

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Janice (Jan) Gross

Grinnell College  
Department of French and Arabic  
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### Education

Ph.D., The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Romance Languages and Literatures  
M.A., The Ohio State University; Department of Romance Languages, (French)  
A.B., The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, magna cum laude, French and history

<b>Positions</b>	2017 - pres	Seth Richards Professor in Modern Languages, emerita
	2012-2017	Senior Faculty Status, Grinnell College
<b>Held</b>	2001-pres	Seth Richards Professor in Modern Languages
	1995	Professor of French, Grinnell College
	1985-94	Associate Professor of French, Grinnell College
	1980-85	Assistant Professor of French, Grinnell College
	1977-79	Instructor of French, Grinnell College

### Performance

*More Than Skin Deep: Conversations Across Difference at the Color Line*, performed with Heather-Lobban Viravong, directed by Lesley Delmenico, Drake Community Library, Grinnell IA, 10/22, 2022. (Funded by Mellon Presidential Grant for Connecting People through Humanities)

### Translation

Benaïssa, Slimane. The Last Night of a Damned Soul. Trans. Janice Gross and Daniel Gross. New York: Grove Press, 2004.

### Publications (refereed or invited)

“*Au-delà du voile* de Slimane Benaïssa: de la mise en parole arabe à la mise en scène occidentale.” in Les Dramaturgies arabes et l’Occident, Eds, Omar Fertat and Zohra Makach. Presses universitaires de Bordeaux, Horizons/Théâtre 12 (2018): 110-128.

“Au-delà du tragique: une traversée théâtrale -- entretien avec Slimane Benaïssa.” French Review 87.4 (2014): 153-169.

“Performing Beyond Trauma: Stages of Recovery in Slimane Benaïssa's Theatre.” The Unspeakable: Representations of Trauma in Francophone Literature and Art. Eds., Névine El Nossery and Amy L. Hubbell. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2013. 73-93.

Passages et ancrages en France: Dictionnaire des écrivains migrants de langue française 1981-2011 Eds., Beate Burtscher-Bechter and Birgit Mertz-Baumgartner. Paris: Honoré Champion, 2012. Entries: S. Benaïssa (145-148); A. Chouaki (226-228); M. Fellag (358-360); F. Gallaire (367-368); M. Kacimi (447-448). (Invited contributor)

“*Algérie, je t’aime*: Mapping Female Desire in Albert Camus, Maïssa Bey, and Mohamed Kacimi” in Albert Camus aujourd’hui: De l’Etranger au Premier homme Ed., Alek Baylee Toumi. Peter Lang, 2012. 111-126.

“Performing at the Crossroads of France and Algeria: Slimane Benaïssa and Mohamed Kacimi.” French Review 83.6 (2010): 1258-1271.

“Albert Camus and Contemporary Algerian Playwrights: A Shared Faith in Dialogue.” Albert Camus, précurseur. Ed. Alek Baylee Toumi. Peter Lang, 2009. 127-140.

“Making Reel to Real Contact: Film in the Contemporary French Culture Course.” French Review 80.4 (2007): 782-800.

“France and Algeria: Performing the ‘Impossible Memory’ of a Shared Past.” Memory, Empire and Postcolonialism. Ed. Alec Hargreaves. Lexington, 2005. 218-235.

“Revisiting ‘*nos ancêtres les Gaulois*’: Scripting and Postscripting Francophone Identity.” French Review 78.5 (2005): 948-959.

“Performing the Future of Memory: Algerian Playwrights in France.” Modern Drama 46.1 (2003): 73-93.

“The Tragedy of Algeria: Slimane Benaïssa's Drama of Terrorism.” Theatre Journal 54 (2002): 369-387.

“Staging the Social Drama of Maghrebi Women in the Theatre of Fatima Gallaire.” Between Anthropology and Literature: Interdisciplinary Discourse Ed. Rose De Angelis. Routledge, 2002. 99-117.

“Entretien avec Fatima Gallaire.” Le Maghreb littéraire 6.11 (2002): 101-126.

“Rêves d'utopie dans le théâtre de Fatima Gallaire.” La subversion du réel: Stratégies esthétiques dans la littérature algérienne contemporaine. Eds., Beate Burtscher-Bechter and Birgit Mertz-Baumgartner. Paris: L'Harmattan, 2001. 157-172.

