

Heather Sellers

Professor of English
University of South Florida
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Education

Ph.D. Creative Writing, Fiction. Florida State University, Tallahassee (1992).

M.A. English. Florida State University, Tallahassee (1987).

B.A. English. Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida (1985).

Academic Appointments

MFA Creative Writing Program Director and USF Undergraduate Creative Writing program director, 2022-present

Professor of English, University of South Florida. Creative Writing: nonfiction, poetry, middle grade novel, hybrids and experiments (2013-present).

Professor of English, Hope College. (2004-2013).

Adjunct Professor, New York University, NYC, NY. Memoir (Summer 2012).

Associate Professor of English, Hope College, Holland, Michigan. (1998-2004).

Visiting Writer-in-Residence, Viebranz Endowed Chair, St. Lawrence University, New York. Creative Writing: Fiction (2002-2004).

Assistant Professor of English, Hope College, Holland, Michigan. Creative writing: fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. (1995-1998).

Professor, Burren College of Art, Ballyvaughan, Ireland; Ferris State University/ Kendall College of Art and Design. Text and Image (Summer 2001).

Assistant Professor of English, University of Texas at San Antonio. Creative writing: graduate and undergraduate fiction and poetry. Literature: narrative theory, graduate. MA thesis director fiction and poetry (1992-1995).

Books

How To Make Poems: Form and Technique. Textbook. Flip Learning, May 2023.

Field Notes from the Flood Zone. Poetry. BOA Editions. April 2022.

The Present State of the Garden. Poetry. Lynx House Press. October 2021.

The Practice of Creative Writing. Textbook. Bedford/St. Martins. First edition, 2008. Second edition, 2012. Macmillan/Bedford/St. Martins. Third edition, 2016. Macmillan. Fourth edition, 2021. Macmillan.

Instructor's Manual for The Practice of Creative Writing. Bedford/St. Martins, 2008, 2012. Third edition, Macmillan/Bedford/St. Martins, 2016. Fourth edition, 2021, Macmillan Learning. 130 pages.

You Don't Look Like Anyone I Know: A Memoir of Family, Face Blindness and Forgiveness. Memoir. Riverhead/ Penguin. Hardcover, 2010. Paperback, 2011.

The Boys I Borrow. Poetry. New Issues Press, 2007.

Chapter After Chapter. Craft. F&W Publications, 2006.

Page After Page. Craft. F&W Publications, 2004.

Spike and Cubby: Ice Cream Island Adventure! Childrens, Henry Holt, 2004.

Drinking Girls and Their Dresses. Poetry. Ahsahta Press, 2002.

Georgia Under Water. Fiction. Sarabande Books, 2001.

Chapbooks

After. Prose poems. Combine Books. New York, New York, 2016.

Dive. Poetry. Contest winner. Yellow Jacket Press. Tampa, Florida, 2014.

Your Whole Life. Poetry. Panhandler Press, Pensacola, Florida, 1995.

Selected Poems

- “Birdwatchers,” *Anacapa Review* forthcoming August 15, 2023
- “Suburban Journal,” *DIAGRAM* forthcoming 2023
- "Meeting My Eighty-year-old Aunt at the Fountain of Youth in St. Augustine for Lunch" and "From Michigan on Her Winter Break, My Niece," *Painted Bride Quarterly*. Forthcoming.
- “Inside Out,” *Bennington Review*, Issue 12. Spring 2023
- “Tuesday with Oars,” *Bennington Review* Issue 10. Spring 2022
- “After the Streets Flooded,” *SWWIM* December 14, 2022 online
- “After,” *The Florida Review*. Volume 45, Number 2, December 2021
- “Aftermaths,” “Dinner on the Patio, December,” “Category Five,” and “Transubstantiation at the Aquatic Life Research Center” *Blackbird Volume 20 No 2 Fall 2021*
- “On a Late June Evening in My Driveway,” *Narrative Magazine*. June 28th, 2021
- “Roe” and “Longing, Wading,” *Birmingham Poetry Review*. Issue 48, Spring 2021.
- “Florida,” *Cincinnati Review*, *MiCRo* feature. September 9, 2020.
- “Dear Wolf,” “Feed the Soil,” “Present State of the Garden,” *Five Points*, Fall 2020, Volume 20, Number 2.
- “Accidental Practitioners” *Agni*. Spring 2020.
- “Every Girl Has Her Own America” *Conduit* Issue 30 Spring 2020.
- “After He Left” and “After Taking Me Home,” *The Sun*. March 2020
- “Return” “Between Storms,” “Flash Flood” *On the Seawall*, January 21, 2020.
- “Pool,” *BODY*, January 15, 2020.
- “Aubade” and “We Have a Match!” *Southern Poetry Review* Volume 57, Issue 1 Winter, 2020.
- “Protection” *Adroit Journal*. Issue 30. October 2019.
- “Bush Gardens,” *Five Points*. Fall 2019. Volume 19, Number 3. Pages 57-58.

