

## Thomas H. McNeely

Institute for Liberal Studies  
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### I. EDUCATION

2001 – 2003 Wallace Stegner Fellowship, Stanford University  
1994 – 1997 Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing, Emerson College  
1986 – 1991 Bachelor of Arts in English Literature, University of Texas at Austin

### II. EMPLOYMENT

Senior Affiliated Faculty, Emerson College,  
Marlboro Institute for Liberal Studies, 1998-2001; 2012 - present:

- First-Year Honors Program, Perspectives on Literature and Culture of the Americas: two-semester literature, literary theory, and composition course for first-year merit scholarship students
- Honors Writing Symposium and Research Practicum: one semester research course for first-year merit scholarship students
- Senior Honors Thesis Practicum and Advising: two-semester course to prepare and guide senior honors students in researching and writing their senior honor theses
- Sovereign Power and The Death Penalty: the practice and ethics of capital punishment, a writing-intensive interdisciplinary course
- Trauma, Narrative, and Memory: the representation and social effects of personal and historical trauma in fiction and memoir
- Ways of Seeing: survey of visual culture

Fall 1998 – HS 101 – First-Year Honors Seminar  
Spring 1999 – HS 102 – First-Year Honors Seminar II  
Fall 1999 – HS 101 – First-Year Honors Seminar  
Spring 2000 – HS 102 – First-Year Honors Seminar II  
Fall 2000 – HS 101 – First-Year Honors Seminar  
Spring 2001 – HS 102 – First-Year Honors Seminar II  
Fall 2010 – HS 101 – First-Year Honors Seminar  
Fall 2012 – HS 101 – First-Year Honors Seminar  
Spring 2013 – HS 102 – First-Year Honors Seminar II  
Spring 2013 – HS 103 – Honors Writing Symposium  
Fall 2013 – HS 101 – First-Year Honors Seminar  
Spring 2014 – HS 102 – First-Year Honors Seminar II  
Spring 2014 – HS 103 – Honors Writing Symposium  
Fall 2014 – HS 101 – First-Year Honors Seminar

Spring 2015 – HS 102 – First-Year Honors Seminar II  
 Spring 2015 – HS 103 – Honors Writing Symposium  
 Fall 2015 – HS 101 – First-Year Honors Seminar  
 Fall 2015 – IN 123 – Sovereign Power and the Death Penalty  
 Spring 2016 – HS 102 – First-Year Honors Seminar II  
 Spring 2016 – HS 103 – Honors Writing Symposium  
 Fall 2016 – HS 101 – First-Year Honors Seminar  
 Fall 2016 – IN 135 – Ways of Seeing  
 Spring 2017 – HS 102 – First-Year Honors Seminar II  
 Spring 2017 – HS 103 – Honors Writing Symposium  
 Spring 2017 – IN 212 – Trauma, Narrative, and Memory  
 Fall 2017 – HS 101 – First-Year Honors Seminar  
 Fall 2017 – HS 490 – Senior Honors Thesis  
 Spring 2018 – HS 102 – First-Year Honors Seminar II  
 Spring 2018 – HS 103 – Honors Writing Symposium  
 Spring 2018 – HS 490 – Senior Honors Thesis  
 Fall 2018 – HS 101 – First-Year Honors Seminar  
 Spring 2019 – HS 102 – First-Year Honors Seminar II  
 Spring 2019 – HS 103 – Honors Writing Symposium  
 Fall 2018 – HS 101 – First-Year Honors Seminar  
 Spring 2019 – HS 102 – First-Year Honors Seminar II  
 Spring 2019 – HS 103 – Honors Writing Symposium  
 Fall 2019 – HS 101 – First-Year Honors Seminar  
 Fall 2019 – IN 135 – Ways of Seeing  
 Spring 2020 – HS 102 – First-Year Honors Seminar II  
 Spring 2020 – HS 103 – Honors Writing Symposium  
 Fall 2020 – IN 135 – Ways of Seeing  
 Fall 2020 – HS 101 – First-Year Honors Seminar  
 Spring 2021 – HS 102 – First-Year Honors Seminar II  
 Spring 2021 – HS 103 – Honors Writing Symposium  
 Fall 2021 – IN 135 – Ways of Seeing  
 Fall 2021 – HS 101 – First-Year Honors Seminar  
 Spring 2022 – HS 102 – First-Year Honors Seminar II  
 Spring 2022 – HS 103 – Honors Writing Symposium

