

# Khushi Patel

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## EDUCATION

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**B.A., Writing and Rhetoric, University of Central Florida (UCF), Orlando, FL, expected May 2026**

- **Specialization in:** Writing, Rhetoric, and Advocacy
- **Minor in:** Sociology

## AREAS OF INTEREST

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- Critical Disability Studies (Disability Rhetoric)
- Rhetoric of Health and Medicine
- Writing Program Administration
- Technical and Professional Communication

## PRESENTATIONS

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### *National and Professional Conferences*

Cicchino, Amy, Shia Kirby, **Khushi Patel**, and Diamond Williams. "Scaling Support: Writing Groups as Entry Points to Writing Center Engagement and First-Year Writer Support." Roundtable. Online Writing Centers Association Conference. April 9-10, 2026. (Accepted).

"Access for Whom? Interrogating the Ableism Embedded in Academic Conferencing." With Kelsey Hawkins. Conference on College Composition and Communication. Cleveland, OH. March 4-7, 2026. (Accepted).

Hannasch, Miranda, Hira Khan, Meg Palmer, and **Khushi Patel**. "Making New Maps: Navigating AI Literacy for Writing Center Tutors." Creative/Experiential Session. South Central Writing Centers Association Conference. University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK. February 26-28, 2026. (Accepted).

"Mask Blocs and (Counter)Public Health Interventions." Panel. *Cultivating Urgent Counterpublics: Feminist, Disabled, and Activist Interventions in COVID-19 Rhetoric*. Rhetoric of Health and Medicine Symposium. University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, Minneapolis, MN. October 17-18, 2025.

"Establishing the Covid-Conscious Counterpublic: Rhetorical Resistance in a 'Post-Pandemic' Era." Works-in-progress Working Group. Rhetoric of Health and Medicine Symposium. University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, Minneapolis, MN. October 17-18, 2025.

"Historicizing the Pandemic: Temporal Rhetorics in Covid-19 Discourse." Feminist Perspectives on Body, Disability, and Health. The Pennsylvania State University, March 4-5, 2025.

### *Invited Talks*

Bazaldua, Crystal, Bonnie Garcia, Marcela Hebbard, and **Khushi Patel**. "Mentoring Undergraduate Research in Writing Studies: Insights from *Young Scholars in Writing*." Webinar. Hosted by Writing About Writing Standing Group. November 19, 2025.

### *Student-Oriented Events*

Abramovitz, Aden, Sabrina Califano, Rebecca Flanagan, Nathan Holic, Sarah Mali, and **Khushi Patel**. "Comics: They're Good For Your Health!" Roundtable. UCF Celebrates the Arts. Orlando, FL. April 3, 2026. (Accepted).

Patel, Khushi, Cameron Pufahl, David Romero, and Sloane Saltzman. “New Models for the Future: Tracing Narratives of Disability, Citizenship, and Bodily Autonomy.” Panel. Knights Write Showcase 2026. University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL. February 18, 2025. (Accepted.)

Benton, Hannah, Shia Kirby, **Khushi Patel**, Cameron Pufahl, and Imani Rodriguez. “Own Your Writing: Expert Tutors Share Tips for Success.” Moderated Roundtable. Student Success Conference. Orlando, FL. September 13, 2025.

“Unmasking Campus Policy: A Critical Discourse Analysis of UC’s 2024 Mask Ban.” Poster. Summer Research Showcase. University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL. July 18, 2025.

“Syllabi Accessibility Statements in Rhetoric/Composition Studies: An Overview of the Genre.” Poster. Virtual Undergraduate Research Conference, Center for Interdisciplinary Writing and Research. April 18, 2025.

“Dissecting Disability: Narrative Prosthesis and the Construction of the Ableist Nation-State in Divakaruni’s ‘Independence.’” Paper Presentation. Virtual Undergraduate Research Conference, Center for Interdisciplinary Writing and Research. April 18, 2025.

“Syllabi Accessibility Statements in Rhetoric/Composition Studies: A Review of the Genre.” Poster. Amy Zeh High Impact Practices Student Showcase. University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL. April 16, 2025.

“Syllabi Accessibility Statements in Rhetoric/Composition Studies: A Review of the Genre.” Poster. Student Scholar Symposium. University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL. March 26-27, 2025.

“Dissecting Disability: Narrative Prosthesis and the Construction of the Ableist Nation-State in Divakaruni’s *Independence*.” English Symposium. University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL. March 6-7, 2025.

- *Graduate-Level Event – Awarded “Best Student Paper”*

Fernandez, Rebecca, Shia Kirby, **Khushi Patel**, Kevin Pokhoy, and Rachel Stillword. “Fostering Civil Discourse through Cross-Generational Conversations: The Role of the UWC and Undergraduate Major.” Panel. Knights Write Showcase 2025. University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL. February 13, 2025.

“Resisting the Negation of Writerhood.” Pre-recorded ‘Flare.’ 2025 Writing Innovation Symposium. Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI. January 30-31, 2025.

“Accidental Academic Word Vomit; A Culinary Experience.” Pre-recorded ‘Spark.’ 2025 Writing Innovation Symposium. Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI. January 30-31, 2025.

