

JESSICA L. FOLK

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EDUCATION

M.F.A. Screenwriting, Chapman University, Orange, CA, May 2014.
B.A. Creative Writing and Cinema & Screen Studies, SUNY Oswego, Oswego, NY, May 2012.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor, Department of English, Western Kentucky University, August 2017-present.
Visiting Instructor, Department of English and Creative Writing, SUNY Oswego, 2016-2017.
Adjunct Instructor, College of Online and Continuing Education, SNHU, 2016-2017.
Adjunct Instructor, Department of English and Creative Writing, SUNY Oswego, 2014-2016.
Adjunct Instructor, Department of English, Reading and Communication, OCC, Fall 2015.

CREATIVE ACTIVITY

Film/Screenwriting

- 2021 **“King”**. TV pilot script. Official selection for Juried Screenplay Competition. University Film and Video Association. Virtual Conference.
- 2021 **Award Winner**. “King”. TV pilot script. LGBTQ+ Los Angeles Film Festival.
- 2021 **“LGBTQ+ Festival Best Scene Reading: KING, by Jessica L. Folk”**. Professionally recorded table read of one scene from my award-winning tv pilot script, “King”. LGBT Toronto Film Festival.
- 2019 Honorable Mention (2nd place). “’Til Death”. TV pilot script. Official selection for Juried Screenplay Competition. University Film and Video Association. Minneapolis, MN.
[*“WKU English Professor Jessica Folk Recognized at UFVA Conference” by Kristen Darby \(August 16, 2019\)*](#)
- 2017 Honorable Mention, Round Three, NYC Midnight Short Screenplay Contest.

- 2016 “Five”. Short film. Written by Jessica L. Folk. African American Short Films Series. Badami Productions.
Vimeo link: ["Five" \(dir. Kali Baker-Johnson\)](#) (password: yellow)
- 2016 Second Round Finalist, *Poster Girl*, Write Room Screenplay Competition.
- 2016 Finalist, *Poster Girl*, California Women’s Film Festival.
- 2015 ["Home Forever"](#). Music video. Written and produced by Jessica L. Folk. Beautiful Mess Productions.
- 2014 Semi-Finalist, *Poster Girl*, Reel Writers Screenwriting Competition.
- 2014 Quarterfinalist, *Poster Girl*, Richmond International Film Festival.
- 2014 Finalist, *Poster Girl*, Upstate and North Country New York Award, The West Field Screenwriting Awards.
- 2014 Finalist, *Poster Girl*, Biographical/Historical Category, New York Screenplay Contest.

Apps

- 2014-15 “Into Another Time”. Create-Your-Own-Adventure Story Writer. Episode app. Pocket Gems.

Short Nonfiction Publications

“The 4x6 Photograph” (884 words)
The Turning Point anthology. (Exisle Publishing, expected November 2021).

“A Recipe for Emotional Abuse” (3,600 words)
[Sinister Wisdom 117: Lesbians in the City](#). (Sinister Wisdom, June 2020).

“An Irish Goodbye” (1,300 words)
[Fear and Courage Collection](#). (Exisle Publishing, October 2019).

“Sing Us a Song” (1,325 words)
[Ghost City Review, Vol. 2: 69-71](#). (Ghost City Press, 2016).

Poetry Publications

“I See You”. [Ghost City Review, Vol. 2: 18-19](#). (Ghost City Press, 2016).

“Once is Enough”. [Ghost City Review, Vol. 2: 20-22](#). (Ghost City Press, 2016).

Interviews/Features

- 2021 [“Screenwriter Jessica L. Folk \(KING\)”](#). Podcast interview conducted by Matthew Toffolo for WILDsound: The Film Podcast. July 14, 2021 episode.
- 2021 [“Interview with Screenwriter Jessica L. Folk \(KING\)”](#). Interview conducted by Matthew Toffolo for “Matthew Toffolo’s Summary: Daily summary of the life/movie world”.
- 2020 [“An Interview with Jessica Folk”](#). Blog post by Sophia Maas. In Process blog post where I was interviewed about my writer series visit in September 2020.
- 2020 [“In Process: Fall 2020”](#). Blog post by Claudia Barnett. In Process blog post about my upcoming visit to their writer series in September 2020.
- 2020 [“Writing Looks Chaotic: Interview with Jessica L. Folk”](#). Interview conducted by Kristy Lin Billuni. Sexy Grammar blog.