Senior Affiliated Faculty, Emerson College,  
 Writing, Literature, and Publishing Program, 2008 - 2021:

- Graduate, Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced Fiction Workshops;
- Literature course, LI 208: Race and Resistance in U.S. Literature:

Fall 2008 – WR 407 – Advanced Fiction Writing  
 Spring 2009 – WR 311 – Intermediate Fiction Writing  
 Spring 2009 – WR 211 – Beginning Fiction Writing  
 Fall 2009 – WR 311 – Intermediate Fiction Writing  
 Spring 2010 – WR 211 – Beginning Fiction Writing  
 Spring 2014 – WR 211 – Introduction to Creative Writing – Fiction

Spring 2016 – WR 211 – Introduction to Creative Writing – Fiction  
Spring 2021 – LI 208 – Race and Resistance in U.S. Literature  
Fall 2021 – WR 606 – Graduate Fiction Writing Workshop  
Spring 2022 – WR 211 – Introduction to Creative Writing – Fiction

Jones Lecturer in Fiction, Stanford University,  
Creative Writing Program, 2003-2007:

- Beginning and Intermediate Fiction Workshops:

Autumn 2001 – ENG 137 – Development of the Short Story (TA)  
Autumn 2003 – ENG 90 – Fiction Writing  
Autumn 2003 – ENG 90 – Fiction Writing  
Winter 2004 – ENG 90 – Fiction Writing  
Spring 2004 – ENG 90 – Fiction Writing  
Spring 2004 – ENG 190 – Intermediate Fiction Writing  
Autumn 2004 – ENG 90 – Fiction Writing  
Winter 2005 – ENG 90 – Fiction Writing  
Winter 2005 – ENG 190 – Intermediate Fiction Writing  
Spring 2005 – ENG 90 – Fiction Writing  
Spring 2005 – ENG 190 – Intermediate Fiction Writing  
Autumn 2005 – ENG 90 – Fiction Writing  
Autumn 2005 – ENG 90 – Fiction Writing  
Winter 2006 – ENG 90 – Fiction Writing  
Winter 2006 – ENG 190 – Intermediate Fiction Writing  
Spring 2006 – ENG 90 – Fiction Writing  
Winter 2007 – ENG 190 – Intermediate Fiction Writing

Creative Writing Instructor, Stanford University  
Online Writing Studio (OWS), 2012 - present:

- Short Story Boot Camp: Five Beginnings, A Story, and A Revision
- Writing Contemporary Fiction
- The Art of Revision: Losing Yourself, Finding Your Voice
- Building a Story from the Ground Up
- Novel II: Plot and Structure: core workshop for advanced students in the OWS Certificate in Novel Writing sequence
- Line by Line: A Course About Sentences: core course in the OWS Certificate in Novel Writing sequence
- Individual Mentorships: a capstone tutorial with graduating OWS Certificate in Novel Writing students

Summer 2012 – FICT09 – Writing Contemporary Short Fiction  
Winter 2013 – FICT16 – Short Story Boot Camp  
Autumn 2013 – FICT16 – Short Story Boot Camp  
Summer 2014 – FICT40 – Losing Yourself, Finding Your Voice

