

# Heather Elizabeth Holleman, PhD

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## EDUCATION

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- December 2002      University of Michigan, Doctor of Philosophy in English Language and Literature  
Concentration: Romanticism, 19<sup>th</sup> Century British Poetry, Shame, and Pedagogy  
Dissertation: *Romantic Transformations of Shame in the Poetry of William Wordsworth, Samuel Taylor Coleridge and Elizabeth Barrett Browning*, directed by Dr. Adela Pinch. Used as curriculum in graduate level lyric poetry courses.
- May 1999            University of Michigan, Master of Arts in English Language and Literature
- May 1997            University of Virginia, Bachelor of Arts in English  
Distinguished Major, Highest Distinction, Phi Beta Kappa.  
Honors Thesis: *A Fractured Fusion: Emily Dickinson's Rejection of the Romantic Sublime*, directed by Dr. Jessica Feldman, earned the Wagenheim Prize for best essay by an English undergraduate at the University of Virginia

## TEACHING AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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- 2020                **Lady Lion Basketball Most Valuable Professor Award** Honored on court by senior student athlete who chooses their most valuable professor during their time at Penn State.
- 2017 / 2018        **Penn State Most Valuable Professor Award** Recognized by Penn State Women's Volleyball player as most important professor enhancing her academic journey.
- 2013/ 2009        **Penn State First Year Experience Residence Life Teaching Award**  
Awarded for outstanding service to first year students in aiding academic growth, personal development, and overall well-being. Nominations received from over 7000 students with awards given to 40 faculty members.
- 2001                **University of Michigan Rackham's Most Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award** Awarded to instructor who demonstrates exceptional talent and commitment to teaching as evidenced by course evaluations, student recommendations, and teaching philosophy prioritizing mentorship, growth as a teacher, and integration of teaching and scholarship.
- 2001                **University of Michigan Sweetland Writing Center Teaching Fellow** Granted to Ph.D. Candidate who demonstrates outstanding teaching record and academic achievement. Debate critical issues in teaching of writing, prepare and teach first-year writing courses, advance interdisciplinary writing instruction in weekly seminars.
- 2000                **University of Michigan Moscow Prize for Excellence in Teaching Composition**  
Prized for excellence in teaching as noted by student nominations, consistently high course evaluations, recommendation of professors, and a strong teaching philosophy. Nominated 3 years.
- 2000                **University of Michigan Mellon Candidacy Fellowship:** Awarded to a Ph.D. Candidate who demonstrates successful completion of degree requirements and shows promise in completing a dissertation that contributes a truly unique way to understand the discipline.

## TEACHING AND LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

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- 2021-2024 **Associate Teaching Professor, Penn State English Department and Schreyer Honors College** Design advanced writing curriculum for both technical writing and writing in the humanities. Create pilot programs, train faculty, communicate with supervisors, build exceptional Canvas courses, advise students.
- Spring 2020 **Online Course Developer, Penn State English Department** Tasked to create an online, asynchronous advanced writing course in a timely manner to instructors for rapid transition to remote learning during COVID-19 pandemic. Built intuitive course modules on Canvas; filmed accessible instructional videos for Zoom; collaborated with instructional designers; and wrote all course material, learning outcomes, and project rubrics.
- 2020—Present **Curriculum Development, Schreyer Honors College** Selected by the college to develop an advanced writing course for honors students to align with Schreyer learning outcomes. Position required crafting original course materials, meeting with Schreyer committees, and building online course through Canvas.
- 2009—Present **Course Coordinator, Advanced Writing in the Humanities, Pennsylvania State University** Develop innovative course material that serves over 500 students and 20 instructors per semester. Prepare weekly lectures on advanced writing pedagogy and effective student engagement techniques. Provide ongoing mentoring, encouragement, and research into best practices and current conversations in the humanities. Conduct classroom observations and evaluations.
- 2007—Present **Lecturer, English Department, Pennsylvania State University** Enthusiastically teach major rhetorical modes of writing, conduct writing workshops, meet individually with students, provide effective feedback, and maintain ongoing mentoring in both freshmen and advanced writing courses. Practice variety of real-world student engagement techniques and discipline specific writing. Contribute heartily to department life by hosting informal gatherings, serving on committees, engaging in recruitment to English major, and representing English department to community.
- 2008 **Director, Excellence in Communication Certificate Program, Pennsylvania State University** Spearheaded this program under direction of Dr. Jack Selzer for Paterno Fellows. Designed the certificate requirements for excellence in communication, drafted website content, publicized program, and mentored aspiring students.
- 2007—Present **Campus Senior Field Staff, Faculty Commons (Cru)** Aid spiritual development of graduate students and faculty. Roles include preparing seminars, leading book club discussions, attending national donor events, fundraising, speaking at national and regional conferences, hosting weekly gatherings, designing summer curriculum, pioneering national strategies, writing books, and working alongside national director in executive role.
- 2003—2007 **Regional Representative, Grad Resources, University of Michigan** Addressed physical, social, emotional, and spiritual needs of graduate students. Responsibilities included organizing weekly meetings, writing study materials, mentoring students, and presenting at weekly meetings.
- 1998—2003 **Graduate Student Instructor, University of Michigan** Taught multiple sections of *English Literature to 1600*, *Pictures of Modern Identity*, *Writing Worldviews*, and *The Art of Persuasion*. Designed original syllabi, led vibrant discussion sections and writing workshops, organized effective lesson plans, planned strategic homework assignments, created tests and quizzes, met individually with students, and assigned grades.

