

# **Dr. Britta Padberg-Schmitt**

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## **EDUCATION**

### ***Legal Studies, October 1999 - July 2003***

Westphalian Wilhelm's University, Muenster, Germany

Completed all coursework and internships for the acceptance to the first state exam, *Oct. 2002*

### ***Doctor of Philosophy in German Studies, January 1997***

New York University, Graduate School of Arts & Science (G.S.A.S.), New York, NY, USA

PhD Thesis: Theories in Use: A Comparison of Reading Models, their Application to the Classroom and their Influence in German Reading Textbooks at the Intermediate Level of Language Instruction (Michigan: UMI, 1997)

### ***Masters of Arts in German Studies, February 1992***

New York University, Graduate School of Arts & Science (G.S.A.S.), New York, NY, USA

### ***Somme semester Abroad, May-September 1989***

New York University in cooperation with the Sorbonne University, Paris, France

### ***Bachelor of Arts in French and German Studies with a minor in Math and Computer Science, May 1990***

New York University, College of Arts and Science (W.S.U.C.), New York, NY, USA

## **ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

### **FFA (Fachspezifische Fremdsprachen Ausbildung - Additional Legal Studies in US Law), Oct.1999 - 2001**

***Westphalian Wilhelm's University, Muenster, Germany***

- 2-year program in American law, completed January 2002, grade: 1,7 (1,0 being the highest on a scale of 1,0-5,0)

### **ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) Oral Proficiency Interview Workshop, November 14-18, 1994**

***Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia, USA***

- Workshop to become an ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interviewer.

## **INTERNSHIPS**

### **DEUTSCHES HAUS, New York, NY, USA, 1991, 1993, *Instructor and Intern***

- 1991: Internship: Developed new methods for teaching adult learners in intermediate and advanced German language courses. Combination of German and US methods due to team-teaching with German pedagogy students visiting for various German universities.

## **EXPERIENCE**

### **WESTPHALIAN WILHELM'S UNIVERSITY, English Seminar, Muenster, Germany, 2008-today,**

- ***Adjunct Instructor:*** Taught and planned introductory courses in Linguistics and Pedagogy, plus specialized BA and MA seminars (Literature from New England in American Studies, American Dialects in Linguistics, Using US Folklore in the EFL Classroom in Didactics), Master's in Education seminars (Reading Theory in the EFL Classroom).
- Additionally, taught courses for the Masters of Transnational/National Studies (Masters Language Seminar, as well as a MA seminar on John Irving), Masters of British, American and Post-Colonial Studies (Proposal Writing and Conferences), Book Studies Department (About the Book: history of publishing in the US and legal issues to keep in mind when publishing)

- Mentoring of BA and MA candidates for oral exams as well as mentoring their theses.

**WESTPHALIAN WILHELM'S UNIVERSITY, SPZ (Sprachenzentrum – Language Institute), Muenster, Germany, October 1999-2014,**

- **Lecturer:** Taught medical English, legal English as well as Business English courses at an advanced level of language instruction.
- **Examiner:** Coordinated and examined students for the UNICert-III Exams in medical as well as business English.
- **Examiner:** Created, corrected the written FFA exams (additional legal certificate in US Law) as well as oral exams for the 2-year FFA program, Oct. 2002 - 2014
- **Coordinator of ERASMUS trainers & Instructor:** Taught as well as supervised and coordinated the German instructors for the intensive 2-week language courses at the WWU for ERASMUS students coming from various European countries to study in Muenster, Oct. 2002, April 2003, Oct. 2003, April 2004

**ST. FRANZISKUS HOSPITAL, School of Nutrition, Muenster, Germany, 1998-2009, Instructor and Director of the English Program,**

- Developed and taught the English courses for the 3-year training program.
- “English in our Clinic” additional training session for nurses in practical medical English terms in order to facilitate the interaction with foreigners in the hospital (2007-2010).

**FREELANCE TRANSLATION SERVICES, Muenster, Germany, 1997-today**

- Translation of books, longer texts as well as academic papers for various institutes at the WWU (Biology, Music, the English Department, at the Law School and Medical Schools), as well as the Euregio, the Landschaftsverband Westfalen-Lippe (euro net, in Brussels), SAP Systems Integration AG, Ruhrkohle AG Dortmund, Benedict Language School (ExpertText), DiaMed, a pharmaceutical company based in Muenster, to name a few.

**UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES, NURSING DEPARTMENT, Muenster, Germany, 1998-2000, Instructor & Director of the English Program,**

- Lectures as well as language courses for medical English topics for Nursing Managers as well as Nursing Trainers.
- Coordination of the Exchange Programs with UCSF (University of California, San Francisco), translated contracts to create the “Study Abroad Program” with Prof. Dr. Regina Lorenz-Krause.

**RECHT UND SPRACHEN e.V. (Association of the FFA Program), Muenster, Deutschland, 1999, Director**

- Coordinated daily administrative tasks for the association as well as planned the „Continuing Legal Education“ Conference from Sept. 30 until October 02, 1999 that allowed practicing American attorneys to fulfill their required hours for the American Bar Association

**ADULT SCHOOL (VOLKSHOCHSCHULE) MUENSTER, Germany, October 1997-2000,**

- **Instructor:** Taught various language courses (German and English), conversational courses as well as medical English and additionally created a course in conjunction with the unemployment office in Muenster entitled „MOVE” that enabled unemployed individuals to seek employment in England as well as in Germany.
- **Simultaneous Translator:** (German, French and English) for a “Transnational Meeting” of the “Key Skills” groups for the AGIR 2000, an international commission which promotes various projects for unemployed European Citizens Europe-wide.

