

Donna Pazdera

Curriculum Vitae

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Email: dpazdera@tamusa.edu

Education: Master's of Mass Communication, University of Florida, 2003. The Documentary Institute.

Bachelor of Fine Arts, University of Cincinnati, 1983. College-Conservatory of Music. Major: broadcasting Minor: journalism

Teaching Experience:

Texas A&M University-San Antonio

COMM 4306 Documentary Film History- Spring 2024

COMM 3303 Feature Writing- Fall 2024

COMM 4306 Documentary Film History – Summer 2022 – asynchronous

COMM 1307 Intro to Mass Communication – Fall 2022-23

COMM 3303 Creative Nonfiction, 2017-2018 and 2020

COMM 3328 Photojournalism, 2017, 2019-present

COMM 3327 Video Editing and Production, 2017

COMM 3304 Reporting II, 2018

COMM 3305 Multimedia Storytelling, 2018-2020 Internship, 2018

COMM 2312 Multimedia Literacy, 2018-present

COMM 4306 Special Topics: Documentary Film History, 2018

COMM 3301 Reporting 1- 2019- 2023

The University of Texas Pan American/UTRGV

COMM 3303 Reporting I, 2004-2017

COMM 3304 Feature Writing, 2005-2017

COMM 3301

COMM 3328 Writing for Mass Media, 2004-2014 COMM 3329 Photojournalism, 2008-2017

COMM 3305 Multimedia Storytelling, 2010-2020

COMM 3302 Copy Editing, 2004-2010

COMM 4306 Documentary Film History, 2009-2015

COMM 2318 Television Production, 2004-2016

COMM 3320 Mass Communication and Society, 2009-2010

COMM 2312 Public Relations Writing, 2004-2006

COMM 3304 Specialized Reporting, 2007, 2010

Experience:

Clinical Associate Professor of Practice, Texas A&M University- San Antonio, 2024-present.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Practice, Texas A&M University- San Antonio, 2022-2024

Freelance editor, My Interview Clinic 2023-present.

Lecturer, Texas A&M University-San Antonio, August 2017-2021

Lecturer II, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, September 2015-August 2017 Lecturer II, The University of Texas-Pan American, 2014-Aug. 2015

Lecturer I, The University of Texas-Pan American, 2004-2013 Adjunct Instructor, University of Florida, 2003-2004 Graduate Assistant, University of Florida, 2001-2003

Online Producer, sun-sentinel.com, Fort Lauderdale, FL, 1999-2001 Reporter, The Sun-Sentinel, Fort Lauderdale, FL 1992-1999 Reporter, The Stuart News, Stuart, FL 1989-1992

Adjunct Instructor, Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH 1988

Reporter-Editor, Press Community Newspapers, Cincinnati, OH. 1983-1989

Awards:

Distinguished Adviser of the Year, College Media Association, October 2024

The Angelus Awards, October 2003, Los Angeles, CA, winner, best documentary. Long Beach International Film Festival, October 2003, Long Beach, CA, winner, best short documentary.

First place:

Online Journalism Awards, 2001, affiliated features journalism, Witness to an Epidemic. Editor and Publisher, best special section online, 2002, Witness to an Epidemic. Digital Edge, NNA, innovative use of digital media, 2001.

Second place:

Florida Press Club, crime reporting, 1998.

Sigma Delta Chi, magazine writing, region 5, 1982 Top of the News/Readers' Choice

Frequent winner, monthly in-house contests at the Sun-Sentinel. Categories won include multimedia production, news writing, feature writing and enterprise writing, 1992-2001.

Professional Contributions:

“The Hunt for the Chameleon Killer,” 2024. Appeared in a three-part documentary about a murder investigation I wrote about extensively, Sundance Channel.

“The Playboy Murders: Star Stowe” November 2022. Interviewed about a case I wrote about extensively regarding a Playboy centerfold who rose to fame and then was found murdered in South Florida in 1997. For Investigation Discovery.

“El Espejo magazine is here,” Enlace, July 2020.

“Man With a Van,” Investigation Discovery, March 2020.

“Protest for Bucky the Bronc,” “Social Media and Trends,” “Social Media and the Pope,” Telemundo, 2015.

