

TYLER JC WHIDDEN

TylerJCWhidden@gmail.com

Education

Ohio University, Athens, OH

- Master of Fine Arts, April 2016: Playwriting, GPA: 4.00
 - *Related Courses*: six semesters of Seminar in Dramatic Writing; six semesters of Business Practices; six semesters of Playwriting for Production; four semesters of Theater History / Dramaturgy.
 - Produced, wrote, and directed approximately 60 “Midnight Madness” plays.
 - Staged Reading of first-year play, *Run Kingsbury Run*.
 - Staged Reading of second-year play, *ChocolateSexPuppyTacos*.
 - Full Production of thesis play, *Occupation: Dad*.
- Bachelor of Fine Arts, June 1999: Playwriting

Goddard College, Port Townsend, WA

- Master of Fine Arts, June 2011: English-Creative Writing, GPA: 4.00
 - *Related Courses*: Four semesters of Directed Writing: Creative Thesis, Dramatic Structure, Humor in Storytelling, Character-Driven Structure, Theatrical Devices, Philosophical Approaches to Theater.
 - Staged Reading of thesis play, *Dancing With N.E.D.*
 - Assistant Drama Editor: *Pitkin Review*, 2009-2011

Teaching Experience

College of Wooster - Wooster, OH

Professor of Record

2017

- THTD 301: Playwriting

Ohio University - Athens, OH

Instructor of Record – Online

2015 – present

- THAR 1710: The Theatrical Experience (Fall, 2015 - present)

Instructor of Record

2013 – 2015

- THAR 1710: The Theatrical Experience (Spring, 2015)
- THAR 1730: Fundamentals to Play Analysis and Playwriting (Fall, 2014)
- FAR 1500: Viewing Performance (2013 – 2014)

Southern New Hampshire University - Manchester, NH

Professor of Record – Online

2013 – present

- ENG 226: Creative Writing (2016 – present)
- ENG 327: Playwriting Workshop (2014 – present)
- LIT 323: Studies in Drama (2013 – present)

Professional Production History

Occupation: Dad

- Commissioned Production – Ensemble Theatre, Cleveland Heights, OH, March 2017
- Workshop Production – Ohio University, Athens, OH, April 2016

The Madness of Tyler Whidden (Collection of Short Plays)

- Commissioned Production – Cleveland Comedy Festival, November 2016
- Production – Put-in-Bay, OH, September 2014

Caged (One-Act)

- Commissioned Production – Massillon Museum of Art Big Read Event, April 2016

Rockpocalypse (Short)

- Production – Actors Theatre of Louisville Apprentice Company, Louisville, KY October 2015

ChocolateSexPuppyTacos (A Non-Denominational Comedy)

- Staged Reading – Seabury Quinn, Jr. Playwrights' Festival, Athens, OH, April, 2015

Run Kingsbury Run

- Production – Ensemble Theatre, Cleveland, OH, March 2015
- Staged Reading – Seabury Quinn, Jr. Playwrights' Festival, Athens, OH, April 2014

Detour (One-Act)

- Production – “An Evening of Truck Stop Plays” – CIC Theater, Chicago, IL, June 2014

Dancing With N.E.D.

- Production – The Grange Playhouse, South Howell, NJ, February 2014
- Production – Ensemble Theatre, Cleveland, OH, March 2012

The Unabridged Almost True Campfire Tales of Put-in-Bay

- Commissioned Production – Put-in-Bay, OH, September 2013

Grants, Fellowships, Professional Memberships

- Dramatists Guild of America, (2011 – present)
- American Association of Community Theatre
- 2015 – 2016 Anthony Trisolini Named Fellowship – One of the most prestigious University Fine Arts awards in Ohio
- Ohio University Professional Playwriting Program, Full Scholarship (2013 - 2016)

Publications

*F*ck It: A Collection of Short Plays*

- Released July, 2017
- ARK Publications
- Opened at #1 on Amazon's Newest Releases in Drama/Play Anthologies

Additional Experience (selected)

Ensemble Theatre – Cleveland, OH

Associate Artistic Director / Director of Education / Dramaturg

2010-present

- Produce the Annual Colombi New Plays Festival including readings and productions of new plays.
- Create and execute a series of dramatic writing workshops focusing on a range of playwriting techniques, practices, and genres for established theater company in Cleveland with participants ranging in age, background, and experience.
- Conduct public readings and/or productions of the plays created in workshops.
- Create and execute a series of general theater classes with the aim of exposing artists with limited theater experience to the art of performance, writing, and production of original work.
- As Dramaturg, research historical and cultural significance and information for plays produced at Ensemble for the purpose of aiding directors, actors, and production teams including work on *The Iceman Cometh* and the Ohio premiere of Charles Smith's *The Gospel According to James*.
- Compile Student Study Guides and host talk-backs and Q&As for local schools participating in our Academic Outreach Program.

Southern New Hampshire University, COCE

SME (Subject Matter Expert)

2016 - present

- Work with university course development team to develop courses for online course catalogue.
- Create assignments, discussion board topics, lesson plans, etc. following the department's assessment summative overviews.

Cleveland International Film Festival, Cleveland, OH

Shorts Programming Assistant / Synopsis Writer / Selection Committee

2011 – Present

- Help organize and plan short film programs for Cleveland International Film Festival.
- Work as liaison for over 165 filmmakers aiding them in preparation for their films, materials, and visits to CIFF.
- Watch and write synopsis for more than 50 films as part of the annual film festival's program guide.
- Watch and evaluate films for submission into recognized film festival.

