

Avni Vyas
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Education

Florida State University, 2007-2014

PhD English and Creative Writing (Poetry), minor in Rhetoric and Composition, 2014

MFA Creative Writing, Poetry, 2010

University of Florida, 2000-2005

MEd Secondary English Education, 2005

BA English Literature, Secondary Education, cum laude, 2004

Publications

When I Was A Barefoot Cloud, Anhinga Press, 2024

Little God, Burrow Press, 2021

Far From Glorious Feeling, The Offending Adam, 2021

Candy in Our Brains, with Anne Bargrover, CutBank, 2014

Selected Publications

"After Bob," Academy of American Poets, Poem-A-Day

"Aerial Roots," Burrow Press's *The Call To Space* issue, January 2023

"Gamble on," "I grew up compatible with," *Couplet Poetry*, Issue 1, 2021

"Constructed Language," "Emotionally Checked Out," "Luminous," "We Sprout Miraculous"

Sporklet, Fall 2021

"Verdure," *Third Coast Magazine*, 2021

The Lives of Writers Podcast, episode 27, Fall 2021.

"Little God Attends Community Beach Yoga," "Little God Sings for the Unborn," "Little God Speaks Dog," *Autofocus Lit*, 2021

"Current Events," Ode to the End of the World," "Self Portrait During the Eremocene," *Fantastic Floridas*, 2020

"A Train Never Came," "I Do Not Use A Sword," "I Honestly," *Emrys Journal Online*, 2020

"The Strangler Fig Speaks," with Dani Dygert for *Art in Common Places*, 2020

The TOA podcast, "Far from Glorious Feeling," season 1, episode 7, June 2020

"Minotaur's Love Song," *Verse Daily*, 2020

"Flotation," "Waiting Room," *The Evansville Review*, Fall 2019

"A Good Public School," "A Grammar," "Lord's Prayer in Sims 4," "Lovesong with Boneyard," "Self Portrait As A Boiled Peanut," *Rigorous Magazine*, Volume 3, Issue 2
"These Gators," *Arts and Letters*, Spring 2019
"Marcus Aurelius in Freshman English," *Grist 11*, 2018
"Money," *Another Chicago Magazine*, 2015
"Mud," *Better Magazine*, 2014
"Pageant Queen" and "Nightmares with Fish," *Crab Orchard Review*, 2011
"Yamaraja," *Meridian*, 2011
"History," Connotations Press, 2010
"Dear Floozy," Gargoyle, 2010
"Cartography," Honorable Mention, flash fiction contest, *River Styx*, 2009
"Luz to Understudy," *Juked*, 2007

From *Candy in Our Brains* with Anne Barngrover:

"The Heroine ShamWows Her Way through a Hurricane," *Dressing Room Poetry Journal*, 2013
"Arson of the Old Year" and "Blues for the Heroine's First Day of School," *Glint Literary Journal*, 2013
"Pillow Talk, Brunch, then Cowboy Boots" and "It's My Party and I'll Implode if I Want To," *Likewise Folio*, 2013
"The Heroine Handles a Distressing State of Affairs like a Goddamn Pro," *The Pinch Journal*, 2013

Courses and Tutorials Taught at New College of Florida (2017-Present)

WRTG 2100: Writing about Writing, Fall 2017- present
WRTG 2140: Writing about Writing for Students in the Sciences, Fall 2017- present
WRTG 3200: Exploring the Essay/ Writing in the Wild, Fall 2019- present
WRTG Writing in the Wild 2: A Literary Life and Publication, Spring 2023
WRTG Scientific Writing, Spring 2018-2019
LITR 2550 Refining the Palate: Introduction to Poetry, Fall 2024
LITR 2570 Pathfinding: Introduction to Creative Nonfiction, Fall 2024

Tutorials and ISPs:

Poetry for the Secondary Classroom, Fall 2023
Digital Storytelling and Nonfiction Writing, Fall 2023
No Longer Shoved in a Box: Poetry for the Page and Stage, Fall 2023

Selected Readings and Presentations

Visiting Lecturer/ Guest Reader, St. Leo University MFA Summer Residency, Summer 2024
Reading host at Bookstore1 with Tana Jean Welch for *In Parachutes Descending*, spring 2024
Seeds of Poetry/ Healing Through Words, guest teacher, summer 2024

Reading and Writing Workshop Tombolo Books, St. Petersburg, FL, 2022
Bookstore1, with Emily Carr and Mimi Cirbusova, Sarasota, FL 2022
Florida State University's Jerome Stern Reading Series at The Bark, 2022
St. Leo University MFA program – Guest craft lecture, 2021
Governor's School of the Arts – Guest lecture, 2021
The University of Tampa, "Other Words" panelist, 2019
AWP, "Creatures from the Black Lagoon: Feminist Writing from the Deep South of Florida" panelist (2018)

