

James Francis, Jr., PhD

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Education

PhD, Middle Tennessee State University, Summer 2010
English. *Concentration: Children's Literature & Film*

Dissertation: "Recycled Fear: The Horror Film Remake as Industry Standard."

Master of Arts, Texas A&M University, Spring 2005
English. *Concentration: Creative Short Fiction Writing*

Thesis: "Short Fiction Creative Writing: Storytelling with a Film Perspective."

Bachelor of Arts, Texas A&M University, Fall 1999
English. *Concentration: Poetry & Short Fiction*

Academic Appointments

- Senior Lecturer (Fall 2021 – present)
- Lecturer (Fall 2016 – Summer 2021), TAMU
- Adjunct Professor (Spring 2010 – Fall 2015), MTSU
- Graduate Teaching Assistant (Fall 2008 – Fall 2009), MTSU
- Graduate Research Assistant (Fall 2005 – Spring 2008), MTSU

Teaching Areas

Genre Studies (Film and Literature)
Children's Literature
Creative Writing
Queer Literatures
Media Studies (Film, TV)

Classroom Instruction

Senior Lecturer, Texas A&M University, Department of English (Fall 2021 – Spring 2023)

ENGL 210: Technical Professional Writing (8 sections)
ENGL 235: Elements of Creative Writing (2 sections)
ENGL 303: Approaches to English Studies (1 section)
ENGL-WGST 333: LGBTQ Literatures (2 sections | embedded honors)
ENGL 348: Writer's Workshop Poetry (1 section)
ENGL-FILM 356: Literature and Film (2 sections | embedded honors)
ENGL 485: Directed Studies (3 sections)
ENGL 491: Honors Research (2 sections)
ENGL 497: Honors Research (1 section)

Lecturer, Texas A&M University, Department of English (Fall 2016 – Summer 2021)

ENGL 104: Composition and Rhetoric (19 sections)
ENGL 203: Writing about Literature (4 non-honors | 1 honors section)
ENGL 210: Technical Business Writing (12 non-honors | 1 honors section)
ENGL 235: Elements of Creative Writing (2 sections)

ENGL-FILM 324: Science Fiction and Film (1 section)
ENGL-WGST 333: LGBTQ Literatures (1 section)
ENGL-WGST 333: Gay and Lesbian Literature (1 section | embedded honors)
ENGL-FILM 356: Literature and Film (5 sections)

Curriculum Development

Approved New Course Creations

- 369: LGBTQ+ Authorship
- 366: Horror Studies

Accepted Variable Credit & Special Topic Course Proposals

- 303: Everyday Horrors: Literatures of Fear, Anxiety, and Dread in the 1950s-1970s
- 394: Horror – Gothic Literature to Modern Film
- 415: Danny Boyle
- 415: Quentin Tarantino
- 415: Stephen King – Adaptation
- 481: Remaking the Text: Narrative Retellings in Gothic and Horror Literatures

Additional Instruction

Middle Tennessee State University, Department of English
Adjunct Professor (Spring 2010 – Fall 2015)

Taught: 3 Sections of English 1010: Expository Writing
12 Sections of English 1020: Research & Argumentative Writing
7 Sections of English 2030: Survey of English Literature
Topics: Visual Rhetoric, Popular Culture Studies (Film, TV, and Music),
Children's Literature, Poetry, Short Fiction, Adaptation, Drama

Graduate Teaching Assistant (Fall 2008 – Fall 2009)

Taught: 3 Sections of English 1010: Expository Writing
2 Sections of English 1020: Research & Argumentative Writing
Topics: Visual Rhetoric, Popular Culture Studies (Film, TV, and Music),
Children's Literature

Graduate Research Assistant (Fall 2005 – Spring 2009)

Research: Film, Greek Mythology, HBCUs, Popular Culture Studies

Directed: Drs. Jill Hague, Linda Badley, Jack Thomas, and David Lavery

Pearson Education – Smarthinking

Writing Tutor (Fall 2013 – Fall 2018)

Duties: Assessed student writing (high school to doctorate level) – domestic, international, and ESL submissions; provided writing tools to strengthen abilities in HOCs and LOCs; conducted tutoring sessions (paragraph/essay evaluations in 15, 30, and 60-min sessions); maintained knowledge of MLA, APA, Chicago, and Harvard style manuals

Administrative Positions

Texas A&M University, College of Architecture

Academic Advisor II – July 2001 – Aug 2005

Duties: AOC (Academic Operations Committee) Dean meetings, UCC (University Core Curriculum) meetings, CARC (College of Architecture) Publication Committee meetings, student conferences, registration, and collaborated with a network of on-campus colleges, departments, and offices

