

# Meredith O'Brien

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## Experience

Northeastern University: Adjunct Faculty, Journalism Program. Teach “Interpreting the Day’s News” which seeks to strengthen analytical students’ skills of the 24/7 news cycle.

Framingham State University: Full-Time Temporary Assistant Professor, English Department

- Writing for Online and Social Media: Taught upper-level course that explored how professionals utilize blogs and social media to both gather and disseminate news and ideas. The course examined social media's effect on the news cycle. Additionally, students were expected to create their own online content and engage others who blog about the same topic.
- Intro to Journalism: Provided students with fundamental grounding in news writing and reporting.
- Expository Writing: Taught freshman expository writing course.
- Professional Development: Co-led session on using social and online media in the classroom.
- Speaker: Featured in university’s 2013 Artists and Authors Series.

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA: Adjunct Faculty, Journalism Program

- Readings in Journalism: Taught course on how journalists gather and produce their material by reading first-person accounts.
- Media Criticism: Taught students how to scrutinize media convergence and the 24-hour news cycles, as well as how to dissect media genres.
- Journalism Ethics: Guided students on assessing media ethics.
- Opinion Writing: Taught students to compose opinion essays for print and online media.
- News Writing and Reporting: Trained undergraduates how to gather and report news stories.

Freelance Writer: Write about myriad topics including politics, gender, media criticism and popular culture. Work has been published in: *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, *Baltimore Sun*, *Boston Globe*, *Boston Herald*, GateHouse Media, *Hartford Courant*, Huffington Post, *Indianapolis Star*, *The Nation*, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, the *Avalon Literary Review*, and *Intima: A Journal of Narrative Medicine*. Panelist at Bay Path University’s 2017 Writers’ Day and League of Women Voters 2017 media literacy forum.

Wyatt-MacKenzie Publishing, Inc., Deadwood, OR: Author

- *Mr. Clark’s Big Band: A Year of Laughter, Tears and Jazz in a Middle School Band Room* (2017).
- *Mortified: A Novel About Oversharing* (2013). Finalist for the *ForeWord Reviews’* quarterly ForeWord Firsts competition for debut novels.

Journalist: Former newspaper reporter for the *Boston Herald*, *The Republican* (Springfield, MA), *The Transcript-Telegram* (Holyoke, MA). Former investigative journalist for the Center for Public Integrity (Washington, D.C.) with whom I was a co-author of *The Buying of the President* (Avon, 1996).

## Education

- MFA in Creative Nonfiction: *Bay Path University, Longmeadow, MA*
- MA in Political Science: *The American University, Washington, D.C.*
- BA in Journalism and Political Science, History minor, cum laude: *University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA*