

Tobin von der Nuell
vondernu@colorado.edu

Teaching Experience

University of Colorado

Associate Teaching Professor, Program for Writing and Rhetoric
August 2021 to Present

University of Colorado

Senior Instructor, Program for Writing and Rhetoric
August 2016 to August 2021

University of Colorado

Instructor, Program for Writing and Rhetoric
August 2001 to August 2016

University of Colorado

Instructor, University Writing Program
August 2000 to August 2001

University of Colorado

Lecturer, University Writing Program
August 1998 to August 2000

University of Colorado

Lecturer, University Writing Program
January 1993 to May 1993

University of Colorado

GPTI, University Writing Program
August 1991 to December 1992

University of Colorado

GPTI, Teaching Assistant for the English Department (Creative Writing)
January 1991 to May 1992

Taught creative writing to undergraduates (ENGL 1191). Designed course syllabus, writing assignments, and reading list. Orchestrated workshops, assessed student work, and calculated course letter grades. Reported to the Director of Creative Writing for teaching assignments and class regulations.

San Diego State University

Tutor, Writing/Academic Skills Center
August 1989 to May 1990

In my full-time appointments in two writing programs at the University of Colorado, I have taught seven to nine sections per year of upper and lower division courses. Though I have taught mainly 3020 and 1150 classes, I have also taught 1250, 3040 and 2020 courses. In 3020, Topics in Writing, I have designed and taught classes in American Short Stories, Steinbeck, Hemingway, and Stories in American Culture. In 2008, I created and taught a course, The Rhetorics of Faith and Doubt, for the Center for the Humanities and the Arts; though it was taught through the Farrand Academic Program, I represented the PWR in teaching the course—one of the only two courses to be selected by the CHA for that year’s theme, “Faith, Reason, Doubt.” For my courses, I have created and revised several versions of course packets (now Canvas materials). I prepared and revised course policies and lesson plans—assignments, supplemental writing texts, and writing examples. I led daily workshops, evaluated student essays, and determined final grades. Lastly, I have written dozens of letters of recommendation for students and faculty.

University Courses Taught

Topics in Writing: Stories in American Culture (WRTG 3020)
First-Year Writing and Rhetoric—Baker Hall (WRTG 1150 RAP)
Introduction to Creative Nonfiction (WRTG 2020)
Advanced First-Year Writing and Rhetoric (WRTG 1250)
Writing on Business and Society (WRTG 3040)
Rhetorics of Faith and Doubt (FARR 2000)
First-Year Writing and Rhetoric (WRTG 1150)
Topics in Writing: Best American Short Stories (WRTG 3020)
Topics in Writing: Short Novels of John Steinbeck (UWRP/WRTG 3020)
Topics in Writing: Hemingway’s *The Sun Also Rises* (UWRP 3020)
Writing on Business and Society (UWRP 3040)
Introduction to Argumentative Writing (UWRP 1250)
Introduction to Expository Writing (UWRP 1150)
Introduction to Creative Writing (ENGL 1191)

Student Writing Prizes and Publications

2023 Hindsight, Vol. III (April 2023)—Rachel Lysaght (former 2020 student), “Home Blend.”
2021 First-Year Prize, Short Form, Honorable Mention (WRTG 1150)—Daniel Griffith, “No Minced Words.”
2020 First-Year Prize, Long Form, Third Place (WRTG 1150)—Eric Hovland, “Corruption: A Congressional Pastime.”
2020 *Journal Twenty-Twenty*, Vol. VIII (May 2020)—Eve Bell (former 1150 student), “Step One.”
2019 *Journal Twenty-Twenty*, Online (2019), Ethan Cohen (former 1150 student), “Travels and Tribulations.”
2019 *Journal Twenty-Twenty*, Vol. VII (April 2019), Maggie Rzepiennik (former 2020 student), “Drug of Choice.”

2018-2024 *Knowing Words*, Monica Huacuja Espinosa, “Student Summary Portfolio.”

