Thomas Edward Derr

Austin, TX

[thomasederr@yahoo.com](mailto:thomasederr@yahoo.com)

**Education** The University of Iowa, Iowa Writers’ Workshop

Master of Fine Arts, Creative Writing, Fiction, 2004.

Thesis Director: James Alan McPherson.

Thesis Committee Members: Marilynne Robinson, Frank Conroy,

Chris Offutt, James Alan McPherson.

The University of Texas at Austin

B.A. in Philosophy and Plan I English Honors (Highest University Honors), 1997.

Thesis Director: Elizabeth Harris.

Thesis Committee Members: Joseph Kruppa, Ernest Kaulbach,

Elizabeth Harris.

Received grants from the English Department for thesis research.

Received award for achievement in French/English translation

from UT French Department.

Austin Community College

Completed 45 hours of coursework, 1993.

**Publications**

Books:

*Telephone Road,* Colgate University Press, Forthcoming, 2012.

Stories:

“Clutter,” *The* *Greensboro Review*, Number 83, (Spring 2008), 17-

32.

“A World Without Gravity,” *Northwest Review*, Vol. 46, No. 1

(2008), 101-115.

# Teaching Experience

Adjunct Associate Professor, Austin Community College, 2006-2009

Academic Instructor, the University of Iowa, 2002-2004.

**Awards**

*Telephone Road*, an interconnected short story collection, won the 2011

Colgate University Press Emerging Writers Contest.

**Conferences**

I will launch *Telephone Road* at the 2012 Colgate Writers’ Conference in

Hamilton, NY.

**Languages**

French (reading).

# Employment History

## 2010 – 2011 Director, Quality Assurance (Department Head)

*Arrowhead Electronic Healthcare, Inc.,* Austin, Texas

Managed all documentation subject to regulatory compliance for Arrowhead Electronic Healthcare, LLC, now Bracket, a subsidiary of UBC/Medco. Ensured regulatory compliance was met in all instances, to include 21 CFR Part 11 compliance. Edited site as well as study builds (handheld devices, tablets, web applications) for syntax, diction, clarity, sense, and meaning. Wrote and revised SOPs. Managed SOP, Guideline, and Form training. Conducted and hosted vendor and client audits. Wrote quality manual and business continuity plan. Reported directly to president and CEO. Trained my replacement after company was acquired by UBC/Medco.

## 2008 – 2010 Software Quality Assurance Analyst

*Arrowhead Electronic Healthcare, Inc.,* *Austin, Texas*

Executed gorilla and verification tests of software builds. Performed translation verification on non-English software builds. Oversaw verification of bug fixes.

## 2006 – 2009 Adjunct Associate Professor

*Austin Community College*, *Austin, Texas*

Taught two sections per semester of Composition II. This course focused on seven elements of fiction: central idea, character, conflict, point of view, setting, language, and tone.Students incorporated these elements in seven writing assignments, varying in length from 500-2000 words, using either a cumulative or single-element approach.  Additionally, students demonstrated mastery of these seven elements in a departmental exam.

**2002–2004 Academic Instructor**

*The University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa*

Taught eight sections, over two years, of English 8G:1, Interpretation of Literature. I designed this course in part to introduce students to Modernity – in particular, Modernity in the broader historical context of the Renaissance and the Enlightenment. To this end, I taught *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, *Frankenstein*, *Hiroshima Mon Amour*, and *Waiting for Godot*, along with numerous modern short stories, plays, and poems. A goal of this course was to cultivate in students the historical imagination and conceptual vocabulary not only to characterize modern consciousness in terms of the scientific and technological advents that engendered – socially, culturally, politically, and otherwise – a much compressed sense of space and time, but to make sense of the psychological impact of the modern project – from the steam engine to the atomic bomb – in terms of Renaissance Humanism and Enlightenment “optimism.”

**2000–2002** **Freelance Writer and Journalist**

*Various, Austin, Texas*

Wrote freelance health and e-industry related articles. Responsible for all research, writing, fact checking, and copy editing.

**1998–2000** **Medical Content Editor**

*DrKoop.com, Austin, Texas*

Managed medical content publishing process. Set editorial plan for medical content from Dartmouth University; worked closely with Dartmouth’s participating physicians, staff writers, and editorial staff. Responsible for weekly reports to senior management regarding on-line publishing progress. Responsible for HTML of medical content, including basic ASP. Wrote feature articles and ghost wrote for celebrity physicians. Interacted with development and quality assurance teams to generate content for custom software tools and to perform quality assurance testing of custom tools. Managed medical content editorial calendar. Managed copy editing process for medical content.

**Technical Writer**

Responsible for writing technical documents for DrKoop.com. Interviewed subject matter experts. Helped establish style guidelines both for website and internal documentation process.

**1996 –1997** **Lab Research Technician**

*The**University of Texas Medical School, Houston, Texas*

Patch-clamped kidney massangial cells. Helped establish metabolic pathway underlying diabetes related kidney hyperfiltration. Performed polymerase chain reaction to amplify copies of DNA sequences. Performed cell culturing and routine research laboratory technician duties. Wrote grant proposals and edited all medical journal submissions.

**1989 –1992** **Aviation Boatswain’s Mate, Petty Officer Third Class**

*USS Enterprise, CVN-65, United States Navy*

Assisted in aircraft carrier flight deck operations, including launch and recovery of fighter and reconnaissance aircraft. Shipboard Fire Fighter: Hoseman, Nozzleman, and Fire Party Team Leader. Served in various capacities within the Enterprise’s Overhaul Department during 1991 dry-dock of the USS Enterprise.