Professional Presentations/Reviews

- 2021 [Film Reviewer/Respondent. Virtual Feedback Film Festival. WILDsound. Virtual.](#)
- 2020 Facilitator. Online Writing Workshop. Silver Streaming, KY Senior group, requested through CASHA. 4 sessions. Created with WKU CORE members.
- 2018 “Education on Location: London, Norway, Iceland & Greece”. Panel presenter: Stories Without Borders. University Film and Video Association. Las Cruces, NM.
- 2018 “Selling Your Script in a Sentence: Writing the Perfect Logline”. Workshop: Story Expo 2018. New York City, NY.

Readings

- 2020 [Reader. “Summer’s Last Gasp” reading. Sinister Wisdom. Zoom.](#)
- 2020 Contributor. *Sinister Wisdom 117: Lesbians in the City* launch event. Zoom.

Creative Work In Progress

Co-Producer/Media Director, *Roadhead* (short film in pre-production).
 Anticipated shoot dates: postponed
 Secured over \$30,000 in funding via Kickstarter Campaign in May 2019.

The Trials of Amaryllis Liddell (young adult novel manuscript).
 Queries have been sent out to multiple agents as of summer 2021.

WKU & Local Talks and Events

- 2021 Co-Host. “Poetry is for all of us”. Hope Harbor Sexual Assault Prevention Month event. Facebook Live.
- 2021 Presented with Dr. Dawn Winters. “Revising Course Policies for Equity-Minded and Trauma-Informed Pedagogy: A Qualitative, Practical Approach” and introduced syllabus swap activity for Fall 2021. English Department. Western Kentucky University. Zoom.
- 2021 Presented with Dr. Dawn Winters. “Revising Course Policies for Equity-Minded and Trauma-Informed Pedagogy: A Qualitative, Practical Approach”. This workshop was conducted twice in 2021 – once as a 60-minute session and once as a 90-minute workshop. CITL. Western Kentucky University. Zoom.
- 2020 Presenter. “Writing Compelling Characters for the Stage”. MTSU Write Virtually Conference. Zoom.
- 2020 Keynote Speaker. TYCA-KY Conference. Spoke about creative writing and research. Virtual conference.
- 2020 “First Things First: Your Story, Your Words”. Sexual Assault Prevention Month Event Co-Organizer in partnership with Hope Harbor. [EVENT WAS CANCELED DUE TO COVID-19, but auditions, planning, rehearsals, and advertising were all taking place at the time of cancellation. Some of the participants shared their work via Hope Harbor’s social media instead.]
- 2019 “Til Death and The Trials of Amaryllis Liddell” (excerpts). Live reading and Q&A. English Department Colloquium. Western Kentucky University. Bowling Green, KY.
- 2019 Keynote Speaker. TYCA-KY Conference. Spoke about the process of writing and researching “The Trials of Amaryllis Liddell”. Bowling Green, KY.
- 2019 “The Trials of Amaryllis Liddell” (short excerpt). Live Reading. Create-it-Forward Project. The Kentucky Museum. Western Kentucky University. Bowling Green, KY.
- 2019 “First Things First: Your Story, Your Words”. Sexual Assault Prevention Month Event Co-Organizer in partnership with Hope Harbor. Downing Student Union. Western Kentucky University. Bowling Green, KY.

- 2018 “Experience from the Field: Research, Immersion, and Voodoo”. Presentation. Love YA, Write Soon: Educations Conference (Using YA Literature to Teach Writing). Western Kentucky University. Bowling Green, KY.
- 2018 “Behind the Spin of the World”. Staged Script Reading. Create-it-Forward Project. The Kentucky Museum. Western Kentucky University. Bowling Green, KY.
- 2018 “A New Coming Out: The Shifting Queer Narrative in Film and Television”. Presentation. Generations Series. Western Kentucky University. Bowling Green, KY.
- 2017 “Lesbian Desire in Film and Television”. Lecture. Queer Literature course (Dr. Endres). Western Kentucky University. Bowling Green, KY.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2021 Participant. Juniper Writing & Publishing Conference. Zoom.
- 2021 Participant. Courier 12 Screenwriting Conference. DePaul University. Zoom.
- 2019 Participant. SOKY BookFest. Knicely Conference Center. Bowling Green, KY.
- 2017-18 Participant. Young Adult Southern Book Conference. Bowling Green, KY.
- 2017 Participant. Script Lab Screenwriting Summit. Online.

TEACHING

Honors & Professorships

- 2020-21 Nominee, CITL Teaching Honors, Western Kentucky University.
- 2019-20 Recipient, Wood Professorship, Department of English, Western Kentucky University.

Western Kentucky University, Assistant Professor, 2017-present

*Course I Created

Undergraduate

ENG 200: Introduction to Literature
 ENG 203: Introduction to Creative Writing
 ENG 303: Intermediate Fiction Writing
 ENG 365: Film Adaptation
 ENG/THEA 358: Drama Writing

*ENG 359: Topics in Scriptwriting (Writing TV Drama, Writing TV Comedy, Writing Adaptations)
ENG 499: Directed Writing
FILM 450: Feature Screenwriting

Graduate

ENG 501: Writing Workshop
ENG 598: Advanced Directed Study
ENG 599: Thesis Research/Writing

Served on various Thesis Committees:

M.F.A.

