

Alexis Draut

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I. EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy in English, in progress (*estimated graduation in May 2026*)
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, Lexington, KY

Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing, Concentration: Nature Writing
CHATHAM UNIVERSITY, Pittsburgh, PA

Bachelor of Arts in Religion, Minor: Environmental Studies
BERRY COLLEGE, Rome, GA
WinShape College Program Scholar (4-year scholarship for academic excellence and leadership)

Creation Care Study Program, Kaikoura, New Zealand
Study Abroad Student and Researcher – Researched with New Zealand Department of Conservation, worked with local and endemic species (Dusky dolphins, Little Blue penguins).

II. ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Governor's Scholars Program, Frankfort, KY *Summer 2024*
Faculty Instructor of Psychology & Behavioral Studies at GSP-Centre College – Instructed rising high school senior scholars during GSP, led discussions and lessons regarding the realm of psychology and societal behavioral patterns, guided students in an alternative learning environment and advocated for their success in both academic and community-based avenues.

University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY *July 2023 – Present*
Writing, Rhetoric and Digital Studies First-Year Mentor – Assists new Teaching Assistants during their first year of teaching, observes progress and provides guidance for mentees as they adjust to teaching at UK, applies best practices for supporting students, solves problems involving colleagues, students, and faculty.

University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY *Aug. 2021 – Present*
Teaching Assistant – Instructor of record for two classes per semester including Writing, Rhetoric and Digital Studies 110 and 111, plans and implements lessons in a classroom (2-3x a week), meets with students in office hours, teaches rhetorical analysis of research, monitors student progress, manages multiple tasks independently and builds professional working relationships with students.

Center for Academic Resources and Enrichment Services, Lexington, KY *Summer 2022*
Instructor – Collaborated with the Writing, Rhetoric and Digital Studies department to provide instruction for the Center for Academic Resources and Enrichment Services Freshman Summer Program, worked with first-generation students of diverse and marginalized demographics, met one-on-one with students during office hours, helped students navigate college life using strategies for academic success.

Chatham University, Pittsburgh, PA *Aug. 2020 – May 2021*
Teaching Assistant Fellow – Interned with local nonprofit as a part of a Chatham fellowship, facilitated writing workshops, assisted with curriculum development and virtual programming.

Chatham University, Pittsburgh, PA *Oct. 2019 – Mar. 2020*
Facilitator of Poetry Workshop – Facilitated regular poetry and writing workshops with undergraduate and graduate students on campus

- “Holding Space on the Page” – monthly workshop, covered topics such as heritage, race, ethnicity, and place within discussions, organized guest speakers to lead discussions.
- Undergraduate Poetry Group – weekly workshop, lead analytical discussion on poetry, created prompts, dedicated time to crafting and editing poems.

Creation Care Study Program, Kaikoura, New Zealand *Aug. 2017 – May 2018*
Student Life Coordinator – Taught sustainable and environmental significance and practices, planned and facilitated community events and cultural experiences for 8-10 students, served as teaching assistant for college-level courses, assisted in day-to-day administrative operations.

Berry College Elementary and Middle School, Rome, GA *Aug. 2016 – May 2017*
Environmental Education Coordinator – Maintained school orchard, developed curriculum for students regarding organic gardening and healthy eating.

Berry College Department of Religion and Philosophy, Rome, GA *Aug. – Dec. 2015*
Office Assistant – Organized office material, conducted research for guest speakers, planned events, graded papers and tests.

Academic Support Center, Rome, GA *Jan. 2014 – Dec. 2015*
Student Test Coordinator – Assisted undergraduate students with tutoring needs and academic accommodations, monitored test-taking situations.

III. PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

William T. Young Library, Lexington, KY *May 2022 – Present*
Circulation Student Worker – Works at circulation desk in campus central library; aids students/faculty in research projects; connects students, faculty, and staff to reference librarians; utilizes knowledge of library principles, methods and best research practices; trains and supervises new student workers; completes administrative duties to maintain the successful operation and function of the library; organizes and prepares statistical information for the Dean’s Office and Director of Philanthropy for UK Libraries.