Honors, Awards, Certifications

Certified Listening Poet, Cohort 6 (Summer 2023) through The Good Listening Project
Pushcart nomination for "Flotation" by *The Evansville Review*, 2019
Pushcart nomination for "Blues for the Heroine's First Day of School," *Glint Poetry Journal*, 2014
Runner-up for AWP Intro Journals Project Award, "Chemistry," 2009
The Florida State English Department Creative Writing Award, 2008 and 2011

Publishing Experience

The Offending Adam (Summer 2020-present), Poetry Editor
Honey Literary (Summer 2020-2022), Essays Editor

Professional Experience

Assistant Professor of Creative Writing, New College of Florida (Fall 2024 - present)

Duties: Design and execute 2/2 teaching load (Intro to Poetry, Intro to Creative Nonfiction, Inter/Advanced Poetry Workshop, and Imaginative Writing), sponsor tutorials, design area of concentration, organize readings and creative events, launch a student-run literary magazine.

Instructor of Writing, New College of Florida (2017- 2024) - Duties: Designs and plans three courses and additional tutorials, performs assessment of major and minor assignments, conducts in-person instruction, composes individualized narrative evaluations for each student, holds office hours weekly and as needed, serves on thesis committees, supports thesis writing across various stages, collaborates with faculty and staff to support writing instruction across the college, participates in literary outreach and community events, and publishes actively as an author, editor, and reviewer in the larger creative writing community.

Amos P. Godby High School (August 2016- 2017)- English Language Arts Teacher. Planned original curriculum for 9th ELA and Creative Writing by FSA Standards. Led instruction and lectures while organizing and maintaining a productive learning space. Differentiated lessons and instruction to facilitate students' needs. Tracked and maintained student progress through the course of the year and provided regular and ongoing feedback on student progress.

Duties: Taught 9th grade ELA and Creative Writing. Designed, led, and assessed original curricula for both classes, focusing on developing reading comprehension, critical reading and analysis, and creative writing, while upholding state standards.

Accomplishments: Taught major texts such as *The Odyssey*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Night*, and *To Kill A Mockingbird*, in addition to short fiction, poetry, and nonfiction by FSA standards. Developed differentiated instruction to support student growth. Created reflective and interactive lessons to develop oral, written, and collaborative communication.

Related Skills: Used MS Suite and Google Suite to design, implement, and assess lessons, plans, and projects. Developed a unique curriculum for Creative Writing supporting writing practices, genre-specific techniques, genre literacy, as well as collaborative and reflective writing.

Tallahassee Community College (August 2016- May 2017) - Adjunct Instructor. Taught ENC 1101 (Spring 2016) and 1102 (Spring 2017), incorporating technology into lesson instruction and communication. Taught students academic writing and research practices; provided short-term and ongoing feedback to written assessments. Provided differentiated and individualized written and oral feedback on multiple occasions. Conducted office hours for conferences and tracked student progress throughout the semester.

Basis Independent Silicon Valley (August 2014-June 2016) - English Teacher. Taught 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th grades, including Honors Language, Creative Writing, and Advanced Placement Literature and Composition. I designed and implemented an original curriculum for advanced-level learners with a focus on written proficiency. Worked alongside a team of English teachers to integrate a vertical curriculum. Provided ongoing and individualized feedback for students of diverse learning needs.

Creative Collaborations

In collaboration with composer Dr. Troy Robertson, “Sita Speaks” was adapted for Tarleton University’s women’s choir in the summer of 2012 and performed at Kennesaw State in Spring 2014.

In collaboration with painter and New College alumna Danielle Dygert of Sarasota, FL, I composed [“The Strangler Fig Speaks”](#) for a broadside poster made possible through the Art in Common Places project. October 2020

In collaboration with poet Dr. Emily Carr, we co-taught the ISP course “Typing for Truth,” the half-mod tutorial “I Scream! for Performance Poetry,” and the ISP course “Extraordinary Correspondences” with a half-mod tutorial. 2019-2020

In collaboration with painter Lisa DiFranza, we are creating a piece for MARA Gallery's "Justified + Ancient" exhibit. October 2022

Areas of Technical Expertise:

Collaborative and interdisciplinary composition

Public Speaking and Presenting

Team-building and group work

Fundraising and related programming

Certified Listening Poet (CLP) through The Good Listening Project (TGLP)