

# John Thomas Howard

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## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND & DEGREES EARNED

**2012-2016**     **M.F.A. | *Indiana University***  
*Creative Writing • Certificate in Literary Translation*  
*Magna cum laude*

**2004-2007**     **B.A. | *SUNY Purchase***  
*Literature*  
*Magna cum laude*

**1997-2001**     **B.F.A. | *The Fashion Institute of Technology***  
*Toy Design • Illustration*  
*Cum laude*

## PROFESSIONAL FACULTY EXPERIENCE

**2020 - current**     **Adjunct Professor | *Grand Valley State University***     ***Grand Rapids, MI***  
WRT 120: Strategies in Writing – Stretch I  
WRT 130: Strategies in Writing – Stretch II  
WRT 219: Introduction to Creative Writing

- Develop and teach first-year writing stretch sequence and creative writing classes using a hybrid model for course design, with asynchronous learning modules on Blackboard along with Zoom-session for each weekly synchronous component
- Assess student development of critical and creative writing/editing skills, providing feedback and improvement strategies for students via one-on-one conferencing sessions, written responses to all essays and shorter writing assignments, and classroom discussions

**Fall 2021**     **Adjunct Professor | *Hope College***     ***Holland, MI***  
ENGL 154: Introduction to Creative Writing: Fiction  
ENGL 253: Introduction to Creative Writing

- Develop and teach introductory creative writing classes using synchronous digital course design, delivering classes and materials through Google Hangout and Google Suite tools
- Assess student success with writing practice and craft, while developing inclusive, supportive and impactful online learning community for young practitioners of poetry, fiction, and CNF

**2018 - 2019**     **Visiting Writer | *Siena Heights University***     ***Adrian, MI***  
ENG 101: Reading and Writing I  
ENG 270: Introduction to Poetry Workshop  
ENG 271: Introduction to Fiction Workshop  
ENG 272: Editing a Literary Journal, *Eclipse*  
ENG 273: Introduction to Publishing a Literary Journal, *Eclipse*  
ENG 342: Advanced Fiction Workshop  
ENG 362: Advanced Editing a Literary Journal, *Eclipse*

- Developed and taught coursework for first-year writing and creative writing classes, including directed study with students in need of independent credit hours

- Served as Managing Editor for *Eclipse*, the student-run arts and literary journal, providing student editorial board guidance in the processes of acquiring submissions, selecting material for publication, layout design, and production of the publication

**2012 - 2016 Associate Instructor / Indiana University**

**Bloomington, IN**

W 131: Reading, Writing, and Inquiry I  
W 203: Introduction to Creative Writing  
W 204: Creative Writing Fiction

- Created an active learning environment where students safely and comprehensively challenged themselves, improving their writing, reading, and creative and cognitive skills with the support of teacher and peers
- Managed class participation; assessed student progress and developed individual improvement plans as needed; responded to and graded writing assignments, end-of-term portfolios, papers, and examinations; held weekly office hours to conduct one-on-one conferences to develop rapport and foster student engagement
- Utilized Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, and Adobe Suite to develop syllabi, lesson plans, coursework, homework assignments, and presentations; used Canvas to communicate with students, for development of tracking and assessments, and to provide final grades

**ADDITIONAL RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

**2016-2021 Assistant Director | the Martha's Vineyard Institute of Creative Writing**

- Aided director in conference planning, yearly staff acquisition, site selection, development of promotion and advertising, coordination of fellowship opportunities and writing contest, maintenance of website and social media, and responses to outside inquiries
- Assisted with conference setup and check-in process; aid Director and Program Coordinators with schedule, logistics, and day-to-day management of workshops, meals, and other events; prepared teaching materials for faculty and aided students with any issues
- Sought out local, state, and national-level grant opportunities for nonprofits; drafted application materials and collaborate with Director to revise, finalize, and send out applications; created and maintained grant cycle calendar and scheduled deadlines for individual applications
- Oversaw the development of new internship program, managing summer and year-long interns once internship opportunities are operational
- Developed and led publishing and editing seminar for workshop attendees
- Developed, scheduled, and served as faculty for One-on-one Manuscript Review Sessions

**2019-2021 Writer-In-Residence / Wellspring House**

**Ashfield, MA**

- Administer year-long artists' and writers' retreat by reviewing and responding to residency applications, scheduling residency stays, tracking residency booking finances, and assisting with advertising and social media footprint development
- Manage day-to-day upkeep of the property while providing orientation for residents upon arrival, turning over residency accommodations upon departure, and ensuring that all resident needs are tended to whenever requests arise

**2017-current Professional Writing Tutor (Remote Consult) / Tokyo Academics**

**Japan**

- Lead one-on-one brainstorming sessions with students to develop strong and distinct ideas for college admissions essays; coach students through the writing process, providing skill-based assignments to help students improve work during prewriting, writing, revision, and editing stages of essay development

**2016-2017      English Teaching Assistant / *Christel House DORS*      Indianapolis, IN**

- Aided instructor with preparation of materials, development of lesson plans, management of classroom engagement, and tracking of student progress in classes to improve adult learners' reading and language arts skills prior to high school equivalency exam
- Developed curriculum and provided direct instruction to improve literacy and reading comprehension skills for basic readers; redesigned writing assignments and revamped pedagogical practices to better serve ELLs with the challenge of learning English

