

Jason Patrick Ferris

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EDUCATION

M.F.A. in Creative Writing (Fiction)

May 2023

The Iowa Writers' Workshop, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

Thesis: *Strangers by Nature: A Novel-in-Stories*

Thesis Committee: Lan Samantha Chang, Charles D'Ambrosio, Jamel Brinkley

B.A. in Creative Writing, B.A. in English—Publishing & Editing

May 2021

Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove, PA

Valedictorian, GPA: 4.0, summa cum laude, university honors, departmental honors in creative writing

Thesis: *These Things We Call Ourselves: Stories*

Thesis Committee: Matthew Neill Null, Hasanthika Sirisena, Catherine Dent

STUDY ABROAD

Summer Shakespeare, Stratford Upon Avon

Summer 2019

- Studied at the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust in Stratford Upon Avon for a month with a tour group from St. Mary's College of Maryland, examining the cultural impact of the texts and performances of Shakespeare's plays.

RESEARCH

“Translating Difference: Carrying Cultural Difference Across Language”

Fall 2018

- Worked with Dr. Megan Kelly to translate “Un señor muy viejo con unas alas enormes” from Spanish to English.
- Developed a research paper arguing that a foreignizing mode of translation is most ethical and presented my findings at Honors Program Colloquium because it is vital to discuss how we consume stories.

AWARDS AND PUBLICATIONS

Jeffrey & Kimberly Chapman Writing Fellowship, Iowa Writers' Workshop

Sept 2023 – Sept 2024

PEN/Robert J. Dau Short Story Prize (Nomination)

November 2022

James Patterson Writer Education Scholarship, Iowa Writers' Workshop

Fall 2022 – Spring 2023

“What We Talk About.” *Carve Magazine* (Interview)

Summer 2022

[“A House I Call Beth.”](#) *Carve Magazine* (short story)

Summer 2022

Honorable Mention, 2021 Prose and Poetry Contest, *Carve Magazine*

Winter 2022

Truman Capote Fellowship, Iowa Writers' Workshop

Fall 2021 – Spring 2022

Valedictorian, SU

Spring 2021

Outstanding Service in the English Programs Award, SU	Spring 2021
Gary and Elizabeth Fincke Outstanding Senior Portfolio Prize, SU	Spring 2021
<i>These Things We Call Ourselves</i> , L'appel du Vide Small Press Chapbook Prize	Spring 2021
Erik Kirkland Memorial Prize for Creative Nonfiction, SU	Spring 2021
"Skin." <i>Essay Magazine</i> (essay)	Spring 2021
Juliet Gibson Memorial Award for Outstanding Student Writer in Fiction, SU	Spring 2020
"Man of the Forest." <i>RiverCraft</i> (short story)	Spring 2020
Sigmund Weis Sophomore Prize, SU	Fall 2019 – Spring 2020
"Central Yosemite Highway." <i>RiverCraft</i> (short story)	Spring 2019
"The Natural Thing to Do." <i>Essay Magazine</i> (essay)	Spring 2019
Janet Weis Writers Institute Scholarship, SU	Fall 2017 – Spring 2021
Susquehanna University Presidential Scholarship, SU	Fall 2017 – Spring 2021

PRESENTATIONS

Creative Reading: "How to Draw a Hero." Second-Year Reading, The Iowa Writers' Workshop, University of Iowa. Iowa City, IA. April 28 2023.

Creative Reading: "My Silly Little Faggot." Queer Reading, The Iowa Writers' Workshop, University of Iowa. Iowa City, IA. September 29 2022.

Creative Reading: "Settling." First-Year Reading, The Iowa Writers' Workshop, University of Iowa. Iowa City, IA. November 12 2021.

Creative Reading: "Man of the Forest." Summer Writers Workshop. Susquehanna University. Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania. July 2020.

Workshop: "Creative Writing Day." Susquehanna University. Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania. 2 November 2020.

Creative Reading: "The Natural Thing to Do." Summer Writers Workshop. Susquehanna University. Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania. July 2019

Workshop: "Creative Writing Day: The Novel." Susquehanna University. Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania. November 2019.

Lecture: "Small Press Collaboration." FUSE Conference. Widener University. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. 8 November 2019.

Lecture: "Translating Difference: Carrying Cultural Difference Across Language." Susquehanna University. Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania. 2 May 2018.

Workshop: “Creative Writing Day: Short Fiction.” Susquehanna University. Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania. October 2018.