Invited contributor, Feminist Encyclopedia of French Literature, Ed. Eva Sartori. Greenwood Press, 1999. Entries: Catherine Anne, Josiane Balasko, Simone Benmussa, Denise Bonal, Denise Chalem, Louise Doutreligne, Michèle Foucher, Fatima Gallaire, Madeleine Laïk, Louise Lambrichs, Dominique Rolin, Danièle Sallenave, and Jeannine Worms.

“A Telling Side of Narration: Direct Discourse and French Women Writers” French Review 66. 3 (1993): 401-411.

“Women Writing Across Purposes: The Theatre of Marguerite Duras and Nathalie Sarraute” Special Issue: Women in Theatre, Modern Drama 32.1 (1989): 39-47.

“A Sense of Direction: The Author in Contemporary French Theater” Modern Drama 28.3 (1985): 413-430.

"The Where and the Wherefore: A Study of Spatiality in Molière's Theater" French Forum, 7.1 (1982): 37-45.

### **Book Reviews**

Rev. of Aesthetic Citizenship: Immigration and Theater in Twenty-First-Century Paris by Emine Fisek. Theatre Journal 71 (2019): 121–122.

Rev. of Albert Camus : The Algerian : Colonialism, Terror, and Justice by David Carroll. French Review 83.1 (2009): 170-171.

Rev. of Ecriture, théâtralité et mise en scène, ed. Josette Féral. Sub-Stance 16.3 (1987): 82-84.

Rev. of L'Avenir du drame, by Jean-Pierre Sarrazac. Sub-Stance 13.1 (1984): 108-110.

Rev. of Lettre ouverte aux futurs illettrés, by Paul Guth. French Review 55: 1 (1981): 169-170.

Rev. of Seventeenth-Century French Drama: The Background, by John Lough. Theater Survey 22:1 (1981): 109-111.

### **Presentations (refereed)**

(Featured speaker) "Prises de paroles au féminin : les enjeux du 'je' dans le théâtre algérien." Festival International du théâtre de Béjaïa, Algeria, October 2018.

"*Au-delà du voile* de Slimane Benaïssa: de la mise en parole arabe à la mise en scène occidentale" Colloque international: Les Dramaturgies arabes et l'Occident, Bordeaux, France, October 2016.

"Performing Beyond the Veil: Mediterranean Crossing of *Au-delà du voile* by Slimane Benaïssa" *International Federation of Theatre Research*, Helsinki, Finland, May 2015.

"Representing Abd el-Kader in Film," Post-screening talkback, Salem Brahimi's film *Abd el-Kader*, Milwaukee Muslim Film Festival, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, March 26, 2015.

"Understanding France, Islam, and the Charlie Hebdo Killings," Panelist, *Recent Events in France: A Conversation*, Grinnell College, February 18, 2015.

"From Abdelkader to Elkader: Stories of Connection to Iowa, Islam, and Algeria" (with John Kiser, author of *Commander of the Faithful: The Life and Times of Emir Abd el-Kader*), Symposium: *A Muslim Saint in Iowa: Interreligious Dialogue and the Legacy of The Emir Abd el-Kader*, Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa, September 22, 2014.

"Iowa, Islam, and Algeria: Bridging the Local and the Global in Small-Town Iowa," *Iowa Humanities Festival*, Salisbury House, Des Moines, April 2014.

"From Abdelkader to Elkader: Building Bridges Across Time, Place, and Difference," *Abdelkader Education Project Forum*, Elkader, Iowa, May 2014.

"Slimane Benaïssa: Performing the Tightrope of Franco-Algerian Memory,"

*Franco-Maghrebi Crossings* International Conference, Winthrop-King Institute for Contemporary French and Francophone Studies, Florida State University, November 2011.

"*Algérie, je t'aime*: Mapping Female Desire in Albert Camus, Maïssa Bey, and Mohamed Kacimi," *Albert Camus: 50 ans après* International Colloquium, University of Wisconsin, April 2010.

"Reauthorizing the Thesis Novel of 9/11: Slimane Benaïssa's *La Dernière nuit d'un damné*, MLA Convention, December 2009.

"From Algeria to Small-Town Iowa: Elkader, Islam, and the Emir el-Kader: Reflections on Contemporary Algerian Authors and the Representation of Islam," *Abdelkader Education Project Forum*, Elkader IA, May 2009.

