

# Derek D. Dirckx

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## Research and Writing Interests

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Fiction Theory; Political Literature; Post-Modernism vs. Modernism; Experimental Fiction; Workshop Instruction; Political Rhetoric; Ethics of AI Composition; Research Methods

## EDUCATION

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**Master of Fine Arts:** Creative Writing, Fiction **May 2025**  
**Creative Writing Workshop, University of New Orleans-** New Orleans, LA  
**Thesis:** *What We Want is Hard to Find*, Story Collection; **Director:** M.O. Walsh

- 4.0 GPA

**Bachelor of Arts:** Political Science, Philosophy **May 2016**  
**University of Minnesota Duluth-** Duluth, MN  
• Magna Cum Lauda  
• Political Science Departmental Honors

## RELEVANT WORK AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**English Instructor**, 8/2025-Present

- **English 2000, Composition and Rhetoric I** (Spring 2026)
- **English 2005, Introduction to Fiction Writing** (Spring 2026)
- **English 1001, Composition and Rhetoric II** (Fall 2025)

**Graduate Instructor of First-Year Writing**, 8/2023-5/2025

**University of New Orleans, Department of English** - New Orleans, LA

- **English 1157, Composition I** Instructor of Record (Fall 2023, Fall 2024)
- **English 1158, Composition II** Instructor of Record (Spring 2024, Spring 2025)

**Associate Fiction Editor, 5/2023-5/2025**

**Bayou Magazine, University of New Orleans, Department of English- New Orleans, LA**

**Writing Center Tutor, 8/2022-5/2023**

**University of New Orleans, Department of English- New Orleans, LA**

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### **Fiction**

- “Maintenance.” *The Baltimore Review*, Winter 2024, [baltimorereview.org/winter\\_2024/contributor/derek-dirckx](http://baltimorereview.org/winter_2024/contributor/derek-dirckx)
- “Dark in Here.” *Willesden Herald: Short Stories 11*. Edited by Stephen Moran, Willesden Herald, 2019, pp. 71-90

### **Journal Articles**

- “Unregulated Democracy and Campaign Finance Reform.” Duluth Journal of Undergraduate Research, vol. 2, 2015, pp. 80-93.

## **AWARDS**

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- Joanna Leake Thesis Prize in Fiction, UNO Creative Writing Workshop, 2025
- Outstanding Graduate Instructor Award, UNO First-Year Writing Program, 2025
- Ernest and Shirley Svenson Award for Fiction, UNO Creative Writing Workshop, 2024
- Undergraduate Research Opportunity Grant, \$1500, University of Minnesota, 2015

## **EXTRACURRICULAR UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

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- Associate Fiction Editor, *Bayou Magazine*, 8/2023-5/2025.
- Reader for UNO First-Year Writing Program, Schwing Essay Award, 8/2023-5/2025
- Reader for *Bayou Magazine*, 8/2022-5/2025.
- Reader for The Tennessee Williams Festival, 8/2022-5/2025.

## Public Readings

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- Gold Room Reading Series, New Orleans, LA (1/2023, 2/2025)
- Lmnl Reading Series, New Orleans, LA (9/2025)

## REFERENCES

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- M.O. Walsh, Director of Creative Writing Workshop, University of New Orleans, [mowalsh@uno.edu](mailto:mowalsh@uno.edu), (504) 280-3133.
- Janet Barnwell Smith, Director of First-Year Writing Program, University of New Orleans, [jbsmith5@uno.edu](mailto:jbsmith5@uno.edu), (504) 280-6818.
- Inge Fink, Director of University Writing Center (Retired), University of New Orleans, [jfink@uno.edu](mailto:jfink@uno.edu), (504) 280-7159.
- Barb Johnson, Associate Professor of Creative Writing, University of New Orleans, [bajohns3@uno.edu](mailto:bajohns3@uno.edu).