Alnaizy, Areej, Hannah Benton, **Khushi Patel**, Mathew Powell, Riah Smith, and Rachel Stillword. “Planning for Integrative Learning Within and Beyond the Writing & Rhetoric Major.” Panel. Knights Write Showcase 2024. University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL, February 7-8, 2024.

## LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

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### South Central Writing Centers Association (SCWCA)

Executive Committee Member, Tutor Talks

August 2025 – Present

- Hosting monthly virtual professional development sessions (i.e. “Tutor Talks”) for writing consultants across all career stages and affiliations to connect, discuss, and grow in a tutor-focused forum
- Regularly meeting with other committee members to generate topics for future discussions and implement suggestions from attendee feedback surveys

- Scheduling and advertising sessions via social media, email, and writing center ListServes to reach an international audience of interested writing consultants

### **UCF Department of Writing and Rhetoric**

Orlando, FL

Undergraduate Program Intern

Jan 2025 – April 2025

- Regularly attended and served as the sole student representative in meetings with the undergraduate program’s director, advisors, internship coordinator, and select faculty members
- Designed engaging promotional materials to improve student outreach including flyers, pins, stickers, and social media posts
- Edited and managed “Monday Messages for Writing and Rhetoric Students,” a weekly newsletter sent to all 150+ students in the undergraduate program

## **COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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### **Hope Card Laws and Regulations Across the United States**

Orlando, FL

Undergraduate Research Assistant

July 2025 – Present

- Assisting with a sociological research project on hope cards—small electronic or pocket cards that provide domestic violence survivors portable formal documentation of legal protections—as part of UCF’s Knights Research Scholars Program
- Reading peer-reviewed literature, searching through state legislative and administrative websites, and compiling a literature review
- Identifying, recording, and analyzing hope card statutes and regulations across 7 states in the U.S. to determine cross-state characteristics

## **TUTORING EXPERIENCE**

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### **UCF University Writing Center**

Orlando, FL

Lead and Mentor Tutor

Aug 2024 – Present

- Serving as a point of contact between tutors and administrators, responding to technical issues and scheduling concerns to offload administrative labor
- Collaborating with writers on a variety of writing tasks across all disciplines, contexts, and genres to encourage the development of long-term writing strategies
- Delivering classroom presentations about the University Writing Center—including the services offered, scheduling and consultation-related procedures, and hiring opportunities

Peer Writing Tutor

Aug 2023 – Present

- Tutoring a diverse campus community (including undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty members, and alumni) to help them meet their individual writing concerns in both virtual and face-to-face consultations
- Participating in an ongoing professional development course to engage in research and discussions about writing center studies and tutoring practices
- Fostering collaboration and co-agency in consultations by setting, maintaining, and re-negotiating session agendas with writers

Soar Lab Lead Tutor

June 2025 – Aug 2025

- Selected to lead supplemental workshops for 4 groups of first-year composition students, providing a peer-to-peer discussion space to reinforce class lessons as part of a university-wide academic support program
- Utilized clear and engaging instructional techniques to facilitate the comprehension and application of rhetorical concepts within students’ writing assignments that resulted in all 48 students successfully passing the course with a B or higher
- Implemented lesson plans and classroom management strategies for group meetings and incorporating interactive activities, discussions, and exercises to engage students and reinforce learning objectives

Writing Group Facilitator

Aug 2024 – May 2025

- Facilitating 2 groups of first-year composition writers in a virtual space dedicated to independently working on writing as part of an IRB-approved research study
- Routinely writing summaries of writers' intentions and accomplishments for internal documentation and future data collection purposes
- Administering surveys to writers at the beginning and end of the semester by reading an IRB-approved script

## EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

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### *Young Scholars in Writing: Undergraduate Research in Writing and Rhetoric*

Copyediting Assistant

Sep 2025 – Present

- Proofreading multimodal submissions prior to publication in a nationally renowned undergraduate research journal
- Verifying the accuracy of MLA in-text citations, references, and formatting
- Writing and editing captions for images and diagrams to ensure accessibility
- Collaborating with faculty editors and attending an editorial check-in meeting to review final manuscripts

### *Stylus: A Journal of First-Year Writing*

Orlando, FL

Production Editor

April 2025 – Present

- Copyediting multimodal undergraduate submissions for clarity, consistency, and accuracy prior to publication
- Ensuring submissions adhere to MLA/APA citational styles
- Suggesting edits and providing rationale to help authors implement changes

### *UCF Department of Writing and Rhetoric's Monday Messages*

Orlando, FL

Editor, Department Newsletter

Jan 2025 – April 2025

- Wrote content and created graphics for weekly, 4–6-page newsletters to keep 150+ undergraduate students in UCF's Department of Writing and Rhetoric aware of relevant opportunities, events, and information
- Found new, weekly content to encourage students to expand their rhetorical engagement beyond the classroom including civic events, research opportunities, and internship/job listings
- Collaborated with the undergraduate program's director, advisors, internship coordinator, and select faculty members to highlight pertinent information for students & showcase student work