2018-2024 *Knowing Words*, Bridget Perry, “Student Summary Portfolio.”

2018 *Journal Twenty-Twenty*, Vol. VI (April 2018)—Joe Constancia (former 2020 student), “Bright Spots in Dark Puddles.”

2017 *Journal Twenty-Twenty*, Vol. V (April 2017)—Talia Montoya (former 1250 student), “No, Not Like That.”

2017 *Journal Twenty-Twenty*, 2017 Online Issue—Talia Montoya (former 2020 student), “Behind the Screen.”

2016 *Journal Twenty-Twenty*, Vol. 4 (April 2016)—Sara Seidel (former 2020 student), “Writing a Reality.”

2016 First-Year Prize, Long Form, First Place (WRTG 1150)—Julia Casey, “Veggies in the Sky: How Vertical Farms Can Help Feed the World.”

2016 First-Year Prize, Long Form, Runner-Up (WRTG 1150)—Kupaaikakaiaio “Ku” Thomas, “Who are the Real Protectors?”

2015 First-Year Prize, CNF, First Place (sole winner)—Talia Montoya, “No, Not Like That.”

2015 First-Year Prize, Short Form (new category), Honorable Mention (WRTG 1250)—Sara Paschke, “Homophobia & Headlines: Tony Dungy’s Take on Michael Sam.”

2015 PWR Diversity Prize (WRTG 1150), Second Place—Fanny Ngoussi Walengue, “Binding Force.”

2015 PWR Diversity Prize, Third Place (WRTG 1250)—Talia Montoya, “No, Not Like That.”

2014 First-Year Prize, Argument, First Place—Leala Smith, “Paelobsession.”

2014 First-Year Prize, Personal Narrative, First Place—Travis Cobb, “Of Dragons and Tips.”

2013 *Journal Twenty-Twenty*, Vol. 1, Issue 2—Brendan Craine, “A Cicada Shell/It Sang Itself/Utterly Away.”

2013 *Journal Twenty-Twenty*, Vol. 1, Issue 2—Lexi Evans, “Makeshift Patriot.”

2013 *Journal Twenty-Twenty*, Vol. 1, Issue 2—Lexi Evans, “Blue Against Blue,” originally titled “Something Pure” and written in my WRTG 2020, Fall 2011.

2013 *Journal Twenty-Twenty*, Vol. 1, Issue 2—Amy MacNair, “Expose’.”

2013 Norman Mailer Writing Award, College Nonfiction, Winner—Brendan Craine, “A Cicada Shell/It Sang Itself/Utterly Away.” This national award included a Mailer Fellowship to the Mailer Writers Colony, \$5000, and a trip to New York to receive the prize (and meet Maya Angelou).

2013 Upper Division Creative Nonfiction Prize (Independent Study), Runner-up—Amy MacNair, “Forgiveness.”

2013 First-Year Prize, Argument, First Place—Michael Yang, “Pursuing Preventive Medical Care in Panama.”

2013 First-Year Prize, Personal Narrative, First Place—Brendan Craine, “A Cicada Shell/It Sang Itself/Utterly Away.”

2012 *Honors Journal*, Lexi Evans, “If Worse Comes to Worst” (from a “New Journalism”/Interview assignment from WRTG 2020, Fall 2011).

2012 Upper Division Prize (WRTG 3020), Runner-up—Mi Tran, “Double Consciousness in ‘Bad Neighbors.’”

2012 Upper Division Creative Nonfiction Prize (WRTG 2020), First Place—Amy MacNair, “Expose’.”

2012 PWR Diversity Prize (WRTG 2020), First Place—Lexi Evans, “Makeshift Patriot.”

2012 First Year Prize, Argument, First Place—Alexandra Olivo, “99 Problems for Danger Mouse: A Helter-Skelter Moment in Music History.”

