
Laurent Ditmann

Home Address:

2197 Dillard Crossing • Atlanta, Georgia 30084 • 678-525-2828 • Laurent.Ditmann.PhD@gmail.com

Professional Address:

Department of Foreign Languages and Cultures • Georgia Perimeter College of Georgia State University
555 North Indian Creek Drive • Office A-1106 • Clarkston, Georgia 30021 • (678) 891-3533 • lditmann@gsu.edu

Summary of Qualifications

Laurent Ditmann is a director, educator, and consultant with 25 years of diversified, hands-on experience in managing research projects on complex issues for business and non-profit organizations; establishing and developing educational programs; advising organizations on cross-cultural issues; and working with government, academic, and business leaders. Areas of expertise include:

- Curriculum management
- Teaching
- Cross-cultural communication
- Staff management
- Team building
- Writing and research
- Budget oversight
- Scheduling
- Grant writing

Professional Experience

Georgia Perimeter College of Georgia State University, Clarkston, Georgia. A critical unit of Georgia State University serving over 20,000 students preparing for Associate Degrees and transfer to other Georgia University System institutions.

Associate Dean, Fine Arts and Humanities Division

2016-Present

Assistant Professor of French

20015-2016

- Teaches face-to-face French courses at all levels (1001 to 2002), offering content in Francophone language, grammar, culture, and history
- Currently serves on the Foreign Language Executive Committee
- Responsible for session evaluation on behalf of the Center for Teaching and Learning, Professional Development Day, February 2016
- Developing research projects on French influence during the American Civil War as exemplified by four French-born Civil War generals

International Community School, Inc., (ICS) Decatur, Georgia. An innovative, multi-cultural DeKalb County School District (DCSD) Kindergarten through 5th grade charter school serving 400 American and refugee children with a budget of over \$3.7 million.

Principal (Head of School)

2008-2013

- Oversaw budgetary process to monitor and report financial compliance; monitored student data, academic planning, evaluation of curriculum, and instruction in compliance with DCSD and Georgia Department of Education (GADOE) guidelines. Maintained student, personnel, and business records according to policy
- Created ICS' 2009-2014 and 2014-2019 charter renewal petitions and led them through DCSD and GADOE approval processes
- Directed large fund raising initiatives culminating in a \$500,000 capital grant from the Woodruff Foundation allowing for school relocation to a DCSD-provided facility in 2012
- Hired, supervised, and evaluated senior academic and operational personnel for a staff of 80 to 90 employees (full and part-time). Created and initiated institutional staff policies and procedures. Oversaw planning and evaluation of the staff's professional development programs

Assistant Principal and International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme Coordinator

2007-2008

- Oversaw and monitored the development of ICS scope and sequence documents to ensure compliance with IBPYP guidelines, philosophy, and expectations, ensuring accreditation by the IB Organization in 2008

Laurent Ditmann

- Supported grade-level teams in collaborative planning and development of IB *Units of Inquiry*, promoting the integration of disciplines and trans-disciplinary skills into IB units
- Mediated with teachers and counselors on student discipline and family outreach issues
- Researched and promoted professional development opportunities for the staff

Executive Assistant

2006-2007

- Created and instituted critical administrative protocols such as a grade report production system consistent with the 2006-2009 ICS charter; this led to the creation of the first ICS Policies and Procedures handbook (2008)

Nine Lives Knowledge Management, L.L.C., Tucker, Georgia

Principal Consultant

2000-Present

- Implemented support strategies for small businesses in the area of policies and procedures, change management, and research and writing
- Designed short- and long-range educational plans for home-schooled children
- Tutored students from middle school to high school in topics ranging from language arts to mathematics
- Studied and advised on best practices for a variety of businesses

Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia

Chair, Department of Foreign Languages

1996-2000

- Developed and monitored departmental budget consistent with college-wide guidelines
- Oversaw hiring, orientation, mentoring, and evaluation of department of 20 professionals (e.g., professors, full-time lecturers, and part-time instructors) teaching 400 students per semester
- Cultivated relationships with schools locally, nationally, and internationally
- Maintained an active involvement in the scholarly community through participation in professional organizations, publications, and international conference presentations

Assistant/Tenured Associate Professor of French, Department of Foreign Languages

1991-2000

- Provided instruction in introductory, intermediate, and advanced level French courses through lectures, guided classroom activities, and technology implementation
- Taught a range of courses in the areas of foreign language theory, practice, literature, and film

Education

Ph.D. in French Studies, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island

Agrégation in English and American Literature, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Fontenay-Saint Cloud, Fontenay-aux-Roses, France (highest teaching credentials in the French system of higher education)

Maîtrise in American Studies (*Civilisation Nord-Américaine*), Université de Paris X- Nanterre, France (equivalent to Master of Arts in American History)

Master of Arts in English Literature, Portland State University, Portland, Oregon

Licence in English Literature, Université de Paris X-Nanterre (three year university degree with specialization in English literature)

