**Mary C. Leoson, DA, MFA, MS, MA**

Painesville, OH / 216-659-9359 / izori@hotmail.com / [www.maryleoson.com](http://www.maryleoson.com) / [Linked in Profile](https://www.linkedin.com/in/mary-leoson/)

[Dissertation / Capstone Work](http://www.storyaspedagogy.com)

*The Butterfly Circle* - [Novel Information](https://www.mantapress.com/product-page/the-butterfly-circle)

Podcasts: “[Teaching with Story](https://shows.acast.com/teaching-with-story)” for educators / “[Exhuming the Bones](https://exhumingthebones.buzzsprout.com/)” for horror fiction writers

**EDUCATION**

Doctor of Arts Murray State University – English Pedagogy & Literature, 2023

Master of Fine Arts Cleveland State University – Creative Writing - Fiction, 2020

Master of Arts Western New Mexico University – English, 2016

Post-Master Certificate Walden University - Adult Education, 2010

Master of Science Walden University - Psychology, 2006

Bachelor of Science Indiana State University - Criminology, 2004

Associate of Arts Cuyahoga Community College - Liberal Arts, 2000

**TEACHING, MENTORING, & TUTORING EXPERIENCE** (see Courses Taught)

2023 – present Full-Time English Lecturer, Middle Tennessee State University

2022 – present Adjunct Creative Writing & Literature Instructor, Southern New Hampshire University

2018 – present Adjunct English & Psychology Instructor, Eastern Gateway Community College

2021 – present Adjunct English Instructor, Lorain County Community College

2019 – present Adjunct English Instructor, Cleveland State University

2018 – present Adjunct English & Psychology Instructor, Creative Writing Mentor - Lakeland Community College

2016 – present Adjunct English & Psychology Instructor, Cuyahoga Community College

2016 – present Adjunct English Instructor, Ashford University Online / University of Arizona Global Campus 2016 – 2019 Adjunct English Instructor, Bryant & Stratton College

2008 – 2019 Full-Time, Adjunct & Administrator - Psychology Instructor, Bryant & Stratton College

**ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION & LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE**

2012 – 2016 Liberal Arts Program Director, Bryant & Stratton College

* Promoted to this management position after demonstrating excellence in teaching and leadership.
* Managed a team of 25+ faculty members in the Liberal Arts Department (math, biology, ecology, philosophy, psychology, sociology, English, humanities, history, communications).
* Interviewed, hired, evaluated credentials, and mentored new faculty members. Trained new faculty members across all academic departments.
* Served as a resolution specialist for faculty and student conflicts. Supported student advising, registration, and retention.
* Developed a series of new faculty training seminars for new instructors across all college departments in order to support institutional goals and outcomes, excellence in instruction, and collaboration among peers
* Continued to teach undergraduate psychology and sociology courses in face-to-face, online, and blended formats.
* Resigned from this position to return to the classroom on a more continuous basis.

**COURSES TAUGHT**

**English**

* Introduction to Film
* Introduction to Fiction
* Introduction to Literature
* American Literature 2 – Late Period
* Twentieth Century American Literature & Beyond
* College Composition 1 – with literature component – *Beloved; The Haunting of Hill House; Hamlet; Mexican Gothic; Kindred; Little Women; Girl, Interrupted; I am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter; Build Your House Around My Body; Short Story Collections*
* College Composition 1 – no literature component
* College Composition 2 – with literature component – *The Handmaid’s Tale*
* College Composition 2 – no literature component
* Intensive College Writing for Incoming Freshmen
* Advanced Composition
* Research & Writing 3 – Research Design Focus
* Information Literacy
* Fiction Writing Workshop
* Creative Writing - Women & Words – Poetry, Creative Nonfiction, Fiction (non-credit)
* Creative Writing - Women & Words – Transforming Creative Writing into Digital Stories (non-credit)

**Psychology / Sociology / General**

* FYE – First Year Experience
* Learning Communities
* Human Relations
* Introduction to Sociology
* Career Success
* Critical Thinking
* Introduction to Psychology / General Psychology
* Child Psychology
* Life Span / Developmental Psychology
* Human Growth & Development
* Adult Development & Aging
* Abnormal Psychology
* Social Psychology
* Industrial Organizational Psychology
* Educational Psychology
* Multicultural Health Psychology
* Cognitive Psychology
* Social Science Research Methods

**Education & Faculty Development**

* Multimodal and Digital Composition – Faculty Training (2023)
* Community of Inquiry – Faculty Training (2022)
* Adult Learning Theory – Faculty Training (2012-2016)
* Bloom’s Taxonomy – Faculty Training (2012-2016)
* Seven Principles of Good Teaching – Faculty Training (2012-2016)
* Lesson Planning & Authentic Assessment – Faculty Training (2012-2016)

**CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS**

2023 Using Story-Based Pedagogy to Foster a Culturally Responsive Classroom - *Cuyahoga Community College, 2023*

*Tri-C Faculty Colloquium*

2023 Community of Inquiry: Social Presence - *Cuyahoga Community College, 2023 Tri-C*

*Faculty Colloquium*

2022 Transforming Creative Writing into the Digital Story, *Creative Writing Studies 2022 Online Conference*

2022 Women & Words: Creative Writing & Digital Stories, *Lit Youngstown Fall Literary Festival*

2022 Women & Words: Digital Stories that Connect, *Community College Humanities Association National Conference*

2022 Rejuvenating English @ LCCC: Using Canvas Common Course Shells to Promote Student Equity and

Engagement while Fostering Academic Freedom – *College of English Association of Ohio Conference (CEAO)* at *Lake Erie College– New Beginnings: Rejuvenating English Studies*

2022 Standardized Canvas Shells and Monsters as a Theme to Engage First-Year Writing Students – *University of*

*Florida– Pedagogy, Practice, & Philosophy*

2022 Monsters as a Theme to Engage First-Year Writing Students - *Cuyahoga Community College, 2022 Tri-C*

*Faculty Colloquium*

2021 Writing Stories from Flash to Short Fiction – *Cuyahoga County Public Library*

2021 Moving Toward Difference: Making the Invisible Visible with Critical Literacy Pedagogy – *College of English*

*Association of Ohio Conference (CEAO) – Fluidity, Mobility in English Studies*

2021 Moving a Synthesis Activity from the F2F First Year Writing Classroom into an Online Synchronous

Space – Teacher to Teacher event, *National Council of Teachers of English - T2T CCCC Annual Convention*

2021 Emotional Growth in a Remote First-Year Writing Classroom – *The University of Florida – Pedagogy, Practice,*

*& Philosophy*

2018 Creative Writing with a focus in Positive Psychology – Seminar delivered in conjunction with the Cleveland State

Writing Center at *Harbor Light Prison Release Program*

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Professional Certification in College Student Wellbeing, Trauma, & Resilience, Florida State University, 2022

Narrative Medicine Facilitator Training, Northwest Narrative Medicine Collaborative, 2022

Digital Media and Composition Endorsement, Michael V. Drake Institute for Teaching and Learning - DMAC Institute, The Ohio State University, 2022

Producing Podcasts, Mark Goode Academy, 2022

Anisfield-Wolf Book Awards – Professional Training on Teaching *Memorial Drive* by Natasha Trethewey, 2021

Certificate in Effective College Instruction – Association of College and University Educators (ACUE), 2021

Quality Matters Peer Reviewer, 2020

Quality Matters – Applying the Rubric, 2020

Instructor Presence Certificate – Community of Inquiry in the Online Environment – Ashford University Faculty Training, 2020

Career & Education Advisor Certification – Indiana University & Council for Adult and Experiential Learning, 2018

Positive Psychology Five Course Certificate – University of Pennsylvania on Coursera, 2017

Foundational Course in Life Coaching – Institute of Life Coach Training, 2015

Cognitive Behavioral Coaching, Online Coaching, Tools for Creating Vision – Institute of Life Coach Training, 2015

Facing History & Ourselves – Race & Membership, Holocaust & Human Behavior, Teaching *To Kill a Mockingbird*, 2009-2016

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

***Fiction***

* Leoson, Mary. *The Butterfly Circle*. Manta Press, 2023. (forthcoming – July, 2023)
* Leoson, Mary. “Tale of the Haunted Vineyard.” *Grim & Gilded Literary Journal*. Summer 2022.
* Leoson, Mary. “The Ripper Society.” *Free Spirit Historic Tales Anthology.* Poet’s Choice Publishing, 2022.
* Leoson, Mary. “Shadow Mother.” *The Banshee*, Spring, 2022.
* Leoson, Mary. “Waking Among Sunflowers.” *Nymphs Publications*, 2021.
* Leoson, Mary. “Devil’s Oak.” *The Lost Librarian’s Grave Anthology.* Redwood Press, 2021.
* Leoson, Mary. “The Braided Veil.” *Black Works Underwood Press*, Fall 2020.
* Leoson, Mary. “Marsh Girl.” *Untoward Magazine,* vol. 3, no. 11, 2020.
* Leoson, Mary. “The Favor.” *Coffin Bell Journal*, vol. 3, no. 2, 2020.
* Leoson, Mary. “Wicked Pieces.” *Haunted MTL,* October, 2019.
* Leoson, Mary. “Three Masks.” *Castabout Anthology: Halloween Fiction Edition,* October 2019.
* Leoson, Mary. “Roots in the Cove: A Modern Fairy Tale.” *Black Works Underwood Press,* Spring 2019.
* Leoson, Mary. “The Game.” *Obra/Artifact,* Spring 2019.
* Leoson, Mary. “Cicadas in the Suburbs.” *GNU Journal,* Winter 2018.
* Leoson, Mary. “String Theory: A Near Miss.” *Twisted Vine Literary Arts Journal*, Spring 2018.
* Leoson, Mary. “The Easter Bench.” *Postmodern Parables,* 2018.
* Leoson, Mary. “Trip to the Underworld.” *Twisted Vine Literary Arts Journal*, Spring 2017.
* Leoson, Mary. “Redemption and Rehab.” *TWJ Magazine,* Nov 2016.
* Courtwright, Mary. *Song of the Messenger.* Book Surge Publishing, 2007.

***Poetry***

* Leoson, Mary. “Monster’s Ode: A Horror Poem.” *Genre: Urban Arts,* Sep 2018.
* Leoson, Mary. “Ghost Voice.” *The Write Launch*, Sep 2017.
* Leoson, Mary. “Birth of a Shaman’s Dream.” *The Write Launch*, Sep 2017.
* Leoson, Mary. “Nana’s Tears.” *The Write Launch*, Sep 2017.

***Creative Nonfiction***

* Leoson, Mary. “Powers of Fire.” *Of Horror and Hope*. Horror Writers Association, 2022.
* Leoson, Mary. “In Search of Eve.” *Open: Journal of Arts & Letters.* Sep 2018.
* Leoson, Mary. “Soul Scars.” *Gyara Journal,* July, 2018.
* Courtwright, Mary. “The Promise Tree.” *Heights Observer*, vol.3 no. 8, 2010.
* Courtwright, Mary. “Teacher as Student.” *Heights Observer,* vol. 3, no. 1, 2010.
* Courtwright, Mary. “Love is a Choice.” *Heights Observer*, vol. 2, no. 11, 2009.
* Courtwright, Mary. “For the Love of My Father.” *Heights Observer*, vol. 2, no. 9, 2009.
* Courtwright, Mary. “The Value of the Inner Gremlin.” *Heights Observer*, vol. 2, no. 6, 2009.
* Courtwright, Mary. “The Forging of Courage”. *This I Believe* *and National Public Radio,* 2007. (redistributed 2013).

***Academic***

* Leoson, Mary. “A Symphony of Word, Image, and Sound: The Creative Potential of Digital Storytelling.” *Moving Words: Digital and Multimodal Creative Writing Pedagogies*, edited by Kristina Wright and Sara Howe. Lexington Books / Rowman & Littlefield, 2023. (forthcoming)
* Leoson, Mary. “It Took a Pandemic to Shift My Paradigm.” *The University of Arizona Global Campus Chronicle*, 2021, 30-31.

