

NIKKI MANTYLA

WRITING INSTRUCTOR



Charismatic teacher, writer & editor whose creative enthusiasm, audience awareness & critical eye combine to ensure every course, piece or project is a success. Nearly twenty years post-graduate experience in the classroom and other professional settings. Multiple published articles, three unpublished novels & dozens of self-published poems. Geeky curiosity for deep-dives of all kinds, from quantum physics to landscape architecture to food culture.

CONTACT INFO

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Colorado Mesa University

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ACADEMIC INTERESTS

Pedagogy & Course Design

Novel Writing

Rhetorical Grammar

Editing & Layout

Punctuation Mechanics

Linguistics

Rhetoric & Composition

Poetry

EDUCATION

MA in English, Creative Writing Emphasis

2006 | Brigham Young University | GPA 3.97

BA in English Teaching

2004 | Brigham Young University | GPA 3.90 | *Cum laude*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of English

2024 – present | Colorado Mesa University

Adjunct Writing Instructor

2008 – 2023 | Salt Lake Community College

- English 1010: Intro to Writing
- English 2010: Intermediate Writing*
- English 2250: Intro to Imaginative Writing
- English 2290: Intro to Novel Writing
- English 2500: Grammar & Style

*Course taught most frequently

Associate English Instructor

Fall 2023 | University of Utah online

- Engl 2010: Writing for Humans in the Age of AI

Graduate Writing Instructor

2005 – 2006 | Brigham Young University

- English 115: College Reading & Writing

Student English Teacher

2004 | Bingham High School, South Jordan UT

PUBLICATIONS

“Why Six Core Concepts? So You Can Write ANYTHING”

2020 | Instructional article for students published online in *Open English @ SLCC*

<https://slcc.pressbooks.pub/openenglishatslcc/front-matter/why-six-core-concepts/>

“Memorability: 6 Keys for Success”

2016 | Instructional article for students published online in *Open English @ SLCC*

<https://slcc.pressbooks.pub/openenglishatslcc/chapter/memorability-6-keys-for-success/>

“Punctuation, Memes & Choice”

2016 | Instructional article for students published online in *Open English @ SLCC*

<https://slcc.pressbooks.pub/openenglishatslcc/chapter/punctuation-memes-and-choice/>

“Movies Explain the World (of Writing)”

2016 | Instructional article for students published online in *Open English @ SLCC*

<https://slcc.pressbooks.pub/openenglishatslcc/chapter/movies-explain-the-world-of-writing/>

Awake & Amused: Poetry, Paradox & Perspective

2016 – present | Self-published website showcasing original poems

<https://awakeandamused.home.blog/>

All About the Words: Reading, Writing & Teaching Writing

2009 – 2020 | Self-published website posting original blog entries on topics related to reading, writing & teaching

<https://nikkimantyla.wordpress.com/>

Real Grammar

2009 | Self-published instructional website compiling punctuation examples & explanations for students

<https://realgrammar.wordpress.com/>

“Wallace Stevens’s ‘Bouquet of Roses in Sunlight’ & the Brilliance of Decreation”

2003 | Undergraduate essay published in BYU College of Humanities’ *Tabulae*, Volume 1—a collection of papers from the March 2003 BYU Humanities Symposium

HONORS & AWARDS

Teaching Excellence Award

2023 | Salt Lake Community College | Career-achievement award based on recommendations from supervisors, colleagues & students as well as extensive review of teaching portfolio evidence by the SLCC Foundation Board

Winner, Writer’s Portfolio Contest

2006 | BYU English Department | Submission of multiple original pieces of fiction, poetry & creative nonfiction

First Place, Ann Doty Fiction Contest

2006 | BYU English Department | Submission of 5 – 25 pages of fiction, such as short story or novel chapter

CONFERENCES & COURSES

Canvas Online Teacher Credential

2020 | SLCC | Semester-long training course attended via Canvas for transitioning from in-person to online teaching that included practice-based instruction on uploading videos, creating engaging online discussions, etc.

"Approaches to Rhetorical Grammar"

2008 | SLCC | Presentation given at TYCA West Conference

BYU Writers for Young Readers Conference

2006 & 2008 | BYU | Weeklong in-person conference attended with published YA authors & YA agents/editors

"Wallace Stevens's 'Bouquet of Roses in Sunlight' & the Brilliance of Decreation"

2003 | BYU | Presentation given at BYU Humanities Symposium

WORK EXPERIENCE

Member, Adjunct Leadership Institute

2022 – 2023 | SLCC Department of English, Linguistics & Writing Studies | Paid position serving 1 – 2 years on small committee advocating for adjunct concerns, planning & implementing adjunct training, etc.

Designer & Editor, Freelance

2016 – present | Proofreading, content/design feedback & content writing; interior & landscape design consultations
<https://nikkimantyla.wixsite.com/freshvision>

Editor, *Literary Studies @ SLCC*

2022 – 2023 | SLCC | Editing & formatting colleague-produced articles for this open-education resource
<https://slcc.pressbooks.pub/literarystudiesatslcc/>

Editor, *Technical Writing @ SLCC*

2021 – 2022 | SLCC | Editing & formatting colleague-produced articles for this open-education resource
<https://slcc.pressbooks.pub/technicalwritingatslcc/>

Editor, *Open English @ SLCC*

2016 – 2020 | SLCC | Editing & formatting colleague-produced articles for this open-education resource
<https://slcc.pressbooks.pub/openenglishatslcc/>

LANGUAGES

English

Native speaker

Spanish

Limited proficiency

French

Limited proficiency