- “After My Mother Died,” *The Carolina Quarterly*. Fall 2019.
- “Peninsula,” *Field*, No. 100. Spring 2019.
- “My Mother Reading a Book on Dying,” *Salamander*. Fall/Winter 2018.
- “Witness,” *Field*. No 94, Spring 2016.
- Two poems, *Poems To Go*. Spring 2016.
- “Homesick,” *Five Points*. Volume 17, Number 1. 2015.
- “In the Candleroom at St. Bartholomew’s on New Year’s Eve” and “Appeal to the Self,” *Image*, Winter 2014, No 83.
- “Lunch in Three Realms,” *Prairie Schooner*. December 2014.
- “Schizophrenia in Florida,” *The Tampa Review*. Winter 2014.
- “Every Girl is an Experimental Girl,” *Field*. Spring 2014.
- “I’m Not Crazy About You,” “Fauxbade,” *The Gulf Coast Review*. Fall 2014.
- “Too Much Not Enough,” “Now that we live in a world where my father doesn’t exist anymore, I go out on a date with a man in the afternoon,” “Ballet at Midlife,” *Prairie Schooner*, Fall 2013. Annual Strousse Award recipient.
- “Your Whole Life,” *Southern Poetry Review*. Fall 2013.
- “I Swam Where Johnny Was Tarzan,” *The North American Review*. Fall 2013.
- “Elegy with Plantsitter,” “Windfall,” *The Bellingham Review*. Summer 2013.
- “Unloose,” *The Sun*. February 2013.
- “Retrobade,” *Field*. No. 88, Spring 2013.
- “Alyssa’s 7th Birthday Party, When Her Mother Returns to Town Maybe for Good,” “Green Man Untranslated,” *Field*. No 80, Spring 2009
- “Wanted: Dead or Alive Baby,” *Saint Ann’s Review*. Vol 7 No 1, 2007
- “Woman without a Man without a Fish without a Bicycle,” *Field*. Spring 2008.
- “Listening to the New Tom Petty,” *SubTropics*. Winter/Spring 2008.
- “Self-Portrait as *Disgrace*,” *Field*. No 77, Fall 2007.
- “Drinking Girls and Their Dresses,” “Cookbooks in Bed With Lover Sleeping

- on the Side,” “First Date Like a Command,” “Son of My Original Therapist,” “Spring Break, The El Dorado Hotel, South Beach, 1984,” “When We Were Pinwheels, When We Were Daughters,” “The Products of Conception,” Seven collage collaborations with visual artist Jenny Krasner, *The New Orleans Review*. Volume 32, No 1, 2006.
- “Talking to my stepson on the telephone while drinking wine,” “You suck,” “We do it to ourselves,” *Controlled Burn*. Winter 2006.
- “First Date (Like a Command),” *Birmingham Poetry Review*. Winter 2005.
- “The Language of the Couple,” *Smartish Pace*. October 2004.
- “Dating Men With Children,” *Fugue*. Winter 2004-05.
- “The Boys I Borrow,” *The Marlboro Review*,. Winter/Spring 2003.
- “Belly Water Midnight Easy,” *The Journal*. Fall 2001.
- “And So You Take a Leap Into The,” “Your Foyer, Sunday Afternoon in December,” “When Lost Was Better,” *The Journal*, Spring 2000.
- “the word (father) occurs to me,” “Bucky Ditched Me,” *Field* 64. Spring 2001.
- “Underwater,” *Field*. Fall 2000.
- “Entrance,” *Sonora Review*. Fall 2000.
- “Widow’s Peak,” “Florida Fifth Grade,” *Hawai’i Review*. Spring 2000.
- “Being from Orlando,” *New Orleans Review*. Winter 2000.

