

Pamela Manasco

Education

MFA, Creative Writing - Poetry, University of North Carolina Wilmington

Thesis: *String Theory* (poetry)

Advisor: Michael White; Committee: Mark Cox, Sebastian Matthews

BA, English, University of Alabama

English Honors Program

Minor, Spanish

Teaching Experience

English Lecturer, University of Alabama in Huntsville, Fall 2026-present

- Fall 2026: *EH 101, EH 244*

Graduate Teaching Assistant, UAH, 2025-2026

- *EH 101 & 102*, Instructor of Record

Instructor, Alabama A&M University, 2018-2026

- *ENG 322, Writing for Digital Media*: new course developed and taught; students write portfolios of digital media content, including social media, websites, creative nonfiction, and researched reporting
- *ENG 321, Poetry Writing*: traditional forms and free verse; equal time given to reading, discussing, and writing about modern American poems and poets, and participating in poetry workshops leading to the production of a revised portfolio
- *ENG 304, Advanced Composition*: students write and research papers based on individual majors, and use the citation style (MLA or APA) representative of chosen fields; lecture and hyflex
- *ENG 010, Developmental English*: introduction to college writing; focuses on grammar and mechanics; lecture, hyflex, and synchronous online
- *ENG 101E, Composition I Enriched*: replaced ENG 010 in Fall 2025; includes extended focus on writing process and required tutoring sessions
- *ENG 101, Composition I*: Themed sections: Heroes vs. Villains, Science Fiction, Food Writing, etc.; lecture, hyflex, synchronous online, and asynchronous online
- *ENG 102, Composition II*: Themed sections: Speculative Fiction, Fairytales, etc.; lecture, synchronous online, and asynchronous online

Adjunct Instructor, Alabama A&M University, 2016-2018

- ENG 010, Developmental English
 - ENG 101, Composition I
 - ENG 102, Composition II
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University Service

Committees

UAH

- Creative Writing Committee
- Recruitment Committee

AAMU

- Creative Writing Committee Chair 2021-2025, Member 2026: Gwendolyn Brooks Poetry Contest: created submission forms & advertising; organized submissions; oversaw faculty judging; *The 1875 Review*: Managing Editor & creator of AAMU's HBCU creative writing journal; first issue published April 2025; edited website and submission form; created advertising materials; oversaw student and faculty editors; Creative Writing Workshops: selected themes and speakers; created advertising materials
- Newsletter Committee Chair, 2023-2026: English & Modern Languages' Department Newsletter: wrote articles and coordinated assignments for faculty members and ENG 322 students; created newsletter layout in Canva; edited, proofread, and finalized layout; published twice a year
- Advising: English Major Advisor, 2020-2026
- Recruitment and Retention
- Composition I & II

Professional Development

2024, Association of College and University Educators Certification: completion of a 25-module course in effective teaching practice framework requiring the implementation of evidence-based instructional approaches. The certificate is co-issued by the American Council on Education and distinguishes faculty for their commitment to educational excellence and student success.

2024, AAMU seminar: Recognizing Symptoms and Assisting Students with Depression
2023, Online Instructor Recertification; original certification Spring 2019

2021, AAMU seminar: Create & Manage Engaging Synchronous Online Discussions
2019-2020, Freshman Faculty Learning Committee 4 Member

2019, CETL Professional Development Workshop: Active Learning Teaching Strategies

2019, Freshman Faculty Learning Committee Workshop: Advising

2019, Freshman Faculty Learning Committee Workshop: Active Learning Strategies
2018, New Faculty Workshop series: Research and Grant Opportunities

Conference Presentations

2026, ACETA: Pedagogy Presentation, "Roll the Dice: Using Storytelling Board Games in Freshman Composition Courses"
2025, UAH Research Cornucopia: Creative Panel, "The Opposite of Safety:" Unconventional Poetic Interpretations of Malnourishment," with Cecilia Duykers and Allison Flanagan
2020, Alabama Library Association: "Diversity in Academic Poetry Collections," with Michael Manasco (delayed due to COVID)

Professional Affiliations

ACETA
Alabama State Poetry Society
Association of Writers & Writing Programs
Sigma Tau Delta

