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Susan Oaks is a professor at Empire State College, State University of New York. She develops online courses and teaches in the areas of writing, literature, and degree planning for the Center for Distance Learning, the college's online program. She completed a B.A. degree at Elmira College, an M.A. at the State University of New York at Albany, and a Ph.D. in American literature, 1865-1914, at New York University. She writes and presents on online instruction and the teaching of writing. Most recently, she wrote about individualized undergraduate curricula at Empire State College for a text, *The College Curriculum: A Reader*, ed. Joseph DeVitis, Peter Lang Publishing (2013).

Dr. Oaks has received awards for her teaching, course design, and instructional materials, including a State University of New York Chancellor's award for Excellence in Teaching, a Sloan-C national award for Excellence in Online Teaching, an honorary chair in mentoring from Empire State College, and a State University of New York Quality of Student Life award for co-creation of an online writing center.