2012 First Year Prize, Personal Narrative, Runner-up—Catarina Massa, “From Scars to Scar Stories.”

2011 Upper Division Prize (WRTG 3020), Runner-up—Bethany Franklin, “Futile Barriers of Protection.”

2011 First Year Prize, Personal Narrative, Runner-up—Kim Ramsey, “In Sanity.”

2011 First Year Prize, Argument, First Place—Kara Bongiovanni, “Hanging in the Balance: The Future of Manned Space Flight.”

2010 First Year Prize, Personal Narrative, Runner-up—Courtney Bigony, “Breathe Easy.”

2009 First Year Prize, Personal Narrative, First Place—Robert Craig Tebbe, “In the Army Now.”

2008-2024 *Knowing Words*, Russell Fox, “Finding Pretty.”

2008 First Year Prize, Personal Narrative, First Place—Russell Fox, “Finding Pretty.”

2008 First Year Prize, Personal Narrative, Runner-up—Desiree Dabice, “The Laundry Room Window.”

2007 First Year Prize, Personal Narrative, First Place—Kelsey Montague, “A Two-Week Recovery.”

2006-2024 *Knowing Words*, Erma Sampson, “Learning to Read.”

2006 First Year Prize, Personal Narrative, First Place—Erma Sampson, “Learning to Read.”

2005-2010 *Knowing Words*, Danielle Koffler, “The New SAT: Is It a Better Assessment of How a Student Will Perform in College?”

2005 Hardy Long Frank Prize (WRTG 3020), Runner-up—Jeffery Shainline, “The Methodology of Ignorance.”

2003 Hardy Long Frank Prize (WRTG 3020), Runner-up—Jessica Wilber, “Eyes in Steinbeck’s ‘The Snake.’”

Professional Service

Elected Instructor Representative, PWR Faculty Advisory Committee, 2025-Present

Member, PWR Lower-Division Committee, 2025-Present

Special Undergraduate Enrichment Program, Volunteer Reader Norlin Scholars, 2025

Member, PWR First-Year Committee, 2013-2025

Elected Instructor Representative, Annual Merit Review Committee, Spring 2023

Member, Buffs-One-Read Select Committee (University Committee), 2021-2023

Special Undergraduate Enrichment Program, Volunteer Reader Norlin Scholars, 2023

Special Undergraduate Enrichment Program, Volunteer Reader Norlin Scholars, 2022

Special Undergraduate Enrichment Program, Volunteer Reader Norlin Scholars, 2021

Elected Instructor Representative, Annual Merit Review Committee, 2018-2020

Special Undergraduate Enrichment Program, Volunteer Reader Norlin Scholars, 2020

Special Undergraduate Enrichment Programs, Volunteer Reader Norlin Scholars, 2019

Special Undergraduate Enrichment Programs, Volunteer Reader Norlin Scholars, 2018
 Elected Instructor Representative, Annual Merit Review Committee, 2016-2018
 Elected Instructor Representative, PWR Faculty Advisory Committee, 2014-2016
 Bylaws Committee, 2014-2017
 Elected Instructor Representative, PWR Faculty Advisory Committee, 2012-2014
 Member, Administrative Assistant II Search Committee, 2013
 Member, PWR Creative Non-Fiction Committee, 2010-2012
 Member, PWR First-Year Committee, 2011-2012
 Elected Instructor Representative, PWR Faculty Advisory Committee, 2008-2010
 Member, PWR Director Search Committee, 2009
 Fiction Co-Editor, *divide* Committee, 2006-2008
 Member, PWR Instructor Search Committee, 2005-2006
 Elected Instructor Representative, PWR Personnel Committee, 2005-2006
 Appointed Instructor Representative, PWR Personnel Committee, 2004-2005
 Member, PWR 3020 Committee, 2003-2004
 Editorial Assistant to *divide*, 2003 to 2006
 Member, PWR First Year Committee, 2002-2003
 Member, UWRP/PWR Awards Committee, 2001-2002
 Grader for Upper Division Writing Exemption Exams
 Member, Upper Division Outcomes Assessment Committee, 2000-2001
 Chair, UWRP First-Year Writing Award Committee, 2000-2001
 Member, Lower Division Outcomes Assessment Committee, 2000