Jon Meyers, 2021 – Thesis Director.
Hailey Hanks, 2020 – Thesis Director.
Bradley Hathaway, 2020.
Esther French, Spring 2019-Fall 2019.
David Haydon, 2019.
Emily Diehl Brooks, 2019.
Brodie Gress, 2019.
Paula Konokh, 2018-19 – Thesis Director.
Allison Adams, 2017.

M.A.

Lindsey Houchin, 2020.
Jon Meyers, 2019.

Honors

Cameron Fontes, 2020-21 – Thesis Director.
Adrianna Waters, 2020-21 – Thesis Director.
Phoebe Zimmerer, 2018-19 – Thesis Director.

Honors Augmentation

Sandie Merena, 2021.
Lane Lewis, 2018.
Elizabeth West, 2018.

State University of New York at Oswego, Visiting Instructor/Adjunct Instructor, 2014-2017

Undergraduate

Introductory Screenwriting
Introductory Playwriting
Intermediate Playwriting
Young Adult Writing
A Voice for London's Youth: YA Literature in the 20th Century and Beyond (Study Abroad)
Honors Thesis in Creative Writing
Composition II

Modern Culture and Media
Internship (Advisor)
Great Britain, Great Screenplays (Guest Faculty – Study Abroad)
Southern New Hampshire University, Adjunct Instructor, COCE, 2016-2017

Graduate:
Studying the Craft
Story & Concept
Screenwriting Fundamentals
Screenwriting Thesis Writing
Screenwriting Thesis Completion

Liverpool Public Library, Guest Lecturer, 2015

M.O.O.C. In-Person Facilitation: Hans Christian Andersen Course

Onondaga Community College, Adjunct Instructor, 2015

Undergraduate
World Literature II

Student Accomplishments I Helped Facilitate

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| 2021 | Mentored Alec Paugh through multiple drafts and the screenplay competition entry process for his feature screenplay, <i>To the End of the World</i> , which was selected as a quarterfinalist in the ScreenCraft Horror Screenplay competition. |
| 2019-21 | Continued mentoring Phoebe Zimmerer, as she revises and sends out queries for her fiction manuscript to agents and publishers. |
| 2019-20 | Mentored Brock Dorsey and Salvador Tinajero through M.F.A. application process and both were admitted to excellent programs for Fall 2020. |
| 2019 | Jon Meyers' feature script (written and revised in my ENG 501 course) was accepted to the Atlanta Comedy Film Festival. |
| 2019 | Bethel Aklilu received \$2,000 Lifetime Experience Grant and \$5,000 Gilman Grant to fund her Semester at Sea. I helped bring her through this process along with the Office of Scholar Development. |

SERVICE

Department (English)

- 2021 Confirmed as new Creative Writing Undergraduate advisor.
- Participated in summer TOP Advising sessions (in person and virtual).
- 2020-21 Co-Chair, Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) Committee, Department of English.
- Applied for and received grant funding (\$150) from PCAL DEI Committee to buy gift cards to randomly award to participants in the English Department DEI Committee survey on URM student experiences in the department.
- 2021 Co-Author (with Dr. Dawn Winters). “Trauma-Informed Teaching and Pedagogy”. [*2021-2022 Guide to Teaching Foundations English at WKU*](#).
- 2021 Completed recorded Zoom interview with ENG 299 TA Kayla Spears about creative writing research for Dr. Knoll’s class.
- 2021 Essay Evaluator. Assurance of Student Learning report.
- 2019-21 Executive Committee
- 2017-21 Creative Writing Committee
- (2021) Recruited screenwriters/filmmakers William J. Stribling and Russ Nickel for virtual Creative Writing Reading Series Event.
 - (2018-21) Collaborated with other CW faculty to decide on M.F.A. candidates for admission.
 - (2017-20) Event Co-Organizer for Mary Ellen & Jim Wayne Miller Celebration of Writing.
 - (2019-20) Worked on M.F.A. Program Assessment – wrote rubric details for one of the outcomes.
 - (2018) Recruited and hosted screenwriter/director Brad Riddell for Creative Writing Reading Series Event.
- 2019 Participated on hiring committee for temporary fiction writer for Spring 2020.
- 2019 Gender Images Film Series Committee, Gender and Women’s Studies.
- 2017-19 Faculty Development Committee
- 2019 Panel Speaker for Kelly Reames’ English Capstone class. I discussed my experiences in graduate school, specifically as an M.F.A.

