

Phil Christman

philipchristman@gmail.com

- Education**
- 2007–2010 University of South Carolina Columbia, SC
MFA in Creative Writing-Fiction.
- 2005–2007 Marquette University Milwaukee, WI
MA in English Language and Literature.
- 1996–2001 Calvin College Grand Rapids, MI
BA in English.
- Experience**
- 2013–Pres. University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI
Lecturer II
- Taught ENGL 124-25, 221, 223, and 225.
 - Multiple nominations for Golden Apple Award.
 - Recognized by University Housing as an Honored Instructor.
- 2010–2013 North Carolina Central University Durham, NC
Lecturer
- Taught Rhetoric & Composition and Creative Writing: Poetry.
 - Made links between NCCU English Department and local poets.
- 2007–2010 University of South Carolina Columbia, SC
FYE (First-Year English) Teaching Assistant
- Taught three sections/year for first-year writing program.
 - Served on textbook-revision subcommittee.
 - Contributed to English 102 textbook.
- 2009-2010 University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, NC
Moore Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program Writing Coordinator
- Gave individualized tutoring and weekly writing workshops for 10-week program designed to increase minority admission and retention in graduate programs.
 - Created curricular materials for use in future iterations of MURAP.
- 2005–2007 Marquette University Milwaukee, WI
FYE (First-Year English) Teaching Assistant

- Taught 2-1 load for CCCC-award-winning first-year writing program.

**Service
Work &
Honors**

2019	UM Institute for the Humanities	Ann Arbor, MI
	Institute for the Humanities Summer Fellowship	
	One of seven University of Michigan faculty chosen to receive a summer stipend, office, and workshopping by colleagues during Summer 2019.	
2019	University Housing	Ann Arbor, MI
	Honored Instructor	
	Recognized for “having made a significant impact” on the education of one or more students living in University Housing.	
2019	University of Michigan	Ann Arbor, MI
	Golden Apple Award Nominee	
	Nominated for student-selected teaching award.	
2017-19	LEO Union Council	Ann Arbor, MI
	Ann Arbor Co-Chair	
	Served on steering committee of lecturers’ union.	
2018	University of Michigan	Ann Arbor, MI
	Golden Apple Award Nominee	
	Nominated for student-selected teaching award.	
2017	University of Michigan	Ann Arbor, MI
	EDWP Shared Text Pilot Project	
	Participated in group effort to use a single text across several sections of English 124-125 at University of Michigan.	
2016-18	LEO Communications Committee	Ann Arbor, MI
	Co-Chair	
	Contributed to union online newsletter and social-media efforts and to strategy.	
2015	EDWP	Ann Arbor, MI
	Feinberg Writing Prize Judge	
	Evaluated submissions in undergraduate writing contest (research division).	
2014-Pres.	Prison Creative Arts Project	Ann Arbor, MI
	Michigan Review of Prisoner Creative Writing	
	Assumed editorship of annual journal consisting of writing by Michigan prisoners.	

- 2011 Razor Wire Women: The Blog Durham, NC
razorwirewomen.wordpress.com
Created and operated promotional blog for the book *Razor Wire Women*
(SUNY Press, 2011), an edited volume of writing by, about, and for women
working with the arts in prison.
- 2009-2010 University of South Carolina Columbia, SC
The Arts Institute of the University of South Carolina
Researched possible funding sources for program bringing creative writers as
teachers into local jails and prisons.
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Researched possible funding sources for program bringing creative writers as
teachers into local jails and prisons.
- 2009-2010 University of South Carolina Columbia, SC
English 102 Revision Committee
Suggested readings, discussion questions, paper assignments, and homework
activities for course reader, all of which were adopted.
- 2007-2010 University of South Carolina Columbia, SC
Yemassee Reader
Read and winnowed fiction-submission pile for literary journal.
- 2009 Pepperdine University Malibu, CA
Journal of the Conference on Christianity & Literature
Served as reader for special issue on novelist/essayist Marilynne Robinson.
- 2009 University of South Carolina Columbia, SC
Two Thumbs Up Award
Commended for “making a difference in the education of a student with a
disability” by Delta Alpha Pi, an honors society for students with
disabilities.
- 2008 University of South Carolina Columbia, SC
English 101 Revision Committee
Participated in planning for English 101 curricular overhaul and revisions.
- 2007 University of South Carolina Columbia, SC
Split P Soup: Poetry For the Community

Led poetry-writing workshops for Columbia-area high school students.

2006 Secure Detention Facility Milwaukee, WI

Volunteer Book Club Leader

Initiated and led book club at men's jail facility.