Selected Essays

- “True Flash” *Brevity’s Nonfiction Blog* April 11 2023
- “Write what scares you (without scaring away readers) February 7, 2023
- “Who Are You?” Notes and Records The Royal Society Journal of the History of Science Special Issue on Face Blindness 02 November 2022
- “Sinking,” “Prone,” “Evacuation”, “Museum (Zone A), “Threat,” “North Coast,”

- “Home,” “High Tide,” “A Cut”, “Careful, Unfurling,” “But Why Do We Live Here?,” *New Letters*. Volume 87 Nos. 3 & 4. Fall 2021.
- “Just This Breath,” *The Sun*. June 2020.
- “Where Am I?” *Longreads*. September 2019.
- “Where Am I?” *Creative Nonfiction True Stories*. Spring 2019.
- “Girl Underwater,” *The Sun*. February 2019.
- “Breathing Underwater,” *On the Seawall*, November 28, 2018
- “Boy,” published under pseudonym J. Mays, *The Sun*, June 2018.
- “What I Heard,” *The Sun*. March 2018.
- “Dark Houses,” *The Sun*. January 2018.
- “What I Took,” *Brevity*. January 2018.
- “Always About To,” *Good Housekeeping*. May 2017.
- “Pedal, Pedal, Pedal,” *The Sun*, January 2017.
- “How Things Work,” *Private Lives*. *The New York Times*. September 18, 2016.
- “Journaling, Unboxed” *Writer’s Workbook* *Writer’s Digest*, Fall 2016.
- “Haywire,” *Tin House* Feature, Volume 18. Fall 2016.
- “Termites,” *Five Points*. Volume 18, No. 1, Fall 2016
- “Unlocked,” *The Sun*. April 2016.
- “The Curious World of Mrs. Reese,” *Reader’s Digest*. December 2015.
- “Modern Date Night,” *Parade*. November 14, 2015.
- “Shopping for Antiques, Finding My Mother,” *The New York Times*. May 14, 2015.
- “I’ll Never Bother You Again,” *The Sun*. February 2015.
- “Fun for Everyone Involved,” *Brevity*. January 2015.
- “Like at First Sight,” *O Magazine*, December 2014.
- “Breathless,” *Brevity*. January 2014.
- “Do Not Adjust Your Screen or Sound,” *Modern Love*, *The New York Times*.

June 16, 2013.

“Sparky,” *The Sun*, May 2013.

“In Graves with My Student Elizabeth,” *Brevity*. January 2013.

“On Writing ‘In Graves with My Student Elizabeth,’” *Brevity*. January 2013.

“Sheltered,” *The Georgia Review*. Summer 2012.

“The Kingdom of Divorce,” *Huffington Post*. May 14, 2011

“You Don’t Look Like Anyone I Know,” *Good Housekeeping*. January 2011.

“Hi, I’m Heather Sellers, Would You Mind Always Wearing a Nametag?”

PsychologyToday.com. October 14, 2010.

“A Mug’s Game,” *London Daily Telegraph Sunday Magazine*. March 28, 2010.

“Men and Refrigeration,” *New Ohio Review*. Spring 2010.

“Unkeep a Journal to Grow Your Writing,” *Writer’s Digest*. February 2010.

“Cups of Men,” *O, Oprah Magazine*. September 2009.

“Use Braiding to Layer your Story Line,” *Writer’s Digest*. July/August 2009.

“My Pornography,” *Prairie Schooner*. Winter 2009.

“Becoming a Mouth,” *Fourth Genre*. Fall 2009.

“Face First,” *Arts and Letters*. Spring 2008.

“The Wizard in the Closet,” *The Sun*. December 2007.

“Lake as Mad Girl,” *Blue*. July/August 2007.

“Tell Me Again, Who Are You?” *Alaska Quarterly Review*. Fall 2006.

“Marriage, a Kind of Memory,” *Organica*. Spring 2006.

“Find Your High School Classmates!!!” *Massachusetts Review*. Fall 2005.

Selected Anthology Publications

“Breathless,” *Best of Brevity* edited by Zoe Bossiere and Dinty W. Moore. Rose Metal Press. October, 2020.

