

Deanna Benjamin

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Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

Ph. D., University of Missouri, Columbia, English, Creative Writing, Focus: Memoir
M.F.A., Vermont College of Fine Arts, Fiction, focus: Menippean satire and narrative theory
M.A., Arizona State University, Tempe, English, focus: American South & American West
B.A., University of Houston, English, focus: Western Literature, Advanced Composition

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Teaching Professor, College Writing Program and CAPS/University College, Washington U. in St. Louis, 2025-present
Sr. Lecturer, College Writing Program and CAPS/University College, Washington U. in St. Louis, 2019-2025
Lecturer, College Writing Program and University College, Washington U. in St. Louis, 2008-2019
Assistant Dean & Academic Coordinator, College of Arts & Sciences, Washington U. in St. Louis, 2019-2022
Faculty, Summer Writers Institute, Washington U. in St. Louis, 2012 and 2022-2023
Graduate Lecturer, Department of English, U. of Missouri, Columbia, 2014-2017
Associate Faculty, M.F.A. in Creative Writing, City University of Hong Kong (online), 2014-2015
Founder and Faculty, Inkstand Workshop, Gephardt Institute for Public Service, 2012-2014
Faculty, High School Summer Experiences, Washington U. in St. Louis, 2012
Lecturer, Department of English, U. of Missouri, St. Louis, 2006-2008
Lecturer, Department of Writing & Linguistics, Georgia Southern University, 2004-2006
Teacher, Savannah Arts Academy, Georgia, 2002-2004
Adjunct professor, Department of Liberal Arts, Savannah College of Art & Design, fall 2001
Adjunct instructor, Department of English, Mesa Community College (Arizona), 1999-2001

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (SELECTED, 2015-PRESENT)

Faculty representative, Arts & Sciences, Faculty Libraries Council, Washington University in St. Louis, 2025-2028
Board member, Association of Teaching, Research, and Practice Faculty, Washington University in St. Louis, 2025-2027
Member, Curriculum Committee, College Writing Program, Washington University in St. Louis, 2025-present
Selection Committee, Carl Neureuther Student Book Collection Essay Competition, Olin Library, 2023-present
Co-Chair, Dean James E. McLeod First-Year Writing Prize, Washington U. in St. Louis, 2019-present
Four-year Academic Advisor, College of Arts & Sciences, Washington U. in St. Louis 2018-present
Member, Course Reader Committee, College Writing Program, Washington University in St. Louis, 2019-2025
Co-Chair, Writing Identity theme, College Writing Program, Washington U. in St. Louis, 2019-2025
PreHealth Advisor, College of Arts & Sciences, Washington U. in St. Louis, 2019-2025
Selection Committees, Truman Scholarship, External Fellowships, College of Arts & Sciences, 2019-2024;
Rhodes, Marshall, Mitchell, and/or Beineke Scholarships, 2019-2020
Teaching Triangles, The Center for Teaching & Learning, Washington U. in St. Louis, 2022-2023
Progress Counselor, College of Arts & Sciences, Washington U. in St. Louis 2019-2022
Academic Integrity Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, Washington U. in St. Louis, 2021-2022
Faculty, Academic Integrity Committee, College of Arts & Sciences, Washington U. in St. Louis, 2021
Coordinator, Peer Advising Program, College of Arts & Sciences, Washington U. in St. Louis, 2019-2021
Co-lecturer, Writing Identity Pilot, College Writing Program & English Department collaboration, Washington U. in St. Louis, 2017-2019
Representative, EGSA Representative, Curriculum Subcommittee with the Undergraduate Studies Committee, U. of Missouri, 2015-2016

COURSES TAUGHT

Academic Writing and Literature: Writing Identity; Citizen Scientist; Argumentation, Composition, and Rhetoric; surveys of American, World, and Classical Literatures; Twentieth-century American War literature

Creative Nonfiction: The Art of the Personal Essay; Personal Narrative; The Self as Story; Writing Ourselves, Writing the World; Reading and Writing the Memoir; Writing as Activism

Other genres: Narrative Forms (fiction) and The Long Form (multi-genre)

PUBLICATIONS (GENRE)

“Trauma Memoir as Dystopian Literature,” *Narratives of Hope and Despair: Ruin and Regeneration in Literature and Culture*, Routledge, forthcoming October 10, 2025 (critical)

“Her yellow poncho,” *Thimble Magazine*, forthcoming September 2025 (poetry)

“Ceremony,” “Like starfish,” and “Lilacs,” *MacQueen’s Quinterly*, forthcoming September 2025 (poetry, cnf, & fiction)

“In the crook of her arm,” *The Texas Review*, forthcoming spring 2025 (nonfiction)

“The Blue Yo-yo,” “There are riches in your words,” and “Her Laugh,” *Flash Boulevard*, April 2025 (fiction & cnf)

“These are my memories,” “Becoming a daughter,” and “Something lost,” *Flash Boulevard*, August 2022 (fiction & cnf)

“The delicate periphery of your crime,” *Waterwheel Review*, December 2021 (poetry)

“Writing Someone Else’s Story: Empathy and Entitlement in Maxine Hong Kingston’s “No Name Woman,” chapter in *Women and Fairness*, May 2021 (critical)

