

COLIN WILLIAMS, MFA

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COLINWILLIAMS.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

TEACHING

University of Pittsburgh Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Pittsburgh, PA 2026–
Instructor
A Hands-on History of Embroidery SUMMER 2026

University of Pittsburgh Writing Program, Pittsburgh, PA 2023–
Writing Instructor
Mentor, 2026 David C. Frederick Honors College Creative Arts Fellowship SUMMER 2026
ENGWRT0400 Intro to Creative Writing SPRING 2026
ENGWRT0400 Intro to Creative Writing FALL 2025
ENGWRT0400 Intro to Creative Writing SPRING 2025
ENGWRT0610 Intro to Journalism and Creative Nonfiction SPRING 2024
supervised Undergraduate Teaching Assistant
ENGWRT0610 Intro to Journalism and Creative Nonfiction⁶ 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

Children's Museum of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA MAKESHOP Teaching Artist Taught sewing, woodworking, circuitry etc. to museum visitors.	2015–2018
University of Florida English Department, Gainesville, FL Writing Instructor CRW1101 Beginning Fiction Writing CRW2100 Honors Fiction Writing CRW2100 Fiction Writing CRW1101 Beginning Fiction Writing CRW1101 Beginning Fiction Writing	2013–2015 SPRING 2015 FALL 2014 FALL 2014 SPRING 2014 FALL 2013
Santa Fe College Student Services, Gainesville, FL Writing Tutor/Downtown Campus Lab Supervisor	2013–2015
University of Florida University Writing Program, Gainesville, FL Writing Instructor ENC3254 Professional Communication for Engineers ENC3254 Professional Communication for Engineers ENC1102 Rhetoric and Academic Research (co-taught) ENC3254 Professional Communication for Engineers ENC1101 Writing Academic Arguments (co-taught)	2012–2014 SPRING 2014 SPRING 2013 SPRING 2013 FALL 2012 FALL 2012
Fulbright Commission, Bornheim, Germany English Teaching Assistant Designed and taught English-language cultural studies survey course (grade 11). 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.	2010–2012
Bundesgymnasium Wien 18, Vienna, Austria English Teaching Intern Assisted with several Unterstufe (grades 5–10) English language courses.	2009

SELECT EMPLOYMENT

Pittsburgh City Paper, Pittsburgh, PA Managing Editor News Editor	2026– 2023–2026
City Cast Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA Contributor	2026–

The Incline newsletter, Pittsburgh, PA Local Director	2022–2023
Arts Ed Collaborative, Pittsburgh, PA Manager of Programs & Communication	2018–2021
Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN English Research Assistant (Prof. Marlon James)	2009–2010

SELECT JOURNALISM

“West Deer residents appeal to Commonwealth Court in fight over fracking wells.” *TribLive*. Mar. 3, 2026. [Online](#).

“Under pressure from Trump, UPMC canceled a trans patient’s scheduled top surgery.” *Pittsburgh City Paper*. Mar. 31, 2025. [Online](#).¹

“Just how dangerous are Pittsburgh’s rail bridges? No one knows — yet.” *Pittsburgh City Paper*. Oct. 18, 2024. [Online](#).²

“UPMC executives gave themselves raises and flew in a private jet while slashing jobs and raising fees.” *Pittsburgh City Paper*. Aug. 14, 2024. [Online](#).³

“A locker room of her own: As MLB evolves, PNC Park gets updates.” *Pittsburgh City Paper*. Apr. 2, 2024. [Online](#).

“Transit Talk: I am once again asking for a T extension along Railroad St.” *Pittsburgh City Paper*. Mar. 19, 2024. [Online](#).⁴

“What happened to Pittsburgh’s nightclub scene? It’s complicated.” *Pittsburgh City Paper*. Nov. 15, 2023 cover story.⁵

“Book Bans Have Reached Greater Pittsburgh’s Boardrooms and Ballots.” *Belt Magazine*. Nov. 6, 2023. [Online](#).

“‘I’ve Found My Home in Hell’: A Guide to Cloud Rat.” *Bandcamp Daily*. Apr. 5, 2022. [Online](#).

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

SELECT CREATIVE PUBLICATIONS

The tender violence of an American man. Bottlecap Press. May 15, 2026. Chapbook.

“Nest” and “Trying to say something new about autumn” forthcoming in *Main Street Rag*, Vol. 32. Spring 2026. Print.

“Air Quality.” *Blue Villa*. Mar. 26, 2025. [Online](#).

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

“Storage.” *Hobart*. Aug. 21, 2013. [Online](#).

PRESENTATIONS & PANELS

Spoke at Pittsburgh New Media Smackdown hosted by the Pittsburgh Manifold, Jan. 31, 2026.

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.

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

¹ Winner, Golden Quill Division 3: Medical/Health, Press Club of Western PA	2026
² Winner, Golden Quill Division 3: Spot/Breaking News, Press Club of Western PA	2025
³ Winner, Golden Quill Division 3: Medical/Health, Press Club of Western PA	2025
⁴ Winner, Golden Quill Division 3: Column, Press Club of Western PA	2025
Finalist, New American Press Fiction Prize for novel <i>Bonn</i>	2025
⁵ Winner, Golden Quill Division 3: Traditional Feature, Press Club of Western PA	2024
⁶ Most Valuable Professor, Pitt Panthers women’s basketball team	2024
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	C2, C1 certificate from Goethe-Institut Berlin (Feb. 2009)
Dutch	B1
Spanish	A2
Portuguese	A1

SOFTWARE

Microsoft Office suite, Google Drive, WordPress, Adobe Creative Cloud, Canva, Mailchimp, Instagram, LinkedIn, Facebook Ads, Salesforce, Claude AI, Getty’s The Museum System