“A Brief Recipe for Happiness,” *Eat Joy: Stories and Comfort Food from 31*

- Celebrated Writers*. Fall 2019.
- “Pedal, Pedal, Pedal,” *Pushcart Prize XLIII, Best of the Small Presses* 2019.
- “Haywire,” *Best American Essays* 2017.
- “Cups of Men,” *O’s Little Book of Starting Over: an anthology of articles by the magazine’s notable contributors*. Flatiron Books. 2016.
- “Every Girl is an Experimental Girl,” “Dear Mr. Alphonse Your Emerald Is,” “Schizophrenia in Florida,” and “On the Patio.” *Glass Bottom Sky*, edited by Silvia Curbelo and Greg Byrd. Yellow Jacket Press, Tampa, 2015.
- “Breathless,” *Love and Profanity: true, tortured, wild, hilarious, and intense tales of teenage life*. Edited by Nick Healy. Minnesota: Capstone/Switch Books, 2015.
- “Writing About Family,” *Family Trouble: memoirists on the hazards and rewards of revealing family*. Edited by Joy Castro. Lincoln and London: University of Nebraska Press, 2013.
- “Ballet at Midlife,” *Poetry in Michigan/Michigan in Poetry*. New Issues Press, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan, 2013.
- “Sails With Good People,” *Angle of Vision*. University of Michigan Press, 2008.
- “Tell Me Again, Who are You?” *The Best Creative Nonfiction*. Edited by Lee Gutkind. Norton Books, 2007.
- “Lake Talk,” *Fresh Water: Women Writing on the Great Lakes*. Edited by Alison Swan. Michigan State University Press, 2006.
- “Water Safety,” *High Five: An Anthology of Fiction from Ten Years of Five Points*, New York: Carroll & Graf Publishers, 2006.
- “Fla. Boys,” *Best of the South: Best of the Second Decade*. Edited by Anne Tyler. Print and audio. Chapel Hill: Algonquin, 2005.
- “In the Kitchen Dancing to Kitty Wells,” *Sweeping Beauty: Contemporary Women Poets do Housework*. Edited by Pamela Gemin. University of Iowa Press, 2005.

“Myself as a Delicious Peach,” *Falling Backwards: Stories of Fathers and Daughters*. Edited by Gina Frangello. Hourglass Books, 2004.

“It’s Water It’s Not Going to Kill You,” *Imaginative Writing: Elements of Craft*. Janet Burroway. Penguin/Longman, 2003.

“Fla. Boys,” *New Stories From the South: The Year’s Best, 1999*. Edited by Shannon Ravenel. Algonquin Books, 1999.

Grants, Fellowships, and Residencies

MacDowell Residency. March-April 2021.

Siena Art Institute, Siena, Italy. November 2019 (declined).

Writer’s Room, Betsy Hotel, Miami. Miami, Florida, March 28-April 1, 2018.

Lily Foundation New Directions Grant. 2012-2013.

National Endowment for the Arts, Creative Writing Fellowship for Fiction, 2000-2002.

Selected Keynote, Conference, and Symposium Presentations

Presidential Lecture, Eckerd College, February 22, 2019.

Paper, “It’s All About Me: Narcissus for Writers,” Associated Writing Programs National Conference, Tampa, Florida, March 8, 2018.

Paper, “Teaching by Strategy,” Associated Writing Programs National Conference, Washington D.C., February 10, 2017.

Keynote, “Living with Faceblindness,” Rockefeller University Town Hall Symposium on Face Blindness, December 12, 2016.

Commencement Address, “Stay Up Late, Keep the Music Loud, Make Interesting Choices.” Hope College, May 2012.

Paper, “Teaching in the Multi-Genre Classroom” Pedagogy Panel. Associated

- Writing Programs National Conference, Chicago, February 14, 2009.
- Paper, “Becoming a Mouth: Why Aren’t Women Funny?” Women and Humor Panel, Associated Writing Programs National Conference, New York City, February 1, 2008.
- Paper, “Trashy Women,” Associated Writing Programs National Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, 2007.
- Paper, “Making Shapely Fictionists: Midcareer Students of a Master Teacher.” Associated Writing Programs National Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, 2007.

Selected Readings, Invited Addresses, Talks, and Workshops

- Reading, with Anne Barngrover, Tombolo Books, St Pete, FL September 7, 2023
- Reading, with Tyler Gillespie, Tombolo Books, St Pete, FL May 7, 2023
- Reading, with Tyler Gillespie, BookstoreOne, Sarasota, FL, May 19 2023
- “How to Write What Scares You...” Craft Talks, Pittsburgh (online) February 8, 2023
- “True Flash” Craft Talks, Pittsburgh (online) April 19, 2023
- “Overcoming Obstacles,” Keynote. Hillsborough Community College. April 19, 2022
- Conversation with Peter Connors, Writers and Books, Rochester NY, virtual, April 25, 2022
- Reading, Tombolo Books, St. Petersburg, Florida, April 26, 2022
- Reading, Dalí Museum Poetry Series, St. Petersburg, Florida, May 12, 2022
- Creating Poems from Nature, Tombolo Books, St. Petersburg, Florida, May 19, 2022
- Reading and Talk, Ringling College of Art and Design, Sarasota, Florida, October 18, 2022
- “Writing Prose Poetry” Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, Florida, November 8,

