

Melissa Garcia Criscuolo

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Education

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing (Poetry)

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, August 2007

G.P.A. 3.87

Thesis Title: *The Language of Tongues*

Thesis Chair: Sidney Wade

Thesis Readers: Michael Hofmann, Ira Clark

Florida International University, Miami, FL

Bachelor of Arts in English, Cum Laude

College of Arts and Sciences, December 2004

G.P.A. 3.665

Experience

Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL

August 2008-Present

Senior Instructor, August 2016-Present

Instructor, August 2008-July 2016

instruct four courses per semester within the English department; courses listed below

**Fall 2013-Spring 2014 was on parental leave for child-rearing*

Tutor, Lynn University, Boca Raton, FL

August 2008-November 2008

worked bi-weekly with LD college students on reading and writing assignments; utilized several computer programs to facilitate learning, such as *Inspiration*, *Kurzweil*, and *Read and Write Gold*

Teacher, Nova University School, Davie, FL

August 2007-May 2008

taught six classes (two honors, four regular) of tenth grade English; subjects include writing, grammar, vocabulary, and literature

Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

August 2005-May 2007

taught one-to-two courses per year within the English department; courses listed below

Substitute Teacher, Archdiocese of Miami, FL

January 2005-May 2005

worked in Catholic schools, such as St. Mark's, Nativity, and Archbishop Edward McCarthy High School, instructing various subjects to children in grade levels from kindergarten to twelfth grade

English Writing Tutor, Florida International University, Miami, FL

August 2003-May 2004

served as the Biscayne Bay Campus, A-Team, in-residence tutor for students living on campus; trained with FIU Writing Center; tutored students in writing essays and reports, English language and grammar, MLA and APA citation, library resources

Creative Activity: Publications

- Poem “Circus Train Wreck” is forthcoming with *bedfellows*, as of July 2018
- Poem “Becoming Onelia” published online with *Hinchas de Poesia: a digital codex of contemporary pan-american writing*, Issue 22, July 2018: <http://www.hinchasdepoesia.com/wp/becoming-onelia/>
- Poem “Bloodlines” published online in *The Razor Literary Magazine, Issue 1, Winter 2016*, along with a brief explanation of how the poem came to be: <https://www.razorlitmag.com/bloodlines-melissa-garcia-criscuolo/>
- Poems “Fray,” “What Red Wine Reminds Me Of,” and “Prayer” published online in December 2015/January 2016 issue of *Mezzo Cammin*:
<http://www.mezzocammin.com/iambic.php?vol=2015&iss=2&cat=poetry&page=criscuolo>
- Poem “Tsunami” published online with *Anak Sastra #21*, October 30, 2015:
<http://www.anaksastra.com/current-issue.html>
- Poems “Dear John,” “Dreaming of Tía Bertha without Tía Óne,” and “Nightmare,” and interview published with *Poets & Artists*, January 2014 : <http://www.poetsandartists.com/melissa-garcia-criscuolo/>
- Poems “Pageant,” “Halston,” and “Tongues of Fire” published with *The Acentos Review, Youth issue*, November 2012: http://www.acentosreview.com/November_2012/Criscuolo.html
- Poems “Bis,” “For Narcissus,” “Constellations,” and “Summer Nocturne” recorded and published in issue 2 of *iARTistas* (October 2012); available on iPad iBooks only
- Nonfiction piece “Pros and Cons of Instructing as an MFA Graduate,” published online at the MFA at FAU blog, September 14, 2012: <http://mfaatfau.blogspot.com/2012/09/pros-and-cons-of-instructing-as-mfa.html>
- Chapbook *Things in My Backyard* published with *Finishing Line Press* (August 2012)
- Nonfiction story “Letter to Tía Bertha, dated November 6, 2010” published in *The Acentos Review*, February 2012 issue: http://www.acentosreview.com/February_2012/Criscuolo.html
- Poem “Violate” published in issue 20 of *Nibble Magazine* (November 2011)
- Poem “I Used to Think my Tía Óne was a Man” published in *The Acentos Review*, November 2011 issue:
http://www.acentosreview.com/November2011/Acentos_Review_November_2011/Garcia_Criscuolo.html
- Translation of Jose Martí’s poem “Dos Patrias” published in issue 11/12 of *Subtropics* (Spring 2011)
- Chapbook *The Anatomy of Mouths* considered a *finalist* in *Palettes and Quills* 2010 chapbook competition, judged by Dorianne Laux
- Poems “Apple” and “Invective” published in Issue 9 of *Alimentum: The Literature of Food* (Winter 2010)
- Poem “Consciousness” published in Issue 2 of *PALABRA: A Magazine of Chicano & Latino Literary Art* (Spring/Summer 2007)
- editorial “Plan Will Diminish Core Classes,” published in *Gainesville Sun*, December 11, 2006:
 - <http://www.gainesville.com/article/20061211/EDITORIALS0101/61210021?Title=Plan-will-diminish-core-classes>

Courses Taught at FAU

- **CRW 3010: Introduction to Creative Writing:** Guidance and criticism for beginners in writing prose and poetry.
 - Spring 2009, Spring 2010, Spring 2011