Honors Theses

Member of Thesis Committee (2023-2024) for Emma Blankenship, English; her thesis is entitled “The Evolution of Victorian Thought: An Analysis of Non-human Animals in Victorian Literature.” (Magna Cum Laude)
 Member of Thesis Committee (2022-2023) for Lilli Herpers, Sociology; her thesis is entitled “CU Boulder Students’ Sense of Community on Social Media.” (Summa Cum Laude)
 Member of Thesis Committee (2015-2016) for Madeline Fritz, Psychology/Neuroscience; her thesis is entitled “The Association between Adolescent Marijuana Use and Early Adulthood Depression.”
 Member of Thesis Committee (2012-2013) for Lydia Green, English (Creative Writing); her thesis is entitled “The Ressurrectionist.”
 Member of Thesis Committee (2011- 2012) for Courtney Bigony, Communication; her thesis is entitled “The Role of Story: Authentic Identity in Yoga Work.”
 Member of Thesis Committee (2007) for Robert T. Donald, Philosophy; his thesis is entitled “An Inquiry into Phenomenal Conservatism.”
 Member of Thesis Committee (2006) for Alexis Chandon Billings, Psychology; her thesis is entitled “Demographic Characteristics and Their Effect on Attitudes toward People with Disabilities.”
 Member of Thesis Committee (2005) for Amelia McIntosh, Psychology; her thesis is entitled “Visual Spatial Skills and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.”

Member of Thesis Committee (2004) for Michelle Anne Chostner, Psychology; her thesis is entitled “Analysis of the Colorado Young Offender-Level of Supervision Inventory (CYO-LSI): Predictive Utility, Validity and Equity.”

Independent Studies

Spring 2024, Independent Study with Richie Simeone, Writing for Television
Spring 2023, Independent Study with Richie Simeone, Screenwriting
Spring 2015, Independent Study with Brendan Craine, CNF
Fall 2012, Independent Study with Amy MacNair, CNF

Mentoring

Fall 2025, David Chu (Lecturer)
Spring 2024, Stacey Malik (Lecturer)
Spring 2022, Jason Lagapa (Instructor)
Fall 2021, Jason Lagapa (Lecturer)
Spring 2019, Lara Jacobs (Lecturer)
Fall 2018, Elissa Hutson (Lecturer)
Fall 2017/Spring 2018, Matthew Henningsen (Instructor)
Fall 2016/Spring 2017, Gretchen Lang (GPTI)
Mentor for new PWR faculty, 2003 and 2004

Seminars/Workshops (Professional Development)

Summer Seminar PWR's 2025, May 14-15, 2025
Summer Seminar PWR's 2024, May 16-17, 2024
“Watching Movies: Learn from the Masters and Become a Better Writer,” November 23, 2023 to February 1, 2024 (10-Week, Online). Script University; Bryan Young, Instructor
Robert McKee's Story Seminar, July 11- August 10, 2023 (5-Week, Online)
Summer Seminar PWR's 2023, May 16-17, 2023
Summer Seminar PWR's 2022, May 10-11, 2022
Summer Seminar PWR's 2021, May 12-13, 2021
Story Center's Using WeVideo/Digital Editing, May 4-25, 2020
Summer Seminar PWR's 2020, June 2-3, 2020
PWR's Digital Storytelling Seminar, May 15, 29-30, 2019
Summer Seminar PWR's 2019, May 13-14, 2019
Inaugural Health and Wellness Summit, April 25, 2019 (certificate)
First-Year Committee—Student Writing Assessment Seminar, June 1, 2018
Summer Seminar PWR's 2018, May 15-17, 2018
First-Year Committee—Student Writing Assessment Seminar, June 4, 2017
PWR's Summer Seminar 2017, May 17-18, 2017
CU: SAFE Zone Workshop: LGBTQ Inclusivity, July 6, 2016
PWR's Summer Seminar 2016, May 11-13, 2016
Critical Thinking (CAT) Workshop with Michael Grant, March 31, 2016