Creative Publications

Poetry

forthcoming 2026: 1 poem, *Southern Humanities Review*
forthcoming 2026: 1 poem, *The Comstock Review*
"Cathedral Caverns," *Prairie Schooner*, Summer 2026: print only (Volume 100 Number 2):
<https://prairieschooner.unl.edu/issue/summer-2026/>
"On Asking God to Make You Something Else," *Thimble Literary Magazine*, Fall 2025,
<https://www.thimblelitmag.com/2025/07/23/on-asking-god-to-make-you-something-else/>.
"On Finally Understanding That Fossils are Not Bones," *Susurrus*, Summer 2025:
<https://www.susurrusthemagazine.com/on-finally-understanding-that-fossils-are-not-bones>.
"The Saint of Unknown Birds," *Susurrus*, Summer 2025:
<https://www.susurrusthemagazine.com/the-saint-of-unknown-birds>.
"A Happy Poem," *The Louisville Review*, Spring 2025: print only (#96).
"Intrusive Thoughts," *Bear Review*, April 2025:
<https://www.bearreview.com/11-2>
"Waiting for an Answer," *Split Rock Review*, May 2025:
<https://www.splitrockreview.org/pamela-manasco>

"After Telling My Therapist the Anxiety is Worse," *RockPaperPoem*, March 2025:
<https://rockpaperpoem.com/After-Telling-My-Therapist-the-Anxiety-is-Worse.html>

"Little Bluestem," *Identity Theory*, March 2025:
<https://www.identitytheory.com/little-bluestem-manasco/>

"Small and Endangered Creatures," *Poets for Science*, February 2025:
<https://poetsforscience.org/small-and-endangered-creatures/>

"Lexapro, 10mg," *Lunch Ticket*, August 2024:
<https://lunchticket.org/lexapro-10mg/>

"Self-Portrait with C-PTSD," *Lunch Ticket*, August 2024:
<https://lunchticket.org/lexapro-10mg/>

"On the Worst Days I Make a List of Reasons," *Anti-Heroine Chic*, July 2024 :
<https://heroinchic.weebly.com/blog/poetry-by-pamela-manasco>

"4am," *Two Hawks Quarterly*, April 2024:
<https://twohawksquarterly.com/poetry/2024/04/19/4-am-by-pamela-manasco/>

"The Dragonfly," *Two Hawks Quarterly*, April 2024:
<https://twohawksquarterly.com/poetry/2024/04/19/the-dragonfly-by-pamela-manasco/>

"Gardening Instructions for New Mothers," *Susurrus*, April 2024:
<https://www.susurrusthemagazine.com/issue-eight>

"Small Delights," *Susurrus*, April 2024:
<https://www.susurrusthemagazine.com/issue-eight>

"A Story About Stars," *The Midwest Quarterly*, Spring 2024 (print only)

"An Interesting Fact About Tardigrades," *The Midwest Quarterly*, Spring 2024 (print only)

"Depression, Spring," *Kitchen Table Quarterly*, April 2024:
<https://www.kitchentablequarterly.org/manasco-depression-spring>

"Walking Stick," *SWWIM Every Day*, April 2024:
<https://www.swwim.org/swwimeveryday/2024/4/4/walking-stick>

"Abecedarian for Alabama Libraries," *Rattle*, March 2024:
<https://www.rattle.com/abecedarian-for-alabama-libraries-by-pamela-manasco/>

"there is no patron saint of worms," *Canyon Voices*, Fall 2023:
https://issuu.com/asucanyonvoices/docs/canyon_voices_issue28

"Home," *Palooka*, 2023:
<https://www.palookamag.com/13.html>

"This Body," *Palooka*, 2023:
<https://www.palookamag.com/13.html>

"10 Years After the Murders," *Palooka*, 2023:
<https://www.palookamag.com/13.html>

"Out of Reach," *Palooka*, 2023:
<https://www.palookamag.com/13.html>

"Clouds, July," *New South Journal*, 2022:
<https://newsouthjournal.com/current-issue/>

"1992," *New South Journal*, 2022:
<https://newsouthjournal.com/current-issue/>
"Great Black Wasp," *New South Journal*, 2022:
<https://newsouthjournal.com/current-issue/>
"August Song," *Rust + Moth*, Summer 2022:
<https://rustandmoth.com/work/august-song/>
"Thermodynamics," *Descant*, October 2020 (print only)
"I Tell My Son," *Birmingham Arts Journal*, July 2019 (print only)
"The Daemon Lover," *Strange Horizons*, September 2014:
<http://strangehorizons.com/poetry/the-daemon-lover/>
"String Theory," *2River View*, Winter 2011:
http://www.2river.org/2RView/15_2/poems/manasco.html
"Anatomica," *2River View*, Winter 2011:
http://www.2river.org/2RView/15_2/poems/manasco.html