Summer 2014 – OWC310 – Individual Tutorial  
Winter 2015 – FICT16 – Short Story Boot Camp  
Spring 2015 – OWC304 – Novel II: Plot and Structure  
Summer 2015 – FICT40 – Losing Yourself, Finding Your Voice  
Autumn 2015 – OWC310 – Individual Tutorial  
Winter 2016 – FICT54 – Building a Short Story from the Ground Up  
Winter 2016 – OWC310 – Individual Tutorial  
Spring 2016 – OWC304 – Novel II: Plot and Structure  
Spring 2016 – OWC310 – Individual Tutorial  
Winter 2017 – FICT54 – Building a Short Story from the Ground Up  
Spring 2017 – OWC304 – Novel II: Plot and Structure  
Autumn 2017 – FICT40 – Losing Yourself, Finding Your Voice  
Winter 2018 – OWC310 – Individual Tutorial  
Spring 2018 – OWC304 – Novel II: Plot and Structure  
Summer 2018 – ENGL20 – Sentence by Sentence: Creating Your Style  
Summer 2018 – OWC310 – Individual Tutorial  
Autumn 2018 – FICT40 – Losing Yourself, Finding Your Voice  
Autumn 2018 – OWC310 – Individual Tutorial  
Spring 2019 – OWC304 – Novel II: Plot and Structure  
Summer 2019 – OWC310 – Individual Tutorial  
Autumn 2019 – OWC310 – Individual Tutorial  
Spring 2020 – OWC304 – Novel II: Plot and Structure  
Summer 2020 – EGL 102W – Narrative Healing: Shaping Trauma Into Story  
Autumn 2020 – Sentence by Sentence: Creating Your Style  
Spring 2021 – OWC304 – Novel II: Plot and Structure  
Summer 2021 – EGL 102W – Narrative Healing: Shaping Trauma Into Story  
Spring 2022 – OWC304 – Novel II: Plot and Structure

Adjunct Professor, University of New Hampshire,  
MFA Writing Program, Fall 2014:

- Form and Theory of Fiction: Graduate Literature and Writing Course
- Graduate Thesis Committees

Creative Writing Instructor, Grub Street Writers Workshop, 1997 - 2014:

- Beginning and Intermediate Fiction Workshops, Topics Courses (The Art of Alice Munro), Individual Manuscript Consultation

Creative Writing Instructor, Lighthouse Writers Workshop, 2014 - 2016:

- Short Workshops and Craft Presentations (The Art of Revision, Point of View, Writing Through The Eyes of A Child)

Creative Writing Instructor, Inprint Houston, 2015 – 2017:

- Short Workshops (Point of View, Line by Line)

Independent Manuscript Consultation, 2012 – present:

- I have edited and consulted on dozens of novel manuscripts; my clients have placed stories in top-tier literary journals, secured agents for their novels, and sold their work to Penguin, Harper-Collins, and Harper-Collins India

Defense Investigator, The Texas Appellate Practice and Educational Resource Center, 1991-1994:

- Appellate Defense Investigation: interviewed capital murder defendants, their families, law enforcement officials, witnesses, and jurors; prepared reports; gathered medical, legal, and other records; assisted attorneys at hearings

### III. PUBLICATIONS

#### Books

*Pictures of the Shark: Stories*. Huntsville, TX: Texas Review Press, 2022.

*Ghost Horse*. Arlington, VA: Gival Press, 2014.

- Winner, Gival Press Novel Award, 2013
- Shortlisted for the William Saroyan International Prize in Writing, 2016
- Finalist for the Lascaux Prize in Fiction, 2015
- Honorable Mention, 2014 New England Book Festival for Fiction
- Finalist in the 2014 Somerset Awards for Literary and Contemporary Fiction
- First Place Winner, Chanticleer 2014 Literary Fiction Social Issues Award
- Reviewed in *The Boston Globe*, *The Dallas Morning News*, *The Austin-American Statesman*, *Texas Monthly*, *The Texas Observer*, and elsewhere

#### Stories

"Ariel," *Epoch*, Volume 69, Number 3 (Spring 2022)

"Real Life," *Cimmaron Review* (Issue #212, Summer 2020). 76-88.

"No One's Trash," *Crazyhorse* (Issue #95, Spring 2019). 115-123.

"Little Deaths," *Epoch*, Volume 67, Number 2 (Spring 2018). 169-178.

"King Elvis," in *Night Train: The First Ten Years*. Eds. Rusty Barnes and Rod Siino. Boston: Night Train, 2014. 40-49.

"Cat Mug," Significant Objects Project (September 2009). <http://significantobjects.com/2009/09/09/cat-mug/>

"Sheep," in *What If?: Writing Exercises for Fiction Writers*, Third Edition. Eds. Anne Bernays and Pamela Painter. New York: Pearson. 325-345.

"The Other Father," *New South*, Vol. 1, No. 2 (Spring/Summer 2008).

"Ghost Horse," *StoryQuarterly*, Number 42 (Fall 2006).

"Sheep," in *Best of the South, Vol. II, From the Second Decade of New Stories from the South*. Eds. Shannon Ravenel and Anne Tyler. Chapel Hill: Algonquin Books, 2005. 147-171.

"Pictures of the Shark," *Epoch*, Vol. 51, No. 3 (Winter 2003); Special Mention, *Pushcart Prize XXVIII*.

"King Elvis," *Night Train*, Vol. 1, No. 1 (Fall 2002); *Pushcart Prize XXVIII* nominee.

"Snow, Houston, 1974," *The Virginia Quarterly Review*, Vol. 78, No. 1 (Winter 2002); *Pushcart Prize XXVIII* nominee.

"Tickle Torture," *Ploughshares*, Vol. 27, No. 4 (Winter 2001-02); Recommended Story in *The O. Henry*

*Prize Stories 2003*; cited in *The Best American Short Stories 2002*; *Pushcart Prize XXVII* nominee.  
“Sheep,” in *New Stories from the South: The Year's Best 2000*. Eds. Ellen Douglas and Shannon Ravenel. Chapel Hill: Algonquin, 2000. 16-40.  
“Sheep,” in *The Best American Mystery Stories 2000*. Eds. Otto Penzler and Donald E. Westlake. New York: Houghton-Mifflin, 2000. 366-387.  
“Sheep,” *The Atlantic Monthly* (June 1999); short-listed in *Prize Stories 2000: The O. Henry Awards*, cited in *The Best American Short Stories 2000*; National Magazine Award nominee, 2000.

### **Memoir and Non-Fiction**

“The Vanishing House,” *History Lessons*, Writers Without Margins, Fifth Edition (February 2020).  
“Experience Required: The Long Journey of Ghost Horse,” *Bloom Magazine* (August 2015). <https://bloom-site.com/2015/08/28/experience-required-the-long-journey-of-ghost-horse>  
“My Summer of the Shark,” *Texas Monthly* (June 2015).  
“The Burning Bed,” *Ninth Letter*, Vol. 10, No. 1 (Spring / Summer 2013).

### **Manuscripts**

*Sheep*, story collection; finalist, Everett Southwest Literary Award, 2012  
*The Suicide Map*, memoir; chapters in *Texas Monthly* (2015) and *Ninth Letter* (2013)

### **Reviews**

*Wonderland* by Stacey D’Erasmio. *The Rumpus* (August 25, 2014): <http://therumpus.net/2014/08/wonderland-by-stacey-derasmo/>  
*Thieves I’ve Known* by Tom Kealey. *The Rumpus* (October 19, 2013): <http://therumpus.net/2013/10/last-book-i-loved-thieves-ive-known/>  
*The Art of Intimacy* by Stacey D’Erasmio. *The Rumpus* (September 2, 2013): <http://therumpus.net/2013/09/the-art-of-intimacy-by-stacey-derasmo/>  
*The Southern Cross* by Skip Horack. *The Rumpus* (August 10, 2009): <http://therumpus.net/2009/08/in-the-eye-of-the-hurricane/>  
*Flannery: A Life of Flannery O’Connor* by Brad Gooch (March 10, 2009): <http://therumpus.net/2009/03/flannery-on-the-couch/>  
*The Instinct for Bliss* by Melissa Pritchard. *Harvard Review* 14 (September 1998).  
*Something Borrowed* by Alexandra Baxter. *Harvard Review* 13 (September 1997).  
*Tinisima* by Elana Poniatowska. *Harvard Review* 12 (April 1997).

