



Elizabeth L. Gentry

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English Department
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EDUCATION**M.A. in English**

The University of Tennessee at Knoxville, Knoxville, Tennessee, May 2001

M.F.A. in Fiction Writing

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, North Carolina, May 1998

Thesis: *Dollywood and Other Stories*

Committee: Michael Parker (Chair), Fred Chappell, Lee Zacharias

B.A. in English

Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois, August 1995

TEACHING EXPERIENCE**Distinguished Lecturer, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, August 2022 – Present**

Teach introductory writing and literature courses, Introduction to Fiction (253/258) and Chancellor's Honors Composition (198 & 298).

Senior Lecturer, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, August 2017 – Spring 2022

Teach introductory writing and literature courses, including Introduction to Fiction Writing (263), Introduction to Fiction (253), Major Black Authors (233), Themes in Literature: Beauty, Truth, Justice—African American Autobiographical Writing (254), Fantastic Escapes: Historic Slave Narratives & Their Magical Contemporary Retellings (254), Public Writing (255), Early American Literature (231), Introduction to Drama (252), First Year Composition (101), Honors Composition (118), and Chancellor's Honors Composition (198 & 298).

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BIG ORANGE. BIG IDEAS.®

Flagship Campus of the University of Tennessee System 

Lecturer, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, August 2015 – July 2017

Taught introductory writing and literature courses.

Writing Specialist, The UT College of Law, Knoxville, August 2009 – December 2015

Half-time position shared with English. Tutored first-year law students and conducted workshops on grammar, punctuation, style, structure, revision, quotations usage, persuasive writing, and plagiarism.

Lecturer, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, August 2009 – July 2015

Half-time position shared with College of Law. Taught introductory writing and literature courses.

Adjunct, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, August 2004 – July 2009

Taught four-course load of introductory writing and literature courses. Tutored in the Writing Center for the equivalent of one course.

Adjunct, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, August 2001 – July 2002

Taught four-course load of introductory writing and literature courses. Tutored in the Writing Center for the equivalent of one course (Lecturers can tutor in our WC for ten hours per week).

Graduate Teaching Assistant, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, August 1999 – May 2001

Tutored in the Writing Center and taught Composition.

Young Writer-in-Residence, Randolph-Macon Woman's College, March – April 1999

Taught introductory fiction writing course, judged campus fiction contest, and gave a public reading.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, The University of North Carolina, Greensboro, August 1997– May 1998

Assisted Professor Michael Parker with Contemporary Novel and Introductory Fiction Writing courses.

BOOK PUBLICATIONS

Housebound, a 70,000 word novel released November 2013 from &NOW Books, an innovative imprint of Lake Forest College Press, with distribution by Northwestern University Press. When nineteen-year-old Maggie decides to leave her rural insular household of eleven to care for other people's children in a nearby city, she breaks one of a series of unspoken rules that lead to the unraveling of an old family secret. This Appalachian fairytale is told from third-person point of view and set sometime in the recent past.

SHORT PUBLICATIONS

“My Microbiome Accompanies Me to Three Rivers Market” (meditation). *North American Review*. Fall 2023. Web.

“Empathy and Perspective: A Conversation with Kathy Flann” (interview). *Tupelo Quarterly* 10. Fall 2016. Web.

“The Possum, The Wren, and My Animal-Soul” (lyric essay). *Third Coast*. Fall 2015. Print.

“Chapter two: *Housebound*.” *The Collagist*, by Dzanc Books. November 15, 2013. Web.

“Chapter one: *Housebound*.” *The &NOW Awards 2: The Best Innovative Writing*. Ed. Davis Schneiderman. Lake Forest, IL: &NOW Books, 2012. Print.

“Appetites of the Natural World” (lyric essay). *So To Speak*. Fall 2010. Print and Web.

“Chapter one: *In Exchange*” (novel excerpt). *Confrontation*. Spring 2008. Print.

WORK IN SUBMISSION

“One Sure Bet,” a 3,500 word essay about the apocalypse of invasive species in South Knoxville.

“Defending Gobblers’ Knob,” a 4,500 word essay about guarding human habitat in a South Knoxville neighborhood.

“In Pursuit of Idleness,” a 5,000 word memoir excerpt about the role of leisure in healing that builds on Bertrand Russell’s 1932 essay “In Praise of Idleness.”

“The Petitioner’s Fate,” a 3,850 word third-person point of view fable in which a stranger to town decides to single-handedly eradicate his new home of invasive vines such as kudzu and honeysuckle.

HONORS AND NOMINATIONS

Creative Writing:

Senior Prose Editor, *Tupelo Quarterly*, July 2016 – June 2019

Invited to help curate fiction, nonfiction, and hybrid-genre work for online literary journal.

