Saeed Sabzian, PhD

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Teaching since 1994, I am a rhetorician who applies the interdisciplinary models of research in two main areas of *aesthetics* and *rhetoric*. My aesthetic interest is in *American literature*, including *science fiction,* and the connection between *literature* and the audiovisual artifacts such as *film*. My interdisciplinary, rhetorical inquiry in the areas of *aural rhetoric*, *visual rhetoric*, and cognitive study of the *emotions*, is focused on the goals of liberal arts education in improving society, bridging people and empowering the deprivileged. My teaching in literature, literary criticism, culture and communication, including the craft and techniques of literary translation, is aided by high impact technology in the classroom. My post-PhD research and writing are focused on aural, visual and sequential rhetoric applied to American artifacts. I have nine published translations, from literary theory to the novel, to the short story.

**Teaching Expertise**

Aural Rhetoric, Visual Rhetoric, American literature, science fiction, rhetoric and writing, culture of fear and anxiety, multimodal criticism of fiction and film, and communication in science and humanities.

**Qualifications and Training**

* Teaching English Studies, Rhetoric, Literary Theory, and Communication/Composition to multi-lingual students, on-campus and on-line
* Understanding and commitment to serving diverse students in a fostering setting
* Excellent research standards and effective communication of research
* Experience in teaching cultural rhetoric, and civic engagement, especially in empowering minorities
* Computer literacy and high impact use of technology in the classroom
* Understanding of the goals of liberal arts education and its goal of social change
* Connecting Anglophone cultures to Persian culture through professional experience in translation as an effective cross-cultural mediation tool
* Knowledge and practice in teaching translation across fields, including humanities and literary theory

**Language Skills**

Spoken, Read, Witten: English and Persian

Read: Arabic and French

**Education**2017 Doctor of Philosophy, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Canada Rhetoric, Discourse Analysis, Multimodal Criticism  
 Dissertation: *Aural, Ocular, and Sequential Rhetoric in Two Contemporary American Stories, in  
 Prose and Film: Patterns of Anxiety in Fight Club and The Road*  
   
 Interdisciplinary Rhetorical examination of the so-called ‘culture of anxiety’ in American  
 science fiction and fiction, arguing that texts colonize the audience’s consciousness multimodally.   
 Dissertation accepted unanimously as excellent. External examiner, Abby Coykendall,  
 wrote: “an original contribution to knowledge.”

**Committee**: Randy Allen Harris (Waterloo, supervisor); Michael MacDonald and Kevin McGuirk  
 (readers, Waterloo); Abby Coykendall (examiner, Eastern Michigan University) and Glenn Stillar

(examiner, Waterloo).

# 2008 Master of Arts, Azad University, Central Branch, Tehran, Iran English, Literary Theory and The Novel *Poetics of Postmodernism in Peter Ackroyd’s Novels*

Supervisor: Dr. Jalal Sokhanvar

2001 Bachelor of Arts English, Allameh Tabatabaei University, Tehran, Iran.

**Teaching Experience in Various Environments: 1994 to present**

**A. Canadian Post-Secondary Teaching, Fall 2011- Winter 2019**

**Lecturer**, University of Waterloo, Canada, 2014-Winter 2018

**Science Communication** (in Physical & Life Sciences) **5 Sections, Fall 2018-Winter 1019**

A course for life sciences/physical sciences that enhances students’ capacity to share research findings, communicate ethically and effect important change. Emphasizing on agency and confidence in communication of research to internal and external audiences, including scientists, government stakeholders, affected communities, or broader publics, the course explores a variety of genres such as research reports, grant proposals, conference abstracts, conference posters, public talk, podcasts and town halls to enhance students in written and oral communication.

***Composition and Rhetoric,*** Sheridan College **2 Sections, Fall 2018**

An advanced level English course which focuses on the art of argument and persuasion. Students explore the function and strategies of argument through reading, writing and oral presentations. In this course, students examine different theoretical models for organizing arguments and presenting evidence, employ primary and secondary sources in research, and construct their own arguments.