- 2019 Presented on Creative Writing Research in Jane Fife's ENG 299 class.
- 2019 Spoke with Dawn Hall's ENG 365 class about *Mary Shelley*.
- 2019 Introduced *Mary Shelley* and led discussion for Gender Images Film Series.
- 2019 Panel Participant, Creative Research Process, ENG 299 (Dr. Rice).
- 2018-20 Diversity Discussion Group Co-Organizer.
- 2018-20 Hosted prospective students in various classes.
- 2018-19 Judge, Gender and Women's Studies Writing Contest.
- 2018 Represented WKU at 2018 Kentucky College and Career Day, Louisville, KY.
- 2018 Head for the Hill Volunteer.
- 2018 Panel Participant, Creative Research Process, ENG 299 (Dr. Langdon).

College (PCAL)

- 2020 Worked table for PCAL Preview Day for Latinx students.
- 2019 Coordinated with Kylene Stephens' (dance instructor) and her dance students for a collaborative project with ENG 203 (Intro Creative Writing).
- 2019 Introduced *Klute* and led discussion for Essential Cinema Series.
- 2019 Participated in faculty group discussion to begin building Game Design Certificate Program for WKU.
- 2019 Collaborated with Theater Department to bring Claudia Barnett to campus for the production of *Aglaonike's Tiger* and to guest lecture for my playwriting class.
- 2018-19 Collaborated with Film Faculty as a respondent for FILM 482 Thesis Projects.
- 2018 Introduced *Rear Window* and led discussion for Essential Cinema Series.
- 2018 Panel Participant, Graduate School in Film, Film Department.
- 2018 Panel Respondent, New Works Festival 2018, Theater Department.
- 2017 Film Club Guest Lecturer (Screenwriting).

2017 Introduced *Bonnie and Clyde* and led discussion for Essential Cinema Series.

University

- 2020-21 Faculty Sponsor, Transgender & Non-Binary Student Group.
- ["Self-Titled" story by Gabby Wilson \(*Talisman*, 2020\)](#)
- 2019-21 Faculty Sponsor, C.O.R.E (see below article links):
- ["English Department works with CORE to Assist Local Elders in Storytelling" by Madeline Kinser \(September 6, 2019\)](#)
 - ["English Department Helps Lead CORE in New Directions to Assist Community Elders during COVID-19" \(July 29, 2020\)](#)
- 2021 Guest Facilitator, CITL New Faculty Session. Lead breakout room group discussion about new faculty teaching tips, tricks, and concerns.
- 2021 Participant. *How to Survive a Plague* discussion group (2 sessions) facilitated by Dr. Dawn Winters.
- 2021 Guest Speaker, Gender Images Film Series discussion about "Quarter Life Poetry", Zoom.
- 2021 Panelist. Discussed Honors thesis projects strategies/expectations with Honors students and other faculty. The Mahurin Honors College. Zoom.
- 2021 Participant. Trauma-Informed Pedagogy Discussion Group. 3 sessions. CITL.
- 2021 Creator. Trauma-Informed Pedagogy short concept introduction video (with Dr. Dawn Winters) for CITL.
- 2020 Faculty Respondent, "Professors and Pronouns" event for Stonewall Suites LLC.
- 2020 Participated in "Confederates in Our Attic" Deliberative Dialogue.
- 2020 Participated in 10 different CITL Webinars to adjust face-to-face courses to online and hybrid course delivery.

Professional

- 2019 Gave notes on Juliet & Keith Giglio's now-produced film script, *Haunted Hearts*.
- 2019-20 Judge. Undergraduate Creative Writing Awards. Short screenplay category. SUNY Oswego.

2018 Gave notes on Juliet & Keith Giglio's now-produced film script, *A Very Nutty Christmas*.

2018 Judge. Panic Film Festival. SUNY Oswego.

Community Outreach – Bowling Green, KY

2021 Volunteer, Household Hazardous Waste Day event, Warren County Public Works, Bowling Green.

2019-21 Judge, Creative Writing Contest for High School Students in Bowling Green.

2019 Facilitator, Creative Writing Workshop at Bowling Green Junior High.

2018-19 Led "Writing and Trauma" Workshops at Barren River Area Safe Space.

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2014-15 Story Writer, Episode App, Pocket Gems.

2013 Scripted Series Intern, Lifetime Television, A+E Networks.

2013 Development Intern, Voltage Pictures.

2012-13 Development Professional, Spec Scout.

2012 Script Reader Intern, Abbot Entertainment.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

University Film & Video Association

Script Caucus

Gender Caucus

Diversity & Inclusion Caucus

Certified Facilitator for TimeSlips