Hodges Research and Pedagogy Award, UTK, 2017, 2019, 2021 for creative writing projects.

Judge, Knoxville Writers’ Guild Short Fiction Contest, August 2016.

Participant, Bread Loaf Orion Environmental Writers’ Conference, June 2016. Participated in a ten-person nonfiction class led by environmental writer Jane Brox.

Associate Artist, May-June 2015, Atlantic Center for the Arts, Master-Artist-in-Residence Program taught by Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Paul Harding. Spent three weeks in eight-person fiction writing class in New Smyrna, FL, alongside musicians and visual artists.

Finalist, The Binghamton University 2014 John Gardner Fiction Award, for *Housebound*. Top five of an average of 510 entries (according to *Poets & Writers* June 2014 “Contests” Issue).

Recipient, Madeleine P. Plonsker 2012 Emerging Writer’s Award, judged by Kate Bernheimer. Prize included \$10,000, publication of *Housebound*, and two-month residency at Lake Forest College to finish manuscript, visit classrooms, and give a public reading.

Recipient, John C. Hodges Graduate Writing Award for Fiction, UT-Knoxville, 2000, 2001.

Judge, Wheaton College Creative Writing Contest for Fiction, Poetry, and Nonfiction, 1999.

Teaching:

Recipient, John C. Hodges Award for Excellence in Teaching as Lecturer, UT-Knoxville, 2002, 2006, 2016.

Honorary Learning Partner Award, Dec. 2015, Living and Learning Communities of UTK Housing, anonymous nomination by a student from my Introduction to Fiction course.

Nominee, John C. Hodges Award for Excellence in Tutoring, UT-Knoxville, 2006, 2007, 2010.

Nominee, John C. Hodges Award for Excellence in Teaching as GTA, UT-Knoxville, 2001.

READINGS, CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, AND GUEST TEACHING

“Why Melville Today?” UT AuthorFest Melville Festival Interdisciplinary Panel, April 2016.

“Exploring Identity Through Place.” Multi-genre weekend & weeklong classes for adult writers, John C. Campbell Folk School, Brasstown, NC; May 2014, Sept. 2015, June 2018, July 2020 [cancelled].

“From *Housebound*.” Alumni Homecoming Reading at UNC-Greensboro, NC, October 2014.

“‘Place’ in *Housebound*.” Presentation at the Knoxville Writer’s Guild, Knoxville, TN, August 2014.

“The Element of Strangeness.” Presentation for students at Wheaton College, March 2012.

“From *Housebound*.” Table X/Y Reading Experiment, AWP Off-Site, Chicago, IL, March 2012.

“From *Housebound*.” Reading shared with contest judge Kate Bernheimer at Lake Forest College’s annual literary festival entitled “The New Nature Writing,” Lake Forest, IL, February 2012.

“Appalachian Literature.” Stokely Conference for Teaching Writing in K-12, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, July 2009.

“Personal Narrative.” Stokely Conference for Teaching Writing in K-12, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, July 2008.

“Chapter One: *In Exchange*.” Novel excerpt reading, Southern Women Writer’s Conference, Berry College, Rome, GA, September 2007.

“Valuing Process over Product.” Associated Writing Programs Creative Writing/Creative Teaching: Pedagogy Forum, New Orleans, LA, March 2002.

“The Real Moral of the Story: Time, Tense, and the Role of Memory in Henry James’s ‘The Pupil.’” Northeast Modern Language Association, Hartford, CT, March 2001.

“Dollywood.” Short fiction reading. Art and Soul, Religious Faith and Literary Art, Baylor University, Waco, TX, February 2001.

“Hemmed in.” Short fiction reading. Randolph-Macon Woman’s College, Lynchburg, VA, April 1999.

PEDAGOGY WORKSHOPS

Inclusive Teaching Community, Teaching and Learning Innovation, September 2023-March 2024
Attended four one-hour in-person trainings on inclusive classroom strategies.

“The Possibilities of Anti-Racist Writing Assessment Ecologies,” by Dr. Asao Inoue, November 5, 2021

Writing workshop on how to implement labor-based grading strategies for equitable teaching.

Certification: Inclusive Teaching, TLI, August 2021

Five-hour self-paced online course on inclusive teaching practices in the college classroom.

Safe Zone, Tier One & Tier Two Trainings, UTK Pride Center, June 2021

Two, two-hour synchronous workshops introducing basic language and terminology related to gender and sexuality; awareness and understanding of the intersections of gender, sexuality, and other social identities; skills to intervene in situations of discrimination and injustice; resources available at UT.

