

COLIN WILLIAMS, MFA

CBW53@PITT.EDU
COLINBWilliams.COM

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Creative writing, journalism, music criticism, technical and professional writing, history, creative nonfiction, German literature, modern literature, postcolonial literature, art history, translation

EDUCATION

University of Florida, Master of Fine Arts 2015
Fiction writing degree with coursework in literature, film studies, German and translation
Thesis: Novel, *The Bonn Republic* (defended February 2015)

Macalester College, Bachelor of Arts *magna cum laude* 2010
Double major in German Studies and English with creative writing emphasis

Additional coursework completed at Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn and Kent State University

SELECT EMPLOYMENT

Pittsburgh City Paper, Pittsburgh, PA 2023–
News Editor

The Incline newsletter, Pittsburgh, PA 2022–2023
Local Director

Arts Ed Collaborative, Pittsburgh, PA 2018–2021
Manager of Programs & Communication

Children's Museum of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 2015–2018
MAKESHOP Teaching Artist

Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN 2009–2010
English Research Assistant (Prof. Marlon James)

TEACHING

University of Pittsburgh Writing Program, Pittsburgh, PA	2023–
Writing Instructor	
ENGWRT0400 Intro to Creative Writing	SPRING 2025
ENGWRT0610 Intro to Journalism and Creative Nonfiction	SPRING 2024
Undergraduate Teaching Assistant: Meagan Meyer	
ENGWRT0610 Intro to Journalism and Creative Nonfiction	FALL 2023
ENGWRT0400 Intro to Creative Writing	SPRING 2023
Point Park University School of Communication, Pittsburgh, PA	2024
Writing Instructor	
COMM115 Media Storytelling	FALL 2024
University of Florida English Department, Gainesville, FL	2013–2015
Writing Instructor	
CRW1101 Beginning Fiction Writing	SPRING 2015
CRW2100 Honors Fiction Writing	FALL 2014
CRW2100 Fiction Writing	FALL 2014
CRW1101 Beginning Fiction Writing	SPRING 2014
CRW1101 Beginning Fiction Writing	FALL 2013
Santa Fe College Student Services, Gainesville, FL	2013–2015
Writing Tutor/Lab Supervisor	
University of Florida University Writing Program (UWP), Gainesville, FL	2012–2014
Writing Instructor	
ENC3254 Professional Communication for Engineers	SPRING 2014
ENC3254 Professional Communication for Engineers	SPRING 2013
ENC1102 Rhetoric and Academic Research (co-taught)	SPRING 2013
ENC3254 Professional Communication for Engineers	FALL 2012
ENC1101 Writing Academic Arguments (co-taught)	FALL 2012
Fulbright Germany/Pädagogischer Austauschdienst, Bornheim, Germany	2010–2012
English Teaching Assistant/Fremdsprachenassistent	
Designed and taught English-language cultural studies survey course (grade 11) with focus on topics such as creative writing, modern warfare and global politics. Planned and supervised field trip to Bonn campus of United Nations. Co-taught English language courses grades 6–13. Designed and taught adult ELL course.	
Bundesgymnasium Wien 18, Vienna, Austria	2009
English Teaching Intern	
Assisted with several Unterstufe (grades 5–10) English language courses and projects including presentations on Indigenous peoples of North America and Australia.	

SELECT JOURNALISM

“Meet the elite Pittsburgh ‘Trump Chumps’ who spent \$270 million electing Republicans...”
Pittsburgh City Paper. Jan. 22, 2025 cover story.

“Artists of color say Pittsburgh has ‘perfected racism.’ What would real progress look like?”
Pittsburgh City Paper. May 1, 2024 cover story.

“A locker room of her own: as MLB evolves, PNC Park gets updates.” *Pittsburgh City Paper*.
 Apr. 2, 2024. <https://www.pghcitypaper.com/arts-entertainment/pittsburgh-pirates-add-new-locker-rooms-for-women-coaching-staff-and-umpires-ahead-of-2024-baseball-season-25715494>

“Pittsburgh's underground streams pose challenges and opportunities to fight climate change.”
Pittsburgh City Paper. Jan. 17, 2024 cover story.

“What happened to Pittsburgh's nightclub scene? It's complicated.” *Pittsburgh City Paper*. Nov.
 15, 2023 cover story*.