**BERLITZ, Muenster, Germany, 1997, Instructor**

- Taught various language courses using the BERLITZ-Method.

**INSTITUT FOR PHARMACEUTICAL TECHNOLOGY, Westphalian Wilhelm's University, Muenster, Germany, 1997, Assistant**

- Translated and prepared various papers for publication in the US and Europe.

**BURDA MEDIA, INC., New York, NY, USA, 1992-1996, Editor**

- Various tasks for publishing house's office in New York such as article and picture selection, fact-checking, coordination of photo shoots, archiving materials, researching inquiries from Germany, writing articles on various topics and many other additional editorial tasks for articles in Focus, Forbes, ELLE, Bunte, Holiday, Freundin und Transmedia (daily internal newsletter).

**NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, New York, NY, USA, 1991-1996, Assistant to the Language Director**

- Supported the Language Director of the German Department.
- Planned and developed language courses for various levels of language instruction (Reading for Master's purposes, introductory to advanced German classes and German culture classes.
- Trained new instructors and mentored them during the term.

**PUBLICATIONS**

(Winter 2012) Two Chapters on (1) English (with Lisa Jansen) and (2) Spanish Immigrants in Germany (with Sara Fernandez Cuenca) in Halyna Leontiy (Hg.), **Multikulturelles Deutschland im Sprachvergleich** in the Series: *TransLIT. Sprach-, Literatur- und Kulturkontraste*, LIT Verlag.

(Being considered) "A critical look at reading and SLA theory with respect to transferable skills from native to foreign/second language reading instruction for children," *Children's Literature in English Language Education (CLELE – E-Journal)*, date pending.

**CONFERENCES**

Planning Committee, TEFL Day: Refugees & Diversity: Inclusion Strategies for ELT, University of Muenster, Muenster, Germany, February 16, 2016

"A critical look at reading and SLA theory with respect to transferable skills from native to foreign/second language reading instruction," Challenging Reading: English-Language Education with Children and Teenagers (International Conference), University of Muenster, Germany, March 10-12, 2016

Planning Committee, TEFL Day: Teaching Children's and Teen Literature & Film, University of Muenster, Muenster, Germany, March 10, 2016

Planning Committee, TEFL Day: Media in the EFL Classroom, University of Muenster, Muenster, Germany, February 19, 2014.

"Theories in USE: How to use what we know in the classroom- reading made simple," Lecture Series: Hotspots in Literary/ Cultural Studies and Linguistics, University of Muenster, Germany, December 2010

"The Use of Video in the Proficiency Oriented Classroom," The Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, New York, NY, USA, April 4, 1996

"The Ph.D.: To Be or Not to Be Completed (alternatives for PhD candidates in today's market)," Modern Language Association Conference, Chicago, Illinois, USA, 1December 27-29, 1995

"Outlining the Reading Process" (Chapter One from "Theories in Use"), German Graduate Student Dissertation Colloquium, New York University, New York, NY, USA, April 17, 1995

"Pre-reading Activities That Facilitate Cross-Cultural Readings of Literary Texts," The Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, New York, NY, USA, April 6-9, 1995

Planning Committee, NYU Graduate Student Association Conference, New York University, New York, NY, USA, February 12-14, 1993 and April 26-27, 1996

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

American Association of Teachers of German (AATG), 1990-2005; American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL), 1990-2005; Modern Language Association (MLA), 1990-2005; American Association of University Women (AAUW), 1994-2000; Recht und Sprachen e.V., since 1999

## **COMPUTER SKILLS**

Languages: Basic, Assembler, Pascal, HTML; Operating Systems: DOS, Mac OS, Microsoft Windows; Software: MS Word, Works, Word Perfect, Outlook, Internet Explorer, Photoshop, Winfax, MS Excel.

## **HONORS**

Altenhein Scholarship (Stipend), German Department, NYU, NY, NY, USA, 1991-1992  
Five Year Outstanding Community Service Award, Montclair, New Jersey, USA, 1992  
Dean's List, New York Universität, NY, NY, USA, 1989-1990  
Delta Phi Epsilon Most Active Sister Award, New York University, NY, NY, USA, 1990

## **VOLUNTEER WORK**

FACHSCHAFTVORSITZENDE, Schiller Gymnasium/ Kreuz Schule, Muenster, Germany, 2012 – today

- Have had various posts in the schools (elementary as well as now secondary schools) to help coordinate work between teachers, parents and instructors in the various sections of the teacher training process in Germany (practical work in the classrooms as well as theoretical training at the university).

DEMOCRATS ABROAD, Muenster Chapter, Muenster, Germany, *Member*, 2015 - today

GERMAN GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION, New York University, NY, NY, 1990-97  
*Member*

- Organized two conferences (2/12-14/1993 and 4/26-27/1996).

DELTA PHI EPSILON INTERNATIONAL SORORITY, NY, NY, USA, 1993-1994, *Mentor*

- Supervised and advised sorority after completion of degrees for an additional year (Treasurer, Vice President during university years and Pledge Class President).
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MONTCLAIR PARKS DEPARTMENT, Montclair, NJ, USA, 1987-1997, *Volunteer Ski Instructor*

- Ski instructor for children in 1-12 grades in various ski area in Northern New Jersey.

## **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

Bilingual native English and German speaker. French language skills are advanced.

## **PERSONAL**

Born May 6, 1968 in Mannheim, Germany. American and German citizen currently living abroad. Married with 2 children: Franziska Marie (13) & Franz Josef (11).