Fluent in English, French, and German

Clear-renewable certification in English Literature, Grades 6 to 12, awarded by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (certificate number 1387741 effective November 17, 2014)

Member, Modern Language Association, American Association of Teachers of French, Military History Society

Notary Public (commission expiring January 16, 2020)

Electronic professional portfolio containing additional documentation (e.g., transcripts, evaluation of French credentials, select publications, references, etc.) available upon request

Select Scholarship

Theses

- Doctoral Dissertation: "La Guerre et ses mots: Problématique et pratique du roman de guerre chez Julien Gracq, Robert Merle et Claude Simon," Brown University (1991)
- *Maîtrise* Thesis: "The Military and the Media in the United States from the Civil War to the Present," Université de Paris X-Nanterre (1988)

Critical Articles

- "To Educate, Build Community," *Teachers College Record*, published: October 22, 2008, <http://www.tcrecord.org>
- "Made you Look: Towards a Critical Evaluation of Steven Spielberg's *Saving Private Ryan*," *Film & History*, 28.3 4 (1998), 64-72
- "Wash Your Hands with Coca-Cola: Coca-Cola's European Tribulations," in *European Readings of American Popular Culture*, Jean Paul Gabilliet and John Dean ed. (Westport: The Greenwood Press, 1996), 127-136
- "Mr. and Mrs. Bonaparte's Playground: *Petites Histoires* of Malmaison," in *Proceedings of the Annual Convention of the Napoleonic Society of America*, W. J. Markham ed. (Clearwater: NSA, 1994), 6-18

Encyclopedia Entries

- "Xavier Blanchard de Bray," "Alfred Duffié," "Pierre G.T. Beauregard," and "Savannah," in *Encyclopedia of the American Civil War: A Political, Social, and Military History*, David S. Heidler and Jeanne T. Heidler ed. (Oxford: ABC-Clio, 2001), 1:198-200, 2:576 and 623-624, 4:1706-1707
- "Philippe Leclerc de Hautecloque," "Charles Mangin," "Jeannot de Moncey," "Jean Pélissier," and "Jacques Achille Leroy de Saint-Arnaud," in *Military World Leaders*, Elizabeth Dubrulle ed. (Oxford: ABC-Clio Interactive, 1999)
- "Jean Piaget," In *Social World Leaders*, Elizabeth Dubrulle ed. (Oxford: ABC-Clio Interactive, 1999)
- "Charles de Gaulle," "Henri Giraud," "The *Grand Illusion*," "Hugo Grotius," "Charles de Montesquieu," "Thomas More," and "Jean-Jacques Rousseau," in *Encyclopedia of POWs and Internment*, Jonathan Vance ed. (Oxford: ABC-Clio Interactive, 1999)

Book Reviews

- "Post-Colonial Culture," a review of Panivong Norindr's *Phantasmatic Indochina: French Colonial Ideology in Architecture, Film, and Literature*, *Film & History*, 28.3-4 (1998): 103-104
- A review of B. D. Graham's *Choice and Democratic Order: The French Socialist Party, 1937-1956*, *European Studies Journal*, 15.1 (Spring 1998): 77-80
- "So Simple and Clear-Cut," a review of Paul Fussell's *Doing Battle: The Making of a Skeptic*, *Film & History*, 27.1-4 (1997): 124-125/133
- "The Thorniest of Issues," review of Jesse Algeron Rhines' *Black Film/White Money*, *Film & History*, 27.1-4 (1997): 144-145
- A review of Martin S. Alexander's *The Republic in Danger: General Maurice Gamelin and the Politics of French Defense, 1933-1940*, *European Studies Journal*, 12.1(Spring 1995): 67-69

Conference Presentations

- "The Intimacy of War: Filmic Codes and Cinematic Violence in Florent-Emilio Siri's *L'ennemi intime*," European Studies Conference, University of Nebraska at Omaha, (October 10, 2015)
- "Performance-Based Approaches to Educating and Supporting Refugee Children," Performing the World 4 Conference, Tarrytown, New York (October 12-14, 2007)
- "Film-Maker or Historian? Bertrand Tavernier in Perspective," invited lecture, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont (September 23, 1999)
- "Plus fort, plus loin, plus haut, plus cher... Enjeux et conséquences économiques des Jeux Olympiques d'Atlanta," international conference "Money and Politics in the United States," Université de Valenciennes et du Hainaut-Cambrésis, France (December 5-6, 1997)
- "Historically Black Colleges and Universities on the Brink of the 21st Century," invited lecture, Université de Marne-la-Vallée, France (March 5, 1997)
- "What Do We Do When We Teach Civilization?" joint annual convention of the Foreign Language Association of Georgia and the Southern Conference on Language Teaching, Atlanta (February 23 26, 1994)
- Chair of the session "Food and Fast Food in American Mass Culture," annual convention of the French Association for American Studies, Chantilly, France (May 22 23, 1993)