#### 19yy-yy-yy Bäcke, Maria

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Senior Lecturer at Högskolan i Kristianstad Malmo, Sweden Research



# Summary

I currently work as a senior lecturer of English primarily teaching grammar, society and culture, oral proficiency, and literature and text analysis at Kristianstad University College (Högskolan Kristianstad).

On May 27th 2011 I successfully defended my PhD thesis in the field of TechnoScience at the Blekinge Institute of Technology in Karlskrona, Sweden. My thesis, entitled Power Games: Rules and Roles in Second Life, focuses on the community structures, the power relations, and the dramatic as well as the social performance happening in four different role-playing groups inside the online 3D world Second Life. In my research I am primarily interested in community and leadership structures, power relations, and the roles and identities which emerge.

Specialties: literature, text analysis, Second Life, new media, teaching, lecturing, holding workshops, theories of power, performance, identity construction

# Experience

Senior Lecturer Högskolan i Kristianstad August 2013 – Present (1 year 6 months)Kristianstad, Sweden Department of human sciences/English, Kristianstad University. English grammar, literature, society and culture, and oral proficiency courses both at Kristianstad University and Campus Helsingborg (in collaboration with Lund University).



#### Senior lecturer

Karlstad University

July 2012 - August 2013 (1 year 2 months)Karlstad, Sweden

Department of Language, Literature and Intercultural Studies/English, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Karlstad University. Distance teaching (text analysis) on English literature courses, primarily for students already working as teachers or teacher trainees. Courses taught: Språkinlärning i teori och praktik (literature course, taught four times); Literature and Teaching Methodology II (literary history course, taught twice); Culture, Media; Society (literature course, taught twice) and 3rd term essay supervision and examination.

# PhD

Blekinge Institute of Technology July 2006 – June 2011 (5 years)Karlskrona, Sweden PhD thesis: Power Games: Rules and Roles in Second Life. PhD Candidate, Department of Culture and Communication, The Blekinge Institute of Technology, Karlskrona. Courses taught: Gender and Technology; Digital Cultures; Media Labs (Dreamweaver, Photoshop etc); Language & Communication 2 (essay writing); The Time Machine (sci-fi literature); and 3D building in the online world Second Life on the Crossmedia programme. Most courses were taught in the field of English.

Guest lecturer Umea University 2008 – 2009 (1 year) I have taught building with sculpties for use in Second Life at one workshop in 2008 and then another one in 2009 with the museum students.

#### University Lecturer

Karlstad University

2003 – 2006 (3 years)Karlstad, Sweden

University lecturer and project assistant, Department of English, Karlstad University. Courses taught: Text, Media, and Culture; Bild och Grafisk Form. I was also a university lecturer at the Department of Education, Karlstad University. Courses taught: Ungdomars sociala och psykologiska utveckling sedd ur olika kulturella perspektiv; Lärande, undervisning och språk. In addition to this I managed the translation project, designed a database, managed websites, and did the layout for two books. 2003-2006

Art Director Assistant Trentera Reklambyrå September 1993 – February 1998 (4 years 6 months) Layout and making catalogues, brochures, ads, company profiles etc. Print and web.

# Volunteer Experience & Causes

Causes Maria cares about:

- Disaster and Humanitarian Relief
- Education
- Children
- Politics
- Human Rights
- Animal Welfare
- Health
- Civil Rights and Social Action
- Poverty Alleviation
- Environment

# **Publications**

"Make-Believe and Make-Belief in Second Life Role-Playing Communities."(Link) Convergence (Feb 2012) February 2012 "Power Games: Rules and Roles in Second Life."(Link) Blekinge Institute of Technology Doctorial Dissertation Series. No 2011:09. ISSN 1653-2090. ISBN 978-91-7295-209-6. May 27, 2011 PhD thesis

"Self, Setting, and Situation in Second Life." Included in Performing Digital Literature: Case Studies and Critical Positions published by Continuum Books. 2009

"Decolonizing Cyberspace." Cybercultures volume, 'At The Interface/Probing the Boundaries' series, published by Rodopi. 2008

"'Freedom for Just One Night': The Promise and Threat of Information and Communication Technologies."(Link) Women Writers.net, "Digital Eves: Transgression/Transcendence in Cyberspace." 2007

### Languages

Swedish, Native or bilingual proficiency English, Full professional proficiency German, Professional working proficiency French, Elementary proficiency Italian, Elementary proficiency

#### Education

Blekinge Tekniska Högskola PhD, TechnoScience 2006 – 2011 I successfully defended my PhD thesis, Power Games: Rules and Roles in Second Life, on May 27th, 2011.

Karlstad University Master, English, Media- and Communication Studies, German 1999 – 2003

Stockholms Folkhögskola Song and Theatre 1992 – 1992

Sekreterarskolan, Kursverksamheten vid Stockholms Universitet, Stockholm Personal Assistant, tourism 1988 – 1989 I spent eight months abroad in total. Locations: Great Britain (Brighton) and Switzerland (Davos and Ascona). Languages: English, German, and Italian. Västerdalarnas Gymnasieskola, Malung Humanities/Humanistic Studies 1985 – 1988 Humanistisk linje, 3 years. Languages: English, German, and French.