Stuart's Opera House Education Program, Nelsonville, OH

Playwriting Teacher / Director

2014, 2017

- Organized and taught playwriting classes geared towards children between the ages of 8 – 16 as part of a summer camp program for underprivileged students of local schools.
- Planned, produced, and directed final show showcasing work conceived by the students.

Midnight Madness Festival, Athens, OH

Producer / Writer / Director

2013 – 2016

- Planned, produced, and contributed for weekly short play festival including “Coffin Block Madness,” “Redemption Madness,” and “Weather Permitting Madness.”

Climate Change Theatre Action Festival, Athens, OH

Producer / Writer / Director

2015

- Planned, produced, and contributed for short play festival focusing on bringing awareness and fostering discussion around climate change.
- Worked with the Fine Arts Marketing Department to help promote the show including writing press releases, interviews, and on-campus promotions.
- Worked in conjunction with NoPassport Theatre Alliance, The Arctic Cycle and Theatre Without Borders, and with HowlRound.com to livestream the event.

Seabury Quinn, Jr. Playwrights' Festival, Athens, OH

Producer

2014-2015

- Planned, organized, and spear-headed the production of annual new plays festival.
- Worked with all facets of the Division of Theater to cast actors, reserve rehearsal rooms, schedule rehearsals and performances, and promote the festival.
- Organized and arranged special festival events including Welcome Breakfast, post-play discussions, and Final Evening Dinner.
- Worked as liaison to make arrangements for travel, lodging, and schedule during the festival for festival mentors: Janet Allen – Indiana Repertory Theatre, Aaron Carter – Steppenwolf Theatre, and Michael Lincoln – Actor's Theatre of Louisville.

Additional Skills

Proficient in Word and all Office programs.

Proficient in online course software including Blackboard, Moodle, and Canvas.

Courses Taught (descriptions)

THTD 301: Playwriting – College of Wooster (Spring, 2017)

Playwriting is intended to provide beginning playwrights an opportunity to explore the craft through various writing exercises involving structure, character and idea development, setting, dialogue and more. Students will do analytical work as well as creative work. Writing assignments include the creation of short plays, a ten-minute play and a one-act.

THAR 1710: The Theatrical Experience – Ohio University (Spring, 2015; online: Fall, 2015 - present)

Examines the nature and function of theater by exploring the creative development and cultural significance of dramatic art. Students will also attend and analyze selected theatrical performances.

THAR 1730: Fundamentals to Play Analysis and Playwriting – Ohio University (Fall, 2014)

This course is an introduction to text analysis based on the premise that understanding a play's text is an important step toward understanding both performance of that play and the means by which that performance is created. We will also explore the basic structure, craft and technique of playwriting. Students will do analytical work as well as creative work.

FAR 1500: Viewing Performance – Ohio University (Fall 2013, Spring 2014)

To integrate classroom and student life activities at Ohio University by introducing students to the major productions of the Schools of Music, Dance, and Theater. A seminar depicting what the students should expect to see, hear, and experience at each performance will be conducted before the beginning of each production.

ENG 226: Introduction to Creative Writing – SNHU; Online (2016 – present)

An introductory creative writing course designed to acquaint students with the craft of creating writing and the skills that will be required in subsequent creative writing workshops. Students will explore such craft issues as point of view, voice, characterization, dialogue, setting, conflict, rhythm, imagery, poetic structure, and dramatic scene development. Students will be expected to submit a number of writing exercises, including stories and poems.

ENG 327: Playwriting Workshop – Southern New Hampshire; Online (2014 – present)

This online course is a roundtable forum in which 10 to 15 students will write stage plays of various lengths using traditional and experimental methods and forms. Members of the class will produce at intervals to be established by the instructor and will take turns presenting their works to the group for comment and discussion.

LIT 323: Studies in Drama – Southern New Hampshire; Online (2013 – present)

This online course focuses on drama as a literary genre, examining the origins of the genre, its literary conventions and its current productions. In reading plays that may range from the Greeks to contemporary Broadway, students will not only see the changing dynamics of the genres form, but also experience the important role the genre has played in American, British, European, and global society and culture.

Playwriting II: One-Act Historical Plays – Ensemble Theatre (2010 – 2013)

Students introduced to more complex structures, character and plot development for writing longer One-Act plays focused on historically-based topics, particularly those centered around Ohio history.

Playwright's Workshop – Ensemble Theatre (2010 – 2013)

Students learn and apply the principle tools of dramatic writing and develop and apply a critical vocabulary through in-class discussion and critique. The class also develops the students' critical capacities as they address their own works, peers' works, and published works.

Playwriting I: Ten-Minute Historical Plays – Ensemble Theatre (2010 – 2012)

Introduction to theories of playwriting in particular, and dramatic writing in general. Students introduced to basic structure, idea development, character and plot development for writing Ten-Minute plays focused on historically-based topics, particularly those centered around Ohio history.

Fundamentals of Playwriting – Ensemble Theatre (2010 – 2011)

Introduction to the principles and practices of dramatic writing. Designed for the beginning writer, with an emphasis on developing a common language for discussion, analysis and production of dramatic works.