

# Michelle Aitken

Lecturer in English  
*Updated January 2025*

☎ (334) 394-5815

✉ jaitken3@aum.edu

📍 7400 East Drive  
Montgomery, AL 36117

## Education

**MLA, English**  
Dec 2020

**Auburn University at Montgomery**

Master of Liberal Arts, English

Thesis: *A Study of Dark Romanticism: Poe's Influence through "The Fall of the House of Usher"*

**BA, English**  
Dec 2018

**Auburn University at Montgomery**

Bachelor of Arts, English

Minor: Creative Writing

## Professional Experience

**Lecturer**  
Aug 2022 – present

**Auburn University at Montgomery, Department of English and Philosophy**

- Responsible for instructing students at the undergraduate level in English Composition courses, in-person and online
- Utilize Blackboard to disseminate course material, including assignment sheets, video lectures, mentor texts, and peer discussion boards, to students in an accessible manner
- Administer, evaluate, and grade assignments and essays, record grades, and provide feedback in a timely manner
- Schedule and maintain regular office hours to meet with students
- Develop teaching materials in accordance with program standards, such as syllabi, visual aids, writing assignments, and supplementary notes
- Provide service to the department in needed areas
- Attend department meetings and assist in the development and growth of the English program

**Editorial Assistant**  
Jan 2018 – present

***THAT Literary Review***

- Utilize copy editing skills to facilitate the publication process
- Read, evaluate, and select works submitted for publication, as well as confer with authors regarding edits in content, style, and/or organization
- Facilitate the selection process for publication contents according to THAT's style, editorial style, and publishing requirements

**Adjunct Instructor**  
Jan 2021 – May 2022

- Develop and implement web content for THAT's website

### **Auburn University at Montgomery, Department of English and Philosophy**

- Responsible for instructing students at the undergraduate level in English Composition courses, in-person and online
- Utilized Blackboard to disseminate course material, including assignment sheets, video lectures, mentor texts, and peer discussion boards, to students in an accessible manner
- Administered, evaluated, and graded assignments and essays, recorded grades, and provided student feedback in a timely manner
- Scheduled and maintained regular office hours to meet with students
- Developed teaching materials in accordance with program standards, such as syllabi, visual aids, writing assignments, and supplementary notes

**Adjunct Instructor**  
Jan 2021 – Dec 2021

### **Huntingdon College, Department of Language and Literature**

- Responsible for instructing students at the undergraduate level in English Composition and Literature courses
- Administered, evaluated, and graded assignments, tests, and essays, recorded grades, and provided feedback based on university standards
- Utilized Canvas to create an easily accessible digital assignment schedule and to disseminate course material, including assignment sheets, literary passages, exam study guides, and peer discussion boards
- Scheduled and maintained regular office hours to meet with students
- Developed teaching materials, such as syllabi, visual aids, literary exams, writing assignments, thematic lectures, and supplementary notes
- Proctored literary exams in the classroom and online

**Various Editorial Positions**  
Aug 2017 – May 2021

### ***Filibuster*, Auburn University at Montgomery**

- Co-Editor (Aug 2017 – May 2018, Aug 2019 – May 2020)
  - Orchestrated and attended class meetings to generate interest in the magazine
  - Assisted with selection of works for final publication
  - Proofread and edited galleys
- Editor-in-Chief (Aug 2018 – May 2019)
  - Orchestrated team meetings with the co-editors and graphic designer to discuss details, including design options, layout of published works, and deadlines
  - Visited on-campus classes and attended campus events to garner interest in the magazine
  - Communicated with authors to acquire signed release of their work for publication
  - Finalized published works and layout of the magazine
  - Assisted in organization of Poetica event and Final Release Party
- Editorial Consultant (Aug 2020 – May 2021)
  - Assisted with training new staff on the operations of the magazine

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**  
Aug 2019 – Dec 2020

- Orchestrated meetings to discuss and work on finer details, including campus presence, layout structure, and editing practices
- Worked closely with the editor-in-chief and faculty sponsor to help transition the magazine toward having more of an online presence

### **Auburn University at Montgomery, Department of English and Philosophy**

- Responsible for instructing students at the undergraduate level in English Composition courses, in-person and online
- Administered, evaluated, and graded assignments and essays, recorded grades, and provided feedback according to program standards
- Scheduled and maintained regular office hours to meet with students

## **Conference Presentations**

Feb 2021

### **“Gothic Sympathies”**

*Association of College English Teachers of Alabama*

Feb 2022

### **“World Building and Social Reform: Writing a Way to a Better Future.”**

*Association of College English Teachers of Alabama*

## **Publications**

- **“Writing a Way to a Better Future” – Excerpt from *Iridesca***  
*Playwriting -- Association of College English Teachers of Alabama 2022 newsletter*
- **Sympathy for the Dead in “The Fall of the House of Usher”**  
*Essay -- Association of College English Teachers of Alabama 2021 newsletter*
- **Tribute to Dr. Gerard**  
*Nonfiction – THAT Literary Review website 2022*
- **In Memoriam of Dr. Gerard**  
*Nonfiction – Filibuster 2021*
- **Amnesia**  
*Play – Filibuster 2020*
- **Red Roses; Options; The Power**  
*Short Fiction – Filibuster 2019*
- **Castle on the Hill; Neverland; Oblivion; Building Blocks; Pillow Thoughts**  
*Photography – Filibuster 2019*
- **Life Bowl; In too deep; Consumption**  
*Poetry – Filibuster 2018-2019*

## Research and Conference Experience

**Graduate Research Assistant**  
2019

### **Auburn University at Montgomery, History Department**

- Assisted Dr. Burger in searching databases for location coordinates for research purposes
- Input information into Excel spreadsheets for documentation
- Cross-referenced information to ensure accuracy

**Graduate Assistant**  
2019

### **Auburn University at Montgomery, *Southern Studies Conference***

- Facilitated the sign-in process for presenters and visitors to the conference under Dr. Slipp's guidance
- Organized and set up conference rooms and supplied presenters with pertinent information regarding panels and the university

## Honors, Certifications, & Trainings

**HHMI Summer Fellow**  
2024

**Canvas LMS Training**  
2024

**FDI Online Instructor Certification**  
2020, 2022

**Phi Kappa Phi member**  
2017-2020

**Warhawk Scholarship** (2014-2018)

**Guin Nance Scholarship** (2017, 2018)

**"A Night Out" Scholarship** (2017)

**Graduate Focus Scholarship** (2018)

**Filibuster Scholarship** (2018)