

Josette Torres, MFA

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Education

Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia, May 2010.
Graduate Certificate in Future Professoriate, Virginia Tech, May 2010.
MFA Thesis: *Bodies Degraded by Friction*, April 2010.
Thesis Committee: Bob Hicok (director), Edward Falco, Jeff Mann.

Bachelor of Arts in English and Creative Writing, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, August 2007.
Minor: Psychology.
Undergraduate Honors Thesis: *She Did It in Fluorescence*, December 2006.
Thesis Mentor: Donald Platt.

Academic Faculty and Staff Appointments

Information Technology Specialist, Virginia Tech Department of Political Science, Blacksburg, Virginia, August 2016 – present.

Manager, Collaboratory for Digital Discourse and Culture, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia, June 2014 – present.

Instructor, Virginia Tech Department of Political Science, Blacksburg, Virginia, August 2011 – August 2016.

Affiliated Faculty: ASPECT (Alliance of Social, Political, Ethical, and Cultural Thought) Program, March 2012 – June 2015.

Manager, Center for Digital Discourse and Culture, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia, August 2011 – June 2014.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Virginia Tech Department of English, Blacksburg, Virginia, August 2007 – May 2010.

Site Operator, Learning Spaces Operations, Teaching and Learning Technologies @ Information Technology at Purdue, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, April 2000 – July 2007.

Poetry Publications

"Intersecretion," *Palaver*, Spring 2017, May 6, 2017.
<<http://palaverjournal.com/wp-content/Spring%202017/Spring2017PalaverSpreads.pdf>>

"While My Thesis Director is Reading," *Palaver*, Spring 2017, May 6, 2017.
<<http://palaverjournal.com/wp-content/Spring%202017/Spring2017PalaverSpreads.pdf>>

"A Parting Gift Before Moving On," *November Bees*, March 10, 2017.
<<http://novemberbees.com/jtorres.html>>

- "Distancing," *Eunoia Review*, December 16, 2016.
<<https://eunoiareview.wordpress.com/2016/12/16/unilluminated/>>
- "Unilluminated," *Eunoia Review*, December 15, 2016.
<<https://eunoiareview.wordpress.com/2016/12/15/distancing/>>
- "Aubade for Our Island, Three Hours Wide," *Rat's Ass Review*, Fall/Winter 2016, November 11, 2016.
<http://ratsassreview.net/?page_id=2268>
- "A Political Convention Reporter's Working Breakfast at the CNN Grill," *The Pylon*, November 7, 2016).
<<https://thepylon.org/craft/a-political-convention-reporters-working-breakfast-at-the-cnn-grill/>>
- "Blank Verse While Under the Influence," *Otoliths*, November 1, 2016.
<http://the-otolith.blogspot.com.au/2016/10/josette-torres_21.html>
- "This is Not a Moment I Can Show You," *Otoliths*, November 1, 2016.
<http://the-otolith.blogspot.com.au/2016/10/josette-torres_21.html>
- "Still Life with Red Brick and Reserved Parking," *Eunoia Review*, September 26, 2016.
<<https://eunoiareview.wordpress.com/2016/09/26/still-life-with-red-brick-and-reserved-parking/>>
- "Our Lives, Asynchronous," *Poetry Breakfast*, September 9, 2016.
<<https://poetrybreakfast.com/2016/09/09/our-lives-asynchronous-a-poem-by-josette-torres/>>
- "Quasi-Sonnet for Two Writers in Love," Love & Ensuing Madness, *Rat's Ass Review*, September 2, 2016.
<http://ratsassreview.net/?page_id=1070>
- "Master, I Will Never Abandon You," Love & Ensuing Madness, *Rat's Ass Review*, September 2, 2016.
<http://ratsassreview.net/?page_id=1070>
- "Dear With Cat (Remix)," *Thirteen Ways Magazine*, June 1, 2016.
<<http://thirteenwaysmagazine.com/magazine/>>
- "Dots, Showers, and Wings," *Eunoia Review*, May 20, 2016.
<<https://eunoiareview.wordpress.com/2016/05/20/dots-showers-and-wings/>>
- "Day of the Dead," *Eunoia Review*, May 19, 2016.
<<https://eunoiareview.wordpress.com/2016/05/19/day-of-the-dead/>>
- "Sestina for an Empty Lecture Hall Sheltering a Late Shift Student Worker," *Artemis*, Volume XXIII, 2016.
- "Titles of Poems I Wanted to Draft for National Poetry Writing Month, But Didn't," *Star 82 Review* Issue 4.1, March 7, 2016.
<<http://www.star82review.com/4.1/torres-titles.html>>
- "Second-Year Malaise," *Unbroken*, March/April 2016.
<<http://roo.thebookrebel.com/current-issue-2/>>
- "Ritual Cleansing," *Eunoia Review*, February 7, 2016.
<<https://eunoiareview.wordpress.com/2016/02/07/ritual-cleansing/>>
- "And Then Time," *The Pylon*, February 1, 2016.
<<http://thepylon.org/craft/and-then-time/>>
- "Requiem for a Neighbor Two Doors Down," *escarp*, December 9, 2015.
<<http://www.escarp.org/posts/674728923406729217.php>>

