

JESS SMITH

Assistant Professor of Practice

Texas Tech University, Department of English
jessica.e.smith@ttu.edu (404)723-8497 @AlloftheJess

Research & Teaching Specialties

- 20th & 21st Century American Poetry
- 20th & 21st Century Creative Nonfiction
- The Elegy
- The Lyric Essay
- Literary Trauma Theory and the Trauma Memoir
- Representations of Intimate Partner Violence in Popular Culture

EDUCATION

- MAY 2020 – PHD IN ENGLISH, TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
Lubbock, TX
Dissertation: *Manhandled: A Memoir*
Dissertation Director: Dr. Curtis Bauer
- MAY 2013 – MFA IN POETRY, THE NEW SCHOOL
New York, NY
Thesis: *Muscle Puck: A Poetry Collection*
Thesis Director: Prof. Craig Morgan Teicher
- MAY 2011 – BA IN JOURNALISM, THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
Washington, DC
Honors Thesis: *Eaten Alive*
Honors Thesis Advisor: Prof. Patricia B. Griffith
Summa Cum Laude

TEACHING

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE (SEPTEMBER 2021-PRESENT)

- **Graduate Courses**
 - English 5324.D02 – Studies in 20th Century American Literature: Memoir, Trauma, and Ethics (2 sections, synchronous online)
- **Undergraduate Courses**
 - English 4351 – Advanced Creative Writing: Poetry (1 section: hybrid)
 - English 3351 – Creative Writing: Poetry (1 section: asynchronous)
 - English 3351 – Creative Writing: Nonfiction (1 section: f2f)
 - English 2351 – Introduction to Creative Writing (2 sections: synchronous online)
 - English 2307 – Introduction to Fiction (4 sections: f2f)
 - English 2305 – Introduction to Poetry (4 sections: 3 f2f, 1 asynchronous)

- English 1302 – Advanced College Rhetoric (1 section: f2f)
- English 1301 – Essentials of College Rhetoric (5 sections: f2f megasections)
- **Directed Student Learning: Master’s & PhD Student Committees**
 - Chair: Hannah Russell, Master’s in English – Creative Writing (completed May 2023)
 - Chair: Bria Winfree, Master’s in English – Creative Writing (completed May 2023)
 - Chair: Julie Aceituno, Master’s in English – Literature (projected December 2023)
 - Chair: Sarah McFarlane, Master’s in English – Literature (projected December 2023)
 - Reader: Morgan Williams, Master’s in English – Literature (projected December 2023)
 - Reader: Jennifer McLaughlin, Master’s in English – Literature (projected December 2023)
 - Reader: Joshua Luckenbach, PhD in English – Creative Writing (projected May 2025)

INSTRUCTOR (SEPTEMBER 2020-SEPTEMBER 2021)

- **Undergraduate Courses**
 - English 2308 – Introduction to Nonfiction (1 section: f2f)
 - English 2307 – Introduction to Fiction (1 section: synchronous online)
 - English 2306 – Introduction to Drama (1 section: synchronous online)
 - English 2305 – Introduction to Poetry (1 section: synchronous online)
 - English 1301 – Essentials of College Rhetoric (2 megasections: 1 f2f, 1 synchronous online, 1 section: f2f)

GRADUATE PART-TIME INSTRUCTOR (SEPTEMBER 2015-SEPTEMBER 2020)

- **Undergraduate Courses**
 - English 2308 – Introduction to Nonfiction (1 section: f2f)
 - English 2307 – Introduction to Fiction (1 section: f2f)
 - English 2305 – Introduction to Poetry (2 sections: f2f)
 - English 2351 – Introduction to Creative Writing (5 sections: f2f)
 - English 1302 – Advanced College Rhetoric (3 sections: f2f)
 - English 1301 – Essentials of College Rhetoric (2 megasections: f2f)

TEACHING ASSISTANT

- **Undergraduate Courses**
 - English 3381 – Literature of the Fantastic (1 section: f2f, Dr. Curtis Bauer)
 - English 3351 – Creative Writing: Poetry (1 section: f2f, Dr. Curtis Bauer)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

- *Lady Smith*. Winner: 2023 Akron Poetry Prize. Selected by Sandra Beasley. University of Akron Press. (forthcoming.)

POETRY

- *Sixth Finch*. “Learned Helplessness” and “Glamping.” (forthcoming.)
- *The Journal*. “The Natural World.” (forthcoming.)
- *Identity Theory*. “Why Don’t We Paint the Town” and “The Standard.” June 2023.
- *Sweet: A Literary Confection*. “Selling Sunset” and “Mother’s Day.” May 2nd, 2023.
- *Sepia Journal*. “People You Might Know.” Issue 6. Fall 2023.
- *Southword*. “All Ye Faithful.” Issue 44. Spring 2023.