**Selected
Publications**

Midwest Futures: A Book About the Midwest, the Idea of the Future, and Climate. Forthcoming March 2020 from Belt Publications.

“Modular Man: Richard Nixon.” Forthcoming in The Hedgehog Review.

Review of Mark Fisher's K-Punk. Forthcoming in Commonweal.

Interview with Mark Nowak about his book, Social Poetics. Forthcoming on the Poetry Foundation's website.

Review of Eugene McCarragher's The Enchantments of Mammon. Forthcoming in Christian Century.

“The Cinema of Inadvertence, or, Why I Like Bad Movies.” The Hedgehog Review Nov. 4, 2019.

<https://hedgehogreview.com/issues/eating-and-being/articles/the-cinema-of-inadvertence-or-why-i-like-bad-movies?curator=MediaREDEF>.

“So You Want To Be a Writer” (review of John Warner's Why They Can't Write). Plough September 16, 2019.

<https://www.plough.com/en/topics/community/education/so-you-want-to-be-a-writer>.

Review of Linn-Marie Tonstad's Queer Theology. Christian Century September 6, 2019.

<https://www.christiancentury.org/review/books/doing-theology-assumption-queer-people-belong>.

“Poetry and Prophecy, Dust and Ashes” (review of Robert Alter's translation of the Hebrew Bible). Plough July 11, 2019.

<https://www.plough.com/en/topics/culture/literature/poetry-and-prophecy-dust-and-ashes>

Review of Adam Kotsko's Neoliberalism's Demons. The Hedgehog Review 21:1 (2019),

<https://hedgehogreview.com/issues/animals-and-us/articles/friedmans-demon>.

“Mary Midgley, 1919-2018.” The Hedgehog Review 21:1 (2019),

<https://hedgehogreview.com/issues/animals-and-us/articles/mary-midgley-1919-2018>.

Review of Zachary Lazar's Vengeance, Rachel Kushner's The Mars Room, and Sergio De La Pava's Lost Empress. The Christian Century April 2, 2019.

<https://www.christiancentury.org/review/books/fiction-makes-prisons-visible>.

Review of Meghan O’Gieblyn’s Interior States. The Christian Century February 20, 2019.

<https://www.christiancentury.org/review/books/dazzling-essays-flyover-country>

- Review of Deana Thompson's Glimpsing Resurrection: Cancer, Trauma, and Ministry. Christian Century December 11, 2018.
<https://www.christiancentury.org/review/books/when-illness-undoes-us>.
- Review of Michelle Dean's Sharp. The Christian Century July 2, 2018.
<https://www.christiancentury.org/review/books/deep-history-women-s-cultural-criticism>.
- Review of the correspondence between Guy Davenport and Hugh Kenner. The University Bookman November 8, 2018.
<https://kirkcenter.org/reviews/thought-is-a-labyrinth/>
- Review of Keith Gessen's A Terrible Country. Commonweal November 4, 2018. <https://www.commonwealmagazine.org/say-what-you-mean>.
- "Religion is Not Always About Certainty." The Outline August 8, 2018.
<https://theoutline.com/post/5747/unconventional-wisdom-religion-is-not-about-certainty?zd=3&zi=i2ey2rwv>.
- "Guest Post: A Season of Strikes." IHE's Just Visiting.
<https://www.insidehighered.com/blogs/just-visiting/guest-post-season-strikes>.
- Review of Curtis Dawkins's The Greybar Hotel. Commonweal May 21, 2018.
<https://www.commonwealmagazine.org/gift-we-dont-deserve>.
- "What Does It Feel Like To Be a Man?" The Hedgehog Review 20:2 (2018):
<https://hedgehogreview.com/issues/identitieswhat-are-they-good-for/articles/what-is-it-like-to-be-a-man>.
- Review of Kamila Shamsie's Home Fires. The Christian Century November 10, 2017.
<https://www.christiancentury.org/review/books/kamila-shamsie-s-novel-filled-perfect-coincidences>
- "On Being Midwestern." The Hedgehog Review 19(3).
http://iasc-culture.org/THR/THR_article_2017_Fall_Christman.php.
Subsequently anthologized in Red State Blues (Cleveland, OH: Belt Publishing, 2018), and given a Sidney Award by columnist David Brooks (<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/28/opinion/2017-sidney-awards-part-2.html>).
- Review of Emmanuel Carrere's The Kingdom. The Christian Century October 18, 2017.
<https://www.christiancentury.org/review/books/rise-and-fall-emmanuel-carrere-s-faith>
- Review of Leonard DeLorenzo's Work of Love. The Christian Century August 10, 2017. <https://www.christiancentury.org/review/books/where-are-dead>
- "A Defiant Imperfection" (review of Elif Batuman's The Idiot). Commonweal July 10, 2017. <https://www.commonwealmagazine.org/defiant-imperfection>
- Review of Mark D. Jordan's Teaching Bodies. The Christian Century May 5, 2017. <https://www.christiancentury.org/review/pedagogy-embodied>
- Review of Han Kang's Human Acts. The Christian Century April 5, 2017.
<https://www.christiancentury.org/review/novel-frightening-times>