"In the Mind's Eye of the Terrorist: Algerian Authors Writing 9/11," MLA Convention, Chicago. December 2007.

"Albert Camus and Contemporary Algerian Playwrights: A Shared Faith in Dialogue," *International Colloquium: Albert Camus and the Mediterranean World*, University of Wisconsin-Madison, September 2006.

"Performing Violence: A Dialogical Imperative," *Symposium on Violence and the Changing Geopolitical Order in Literature and the Arts*, University of Oregon, Eugene OR, February 2005.

"Algeria Revisited: Performing the 'Impossible Memory' of a Shared Past?" *Cultural Memory in France* Conference, Winthrop-King Institute, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL October 2003.

"Performing the Hyphen: Algerian Playwrights in France," *Twentieth-Century French Studies Conference*, Hartford CT, April 2002.

"Algerian Playwrights in France: From Crisis to Creation," *Theatre and Exile Conference*, University of Toronto, Toronto, March 2002

(Invited panelist) "Taming the Octopus: Approaches to Translation and Staging Cross-Cultural Dramatic Literature," *Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE)* Conference, Chicago, August 2001.

"L'homme dévoilé dans le théâtre de Fatima Gallaïre," *Conseil International d'Études Francophones (CIEF)*, Sousse, Tunisia, May 2000.

"L'Esprit du corps féminin dans le théâtre de Fatima Gallaïre," *Women in French Conference*, Minneapolis, MN, March 2000.

(Invited) "Fatima Gallaïre's House of Wives: Theater and the Expression of Sexual and Cultural Identity," "House of Wives Program Series" at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst for mainstage production and premiere of Algerian playwright Fatima Gallaïre's House of Wives December 2000.

"L'Echapper belle: Femmes du Maghreb dans le théâtre de Fatima Gallaïre," *Conseil International d'Études Francophones (CIEF)*, Lafayette, LA May 1999.

“In Harm’s Way: Violating Father-Daughter Relations in plays by French female playwrights (Fatima Gallaire, Catherine Anne and Christine Angot)” in Women in French section: Violence By/On Woman in Literature and Film. *Modern Language Association (MLA)*, San Francisco CA December 1998.

“Staging Female Identity in the Theater of Fatima Gallaire” in session: "Women and Theater: Staging New Voices" Fifteenth International *Colloquium in Twentieth-Century French and Francophone Studies*, University of Massachusetts, Amherst MA March 1998.

“Prises et crises de la parole identitaire dans le théâtre de Fatima Gallaire,” *Conseil International d’Etudes Francophones (CIEF)*, Gosier, Guadeloupe, May 1997.

“Righting the Novel: The Poetics and Ethics of Danièle Sallenave,” in special session: "The Novel in France Today" *Modern Language Association (MLA)*, Toronto, December 1993.

(Invited) “Vers la compétence interculturelle: une démarche narrative,” French Cultural Studies Symposium (University of Pennsylvania) October 1993 (Symposium on new pedagogies in French Cultural Studies).

“Moral rights? Scenic Wrongs? The Case of Samuel Beckett vs. the Female Voice,” *Comparative Drama Conference* (University of Florida) March 1993.

“Enseigner la civilisation au carrefour des régions,” with Susan Ireland, AATF — *American Association of Teachers of French*, Strasbourg, France 1992.

“Prises de paroles: l’écriture de la présence chez Danièle Sallenave,” International *Colloquium in Twentieth-Century French Studies* (University of Pennsylvania) March 1992.

“Making a Dramatic Difference: The Dialogic in Women’s Writing,” International *Colloquium in Twentieth-Century French Studies* (The University of Iowa) April 1990.

“Stretching the Boundaries: The Foreign Language Classic in Contemporary French Productions,” *Comparative Drama Conference* (University of Florida) March 1987.

“Temporal Refractions: Narrative Models in Contemporary French Theater,” *Comparative Drama Conference* (University of Florida) March 1985.

“The Author in Contemporary French Theater: A Study in Textual Politics,” *Comparative Drama Conference* (University of Florida) March 1984.

Respondent, critical approaches to Molière’s theater, North American *Society for Seventeenth-Century French Literature* (Tulane University) 1981.

### **Opinion Essays**

“Whose right to 'be political' — yours, mine, ours or theirs?” *Des Moines Register*, OP, October 16, 2015.