- 2022.
- Talk and Reading, Sarah Lawrence College (online), November 15th, 2021
- Half-Day Workshop, Off Campus Writer's Workshop (online), Chicago,
November 2, 2021
- Talk and Reading, Tombolo Books, St Petersburg, Florida, October 23rd, 2021
- Lecture, NASA, Kennedy Space Center (online), October 26, 2021
- Talk, Brenda Hillman's creative writing class, Western Washington University,
September 10, 2021
- How to Write Material that Scares You without Scaring Away Your Reader,
Creative Nonfiction Education, November 18th, 2020.
- Preparing to Publish Your Work, *Thread*, English Department USF, November
6, 2020.
- Writing Memoir, Herrick Library, July 6th, 2020
- Reading, South Walton Public Library, January 12, 2020.
- Reading, Fruitport Library, Fruitport Michigan, October 12, 2019
- Reading, Hope College, Holland Michigan, October 1, 2019
- Talk, Disability Awareness, Hope College, Holland, Michigan October 15, 2019
- Talk, Women and Gender Studies, Hope College, Holland, Michigan, October
15, 2019
- Reading, Sexton/Conant Studio, Orient, New York, August 5, 2019
- Workshop, Introduction to Creative Writing: Building a Practice, Kripalu,
Lenox MA, June 30- July 5, 2019.
- Event Host, Seven Stories/Threes Brewing, June 18, 2019, Brooklyn, New York
- Visiting Writer, Montgomery Community College, Rochester, New York, March
21-22, 2019.
- Visiting Writer-in-Residence, Eckerd College, February 20-22, 2019.
- Reading and three workshops Esalen, Big Sur, California, October 20-22, 2018.

- Reading and workshop, Kripalu, Lenox Mass., June 24-29, 2018.
- Reading and three workshops, Wild Acres, North Carolina, May 17-19, 2018.
- Reading, Jefferson Market New York Public Library, May 9, 2018.
- Talk, St. Petersburg Women's Book Club, April 17, 2018.
- Reading, The Betsy Hotel, Miami Beach, Florida March 29, 2018.
- Reading, Robert Saunders Library, Tampa, Florida March 9, 2018.
- Reading, Associated Writing Programs National Conference, Tampa, Florida, March 8, 2018.
- Reading, Studio Physique, St. Petersburg, Florida, March 6, 2018.
- Three-part series, "Reading Poetry," Eckerd College, Fall 2017.
- Reading and three workshops, Esalen, Big Sur, California, October 19-21, 2017.
- Three workshops, Wild Acres, North Carolina, May 19-21 2017.
- Workshop, "Writing in Flow," Catapult Books, New York City, March 18, 2017.
- Talk, *You Don't Look Like Anyone I Know*, Delta Public Library, July 7, 2016.
- Talk, "The Friendly Art of Reading Poetry," Eckerd College, January 20, 2017.
- Talk, "What is Face blindness?" Eckerd College, January 27, 2017.
- Reading, Bluestocking Books, New York City, July 7, 2016.
- Reading, Florida Craft Arts, August 16, 2016.
- Workshop, "Looking for Trouble," Catapult Books, New York City, July 15, 2016
- Workshop, "Creative Writing Sampler," Kripalu, August 2-7, 2016.
- Talk, "Craft of the Essay," Hope College, (Skype), February 17, 2016.
- Reading, Dali Museum, St. Petersburg, Florida, February 11, 2016.
- Talk, "Face blindness and the New Memoir," Tampa Bay History Center, Tampa Florida, January 21, 2016.
- Workshop, "The Craft of Poetry," Dali Museum, St. Petersburg, Florida, January 9, 2016.
- Talk, "Writing Personal Essays," Bronx Manhattan Community College,

- October 25, 2015.
- Reading, New York Public Library, New York. October 25, 2015.
- Talk, University of South Florida, Department of Psychology, October 7, 2015.
- Reading, with graduate students, Inkwood Books, Tampa, September 24, 2015.
- Reading, Hillsborough Library Association, Tampa, Florida, May 15, 2015.
- Reading, Inkwood Books, Tampa, Florida, April 24, 2015.
- Talk, "Living with Faceblindness," Tampa Bay Rotary Club, March 26, 2015.
- Reading, Yellow Jacket Press, Tampa, Florida September 25, 2014.
- Reading, Oxford Exchange Bookstore, Tampa, Florida, September 18, 2014.
- Talk, Trailblazers Association Lecture Series, University of South Florida,
November 2014.
- Reading, Kripalu, Lenox, Massachusetts, July 14, 2014.
- Reading, Bowery Bar, New York City, May 7, 2014.
- Reading, Flint High School, Flint, Michigan, March 25, 2013.
- Reading, Broken Words Conference, University of South Florida, Tampa,
February 14, 2014.
- Reading, Writer's Harvest, Ella's Cafe, Tampa Florida, October 31, 2013.
- Talk, Psychology Department, University of South Florida, October 22, 2013.
- Reading, Carnegie Mellon University, October 2013.
- Reading, The University of Tampa, June 11, 2013.
- Keynote, Athena Foundation, Muskegon, Michigan, April 12, 2012.
- Talk, Calvin College, March 4, 2012.
- Reading, City College of New York, New York, New York, December 3, 2012.
- Talk, Michigan State University Medical School, Grand Rapids, Michigan,
October 30, 2012.
- Visiting writer, Marymount School, Montreal, September 27-29, 2012.
- Talk, Kentucky Women Writer's Conference, September 10-12, 2010.