- “Fanfares for the Common Man” (review of J.D. Vance’s Hillbilly Elegy, Arlie Russell Hochschild’s Strangers In Their Own Land, and Nancy Isenberg’s White Trash). The Hedgehog Review Spring 2017.
- “The Christians, the Soviets, and the Bible” (review of TV show The Americans). Christianity Today March 8, 2016.
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2016/february-web-only/christians-soviets-and-bible.html>
- “Coatless in the Void” (review of Ta-Nehisi Coates’s Between the World and Me). The Christian Courier. January 3, 2016.
- “Italo Calvino Revisited.” The Christian Courier. September 28, 2015.
- “Pride at the Root of Racism: On the Theology of J. Kameron Carter.” The Christian Courier. Aug 24, 2015.
- Untitled review-essay on James Wood’s The Nearest Thing to Life. Books & Culture. Aug 2015.
<http://www.booksandculture.com/articles/webexclusives/2015/august/nearest-thing-to-life.html?paging=off>
- “The Introduction of the Byline: On Renata Adler.” The Periphery. July 1, 2015.
<http://www.theperipherymag.com/essay-the-introduction-of-the-byline>.
- Review-essay on Penelope Fitzgerald. The Christian Courier. Jan 12, 2015.
- Review-essay on feminist theologian Sarah Coakley. The Christian Courier. October 26, 2014.
- Review of Matt Taibbi’s The Divide: American Injustice in the Age of the Wealth Gap. The Christian Courier. Sept 6, 2014.
- “Recovering Muriel Spark” (essay). The Christian Courier. June 23, 2014.
- “MOOCs and Bodies.” The Christian Courier. Aug 29, 2013.
- Review-essay on David Foster Wallace’s The Pale King. Books & Culture. May 2011.
<http://www.booksandculture.com/articles/webexclusives/2011/may/paleking.html>.
- “Category Mistakes” (fiction). Forthcoming in The Mercy Review.
- Review of Marilynne Robinson’s Absence of Mind. Forthcoming in Identity Theory.
- Review of Michael Lewis’s The Big Short. Forthcoming in Identity Theory.
- Review of George Scialabba’s What Are Intellectuals Good For? Identity Theory. Feb 26, 2010.
http://www.identitytheory.com/lit/christman_scialabba.php.
- Review of Declan Kibberd’s Ulysses and Us. Identity Theory. Feb 26, 2010.
http://www.identitytheory.com/lit/christman_ulysses.php.
- “Farewell, Amazon” (essay). The Banner. Feb 2010.
- “The Truth In Fiction” (essay). The Banner. Dec 2009.
- “The Library” (fiction). The Mercy Review. Oct 27, 2009.
<http://themercuryreview.weebly.com/the-library-by-phil-christman.html>.

