

ADAM REID SEXTON
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EDUCATION

M.F.A., Columbia University, New York, NY
B.A., University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Yale University Department of English, New Haven, CT

Course Director

English 121: Styles of Professional Prose (Fall 2024-present)

Lecturer

English 121: Styles of Professional Prose – Writing about Music (created course)
(Spring 2016-present)

English 404: The Craft of Fiction (Fall 2014-present; Summer Sessions 2017-19,
2023-24)

English 120: Reading and Writing the Modern Essay (Fall 2013-23)

Advisor

English 489: Creative Writing Concentration Senior Project (Fall 2017-Fall 2019,
Spring 2021, Spring 2022-Spring 2025)

English 487: Tutorial in Writing (Spring 2016, Fall 2018, Spring 2022-Spring 2023)

Tutor

English 450: Daily Themes (Spring 2014)

Yale in London, Paul Mellon Centre, London, UK

Lecturer

(Summer 2022)

British Studies 214: Writing about Music in the UK (created course)

Yale University School of Art, New Haven, CT

Critic

(Fall 2016-present)

- Advise second-year MFA candidates in Graphic Design on thesis book preparation

Yale Poorvu Center for Teaching and Learning, New Haven, CT

Trumbull Residential College Writing Tutor

(Fall 2014-present)

- Meet one-on-one for 300 hours annually with students seeking advice on academic and creative writing
- Meet monthly with fellow Residential College Writing Tutors, and often with guest experts, to discuss writing pedagogy

Columbia University School of the Arts, New York, NY

Adjunct Assistant Professor

Reading Fiction for Writers (created course) (Summer 2015)

Nonfiction Workshop (Summer 2014-15)

Departmental Representative, Writing

- Coordinated all summer courses, hired faculty (Summer 2013-15)

New York University School of Continuing and Professional Studies, New York, NY

Associate Director, Humanities, Arts, and Writing

(2007-2013)

- Coordinated curriculum development, course scheduling, and teaching assignments in writing, journalism, publishing, literature, film studies, performance, and music
- Managed more than 150 instructors, including recruitment, development, and evaluation
- Created Craft of the Story intensive, student-faculty reading series, and series of free classes open to the public at NYU Bookstore

Instructor

(2001-2007)

Beginning and Advanced Nonfiction Writing

Nonfiction Tutorial

Beginning Fiction Writing

Fiction Tutorial

Reading for Writers (created course)

Reading *Moby-Dick* (created course)

Philip Roth's Alter Egos (created course)

Parsons School of Design, The New School, New York, NY

Instructor

(2000-2007)

Critical Reading and Writing I

Critical Reading and Writing II

Literature and Composition I

Literature and Composition II: Race and Gender, Rock and Rap (created course)

Rutgers the State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ

Lecturer

(1997)

Expository Writing

Marymount Manhattan College, New York, NY

Instructor

(1993-1995)

Intermediate and Advanced Creative Writing

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Yale University

Invited presenter

- Lecture “What a Narrative Is/Isn’t,” Department of Graphic Design, Yale School of Art (scheduled for Fall 2024)
- Lecture “How We Tell Stories,” Social Gerontology and Health Lab, Yale School of Public Health (2024)
- Plenary lecture “Characterization through Narrative,” English 450: Daily Themes (2023-24)
- Lecture “What a Narrative Is and Isn’t,” Yale Summer Sessions Lecture Series (2023)
- Plenary lecture “Reading Like a Writer,” Yale Writer’s Conference (2017)
- Presentation on theme “Teaching for Transfer,” Spring Teaching Writing Meeting, Yale English Department (2017)
- Plenary lecture on fiction writing, English 123: Introduction to Creative Writing (2015-16)

Chair

- English Department Senior Essay Prize subcommittee (2024)
- English Department Fiction Prize subcommittee (2023-24)
- Trumbull College Mellon Research Grant committee (2020-present)

Member

- Trumbull Head of College nomination committee (2023)
- English Department Undergraduate Prize committee (2022-present)
- Yale Daily News* Wallace Fiction Prize jury (2016-18)

Curriculum contributor

- Yale Prison Education Initiative (Spring 2021)

Facilitator

- FAS SAL2 Faculty Virtual Writing Retreats (2020, 2021)

Second reader

- English 489: Writing Concentration Senior Project (Spring 2017-Spring 2024)