Creative Reading: “The Natural Thing to Do.” Creative Writing Day. Susquehanna University. Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania. October 2018.

Workshop: “Creative Writing Day: The Novel.” Susquehanna University. Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania. November 2017.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

St. Mary’s College of Maryland

ENGL-270 Introduction to Creative Writing, Instructor Fall 2023

- Designed and taught a course surveying intimacy in fiction and poetry
- Mentored 15 students in developing original work in these three forms of writing
- Oversaw workshops in fiction and poetry

CORE-101 Embodied Fictions, Instructor Fall 2023

- Designed and taught a first-year seminar surveying short stories, essays, and graphic novels about the body
- Mentored 17 students in developing writing and oral communication skills
- Lectured on embodiment theory
- Collaborated with a student peer mentor

The University of Iowa

CW-1800 Creative Writing Studio Workshop, Instructor Spring 2023

- Designed and taught a course surveying intimacy in fiction, creative nonfiction, and poetry
- Mentored 20 students in developing original work in these three forms of writing
- Oversaw workshops in these three forms

CW-1800 Creative Writing Studio Workshop, Instructor Fall 2022

- Designed and taught a course surveying intimacy in fiction, creative nonfiction, and poetry
- Mentored 20 students in developing original work in these three forms of writing
- Oversaw workshops in these three forms
- Worked one-on-one with a student taking class for honors credit

Narrative Nonfiction, Instructor (Iowa Youth Writing Project) April 26, 2022

- Taught a narrative nonfiction workshop to 20 middle school students, including readings of Alexander Chee’s “The Querent” and writing exercises

Susquehanna University

WRIT-451 Advanced Fiction: Short Story, Teaching Assistant Fall 2020

- Co-taught 14-student short fiction workshop with Dr. Catherine Zabal Dent.
- Lectured on Christine Schutt's and Ottessa Moshfegh's short fiction.

Summer Advanced Writers Workshop, Teaching Assistant

July 2020

- Co-taught 9-student, week-long short fiction workshop with Dr. Silas Dent Zabal.
- Lectured on Carmen Maria Machado, Laura van den Berg, Margaret Atwood, Tobias Wolff, and Jhumpa Lahiri.

WRIT-270 Small Press Editing & Publishing, Teaching Assistant

Fall 2019

- Co-taught workshop in which 16 students became the editors, designers, and promoters of a pop-up press, with Professor Matthew Neill Null.
- Developed and taught InDesign curriculum, mentoring students in the designing of two published chapbooks.

Summer Advanced Writers Workshop, Teaching Assistant

July 2019

- Led a short story workshop with fifteen students.
- Mentored a poetry workshop with fourteen students.
- Resident assistant for a week-long camp for high school writers.

WRIT-540 Junior Writers Workshop, Teaching Assistant

March 2018 – July 2019

- Taught middle school creative writing workshop with 20 students.
- Designed curriculum for the 2018 and 2019 workshops.

PRDV 104 Perspectives, Peer Mentor

Fall 2018 – Spring 2019

- Worked alongside Dr. Swarna Basu to teach Perspectives, a class and year-long experience designed to help first-year students transition to university.
- Mentored the twenty students under my tutelage through their first year of college.

EDITING EXPERIENCE

[RiverCraft](#)

Senior Fiction Editor

May 2020 – May 2021

Junior Fiction Editor

September 2018 – May 2020

- Responsible for the selection and editing of all fiction content submitted for three editions of *RiverCraft*, Susquehanna University's premier literary magazine for undergraduate fiction, poetry, and artwork.
- Created a call for submissions and submission guidelines.
- Organized reading boards to discuss submissions and inform final selections.
- Collaborated with fellow editors to edit content, decide its order, draft a letter from the editors, and send all acceptance and rejection emails.
- Copyedited fiction content accepted both for the online and print forms of the magazine.
- Planned launch party.

Apprentice Writer

Designer and Head Editor

May 2019 – May 2021

- Responsible for editing all content accepted for three editions of *Apprentice Writer*, a print and online literary magazine publishing the best fiction, creative nonfiction, poetry, and artwork from secondary schools around the world.
- Worked with authors to make global edits as well as copyedits to their accepted work.
- Redesigned and maintained print magazine and website, using Microsoft Publisher and WordPress.