“Pleiades,” *The Dead Mule School of Literature*, August 2018 (cnf)

“On the Influence of Mentors,” *Brevity’s Nonfiction Blog*, March 11, 2016 (cnf)

“The Forest,” *Seek It: Writers and Artists Do Sleep* (anthology), Red Claw Press, 2012 (fiction)

“Prescience” and “The Eve of the Exodus,” *Status Hat*, May 2011 (poetry)

“Fluorescence,” *The Carolina Quarterly*, Spring 2011 (cnf)

“Gilded,” *Fifth Wednesday Journal*, Spring 2011 (cnf)

“Virga,” *Brevity Magazine*, Fall 2010 (cnf)

EDITORIAL POSITIONS

Co-editor, *Narratives of Hope and Despair: Ruin and Regeneration in Literature and Culture*, Routledge, forthcoming October 10, 2025

Development Editor, Palm Springs Art Museum, *In Search for a Living Architecture*, Lina Bo Bardi-Albert Frey Exhibition Catalogue, Exhibition dates: September 9, 2017, to February 26, 2018

Assistant Editor *Drunken Boat*, Nonfiction, 2016-2017

Editor, *Drunken Boat*, “Home,” Special Section, Issue 24, December 15, 2016

Contributing Author, *Back to the Lake* (8th ed.), W. W. Norton & Company, online quizzes, 2013 and 2014

Guest Reviewer, *They Say, I Say: Teacher’s Companion*, W. W. Norton & Company, 2013

Development Editor, *Lina Bo Bardi*, Yale UP, author Zeuler R. M. de A. Lima, 2013

Reader, *Tin House*, 2009-12

Reader, *McSweeney’s Quarterly Concern*, 2009-10

Contributing Editor, *Hunger Mountain*, 2008-11

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & PUBLIC READINGS (SELECTED, 2015-PRESENT)

Lecture, “Reimagining the academic writing process,” Faculty Spotlight, Parent & Family Weekend, Student Transitions & Family Programs Office, Washington U. in St. Louis, November 2, 2024

Panel, “The 21st-Century American Memoir as Dystopian Nonfiction,” *Authorial Perspectives*, American Literature Association 34th Annual Conference, 2023 (accepted but missed due to travel constraints)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & PUBLIC READINGS (CON'T)

- Panel, "Writing Identity: Variations on Collaborative Teaching," *Thematic Access, Institutional Access: Faculty Collaboration and First-Year Writing Program Redesign*, CCCC Virtual Annual Convention, 2022
- Panel, "Writing & Linguistics," *Beyond Boundaries*, Washington U. in St. Louis, spring 2021
- Panel, "Thriving at Wash U," Umrath & South 40 Residential Hall, Residential Life, Washington U. in St. Louis, fall 2019
- Reading, "How to be Rescued," Post-Graduate Writers' Conference, Vermont College of Fine Arts, 2017
- Panel, "Bringing the Library into the Classroom: Rethinking Library Resources," Celebration of Writing and Teaching, U. of Missouri, Spring 2017
- Reading, "An Effect of Mass," Graduate Student Reading Series, University of Missouri, spring 2017
- Reading, "Invisible Rope," Novel Retreat, Vermont College of Fine Arts, summer 2016
- Reading, "Bolivar," "Ally," "Invisible Rope," Graduate Student Reading Series, University of Missouri, spring 2016
- Reading, "Ansonia," Graduate Student Reading Series, U. of Missouri, Fall 2015
- Panel, "Publishing in the Modern Marketplace," University College, Washington U. in St. Louis, Fall 2015
- Panel, "Research Workshop and Q&A Session," Residential Life, Washington U. in St. Louis, Fall 2015
- Panel, "Charting Uncertainty: How We Find Meaning through Unknowing," Flagstaff, AZ, NonfictionNow 2015
- Panel, Chair, "Relocating Dislocation: Uncovering the Familiar in the Strange," Flagstaff, AZ, NonfictionNow 2015

GRANTS & AWARDS (SELECTED, 2015-PRESENT)

- Provost's Professional Development fund, Washington University in St. Louis, 2025
- Literacies for Life and Career pilot (grant), College of Arts & Sciences, Washington U. in St. Louis, 2023-2024
- Provost's Professional Development fund, Washington University in St. Louis, 2023
- Teaching Triangles, The Center for Teaching and Learning, Washington U. in St. Louis, 2022-2023
- Provost's Professional Development fund, Washington U. in St. Louis, 2022
- Outstanding Writing 1 Instructor Award (student-selected), *First-Year Finale*, Residential Life, 2019
- The Marion Horstmann Online Teaching Innovation Grant, Washington U. in St. Louis, Summer 2018
- Professionalization Fund Award, English Graduate Student Assoc., University of Missouri, Fall 2017
- Annual Post-Graduate Writers Conference scholarship, Vermont College of Fine Arts, August 2017
- Travel grant, English Department, University of Missouri, Spring 2017
- Annual Novel Retreat scholarship, Vermont College of Fine Arts, Spring 2016
- Professional Presentation Travel grant, Office of Graduate Studies, U. of Missouri, Fall 2015
- Creative Writing scholarship, English Department, University of Missouri, Columbia, 2014-2018

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST