

Dr. Melanie Hyo-In Han

h.han@surrey.ac.uk | melanie.han@gordon.edu

ORCID: [0000-0001-7995-1850](https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7995-1850)

[LinkedIn](#) | [Website](#)

PROFILE

Korean-African poet, educator, and researcher with teaching experience across secondary, higher, and continuing education contexts in the United States, South Korea, and the United Kingdom. Recently completed a PhD in Creative Writing at the University of Surrey, funded by the Vice Chancellor's Studentship Award. Fellow of Advance HE (FHEA) with a Postgraduate Certificate in Learning and Teaching in Higher Education, a Master of Education degree, and U.S. teaching licensure.

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy in Creative Writing **09/2022 – 06/2026**

School of Arts, Humanities and Creative Industries – University of Surrey Guildford, UK

- **Thesis:** *No Way of Returning Home*: Fragmented Form and Multilingual Poetry
- **Funding:** Vice Chancellor's Studentship Award
- **Supervisors:** Dr. Stephen Mooney and Dr. Gabriele Lazzari

Postgraduate Certificate in Learning & Teaching in Higher Education **01/2024 – 06/2025**

Surrey Institute of Education – University of Surrey | Distinction Guildford, UK

- Fellowship of Advance HE (FHEA)

Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing – Poetry & Translation **09/2019 – 05/2021**

Department of Writing, Literature, and Publishing – Emerson College | Distinction Boston, MA, USA

- **Thesis:** *My Dear Yeast*: A Collection of Poetry and Translations
- **Funding:** Emerson Graduate Fellowship & Community Scholarship
- **Advisors:** Dr. Daniel Tobin and Dr. Rajiv Mohabir

Master of Education in Secondary English & Spanish **06/2017 – 06/2019**

Herschend School of Education – Gordon College | Distinction Wenham, MA, USA

- Massachusetts Teaching Licensure
- Sheltered English Immersion (SEI) Endorsement

Bachelor of Arts in English, Spanish & Linguistics **09/2012 – 05/2016**

Gordon College | First Class Honours Wenham, MA, USA

- **Honours Thesis:** *Lutalica*: A Collection of Creative Nonfiction Short Stories
- Summa Cum Laude Graduate

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Postgraduate Tutor / Seminar Leader

02/2024 – Present

University of Surrey

Guildford, UK

- Teach undergraduate literature and creative writing seminars
- Design seminar materials aligned with module learning outcomes
- Mark and moderate creative portfolios and critical commentary assessments
 - ELI 1033: Thinking Like a Critic I (Level 4)
 - ELI 1034: Thinking Like a Critic II (Level 4)
 - ELI 1021: Understanding Poetry (Level 4)
 - ELI 1026: Introduction to Creative Writing (Level 4)
 - ELI 2058: Life Writing (Level 5)

Creative Writing Instructor

05/2022 – Present

The Poetry School | The Poetry Lab | Sundress Academy for the Arts
Accent Society | Writing Workshops

Remote

- Design and lead one-day to multi-week creative writing courses and workshops
- Manage all aspects of course delivery (including planning, instruction, and feedback)
 - Introduction to Creative Writing
 - Exploring Identity & Cultural Memory through Erasure Poetry
 - Experimental Forms & Multilingual Poetry
 - Erasure, Fragmentation, Visual & Translingual Poetry
 - Mother Tongue, Other Tongue: Poetry of Language
 - IndieMFA: From Poems to Poetry Collection – Building Your Manuscript
 - Between Languages: Multilingual Poetry

English, Spanish & Creative Writing Teacher

06/2021 – 06/2022

Grace International Academy

Seoul, Korea

- Designed and delivered secondary school course curricula (UK A-Level equivalent)
- Developed structured learning sequences across multiple year groups
- Planned and delivered differentiated instruction across mixed-ability cohorts
 - Literary Arts I & II
 - Introduction to Creative Writing
 - Advanced Creative Writing
 - Spanish I & Spanish II

Writing Studies Program Lecturer**09/2020 – 05/2021**

Emerson College

Boston, MA, USA

- Designed, convened, and delivered first-year undergraduate writing modules
- Held full responsibility for syllabus development, assessment design, curriculum planning, and module administration
- Assessed and moderated formative and summative student assessments
 - WR 101: Introduction to College Writing – Level 4
 - WR 121: Research Writing – Level 4

English & Spanish Teacher**09/2018 – 07/2019**

Gloucester High School

Gloucester, MA, USA

- Designed and delivered secondary school course curricula
- Developed differentiated lesson plans and formative/summative assessments
 - English 9 & English 10
 - Spanish I & Spanish III (Honours)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Creative Director**02/2026 – 04/2026**

Surrey Writers Festival

Guildford, UK

- Supported creative programming and curatorial development for the festival
- Chaired an author panel discussion: Locked Room Mysteries
- Assisted with web content development and digital design for festival promotion
- Facilitated volunteer coordination and on-the-day event operations

Production Coordinator**02/2026 – 05/2026**

Surrey Poetry Festival

Guildford, UK

- Contributed to the production and public-facing communication of the festival
- Designed and produced promotional materials including flyers and digital marketing assets
- Assisted with logistics and on-the-day coordination of festival programming

Postgraduate Research Assistant**07/2024 – Present**

University of Surrey

Guildford, UK

- Support the development and delivery of public-facing research and creative engagement projects within the Faculty of Arts, Business and Social Sciences
 - Project & Marketing Assistant, ListenQueer (2026)
 - Copyeditor & Proofreader, ERA Journal (2025)
 - Marketing Assistant, Being Human Festival: Between Realms (2025)
 - Workshop Leader, Being Human Festival: Beyond Displacement (2025)
 - Workshop Leader, Migrant Writing (UKRI-funded project, 2024)
 - Workshop Leader, Being Human Festival: Environmental Disasters (2024)

- PALS (Peer Active Learning Scheme) Mentor** **10/2024 – Present**
 University of Surrey Guildford, UK
- Provide one-to-one academic mentoring for undergraduate students, supporting development of writing, research, and study skills
 - Offer formative feedback on assignments and guidance on academic expectations
- Korean Translation Editor** **11/2023 – Present**
 Gasher Press Remote
- Select and edit bilingual English/Korean poetry manuscripts for publication
 - Collaborate with authors on revision and final manuscript preparation
- Editor-in-Chief** **06/2021 – Present**
 Flora Fiction Literary Magazine Remote
- Lead editorial direction and production of a quarterly literary magazine
 - Coordinate submissions review processes
 - Oversee publication timelines and editorial standards
- English Language Learner Consultant** **09/2019 – 05/2021**
 Writing & Academic Resource Center, Emerson College Boston, MA, USA
- Provided academic support to international and ELL students at university level
 - Delivered one-to-one consultations focused on academic writing conventions
- International Admissions Officer** **06/2016 – 06/2019**
 Gordon College Wenham, MA, USA
- Recruited and advised international applicants through university fairs and school visits
 - Supported students through admissions processes including applications, interviews, visa preparation, and financial aid guidance

SELECT PUBLICATIONS & CONFERENCE PAPERS

Books

- *Uprooted, Replanted, Uprooted Again* (FlowerSong Press, forthcoming in 2027)
- *No Way of Returning Home* (The Poetry Lighthouse, forthcoming in 2026)
- *Passing Notes in Secret* (boats against the current, 2025)
- *Abecedarian: Banff, Canada* (kith books, 2025)
- *My Dear Yeast* (Milk & Cake Press, 2023)
- *Sandpaper Tongue, Parchment Lips* (Finishing Line Press, 2021)

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- “The Han of Women in Postcolonial and Transnational Korean Poetry.” *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies*, forthcoming 2026. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369801X.2026.2681434>
- “Fragmented Form and Spatiotemporal Experiences in Transnational Korean Women’s Poetry.” *Enthymema*, 11 Mar. 2025, pp. 258–269. <https://doi.org/10.54103/2037-2426/24020>
- “Korean Transnational Poetry and the Negotiation of Identity: Korean, English, and Konglish.” *International Journal of Bilingualism*, 28 Aug. 2025. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13670069251363822>

