

Curriculum Vita

Dr. Scott Kaukonen

Associate Professor, Sam Houston State University
Director, MFA Program in Creative Writing
Fiction Editor, *Texas Review*
Associate Editor, *Journal of Finnish Studies*

Department of English
1901 University Ave., Box 2146
Sam Houston State University
Huntsville, TX 77341

Academic Positions

Associate Professor, Department of English, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX, Fall 2006–present. Director, MFA Program in Creative Writing, Fall 2011–present.

Degrees Earned

University of Missouri–Columbia, Ph.D. in English and Creative Writing (Spring 2006)
Areas of Doctoral Examination: 20th Century American Literature (fiction, poetry, drama) and Religious Culture in American Literature
Dissertation: *Ordination* (a collection of short stories) with a critical introduction
(Chair: Dr. Trudy Lewis)

University of Arizona, Tucson, M.F.A. in Fiction, 1999

Hope College, Holland, Mich., B.A., magna cum laude, 1991
Majors: Political Science and English-Communications composite

Publications

Books

Ordination (a collection of short stories), The Ohio State University Press, winner of The Ohio State University Prize for Short Fiction, 2005
Pet Shop Girls (a translation of Anja Snellman's novel from the Finnish, with Dr. Helena Halmari), Ice Cold Crime, 2011

Current Projects: *The Martyrdom of Katie Deeds* (novel, in-progress); *There Beyond the River a Hero is Walking*, novel, in-progress

Stories

“Veldon,” *Belmont Story Review* 1.1 (Spring 2016).
“The Physics of a Bomb” (excerpt from *The Martyrdom of Katie Deeds*), *Painted Bride Quarterly*, Print Annual 7, Issue 88 (2015), 41–44.
“Pet Shop Girls, (excerpt from *Pet Shop Girls*, by Anja Snellman, trans. Scott Kaukonen and Helena Halmari), *The Sangam House Reader* 2 (2013), 389–96.
“Good Behavior,” *Barrelhouse* 11 (2012), 189–93.

- “Where Your God Ends and My God Begins” (excerpt from *The Martyrdom of Katie Deeds*), *Cincinnati Review* 8.2 (Winter 2012), 77–99.
- “A Pile of Stones, an Alabaster Jar” (excerpt from *The Martyrdom of Katie Deeds*), *Pleiades* 32.1 (Winter 2012), 127–45.
- “Body Bag,” *The Normal School* 5.1 (Spring 2012), 38–40.
- “This Small Stamp of Land,” *Louisiana Literature* 29.1 (2012), 60–89.
- “Pet Shop Girls” (excerpt from *Pet Shop Girls*, by Anja Snellman, trans. Scott Kaukonen and Helena Halmari), *Dirty Goat* 25 (2011), 265–80.
- “Punnett’s Squares,” *Chicago Tribune*, Oct. 31, 2004
- “Ordination,” *Third Coast*, Fall 2004, 111–22.

Articles

- “I Wish There Had Been a Little More Finland’: Finnish Crime Novels in English Translation,” *Journal of Finnish Studies* 16.2 (May 2013), 108–29.
- “You Are Either In the Van or Out of the Van: Pedagogy and Life on the ‘West Trip,’” co-author with Dr. Jeff Crane, *Journal of the West*, 49.3 (Summer 2010), 73–81.

Reviews

- Review of *The View From Castle Rock*, by Alice Munro, *The Cincinnati Review*, Summer 2007
- Review of *Gilead*, by Marilynne Robinson, *The Missouri Review*, Spring 2005
- Review of *The Life You Save May Be Your Own*, by Paul Elie, *Reconsiderations*, Summer 2004
- Review of *The Book of Ralph*, by John McNally, *Third Coast*, Spring 2004
- Review of *How to Be Alone*, by Jonathan Franzen, *The Missouri Review*, Spring 2003