“Celebrating a Muslim Hero in Iowa,” *Des Moines Register*, 6 July 2014, p 1 OP.

(Discusses the unique connection between the 19th-century Algerian Muslim hero, Emir Abd el-Kader, and the namesake town of Elkader, Iowa dedicated to promoting his legacy.)

**Symposia (organizer, translator, and presenter)** Grinnell College, Grinnell IA

**September 2014** – Commemorating the UN International Peace Day: *A Muslim Saint in Iowa: Interreligious Dialogue and the Legacy of The Emir Abd el-Kader*, Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa, September 21-23, 2014. Symposium with Professor Harold Kasimow, featuring author John Kiser *Commander of the Faithful: The Life and Times of Emir Abd el-Kader*

Three events:

- Film showing: *Of Gods and Men* with John Kiser (author of *The Monks of Tibhirine*)
- Joint presentation: John Kiser and Jan Gross: “From Abdelkader to Elkader: Stories of Connection to Iowa, Islam, and Algeria.”
- Scholars’ Panel: “Interreligious Dialogue in Action: Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Perspectives”

**April 2008** – Featured visit of Algerian author Mohamed Kacimi,

*Mini-Symposium on Religious, Cultural, and Linguistic Identities*

4/3/08: “Being Arab in 2008” – Bilingual exchange with M. Kacimi

4/7/08 “Sharing Sacred Ground: Jews, Christians, and Muslims”

Dramatic readings in French/ English: *Abraham’s Confession* and *Heaven’s Irony*

4/8/08: Comment peut-on être francophone en 2008 ? Round Table Discussion

**September 2004** – Visit of Algerian author Slimane Benaïssa, featured speaker at *Symposium on Muslim Perspectives and 9/11*.

9/19/04: “Slimane Benaïssa: Bilingual reading from The Last Night of a Damned Soul”

9/20/04: Bilingual Lecture: “A Muslim Speaks Out on 9/11: Why and How I Wrote The Last Night of a Damned Soul”

9/21/04: “Muslim Perspectives of the Other” panel discussion with Professor Harold Kasimow, Religious Studies Department, Grinnell College

9/28/04: Slimane Benaïssa public reading from The Last Night of a Damned Soul, Prairie Lights Bookstore, Iowa City IA.

**April 2001** – Featured visit of Denise Brahimi (Professor, Université de Paris-VII) for mini-course “Francophone Literature and Film from Africa and North Africa.”

**April 2000:** Visit of Algerian playwright, Fatima Gallaire for mini-course “Ecrire le théâtre.” Visit included the avant-première of her play Princesses directed and translated by LeNeon Theatre, Didier Rousselet and Monica Negoy followed by a post-production discussion with playwright Fatima Gallaire.

Introduction of keynote speaker Fatima Gallaire at *Women in French Conference* (Macalester and Carleton Colleges) March 2000

## **Courses Taught (Grinnell College)**

### **Seminars:**

- Multiethnic France: From Decolonization to *la France plurielle* (Guest: Mabrouk Rachedi)
- May 68 and Beyond: A Culture of Revolt (Guest visitors: Alain Geismar, Michel Wieviorka)

- Contemporary Francophone Theatre (Guest visitor: Mohamed Kacimi)
- Beyond Trauma: From Crisis to Creation in 20<sup>th</sup>-Century French Literature
- Postcolonial Identities in Francophone Literature
- Literature and Society of 17<sup>th</sup>-Century France (focus on women writers)

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Year Tutorials:**

- Americans in Paris: Through the Looking Glass (focus on African-American experiences)
- The Tell-Tale Story: Why Stories Matter

#### **French Language, Literature, and Culture:**

- Contemporary Francophone Cultures (Visitors: Véronique Tadjo, Ken Bugul, Leila Sebbar)
- Advanced Oral and Written Expression
- Intermediate French I, II (focus on the Occupation of France; developed AV materials)
- Introductory French I, II

**Independent and Senior Advanced Mentored Projects (MAP)** Performing Francophone Identities (2012); Paris Spaces and Ethnic Identities (2009); Franco-Algerian Women and Integration (2009), Négritude in Contemporary African Francophone Theatre (2008), New Spaces of Identity in Contemporary Theatre of the Antilles (2008); Energy Policy in the European Union and the US (2008); Oser dire: Abortion in French Literature: (2004); Maïssa Bey and Algerian Women: Pain and the Body (2004); Mohamed Kacimi's 1962 translated and staged Taous Khazem (Macalester College) (2003); Molière's Tartuffe in Performance (2002); Algerian Women and the Algerian War (2001); Women Writers From France and the Caribbean (2001); International Relations and Francophone Africa (2001)

