

# Nick Barner

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## Education

CalArts School of Critical Studies, Master of Fine Art in Creative Writing, 2023

School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Bachelor of Fine Art in Film, Video, and New Media, 2013

## Workshops

Speculative Short Fiction workshop with author Ben Loory, UCLA Extension, Spring 2020

## Teaching Experience

*Adjunct Professor in Humanities*, CalArts, School of Critical Studies, Valencia, CA, 9/2024 – 1/2025

- + Offered BFA 300-level course titled *The Monstrous and The Terrible*, which explored the title themes in literature and film from Hawthorne and *Le Château hanté* to contemporary work by authors and filmmakers such as Mariana Enriquez and Jane Schoenbrun.
- + Revised and updated previously offered syllabus to recontextualize genre history, reflect new translations and restorations, align course with the interests of enrolled students, and involve recently published secondary literature.
- + Managed classroom of 27 students through three significant essay assignments, weekly reflections on course content, small and large group discussions, and creative capstone projects.

*English Language Learning Teacher*, Amerigo Education, Torrance, CA, 3/2024 – 11/2024

- + Taught four classes daily in academic reading and composition to students in grades 9-12, with a focus on English language acquisition and grammar.

*Postgraduate Teaching Fellow*, CalArts, School of Critical Studies, CA 9/2023 – 2/2024

- + Designed and offered two undergraduate humanities courses:

- + *Disneygothic* - BFA 200-level course on horror fandom, cultural criticism, and media theory involving visiting artists and collective archival research.
- + *Magic Circles: temporary autonomy and art without audience* - BFA 300-level course on participatory theater, reenactment, alter egos, and pedagogical art practice grounded in art critical writing.
- + Continued to develop teaching strategies for a broad range of learning styles, backgrounds, and languages, with a focus on cross-métier hybridization (all students were practicing artists) and group activities.
- + Approached media studies and art history with an ethic of student-led learning presented using aspects of universal design and collective research.
- + Implemented ELL pedagogy to a classrooms of 14-30 students, approximately half of whom were ELL, along with digital archives, collaboration tools, and Canvas Learning Management System.

*Reading Group and Discussion Organizer*, The Public School, Los Angeles, CA, 2022-2025

- + Organized more than ten reading groups with a local collective focused on self-education. Authors included Peter Gelderloos, Barbara Ehrenreich, Ajay Singh Chaundary, Tung-Hui Hu, Hohei Saito, Geert Lovink.

*Teaching Assistant*, CalArts, School of Critical Studies, 9/2021 – 5/2023.

- + Developed weekly curricula to supplement the first-year program in Critical Studies and implemented strategies from pedagogical education to lead classes of 14-17 students in composition and analysis.

*Lead Trainer*, Farmscape, Los Angeles, CA, 8/2017 – 9/2021.

- + Trained all new hires at Los Angeles branch of Farmscape, an urban agriculture project operating hundreds of food gardens and small farms between Northern and Southern California.
- + Hosted workshops in tree pruning, vegetable care, irrigation, and safety practices.
- + Ran elementary school gardening classes.

**Digital Proficiencies**

- + Canvas
- + Google Suite
- + Mac, Windows, Linux
- + Adobe Suite – Photoshop, Illustrator, Lightroom, After Effects, Premier

- + Davinci Resolve Studio
- + TouchDesigner interactive video processing
- + HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Python, PHP
- + Blender CAD
- + Omeka, Airtable, Padlet, Google Classroom

### **Conferences**

- + *Exit Strategies*, CalArts, visiting lecturer to MFA Critical Studies course, Los Angeles 2024
- + *Blue Tomorrows Conference: New Ecologies in Word and Image*, Los Angeles, speaker and organizer, 2023

### **Selected Exhibitions**

- + *Gilded Swamp*, group show at Before the Moon Falls, Los Angeles, curated by Nietzschea Marrufo, reader and artist, 2024
- + *At the Edge of the Labyrinth*, performance at The Poetic Research Bureau, Los Angeles, screening of video work, 2023

### **Residencies**

- + Ike's Canyon Residency, a fully funded writer's residency hosted by author Robin McClean in the High Desert of Arizona, June 2021.

### **Selected Publications**

- + *Many Middles-of-Nowhere: A Conversation with Robin McLean – The Rumpus*, introduction and interview, 2022
- + *Think Tank – Ergot*, short story, 2022
- + *Hex Education – Santa Barbara Literary Journal*, short story, Pushcart nominated, 2021
- + *The Third – Molotov Cocktail, 2021* – short story

## **Course Evaluations**

“I have no recommendations. This class was amazing and really exceeded my expectations. I think I improved my critical thinking abilities most of all, because we had a lot of engaging class discussions, but the reading and writing assignments were good practice too. ”

“One of the most engaging and enjoyable critical studies classes I’ve taken thus far.”

“The class discussions, especially the Archive Presentations, and watching videos before reflecting as a group and hearing everyone’s opinions, perspectives, and experiences was eye-opening, and Nick explains things very well.”

“Nick definitely helped me every time I had a hard time expanding my thoughts, and his revisions were always very encouraging yet useful. Plus, he never forced anyone to do something and waited for people to participate on their free will.”

“Nick honestly was great. He was so kind to my classmates and I. He really helped me with my essays, and it was nice to work 1 on 1 with him. He answered questions really well and made sure my classmates and I understood everything we were learning.”

“He always tried to hear us and draw ideas from our thoughts and claims. He is a great listener.”

“This class was an amazing experience. I loved the subjects and ideas from the readings and presentations. It was fun, informative, and beneficial to my own learning experience.”