






Dené Hees

LECTURER * RESEARCHER
* FILM & TELEVISION
THEORIST * WRITER
* EDITOR * PERFORMER

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Profile

Dené is a passionate researcher, budding novelist, screenwriter, and lover of all things on screen and page. Her two biggest loves are words and the moving image. Dené has nearly 6 years of lecturing and academic editing experience, has supervised both honours and masters level postgraduates, has extensive experience working in an academic library with postgraduate students and researchers, as well as experience in copy editing for academic writing, branding, and advertising.

Her life dreams include publishing academic books and articles, writing and directing for screen, writing young adult and adult fiction, and owning a rescue farm.

Academic and Creative Profiles

- [ORCID Profile](#)
- [Masters Dissertation](#)
- [Academia profile](#)
- [Short stories on Reedsy](#)
- Article publication underway
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [Screenplays \(unpublished\)](#)

Areas of expertise & skills

- **Film & Television studies** (areas of expertise include narrative, film form, genre theory, television aesthetics, analysing moving images / moving image media, symbolism and archetype (Jungian), Philosophical Posthumanism, Hero's Journey, apocalypse narratives, etc.)
- **Screenwriting**
- Creative writing
- Acting
- **Physical theatre and dance** (Laban, Bartiniéff, Lessac, and Horton Technique undergraduate training/experience)
- **Directing** (theatre productions and music video)
- Amateur Photography
- Information services (Academic Library; postgraduate level)
- **Proofreading**
- **Copy editing**
- **Academic writing and referencing**
- **Copywriting**
- QC for branding/advertising



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Software

- Google Docs, Files, etc.
- Final Draft 12
- Reedsy Editor
- Microsoft Office
- iOS Pages
- Canva
- Adobe Acrobat
- Blogger (Google+)
- Wix
- OCLC WorldShare (Library Circulation)
- LibCal
- Slack
- Trello
- Basecamp

Competencies

- Valid Drivers License (Code B).
- An excellent public speaker and overall communicator, who is adaptable to the changing demands of professional and social environments.
- Critique is well received and incorporated.
- Creative thinker, especially detail and quality oriented, works well individually and in collaboration with others.
- Self-motivated, effective goal setting and achievement with deadline thriving performance.
- Excellent online navigation and search skills; excellent typing skills.

ASSISTANT LECTURER

School of the Arts, Drama Department, University of Pretoria • 2023 - current

- The position at the Drama Department entails lecturing and assessing the first-year level course **Drama and Film Studies**, with a particular focus on Film editing, film and television theory, Poetics, Film and Television Genre studies, narrative theory, aesthetics for film and television, identity, diaspora, cultural appropriation/appreciation and more.
- In this position, I have included academic writing, reading, and referencing for the first-year level as a way to prepare students for coming years' expectations.
- **BDRAM extended** program development. I am assisting my department with the teaching and development of the **Film and Drama Theory 101** course for the brand new extended program (starting 2023). The subject module is geared toward preparing students for the Drama and Film Studies modules of first-year undergraduate studies. This includes an introduction to theory, academic writing, creative writing for screen and stage, referencing, and conducting first-year-level research for assignments.

PROOFREADING & COPY EDITING - POSTGRADUATE ACADEMIC WORK

Freelance (academic papers and dissertations) • 2020-current

TEFL TEACHING (ADULT PROFESSIONALS)

The Really Great Teaching Company • 2023-current

- Duties at the Really Great Teacher company include teaching English as a Foreign Language to Taiwanese professionals and contributing to the creation and editing of teaching materials.

POSTGRADUATE STUDY SUPERVISOR - MASTERS IN DRAMA IN FILM STUDIES

University of Pretoria, School of Arts: Drama • Mr Francois Haasbroek • 2021 - 2023 (Graduated)

PODCASTING AGENT: RESEARCHER

PodcastConnection • Feb 2022 - Sept 2023 (Company closing)

- As the team researcher at the podcasting agency, I was responsible for researching, analysing, and vetting podcasts for clients. This role also entailed finding contact details and information about guest applications for podcasts. Clients of PodcastConnection were experts in various fields, from psychology, somatic sexology, marketing, business management, media and brand management, to Yoga and meditation.
- Experience gained in this role: Google Sheets (intermediate level skill with sheets programming and layout) spreadsheet management and data entry, email marketing/template writing, copywriting, copy-editing, field-specific research, client meetings and profile management, Experience with Slack and Trello.