Honors and Awards

- SHSU Teaching Innovation Grant, Spring 2018 (with colleagues)
- SHSU Faculty Research Grant, Summer 2011
- SHSU Department of English Excellence in Teaching Award, 2008–2009
- National Endowment for the Arts, Creative Writing Fellowship (\$25,000), 2008
- Chicago Tribune*’s Nelson Algren Award (first place, \$5,000), Fall 2004
- The Ohio State University Short Fiction Prize (book award), Spring 2004
- McKinney Prize, University of Missouri, first place, short fiction, Spring 2004
- Finalist, *Third Coast* Fiction Contest, Winter 2003
- Associated Writing Programs Prague Summer Fellowship for Fiction, Summer 2003
- Mahan Writing Awards, University of Missouri-Columbia, second place, short fiction, Spring 2003
- Adeline Hoffman Fellowship, University of Missouri-Columbia Graduate School
- Creative Writing Fellowship, University of Missouri-Columbia (four-year, \$28,000, reduced teaching fellowship awarded to one incoming fiction writer each year)
- Finalist, *Chicago Tribune*’s Nelson Algren Awards, Fall 2000
- Rotary Foundation Group Study Exchange Fellowship to the southeastern Caribbean, Winter 1996
- Associated Press of Michigan, First Place, Best Sports Column, Division 1, 1992
- Associated Press of Michigan, First Place, Best Sports Column, Division 1, 1991
- Phi Beta Kappa, Hope College
- Pi Sigma Alpha (political science honorary), Hope College

Courses Taught

- Sam Houston State University: Assistant Professor, Fall 2006–Present

Narrative Theory
Introduction to Creative Writing, Fiction
Introduction to Creative Writing, Fiction (Online)
Advanced Creative Writing, Fiction
Graduate Creative Writing, Fiction
Introduction to Creative Writing, Nonfiction
Graduate Creative Writing, Nonfiction
Graduate Experimental Fiction in the 20th and 21st Century
The Postmodern American Novel
American Regional Literature: The Road Novel
Introduction to Literary Genres
Undergraduate Practicum in Publishing
Graduate Practicum in Publishing
Introduction to Creative Writing, Nonfiction: West Trip
First-Year Composition II
First-Year Composition I

University of Missouri-Columbia, Fall 2001–Spring 2006

The Contemporary Novel, upper-division literature course (co-taught with Dr. Speer Morgan)
Advanced Creative Writing, Fiction
Intermediate Creative Writing, Fiction
Beginning Creative Writing, Fiction
Intermediate Creative Writing, Nonfiction
Themes in Literature: Sports and Literature
Themes in Literature: American Literature—Generation Next

Stephens College, Columbia, Missouri: Visiting Writer, Fall 2005

Advanced Creative Writing, Fiction

University of Arizona, Tucson, Adjunct Instructor, Spring 2000–Spring 2001

First-year Composition, rhetoric and writing
First-year composition, literature and writing
Beginning Creative Writing, Fiction

Editorial Work

Fiction Editor, *Texas Review*, Fall 2016–present
Associate Editor, *Journal of Finnish Studies*, Fall 2011–present
Faculty Advising Editor, *Sam Houston State Review*, 2008–12
Assistant Editor, *Texas Review*, Winter 2007–11
Editorial Assistant, Online Content Editor, Senior Advisor, *The Missouri Review*, Fall 2002–Spring 2006
Fiction Editor, *The Minnesota Review*, Fall 2002–Winter 2003

Public Presentations and Readings

The Writer's Life, Sam Houston State University, April 2018
First Friday Faculty Forum, reading from *Väinämöinen's Dream*, Sam Houston State University, April 2015

Reading, from *Pet Shop Girls*, with Helena Halmari, Sam Houston State University, Fall 2013

Reading, "Where Your God Ends and My God Begins," (from in-progress novel), Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Annual Conference, Austin, Tx., September 2011

Reading, "The Whore of Monterrey," Angelo State University Writers' Conference, February 17, 2011

Reading from in-progress novel, Northwestern (Ia.) College, October 25, 2010

Reading from in-progress novel, Texas Association of Creative Writing Teachers Annual Conference, September 25-26, 2010

Tucson Book Festival, Tucson, Arizona, March 14-15, 2009

"The Post-Evangelical Writer: In the World and Of the World" (panel, chair), Association of Writers and Writing Programs Annual Conference, Chicago, Ill., February 2009

Reading, from in-progress novel, Blinn College, Brenham, Tx., January 2009

Reading, from in-progress novel, Texas A&M, College Station, Tx., November 2008

Reading from in-progress novel, Sam Houston State University, November 2007

Reading from in-progress novel, St. Edwards (Tx.) University, November 2007

"Ordination," Reading, Central Methodist (Mo.) University, March 2006

"Ordination," Reading, Stephens College, Columbia, Missouri, October 2005

Barnes & Noble Book Discussion Group, *Ordination*, September 2005

"Ordination," Reading, Colon (Mich.) Public Library, Colon, Michigan, July 4, 2005

"Ordination," Reading and Book Release, Cherry Street Artisan, Columbia, Missouri, May 2005