"The Argument Against Upward Mobility," *Dead Snakes*, December 6, 2015.
<<http://deadsnakes.blogspot.com/2015/12/josette-torres-two-poems.html>>

"Tinfoil Boats," *Dead Snakes*, December 6, 2015.
<<http://deadsnakes.blogspot.com/2015/12/josette-torres-two-poems.html>>

"Not a Relationship Goal," *The Woove* Spring 2015 Part 1, February 24, 2015.
<<http://www.wuvt.vt.edu/article/woove-2015-spring-part1>>

"Woman, Scorn," *The Woove* Spring 2015 Part 1, February 24, 2015.
<<http://www.wuvt.vt.edu/article/woove-2015-spring-part1>>

"The Glamour," *The Woove* Spring 2015 Part 1, February 24, 2015.
<<http://www.wuvt.vt.edu/article/woove-2015-spring-part1>>

"The You He Has Replaced," *The Woove* Spring 2015 Part 1, February 24, 2015.
<<http://www.wuvt.vt.edu/article/woove-2015-spring-part1>>

"The Smoothing Quiet," *HYGIENE*, July 26, 2014.

"My Kindred, I Say—," *Eskimo Pie*, June 14, 2014.
<<http://www.eskimopie.net/torresjun14.htm>>

"Story, Before Her Collection," *Eskimo Pie*, June 14, 2014.
<<http://www.eskimopie.net/torresjun14.htm>>

"Urban Sprawl," *Eskimo Pie*, June 14, 2014.
<<http://www.eskimopie.net/torresjun14.htm>>

"Milk Box," *Eunoia Review*, April 14, 2014.
<<http://eunoiareview.wordpress.com/2014/04/14/milk-box/>>

"Unexpected Public Performance," *The Woove*, Volume X, Issue 1, January 2014.

"What I Learned Living Above a College Dive Bar," *The Woove*, Volume X, Issue 1, January 2014.

"Tercet for Picking Up a Political Operative," *The Woove*, Volume X, Issue 1, January 2014.

"Ars Micropoetica," *The Woove*, Volume X, Issue 1, January 2014.

"An Attempt at Southern Belle-ness Gone Sauced," *The Woove*, Volume X, Issue 1, January 2014.

"Flipping Through Facebook Photos While My Mind Supplies Missing Details," *The Woove*, Volume X, Issue 1, January 2014.

"Cut," *Ayris*, Issue 3, Fall 2013.

"This I Don't Believe (is Really Happening)," *Dead Snakes*, October 25, 2013.
<<http://deadsnakes.blogspot.com/2013/10/josette-torres-three-poems.html>>

"Why a Traditional Fallen Woman Narrative—Misplaced, Then Remembered—Got Me Out of Bed Before Sunrise," *Dead Snakes*, October 25, 2013.
<<http://deadsnakes.blogspot.com/2013/10/josette-torres-three-poems.html>>

"A Non-comprehensive List of Subjects I'm Tired of Covering in Poems," *Dead Snakes*, October 25, 2013.
<<http://deadsnakes.blogspot.com/2013/10/josette-torres-three-poems.html>>

"Ode to My Old Third Shift Instructional Support Job," *Down in the Dirt*, Volume 119, September/October 2013.
<<http://scars.tv/dirt/dirt119sept-oct13/dirt119sept-oct13.htm#torres>>

