

MARISA BENJAMIN

434 Concord Ave, ON, M6H 2P8
(905) 399-1770 | marisa.benjamin@mail.utoronto.ca

EDUCATION

University of Toronto, Faculty of Law, Toronto, ON Sep 2021- present
Juris Doctor Candidate (2024)

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON Sep 2017 – Aug 2018
Master of Arts

- Specialization: Rhetoric and Communication Design

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON Sep 2012 – Aug 2017
Bachelor of Arts (Honours)

- Major: Psychology
- Major: Business
- Minor: English Language and Literature
- Co-op program

WORK EXPERIENCE

The Games Institute, Waterloo, ON 2018-2021
Research Communications Officer

- Produced content for and managed oversight of research dissemination activities including articles, podcasts, lectures, panels, magazines, and newsletters
- Wrote press releases on behalf of the University of Waterloo, including an article tracking over 40 million readers worldwide
- Contributed writing and strategy for 9 successful grant applications, cumulating in \$643,602.49 for Games Institute partners

SchoolBundle, Waterloo, ON 2020-2021
Content Marketer

- Conducted research, analyzed data and translated findings into reports
- Wrote premium content marketing articles

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, ON 2017-2018
Teaching Assistant, English Department

- Co-taught English 210F: Foundations of Business Writing

Municipal Property Assessment Corporation, Toronto, ON 2016
Data Analyst

- Analyzed statistics of Ontario property appraisals for all Hospitality properties

Canada Revenue Agency, Kitchener, ON 2015
Problem Resolution Program Officer

- Liaised between Members of Parliament to the CRA
- Independently responsible for resolving highly sensitive tax cases

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Indigenous Law Journal, Associate Editor, 2021

University of Toronto Law Union, Steering Committee Member, 2021

Criminal Law Students' Association, 1L Representative, 2021

METRAC, Action on Violence, Pro-Bono Students Canada Legal Research Placement, 2021

Chair Member and Communications Co-ordinator, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Working Group, 2020-2021

Feminist ThinkTank, Co-Facilitator, 2019-2021

English Graduate Students' Association, MA Representative, 2017-2018

Imprint Publications, Columnist, 2016-2018

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Indigenous Law: prior training includes “Reconciliation: Implications for Settler Peoples”, taught by Dr. Kelly Laurila at Renison University-College, 2019

Race and Gender Equity: Prior training includes “Principles of Inclusivity” curriculum by Organizational and Human Development, University of Waterloo, 2018-2019

Grant Writing: Co-wrote grants with principal investigators for 11 successful grants, cumulating in \$643,602.49 from 2018-2020

REFERENCES

Dr. Neil Randall, Executive Director of the Games Institute
Department of English Language and Literature, University of Waterloo
Email: nrandall@uwaterloo.ca

Dr. Shana MacDonald, Assistant Professor
Department of Communication Arts, University of Waterloo
Email: shana.macdonald@uwaterloo.ca

Dr. Aynur Kadir, Assistant Professor
Department of Asian Studies, University of British Columbia
Email: akadir@mail.ubc.ca

PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Criminalized Women and the Children’s Aid Society (CAS)** 2021
Research Presentation prepared for METRAC, Action Against Violence
- Investigating the Duty to Accommodate and the Mandated Leave of Absence Policy** 2021
Memo prepared for ARCH Disability Law Centre and the University of Toronto Law Union
- Knowledge Translation Impact White Paper** 2021
For the University of Waterloo Office of Research, Knowledge Mobilization Community of Practice, and for the Games Institute
- Research Podcast Producer and Host** 2019-2021
35 Episodes of the Games Institute Podcast, supervised by Dr. Neil Randall, recognized globally
- Co-Facilitator and Independent Researcher for Feminist ThinkTank** 2020-2021
For SSHRC funded project, Aesthetic Resistance, supervised by Dr. Shana MacDonald
- Critical Research, Innovation, and Technology Advisory Board Environmental Scan** 2018
Contracted research project for the University of Waterloo Office of Research
- “Rhetorical Moves and Counter-Moves” Conference Paper** 2019
Tri-University Graduate Student Conference
- Pipelies: Gamifying Pipeline Politics** 2018
Research creation project for supervisors Drs. Shelley Hulan and Neil Randall
- Wise Reasoning Qualitative Analyst for the Wisdom and Culture Lab** 2016-2018
- Memory Study Facilitator for the Memory, Attention, and Cognition Lab** 2015-2016

PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES

- Lecture**, “Social deception games,” Engl 294, 2020.
- Lecture**, “Was Dumbledore Evil? Breaking down morality in *Harry Potter*,” Engl 108P, 2020.
- Workshop**, “How to design a research plan,” The Games Institute, 2020.
- Workshop**, “Knowledge translation for start-ups,” Concept by Velocity, 2019.
- Workshop**, “Holistic self-discovery,” Feminist ThinkTank, 2019.