

# Toyin Adeyemi

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**Phone:**



**Digital portfolio:**

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**Address:**

Columbia, MD

**Writing pedagogy, world literature, and film--interests:**

Fiction (short stories, the novella, the novel), essays, poetry; colonial and postcolonial African literature and theory ; Toni Morrison, William Faulkner and the American literary imagination ; Pre-revolution Russian literature (Fyodor Dostoevsky, Anton Chekhov, immigrant and migrant literature ; new media production

## EDUCATION

**Columbia University, School of the Arts (SoA),** New York  
*Creative Writing, Master of Fine Arts (MFA)*

- > McCrindle Fellow
- > Panelist in Festival Des Écrivains, Paris, France
- > Henfield Literary Prize Nominee
- > Research Arts for completion of thesis

**Wells College,** Aurora, NY

*English Literature and Psychology, Bachelor of Arts (BA)*

- > Managing Editor of *The Onyx*, student body paper
- > Senior thesis on Toni Morrison's *Love*

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**University of Maryland, College Park**

College Park, MD

*Lecturer, Department of English*

Sept. 2024 - Present

This position entails teaching evening courses in composition and advanced writing courses tailored to healthcare professionals. Professorship includes developing and delivering curricula designed to strengthen students' critical thinking, research, and professional communication and writing skills.

**Bellevue College**

Bellevue, WA

*Instructor, English Department*

Sept. 2017 – 2021

Developing and teaching approved curriculum objectives; identifying learning needs of students and making appropriate adjustments; fostering inclusive classroom environments where all students feel safe and motivated to learn; grading assignments, administering exams; using the Canvas eLearning platform to manage course content.

**Columbia University, SoA**

New York, NY

*Columbia Artist/Teacher*

Sept. 2012 – May 2013

Taught poetry and fiction to students at the Harlem Children's Zone. Workshops encouraged sharing, discussion, critical thinking, and creative expression.

**American University**  
*Teaching Assistant*

Washington, D.C  
Jan. 2012 – June 2012

Working beside a faculty mentor, taught lessons, graded, and held office hours for students of a College Writing Seminar. Developed skills in classroom management, course planning and teaching, evaluation, and grading. Teaching Assistantships at American University are competitive, subject to a rigorous application process, and based on performance in a prerequisite course (LIT 730).

**American University**  
*Writing Center Consultant*

Washington, D.C  
Sept. 2011 – June 2012

Guided undergraduate and graduate students, including international students, through a variety of writing tasks (ranging from composition assignments to presentations and speeches). As part of the training for becoming a Consultant, underwent literacy and writing pedagogy training and discussed productive approaches to working with non-native speakers of English. Developed skills in talking about writing with students, conducting productive writing conferences, and working with a wide variety of student needs and learning styles.

### **CLASSES TAUGHT**

#### **University of Maryland, College Park**

- > Fall 2024: ENGL 101A: *Freshman Composition*
- > Fall 2024 : ENGL 395 : *Writing for the Health Professions (two sections)*

#### **Bellevue College**

- > Fall 2017: English 235 - Technical Writing
- > Winter 2018: English235 - Technical Writing (three sections)
- > Spring 2018: English235 - Technical Writing; English 101 - Composition;  
English201 - The Research Paper
- > Summer 2018: English 235 - Technical Writing
- > Fall 2018: English 235 - Technical Writing; English101 - Composition;  
English 201 - The Research Paper
- > Winter 2019: English 101 - Composition; English 201 - The Research Paper

## **Bellevue College, *continued***

- > Spring 2019: English 101 - Composition (two sections); English 201 - The Research Paper
- > Summer 2019: English 112 - Introduction to Fiction; English 235 - Technical Writing (two sections)
- > Fall 2019: English 201 – The Research Paper; English 101- Composition (two sections)
- > Winter 2020: English 101 - Composition; English 235 – Technical Writing
- > Spring 2020: English201 – The Research Paper; English 235 – Technical Writing

## **SELECTED GRADUATE SEMINARS TAKEN**

### **Spring 2014**

- > *Peripheral Writer*, with Errol McDonald
- > *Strangers In a Strange Land*, with Gary Schteyngart
- > *What You and I Will Never Do*, with Gordon Lish
- > *Total Changes in Direction*, with Adam Thirlwell
- > Fiction Thesis Workshop, with Victor Lavalle