“Social media and Anonymous,” “Trail Runner Safety with Militia on Guard,” “Internet Memes,” Telemundo, 2014

“Runner Safety After Attacks,” KRGV-TV, 2014

“The Chameleon Killer,” Investigation Discovery Channel, 2014

“How to Lose Your Fear of Speaking in Public,” UTPA, Bronc Roundup, 2012 “Dealing With Others in Group Settings,” UTPA, 2011
“How to Devise Good Story Ideas and Improve Your Writing,” UTPA, Pan American Newspaper Workshop, 2004-
2005: Pan American Newspaper workshop.
“Real Experiences as Journalist and Filmmaker,” University of Florida, 2002-2003
Summer TV Workshop, 2005

The University of Florida
Summer Journalism Institute, 2004 (adjunct) Reporting, 2002-2004 (graduate assistant and adjunct)
Writing for Mass Communication, 2002-2004 (graduate assistant and adjunct) Communications on the Internet, 2001-2002 (graduate assistant)

Departmental/University Service Texas A&M-San Antonio
Adviser, El Espejo magazine, 2017-present
Chair, Evaluation Committee, Fall 2024, SoCo department
Promotion Committee, COAS, Fall 2024
Annual Evaluation Committee. Fall 2024 – helped create criteria for annual performance review in the Department of Sociology and Communication.
Attended Texas Intercollegiate Press Association with students in San Marcos, 2024
Planning Committee for Texas Intercollegiate Press Association conference, 2024
Critiqued student magazines at TIPA conference, judged competitions, Spring 2024.
Attended College Media Advisers/Associated Collegiate Press Association conference in New Orleans, Fall 2024.
Critiqued student magazines at CMA/ACP conference, fall 2024.

Facilitated creation of uniform web pages for each department in the College of Arts and Sciences – July-August 2023.
Attended Texas Intercollegiate Press Association in Fort Worth with students, March 2022 and March 2023
Mentored student from UT Austin for National Public Radio’s Next Gen project. Fall 2023.
Attended Associated Collegiate Press Association annual conference in Atlanta 10/23 Critiqued the student magazine for two schools at Associated Collegiate Press. 10/23
Judged broadcast reporting entries, Texas Intercollegiate Press Association, March 2022
Participant in Interviewing Event at Southwest Keys Community Youth Development Project, April 2022 Member of the Southwest Keys School District Coalition, 2022
Mentored students for video project for Southwest Keys Youth Development Project, May 2022
Provided numerous letters/calls of reference for former students, 2022 -present
Volunteered for the Code Red project, which helps women in distress find clothing, hygiene and other items for self-esteem, June 2022.
Volunteered at the Communications, History and Philosophy booth for the spring 2022 recruitment fair.
Attended the Associated Collegiate Press Association conference in Washington, DC with four students in October 2022.
Participated as a critique mentor for the Associated Collegiate Press Association, October 2022.
Co-adviser for the university’s Society of Professional Journalists chapter, fall 2022.
Member of the College Media Advisers, 2022- present.
Member of College Media Advisers finance committee, 2022-present.

Committee 2017

Lecturer Search Committee, 2017-2018

Member, Arts and Humanities Strategic Planning Committee, 2018 Member, A&M-San Antonio Media Advisory Board, 2018-present.

UTPA/UTRGV

Adviser, Pulse magazine, 2015-2017 Adviser, Panorama magazine 2005-1015 Lecturer II Committee, 2014
Travel Committee 2005-2017
Technology Committee, 2011-2017
Student Publications Committee, 2013-2017 Committee on Student Organizations, 2013-2017
Area Coordinator, 2009-2011
Search Committee, chair 2008-2009 Search Committee, 2005-2011
Budget Committee 2008-2010

Service to Profession

Mentor, National Public Radio's "NextGen" program, 2019 and 2023. Created a short documentary for the Band of Runners November 2023 Submitted Short Documentary, for "A Day in the Life of the RGV," 2014 Judge, 36-Hour Film Race, 2013
Judge, American Christian Press contest, feature writing, 2013-2014 Judge, Sigma Delta Chi, region 8, 2012
Judge and contest organizer, Texas Intercollegiate Press Association, 2005-2009

Service to Community

Creator, "The Stubborn Tortoise" podcast, 2019-present
Volunteer, Festival de Cascarones, 2019
Volunteer/Aid Station Captain Tejas Trails 2015-present
Volunteer San Antonio Roadrunners, 2018-present
Volunteer aid station worker, Sole Racing, Rio Grande Valley, 2014-2017 Volunteer Wobble Gobble race for underserved children, Brownsville, Texas 2016
Tutor and newsletter coordinator, Walker Elementary School, Fort Lauderdale, FL 1999-2000
Learn to Read Tutor, Broward County, FL Library, 1994.

Workshops/Additional Skills

The Poynter Institute, Teachapalooza, July 2020
Take the Guesswork out of Writing Exams, The Mays Center, October 2018 The Poynter Institute, Teachapalooza, June 2018
The Poynter Institute, Teachapalooza, June 2015
Dow-Jones Institute Multimedia Educators Workshop, 2010 The Poynter Institute, Multimedia Educators Workshop, 2008 The Poynter Institute, inaugural multimedia workshop, 2000
Spanish immersion programs: Proyecto Linguistico, Guanajuato, Mexico, 1994 Francisco Marroquin, Antigua, Guatemala, 1993