"Tough Man," University of Missouri-Columbia, Graduate Student Reading Series, March 2005

"Punitive Damages," University of Missouri-Columbia, English Graduate Student Association Conference, February 2005

"Induction Ceremony," Reading, Legacy Bookworks, Columbia, Missouri, December 2003

"Ordination," Reading, Western Michigan University Prague Summer Reading Series, Prague, Czech Republic, July 2003

"Be a Missionary," Reading, Ragtag/Teacher-Student Reading Series, Columbia, Missouri, March 2003

"Ordination," Reading, Columbia Home School Awards Ceremony, January 2003

"Punitive Damages," Reading, Legacy Bookworks, November 2002

"Ordination," Reading, The Missouri Arts Festival, September 2002

"Ordination," Reading, By Way of Introduction, University of Missouri-Columbia, Graduate Student Reading Series, September 2001

"Brimstone," Reading, The University of Arizona Introduction to Fiction, Tucson, Arizona, October 2000

"Brimstone," Reading, The University of Arizona Graduate Reading Series, Tucson, Arizona, October 2000

University and Community Service

Director, MFA Program, Fall 2011–present

Huntsville ISD District of Innovation Committee, Fall 2016

Member, MFA Program Internal Review Committee, Fall 2016–Spring 2017

Member, National Book Awards Festival Committee, 2014–present

Member, Bearkats Read to Succeed Committee, Fall 2013–Spring 2016

Member, Search Committee, Director, Texas Review Press, Fall 2018

Chair, Search Committee, Creative Writing, Prose, Fall 2018–present

Member, Search Committee, Director, Texas Review Press, Fall 2017–Spring 2018

Member, Search Committee, Director, Texas Review Press, Spring 2017
 Chair, Search Committee, Creative Writing, Prose, Fall 2015–Spring 2016
 Member, Search Committee, Creative Writing, Poetry, Fall 2015–Spring 2016
 Chair, Search Committee, Creative Writing, Prose, Fall 2014–Spring 2015
 Member, Search Committee, Creative Writing, VAP, Poetry, Fall 2014–Spring 2015
 Chair, Search Committee, Creative Writing, VAP, Fall 2012–Spring 2013
 Member, MFA Search Committee, Fall 2011–Spring 2012
 MFA Program Proposal Committee, Fall 2009
 Undergraduate Studies Committee, Department of English, SHSU, Fall 2007–Spring 2010
 Department Webmaster, Department of English, SHSU, Fall 2006–Spring 2008
 Coordination of Visiting Writers and Readings, Department of English, SHSU, Fall 2006–present
 Presenter, Lifespan, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, Columbia, Missouri, April 2006
 Judge, Department Fiction Contest, University of Alabama-Birmingham, January 2006
 Co-Teacher, Gulf Coast Literature (class offered for students displaced by Hurricane Katrina,
 team-taught by volunteers from the Department of English, University of Missouri–Columbia),
 November 2005
 Columbia Writers’ Guild Workshop, Columbia, Missouri, November 2005
 Organizer, Hurricane Katrina Relief Read-a-Thon, Columbia, Missouri, September 2005
 “Demystifying Comps Workshop,” University of Missouri–Columbia, September 2005
 Missouri High School Creative Writing Conference, Stephens College, April 2005
 Elected Representative to Graduate Studies Committee, Department of English, University of
 Missouri-Columbia, 2003–2004 and 2004–2005
 Judge, Columbia Home School Fiction Writing Contest, January 2003 and November 2005
 Elected co-chair for English Graduate Student Association Conference Committee, Department of
 English, University of Missouri-Columbia, 2002–2003

Thesis Committees

Director, Ashe Kulhanek, MFA
 Director, Laura Brackin, MFA
 Director, Clayton Bradshaw, BA Honors
 Director, Donna Finney, MFA
 Director, Julian Kindred, MFA
 Director, Bridget Schabron, MFA
 Director, Reina Shay Broussard, MFA
 Reader, Cody Harrison, MFA
 Director, Haven Gomez, BA Honors
 Director, Nathan Ridings, MFA
 Director, Alec Brewster, MFA
 Director, Kimberly Davis, MFA
 Reader, Douglas Haines, MA
 Director, John Rhine, BA Honors
 Director, Robert Uren, MA
 Director, Christopher McCracken, MA
 Director, Julia Guthrie, MA
 Director, Melanie Sweeney Bowen, MA
 Reader, Josh Bowen, MA
 Reader, Zach VandeZande, MA

Languages

German, Spanish