

Andrew Lee Butler, MFA, PhD

Assistant Professor of English

Biography

Andrew Lee Butler is a writer and Northeast Tennessean. He received his BA in History from East Tennessee State University, his MFA in Poetry from the University of Arkansas, and his PhD in English and Creative Writing from the University of Tennessee, where he served as Editor-in-Chief of *Grist: A Journal of the Literary Arts*. His writing has been nominated for Pushcarts and Best of the Nets. He joined LMU's faculty in 2026, where he teaches creative writing and oversees the Mountain Heritage Literary Festival. Before joining LMU, he taught writing at the University of Tennessee.

Teaching and Research Interests

Dr. Butler's creative and scholarly work explores place-based literature, authenticity, kitsch, and memory. He has taught writing and literature classes on topics such as sports, music, and Appalachia.

Representative Publications

"Christ His Grace Is Sufficient Mobile Home Service And Transporting Inc." *Appalachian Review* (2025)

"Kingsport: A Love Poem" *Appalachian Review* (2025)

"For the Third Time in a Row, the Taco Bell in Elizabethton, TN, Messes Up My Order" *Pinch Journal Online* (2025)

"A Driveway Mandala Made of Three-Point Turns" *Untelling* (2025)

"Belated Entry into *Kingsport Times-News's* 'I Am Bays Mountain' Writing Contest" *SWING* (2024)

"Every Living Thing Is Rare" *SWING* (2024)

"Palinode for Pal's Sudden Service" *Appalachian Places* (2024)

"The Hermeneutics of the Whataburger Menu" *McNeese Review* (2023)

"Dr. Ralph Stanley Live at the Carter Family Fold" *Oxford American* (2022)

"Letter to Nordstrom Re: Why Corporate Should Build a Last Chance Clearance Outlet in Knoxville, TN" *Rattle* (2021)