Senior Essay advisor

- American Studies 491 (Spring-Fall 2021, Spring 2023)
- Humanities 491 (Spring 2019, Spring 2021)
- Political Science 491 (Spring 2020)
- Ethics, Politics & Economics 491 (Fall 2016)

Mentor

- Silliman College Fellows Student Mentor (Fall 2016-Spring 2017)

Coordinator

- Silliman College Fellows (Fall 2016-Fall 2017)
- Silliman College Mellon Forum (Fall 2015-Spring 2016)

Academic advisor

- Eli Whitney Students Program Advisor (Fall 2020-present)
- College Advisor (formerly First-Year Advisor) (Fall 2019-present)
- Sophomore Faculty Advisor (Fall 2014-Spring 2018)

New York University

Member

“Theorizing Sound Writing” Humanities Initiative Working Research Group
(2010-12)

University Distinguished Teaching Award nomination committee (2010-11)

SCPS academic resources committee (2010)

SCPS 75th Anniversary Literary and Visual Arts Festival committee (2010)

Parsons School of Design, The New School

Member

Critical Studies curriculum committee (2002-04)

Co-chair

New Media faculty workshop (2002-03)

ACADEMIC HONORS

Trumbull College Fellow, Yale University (2019-present)

Silliman College Fellow, Yale University (2015-2019)

Benjamin Franklin Scholar, University of Pennsylvania (1980-84)

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Instructional Faculty Conference Travel Grant, FAS, Yale University (2024)

Discretionary Funds, English Department, Yale University (2023-24)

Distinguished University Teaching Award (Finalist), The New School (2007)

Adjunct Faculty Development Fund Grant, SCPS, New York University (2006)

Professional Equity Project Grant, The New School (2003)

Faculty Development Fund Grant, The New School (2002-2003)

Jersey Scholarship (merit-based), School of the Arts, Columbia University (1992)

Elser Scholarship (merit-based), School of the Arts, Columbia University (1991)

BOOKS

Author

Difficult Listening: Art Rock Reconsidered
(forthcoming from Routledge Publishing)

Master Class in Fiction Writing: Techniques from Austen, Hemingway, and Other Greats
(McGraw-Hill 2005)

Editor

Love Stories: A Literary Companion to Tennis
(Citadel 2003; paperback edition *Tennis Shorts* 2004)

- Contributors include Martin Amis, Margaret Atwood, Anne Lamott, Vladimir Nabokov, John Updike, and David Foster Wallace

Rap on Rap

(Dell 1995)

- Contributors include Michael Eric Dyson, Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Spike Lee, Tricia Rose, Andrew Ross, and Brent Staples
- Acquired by the W.E.B. DuBois Institute for African and African American Research, Harvard University

Desperately Seeking Madonna

(Dell 1993; Japanese translation Hakusuisha 1994)

- Contributors include Nicholson Baker, bell hooks, Camille Paglia, and Lucy Sante
- Acquired by the Library and Archives of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame

Adapter

Hamlet, Julius Caesar, Macbeth, and Romeo and Juliet: The Manga Editions

(Wiley 2008; Indonesian translation Penerbit PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama 2008)

- Series of graphic novels for younger readers, in collaboration with graphic artists Tintin Pantoja, Hyeondo Park, Eve Grandt and Candice Chow, and Yali Lin
- *Hamlet: The Manga Edition* excerpted in International Baccalaureate textbook *English A: Language and Literature* (Oxford University Press, 2019)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Writer

Features and reviews published in the *Baltimore Sun*, the *Boston Phoenix*, the *Dallas Observer*, the *New York Times*, the *Philadelphia City Paper*, the *Village Voice*, and other periodicals

Fiction and essays published in *How Does That Make You Feel? A Shockingly Honest Look at the Therapeutic Experience from Both Sides of the Couch* (Seal Press, 2016), the *Bellevue Literary Review*, *Edible Manhattan*, the *John Updike Review* (forthcoming), the *Mississippi Review*, *Palimpsest*, and *Post Road*; and on babble.com, offassignment.com, underwaternewyork.com, and other websites

CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA, LECTURES, PANELS, AND READINGS

Co-director

Eighth Biennial John Updike Society Conference, New York, NY (scheduled for 2025)

Presenter

EMP Pop Conference, Thornton School of Music, USC, Los Angeles, CA (2024)

