

MARY HEATHER HERSCHELL, Ph.D.

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Education

The University of Texas at Austin (Austin, TX)

Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction; Instructional Technology May 2010

Dissertation Topic:

A Sociolinguistic Analysis of Computer Supported Collaborative Authoring Groups

Dissertation Committee Supervisors:

Dr. Paul Resta, Ruth Knight Milliken Centennial Professor; (Department of Instructional Technology)

Dr. Beth Maloch, Associate Professor; (Department of Language and Literacy Studies)

The University of Texas at Austin (Austin, TX)

M.Ed. Curriculum and Instruction; Instructional Technology, 2002

The University of North Texas (Denton, TX)

B.S. Child Development, 1997

Recent/Relevant Professional Experience

Spring 2024 - Present Texas A&M University San Antonio

Adjunct Faculty

- EDCI 1301: Introduction to Teaching
- EDCI 4301: Pedagogy III: Curriculum Planning
- EDCI 4311: Teaching and Pedagogy for Middle School and Secondary Teachers
- EDRG 3315: Early Language and Literacy I
- EDRG 3316: Early Language and Literacy II
- EDRG 3331: Disciplinary Literacy
- EDRG 4349: Language Arts Methods: Elementary
- EDFR 3110: Field-Based Experience I

Facilitated course content and engagement for undergraduate students enrolled in education classes. Nurtured service learning partnership with Junior Achievement. Supervised pre-service teachers in field based experience placements. Participated in university and department professional development opportunities.

Spring 2018 - Present

University of Texas San Antonio

Adjunct Faculty

Adapted and facilitated course content for undergraduate students enrolled in education classes. Created and maintained partnerships with area public schools, staff, and faculty. Supervised pre-service teachers in clinical teaching placements. Taught in face-to-face, embedded, blended, and fully online formats. Participated/facilitated orientation for cooperating teachers at field observation campuses. Attended and participated in facilitation of the IDS 3713 Research Expo (both face-to-face and online). Attended and participated in professional development for “C-TESS”, edTPA, Canvas LMS.

Courses Taught:

- C&I 4613: Clinical Teaching Field Supervisor
- C&I 4303 Approaches to Teaching Social Studies Incorporating Language and Fine Arts EC-6
- IDS 3713 Interdisciplinary Inquiry (Online: Both Synchronous and Asynchronous Modalities)
- IDS 3013 Diversity, Equity and the Social Sciences
- EED 2013 Introduction to Learning and Teaching in a Diverse Society

October 2021 - May 2023

Northeast Independent School District

Instructional Specialist: Elementary Writing

Created and maintained district curriculum documents for elementary writing. Created and facilitated multiple professional learning sessions for district instructional coaches and teachers. Collaborated with district and campus instructional leadership teams to support curriculum implementation and campus improvement plans. Completed Texas Reading Academies and supported the implementation of SOR on elementary campuses. Helped research and develop the district’s response to ELAR STAAR 2.0, and especially STAAR Writing tests in grades 3-5.

August 2019- October 2021

San Antonio Independent School District, Rogers MS

Instructional Coach

Engaged in student-centered coaching cycles to support growth in teaching practice and student achievement in ELAR, Social Studies, and Science departments. Served as the campus coordinator for Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) and New Teacher Support Services (NTSS). Served as a member of the campus testing team and TELPAS verifier. Presented professional development on 90 minute lesson cycles that incorporate frequent checks for understanding at Principal/AP PLN in Fall 2020. Participated as a member of the first Academics Leadership Academy (ALA) Cohort. Completed and presented an ALA capstone project, conducting a “case study” of district GT programs and services in pandemic education to improve GT student program participation and achievement at Rogers MS.

Previous Professional Experience

August 2013- August 2015

Alamo Heights Junior School

Teacher: Language Arts, Journalism, Research; Grades 6-8

Developed and facilitated lessons and activities for sixth and seventh grade English courses. Proposed and developed original curriculum for seventh and eighth grade journalism and research classes. Co-sponsored the National Junior Honor Society chapter at AHJS. Planned and facilitated annual NJHS induction ceremony. Served on the campus technology committee.

August 2015- March 2016

The Circle School

Teacher: Grade 2

Developed and facilitated multi-sensory, cross-curricular lessons and activities for second grade. Introduced new methods and metrics to help the school more accurately identify previously underserved students in need of special education referrals. Fortunately, this resulted in three dyslexia diagnoses and one dysgraphia diagnosis, allowing parents and teachers to more successfully seek and integrate appropriate academic supports into the curriculum.

Fall 2017- Spring 2018

Self-Employed Independent Contractor

Client/Organization: Yoga Day; Yoga Instructor

Design and facilitate children's yoga classes for diverse populations of students enrolled in after school programs (grades K-8). Design and facilitate yoga classes for veterans participating in mental health support services through their local VA clinic.

Client/Organization: Eating Recovery Center; Substitute Yoga Instructor

Design and facilitate gentle yoga classes for children and adults participating in recovery programs for individuals struggling with eating disorders.

