

CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Andru Matthews

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SUMMARY STATEMENT

Teaching is a practice I pursue with enthusiasm. I particularly value opportunities to teach reading and writing, which I do through an iterative and integrated approach that focuses on process and employs a student-centered engagement with texts, their purpose and audience, and the strategies they employ to achieve the writers' goals.

EDUCATION

City College of New York (2003 – 2006)

Master of Arts, English - Creative Writing

Coursework included workshops for fiction and translation, and literature studies in Trauma and Literature, World War II and Literature, History of the Short Story, Detective Fiction, and English Teaching Techniques.

Thesis: "A Reading Life" (a novella)

Furman University (1990 – 1994)

Bachelor of Arts, Political Philosophy

Curriculum focused on the history of political theory from Plato to Rawls with special emphasis upon the social and ethical implications of these theories.

Thesis: "Friendship in Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*"

Magna Cum Laude

ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE

Lecturer, Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University (June 2007 – May 2012)

Bangkok, Thailand

My duties as a Lecturer in the Faculty of Arts include course development, test writing, coordinating teams of teachers on my courses, and teaching. In my teaching, I specialize in integrating skills—reading and writing, listening and speaking—whenever possible so that students learn to read by writing and vice versa. This also allows for a more student-centric approach as they must interact with each other while employing multiple modes of lingual discourse. I have a particular penchant for teaching the process of writing and how to analyze rhetorical situations and employ rhetorical structures and strategies to achieve a clear purpose, with a focus on academic essay writing as a distinct literary and practical form. My courses include teaching basic English skills courses to freshmen, multiple levels of English Composition and Academic Report Writing, Reading Fundamentals, Critical Reading, English Conversation & Discussion, and Creative Writing. For more about my courses see the Courses Taught section below.

Independent Tutor (Dec. 2006 – May 2012)

Bangkok, Thailand

Teaching literature, reading, and writing to students from local international high schools after school hours. Coursework primarily follows the International Baccalaureate or GCSE programs. I helped students understand the target literary texts and taught them the proper methods and strategies to engage critically with literary texts as exemplified by literary analysis essay writing.

Adjunct Lecturer, City College of New York (Fall 2005)

New York, New York

Teaching Freshman Composition to first-year students at major New York City public university required me to balance the needs of students of wildly varying English abilities who were often unprepared for the rigor of university work with the need to prepare students for that work. My teaching here focused on imparting process-oriented writing techniques by employing a modified workshop model of pedagogy. Topics covered included the writing process, revision strategies, grammar and punctuation, peer review, and writer's purpose.

Furman Scholar Research Fellow, Furman University (1993)

Greenville, SC

Compiled and sifted research material for a senior faculty member and prepared his manuscript on Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics* for eventual publication. This fellowship also encompassed the research and composition of the manuscript for "Friendship in Aristotle's *Nicomachean Ethics*", my senior thesis. Senior faculty's research materials were eventually published as *Read-*

ing Aristotle's Ethics: Virtue, Rhetoric, and Political Philosophy by Aristide Tessitore (State University of New York Press, 1996).

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

English Language Teacher, Wat Buddha Thai Thavornvanaram. (Sep. 2004 – Jan. 2006)

Independent IT Consultant, New York, NY. (June 2000 – June 2006)

Analyst, Horizons LLC/HLW Strategies, New York, NY. (Apr. 2001 – Aug. 2004)

System Administrator–Applicant Tracking, Swedish Medical Center, Seattle, WA. (Nov. 1997 – June 2000)

Bookseller, Borders/Barnes & Noble/Furman University Bookstore (July 1991 – Aug. 1997)

PUBLICATIONS

“Keeping Quiet: Reticence as Narrative Strategy”, book review of Teju Cole’s *Open City* (2011) and Damon Galgut’s *In a Strange Room* (2010). *Thoughts*, 2012.

Oriental CEO by Korsak Chairasmisak. Translated by Saseporn Petcharapiruch and **Andru Matthews**. Chulalongkorn University Press, 2011.

“Facing Fatherhood”, essay in *Imagining Ourselves*, an online exhibition by the International Museum of Women, January 2007. <<http://imaginingourselves.imow.org/pb/Story.aspx?id=968&lang=1>>

“Frankenstein, or The Modern Patrimony”, short story. *Big City Lit - New York Edition*, July/August 2003. <<http://www.nycbigcitylit.com/julaug2003/contents/fictionmatthews-frankenst.html>>

“Princess (Opus No. 3)”, short story. *Big City Lit - New York Edition*, August 2001. <<http://www.nycbigcitylit.com/aug2001/contents/Fiction.html>>

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Simon H. Rifkind Graduate Student Achievement Award (2005)

Furman Scholars Research Fellowship (1993)

MEMBERSHIPS

Phi Beta Kappa

Phi Sigma Tau, National Philosophical Honor Society

LANGUAGES

Spanish (Basic), Thai (Basic)

COURSES TAUGHT

English 1 & 2 (Integrated Skills): These two mandatory freshmen courses are Upper Intermediate/Advanced ESL courses which focus on developing students reading, writing, and grammatical understanding and ability.

Composition 1 & 2: These two courses teach students the process and techniques necessary to write effective undergraduate academic essays. These are reading-based writing courses that focus on the writing process, solid structure, and rhetorical strategies. Composition 2 adds a strong foundation in rhetorical logic and literary analysis to students abilities.

Academic Report Writing: This course is taught in international (English-only) programs at Chulalongkorn, such as the Bachelor of Arts in Language and Culture (BALAC) taught at the Faculty of Arts and the Joint International Psychology Program (JIPP). Working in conjunction with Scott Humphries, I redesigned this class to increase the focus on engagement with literary texts and to employ a more iterative approach to writing by having students do multiple drafts, particularly when writing research-based papers.

Reading Fundamentals: Another BALAC course, required of all incoming freshmen, I designed Reading Fundamentals to have students engage with a variety of texts, both informative and literary. The emphasis at this level is on comprehension and appreciation, which are fostered by building vocabulary, learning specific reading strategies, and leading and participating in class discussion.

Critical Reading: The second freshman BALAC course, this extends students reading ability by introducing some of the elements of logic and analysis to enable students to assess the validity and quality of the arguments presented in texts they read.

English Conversation & Discussion: I redesigned this course a few years ago to focus on theme based engagement with authentic audio taken from NPR/PRI, using reading and gaming activities to build within students a reliable ability to listen to real spoken English and the confidence to respond spontaneously in English.

Creative Writing: This course concentrates on using the elements of fiction (plot, character, setting, etc.) to create a compelling narrative in either fictional or non-fictional forms. I have had a great deal of success in this course with several students each year going forward to graduate study in creative writing.

REFERENCES

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