***Dissertation &******Thesis Work***

* Leoson, Mary. DA Capstone Project Working Title: “Story-Based Pedagogy: Rethinking the Traditional Workshop in the Creative Writing Classroom.” Murray State University, 2023.
* Leoson, Mary. MFA Thesis Title: “The Shadows In Between.” Cleveland State University, 2020.
* Courtwright, Mary. MS Thesis Title: “The Effect of Active Reflection on Self-Concept Among Female College Freshmen.” Walden University, 2006.

**ACADEMIC & LITERARY JOURNAL TEAM EXPERIENCE**

2023 Senior Editor, *The Journal of Creative Writing Studies*, Creative Writing Studies Organization

2022 Faculty Editorial Board for *Oak Tree Literary Journal*, Eastern Gateway Community College

2022 Peer Reviewer, *The International Journal for the Practice and Theory of Creative Writing*

2022 Peer Reviewer, *Teaching American Literature*

2016 Reader & Social Media Manager, *Twisted Vine Literary Arts Journal*

**PODCASTING PROJECTS**

2023 Co-Host & Producer, *Teaching with Story,* The Story-Based Pedagogy Project

2022 - 2023 Co-Host & Producer, *Exhuming the Bones,* Horror Writers Association – Ohio Chapter

2022 Host & Producer, *The Teachers Studio,* Eastern Gateway Community College

**ACADEMIC SERVICE**

2023 Multimodal and Digital Composition Committee, Cleveland State University

2022 - 2023 Chair, Center for Teaching and Learning Committee, Eastern Gateway Community College

2022 - 2023 General Education Committee, Eastern Gateway Community College

2022 - 2023 Criterion 3 HLC Assurance Argument Committee – Eastern Gateway Community College

2022 - 2023 Co-Coordinator, New Faculty Mentoring Program – Lakeland Community College

2022 – 2023 Member, Achieving the Dream Team – Pedagogy for Diversity and Inclusion - Lakeland Community

College

2022 - 2023 Writing Circle Leader for the Women’s Center – “Women & Words”, Lakeland Community College

2022 - 2023 Part-Time Faculty Professional Development Committee, Lakeland Community College

2022 - 2023 English Assessment Committee – Lakeland Community College

2021 Summer Bridge Enrichment Academy Instruction – Mindset 1 & 2, Cleveland State University

2020 – 2022 Quality Matters – Higher Education Peer Reviewer, Cleveland State University

2018 Student Services Consultant, Bryant & Stratton College

2013 – 2014 Committee for Exemplary Course Materials for all College Departments, Bryant & Stratton College

2013 Quantitative & Scientific Reasoning (QSR) - psychology, ecology, math, Bryant & Stratton College

2011 – 2014 Faculty Recognition Committee, Bryant & Stratton College

2009 – 2016 Faculty Development Committee, Bryant & Stratton College (Chair, 2009)

2008 – 2014 Portfolio Development Day Committee, Bryant & Stratton College

**AWARDS & NOMINATIONS**

2021 Pushcart Prize Nominee, Ladies of Horror Fiction Award Nominee for “Devil’s Oak” in Anthology *The Lost Librarian’s Grave.* Redwood Press, 2021.

2019 Cuyahoga Community College - Student’s Choice Award Nominee (recognized by a graduating Dean’s List Student as being instrumental in their education)

2019 Cuyahoga Community College – Ralph M. Besse Excellence in Teaching Award Nominee

2010 Bryant & Stratton College - Faculty of the Year

2010 Facing History and Ourselves – Margot Stern Strom Teaching Award for Diversity in Education

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Creative Writing Studies Organization, Member & Research Committee Member, 2022 - present

Community College Humanities Association, Member, 2022 -present

Horror Writers Association, Affiliate Writer Member, 2021 - present

Omicron Delta Kappa, National Leadership Honor Society, Inducted 2021

Quality Matters, Higher Education Peer-Reviewer, 2020 - present

National Council of Teachers of English, Member, 2019 - present

Two Year College English Association – Midwest, Member, 2019 - present

Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society, Inducted, 2016

Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society for Educators, Inducted 2010

Pi Lambda Theta National Honor Society for Educators, Inducted 2007

Golden Key International Honor Society, Inducted 2002

Phi Theta Kappa International Scholastic Order, Inducted 2000