### *Cerebration*

Freelance Editorial Assistant

Nov 2024

- Transcribed, formatted, and lightly copyedited a 45-minute-long author interview for publication in an interdisciplinary peer-reviewed online journal
- Translated a multilingual author interview into English while retaining original Hindi/Urdu phrases

## ACADEMIC MARKETING EXPERIENCE

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### *UCF Department of Writing & Rhetoric's Student Ambassadors*

Orlando, FL

Social Media Coordinator

Jan 2024 – Present

- Managing the student-run Instagram account and LinkTree for UCF's Department of Writing & Rhetoric (@ucfwritingandrhetoric on Instagram & [linktr.ee/ucf.dwr](https://linktr.ee/ucf.dwr))
- Creating and implementing marketing strategies that have resulted in over a 35% growth in followers and over a 1500% increase in profile views
- Designing story and carousel graphics using Canva, re-formatting content to align with platform constraints, and writing alternative text for each post to improve accessibility
- Engaging audiences by incorporating trending topics into content & responding to comments, mentions, and direct messages

### *UCF University Writing Center*

Orlando, FL

Marketing Committee (Lead)

Aug 2024 – Aug 2025

- Communicating with departmental administrators and advisors to promote events via mailing lists and course announcements

- Delegating marketing tasks and responsibilities to other consultants
- Organized all recurring marketing tasks into a reusable Google Sheet, ensuring consistent task completion and efficiently communicating progress to administrators

## Marketing Project (Lead)

May 2024 – Aug 2024

- Built collaborative partnerships with other on-campus organizations through outreach-oriented emails and scheduled meetings
- Led a group of consultants in addressing organizational marketing goals, outlining a marketing plan, and creating a content timeline to maintain consistent production in the future
- Delivered a content production and outreach strategy to administrative stakeholders

**American Medical Women’s Association (UCF Chapter)**

Orlando, FL

## Outreach Liaison

Aug 2023 – April 2024

- Managed a registered student organization’s external and internal communication platforms, including a public-facing Instagram account with 1000+ followers (@amwaucf)
- Designed social media posts using Canva, routinely updated the associated LinkTree, and coordinated an internal platform transition to Microsoft Teams to meet organizational needs
- Presented updates and promoted social media accounts in biweekly meetings to a hybrid audience of 20+ members

**SELECT PUBLICATIONS (NON-REFEREED)**

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- Patel, Khushi. “The Rewarding Nature of Review Work.” *Young Scholars in Writing Blog*. (Forthcoming).
- Patel, Khushi. “UCF’s Arboretum: Helping Knights Foster Connections with Nature & Each Other.” *Imprint*, May 1, 2025, <https://cah.ucf.edu/imprint/ucfs-arboretum-helping-knights-foster-connections-with-nature-each-other/>.
- Patel, Khushi. “Narcan 101: Responding to Opioid Overdoses.” *Endemic Exposure*, Health Advocacy, UCF Public Health Student Association, vol. 2, March 2024.
- Patel, Khushi. “Respiratory Illness Surge, Mask-wearing, and a Feature on SWAMP Central Florida.” *Endemic Exposure*, Health Advocacy, UCF Public Health Student Association, vol. 1, February 2024.
- Patel, Khushi. “Writers Write.” *Just Write!*, vol. 3, no. 1, 2023, <https://uwc.cah.ucf.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/9/2023/04/Just-Write-S23-3-1.pdf>.

**WORKS-IN-PROGRESS**

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- “The Construction of the Ableist Nation-State in Divakaruni’s *Independence*.” Article manuscript in progress, to be submitted for publication in January 2026.
- “Experiential Learning in UCF’s University Writing Center.” Multimodal work in progress, to be submitted for publication in February 2026.

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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Oct 2025 – Present      Accessibility Committee, Writing Program Administration Graduate Organization (WPA-GO)

Sep 2025 – Present      Peer Reviewer, *Pursuit – The Journal of Undergraduate Research at the University of Tennessee*

Aug 2025 – Present      Co-Chair, Emerging Scholars Leadership Group, Critical Language Awareness (CLA) Collective

- July 2025 – Present      Assistant Contributor, CCCC 2026 Access Guide
- May 2025 – Present      Blog Team, *Young Scholars in Writing: Undergraduate Research in Writing and Rhetoric*
- Sep 2023 – Present      Peer Reviewer (5x), *Stylus: A Journal of First-Year Writing*
- Apr 2024 – Present      Peer Reviewer (2x), *Young Scholars in Writing: Undergraduate Research in Writing and Rhetoric*

### **HONORS, AWARDS, AND FUNDING**

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- 2026      Conference, Research, and Travel Funding Allocation, UCF Student Govt. Association (\$400)
- 2025      Conference Travel Authorization, UCF Department of Writing and Rhetoric (\$300)
- 2025      Conference, Research, and Travel Funding Allocation, UCF Student Govt. Association (\$400)
- 2025      Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship, Office of Undergraduate Research (\$2000)
- 2025      Best Student Paper Award, English Symposium, UCF College of Graduate Studies (\$150)
- 2024      Tutor Scholarship, UCF Student Govt. Association (\$250)