Texas A&M University, Registrar's Office
Transcript Analyst II – Feb 2000 – June 2001

Duties: Processed transcripts, manage university-wide degree plans, executed graduation ceremonies, implemented undergraduate/graduate student catalogs in daily tasks

Academic Publications

Monographs – Textbook

“The Fantastic.” Cooper, Rich, Claire Carly-Miles, Jason Harris, Jeremy Brett, Kalani Pattison, Melissa McCoul, Matthew McKinney, eds. *Marvels and Wonders: Reading, Researching, and Writing about Science Fiction and Fantasy*. Pilot ed. College Station: Texas A&M University, 2022. pgs. 5.1-5.53.

*** *Chapter author and editor*. Text published via Canvas as pilot textbook for English Department science fiction and fantasy minor and courses Fall 2022.

“Film.” Carly-Miles, Claire, Sarah LeMire, Kathy Christie Anders, Nicole Hagstrom-Schmidt, R. Paul Cooper, and Matt McKinney, eds. *Surface and Subtext: Literature, Research, Writing*. Pilot ed. College Station: Texas A&M University, 2021. pgs. 7.1-7.25.

*** *Chapter author and contributing author and editor. Graphic illustrator and photographer for front and back cover design*. Text published via Canvas as pilot textbook for ENGL203 Writing about Literature Fall 2021.

McKinney, Matt, Kalani Pattison, Sarah LeMire, Kathy Anders, and Nicole Hagstrom-Schmidt, eds. *Howdy or Hello?: Technical and Professional Communication*. College Station: Texas A&M English 210 OER Committee, 2020. Licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License](#), except where otherwise noted.

*** *Contributing author and editor*. Text published via Canvas and eCampus as pilot textbook for ENGL210 Technical Business Communication Fall 2020. Publication made possible by CLA H3I grant and University Libraries Information Literacy Grant awarded to Claire Carly-Miles for the OER development and redesign of ENGL210 with the English 210 OER Committee.

“Visual Analysis in Composition & Rhetoric and Literature.” Pantuso, Terri, Sarah LeMire, and Kathy Anders, eds. *Informed Arguments: A Guide to Writing and Research*. 3rd ed. College Station: Texas A&M University, 2022. Licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License, except where otherwise noted.

Monographs – Scholarship

Remaking Horror – Hollywood's New Reliance on Scares of Old. NC: McFarland, 2013.

Short Fiction Creative Writing: Storytelling with a Film Perspective. Germany: Lambert Academic Publishing, 2010.

Book Chapters (Accepted)

“Angela Bettis: Gender in the Space of Collaborative Horror” in *Bloody Women! Women Directors of Horror*. Rowman & Littlefield, April 2022.

“Frankenstein Goes West: The Mad Scientist from Classic Literature to Modern Horror” in *The Scientist in Popular Culture*. Lexington Books, April 2022.

“That’s So Gay: Camp, Drag, and the Power of Storytelling in *Supernatural*.”
Supernatural: TV Goes to Hell. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, Fall 2011. (119-131)

“The Lighter Side of Death: *Dexter* as Comedy.” *Dexter: Investigating Cutting Edge Television*. London: I. B. Tauris, Spring 2010. (175-188)

Journal Articles

“Kids’ Stuff: Horror’s Childhood Connection.” *Fangoria Magazine* vol. 2 no. 14, 2022.
(Non-Refereed).

“Camping Out: Sexuality as Aesthetic Value in Tennessee Williams’ *And Tell Sad Stories of the Deaths of Queens*. . .” *The Tennessee Williams Annual Review* 9 (2007): 131-142.
(Refereed)

Digital Publications

“Tips for Using Kanopy” [TAMU ENGL 203 Readings Guide](#), 2021

“Why did the television reboot become all the rage?” [The Conversation](#). June 2018.
(Non-Refereed)

Reference Entries

“Horror and Noir.” *LGBTQ America Today: An Encyclopedia*. Volume 1: A-F. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2009. (401-05)

“Tennessee Williams (1911-1983).” *LGBTQ America Today: An Encyclopedia*. Volume 3: P-Z. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2009. (1266-67)

Referenced In

Teague, Savanna R. *A Telltale Narrative: American Horror Film and Metacinema*. 2020. Middle Tennessee State University, PhD dissertation.

Abdullah, Ahmad Nazri and Maznah Abu Hassan. “The No-Tahayul Imposition on Malay Horror Films as a Religious Prescription: The Raison D’etre and Its Effect on the Industry.” *Journal of Human Development and Communication* 8 (2019) 41-48.