Certification: Equity-Minded Teaching, TLI, June 2021

One-hour self-paced online course on equity-mindedness in higher education.

Certification: Experiential Learning, June 2021

Five-hour self-paced online course on experiential learning and UT's Experience Learning initiative.

Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Narrative Reflection Project, May & June 2020/21

Grant to write a narrative reflection about pandemic teaching with potential for publication. Wrote a 10,000 word essay entitled "Permitting Imperfections" reflecting on tactics to sustain the more humane and inclusive pandemic teaching approach in traditional classroom instruction.

Critical Race Symposium, Critical Race Collective at UT, April 15 & 16, 2021

Day-long event including keynote by Dr. Whitney N. Laster Pirtle; keynote by Dr. Della V. Mosley; Roundtable: Critical Race Across Academic Fields; Dr. Enkeshi El-Amin: "Radical Community Engagement"; Moderated Panel Discussion: "How to Disrupt Racism and Anti-Blackness in Academia."

ARCGIS StoryMaps Workshop, Rochelle Butler, Research Computing Support, OIT, April 2021

One-hour workshop providing technical software instruction for possible use in classroom.

Teaching and Learning Innovation Workshop, March 30, 2021

Day-long event including two keynotes by Dr. Claire Major on active learning; Roundtable: "Critically Reflecting on Inclusive Teaching Practices through Embodied Case Studies Learning (DEI)"; "Lessons Learned from Pandemic Instruction: Practices to Retain & Sustain, Post-Covid" by William Boozang and Misty Woodbury.

Certification: Course-Based Assessment, TLI, February 2021

Four-hour self-paced online course on the foundations of assessment design and planning.

"Embodied Mentorship, Colleagueship, and Pedagogy" with Dr. Brigitte Fielder, February 2021

One-and-half-hour workshop on anti-racist practices in mentorship relationships.

"Anti-Racist Pedagogy: Interrogating Whiteness," UTK English, Dr. Katy Chiles, October 2020

One-and-half-hour workshop using Janet Helms's concept of White Racial Identity Development to improve anti-racist teaching and to identify white supremacy culture in academia.

“Anti-Racist Pedagogy: A Place to Get Started,” UTK English, Dr. Katy Chiles, September 2020
One-and-half-hour workshop on incorporating anti-racist pedagogies into teaching.

“Make Orange Green Ambassador Certification,” UTK Office of Sustainability, June 2020
Five-week online course with readings, writing assignments, and zoom meetings educating students, staff, and faculty about the various facets of sustainability (food, clothing, energy use).

“Responding to Student Writers” with Dr. Nancy Sommers, FYC, June 2020
One-hour workshop on best practices for providing feedback on student writing.

“Supporting Student Writers in Digital Spaces” with Dr. Borgman and Dr. McArdle, FYC, June 2020
One-hour workshop on adapting to digital classroom in composition classroom context.

“Teaching Hot Topics Online” with Dr. Rebecca Barrett-Fox, FYC, June 2020
One-hour workshop on teaching students to think critically, read thoughtfully, reflect vulnerably, speak carefully, write responsibly, and act ethically about “hot topics,” in online classroom.

“Virtual Vol Bootcamp.” UTK OIT, May 2020
Attended four synchronous workshops and one individual OIT consultation for online transition.

“Principles of Smart Teaching” with Dr. Wardle, Judith Herbert Writing Center, March 2020
One-and-half-hour workshop on designing writing courses that encourage deep learning.

“Whose Freedom, Whose Speech? A Workshop on Free Speech and Inclusion on Campus,” PEN America, Faculty Workshop, Office of Diversity and Engagement, September 2019
Two-hour workshop to equip UT faculty with a foundational understanding of key challenges at the intersection of free speech and inclusion on campus.

SERVICE

Service—Academic:

Lecturer Representative, Lecturers Committee, UTK English, Fall 2018 - Spring 2020

Elected position with course release. Represent Lecturers on the Long-Range Planning Committee, on the Lecturers Committee, and at faculty meetings. Evaluate Lecturer portfolios and proposals for Hodges Award for creative or pedagogical work. Other work as designated by committees.

Lecturer Representative, Composition Committee, UTK English, Fall 2017 - Spring 2018

Elected position. Observe graduate student teaching assistant to provide formal feedback; working to revise the UTK first year composition textbook *Rhetorical Choices*. Other agenda items to be determined by the Director of Composition.