- *VerseDaily*. “Training.” August 22nd, 2022.
- *The Cincinnati Review*. “Training.” Issue 19.1. July 2022.
- *The Shore*. “Retreat” and “People I Envy the Most.” Issue 13. Spring 2022.
- *Hayden’s Ferry Review*. “Valentine.” Issue 69. Spring 2022.
- *VerseDaily*. “Scold’s Bridle.” June 1st, 2021.
- *Hoxie Gorge Review*. “Dark Hollow Falls.” Issue IV. Summer 2021.
- *Salt Hill*. “Scold’s Bridle.” Issue 45. Spring 2021.
- *VerseDaily*. “Luster.” July 11th, 2020.
- *Rappahannock Review*. “Fire Breathing.” Issue 7.1. Spring 2020.
- *NELLE*. “Internalized.” Issue Three. January 2020.
- *Southern Indiana Review*. Two Poems: “Luster” and “Gather.” Fall 2019.
- *Freshwater Review*. “Elegy for My Mother’s Boyfriend.” Summer 2019.
- *The Shallow Ends*. “Two Truths & A Lie.” December 2018.
- *The Boiler Journal*. “Vow.” Special Double Issue. September 2018.
- *Four Way Review*. “Summons.” Issue 13. April 2018.
- *The Rumpus*. “Things People Say to Me After.” ENOUGH series. April 3rd, 2018.
- *32 Poems*. “Lady Smith.” Issue 15.2. Fall/Winter 2017.
- *Cincinnati Review miCRo Feature*. “Path of Totality.” October 25th, 2017.

NONFICTION

- *Boulevard Magazine*. “The Sniper’s Rifle.” Fall 2023.
- *The Bookwoman*. “In Gettysburg.” Spring 2021.
- *OneZero*. “How to Fix the Futility of Pregnancy Googling.” August 9th, 2019.
- *Avidly: A Channel of the LA Review of Books*. “#JennyToo.” October 24th, 2017.
- *Front Porch Journal*. “Repeat.” Issue 35. April 2017.
- *The Best American Poetry Blog*. Series. Winter 2014-Spring 2015.
- *Lumina*. “The Fontanelle.” Issue XIII. December 2014.

FICTION

- *The Texas Observer*. “The After Party.” Finalist for Short Story Contest. Winter 2019.

INTERVIEWS & REVIEWS

- *Kenyon Review Online*. “Kissification and its Consequences: On *Dear Delinquent* by Ann Townsend.” March 2020.
- *Kenyon Review Online*. “War Gets Everything It Comes For: On *Ghost Of* by Diana Khoi Nguyen.” February 2019.
- *The Iowa Review*. Review of *Mine* by Sarah Viren. September 2018.
- *Prairie Schooner*. Review of *Some Say the Lark* by Jennifer Chang. Volume 92, Number 2, Summer 2018.
- *Kenyon Review Online*. “I Claw My Way Out: A Review of Ben Purkert’s *For the Love of Endings*.” July 2018.
- *M-Dash: A Journal of Literature and Translation*. Review of *Fever Dream* by Samantha Schweblin. March 2017.
- *The Rumpus*. Review of *Revising the Storm* by Geoffrey Davis. April 2013.

PLAYS

- *Cub: A Play in One Act*. Winner: Texas Tech One-Act Play Spectacular. Fall 2018. Produced Spring 2019.

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- *Akron Poetry Prize*. Winner for *Lady Smith*. University of Akron Press. September 2023.
- *Wellness and Wellbeing Faculty Grant*. Texas Tech University. June 2023.
- *Akron Poetry Prize*. Finalist for *Redress*. University of Akron Press. September 2022.
- *Barry Spacks Poetry Prize*. Finalist for *Redress*. Gunpowder Press. August 2022.
- *Tucson Festival of Books*. Creative Nonfiction Finalist for “The Sniper’s Rifle.” January 2022.
- *Hayden’s Ferry Review First Annual Poetry Award*. Winner for “Valentine.” May 2021.
- *Women’s National Book Award Nonfiction Contest*. Winner for “In Gettysburg.” March 2021.
- *Tickner Fellowship in Creative Writing*. Gilman School. Baltimore, MD. Spring 2021. (Declined.)
- *Texas Tech Women’s Faculty Writing Program*. Writing Fellow. Fall 2020-present.
- *Helen DeVitt Jones Foundation Grant*. “Lubbock Untold Stories.” Committee Member. Fall 2020-present.
- *The Sewanee Review Second Annual Poetry & Fiction Contest*. Semi-finalist for “The After Party.” Fall 2020.
- *The Texas Observer Short Story Contest*. Runner-up for “The After Party.” Fall 2020.
- *YesYes Books Pamet River Book Prize*. Finalist for *Redress*. YesYes Books, September 2019.
- *Talkington Dissertation Completion Fellowship*. Texas Tech University. September 2019-May 2020.
- *Summer Dissertation Research Fellowship*. Texas Tech University. Summer 2019.
- *A. Poulin, Jr. 18th Annual Poetry Prize*. Runner-up for *Redress*. BOA Editions, Ltd. April 2019.
- *Sewanee Writers’ Conference*. Tennessee Williams Scholarship in Poetry. July 2018.
- *Vermont Studio Center*. Four-week Fellowship in Nonfiction. January 2018.
- *New South Poetry Prize*. Finalist for “Vow.” June 2017.
- *Horn Professors’ Graduate Achievement Award*. Texas Tech University. March 2017.
- *Helen DeVitt Jones Excellence in Graduate Teaching Award*. Texas Tech University. March 2017.
- *The Field Office Postcard Poetry Prize*. First Place for “I love you all 687 days of the year.” June 2016.
- *Warren S. Walker Award*. First Place for “The Conditions for Our Desire: *Différance* and the Role of Poetry in Times of Grief.” Texas Tech University. March 2016.
- *Helen DeVitt Jones Graduate Teaching Fellowship*. Fellowship awarded for exceptional promise in teaching. Texas Tech University. September 2015.
- *The Red Branch Journal*. First Place, Annual Poetry Contest for “What is Real Always Was and Cannot Be Destroyed.” Issue 2. Spring 2012.