Piattie-Farnell, Lorna, ed. *Gothic Afterlives: Reincarnations of Horror in Film and Popular Media*. Lexington Books, 2019.

Rosewarne, Lauren. *Sex and Sexuality in Modern Screen Media Remakes*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2019.

Chabot, Kevin. “*Leprechaun 4* and *Jason X*: Camp, Paracinema and the Postmodern Sequel” in *Horror in Space: Critical Essays on a Film Subgenre*. MacFarland & Company, 2017.

Mee, Laura. “The Hollywood Remake Massacre: Adaptation, Reception, and Value” in *Adaptation, Awards Culture, and the Value of Prestige*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2017.

Wentzel, Gareth. The Archetypes of “Bogeyman” and “Final Girl” within the Slasher Horror sub-genre: An enquiry into socio-cultural values. 2017. University of the Witwatersrand, Master’s thesis.

Collins, Molly Brianna. *Carrie's Choice: Contemporary Feminism and Sociopolitical Constructions of Womanhood in Film Adaptations of Stephen King's Carrie*. 2015. Clemson University, Master's thesis.

Edwards-Behi, Nia Naseem. *Remaking Controversy? Three case studies of the changing reception of controversial films and their remakes*. 2015. Aberystwyth University, PhD dissertation.

Mee, Laura. *Re-Animated: The Contemporary American Horror Film Remake, 2003-2013*. 2014. De Montfort University, PhD dissertation.

Papers and Conference Presentations

Black Horror and Candyman: TAMU Race Talks Committee (Host to Jerome Dent of Tulane University, October 2021)

The OER Student Connection: Fostering Diversity, Inclusivity, and Retention ("Using OER in Multi-section Writing Courses" panel for the Transformational Teaching and Learning Conference (TTLC), Spring 2021 – Virtual Presentation)

The OER Student Connection: Fostering Diversity, Inclusivity, and Retention ("The OER and Tech Writing: Strengthening Student and Educator Communities" panel for CCCC, Spring 2021 – Virtual Presentation)

Reaver Madness: Joss Whedon's Undead Evolution from Ubervamp to Cannibalistic Terror (paper presented at the Slayage Conference on the Whedonverses, Arkadelphia, AR, June 2008).

Remake Reanimated: Why the Contemporary American Horror Remake Won't Die (paper presented at the PCAS/ACAS Conference, Jacksonville, FL, Sept. 2007).

Bloody Bodies: The Landscape of Fairytale and Folklore Horror Film Adaptations for Women (paper presented at the MTSU Women's Studies Interdisciplinary Conference on Performing Gender, Murfreesboro, TN, Feb. 2007).

Fairy Tale to Adult Film: The Conversion of Children's Literature to R-Rated Movie (paper presented at the 33rd Annual International Conference of the Children's Literature Association on Transformations, Manhattan Beach, CA, June 2006).

Childhood Terrors: The Importance of Horror Films in Children's Literature (paper presented at the EGSO Re-Visioning Conference, Murfreesboro, TN, May 2006).

The Triadic Self: Breaking the Binary in Superhero Character Construction (paper presented at the Holy Men in Tights: A Superhero Conference, Melbourne, Australia, June 2005).

"Selfless": Locating Female Identity in Anya/Anyanka Through Prostitution (paper presented at the Slayage Conference on *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, Nashville, TN, May 2004).

Book Proposal Reviews

Murdering Men: Recontextualizing the Slasher Film (Routledge), Spring 2022

Wonder Tales: Variable Instructions and Invitations (Broadview Press), Fall 2017.

Research

TAMU URP (Undergraduate Research Program)

– Spring 2023: AI Youth in Science Fiction (Leonardo Martins – Student Researcher)

TAMU UPREP (Undergraduate Professional and Research Experience Program)

– Spring 2023: Visual Literatures: OER (River Scott – Student Researcher)

TAMU UPREP (Undergraduate Professional and Research Experience Program)

– Spring 2022: “The Horror Musical” with Nathanael Van Soest (Research Assistant)

– Spring 2021: “The Horror Musical” with Nathanael Van Soest (Research Assistant)

– Fall 2021: “The Horror Musical” with Nathanael Van Soest (Research Assistant)

Professional Development

HELLO² Teaching Certificate

Green Dot | Step In Stand Up (trained and certified)

CTE – Gen Z: Placing Today’s Students at the Center of Learning

CTE – Student Expectations and Motivation

CTE – Facilitating Effective Groups/Teams

CTE – Using Instructional Technology in Teaching and Learning

Service

College

TAMU College of Liberal Arts, Academy for the Visual & Performing Arts Committee

- Board Member (Fall 2020 – present)