Conference Papers

- “The Endangered Poet: Creative Writing and Human Voice in the Era of AI”
Research Futures Conference at University of Surrey, UK | June 2026
- “Between Languages: Negotiating Linguistic Borders through Translingual Poetry”
Borders and Borderlands (LCIR) Conference at Birkbeck College, UK | April 2026
- “Creative Writing as Inclusive Practice: A Participant-Led Case Study”
SAHCI Conference at University of Surrey, UK | January 2026
- “Translingual Poetry as a Site of Resistance within Korean History and its Diaspora”
IR/RELEVANT Conference at King’s College, UK | May 2025
- “Poetry as Witness: Memory, Trauma, and the Korean Diaspora”
Bridging Disciplines Conference at University of Surrey, UK | May 2025
- “Reframing Public Memory: The Role of Art in Postcolonial Narratives”
The Arts in Society Conference at Carnegie Mellon University, USA | May 2025
- “From Comfort Women to Cultural Stereotypes: Korean Women's Bodies in Poetry”
NEMLA Conference at La Salle University, USA | March 2025
- “Unveiling the Resilience of Human Stories in Poetry”
The Human in Humanities Conference at University of Surrey, UK | May 2024
- “Narratives of Transnational Korea: Migration, Identity, and Cultural Resilience in Poetry”
ISSN Conference at Newcastle University, UK | April 2024
- “Fragmented Form and Spatiotemporal Experiences in Transnational Women's Poetry”
European Narratology Network Conference at Monopoli, Italy | September 2023
- “Han in Physical and Literary Spaces: Korea’s Statue of Peace and Emily Yoon’s Poetry”
The Memory Conference at University of Oxford, UK | June 2023

SELECT AWARDS

Research

- Winner of 2025 “People’s Choice Award” of 3 Minute Thesis Competition
- Recipient of 2025 Arts in Society “Emerging Scholar” Award
- Winner of 2024 Postgraduate Researcher Poster Competition
- Winner of 2022 “Project as a Poem” Competition
- Winner of 2021 Bill Knott Thesis Award

Creative Writing

- “쌍꺼풀 (Double Eyelids)” – Garden Party Collective | Visual/Experimental Contest Winner
- Triptych: Comfort Women – International Human Rights Art Movement | 1st Place Winner
- Dar es Salaam Delicacies – The Lyric Magazine | 1st Place Winner
- Finding Home in Chinatown – Boston in 100 Words | 2nd Place Winner
- Korean Survivors of Japanese Comfort Women – Valiant Scribe | 2nd Place Winner
- An Exponential Function – Constellations | 2nd Place Winner
- Tumaini Wa Maisha – Emerson College | Fiction Honourable Mention
- Abecedarian in 한글 (Hangul) – Feral: A Journal of Poetry and Art | Pushcart Prize Nomination

Residencies

- Sundress Academy for the Arts – Knoxville, USA | Writers of Color Fellowship Recipient
- Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity – Banff, Canada | Mackie Creation Fund Awardee
- Gladstone’s Library – Hawarden, Wales | General Scholarship Recipient
- Casa Uno – Atenas, Costa Rica
- Kees Eijrond Foundation: Casa Mísia – Lisbon, Portugal
- Cocoon Residencies – Cornwall, UK | Recipient of Research Grant

Grants

- The Society of Authors | Drusilla Harvey Fund Awardee (£700)
- Turing Scheme | Grant Recipient (£350)
- Northeast Modern Language Association | Travel Award Recipient (\$230)
- International Society for the Empirical Study of Literature | PGR Grant Recipient (€400)

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

Certifications

- U.K. Postgraduate Certificate in Learning and Teaching in Higher Education
- U.S. Massachusetts Teaching Licensure – English (5-12) and Spanish (5-12)
- International 150-hour TESOL Certification
- Minerva-Certified Forum Qualification – Minerva Baccalaureate Faculty Training

Memberships

- Advance HE
- Northeast Modern Language Association
- Arts in Society Research Network
- International Society for the Study of Narrative
- Sigma Tau Delta – U.S. English Honors Society