Lecturer Representative, Undergraduate Committee, UTK English, Fall 2016-Spring 2018

Elected position. Evaluate undergraduate scholarship applications, faculty proposals for undergraduate research assistants, themes-in-literature course proposals, and other agenda items determined by the Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Member, The Committee on the Campus Environment, UTK, Fall 2016 - Spring 2017

CCE, a group of volunteer faculty and staff, advises the senior vice chancellor for finance and administration on environmental sustainability.

Lecturer Voting Representative, UTK English, Fall 2016 - ongoing

Elected position. Faculty meetings include Lecturer representation.

Member, Selection Committee, Hodges Award for Excellence in Teaching, Lecturer and GTA categories, UT-Knoxville, Spring 2006, Spring 2007, Spring 2017

Selected recipients of annual departmental teaching award.

Graduate Mentor, UT-Knoxville, Spring 2002, Fall 2004, Fall 2015

Mentored Graduate Teaching Assistants in first year composition classroom.

Member, Lecturers' Steering Committee, UT-Knoxville, Fall 2004 - Spring 2006

Worked to enfranchise lecturers, ultimately achieving lecturer representation on all departmental committees, partial voting rights on curriculum issues, an evaluation system, and a department-sponsored annual lecturer retreat to address ongoing needs and concerns.

Member, Faculty Senate Living Wage Study, UT-Knoxville, January - May 2005

Updated a study of UT employee wages to lobby for employees living below the poverty line.

Interim President, United Campus Workers, Local 3865, August 2004 - May 2005

Led board meetings and helped organize campaigns for growing campus union. Lobbied state legislators for flat wage increases to decrease wage gap between administrators and staff.

Service—Non-Academic:

Young Williams Animal Center Volunteer, July 2019 – ongoing

Walk dogs on and off-site, host adoptions events at pet store partners, care for cats.

Three Rivers Food Cooperative Market, Board of Directors, Dec. 2018 – Dec. 2021

Monthly meetings, annual meeting, other duties to provide governance for cooperative grocery store.

“Trees Knoxville!” Volunteer, Fall 2017 – ongoing

Completed twenty-four-hour certification on urban tree care, which allows me to participate in projects such as “Canopies for Campuses,” a program that plants trees on public school grounds.

“Read with Me” Volunteer, Dogwood Elementary School, Knoxville, January 2010 - May 2013

Tutored students one-on-one in reading and writing. Taught creative writing to fourth grade class.

ADDITIONAL TUTORING, EDITING, AND PROFESSIONAL WRITING:

Haslam Scholars Tutor Supervision, Fall 2017

Trained two graduate student tutors in how to best help top undergraduates develop writing skills.

LEAD program, UT-Knoxville, Writing Center, Summer 2009, 2010, 2012, 2013

Tutored for a federally-funded program for incoming first-year students from underperforming high schools in economically disadvantaged areas.

Tutor, UT-Knoxville, Thornton Athletic Center, January 2005 - May 2012

Tutored student athletes in writing and literature.

Tutor and Judge, UT-Knoxville, Ronald McNair Program, Summer 2001, 2003, and 2004

Tutored students, graded essays, and judged presentations for a federally-funded program to help economically disadvantaged undergraduates prepare for graduate work.

Writer, UT-Knoxville, College of Arts and Sciences, Spring 2002

Contributed articles to the College of Arts and Sciences newsletter, *Higher Ground*.

John Fisher Research Assistant, UT-Knoxville, August 2000 - May 2001

Assisted professor with book titled *Evelyn Scott: Recovering a Lost Modernist*, UT Press, 2001.

Graduate Assistant, UNC-Greensboro, The Center for the Study of Social Issues, August 1996 - May 1998

Edited grant proposals, articles for social science journals, and office correspondence.

PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

- Creative Nonfiction Writers' Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, Spring 2017
- Tinker Mountain Writers' Workshop, Roanoke, VA, Spring 2017
- Kentucky Women Writers Conference, Lexington, KY, Fall 2013 & Fall 2010
- Associated Writing Programs, 2015, 2012, 2006, 2004, 2001, 1998

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Authors Guild

NON-ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Coordinator, Tennessee Partnership on Organizing, Knoxville, TN, March 2003 – August 2004

Coordinated coalition efforts of ten grassroots organizing and public policy groups in Nashville, Knoxville, and Jackson around issues of healthcare, welfare, tax reform, and immigrant rights.

Apprentice Community Organizer, Pacific Institute for Community Organizing, Roanoke, VA, August 2002 - March 2003

Facilitated meetings between city officials and community leaders, trained community leaders in grassroots community organizing, and visited fifteen to twenty community leaders per week.

Editorial Assistant, U.S. Forest Service, Asheville, NC, November 1998 - August 1999

Edited literature citations and tables for U.S. Forest Service publications and proceedings.

REFERENCES

Michael Parker

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