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PART-TIME LECTURER

School of the Arts, Drama Department, University of Pretoria • 2019-2022

- The position at the Drama Department entails lecturing and assessing the first-year level course Drama and Film Studies, with particular focus on Film editing theory, Poetics, Film and Television Genre studies, narratives, identity, diaspora, cultural appropriation/appreciation and more.

JUNIOR INFORMATION OFFICER

Postgraduate Research Commons, Merensky II Library, University of Pretoria • 2019 - 2022

- Duties at the Postgraduate Research Commons of the University of Pretoria include providing assistance to post-graduate students with **editing, referencing, and information searches**. This position also entails providing assistance to the Information Specialist for the Rector's Office of the University of Pretoria, which requires basic knowledge of **Bibliometrics** trend reporting and populating ORCID profiles for researchers and **creating training material** for postgraduate students. Further administrative support is given to the Information Specialist. A large part of this position includes **writing copy** for the Research Subject Guide and its newly formed **blog**.

JUNIOR INFORMATION OFFICER

Music Library, University of Pretoria • 2017 - 2020

- Duties at the Music and Merensky Libraries of the University of Pretoria include providing circulation services such as the lending, return and search of catalogue material; assisting patrons with queries and searches at the information desk; and, providing administrative assistance to the Chief Information Specialists, which includes data collection and entry, catalogue searches, and the copying and/or filing of documents.

QUALITY CONTROL EDITOR

Brand *et al* • Temporary, freelance 2018

- Responsibilities of the Quality Control Editor include the editing and approval of all copy and design content for clients, including AVBOB, Redefine Properties, Makro, and Laeveld Agrochem. Furthermore, the QC Editor's duty is to ensure that the company's standard of quality is upheld, before any of the produced print, social media, website development, television/radio, and other content can be made available to clients. The QC position at the Et Al Group is currently held full time by the company's own COO, Ms. X de Jong.





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PART-TIME LECTURER (STUDY SUPERVISOR)

School of the Arts, Drama Department, University of Pretoria • 2017

- This position entailed the interim supervision of Honours students' research process and the assessment of their Extended Research Essays (or Thesis papers) in the field of Drama and Film Studies. Further responsibilities included the guidance of students regarding academic writing, formulating coherent arguments and navigating existing scholarship in various relevant disciplines.

RESEARCH HELPER

School of the Arts, Drama Department, University of Pretoria • 2017

- Responsibilities as Research Helper to Dr CW Broodryk included the collection of articles, books and/or chapters as well as data on requested research topics; filing, organising and other office duties; and, assistance with referencing and editing of research output.

FREELANCE PROOFREADER & EDITOR

MA Dissertation, private • 2017

- This freelance project consisted of the proofing and editing of the Sources consulted list (referenced sources) of a student's completed MA Dissertation. The student required specific focus on correct referencing format and in-text citations of sources.

FREELANCE WRITING, PRESS RELEASE

Technopath (Band) • 2017

FREELANCE STUDENT WORK

- Various student jobs, including Pet/House sitting for family members and acquaintances; performing as a Wedding Singer on many occasions; and working as a Server at an expat-community organized, pop-up Christmas coffee shop.





Dené Hees

References

Prof. CW Broodryk
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Education & Academic Profile

PHILOSOPHIAE DOCTOR *DRAMA AND FILM STUDIES*

University of Pretoria, 2020-current

Research Dissertation - interdisciplinary study of selected Netflix web-series and the intersections of their content with Spirituality, Philosophical Posthumanism and Aesthetics.

LEVEL 5 TEFL COURSE (QUALIFI)

The TEFL Academy, 2021

MAGISTER ARTIUM *DRAMA AND FILM STUDIES*

Cum laude, University of Pretoria, 2017-2019

Research Dissertation - interdisciplinary study of a television drama, drawing from disciplines including linguistics, theology, philosophy, psychology, anthropology, television and film theory. This study has been converted into both a conference paper, delivered at SAVAH 2019, as well as an article submitted for publication.