Nonfiction

"How to Talk to Your First Grader About School Shootings," *McSweeney's Internet Tendency*, May 2022:
<https://www.mcsweeneys.net/articles/how-to-talk-to-your-first-grader-about-school-shootings>
"How to Successfully Lie Through Your Pre-K Parent-Teacher Zoom Conference," *McSweeney's Internet Tendency*, May 2020:
<https://www.mcsweeneys.net/articles/how-to-successfully-lie-through-your-pre-k-parent-teacher-zoom-conference>
"An Open Letter to My School District's Second Grade Teachers Regarding Their School Supplies List," *McSweeney's Internet Tendency*, August 2019:
<https://www.mcsweeneys.net/articles/an-open-letter-to-my-school-districts-second-grade-teachers-regarding-their-school-supplies-list>
"Postpartum Depression Defined" (republication), *Elle*, April 2016:
<https://www.elle.com/life-love/a35259/postpartum-depression-defined/>;
originally published in *The Toast*, December 2015:
<http://the-toast.net/2015/12/07/postpartum-depression-defined/>

Honors and Awards

Poetry

Best of the Net Nomination: "Little Bluestem," *Identity Theory*, 2026
Semifinalist, The Airlie Prize Poetry Book Contest, 2025
Finalist, *The Louisville Review's* National Poetry Book Contest, 2025
Pushcart Prize nomination: "A Story About Stars," *The Midwest Quarterly*, 2025

Pushcart Prize nomination: "Depression, Spring," *Kitchen Table Quarterly*, 2025
Alabama State Council on the Arts poetry fellowship winner, 2024
Stephen Meats Poetry Prize winner, 2024
AWP, Writer to Writer 18th season mentee; paired with mentor Patricia Clark, 2023
Alabama State Poetry Society 2022 Fall Contest: 1st place, Category 1: ASPS Fall Contest: "Women in Flight"
Alabama State Poetry Society 2022 Fall Contest: 2nd place, Category 2: Quantum Contest: "Supernova"
Alabama State Poetry Society 2021 Spring Contest: 1st place, Category 1: ASPS Spring Contest: "This Body"
Alabama State Poetry Society 2021 Spring Contest: 1st place, Category 4: The Karen Edwards Memorial Award: "Out of Reach"
Alabama State Poetry Society 2021 Spring Contest: 1st place, Category 5: Something Cracked Contest: "1994"

Fiction

"Monarch," winner, 2020 *American Literary Review* Flash Flood Contest, June 2020:
<https://americanliteraryreview.com/2020/06/05/flash-flood-winner-pamela-manasco/>

"Monarch," semifinalist, 2019 *Bat City Review* Short Prose Contest, April 2019

Plays

"Speed Dating for the Recently Deceased," winner, 2022 Rocket City Playwrights Series

"Terminal," finalist, 2021 Rocket City Playwrights Series

"The Undertakers," second place, 2020 Rocket City Playwrights Series

"Flour, Butter, Salt," second place, 2019 Rocket City Playwrights Series

"Flour, Butter, Salt" and "The Undertakers" were selected for performances by the Covered Bridge Players in their Spring 2021 Survey of Alabama Playwrights at the Neely Theatre in Oneonta, AL

"Flour, Butter, Salt" and "Terminal" were selected for performances in the Carnegie Art in Words Series at the Carnegie Visual Arts Center in Decatur, AL in Summer 2022

Editorial Experience

Writer, *NoveList*, 2008-2021: read assigned books and developed Book Discussion Guides, including author biography, summary, discussion questions, and further reading; selected titles include Yaa Gyasi's *Transcendent Kingdom*, Celeste Ng's

Little Fires Everywhere, Elizabeth Gilbert's *The Signature of All Things*, and Sarah Vowell's *The Wordy Shipmates*, among many others

Articles editor, *Strange Horizons* (digital publication), 2009-2013: read, reviewed, and selected article submissions for publication; uploaded articles to website via FTP, using XHTML to code entries and add images; wrote articles for selected series; conducted online interviews and round tables; wrote blog posts for the website

Poetry editor, *42opus* (digital publication), 2006-2008: selected poems for publication; uploaded poems to the site for publication

Internship, *Bootleg Magazine*, 2008: wrote and edited feature articles, interviews, personal essays, and book/movie/music reviews

Project Manager, UNCW Publishing Laboratory, 2007-2008: editing, page and title design, and publication of the children's book, *A Job for Arabella*

Poetry editor, *Ecotone*, 2005-2008

Staff reader, *Marr's Field Journal*, 2002-2004: poetry