1994—1999

**Counselor, Group Leader / Head Staff, Greystone Summer Camp, Tuxedo, North**

**Carolina** First a counselor to 10 campers and quickly promoted to head staff role.

Supervised community of 400 counselors and campers, directed writing and archery program, planned counselor orientation, handled office administration, launched redesign of camp assembly, instituted new camp buildings and programs, served as liaison to parents, wrote promotional material, invented camper curriculum for spiritual growth.

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**CONFERENCES AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

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2015—Present

Author with Moody Publishers (Chicago), represented by agent Don Jacobson and now Illuminate. Speak regularly at conference centers and churches to promote books, averaging 12 events a year, often to live audiences of over 1,000. Serve as guest on Moody Radio programs, podcasts, and affiliate stations throughout the year. See [heatherholleman.com](http://heatherholleman.com) for complete list of speaking and media events. Designed “The Verb” podcast; host Facebook Live and social media campaigns; filmed curriculum.

2015—Present

State College High School English Department, “What College Instructors Expect from College Freshmen.” Invited every year to provide pedagogy tools for high school English teachers and to recruit to the English major.

January 2012

Invited Lecturer, Environment Health, “How to Write a Signature Story.”

September 2012

Invited Lecturer, Penn State Budget Office, “5 Ways to Immediately Improve Your Writing”

September 2010

Guest Lecturer, Kinesiology Department Penn State: “Writing a Personal Mission Statement”

October 2010

Invited Speaker and Panelist at Pasquerilla Spiritual Center, Penn State. *Faith for Thought*: “How to Love Your Job for the Rest of Your Life”

October 2000

American Conference on Romanticism, Utah: “Romantic Transformations of Shame”

April 1999

Invited Panelist on “Religious Diversity at the University of Michigan: A conversation with Dr. Parker Palmer” Served on various panels with Dr. Palmer to enhance understanding of faith and pedagogy.

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**SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT at PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

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April 2021

Facilitating book club discussion for faculty on James Lang’s *Small Teaching*. Posted discussion questions on line and led discussion via Zoom.

Feb-Dec 2020

Attended workshops through Schreyer Institute including “Small Teaching: From Minor Changing to Major Learning;” received coaching through Teaching and Learning with Technology to create exceptional online courses; joined several national workshops on writing, teaching, and professional development through COVID-19.

2020—Present

**Lecturer Advisor Committee, Member** Elected to continue serving English department. Pioneered the “Faculty Lounge” event to gather lecturers to build community and collegiality. Negotiated \$500 per course salary raise for part-time lecturers.

2017—2019

**Co-Chair, Lecturer Advisory Committee** Organize schedule and location for monthly meeting, compile agenda, set meeting direction. Attend monthly meetings to promote collegiality, representation, and transparency for the lecturer faculty. Notable contributions

include research, consultation, and drafting letter to dean on behalf of department to begin salary negotiations.

- 2016—Present      **English Department Recruiting, State College High School.** Present “What College Writing Instructors Want You to Know” and “How to Write with Flair” in State High composition classes. Showcase benefits of the English degree.
- 2008—Present      **Professional Development** includes seminar led by Cynthia Mazzant, Schreyer Institute seminars on grading, workshops on increasing student engagement, summer courses on oral and written communication, personal coaching for public speaking, consultation with instructional designer for technology and pedagogy.
- 2008—2018        **Student Group Advisor, Cru** at Penn State. Speak once a year at weekly meeting, remain available for consultation on club concerns.
- 2009                **Lecturer Advisory Committee** Promoted revision of governance document related to promotion and role of FT2. Worked to include part-time lecturers into department life.

## SELECT PUBLICATIONS

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Regularly contribute to conversations in the spiritual market through guest blog posts and religious journals (Christianity Today, In Touch, Proverbs 31, Crosswalk). Maintain daily blog at *Live with Flair* with over 3,000 unique posts.

- 2021                *The Six Conversations: Learning to Talk to One Another Again in an Age of Isolation and Incivility* (Under consideration for publication)
- 2021                *This Seat's Saved* (Moody)
- 2020                *Sent: Living a Life that Invites Others to Jesus* (Moody)
- 2018                *Chosen for Christ: Stepping into the Life You've Been Missing* (Moody)
- 2017                *Included in Christ: Living a New Story from Ephesians* (Moody)
- 2017                *A Grand Story: An Invitation to Christian Professors* (Scribe)
- 2016                *Guarded by Christ: Knowing the God Who Rescues and Keeps You* (Moody)
- 2015                *Seated with Christ: Living Freely in a Culture of Comparison* (Moody); **over 40,000 copies sold**  
Foreword by Joni Eareckson Tada. Reviewed by Midwest Review of Books as “an exceptionally inspired and inspiring read from beginning to end.”
- 2014                *Live with Flair: Seasons of Worship and Wonder* (Createspace)
- 2011                *How to Write with Flair: 5 Ways to Immediately Improve Your Writing* (Createspace); Chosen to supplement the college writing preparation courses at State College Area High School.

## CURRENT RESEARCH

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Psychology of shame in a composition classroom; teaching voice in writing, neuroscience of curiosity and writing, professional development strategies; well-being and writing.

