

Skills

- Curriculum development
- Research methodology
- Online instruction
- Tech integration
- Engagement strategies
- Literary techniques

Education And Training

12/2004

Master of Fine Arts:

Creative Writing

University of Southern Maine

Portland, ME

08/1999

Master of Science:

Library And Information Science

University of North Texas

Denton, TX

12/1994

Bachelor of Science:

Psychology

University of Nevada, Reno

Reno, NV

Heather Hepler

Summary

Dynamic instructor with a strong background in curriculum development and student engagement. Committed to fostering creativity and critical thinking through innovative teaching methods.

Experience

Central Maine Community Collage -- Instructor

Auburn, ME

2026 – Current

- Teach College Writing, College Writing Seminar, and Public Speaking in asynchronous online formats.

The University of Texas at Tyler – Adjunct Lecturer

Tyler, TX

01/2025 - Current

- Instruct composition, rhetoric, and research skills to develop critical thinking.
- Enhance student engagement through interactive learning techniques, fostering participation and collaboration.
- Modify curriculum to align with learning objectives, improving student understanding.

Rhode Island School of Design, RISD - Instructor

Providence, RI

08/2024 - Current

- Develop curriculum for children's book writing and short fiction, fostering creativity and storytelling skills.
- Manage diverse learning pathways across genres and formats, tailoring instruction to meet individual learner needs.
- Integrate learning technology with educational objectives, enhancing student engagement and participation.

Southern New Hampshire University - Instructor

Manchester, New Hampshire

04/2022 - Current

- Conduct SNHU MFA courses in editing, plot development, and content writing, enhancing student skills and creativity.
- Direct workshops on advanced writing techniques, focusing on worldbuilding and scene construction, to deepen students' narrative capabilities.
- Facilitate exploration of personal voice, genre selection, and audience targeting, empowering students to find their unique writing style.
- Support students in pursuing pathways in creative writing, including mentorship and publishing opportunities.

University Of Maine at Machias - Associate Professor

Machias, Maine

03/2005 - Current

- Instruct Advanced, Intermediate, and Beginning Creative Writing courses, enhancing student engagement in fiction, creative nonfiction, graphic novels, and game design.
- Instruct Contemporary Literature, Special Topics in Literature, Children's Literature, Young Adult Literature, and Composition I and II.
- Help students to develop and demonstrate broad, integrative, and specialized knowledge. essential habits of mind, communicative fluency, and effective problem-solving skills.
- Guide students through research and senior thesis projects, fostering critical thinking and independent inquiry.

Bridgewater College - Instructor

Bridgewater, Virginia

01/2025 - 05/2025

- Developed and instructed Writing Short Fiction.
- Designed course aligning with specific learning outcomes to enhance student comprehension.
- Created recursive lesson plans integrating theory and practical application to foster deeper learning.

Kirkus Reviews - Reviewer and Copywriter

Austin, TX

01/2001 - 06/2019

- Reviewed children's and young adult books for Kirkus Reviews, providing critical insights that informed readers' purchasing decisions.
- Crafted promotional copy for new novels, chapter books, and picture books, enhancing visibility and appeal to target audiences.

The University of Texas at Tyler - Instructor

Tyler, TX

01/2010 - 05/2017

- Instructed undergraduate courses in Composition I and II, improving students' writing proficiency.
- Taught graduate-level creative writing, cultivating advanced literary techniques and critical analysis.
- Evaluated and revised lesson plans to enhance student engagement and learning outcomes.

California Community College Consortium - Instructor

Ridgecrest

03/1999 - 05/2007

- Instructed online courses for faculty pursuing Certificate in Online Instruction and technology courses for students and faculty across California Community College Consortium, enhancing their digital teaching skills.

- Delivered engaging lectures on subject matter to diverse student groups.
- Facilitated interactive discussions to encourage student participation and critical thinking.
- Developed curriculum materials aligned with university standards and learning objectives.

Publications

Books

We Were Beautiful (novel). Harper Collins, New York, New York, April 2019.

Frosted Kisses (novel). Scholastic. New York, New York, October 2015

Love? Maybe. (novel). Dial. New York, New York, January 2012.

The Cupcake Queen (novel). Dutton. New York, New York, October 2009.

Jars of Glass (novel). Dutton. New York, New York, October 2008.

Dream Factory (novel). Dutton. New York, New York, May 2007.

Scrambled Eggs at Midnight (novel). Dutton. New York, New York, May 2006.

Short Stories

"Hushwater." *The Thieving Magpie*. Spring 2026 Issue 33.

"I Am Not Your Happiness." *Southwest Review*. Spring 2005.

Non-fiction

"Herzog: An Exploration." *Cincinnati Review*. Winter 2005.