- “The Enormous St. Blog” (fiction). Annalemma. Sept 23, 2009.
<http://annalemma.net/features/the-enormous-st-blog.html>.
- Untitled review of Gary Lutz’s Stories in the Worst Way. Identity Theory. July 28, 2009. http://www.identitytheory.com/lit/christman_lutz.php.
- “The Imagination of Man’s Heart” (review of Roberto Bolano’s 2666). Books & Culture. November 24, 2008.
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/bc/columns/bookoftheweek/081124b.htm>.
- Review of Kathleen Ferraro’s Neither Angels Nor Demons and Wally Lamb’s I’ll Fly Away. NWSA Journal 20:2 (2008).
- “The Best American Novelist You’ve Never Heard Of” (review of David Rhodes’s Driftless). Books & Culture. Sept 15, 2008.
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/bc/columns/bookoftheweek/080915a.html>
- “A Tabernacle in the Dark” (review of Cormac McCarthy’s The Road). Books & Culture. Sept/Oct 2007.
- Review of Gilbert Hernandez’s Sloth. Paste Magazine 23 (August 2006).
- “The Go-Betweens: Literate and Long-Running” (feature/interview). Paste Magazine 16 (June/July 2005).
- “Standing By Words: African Novels” (books column). Paste Magazine 14 (Feb/March 2005).
- “What Do You Mean, ‘Moral’ Fiction?” (review of Martin Amis’s Yellow Dog). Books & Culture. Jan 24, 2005.
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/bc/columns/bookoftheweek/050124.html>.
- “Standing By Words: Reconstructing the Garden” (book column). Paste Magazine 13 (Dec 2004/Jan 2005).
- “Getting Lost in Translation” (review of several novels). Paste Magazine 13 (December 2004/Jan 2005).
- Review of Marilynne Robinson’s Gilead. Paste Magazine 13 (December 2004/Jan 2005).
- Review of Stanley Hauerwas’s Performing the Faith. Paste Magazine 13 (December 2004/Jan 2005).
- “Standing By Words: Edward Abbey” (book column). Paste Magazine 12 (Oct/Nov 2004).
- Review of David Foster Wallace’s Oblivion. Paste Magazine 12 (Oct/Nov 2004).
- Review of James Woods’s The Irresponsible Self (book review). Paste Magazine 12 (Oct/Nov 2004).
- “Rilo Kiley: Restless For Adventure” (feature/interview). Paste Magazine 11 (Aug/Sept 2004).
- “Standing By Words: John Gardner’s Moral Artistry” (book column). Paste Magazine 11 (Aug/Sept 2004).
- “Standing By Words: Wendell Berry’s Unique Vision” (book column). Paste Magazine 10 (June/July 2004).
- Review of several Noam Chomsky books. Paste Magazine 10 (June/July 2004).

- Review of B.H. Fairchild's Early Occult Memory Systems of the Upper Midwest. Paste Magazine 9 (April/May 2004).
- "The Mekons Return to Punk Rock" (feature/interview). Paste Magazine 8 (Feb/March 2004).
- Review of Toni Morrison's Love. Paste Magazine 7. Nov/Dec 2003.
- "Guided By Voices: The Prolific Lo-Fi Masters Slow Down and Tighten Up" (feature/interview). Paste Magazine 7. Nov/Dec 2003.
- "Skeptical Resurrection" (review of various adaptations of Stanislaw Lem's novel Solaris). Books & Culture Feb/March 2003.

- Conferences, Readings, Guest Lectures**
- 2020 Belt University Cleveland, OH
Will read from Midwest Futures and be interviewed by Dr. Tressie McMillan Cottom (VCU-Sociology).
- 2018 Festival of Faith and Writing Grand Rapids, MI
Organized and moderated panel "Writing Behind Bars."
- 2018 University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI
Guest-lectured in Laura Thomas's RCHUMS 320: Advanced Narration on March 13.
- 2017 Doxacon Washington, DC
Presented paper "'More Life is the Unconscious Cry of All Creation': Death in Doctor Who, Season 8."
- 2017 MURAP Conference Durham, NC
Presented paper "The Multiple Consciousness of Fran Ross's Oreo."
- 2015 ESR Colloquium 2015: Words Made Flesh Richmond, IN
Presented close reading of selected texts from Michigan Review of Prisoner Creative Writing. Led workshop on close reading as a spiritual practice.
- 2015 CCCC 2015: Risk and Reward Tampa, FL
Presented paper as part of panel Narrative Truth: The Risks and Rewards of Prison Research, Writing, and Teaching.
- 2014 Structural Racism in the United States Durham, NC

Presented paper “It Strikes a Blank Wall, or, How To Suppress Black Experimental Writing: The Case of William Demby.”

2013 Race and Social Justice in the Internet Age Durham, NC
Presented paper “Be Sane, Be Sane, Be Sane: Literary Fiction, Social Media, and the Surprising Value of Oversharing.”

2009 Confluence: Writers Responding to Art Columbia, SC
Read poems “Concrete Specific Detailed” and “Abstractions” at Columbia Museum of Art in conjunction with major exhibition of twentieth-century abstract painting.

2008 South Atlantic MLA Louisville, KY
Read essay “I Ain’t Got Rhythm: Biology, Creativity and Getting It Done” at creative nonfiction writers’ panel.

2007 Women and Creativity (Marquette Univ.) Milwaukee, WI
Presented paper “‘You Forget Fast As Snow’: Memory and Invention in the Work of Carol Bly.”

2006 Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature Lansing, MI
Presented paper “David Rhodes: The Great Lost Midwestern Writer” at annual meeting of SSML members.

2006 Festival of Faith and Writing Grand Rapids, MI
Panelist at writers’ festival.