Reading (with Soho Voce), New York City, January 10, 2010.

Reading, Associated Writing Programs National Conference, Denver, Colorado, April 2010.

Reading, *Sun Magazine* off-site event, Associated Writing Programs National Conference, Denver, Colorado, April 2010.

Reading (with Soho Voce), New York City, August 19, 2009.

Reading, Ferris State University, Mount Pleasant, Michigan, June 29, 2009.

Reading, Literary Life Bookstore, Grand Rapids, Michigan, September 14, 2009.

Reading, Literary Life Bookstore, Grand Rapids, Michigan, September 21, 2009.

Reading, Murray State University, January 3, 2009.

Reading, Bluestocking Books, New York City, January 28, 2008.

Visiting writer, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, February 19, 2008.

Visiting writer, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, March 26, 2008.

Reading, Third Stone Gallery, Fennville, Michigan, November 16, 2007.

Visiting writer, Georgia State College and University, Milledgeville, October 29, 2007.

Keynote, Montgomery Community College, Philadelphia, November 2, 2007.

Keynote, Midwest Writers Conference, Muncie, Indiana, July 27-28, 2007.

Visiting writer, Whidbey Island Writers Festival, March 2-5 2006.

Visiting writer, Florida Suncoast Writers Festival, St. Pete, February 4, 2006.

Talk, Book Expo America, New York City, June 1, 2005.

Selected Distinctions and Awards

Kosove Award for Distinguished Teaching and Service to the Undergraduate Program, University of South Florida, 2022.

Field Notes from the Flood Zone, Top Ten Books of 2022, *California Book Review*

Winner, Blue Lynx Prize, *The Present State of the Garden*, 2021.

Finalist, *Narrative* Prize for Poetry. Fall 2020.

Poem of the Week, *Narrative Magazine* "On a Late June Evening in my Driveway." June 28th 2021.

Honorable Mention, Best Writing on the Pandemic. American Society of Journalists and Authors, "Just This Breath." Fall 2020.

"The Present State of the Garden," chapbook of poetry. Top ten finalist, Tupelo Books Snowbound Chapbook Series, 2019.

"FronD," chapbook of poetry. Top three finalist, *Beloit Poetry Journal*, Chad Walsh Chapbook Prize, 2019.

"Where Am I?" *True Story/Creative Nonfiction* nominated for a Pushcart Prize, 2019.

"Girl Underwater" *The Sun Magazine* nominated for a Pushcart Prize, 2019.

"Termites," *Five Points*, Notable Essay in *Best American Essays* 2018.

"Pedal, Pedal, Pedal," Pushcart Prize winner, 2018.

University Undergraduate Teaching Award, University of South Florida, 2017.

"I'll Never Bother You Again," Notable Essays of the Year, *Best American Essays* 2016.

"Breathless," Notable Essays of the Year, *Best American Essays* 2015.

Prairie Schooner Strousse Award, 2013.

Commencement Address, Hope College, May 2012.

H.O.P.E. Award, Hope Outstanding Professor Educator, 2011.

"Men and Refrigeration," *Best American Non-Required Reading* 2011.

You Don't Look Like Anyone I Know, Editor's Choice, *The New York Times*, 2010.

"My Pornography," Notable Essays of the Year, *Best American Essays 2010*.

"Tell Me Again, Who Are You?" Notable Essays of the Year, *Best American Essays 2007*.

Georgia Under Water Barnes and Noble Discover Great New Writers award.

Selected Media

Brain and Life "About Face" profile by Susan Fitzgerald, June/July 2019 p 42-43.

FOX News television appearance (Tampa affiliate), on winning a USF teaching award; classroom visits, student interviews, and live interview. February, 2018

Creative Nonfiction, profile by Susan Rowe, 2018.

