**Bio**

Michelle Herman is the author of nine books—novels, collections of stories, collections of personal essays and memoirs, and a book of advice for children—the most recent of which (2022) is the novel [*Close-Up*](https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/michelle-herman/close-up-herman/)*,* which was awarded the inaugural Donald L. Jordan Award for Literary Excellence. Her other honors and awards include grants and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Ohio Arts Council, the Copernicus Foundation, and many others. She writes a weekly advice column for [Slate](https://slate.com/author/michelle-herman) and in recent years has pursued a serious secondary interest in dance. She has studied ballet and written extensively about that experience, and for five years has been performing with the contemporary dance company Flux and Flow. She taught in the English department at the Ohio State University—where she co-founded the graduate program in creative writing and for many years directed it, and founded and directed the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in the Fine Arts—for thirty-four years, until last spring.

**Teaching Awards**

Sphinx and Mortar Board Senior Class Honorary Societies Award, The Ohio State University, 2008

Rodica C. Botoman Award for Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching and Mentoring, College of

Humanities, The Ohio State University, 2007

Outstanding Teaching Award, Colleges of the Arts and Sciences, The Ohio State University, 2005

University Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching, The Ohio State University, 1999

Lilly Foundation Teaching Fellowship, The Ohio State University, 1990-1991

Teaching Writing Fellowship, The University of Iowa Writers’ Workshop, 1985-1986

**Undergraduate courses taught at OSU**

English 5662 (662) Literary Publishing (mixed undergraduate and graduate lecture/discussion)

English 265 Introduction to the Writing of Fiction (undergraduate lecture/workshop/discussion)

English 4565 (565) Advanced Workshop in the Writing of Fiction (undergraduate workshop/

discussion)

English 4568 (568) Advanced Workshop in the Writing of Creative Nonfiction (undergraduate work-

shop/discussion)

English 3465 Intermediate Workshop in the Writing of Fiction (undergraduate workshop/discussion)

English 398 Introduction to Critical Writing (the gateway to the major for undergraduates: a

lecture/discussion class that introduces the art of thinking and writing about literature)

English 4591.01H (591H) Undergraduate Honors Seminar in Creative Writing (Special Topics: Art

and Life: A Living Writers Seminar; The Art of Talking Back [Retellings & Responses]; Call and

Response: Creative Writing and Music)

English 596 Studies in Literature and Other Arts (Special Topic: The Great American Book Musical)

First-Year Seminars (Special Topics: Life into Art: An Introduction to Artistic Process; Interdisciplinary

Seminar for Young Artists; Why Do Fools Fall In Love? [Portrayals of Romantic Love in Song and Story]; An Introduction to Creative Writing: Fiction, Poetry, and Creative Nonfiction)

**Curriculum development**

* Co-founder of the M.F.A. program in creative writing at Ohio State
* Redesigned the Colleges of the Arts and Sciences Freshman Common Book Program
* Full responsibility for the design and implementation of many new courses at Ohio State, including courses in literary publishing, undergraduate honors seminars for writers, and a graduate inter-disciplinary course for artists in all disciplines; full responsibility for a new undergraduate creative writing curriculum and the creative writing concentration in the English major; shared responsibility for creating a certificate program in publishing
* Involved in the planning and proposal of a new multidisciplinary M.F.A. program in new entertainment arts and technologies at OSU through the University’s Advanced Computing Center for the Arts and Design (ACCAD)
* Worked with faculty in Agriculture and Engineering to introduce the humanities and the arts into their undergraduates’ academic experience in a more integrated way
* Created and developed a new graduate interdisciplinary program for artists in all fields at OSU