“Book Bans Have Reached Greater Pittsburgh’s Boardrooms and Ballots.” *Belt Magazine*.
 Nov. 6, 2023. <https://beltmag.com/book-bans-have-reached-greater-pittsburghs-boardrooms-and-ballots/>

“Frank Lloyd Wright's plans for Pittsburgh included a massive, car-centric civic center.”
Pittsburgh City Paper. Oct. 10, 2023 cover story.

“Grassroots Science Fuels Air Quality Revelations.” *Ambridge Connection*. Mar. 31, 2023.
<http://www.ambridgeconnection.com/local-news/grassroots-science-fuels-air-quality-revelations>

“What Killed ‘Equity’ in Pine-Richland?” *Pittsburgh Institute for Nonprofit Journalism*. Jul. 7,
 2022. https://pinjnews.org/what-killed-equity-in-pine-richland/**

“‘I’ve Found My Home in Hell’: A Guide to Cloud Rat.” *Bandcamp Daily*, Epic Games. Apr. 5,
 2022. <https://daily.bandcamp.com/lists/cloud-rat-discography-guide>.

“*The Shadow of Sirius* by WS Merwin.” *Rain Taxi Review of Books* 13.4 (2008). Print.

CREATIVE PUBLICATIONS

“Paint.” *New South Review*. 30 Jan. 2023. <https://newsouthjournal.com/2023/01/30/micro-prose-paint-by-colin-williams/>

“Sanguine.” *Medicine & Meaning*, Issue 6. Oct. 2022. <https://medicineandmeaning.uams.edu/sanguine/>

“What I Found Surveying a Well Site in Greene County.” *The Northern Appalachia Review*, Vol. 2. Jul. 2021. Print.

“Storage.” *Hobart*. 21 Aug. 2013. https://www.hobartpulp.com/web_features/storage

CONFERENCES & PANELS

Spoke on a panel regarding the future of journalism (moderators Lori Jakiela & Dave Newman) at University of Pittsburgh – Greensburg, Mar. 12, 2025.

Guest presented on the pros and cons of majoring in English for Slippery Rock University ENGL 409: Professional English (Asst. Prof. Patrick McGinty), Oct. 3, 2024.

Presented and defended pitch at Newsapalooza: Pittsburgh Pitch competition, Point Park University Pittsburgh Playhouse, Sep. 27, 2024.

Moderated panel on public safety at Market Square NewsBreak during Newsapalooza, Point Part University Center for Media Innovation, Aug. 21, 2024.

Moderated panel on homelessness at inaugural Market Square NewsBreak during Newsapalooza, Point Part University Center for Media Innovation, Jul. 24, 2024.

Presented concurrent session “Writing Sound: Music and the De-Siloing of Culture in Criticism and Fiction” at Writers Conference of Northern Appalachia, Mar. 11, 2023.

Presented paper “Return to Wak-Wak: Lotte Reiniger’s Position in the Weimar Imaginary” at Art in Interesting Times, University of Florida Marxist Reading Group, Mar. 27, 2014.

Moderated panel at Classroom Matters: Pedagogy in Practice and Philosophy, University of Florida University Writing Program (UWP), Feb. 2, 2013.

AFFILIATIONS

Pittsburgh Media Partnership, member	2022–
Association of Writers & Writing Programs, member	2022–
Pittsburgh Downtown Media Hub, founding tenant	2022–2023
Pittsburgh Emerging Arts Leaders, steering committee chair	2021–2023
Young Nonprofit Professionals Network, programs committee	2019–2020
Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh Green Committee, chair	2016–2018

HONORS

Finalist, New American Press Fiction Prize for novel <i>Bonn</i>	2025
*Winner, Golden Quill Division 3: Traditional Feature, Press Club of Western PA	2024
Most Valuable Professor, Pitt Panthers women’s basketball team	2024
**Finalist, Golden Quill Division 4: Education, Press Club of Western PA	2023
Virginia McKnight Binger Prize, Macalester College German Studies Department	2010
Alpha Rho Theta Honor Society, Macalester College English Department	2009–2010

LANGUAGES

English	native fluency
German	full professional fluency; C1 certificate from Goethe-Institut Berlin (Feb. 2009)
Dutch	basic proficiency
Spanish	basic proficiency
Portuguese	limited proficiency

SOFTWARE

Microsoft Office, Google Drive, WordPress, Adobe CC, Foundation, Canva, Mailchimp, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook Ads, Salesforce, Getty’s The Museum System (TMS)