### **Fall 2013**

- > *Fiction Workshop*, with Stacey D’Erasmus
- > *Building Stories*, with John Freeman
- > *William Faulkner & World*, with Errol McDonald
- > *Fiction Technique in Novella*, with James Wood
- > *The End: A Workshop on Story Endings*, with Porochista Khakpour

### **Spring 2013**

- > *Fiction Workshop*, with Sonya Chung
- > *Adventures in Narrative, or Keep Me Interested*, with Fiona Maazal
- > *The Writer as Teacher*, with Alan Ziegler
- > *Aesthetics of Extremism*, with Joseph Frank

### **Fall 2012**

- > *New Media Producing*, with Lance Weiler
- > *Fiction Workshop*, with Nicholas Christopher
- > *Uses of the First Person*, with Darryl Pinckney
- > *The Art of the Short Story*, with James Lasdun

## **AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS**

**Spring 2014:** *Henfield Literary Prize Nominee*, Columbia University, SoA.

The Henfield Prize, established through the Joseph F. McCrindle Foundation, is one of the most prestigious awards available to young fiction writers. The Prize, which recognizes the best work in fiction by a second-year graduate student in the Writing Program, is given annually at the end of the academic year, and carries an award of \$15,000. The Prize is judged by the Writing Program's full-time fiction faculty. Each year only six students are nominated.

**Fall 2014:** *Emerging Writer Panelist*, Festival Des Écrivains/Global Centers Columbia University, New York, Paris, France.

One of five students chosen to represent the Writing Program of the School of the Arts as an "Emerging Writer" at the Festival Des Ecrivains in Paris, France. Five other participants, young established and emerging writers from India, sponsored by an acclaimed Indian literary magazine, *Caravan*, joined us as speakers and panelists. We read for our work and spoke on two televised panels.

**Spring 2013:** *Dean's Travel Grant Recipient*, Columbia University, SoA.

Awarded travel funds to fulfill a concept I developed for a transmedia story project.

**Spring 2012:** *Breadloaf Writer's Conference*, Middlebury, VT

Selected to attend the Breadloaf Writer's Conference.

**Fall 2011 – Spring 2012:** *Full Merit Fellow (Fiction)*, Department of Literature, American University.

The Literature Department at American University offers its strongest applicants fellowships that include full tuition remission and a substantial taxable stipend for each of two years of full-time study.

**Summer 2011:** *Callaloo Writer's Conference, Fiction Fellow*, Collegetown, Texas

Selected for two weeks of intensive writing and workshopping with an international group of fiction writers, essayists, and poets.

## **PUBLISHED WORK**

**Tea**, June 2017.

<http://flavourtv.com/2017/06/10/tea-by-toyin-adeyemi/>

**The Pen World Voices Festival as It Happened: Divine Punishment**, May 2015.

<https://www.wordswithoutborders.org/dispatches/article/the-pen-world-voices-festival-as-it-happened-divine-punishment>

**Women's Soccer in the Works; FDA Cuts Health Funds**, March 2007

<https://womensenews.org/2007/03/womens-soccer-the-works-fda-cuts-health-funds/>

**Sports Women Make Gains; Sexy Media Harms Girls**, Feb. 2007

<https://womensenews.org/2007/02/sports-women-make-gains-sexy-media-harms-girls/>

**Portugal May Ok Choice; Health Funding Diverted**, Feb. 2007.

<https://womensenews.org/2007/02/portugal-may-ok-choice-health-funding-diverted/>

**House Hikes Minimum Wage**, Jan. 2007.

<https://womensenews.org/2007/01/house-hikes-minimum-wage-aussies-ban-plan-b/>

**Lost Girls Struggle To Find Their Way**, Dec. 2006.

<https://www.wordswithoutborders.org/dispatches/article/the-pen-world-voices-festival-as-it-happened-divine-punishment>

## **LANGUAGES**

- > English
- > French
- > Yoruba

## **FORTHCOMING WORK**

***A Child Went Forth***, a novel.

This novel centers on the life of one notorious Nigerian patriarch and his charismatic, multigenerational family. In showing how this central character bullies his way through a rapidly-changing 20th century Nigeria, the book draws on themes including Yoruba mythology (vis-a-vis Wole Soyinka), budding ideas of nationhood, the implosion of cultural identity with respect to globalisation—while setting 21st century themes of cosmopolitanism and cultural hybridity into motion.