**Dissertation Committee:** Christophe Konkobo, University of Iowa, *Esthétiques théâtrales récentes en Afrique francophone subsaharienne* (2005)

#### **Outside Reviewer, Consultant**

Outside Reviewer, Romance Languages Dept, Williams College (March 2010)  
 Outside Reviewer, French and Italian Dept, Oberlin College (February 2008)  
 Consultant reader for submissions to PMLA 2012, 2007  
 Outside Reviewer, French Department, University of Minnesota-Morris, 1995  
 Consultant reader for PMLA 1991  
 Reader, FIPSE grants 1990

#### **Presentations on pedagogy:**

(Invited) "Vers la compétence interculturelle: une démarche narrative," French Cultural Studies Symposium on new pedagogies. (University of Pennsylvania) 1993.

(Invited) "Languages Across the Curriculum: Making It Work in the Faculty," Languages Across the Curriculum: Theory and Practice; (St. Olaf College) 1991.

"The Pew Grant at Grinnell College: An Overview," Conference on Foreign Language Education in the 90's (Grinnell College) 1991.

#### **Professional Service (Grinnell College)**

2014- pres: President (acting), Ladies Education Society (LES Scholarships)  
 2014-2015: Senior Faculty Status Committee  
 2010-2011: Presidential Inauguration Planning Committee, Grinnell College  
 2009-2010: Presidential Search Committee, Grinnell College  
 2009-2010: Off-Campus Study Board (collaborated on self-study)  
 2003-2009: Tutorial Committee (advised new evaluation procedure for First-Year Tutorial)  
 2007-2008: International Studies Task Force: Events Planning  
 2002-2003: Personnel Appeals Board Member (elected, two-year term)  
 1998-2002: Personnel Committee, Chair of Humanities Division (two two-year terms)  
 2002-2004: Chair, French Department (also 1985-1996)  
 2000-2005: Center for International Studies, Advisory Committee  
 2000-2001: International Studies Implementation, Executive Committee  
 1999-2000: Chair, International Studies Planning Committee; Presidential Fund for Excellence Planning grant (funded May 1999)  
 1991-1994: Chair, Humanities Division (elected)  
 Combined Executive Council, Budget, and Personnel Committees  
 1989-1990 Chair, Women's Alliance Committee, Presidential appointment  
 (first committee formed to represent all women employees at Grinnell College)  
 1988-1989 Chief administrator of Pew Memorial Trusts grant (\$550,000) Grinnell College  
 1988-1989 Presidential Task Force for the Future, invited member  
 1986-1989 Coordinator, Steering Committee, administration of Pew Memorial Trusts Grant  
 1986-1989 Designed Mellon-sponsored Faculty Development Program for Oral Communication across the Curriculum (developed summer workshop model)  
 1985-1996: Chair, French Department  
 1995-1997 Member, Writing Advisory Committee (Designed and coordinated Writing Inventory (listing by semester of courses across the curriculum)  
 1994-1997 Member, Faculty-Trustee Committee  
 1993-1997 Member of Tutorial Committee  
 1993-1997 Member, Faculty Development Committee  
 1985-1996 Chair, French Department

### **Awards**

2022 Mellon Presidential Grant for Connecting People through Humanities  
 2011 Frank and Roberta Furbush Faculty Scholar  
 2001 Named Chair: Seth Richards Professor in Modern Languages  
 2002 Development grant on Race and Ethnicity focus on African-Americans in Paris  
 1995 Curricular Development grant, Gender and Women's Studies Concentration  
 1987 Helena Percas de Ponseti Research Scholars International Research Grant (1987)  
 1979 Participant, NEH Institute on Contemporary French Culture and Civilization.  
 Proceedings published in Contemporary French Culture and Society, ed. Georges Santoni, (SUNY at Albany, NY)

### **Professional Affiliations**

IFTR (International Federation for Theatre Research)  
 MLA (Modern Language Association)  
 AATF (American Association of Teachers of French)  
 CIEF (Conseil international d'études francophones)

WIF (Women in French)

ATHE (Association for Theatre in Higher Education)