- **ENC 1101: College Writing I:** *WAC (Gordon Rule)*. Reading examples of effective expository prose and writing essays practicing the forms of rhetoric. This is a General Education course.
 - Fall 2008, Fall 2009, Fall 2012, Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017
- **ENC 1102: College Writing II:** *WAC (Gordon Rule)*. Prerequisite: ENC 1101 with a grade of "C" or better. A continuation of College Writing 1. This is a General Education course.
 - Fall 2008, Spring 2012, Spring 2013, Spring 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2016
- **ENC 1930: University Honors Seminar in Writing:** *WAC (Gordon Rule)*. A seminar in the University Honors Program on topics in writing. This is a General Education course.
 - Fall 2016
- **ENC 3213: Writing for Management/Professional Writing:** *WAC (Gordon Rule)*. Prepares the student to write professionally for audiences within and outside a corporation or nonprofit enterprise. Proofreading skills stressed.
 - Spring 2009, Spring 2010, Fall 2010, Spring 2011, Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2018, Fall 2018
- **ENG 3822: Introduction to Literary Studies**
A prerequisite for English majors that must be taken before or concurrently with any 4000-level course. Prepares students to enter the field of literary studies by introducing three genres and key literary concepts. Course emphasizes close textual analysis and basic research skills. Topics vary depending on instructors.
 - Fall 2017
- **LIT 2030: Interpretation of Poetry:** *WAC (Gordon Rule), IFP*. An introduction to close reading of poetry. This is a General Education course.
 - Summer 2009, Fall 2009, Summer 2010, Fall 2010, Spring 2011, Summer 2011, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018
- **LIT 2040: Interpretation of Drama:** *WAC (Gordon Rule), IFP*. An introduction to close reading of drama. This is a General Education course.
 - Spring 2009, Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Fall 2012, Spring 2013, Fall 2018
- **LIT 2070: Interpretation of (Creative) Nonfiction:** *WAC (Gordon Rule), IFP*. An introduction to the history and interpretation of nonfiction. Focuses on a variety of sub-genres of creative nonfiction, such as autobiography, memoir, literary journalism and the essay (including non-traditional forms like the lyric or graphic essay). Provides students with the tools to read, analyze, think critically and write about creative nonfiction and to communicate their insights in oral and written forms. This is a General Education course.
 - Spring 2016

Courses taught at the University of Florida

- **CRW 1301: Beginning Poetry Writing:** Prereq: freshmen and sophomores only with ENC 1101 or test score equivalency. Workshop concentrates on the basics of reading and writing poetry (in order to write you have to read, and in order to be a reader you have to be a critic). Students write poems and some are discussed in workshop.
 - **Fall 2006, Spring 2007**
- **ENC 1101: Expository and Argumentative Writing:** The principal elements of writing clearly, efficiently and effectively. ENC 1101 also focuses on writing logical arguments, building research skills and developing critical thinking through reading, writing and discussion.
 - **Fall 2005, Spring 2006, Summer 2006**

- **ENC 2210: Technical Writing:** General education course; Prereq: ENC 1101 or test score equivalency. Surveys the forms and methods of communication used in business, industry and government, including informal and formal reports, letters, resumes and proposals.
 - **Fall 2005, Spring 2006**

Courses Proposed and/or Developed

Proposed Courses:

- **CRW 3310: Narrative Techniques**--Analysis of and exercises in the elements of prose, such as point of view, characterization, tone, and image, among others; students will compose stories in both genres of fiction and nonfiction; stories will be critiqued in a workshop setting
- **CRW 3311: Poetic Techniques**-- Analysis of and exercises in poetry and poetic techniques such as meter, form, and style, among others; poems will be critiqued in a workshop environment.
 - Proposed these two courses, offered at most other competing Florida colleges and universities, in order to help grow our own creative writing program (with the long-term goal of offering a minor)

(re)Developed Courses:

- **LIT 20XX**—together with Tiffany Frost and Richard Potter, under guidance of Wendy Hinshaw, worked to redevelop and reexamine elements of various interpretation courses offered at FAU to ensure courses align with IFP requirements

Service and Professional Development

Service to the Institution:

- Department/School service:
 - Wrote letters of recommendation for former undergraduate students
 - Florida Atlantic University: *Boca Campus*—participated as reader for Sigma Tau Delta programs, Spring 2009, Spring 2010, Spring 2012
 - Florida Atlantic University: *Jupiter Campus*—participated as a judge for nominating best poem for National Poetry Month, April 2010, April 2011
- College service:
 - Non-Tenure Track Promotion Committee, member—reviewed portfolios for those applying for senior instructor promotion within the College of Arts and Sciences, Fall 2017
- University Service:
 - served as one of three FAU representatives in the *Palm Beach Literacy Coalition's Great Grown-Up Spelling Bee*, October 16, 2014

Professional Development:

- LIT 20XX coordinator to compile texts, assignments, teaching strategies, and the like to help shape our interpretation courses to fulfill WAC and IFP needs, Fall 2015-Summer 2017
- *Sexual Harassment Training*—certificate completed January 2015
- *Participant in e-Learning certification* for teaching LIT 2030, Fall 2014-present
- *Book Reviewer* for Michael Meyer's *Poetry*, 7th edition, Bedford/St. Martin's, May 2014
 - acknowledged in Michael Meyer's *Thinking and Writing about Poetry* © 2016
- *Writing Across the Curriculum training*, September 2009