Annie Kustasz

+586-770-0852



Kustasz@American.edu



Washington D.C.



New Play Exchange: https://newplayexchange.org/users/71963/annie-hall

Faculty Profile: https://www.american.edu/cas/faculty/kustasz.cfm

EDUCATION

Western Michigan University

MFA in Creative Writing (Emphasis: Playwriting/Poetry)

Western Michigan University

BA in Creative Writing (Emphasis: Playwriting)

PRODUCTIONS & PUBLICATIONS

- "The Cabinet of Curiosities," Flash Piece, BellaGrace Magazine, December 2024
- "Compliance," Poem. Anthology: Petals and Pines. 2024
- "It Looks Like This," Ten-Minute play. Texas A&M Theater Department, 2024
- "Planting Weeds," Poem. Wayne Literary Review, 2024
- "After the Snow," Poem. Wayne Literary Review, 2024
- "About Time" Ten-Minute play. B3 Festival of Shorts, 2022
- "It Looks Like This," Kennedy Center KCACTF Region Three, 2021
- "Timeless" Ten-Minute play. Kalamazoo Reader Series, 2020
- "Ce que nous sommes" Ten-Minute play. Activate Midwest, 2018

WRITING HONORS / AWARDS

- Jane Stanhope Award Outstanding Writing Studies Program Adjunct Faculty 2024 American University
- Pharmacy Theatre 'The Clinical Trial' Finalist, 2023
- Kennedy Center National Contender, 2022
- Kennedy Center KCACTF Region Three Finalist, 2021
- Theater TK Fest Finalist, 2019
- Gwen Frostic Award in Playwriting, 2018

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

American University

Adjunct Professional Lecturer | Department of Literature | 2023 - Present

- WRT 101: Fanfiction & Adaptation (3 sections)

 Highlights: This course focuses on applying adaptation theory to "fanfics" and understanding how to engage with them critically. "FanFics" range from "Divine Comedy" to Jane Austen stage adaptations, and students use creative and academic writing to achieve course learning outcomes.
- WRT 101: Multimodal Writing: Adapting Language (1 section)

 Highlights: This course focuses on how a thesis is carried beyond an original text. Examples include how a research paper becomes a TikTok series, or a Political Philosophy becomes a comedy show. Students use both creative and academic writing to meet course learning outcomes.
- WRT 100: Written Communication & Information Literacy (2 sections) Highlights: This course focuses on writing as an entry into academic conversation both in the creative and research lens. Key projects developed in this class are a multimodal "gallery" thesis project and a personal exploratory essay.

The Catholic University of America

Adjunct Professional Lecturer | Department of English | 2025 - Present

• ENG 101: Writing & Rhetoric (1 section)

Highlights: This course is designed to help students develop their ability to think analytically and creatively. Critical readings range from works by Cicero, Shelley, to Wilde.

Georgetown University

(in partnership with EducationUnlimited)
Professional Lecturer | Department of English | 2024 - Present
A college prep summer program that was an intensive designed course focusing on creative writing, Agatha Christie plays, and Americana Lit.

Western Michigan University

Instructor of Record | Department of Literature | 2019 - 2022

- ENGL 3680: Creative Writing-Playwriting (1 section)
 Highlights: This course was designed for students who want to understand
 the basics of playwriting by exploring, reading, watching, and writing
 about dramatic works.
- ENGL 1050: Foundations in Written Communication (7 sections) Highlights: This writing course offers students practice and guidance in the strategies and behaviors that contribute to success in written communication and information literacy.
- ENGL 1060: Foundations in Written Communication Lecture (1 section) Highlights: Based on ENGL 1050, this lecture course is a more intensive section, focused on crafting emerging scholars, with a class size around 40+ students.

STUDENT HONORS / AWARDS

- Intercollegiate Broadcasting System Awards Winner, 2018 Best Underwriting Liner
- Intercollegiate Broadcasting System Awards Finalist, 2018 Best Station Blog
- COM 1000 Speech Finalist 2016 "Making Animal Psychopaths: Tracing Tilikum and captive Animals behaviors"

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILATIONS

Panelist, "Teaching First Year College Students" Ann Ferren Conference (AFC), Washington D.C., Jan 9-10, 2025

Sigma Tau Delta - English Honors Society Chi Alpha - Fraternity

NOTABLE STUDENT SUPERVISED WORK

Aideen Scanga Essay "This" Runner Up, Writers as Witness Essay Contest 2023 Published in Atrium 2024 https://edspace.american.edu/atrium/portfolioitem/scanga-aideen-this/

Berit K Rosenstiel Essay "Breakup Season: The Internet's Most Unnecessary Hoax"

Runner Up, Writers as Witness Essay Contest 2024

The Writers as Witness Essay Contest is a writing competition hosted by American University's Writing Studies Program, where students are encouraged to submit essays that explore the concept of being a "witness"-analyzing how writers can use their craft to document and shed light on important social issues and events happening around them.

PRACTICUMS / GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

Western Michigan University | 2019 - 2022

- ENGL 2980: Rock, Pop & Hip-Hop as Dramatic Writing
- ENGL 3680 Creative Writing Playwriting
- COMM 3580 Creative Writing Screenwriting
- ENGL 3680 Creative Writing Poetry

In all of these courses, I helped oversee/design the syllabi. After each class, I would meet with the lecturer for additional pedagogical learning. My involvement in the class ranged from grading to lecturing to leading classroom discussion.

RELEVANT JOB EXPERIENCES

Barnes & Noble Virginia

Cluster Social Media Admin & Store Designer \mid 2022-2023 I worked with authors and agents for signings & book events. I also designed multiple Barnes & Noble tables and end-caps to reflect store location and individuality.

WIDR 89.1 FM Western Michigan University

General Manager | 2017-2018

I handled all booking and running of live shows at the radio station and radio station concerts, including open mic nights, live readers series, and music festivals. I also oversaw all social media and professional emails, business calls, and meetings for the station.

Student Media Group WMU

President | 2017-2018

In this elected role, I promoted the student media group through radio, newspaper, video, and campus events, increasing collaboration chances across campus.

John R. Armstrong Performing Arts Center Box Office Assistant / Crew | 2013-2015

I worked with directors to curate props, costumes, and sets. I also oversaw stage lighting and the sound booth for productions and assisted the director of the performance center with all secretarial services.