**Literary Criticism,** University of Waterloo **Taught 1 Section**   
A survey of the theory of literature from the beginning to the present. The course familiarizes students with debates on the nature and function of arts and literature throughout history, giving students tools to explore literature with an emphasis on the social aspect of literary texts. The course prepares students to examine and write about literature and arts in topics such as identity, community, politics, society as well as the nature of literary texts.  
**Academic Writing,** University of Waterloo **Taught 8 Sections** Exploration of a variety of issues in academic writing such as style, argumentation, and information presentation. The course enhances students’ skills in discovery of research, interpretation/criticism of the existing scholarship, and communication of students’ own contribution to scientists, professors, and the public.

**Introduction to Rhetorical Study**, University of Waterloo **Taught 1 section**  
 A study and practice of persuasion, including the history and theory of rhetoric, the structures and strategies of arguments, and the analysis of texts and artifacts.

**Teaching Assistant**, University of Waterloo, Canada, 2011-2014

***Communications in Mathematics & Computer Science*** **Taught 5 Sections** Objective to build students' oral and written communication skills in preparation for academic and workplace demands. Students worked both independently and in collaboration to analyze and to produce various written and spoken forms of communication.

**B. Teaching in Other Cultures– Post-Secondary: Iran, 1994-2011**

**Lecturer**, 2005-2010

Literary *Translation,* Mahan Higher Education Institute, Tehran, Iran **Taught 5 Sections**Designed and taught strategies of translating English texts in Literary Theory as a prerequisite qualification for entrance into Ph.D. programs in Persian Literature.

**Lecturer,** 2009

***Literary Periods****,* Azad University of Ghae’mshahr, Iran **Taught 1 Section**Designed the syllabus and taught English Literature from 15th to 20th Century

***Literary Translation I*** **Taught 1 Section**Designed and taught strategies of translating English literary texts, including novels, poetry, and  
drama, to Persian

***Introduction to English Literature II*** **Taught 1 Section**Designed and taught various genres, styles, conventions, and themes in drama, poetry and short story.

**High School Teacher**,1994-2011

***Full Time High School English Teacher***, Ministry of Education, Tehran, Iran

Taught nationally assigned Textbooks, focused on reading, listening, speaking, and writing. Assigned and marked homework; gave exams, marked and advised students for their future studies.

**Online Teaching and Webinars**

***Disability Studies***, Tavaana: E-Learning Institute, Washington D.C. 2017

Designed and taught. Objective: to change the popular assumption on disability, to raise awareness of civil rights and to bring about changes in policy-making.

***Minorities and Politics of Culture***, Tavaana: E-Learning Institute. 2016

Designed and taught to promote advocacy for social justice and the democratic rights of minorities, including physical and mental disabilities as well as gender, linguistic, religious, and ethnic minorities.

**Publication in Persian: Authored and Translated**

**Books Authored in Persian**

* **Sabzian, Saeed.** *Body and Power: Disability and Social Change,* Washington D.C: Tavaana.   
  A manual that introduces Disability Studies in three areas: Culture, Policy, and Human Rights. 2015
* Kazazi , Mir Jall-e-Din and **Sabzian, Saeed**. *A Hypertext Dictionary of Literary Theory and Criticism*.   
   Tehran: Morvarid, 2009

An explanatory dictionary of main terms in rhetoric, literary theory, and related fields.

**Books Translated into Persian**   
 **A. Literary Theory**

* Abrams, M.H. *A Glossary of Literary Terms*, Tehran: Rahnama. Trans. **Saeed Sabzian.** 2004
* Klages, Mary. *Literary Theory: A Guide for the Perplexed*. Trans. Elahe Dehnav, **Saeed Sabzian**, and Jalal  
   Sokhanvar. Tehran: Akhtaran, 2009.

**B. Novels**

* Ackroyd, Peter. *Dan Leno and The Limehouse Golem*. Trans. Lorestani, Ensieh and Saeed Sabzian Tehran,  
   Afraz, 2010.

**C. Short Stories**

* Trevor, William. *The Hill Bachelors*. Elahe Dehnav, **Saeed Sabzian** Tehran: Afraz, 2009  
   A collection of short stories.

**D. Translation Theory**

* Newmark, Peter, *A Textbook of Translation*, Tehran: Rahnama. Trans. **Saeed** **Sabzian** and Mansour  
   Fahim, 2003.

**E. ESL Academic Books**

* Matthiesen, Steven J. *Essential Words for TOEFL*, Tehran: Rahnama. Trans. Nikmanesh, Kaveh and **Saeed  
   Sabzian,** 2009.  
   ESL book for students aspiring to continue postsecondary education in Canada and the U.S.A.