COPY-EDITING AND PROOFREADING

SA Writers College, 2019

BACCALAUREUS ARTIUM HONORES *DRAMA AND FILM STUDIES*

Cum laude, University of Pretoria, 2016

MAJORS: SCREENWRITING AND DIRECTING.

Research: Extended Research Essay (Thesis) analysing a television drama following and intensive review of scholarship and construction of an interdisciplinary theoretical framework/vocabulary. Disciplines include philosophy, visual studies, linguistics (symbolism), anthropology and psychology.

BACCALAUREUS ARTIUM *DRAMA AND FILM STUDIES*

University of Pretoria, 2013-2015

MAJORS: DRAMA AND FILM STUDIES; SPEECH AND MOVEMENT STUDIES; THEATRE AND PERFORMANCE STUDIES.

Course content included Gender Studies, Identity Politics, Feminism, Cultural Studies, Marxism, Post-colonialism, Modernism, Post-Modernism, Aristotelean drama theory, etc.

Experience gained in Laban Movement Studies, Lessac Kinesensic Training, Horton Technique, voice for Radio, Theatre technology (basic lighting technical and design experience), Theatre and Camera Acting.



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References

Prof Chris Broodryk
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Russel McCallaghan of Not Russel Crow Productions
[Facebook page](#)

Westley Smith and Max Breytenbach of Geronimo Theatre Collective
[Facebook page](#)

Writing	Performance	Directing
<p>Pure Hate music video for Sunken State. band (2022). Written and directed by Dené Hees, videography and production by Russell Crow of Not Russell Crow Productions, performed by Sunken State.</p>	<p>A girl in <i>Short Line</i>, a dance based physical theatre performance in fulfilment of an MA study; created and choreographed by Zelné Anderson. (2019).</p>	<p><i>Pure Hate</i> music video for Sunken State. band (2022). Written and directed by Dené Hees, videography and production by Russell Crow of Not Russell Crow Productions, performed by Sunken State.</p>
<p>The Lamb's Wrath: Cannibalism, Divinity, and Apocalypse in <i>Hannibal</i> (2019) MA dissertation.</p>	<p><i>Prism</i>: created and choreographed by Morné Breytenbach and Westley Smith of Geronimo Theatre Collective (2017; 2019).</p>	<p><i>The View</i>: a stage reading and adaptation of Philip Rademeyer's play(2016), staged at Accolades Boutique Venue.</p>
<p>"Did He Who Made the Lamb Make Thee?": <i>Hannibal</i> (Fuller 2013-2015) as a Metamythic Apocalypse Narrative (conference paper delivered at SAVAH 2019).</p>	<p>Lady 1 in <i>Barbe Blue: a story about madness</i> (NAF Ovation Award). Written and directed by Gopala Davies (2015).</p>	<p><i>What Frank Remembers</i>: a stage play. Performed at Krêkvars-Kopanong Student Arts Festival (2016).</p>
<p><i>Hannibal</i> and the erotics of flesh: an extended research essay in fulfilment of the degree BA Honours: Drama and Film Studies.</p>	<p>Zoey (Zinzi) in <i>Who Stole the E-Toll?</i> Written and directed by Mduduzi Vincent Nhlapo (2014).</p>	<p><i>Raw Stage: Daughters of the Fair</i>. Performed at Krêkvars-Kopanong Student Arts Festival (2014).</p>
<p><i>What Frank Remembers</i>: a stage play inspired by true events (2016)</p>	<p><i>Raw Stage: Daughters of the Fair</i>. An acoustic performance created by Dené Hees (neë Janse van Rensburg) and Chante Geary; featuring performances by Tina Redman and Cassius M Davids (2014).</p>	
<p><i>Spoils</i>: a television series (pilot episode and treatments; 2016).</p>	<p>Girl in <i>Between Sheets</i>, choreographed by Ansu Visser (2014).</p>	
<p><i>Executors</i>: a short film adaptation of "Some Words with a Mummy" by Edgar Allen Poe (2016).</p>	<p>Patient #4 in <i>PROGRAMMABLE</i> (short film) directed and produced by Anrico du Plessis and Jason Ryan Commins of Grithouse (2014).</p>	
<p><i>Heifer</i>: a feature film screenplay (2016).</p>		
<p><i>Wait</i>: a short film (2017).</p>		