SU Kokoro Press

Fall 2018

Prose Editor, Layout Designer, Copyeditor

- Worked on a pop-up press that ran a chapbook submission contest and produced two chapbooks, one of which I edited and designed using Adobe InDesign.
- Wrote press's mission statement and press release.

DESIGN EXPERIENCE

Apprentice Writer

Print and Web Layout Manager

May 2018 – May 2019

- Redesigned *Apprentice Writer* magazine using Microsoft Publisher.
- Redesigned *Apprentice Writer* website using WordPress.
- Designed flyers with Canva.

Summer Writers Workshop Anthology

Summer 2019

- Designed an anthology of the high school writing produced at the Summer Writers Workshop, distributed to all participants.

LEADERSHIP

FUSE Digital Colloquium

29 October 2020

- Collaborated with FUSE member universities to organize a one-day colloquium of student panels and professional guest speakers.
- Led a panel on the digitization of literary magazines, particularly in the age of coronavirus.

FUSE Susquehanna University, Interviews/Reviews Editor

April 2020 – May 2021

- Guided Susquehanna students in reviewing literary journals and connecting with professionals in the publishing industry.

FUSE National, Director of Reviews

November 2019 – May 2021

- Coordinated a national reviews project with undergraduate writing and English programs in which students wrote reviews of undergraduate literary magazines.

- Selected reviews for publication.
- Collaborated with accepted writers to make global and copyedits to their reviews.

FUSE Susquehanna University, Interviews Editor

April 2019 – April 2020

- Guided Susquehanna students in connecting with publishing industry professionals.

Writers House Round-Up Living and Learning Community

September 2018 – May 2019

- Created an educational space in creative writing housing for students to socialize, enjoy writing activities, and develop a year-long chapbook.
- Collaborated with head of housing and writing department.
- Drafted an approval proposal.
- Created a budget proposal.
- Advertised through social media—Instagram, Facebook.

INTERNSHIPS

Digital Anthology Intern

Fall 2018

- Designed website displaying Susquehanna University campus publications.
- Designed website featuring a French-to-English translation project.

WORKSHOP EXPERIENCE

WRIT-251 Introduction to Fiction, SU, Tom Bailey/Hasanthika Sirisena

Fall 2017

WRIT-253 Introduction to Creative Nonfiction, SU, Glen Retief

Spring 2018

WRIT-252 Introduction to Poetry, SU, Karla Kelsey

Fall 2018

WRIT-351 Intermediate Short Story, SU, Elise Burke

Spring 2019

ENGL-298 Book Reviewing, Laurence Roth SU

Fall 2019

WRIT-451 Advanced Short Story, SU, Matthew Neil Null

Fall 2019

WRIT-453 Advanced Memoir/Essay/Graphic, SU, Hasanthika Sirisena

Spring 2020

WRIT-550 Senior Seminar, SU, Monica Prince

Fall 2020

WRIT-520 TA for WRIT-451 Advanced Short Story, SU, Catherine Dent

Fall 2020

CW-7870 Fiction Workshop, IWW, Charles D'Ambrosio

Fall 2021

CW-7870 Fiction Workshop, IWW, Kevin Brockmeier

Spring 2022

CW-7870 Fiction Workshop, IWW, Lan Samantha Chang

Fall 2022

CW-7870 Fiction Workshop, IWW, Jamel Brinkley

Spring 2023

CONFERENCES

- Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP), San Antonio, TX 4 – 7 March 2020
Forum for Undergraduate Student Editors (FUSE), Widener University, PA 7 – 9 November 2019

SKILLS

Technology: Adobe Photoshop, Adobe InDesign, Microsoft (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Publisher, Outlook, Teams), Canva, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Skype, Zoom

Language: Advanced Spanish

HONOR SOCIETIES

- Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society Fall 2019 – Present
Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society Fall 2018 – Present

REFERENCES

Charles D'Ambrosio (Professor and Thesis Advisor)
Professor of Fiction

Iowa Writers' Workshop
102 Dey House
507 N. Clinton Street
Iowa City IA 52242-1000
Tel: (319) 335-0423
Email: charles-dambrosio@uiowa.edu

Lan Samantha Chang (Professor and Thesis Advisor)
Program Director & Elizabeth M. Stanley Professor
in the Arts

Iowa Writers' Workshop
102 Dey House
507 N. Clinton Street
Iowa City IA 52242-1000
Tel: (319) 335-0416
Email: ls-chang@uiowa.edu