**2013-2014      Making Instructor / *Lighthouse Community Charter School*      Oakland, CA**

- Developed year-long grade-level specific curriculum and lesson plans for K-12 after-school classes with focus on Making in STEAM fields, including projects such as soldering and electronics, woodworking and model making, sewing and crafts, and bridge building
- Taught seven different after-school courses: grade-specific classes for K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th met once weekly, while class for middle school (grades 5-8) and drop-in class for high school students each took place twice weekly
- Planned and helped lead professional training sessions to aid staff and visitors to incorporate Making into their daily curriculum
- Organized and managed middle school teaching assistant program, planning lessons for primary school grades that allow TAs paraprofessional development during their time as mentors to younger students
- Oversaw high school internship program, providing an intern with daily tasks, weekly check-ins, and an end-of-year assessment

**FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 2022 | Tomaž Šalamun Prize Semi-finalist   |
| 2022 | Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing Fiction Fellowship Finalist                |
| 2022 | Disquiet Literary Contest Fiction Longlist  |
| 2021 | Key West Literary Seminar Emerging Writer Award Semi-finalist                       |
| 2021 | James Jones First Novel Fellowship Contest Semi-finalist                            |
| 2019 | Nominee for Eileen K. Rice Award for Outstanding Teaching, Siena Heights University |
| 2015 | IUWC Martha C. Kraft Fiction Fellowship, Indiana University                         |
| 2015 | College Arts & Humanities Institute Research Travel Award, Indiana University       |
| 2015 | GPSG Professional Development Travel Award, Indiana University                      |
| 2013 | Writer in the World Nepal Travel Fellowship, Indiana University                     |
| 2012 | Ernest Hemingway Fellowship, Indiana University                                     |
| 2012 | LD Ellis Literary Fellowship, Indiana University                                    |
| 2012 | Yellen Fellowship, Indiana University   |
| 2007 | SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence, SUNY Purchase                       |

**CONFERENCES, PANELS, READINGS AND WORKSHOPS**

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|-----------|--|
| 2020      | Featured Writer at Straw Dog Writers Guild Reading Series  |
| 2019      | <i>In the Beginning Was: Ways of Starting &amp; Restarting Stories</i> – Creative writing workshop conducted at the Oak Bluffs Public Library, on Martha's Vineyard  |
| 2019      | <i>Monsters We Then Made</i> : Reading of novel in progress at Siena Heights University  |
| 2018, AWP | <i>Passing Into Pages: A Tribute to James Salter</i> : Panel Creator and Participant – Conceived, proposed, and organized panel to celebrate the life and work of James Salter   |
| 2016, AWP | <i>The Global MFA: Travel, Displacement, and Writing</i> : Panel Creator and Participant – Conceived, proposed, organized, and took part in panel to discuss connections and disconnections between writing and travel |

## PUBLICATIONS

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| 2022 | "Miracle," poem forthcoming in <i>Notre Dame Review</i>  |
| 2022 | "Trees of North America (Sassafras)" / "The Smallest of Miracles," poems in <i>Exit</i> 7 Issue 9  |
| 2022 | "El pan de cada día," forthcoming in <i>Witness Magazine</i> , Winter 2022 Issue   |
| 2022 | "El pan de cada día," short story finalist for <i>Witness Magazine</i> 's 2022 Fiction Prize   |
| 2022 | "El pan de cada día," simultaneous acceptance in <i>decomp journal</i> , offer refused   |
| 2021 | "Their Place in the Woods," short story in <i>Wisconsin Review</i> , Issue 53.2  |
| 2021 | "The Biggest Splash," Honorable Mention <i>Broad River Review</i> Fiction Prize; Fall 2021 Issue   |
| 2021 | "One Scene, Many Chords" and "Revision or Reinvention Through Cutting & Composting," craft essays in <i>The Open Page</i> , MVICW's Creative Writing Craft Anthology                             |
| 2021 | "El pan de cada día," short story finalist for the <i>Arts &amp; Letters</i> Fiction Prize   |
| 2020 | "Hucklebrothers," at <i>The Acentos Review</i> , December 2020 Issue   |
| 2020 | "The Trees of North America (Black Locust)," poem in <i>Red Rock Review</i> , Issue 45   |
| 2020 | "Room for Dessert" / "The Lingering Soil," fiction/poem in <i>PANK Magazine</i> , Latinx Lit Folio   |
| 2020 | "Trees of North America (Sweet Crabapple)," poem in <i>Harpur Palate</i> , Issue 19.2 / 20.1   |
| 2020 | "Daylight Savings," poem in <i>Sweet Tree Review</i> , Issue 5.3   |
| 2020 | "El pan de cada día," short story finalist for the <i>Passages North</i> Waasnode Fiction Prize  |
| 2017 | "Political Seepage in Samrat Upadhyay's <i>Mad Country</i> ," published in <i>World Literature Today</i> 's blog – Book review of <i>Mad Country</i> , a novel written by Samrat Upadhyay        |
| 2016 | "The Kittens," published in <i>The Mercurian</i> Vol. 6, No. 2 – English translation of "Los Gaticos," a one-act play originally written in Spanish by the Colombian playwright, Crispulo Torres |

## ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE SKILLS

Bilingual in Spanish and English  
Experience in Translation