- Delivered paper “The Sincerest Form of Legacy: Tribute Bands as Archivists”

- Yale Model United Nations 50, Omni Hotel, New Haven, CT (2024)
- Delivered lecture “What Is a Story?”
- EMP Pop Conference, Clive Davis Institute, New York University, Brooklyn, NY (2023)
- Delivered paper “‘Well, I Know that You’re in Love with Him’: Dances in Gyms in Hollywood Movies”
- Cape Cod Writers Center Virtual Conference, Hyannis, MA (2021)
- Taught class on point of view in fiction writing
- Prince Symposium, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA (2019)
- Delivered paper “Cool as the Other Side of the Record”
- Prince Symposium, New York University, Brooklyn, NY (2018)
- Delivered paper “Let’s *Gesamtkunstwerk*: Prince’s Lovesexy Tour as Wagnerian Total Artwork”
- Cambridge Writers’ Workshop Spring Writing Retreat, Portland, OR (2017)
- Taught classes “Structuring Your Short Story” and “Playing with Point of View”
- Fifty-first Cape Cod Writers Center Conference, Hyannis, MA (2016)
- Taught classes “Writing with the Masters” and “Point of View”
- Big Book Getaway, Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT (2014)
- Delivered lecture on structure in storytelling
- Program in Renaissance Studies, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL (2015)
- Delivered Hudson Strode Lecture in the Age of Shakespeare: “Classics, Illustrated”
- Third Biennial John Updike Society Conference, Alvernia University, Reading, PA (2014)
- Delivered paper “On Teaching *The Centaur* to Art School Students”
- First Biennial John Updike Society Conference, Alvernia University, Reading, PA (2010)
- Delivered paper “Wild About Harry: Popular Music in Updike’s Rabbit Tetralogy”
- Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, D.C. (2008)
- Co-delivered presentation in “Words on Will” series on adapting *Romeo and Juliet*
- Kelly Writer’s House, the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (1999, 2006)
- Delivered lectures on structure and point of view in fiction writing

Moderator

- “*The Witches of Eastwick*: Novel and Film” panel, American Literature Association Conference, Chicago, IL (2024)
- “Minneapolis Royalty” panel, EMP Pop Conference, New York University, New York, NY (2012)
- Rap on Rap* panel, Astor Place branch, Barnes and Noble Booksellers, New York, NY (1995)

Panelist

- “The Making of *Stop Making Sense*” panel, School of the Arts, Columbia University, New York, NY (2024)
- How Does That Make You Feel?* contributors panel, Queens Book Festival, Long Island City, NY (2017)
- “Writing about Music” panel, WYBC Radio, New Haven, CT (2017)
- “A Writer’s Work” panel, Big Book Getaway, Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT (2015)

Graduate school and artist residencies panel, Summer Intensive Creative Writing Workshop, McGhee Division, New York University, New York, NY (2009-10)
“Breakfast with Editors” panel, Summer Intensive Creative Writing Workshop, McGhee Division, New York University, New York, NY (2004)

Creator and moderator

NYU-SCPS reading series, KGB Bar, New York, NY (2009-13)

Featured reader

Yale English Department (via Zoom), New Haven, CT
NYU Book Store, New York, NY
Cell Theater, New York, NY
NYU Torch Club, New York, NY
Pete’s Candy Store, Brooklyn, NY
The Knitting Factory, New York, NY

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

***Time*, New York, NY**

Assistant News Desk Editor (1986-88)

***Philadelphia City Paper*, Philadelphia, PA**

Contributing Editor of Movies and Music (1984-85)

***New York Times*, New York, NY**

News Assistant (Summers 1981-82)

PEER REVIEWING

Routledge Publishing, New York, NY

Filed report on book proposal to Music department (2017)

Bloomsbury Publishing, New York, NY

Filed reports on book proposals to Music and Sound Studies department (2017)

University of Texas Press, Austin, TX

Filed report on title in American Music series (2015)

INTERVIEWS

Interviewed on teaching, writing, literature, and music by the *New York Times*, npr.org, *Poets & Writers*, *Time*, the *Washington Post*, WYBC radio, and the *Yale Daily News*

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association of Writers and Writing Programs
Authors Guild
John Updike Society

REPRESENTATION

Bob Mecoy
Creative Book Services
460 West 24th Street
Suite 3E
New York, NY 10011
(212) 226-1936