Stanford

Shaleen Brawn

Advanced Lecturer, Program in Writing and Rhetoric

Bio

BIO

I received my B.A. in English from Yale University and my Ph.D. from Stanford's Program in Modern Thought and Literature. My dissertation looked at how a single text, Uncle Tom's Cabin, was re-mobilized by various social and political actors after the Civil War to construct a variety of contradictory positions on slavery, civil war, and political activism. In that spirit, I approach writing as a performative act not just for authors but for audiences. My work on science communication is similarly concerned with the way shifts in audience and context create challenges for science writers both popular and professional. Apart from teaching in PWR, I am the Artistic Director and Non-Fiction Editor for Aunt Lute Books, an independent press located in San Francisco. I am the co-editor of the two -volume Aunt Lute Anthology of U.S. Women Writers.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Advanced Lecturer, Program in Writing and Rhetoric

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- PhD, Stanford University , Modern Thought and Literature (2000)

Research & Scholarship

CURRENT RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

SPECIALIZATION: Rhetoric of Science and Technology, Science Communication, Publishing as Process and Institution

Teaching

COURSES

2026-27

- Introduction to Writing and Rhetoric at Stanford: UAR 45WR (Aut)
- Writing & Rhetoric 1: The Rhetoric of Robots and Artificial Intelligence: PWR 1SBB (Aut, Win, Spr)

2025-26

- Heroes and Heroism: ESF 23 (Aut)
- Writing & Rhetoric 1: The Rhetoric of Robots and Artificial Intelligence: PWR 1SBB (Win, Spr)
- Writing & Rhetoric 2: In the Moment: The Rhetoric of Time: PWR 2HKA (Aut)

2024-25

- Writing & Rhetoric 1: The Rhetoric of Robots and Artificial Intelligence: PWR 1SBB (Aut)

- Writing & Rhetoric 2: The Rhetoric of Human Enhancement: PWR 2SBA (Win, Spr, Sum)

2023-24

- Writing & Rhetoric 1: The Rhetoric of Robots and Artificial Intelligence: PWR 1SBB (Aut)
- Writing & Rhetoric 2: The Rhetoric of Human Enhancement: PWR 2SBA (Win, Spr, Sum)

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Biosciences Proposal Bootcamp: Structured peer and faculty feedback improves trainees' proposals and grantsmanship self-efficacy.** *PloS one*
  Botham, C. M., Brawn, S. n., Steele, L. n., Barrón, C. B., Kleppner, S. R., Herschlag, D. n.
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