- "Age-Defying Clarifier," *Eunoia Review*, August 7, 2013.
<<http://eunoiareview.wordpress.com/2013/08/07/age-defying-clarifier/>>
- "The Final Exam Question for COM 594: Advanced Media Manipulation," *Eunoia Review*, August 6, 2013.
<<http://eunoiareview.wordpress.com/2013/08/06/the-final-exam-question-for-com-594-advanced-media-manipulation/>>
- "Declaration of Independence," *Eunoia Review*, August 6, 2013.
<<http://eunoiareview.wordpress.com/2013/08/07/declaration-of-independence/>>
- "Nothing Changes, Not Ever," *Pyrokinection*, May 21, 2013.
<<http://www.pyrokinection.com/2013/05/two-poems-by-josette-torres.html>>
- "I Continue to Refuse the Role I am Given," *Pyrokinection*, May 21, 2013. Reprinted in *Storm Cycle*, 2014.
<<http://www.pyrokinection.com/2013/05/two-poems-by-josette-torres.html>>
- "Lament of a Google Glass User, Spring 2015," *The New Verse News*, March 17, 2013.
<<http://newversenews.blogspot.com/2013/03/lament-of-google-glass-user-spring-2015.html>>
- "Metaphor, Baggage," *Leaves of Ink*, February 19, 2013.
<<http://www.leaves-of-ink.com/2013/02/metaphor-baggage.html>>
- "This is How I Imagine Walking Your Last Hour," *Eunoia Review*, February 7, 2013.
<<http://eunoiareview.wordpress.com/2013/02/07/this-is-how-i-imagine-walking-your-last-hour/>>
- "Three in Space Designed for Two," *Eunoia Review*, February 7, 2013.
<<http://eunoiareview.wordpress.com/2013/02/07/three-in-space-designed-for-two/>>
- "What the Girl in the Back of the Screening Room is Really Thinking," *Emerge Literary Journal*, Winter 2012.
- "A Waitress Bears Witness to a Blind Date," *Boston Literary Magazine*, 2012 Winter 2013.
- "Field Observations and Wishes," *Silhouette Literary and Art Magazine*, Volume 35, Issue 1, Fall 2012.
<https://issuu.com/silhouettetvt/docs/vol_35___issue_i>
- "On a Reporter's Assertion That a Recent Presidential Debate was Poetry," *The New Verse News*, October 13, 2012.
<<http://newversenews.blogspot.com/2012/10/on-reporters-assertion-that-recent.html>>
- "Just Saying," *Big River Poetry Review*, October 9, 2012. Reprinted in *Big River Poetry Review* Volume 1, July 22, 2013.
<<http://www.bigriverpoetry.com/1/post/2012/10/josette-torres-poem-takes-a-cryptic-look-at-fate.html>>
- "Aubade for Lovers, Separated" (published as "Aubade for Lovers"), *16 Blocks* Issue 39, March 23, 2012.
- "The Trick is to Make it Personal," National Poetry Month Cento Contest weblog, April 2011.
<<http://napomocento.blogspot.com/2011/04/josette-torres-trick-is-to-make-it.html>>
- "Untitled Poems," Virginia Tech Graduate School Handbook and Planner, August 2009.
- "Aubade for the Quiet Before I Walk Home and Never Call You Again," *Pens on Fire*, January 2009.
<<http://www.pensonfire.com/January09/aubade.html>>
- "Untitled Poems," Virginia Tech Graduate School Handbook and Planner, August 2008.

"October, and—," *The Bell Tower*, Spring 2007.

"Rainshowers at 4AM," *The Bell Tower*, Spring 2007.

"Cluttered," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, December 11, 2006.

"What I Used to Herd," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, May 1, 2006.

"Whatever, He's Not Listening," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition II, December 14, 2005.

"Scattered Thoughts While Standing in the Drop Line Outside Hovde Hall Room 54," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition II, December 14, 2005.

"Ode to the Memorial Mall," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, May 3, 2005.

"In Two Weeks I'll Break My Lease and Leave You," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, May 3, 2005.

"Week 16, Goodbye," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, May 3, 2005.

"Date Rape," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, December 13, 2004.

"Expiration Date," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, December 13, 2004.

"iPodjacking," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, May 3, 2004.

"An Admission of Defeat," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, May 3, 2004.

"Sour Lemonade," *The Bell Tower*, Spring 2004.

"Mister Before and Mister After," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, December 17, 2003.

"Conversation Outside the Lecture Hall," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, December 17, 2003.

"Divested," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, April 29, 2002.

"Untitled Haikus," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, April 29, 2002.

"Boys Close Enough to Touch," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, April 29, 2002.

"The Fictionist," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, April 29, 2002.

"A Sedate Morning Breakfast," *The Bell Tower*, Spring 2002.

"The Camera," *The Bell Tower*, Spring 2002.

"Haikus," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, December 10, 2001.

"Dear With Cat," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, December 10, 2001.

"Untitled," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, December 11, 2000.

"The Trigger Explained," *The (Purdue) Exponent* Literary Edition, December 11, 2000.