Advice to Writers, interview by Jon Winokur, March 2017.

CBS Morning News television appearance (Saint Petersburg/Tampa affiliate), poetry reading and discussion. CBS television appearance, with two graduate students, September 24, 2015.

Two Create with Elaine Sexton, interview by Kelly Shetron for www.twocreateproject.com, Summer 2016.

Northeast Journal interview and feature. Saint Petersburg, Spring 2016.

ABC News (national) segment on face blindness with Juju Chang rebroadcast on Discovery Channel May 2014.

Interviews and features on *You Don't Look Like Anyone I Know*: *Good Morning America*, *Dateline Medical Mysteries*, *The Rachel Ray Show*, *NBC Nightly News New York*, *NPR All Things Considered*, *NPR The Dick Gordon Show*, *LA Drive Time Radio*, *The New York Times Book Review*, 2010-2011.

Courses Taught at the University of South Florida 2013-present

Undergraduate Writing Program

- CRW 3311 Form and Technique of Poetry (online)
- CRW 3311 Form and Technique of Poetry
- CRW 3312 Poetry I
- CRW 3321 Poetry II
- CRW 4930 The Poetry of Mindfulness
- CRW 4930 Flash Fiction and Micro Memoir
- CRW 4930 Hybrids and Experiments
- CRW 4930 Short Form Creative Nonfiction
- CRW 4930 Writing Novels for Children Ages 8-12
- ENG 4906 Directed Research (undergraduate honors theses)
- IDH 4950 Honors Directed Readings
- IDH 4970 Honors Thesis

MFA Program

- CRW 6025 Short Forms: Micro Memoir, Flash Fiction, Prose Poetry
- CRW 6086 Pedagogy Practicum: Teaching Creative Writing
- CRW 6236 Nonfiction Writing Workshop
- CRW 6331 Poetry Workshop
- CRW 6532 Prosody: The Craft of Poetry
- ENG 6936 Directed Research
- ENG 6971 Thesis: MFA
- LIT 6934 Literary Editing and Publishing

Courses Taught at Hope College 1995-2013

Creative Writing

- Introduction to Creative Writing: Fiction
- Introduction to Creative Writing: Nonfiction
- Introduction to Creative Writing: Poetry
- Introduction to Creative Writing: Mixed Genre
- Fiction Workshop (intermediate and advanced)
- Nonfiction Workshop (intermediate and advanced)
- Linked Short Stories (advanced writing workshop)
- Micro Memoir & Flash Fiction (intermediate and advanced)

Poetry Workshop (intermediate and advanced)
Long-form Nonfiction Workshop (advanced)
The Researched Memoir (advanced)
Young Adult and Middle Grade Novels (creative writing workshop)

Literature and First Year Seminar

Introduction to Literature
Introduction to Fiction
Contemporary American Authors 1920-present
Southern Writers
Southern Women Writers
Story Cycles
Narrative Theory

Pedagogy

Creative Writing: Theory and Pedagogy
Preparing to Teach Writing (for Elementary School Teachers)

Certificates and Technological Expertise

Online Teaching Certification, University of South Florida. Summer 2023
Creating Instructor Presence Online. Quality Matters. December 2018.
Online Teaching Certification, University of South Florida. Fall 2017.
Expertise in Camtasia and InDesign

Service

Service for the Profession

Contributing Editor, *Anacapa Review*, 2022-present
Member, AWP Program Directors group, 2021-present
Reader, BOA Editions A. Poulin book contest, 2021-present
Judge, Oregon State Book Awards, Nonfiction, Fall 2020
Judge, *New Letters* Beasley contest Fall 2020
Judge, Eerdmans Poetry Contest, Hope College 2019-2020
Contributing Editor, *The Pushcart Prize* anthology, 2019-present

Service for the University of South Florida

Provost's Teaching Advisory Council, 2018-2019.

Service for the English Department, University of South Florida

Chair, Search Committee, Assistant Professor of Fiction, 2021-2022

Leader, Nonfiction Salon (monthly gathering), 2019-present

Mentor, Junior Faculty, Creative Writing, 2020-present

Member, Faculty Evaluation Committee, Fall 2021-present

Member, Undergraduate Committee, Fall 2020-present

Co-developer, Curriculum Development: New nonfiction tracks in the
undergraduate and graduate programs (with Julia Koets) 2019- present

Developer, Fiction Form and Technique online, 2021

Developer, Poetry Form and Technique online, 2017

Member, Creative Writing Committee

Member, Graduate Committee, 2013-present

Member, Digital Humanities Committee, 2018-2020

Member, Faculty Evaluation Committee, 2018-

Member, Executive Committee, 2019-

Member, Undergraduate Committee, 2021-

Member, Placement Committee, 2013-2017

Chair, Creative Writing Awards Committee

Advisor, *Saw Palm*, 2015

Chair, Creative Writing Committee, 2021-

Member, Media Literacy Committee, 2017

Facilitator: Talks on How to Prepare for a Career in Publishing, Friday Series for MFAs, Fall 2020-2021.