SERVICE

- *Women’s Faculty Writing Program*. Group Facilitator. Texas Tech University. Fall 2023-present.
- *Merit Committee*. Department of English. Texas Tech University. Fall 2023-present.
- *Student Recruitment Committee*. Department of English. Texas Tech University. Fall 2023-present.
- Search Committee Member: Professor of Practice in Technical Communication and Rhetoric. Department of English. Texas Tech University. Spring 2023.

- *Women's & Gender Studies*. Affiliated Faculty. Spring 2022-present. Texas Tech University.
- *First Year Writing Steering Committee*. Committee Member. Fall 2020-present. Texas Tech University.
- *Sexism & Cinema Film Series*. Board Member. Alamo Drafthouse. Lubbock, TX. Spring 2016-present.
- *Lubbock Untold Stories: An Oral History Project*. Committee Member and Grant Writer. Funded by the Helen DeVitt Jones Foundation. Lubbock, TX. Spring 2019-present.
- *First Year Writing Mentor Program*. Mentor. Texas Tech University. Lubbock, TX. Fall 2018- Spring 2019.
- *Borderless*. Curator and emcee. Reading and fundraiser for RAICES Texas. First Friday Art Trail. Lubbock, TX. August 7th, 2018.
- *Lubbock Book Festival*. Volunteer. Louise Hopkins Underwood Center for the Arts. Lubbock, TX. October 28th, 2017.
- *Stitched & Unstitched*. Co-curator and emcee. Collaborative reading and art show. First Friday Art Trail. Lubbock, TX. October 6th, 2017.
- *There Is Only One Side*. Co-curator and reader. Collaborative reading and art show. First Friday Art Trail. Lubbock, TX. September 1st, 2017.

CONFERENCES & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- *Page to Stage*. Poetry presenter for collaborative composition. Texas Tech School of Music. September 2023.
- "Amber Heard and the Myth of the Perfect Victim." Invited lecturer. Humanities 1300. Texas Tech University. September 2023.
- *International Tuba and Euphonium Conference*. Poetry presenter for collaborative multimedia project "Work in Progress." Arizona State University. June 1st, 2023.
- *The Inner Loop Lit*. Invited Reader for Spring Series. Washington, DC. March 21st, 2023.
- *Texas Tech Department of Theater and Dance*. Invited Speaker for cast of *Secretaries: "Internalized Misogyny: Self-Objectification, Optimization Culture, and Prescriptive Feminism."* Lubbock, TX. November 2022.
- *Tucson Festival of Books*. Featured Speaker in Creative Nonfiction. Tucson, AZ. March 2022.
- *Invisible Man: A Screening and Discussion*. Featured Speaker. Alamo Drafthouse. Lubbock, TX. February 2022.
- *Beyond the Report: The Status of Women in Lubbock*. KTTZ-TV. "Beyond the Report: Sexual Harassment." Lubbock, TX. November 2019.
- *Sewanee Summer Writer's Conference*. Tennessee Williams Scholar in Poetry. Sewanee, TN. July 17-29th, 2018.
- *Popular Culture Association of America*. Presenter: "Everything is Near and Unforgotten: The Language of Trauma in Cathy Linh-Che's *Split* and Tarfia Faizullah's *Seam*." San Diego, CA. April 2017.
- *The Futures of American Studies*. Presenter: "The Conditions for Our Desire: *Différance* and the Role of Poetry in Times of Grief." Dartmouth University. June 2016.
- *The West Chester Poetry Conference*. Panelist: "Race, Gender, & the Politics of Form." West Chester, PA. June 2016.