Fiction Publications

"Heroin Girl," *Fiction on the Web*, April 8, 2014.
<<http://www.fictionontheweb.co.uk/2014/04/heroin-girl-by-josette-torres.html>>

"Breakup Recovery Circa Fall 2004," *One Forty Fiction*, March 21, 2013.
<<http://www.onefortyfiction.com/archives/breakup-recovery-circa-fall-2004>>

"A Photographer's Tale," *Strictly Confidential*, ed. Porter Shreve, Parlor Press: West Lafayette, Indiana, 2005.

"Miranda Overclocked," *The Bell Tower*, Spring 2002.

Nonfiction Publications

"PC Undertaker," *Tiny Text*, July 25, 2016.
<https://twitter.com/Tiny_Text/status/757690409984282625>

"Doctoral Student Uterine Fibroid Problems," *Tiny Text*, May 16, 2016.
<https://twitter.com/Tiny_Text/status/732338617725505536>

"Progress and Main: On Henderson Lawn," *The Pylon*, February 1, 2016.
<<http://thepylon.org/craft/progress-at-main-on-henderson-lawn/>>

"A Note from the Editor," *The New River: A Journal of Digital Writing and Art*, July 7, 2014.
<<http://www.cddc.vt.edu/journals/newriver/14Spring/editor.html>>

"The Art of Selling (or Buying, or Downloading, or Sharing) The Mixtape," *WUVT Spring Radiothon Newsletter*, March 2014.

"Note from the Editors" (with Amy Vance), *The New River: A Journal of Digital Writing and Art*, December 17, 2009.
<<http://www.cddc.vt.edu/journals/newriver/09Fall/note.html>>

"Home Sweet Home," *jonline.com / Lafayette Journal and Courier*, August 4, 2007. (no longer online)

Edited Books

The Plaid Avenger's World. Third through ninth editions. Kendall Hunt Publishing: Dubuque, Iowa, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2017.

The Plaid Avenger's Western World: Special Edition. Second Edition. Kendall Hunt Publishing: Dubuque, Iowa, 2014.

The Plaid Avenger #2. Comic book. Plaid Avenger LLC: Blacksburg, Virginia, 2010.

Edited Journals

Editor, *The New River: A Journal of Digital Writing and Art*, Virginia Tech, Spring Semester 2014.
<<http://www.cddc.vt.edu/journals/newriver/14Spring/index.html>>

Managing Editor (with Amy Vance), *The New River: A Journal of Digital Writing and Art*, Virginia Tech, Fall Semester 2009.
<<http://www.cddc.vt.edu/journals/newriver/09Fall/index.html>>

Book Reviews

Book review of Pete Hamill's *Tabloid City*, published in *The Roanoke Times*, May 22, 2011.

Book review of Laura Ingraham's *The Obama Diaries*, published in *The Collegiate Times*, August 31, 2010.

Book review of John McNally's *After the Workshop*, published in *The Collegiate Times*, August 12, 2010.

Book review of Dominique Brown's *Slow Love: How I Lost My Job, Put on My Pajamas & Found Happiness*, published in *The Collegiate Times*, July 29, 2010.

Book review of Austin Kleon's *Newspaper Blackout*, published in *The Collegiate Times*, July 22, 2010 (reprinted in *The Woove*, August 31, 2010).

Book review of Bret Easton Ellis's *Imperial Bedrooms*, published in *The Collegiate Times*, July 8, 2010.

Book review of Glenn Beck's *The Overton Window*, published in *The Collegiate Times*, July 1, 2010.

Course Assignments

IS 4004: International Studies Senior Seminar, Virginia Tech Department of Political Science, Fall Semester 2013 (course facilitator).

IS 4004: International Studies Senior Seminar, Virginia Tech Department of Political Science, Spring Semester 2013 (course facilitator).

IS 4004: Senior Seminar: Interdisciplinary Perspectives in International Studies, Virginia Tech Department of Political Science, Spring Semester 2012 (course facilitator).

IS 4004: Senior Seminar: New Media and 21st Century Learning, Virginia Tech Department of Political Science, Fall Semester 2011 & Fall Semester 2012 (course facilitator).

ENGL 2744: Introduction to Creative Writing, Virginia Tech Department of English, Fall Semester 2009 (instructor of record).

ENGL 1106: First-Year Composition: Writing Through the University Experience, Virginia Tech Department of English, Spring Semester 2008, Spring Semester 2009 – Spring Semester 2010 (instructor of record).

ENGL 1105: First-Year Composition: Introduction to College Composition, Virginia Tech Department of English, Fall Semester 2008 (instructor of record).