**Published Essays in Persian**

**Sabzian, Saeed.** *A Rhetoric of Music: Repression and Longing,* Washington, D.C: Tavaana. 2015

**Sabzian, Saeed***. Intertextuality* in William Trevor’s Reading Turgenov.” *Critique,* Ketab-e-Mah:  
 134:44-40. Dec. 2008

**Book in Process**

*Aural, Ocular, and Sequential Rhetoric: A Multimodal Approach for Understanding Fiction and Film*

Dissertation re-shaped into a book with revisions and new explorations.

**Publication in Peer-Reviewed Journals: In Process**

Research papers written as individual chapters; developments from dissertation.

* Sabzian, Saeed. Psychoachostics of Anxiety in Prose and Film of *Fight Club*
* Sabzian, Saeed. Aural Rhetoric: Audioscenes of Anxiety in *The Road,* Film and Novel
* **Sabzian, Saeed** and David Shakespeare. *Rhetoric of Literature*, volume editors for the journal *Rhetor* the journal of CSSR. Submitted proposal on May 30, 2017.

**Conference Presentations**

* Congress of Humanities, Toronto, 2017, University of Regina, Regina, SA, 2018“Aural Rhetoric: How It Works”
* Popular Culture Association of Canada, Niagara Falls, 2018

“Aural Rhetoric: Theory and Practice”

* Congress of Humanities, Toronto, 2017

*Canadian Disability Studies Association*   
 “Poetics of Disability”

* Popular Culture Association of Canada, Niagara Falls, 2017

“Visual Rhetoric: A Hybrid Framework for the Study of Visual Persuasion in Prose and Cinema”

* Congress of Humanities, University of Ottawa, 2015

“Sound of Fear in The Road, Film and Novel”

* Popular Culture Association of Canada, Niagara Falls, 2015

“Sound of Fear in Fight Club, Film and Novel”

**Awards**

Research in Motion Graduate Scholarship in English Language and Literature 2011  
The award given “to students of outstanding potential and achievement.”

Arts Graduate Experience Award 2011, 2012, 2013

UW/Faculty of Arts Graduate Scholarship 2012

International Doctoral Student Award 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015

University of Waterloo Graduate Scholarship 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015

UW/Faculty of Arts Graduate Scholarship, 2012, 2013

English Graduate Scholarship 2011, 2014, 2015, 2015

Millennium Graduate Student Bursary 2015, 2016

PhD Thesis Completion Award 2016

Recent Graduate Travel Award, University of Regina 2018

**Educational Development:**

**Workshops Taken:**

Figuring Computers, Computing Figures 2, University of Waterloo, 2014

Figuring Computers, Computing Figures 1, University of Waterloo, 2012

**Professional Affiliations**

Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric, 2014-present

Film Studies Association of Canada, 2016-present

Popular Culture Association of Canada, 2014-present

**Professional Activity**

2009 Coordinated critical lectures at Students Club, University of Tehran.

2010Coordinated critical talks at Rahbord Higher Education Institute, Tehran.

**Service to the University**

**Tri-University Symposium, University of Waterloo,** 2016

Collaborated to organize the colloquium between three universities; based on the submitted papers, my role was to search, contact, and bring together faculty members to chair the panels.

**References**

1. Dr. Randy Allen Harris, Professor of English at the University of Waterloo  
   My PhD supervisor; I also took a couple of courses with him.  
   Phone: 5198884567 Extension **35362**Email: [raha@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:raha@uwaterloo.ca)
2. Dr. Kevin McGuirk, Associate professor of English at the University of Waterloo  
   My PhD dissertation reader; I also took a course with him.

* Phone: 5198884567 Extension 32419
* Email: [kmcguirk@uw](mailto:kmcguirk@uwaterloo.ca)[aterloo.ca](mailto:kmcguirk@watarts.uwaterloo.ca)

1. Dr. Jay Dolmage, Associate professor of English at the University of Waterloo  
   I took a course with him. I have taught a course on disability studies in consultation with him and he was a guest speaker in my class.  
   Phone: 5198884567 Extension **31035**Email: [dolmage@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:dolmage@uwaterloo.ca)