TAMU College of Liberal Arts, LGBTQ Minor Committee

- Member (Fall 2020 – present)

TAMU College of Liberal Arts, Strategic Planning Steering Committee

- Member (Fall 2019 – Summer 2021)
 - Strategic Planning Summit, Spring 2020 Contributing Organizer
 - “Shape the Future” Strategic Plan, Summer 2021 Workgroup Leader

TAMU College of Liberal Arts, Course Development

- ENGL-WGST 333 Course Title and Catalog Revision
- ENGL 210 Course Title and Catalog Revision

Department

TAMU English Department SF OER Committee

- Member (Spring 2022 – present)
 - “The Fantastic” Chapter Author
 - OER Editor

TAMU English Department

- ENGL 697 Discussion Leadership Talk (Fall 2021)
 - “Using Comedy in the Classroom”

TAMU English Department 203 OER Committee

- Member (Spring 2021 – present)
 - “Film” Chapter Author
 - OER Contributing Editor & Author
 - OER Cover Design & Title

TAMU English Department 203 Ancillary Materials Committee

- Member (Spring 2021 – present)
 - Syllabi & Major Assignment Contributions

TAMU English Department 203 Readings Advisory Committee

- Member (Spring 2021 – present)
 - Contributor to Curated Literature Guide

TAMU English Department 210 Revision Committee

- Member (Spring 2019 – present)
 - 210 OER Development
 - 210 Course Title and Catalog Revisions

TAMU English Department, Diversity Committee

- Member (Summer 2017 – Spring 2019)

TAMU English Department GAT Orientation & Grade Norming

- Fall 2019

Professional

Slayage: The Online International Journal of Buffy Studies

- Member (2005)
- Associate Editor (2005 – 2007)

Watcher Junior – The Undergraduate Journal of Buffy Studies

- Editorial board member (2008-2010)

Students

Independent Study

- ENGL 485 – Emma Campbell: Spring 2023
- ENGL 485 (UPREP) – River Scott: Spring 2023
- ENGL 491 (URP) – Leonardo Martins: Spring 2023
- Capstone Mentorship - Sookyung Park: Spring 2023
- ENGL 485 – Javier Gonzalez: Fall 2022
- ENGL 497 (Capstone) – Nathanael Van Soest: Spring 2022
- ENGL 491 (Capstone) – Nathanael Van Soest: Fall 2021
- UPREP – Nathanael Van Soest: Spring 2021 – Spring 2022

Honors Contracts

- ENGL 235 – Tyler Gonzalez and River Scott: Spring 2022
- ENGL-FILM 356 – Mikaela Valdez: Fall 2021
- ENGL 210 – Hunter Nevin, Grace Neuman, and Brittany Stair: Spring 2021
- ENGL-FILM 356 – Sebastian Alvarado: Spring 2020
- ENGL-FILM 356 – Rylee King, Lauren Cheatham, Samantha Pearcy, Perri Sibille, and Chase Tomson: Fall 2019
- ENGL 104 – Ezequiel Pardo: Spring 2018

ENGL-WGST 333, Spring 2022

- Coordinated *Another Gay Movie* director and actors communication with students
- Coordinated *To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything! Julie Newmar* actor communication with students

The English Aggie

- Coordinated the publishing of student poems in Spring 2022 edition

“Movie Retakes” Podcast with Matt & Chris Sully

- Invited Guest on Horror Cinema, August 2021

Book Consultant

- *Swing Away, Stan!* by Steven Yurchick, Spring 2021
- Graduate Thesis Digital Book on Animation and Environmental Problems by Masoumeh Hashemi, Spring 2020
- Creative Nonfiction by Brandon Pico, Spring 2020

Aggie SWAMP (Screen Writing, Acting, & Movie Production)

- Faculty Advisor (Spring 2018 – present)
- Member (2000 – 2005)

Awards and Recognition

TAMU Provost APT Faculty Teaching Excellence Award, Spring 2022 – Department Nominee

TAMU OASES Open Access Stipend, Fall 2021 – ENGL210 OER Committee

TAMU Team Sustainability Champion Award, Spring 2021 – ENGL210 OER Committee

TAMU AVPA Virtual Workshop Grant, Spring 2021

TAMU Department of English Merit Award, Spring 2020

TAMU CLA H3I Grant, Fall 2019 – ENGL210 Revision Committee

MTSU John N. McDaniel Excellence in Teaching, Fall 2009