013d Member of Scientific Technical Committee and Editorial Board on Human and Social Sciences. Planetary Scientific Research Centre

[www.psrcentre.org](https://webmail.edu.yorku.ca/owa/redir.aspx?C=2f130cb8f75a4e639f6c817d820daa9b&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.psrcentre.org%2f)

2013e International Committee Member, World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology (since 2005)

2011 Associate Editor for *Ubiquitous learning journal*

2008-2010 Reviewer for *Reading Psychology*

2009 Guest reviewer for Reading Psychology

2008 Guest reviewer for *Reading Psychology*

2008 Guest reviewer for *Journal of Curriculum Studies*

2000 Guest reviewer for *Journal of Curriculum Studies*

1999 Guest reviewer for *Journal of Curriculum Inquiry*

1993 Guest reviewer for *Alberta Journal of Educational Research*

1993 Proposal reviewer for National Reading Conference.

1992 Proposal reviewer for National Reading Conference.

**Community Service**

(Continuing) Sustaining member of the Junior League of Toronto. (Member Junior League of Montreal 1972-3; Junior League of Toronto 1973-81; Junior League of Los Angeles 1981-82; Junior League of Vancouver 1983-90; Advisory Future Planning Chairman Junior League of Vancouver 1984-85; **50-years of service recognition at the Awards banquet in May 2022**)

2007-2013 Sponsor parent for three children through World Vision: Maria Jose Crespin in El Salvador (2007), Ganardene Baasanjav in Mongolia (2008) and Fred Ingabire in Rwanda (2009**).**

2009 [Weekend to End Breast Cancer two day walk August 14-16.](http://www.endcancer.ca/site/TR/Events/Vancouver2009?px=2875465&pg=personal&fr_id=1320&fl=en_CA+&et=swFhm0ylLe2GsYzNCy8CRg..&s_tafId=219294) Fundraised $2,050 for Vancouver Walk.