Member, College of Arts and Sciences mentorship program.

Lead Facilitator, Professionalism Series: Six workshops per year focusing on topics for undergrads and grad students including resume and CV workshops and practice interviews.

Ph.D. Committees, University of South Florida

Lorraine Monteagut, Department of Communication, Dissertation Defense Monday November 6 2017, Dissertation: *Second-Generation Bruja: Transforming Ancestral Shadows into Spiritual Activism* (December 2017).
Member.

Erin Scheffels, Department of Communication, Dissertation Defense, April 4, 2018. Dissertation: *EVERYTHING IS FINE: The self-portrait of a caregiver with chronic depression, among other preexisting conditions* (September 2018).
Member.

MFA Thesis Committees, University of South Florida

Director

Kayla Kavanaugh, *Fine Dining*, novel, May 2023

Madison Frazier *Blood* memoir, May 2022

Callie Treadway *Cicadaville*, May 2022

Alison Missler *The Verge*, poetry, May 2019.

Casey Clague *Terristrialgia*, poetry, May 2019.

James Josue *Childarchy*, poetry, May 2019.

Bianca Hernandez *Blossom Street: Micro Memoir from Border Culture*, memoir, May 2019.

Lorie Jewell *Wabi-Sabi Warrior*, memoir, May 20, 2019.

Georgia Jackson *UnicornMermaidFairyPrincess* novel, May 7, 2018.

Greg Van Winkle poetry manuscript, May 7, 2018.

Karissa Womack *Willow*, May 6, 2017.

Committee Member

Samantha Chianese, poetry, May 2023
 Lauren Cross: *How to Preserve a Body: Essays* May 2021
 Haley Morton: *Liar's Palinode*, poetry. Expected May 2021.
 Jessica Watson: *Bodywork: essays*. Expected May 2021.
 Macey Sidlaskey: *Seeing Through*, May 8, 2020.
 Cheryl Nance: poetry/hybrid, May 8, 2020.
 Allyson Hoffman: *Swing Dance*, novel. May 7, 2018.
 Aracelis Asendorf: *The Last Lock*, short stories, May 6, 2017
 Annalise Mabe: *A Body Among Bodies, Other Consequences*, memoir, May 6, 2017.
 Carmella Guiol: [untitled novel], May 6, 2017.
 Colleen Kolba: [hybrid/comics], May 6 2017.
 Sarah Duffy: *Verbum*, May 7, 2016.
 Robert Alexander: *Paper Heroes*, May 7, 2016.
 Robert Alderman: *The Land Between Two Rivers*, May 2, 2015.
 Chase Holland: *This Blood, My Own*, May 2, 2015.
 Brittany Cagle: *Local Women Business Owners in Tampa Bay: A Personal Inquiry into Small Businesses in Corporate America*, May 2, 2015.
 Ashley Annis: *Down in Town Creek*, May 2, 2015.

Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committees, University of South Florida*Director*

Maryfaith Ocampo, 2021-2022
 Kyden Payne, 2020-2021
 Diana Prieto, 2019

Member

Callie Treadwell, fiction, *Southern Hospitality* May 2019.
 Brittany Eldridge, fiction. May 2019.
 Sarah Harder
 Haley Morton
 Courtney Saba
 Maria Dones
 Marianne Samuda
 Courtney Clute
 Samantha Risak

Gicely Rodriguez

Selected Service to Hope College, 1995-2013

Director, Hope College Visiting Writers Series, 1996-2006. Developed an arts management student internship to support the Series; students conducted author interviews with our guests and published these locally and in magazines such as *AWP Chronicle* and *Meridian*. Twelve invited readers per year, audiences averaged 400 in number; community outreach program and follow-up panels called “After Words”.

Director, Distinguished Artist Award in Creative Writing program. Four-six new students per year. Administered program, mentored incoming recipients.

Faculty advisor, student literary magazine *Opus*.

College and Department Committees: New Faculty Mentorship, Academic Affairs Board, Ethnic Studies, Teacher Education Council, Cultural Affairs Board, First Year Seminar program; numerous departmental search committees, creative writing committees, and numerous departmental evaluation and review committees.

References

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