English Graduate Student Organization, Lexington, KY *Aug. 2023 – Nov. 2023*
Graduate Student Faculty Representative – Served as liaison between English faculty and graduate students; attended regular faculty meetings and took notes; established positive partnerships between a diverse group of faculty, staff, and students; communicated significant departmental updates.

English Graduate Student Organization, Lexington, KY *August 2022 – May 2023*
 Professional Events Coordinator – Planned the annual 2-day English Graduate Student Organization Symposium, invited scholars and students to present keynote lectures and share their research with the University of Kentucky community.

Write Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA *Aug. 2020 – May 2021*
 Intern – Served as nonprofit organization’s intern, collaborated with staff and other organizations to plan writing workshops for students aged elementary school through high school, facilitated workshops, wrote and published organization-related press releases, proofread and edited grants, conducted research for curriculum development. Assisted on successful grant proposals totaling \$99,500 in 2020:

- *Hawkins Project*, Oct. 2020 – \$2,000
- *The Heinz Endowments*, Oct. 2020 – \$77,500
- *Program to Aid Citizen Enterprise*, Oct. 2020 – \$20,000

Melissa Draut Grant Writing LLC, Louisville, KY *Feb. 2020 – May 2021*
 Grant Writing Intern – Interned under grant writer, worked with nonprofit organizations in Ohio and Kentucky, proofread and edited grants, collected organization data, submitted grants to foundations. Support on successful grant proposals totaling \$53,500 in 2020:

- *PNC*, Sept. 2020 – \$7,500
- *AEP Foundation*, July 2020 – \$10,000
- *Peoples Bank*, June 2020 – \$5,000
- *South Central Power Company*, June 2020 – \$4,000
- *Safelite Foundation*, May 2020 – \$20,000
- *Allstate*, April 2020 – \$5,000
- *U.S. Bank*, April 2020 – \$2,000

A to Z Grant Writing Introduction Course, online *July 2020*
 Student – Completed 24 hours of training in an online introduction to grant writing course.

Chatham University, Pittsburgh, PA *July 2019 – June 2020*
 Graduate Resident Director - Supervised and advised a group of Resident Assistants, monitored the safety and maintenance of a residence hall on campus, handled crises regarding undergraduate residents and independently made large-scale decisions regarding my staff and residents, worked with students during orientations, followed residence life procedures, planned events for student engagement and development.

Northside Chronicle, Pittsburgh, PA *Oct. 2019 – Jan. 2020*
 Freelance Journalist - Produced feature articles for monthly publications based on community events, local gatherings, and Pittsburgh-based festivals.

Northwest Georgia News *Aug. 2018 – June 2019*

- *Calhoun Times*, Calhoun, GA

General Assignment Reporter – Collected and analyzed information from local events or interviews, reported and wrote stories for a twice-weekly newspaper on deadline, took photos for publications, cultivated excellent oral and written communication skills, maintained awareness of developments and events within the community.

- *Rome News-Tribune*, Rome, GA
News Correspondent – Wrote feature stories on local events, turned in articles and photos on deadline.

Rise ‘N Shine Organic Farms, Calhoun, GA *June – Aug. 2018*
Field Hand – Maintained and harvested produce for CSA, prepped produce for delivery, worked with CSA customers, sold products at farmers markets.

IV. VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Lex Center for Creative ReUse, Lexington, KY *May – July 2022*
Volunteer – Helped organize and prepare the center for its opening and featured events, worked with founder on maintaining and acquiring materials, helped prepare for neighborhood workshops.

GirlGov, Pittsburgh, PA *Jan. – May 2021*
Volunteer – Planned and facilitated programs, collaborated with other organizations and local artists to plan writing workshops such as the “Sharing Your Story” workshop series in March 2021.