Research Activity

Co-Investigator, with Bob Leonard (PI), Raymond Jonathan Ginn, et al. "Building Home: Using the Arts to Help Plan for Sustainable Communities in the New River Valley," Virginia Tech, March 2012 – October 2013.

Service and Outreach

Reviewer, 2015-2016 Common Book Project, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia.

Organizer and Judge, 2010 Second Annual Woove Literary Contest, WUVT-FM, Blacksburg, Virginia.

Nonfiction Screening Judge, 2009 Virginia Tech Department of English Undergraduate Literary Awards, Blacksburg, Virginia.

Judge, 2009 First Annual Woove Literary Contest, WUVT-FM, Blacksburg, Virginia.

Judge, 2009 Virginia High School Poetry Contest, Virginia Tech Department of English, Blacksburg, Virginia.

Writing Coach, Virginia Tech Writing Center, Blacksburg, Virginia, August 2007 – May 2008, January 2009 – December 2009.

Creative writing undergraduate major volunteer contact, Boilermaker Network, Purdue University Undergraduate Studies Program, West Lafayette, Indiana, January 2005 – August 2007.

Panel Presentations

“Applying to Creative Writing MFA Programs” (panelist), Professor Erika Meitner’s Creative Writing Capstone class, Virginia Tech, May 2010.

“Applying to Creative Writing MFA Programs” (panelist), Virginia Tech Department of English, October 2009.

Invited Presentations

“Digital Ephemera, The New River, and You” (sole presenter), Edward Falco’s New Media Creative Writing class, September 2, 2015.

“Social Media and International Relations” (sole presenter), Dr. Priya Dixit’s International Relations class, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia, May 2015.

“Weblogs and Journalism” (sole presenter), Kate Kimball’s First Year Composition class, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia, October 2008.

Conference Presentations

“How Twitter Saved My Sanity in Graduate School” (sole presenter), 140 Characters Conference (#140conf DC), Washington, D.C., June 17, 2010.

“Page to Stage: New Monologues and Dialogues” (panelist), Shanks Hall, Virginia Tech English Graduate Conference, Blacksburg, Virginia, February 21, 2009.

“Page to Stage: VT Playwrights Present New Monologues and Dialogues” (panelist), Hilton Chicago, Association of Writers and Writing Programs 2009 Annual Conference, Chicago, Illinois, February 13, 2009.

Readings

Featured poetry reader at Milkweed Writer's Group Perseids Eve reading, Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library, Blacksburg, Virginia, August 12, 2011.

MFA thesis poetry reading with members of the Virginia Tech Creative Writing MFA Program Class of 2010, Performing Arts Building, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia, April 30, 2010.

Poetry reading with members of the Virginia Tech Creative Writing MFA Program, Shanks Hall, Virginia Tech English Graduate Conference, Blacksburg, Virginia, February 21, 2009.

Poetry reading with members of the Virginia Tech Creative Writing MFA Program, Shanks Hall, Virginia Tech English Graduate Conference, Blacksburg, Virginia, February 15, 2008.

Solo poetry/creative non-fiction reading (“On the Occasion of Leaving Purdue for Virginia Tech”), Skylight Coffeehouse, Lafayette, Indiana, August 1, 2007.

Poetry reading with members of ENGL 396H Creative Writing Honors Capstone course, Stewart Center, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, December 7, 2006.

Awards and Honors

Distinct notice for “The Trick is to Make it Personal,” National Poetry Month Cento Contest, April 30, 2011.

Travel grant for AWP 2008 Annual Conference in New York City, Virginia Tech Department of English, February 2008.

Alfred Knobler Graduate Scholar Fellowship, Virginia Tech Department of English, August 2007 – May 2010.

Winner of the Polymnia Award for “Aubade in Memory of Working Third Shift,” “Blank Verse While Under the Influence” and “Rainshowers at 4AM,” Purdue University Literary Awards, April 2007.

Winner of first place poetry prize for “Rainshowers at 4AM,” *The Bell Tower*, April 2007.

Selected for enrollment in first undergraduate Creative Writing Honors Capstone course, Purdue University Department of English, Fall 2006.

Winner of the Bain-Swiggett Award in Poetry for “In Two Weeks I’ll Break My Lease and Leave You,” Purdue University Literary Awards, April 2005.

Winner of the Martha E. McKinney Award in Poetry for “iPodjacking,” “Date Rape” and “An Admission of Defeat,” Purdue University Literary Awards, April 2004.

Professional Memberships

Association of Writers & Writing Programs