### **Selected Articles, Reviews, and Interviews About My Work**

“The Rumpus Interview with Thomas H. McNeely,” by Angela Pneuman, *The Rumpus* (January 7, 2015): <http://therumpus.net/2015/01/the-rumpus-interview-with-thomas-h-mcneely/>  
“Brutal Business: Coming of Age in 1970’s Houston,” by Adrienne Perry, Editor, *Gulf Coast*, Issue 27.2 (Summer / Fall 2015): <http://gulfcoastmag.org/journal/27.2-summer/fall-2015/brutal-business-coming-of-age-in-1970s-houston/>  
“*Ghost Horse* tracks a troubled adolescence in Houston,” by Charles Ealey, Books Editor, *The Austin-American Statesman* (November 22, 2014): <https://www.austin360.com/entertainment/books--literature/ghost-horse-tracks-troubled-adolescence-houston/6j1CSyekkIZx3imzomvheM/>  
“A Much Wilder Place: A Review of Tom McNeely’s *Ghost Horse*,” by Allan West, *OffCite* (February 19, 2015): <http://offcite.org/a-much-wilder-place-a-review-of-tom-mcneelys-ghost-horse/>  
“*Ghost Horse*,” *Kirkus Reviews*, unsigned review, October 27, 2014; <https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/thomas-h-mcneely/ghost-horse/>

“Ghost Horse,” by Beth Castrodale, Editor, *Small Press Picks* (April 29, 2015): <http://smallpresspicks.com/ghost-horse/>

#### IV. FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- Massachusetts Cultural Council, Artist Fellowship Program, Finalist in Fiction, 2016
- Massachusetts Cultural Council, Artist Fellowship Program, Finalist in Fiction, 2014
- National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellowship in Prose, 2008
- Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference, Bridgman Tuition Scholarship, August, 2007
- Wallace Stegner Creative Writing Fellowship, Stanford University, 2001-2003
- Helene Wurlitzer Foundation Residence Grant, July 3 - September 30, 2003
- Djerassi Resident Artists Program Fellowship, April 22 - May 22, 2002
- Brazos Bookstore Award for the Short Story, Texas Institute of Letters, 2002
- Corporation of Yaddo Fellowship, May 2 - June 26, 2001
- Jesse H. Jones Creative Writing Fellowship, J. Frank Dobie Paisano Fellowship Project, University of Texas and Texas Institute of Letters, May 1 - August 25, 2000
- St. Botolph’s Foundation Grant-in-Aid, 2000
- MacDowell Colony Fellowship, May 19 - July 9, 1999
- Vermont Studio Center Fellowship, August 1998
- Alternate Fiction Fellow, Provincetown Fine Arts Work Center, 1998