Chatham University, Pittsburgh, PA *Jan. 2020 – May 2021*
Advisory Board Member of the *Communique* – Monitored and advised undergraduate student newspaper staff on budget decisions, supported events and publications, helped guide students on making impactful decisions regarding publishing articles of interest and distributing copies.

Chatham University, Pittsburgh, PA *Sept. 2019 - May 2021*
Assistant Advisor - Advised Chatham University undergraduate Creative Writing Club, sponsored activities, helped plan and facilitate events for student engagement.

Write Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA *Jan. – Aug. 2020*
Volunteer Facilitator – Prepared for and facilitated writing workshops with the nonprofit organization, helped transition workshops to an online platform, co-facilitated first-ever summer camps over Zoom.

Community Forge, Pittsburgh, PA *Jan. – Aug. 2020*
Volunteer – Worked with community center during after school programming, lead writing workshops for elementary-aged participants.

WildArk, Atlanta, GA *Aug. 2018 – Aug. 2020*
Contributing Writer – Produced feature articles and photography about environmental solutions, produced advocacy stories about environmental sustainability.

V. CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“*Shale Play’s* Artistic Portrayal of Pennsylvania Fracking Fields as Catalyst for Environmental Dialogue.”

- *University of Virginia’s GradCon – Networks*. April 2022.
- *English Graduate Student Organization Symposium 2022*. March 2022.

- *Dimensions of Political Ecology Conference*. March 2022.

“Turning as an Ecofeminist Methodology for Achieving Environmental Justice in Annie Dillard’s *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*.” *Association for the Study of Literature and Environment 2021: EmergencE/Y Virtual Conference*. July 2021.

VI. AWARDS AND HONORS

Academy of American Poets/Laurie Mansell Reich Award, Pittsburgh, PA *Apr. 2020, 2021*
Winner – Awarded in Spring 2020 and Spring 2021 as a part of Chatham University MFA Creative Writing Awards and had original poems entitled “Henry County” and “On Learning” published on poets.org.

Word Circus Poetry Reading Series, Pittsburgh, PA *Oct. 2019 – May 2021*
Guest Reader – Hosted as poetry reader during Word Circus monthly poetry reading series put on by Chatham University MFA Program.

Word-Wide: A Multilingual Reading, Pittsburgh, PA *Oct. 2020*
Guest Reader – Hosted as poetry reader during a bilingual reading event.

Disaster Relief Support, Rome, GA *Nov. 2016 – Jan. 2017*
Fundraiser – Raised NZ\$13,000 (US\$8,800) for earthquake disaster following the 7.8 magnitude quake in the Kaikoura area of New Zealand.

VII. PUBLICATIONS

[Copies of print publications or links to online publications listed below can be sent upon request.]

Published Poet, Various Journals *Feb. 2018 – Present*

- *Poets.org*, May 2021; “On Learning”
- *Flyover Country*, December 2021; “Exodus into Suburbia”
- *Gargoyle Magazine*, July 2020; “nikau lodge”
- *Poets.org*, May 2020; “Henry County”
- *PacificREVIEW*, Feb. 2020; “to move on from a man you love, throw out everything that reminds you of him”
- *The Perch Magazine*, Aug. 2019; “in the coffee/tea kitchen”
- *The Social Justice Review*, July 2019; “Poem for Hannah”
- *The Perch Journal*, March 2019; “Florida”
- *Burnt Pine Magazine*, Jan 2019; “These Things”
- *The Scrib Arts Journal*, Dec. 2018; “memories in Wellington”, “Hillsboro House”
- *Internet Void*, July 2018; “Spinning Stars”
- *Havik Anthology*, May 2018; “Earthquake”
- *Jenny Mag*, April 2018; “Norfolk Pine”
- *Buddy. A Lit Zine*, March 2018; “lost”

Journalist, Various Locations *Aug. 2018 – Jan. 2020*

- *Northside Chronicle*, Pittsburgh, PA
- *WildArk*, Atlanta, GA

- *Rome News-Tribune*, Rome, GA
- *Calhoun Times*, Calhoun, GA