PWR's Summer Seminar V (Digital/Multimodal/Multimedia), May 11-13, 2015
PWR's Contemporary Composition and Communication Colloquia, January 23, 2015 and April 17, 2015
PWR's Digital Storytelling Follow-up, October 16, 2014
PWR's Digital Storytelling Seminar, August 18-20, 2014
PWR's Summer Seminar IV (Genre II/Visual Rhetoric/Professional Writing), May 13-15, 2013
Career Services: Gallup's Strengths Quest Educator Training, August 2, 2013 (a one-day seminar/training)
FTEP's 2012 Summer Institute: Increasing Student Engagement and Improving Learning with Educational Technologies and Course Re-design, May 14-18, 2012
PWR's Summer Seminar II (Genre), May 2010
Robert McKee's Story Seminar, July 17-19, 2009
PWR's Inaugural Summer Institute, May 18-29, 2009

Presentations

"First-Year Writing: *Knowing Words*' Current Conversation." Summer Seminar 2025, with Lonni Pearce and Caroline Sinkinson.
"Reading is Sexy." Summer Seminar 2024, with Liz Swan.
"First-Year Writing: *Knowing Words*' Current Conversation." Summer Seminar 2023, with Lonni Pearce and Caroline Sinkinson.
"First-Year Writing: *Knowing Words*' Current Conversation." Summer Seminar 2022, with Sarah Nolan, Lonni Pearce, and Caroline Sinkinson.
"I've Got Something to Say!': Creative Nonfiction and the Teaching of Voice."
Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC), Las Vegas 2013.

Creative Works

Treadmill: A Love Story, a Full-length Feature Screenplay, 2014.
Trickle Down, a Full-length Feature Screenplay. Quarter-Finalist 2013 Page Awards.
A Few Days Late(r), a Full-length Feature Screenplay. Quarter-Finalist 2012 PAGE Awards.
Potter's Field, a Full-length Feature Screenplay. Semi-Finalist 2011 PAGE Awards and Quarter Finalist 2011 AAA Screenwriting Contest.
Back Issues, a Full-length Feature Screenplay. Quarter-Finalist 2010 PAGE Awards.
Stop Motion, a Full-length Feature Screenplay, 2009.

Related Work Experience

Barnes & Noble

Store Manager, Salt Lake City, UT
July 1995 to August 1998

Managed store operations of a 20,000 square-foot, five-million-dollar sales-based retail superstore, including human resources, training, performance reviews, merchandising,

daily operations, and management of staff of 25 to 45 employees. Exceed fiscal year sales expectations all three years by 2% to 5%. Expanded customer base and increased dollar sales transaction average. Hired, trained, and promoted employees to Barnes & Noble management status. Directed the set-up and opening of the Downtown Salt Lake City superstore in July/August 1995.

Barnes & Noble

Assistant Manager of Merchandise and Operations, LaCrosse, WI; Orem, UT
January 1994 to July 1995

Barnes & Noble

Bookseller to Department Supervisor, St. Paul and Minneapolis, MN
June 1993 to January 1994

Meadowbrook Press

Submissions Editor, Deephaven, MN
June 1993 to September 1993

Education

M.A. English/Creative Writing, 1992. University of Colorado, Boulder, CO
3.8/4.0 GPA

B.A. Journalism/Advertising, 1989. San Diego State University, San Diego, CA
3.6/4.0 GPA in Major; 3.36/4.0 GPA overall

Honors

Graduated with Honors in Journalism, San Diego State University
Dean's List Junior and Senior Years, San Diego State University
Member of Kappa Tau Alpha – National Journalism Scholarship Society

Academic Journals

Editorial Assistant to *divide*, most years between 2003 and 2008
Editorial Assistant to *Black Ice*, University of Colorado Literary Magazine, Fall 1991
Editorial Assistant/Copy Editor, *Pacific Review*, San Diego State University Literary Magazine, 1988-1989