#### Selected Readings, Presentations, and Workshops

Writefest Houston, Featured Speaker, Panelist, and Instructor, Houston, TX, May 27 – June 2, 2019.  
Writefest Houston, Featured Speaker, Panelist, and Instructor, Houston, TX, April 30 - May 6, 2018.  
Writefest Houston, Featured Speaker, Panelist, and Instructor, Houston, TX, March 6-9, 2017.  
Writespace Houston, Keynote Speaker, Writers Family Reunion, Houston, TX, August 20, 2016.  
Malvern Books (with Elizabeth Harris and Mary Helen Specht), Austin, TX, May 13, 2016.  
Concord Festival of Authors (“New Literary Voices 2015” panel), Concord, MA, October 25, 2015.  
Texas Book Festival (“The Texas Lens,” panel with Mat Johnson and Sarah McCoy), Austin, Texas, October 17-18, 2015.  
Cambridge Public Library (“Point of View,” craft talk), October 10, 2015.  
American Association of University Women (talk on *Ghost Horse*), Canton, MA, September 24, 2015.  
East Texas Book Festival (“How to Tell a True Story in Fiction and Memoir” craft talk), Tyler, Texas, August 21-22, 2015.  
Blue Willow Book Shop (reading), Houston, TX, August 15, 2015.  
Houston Independent Book Festival (reading), Houston, Texas, April 18, 2015  
Dahlonega Literary Festival, Dahlonega, Georgia, March 28, 2015  
Southern Literary Festival (“Writing Through the Eyes of a Child,” talk on point of view in fiction), Dahlonega, Georgia, March 26, 2015  
Malvern Books (reading), Austin, Texas, March 12, 2015  
The Twig Bookstore (reading), San Antonio, Texas, February 21, 2015  
Half Price Books (reading with Joe Milazzo), Dallas, Texas, February 20, 2015  
Strake Jesuit College Preparatory (book talk), Houston, Texas, February 20, 2015  
Sam Houston State University (reading and talk with students), Huntsville, Texas, February 19, 2015  
Sharon Public Library Authors Roundtable, Sharon, MA, February 11, 2015  
Dire Reader Literary Series (with Mimi Lipson and others), Cambridge, Massachusetts, January 2, 2015  
Ames Free Library (workshop), North Easton, Massachusetts, December 15 and 17, 2014

BookPeople (with Doug Dorst), Austin, Texas, November 23, 2014  
Brazos Bookstore, Houston, Texas, November 22, 2014  
College of Liberal Arts Reading Series (reading), University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire, November 20, 2014  
Porter Square Books (with Charles Coe), Cambridge, Massachusetts, November 17, 2014  
Harvard Book Store (“Visual Storytelling” with Annie Weatherwax), Cambridge, Massachusetts, November 14, 2014  
Emerson College Barnes and Noble (with Angela Pneuman), Boston, Massachusetts, November 13, 2014  
Lighthouse Writers Workshop (with Benjamin Whittmer and others), Denver, Colorado, October 25, 2014  
Massachusetts Cultural Council Commonwealth Reading Series (reading with William Giraldi, Karen Skolfield, and others), Cambridge Public Library, Cambridge, Massachusetts, October 23, 2014  
Stanford University (reading with Angela Pneuman), Stanford, CA, October 6, 2014

## References

- Dr. Amy Ansell, Dean, Institute for Liberal Studies, Emerson College:  
[amy\\_ansell@emerson.edu](mailto:amy_ansell@emerson.edu)
- Professor Eavan Boland, Director, Creative Writing Program, Stanford University:  
[eavanb@gmail.com](mailto:eavanb@gmail.com)
- Professor Maria Koundoura, Chair, Writing, Literature, and Publishing Department, Emerson College:  
[Maria\\_Koundoura@emerson.edu](mailto:Maria_Koundoura@emerson.edu)
- Professor Ann Joslin Williams, Interim Director, Creative Writing Program, University of New Hampshire:  
[Ann.J.Williams@unh.edu](mailto:Ann.J.Williams@unh.edu)
- Scott Hutchins, Curriculum Coordinator, Stanford Online Writing Studio:  
[hutchins@stanford.edu](mailto:hutchins@stanford.edu)
- Professor Adam Johnson, Creative Writing Program, Stanford University:  
[thornsatellite@gmail.com](mailto:thornsatellite@gmail.com)
- Professor Stephanie Burt, Department of English, Harvard University:  
[burntstove@gmail.com](mailto:burntstove@gmail.com)
- Professor Margot Livesey, Iowa Writers Workshop, University of Iowa:  
[liveseym@earthlink.net](mailto:liveseym@earthlink.net)
- Professor Pamela Painter, Writing, Literature and Publishing Department, Emerson College:  
[pamelapainter@aol.com](mailto:pamelapainter@aol.com)