

Melanie Tafejian

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EDUCATION

M.F.A. Creative Writing: Poetry. North Carolina State University 2020

Thesis title: *Brine*. Thesis committee: Dorianne Laux, Eduardo C. Corral. Zachary Beare

B.A. Interdisciplinary Studies, Western Washington University, Fairhaven College 2013

Official concentration titled: *Women's Voices: Poetry, Psychology, and Culture*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Instructor: South Puget Sound Community College 2024-present

- Developed course materials in alignment with diverse student needs
- Provided student support, mentorship, and one-on-one feedback

Adjunct Instructor: CloverPark Technical College 2024-present

- Developed course materials for students attending technical college
- Developed course materials in alignment with diverse student needs
- Provided student support, mentorship, and one-on-one feedback

Lecturer: Academic Writing and Research, North Carolina State University 2023-2024

- Developed syllabi and all course materials for both in-person and online learning
- Developed and managed Moodle learning interface
- Provided student support, mentorship, and one-on-one feedback

Instructor, Academic Research Writing, North Carolina State University Spring 2024

Taught a research writing class to students from Saudi Arabia during a fellowship year they spent at NCSU through the Kaust Gifted Student Program.

- Developed syllabi and all course materials for in-person learning
- Developed and managed Moodle learning interface
- Provided student support, mentorship, and comprehensive feedback

Instructor, Redbud Writing Project, Raleigh, North Carolina 2022- present

Instructor of remote and in-person creative writing classes/workshops for youth and adults, through Redbud Writing Project, a nonprofit community writing center in Raleigh, North Carolina. Classes included “Micro Fiction: The art of tiny stories;” “Intro to Poetry Writing” and “Intro to Memoir.”

- Development of curriculum and syllabi
- Curation of supplementary materials via printouts, and a shared GoogleDrive
- Facilitation of class craft lessons, workshops, and one-on-one support

Literary Arts Teacher, Longleaf School of the Arts, Raleigh, NC 2021-2022

Teacher of high school literature and creative writing classes for 9th-12th grades. Courses taught included: Beginning Literary Arts, Intermediate Literary Arts, Advanced Literary Arts Workshop, Honors English I

- Developed curriculum and syllabi for each class
- Provided detailed feedback on student writing
- Facilitated class discussion and small group work
- Collaborated with faculty to create curriculum in line with district standards.

Poetry Mentor, *Adroit Journal* Summer Mentorship Program Summer 2022

Provided online remote poetry mentorship to high school students.

- Developed curriculum and weekly lessons
- Facilitated online discussion and lessons on poetic craft

Lecturer: Academic Writing and Research, North Carolina State University 2019-2020

Instructor of record for two ENG 101 classes.

- Developed syllabi and all course materials for both in-person and online learning
- Developed and managed Moodle learning interface
- Provided student support, mentorship, and feedback

Graduate Teaching Assistant: Academic Writing and Research, NCSU Spring 2019

Taught alongside and learned from a senior ENG 101 lecturer.

- Developed course materials for a lesson on writing in the humanities
- Graded papers and received feedback from a senior lecturer
- Provided student support, mentorship, and one-on-one feedback

EDITING AND WRITING EXPERIENCE

Poetry Reader: *Raleigh Review* Editorial Staff. January 2022- Present

KGSP College Application Essay Coach Fall 2023

Ghostwriter, Jolly Go SEO, Spring 2021-Fall 2022

Tutor and Essay Editor, Triangle Academic Coaching. Fall 2020- Spring 2021

Lead College Essay Editor, Ukrainian Global Scholars Network. Fall 2020 and 2021

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

“Happiness Index” and “Regret” in *POETRY Magazine*

“Shushi” in *Four Way Review*

“Most Human” in *Sixth Finch*

“Zeitun” in *Southern Humanities Review*

“The Border,” “Phantom Babies,” “Youth Visit Artsakh Border,” “Walnut Jam,” “Water,” in *Nimrod International Journal*

“For Years I Was Afraid to Go Home” in *The Atlanta Review*

“The Visitor” in *The Atlanta Review*

“Translating My Great-Grandfather’s Poems” in *The Georgia Review*

“The Harbor,” “The Gift,” and “The Journalist” in *The Los Angeles Review*
“Cobalt” and “Salt” in *Poetry Northwest*
“Preserved Lemons” in *Willow Springs*
“On *Shrapnel Maps* by Philip Metres” in *The Kenyon Review Online*

HONORS AND AWARDS

Poem selected for installation at Lake Johnson Park, Raleigh, NC (2024)
Semi Finalist for the 2023 James Applewhite Poetry Prize
Finalist for the 2023 Auburn Witness Poetry Prize
Finalist for the 2023 *Nimrod Journal* Pablo Neruda Prize
Winner of the 2021 *The Atlanta Review* International Poetry Prize
Semi Finalist for the 2021 *Rattle* Poetry Prize (out of over 4,000 applicants)
Winner of 2020 North Carolina State Poetry Contest
Second Place 2020 William Matthews Poetry Prize
Finalist for the 2019 *Cutthroat Magazine* Joy Harjo Award
Finalist for the 2019 North Carolina State Poetry Contest
2018 Peace Corps Spotlight Volunteer

BOOK PRIZES

2024 National Poetry Series Finalist for the manuscript *Happiness Index*
2023 *The Journal*/Charles B. Wheeler Poetry Prize Semifinalist

CONFERENCES

Acceptance to present at the Southwest Popular/American Culture Association (SWPACA) conference 2020. Paper: “Home: Finding Connection in a Threatened World”
The Frost Place Conference on Poetry. July 2019.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Health Extension Volunteer, Peace Corps Albania 2016- 2018
English Editor, Writer, and Event Planner, PINK ARMENIA, Yerevan, Armenia 2013-2014

COMMITTEES

Curriculum Committee, Longleaf School of the Arts 2021-2022
Awards and Recognition Committee, Longleaf School of the Arts 2022
Volunteer Advisory Committee (VAC) President: Peace Corps Albania, 2016-2018

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Albanian: Beginner speaking. Beginner reading and writing.