Client/Organization: The Club at Garden Ridge, Yoga Instructor

Design and facilitate yoga classes for clients with a wide variety of fitness and mobility levels.

Client/Organization: Beyond Development-

Performed and presented analysis of client's competitor websites. Assisted in the development of language for client website and print materials. Reviewed and enhanced content and delivery of adult education materials for occupational safety training modules. Facilitated various safety and compliance training sessions.

August 2011 - August 2013

Trinity University

Adjunct Faculty

Course Taught:

- EDUC 2201 Practicum: Early Childhood Teaching Exploration
- EDUC 3301: Field Seminar in Elementary Literacy

August 2009 - August 2013

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, San Antonio, TX

Director of Children's Formation

Managed needs and resources of Sunday school classes for children from preschool through 6th grade. Developed original, lectionary-based children's chapel curriculum. Recruited and trained volunteers to implement various curricula in formation classes. Assumed administrative responsibility for all aspects of the Parent's Day Out program serving children 6 weeks through 4 years of age. (Duties included policy development, program administration, staff management and curriculum development.) Created and managed special events including All-Saints Fair, annual Advent wreath making festival, Easter egg hunt, Christmas Eve chapel, and holiday parties. Served as the parish Safeguarding God's Children trainer. Managed the Beretta children's library. Coordinated services and volunteers involved in ministries for expectant parents and young families. Collaborated with the Communications Director on print and digital media associated with these programs. Managed purchasing and budget lines in all of these areas of responsibility.

May 2005 - May 2007

St. James Episcopal Preschool; La Grange, TX

Head of the Preschool; Preschool Teacher

Assumed all duties of an early childhood classroom teacher including (but not limited to) curriculum development, implementation and evaluation, direct care and guidance of children, developmental assessments and parent communication. In addition to these duties, functioned as the head of school. Developed school policies and procedures, managed staff, worked cooperatively with the school board to reach long term goals, pursue outside funding sources and manage the school's budget. Developed the website for both the church and preschool.

June 2007

University of Texas Idea Studio; Austin, TX

Technology Camp Director

This grant-funded position allowed me to work cooperatively with Idea Studio staff and Austin ISD Educational Technology staff in the process of curriculum development prior to the summer camp and also in daily administrative duties during the camp sessions. Three schools serving low-income students participated in this project based summer technology camp for the upper elementary grades. The camps also functioned as a professional development event wherein classroom teachers from schools serving low-income students throughout the district learned

how to use and integrate software in their classrooms, through both their observation of master teachers and their own participation with the campers.

August 2002 - May 2003

University of Texas; Austin, TX

Graduate Research Assistant

August 2002-May 2003

Assisted Dr. Susan Williams in developing research questions, methods and materials for a project with IBM's WatchMe!Read voice-recognition software for emergent readers. Assisted with the early stages of data collection. Unfortunately, Dr. Williams left the university in the summer of 2003.

Spring 2001

University of Texas; Austin, TX

Graduate Student Teaching Assistant

Supported, guided, provided feedback to undergraduate education students placed in area public school classrooms in the semester prior to their student teaching. Observed and assessed student lesson plans and teaching activities. Maintained student portfolios. Acted as a liaison between students, site supervisors and professors. Was asked to return to this position but was forced to decline due to a relocation out of the greater Austin area.

January 1998- August, 2000

KERA13 (PBS Affiliate); Dallas, TX

Ready to Learn Program Coordinator

Performed administrative duties related to program management. Developed community outreach programs, designed and facilitated workshops for parents and teachers on a variety of topics related to early childhood education and educational television. Planned and facilitated a variety of special events including the annual Reading Rainbow Young Writers and Illustrators Contest. Managed community outreach projects including the FirstBooks program. Worked cooperatively with Educational Resource Center staff to pursue and secure funding for Ready to Learn.

August 1994- December, 1997

University of North Texas; Denton, TX

Assistant Teacher in the Child Development Laboratory

Performed early childhood classroom teaching duties. Upheld and modeled NAEYC accreditation standards for developmentally appropriate practice with young children. Supported the participation of volunteers, interns, and student teachers in the laboratory school setting.

Summers 1992, 1993, 1994

Glencoe Park District and Day Care; Glencoe, IL

Assistant Teacher/Day Camp Counselor

Assisted in curriculum development and classroom teaching duties.

Professional Certifications

Texas Teacher Certification: EC-6 Generalist; ELAR 4-8; GT Supplemental

Texas State Department of Family and Protective Services Licensed Director of
Preschool/Childcare Center

200HR Registered Yoga Teacher (RYT); Yoga Alliance

Relevant Professional Development

- US Prep
- TAMUSA Office of Clinical Experiences Data Dive and T-TESS Calibration
- Blackboard Ultra
- Texas A&M San Antonio “Writing Intentional” Coursework
- JAGS Educator Portal
- Equidox/Digital Document Accessibility
- Texas Reading Academies
- Texas Reading Academies Cohort Leader Screener
- LETRS (Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling)
- New Art and Science of Teaching (Marzano)
- Student Centered Instructional Coaching
- Branching Minds/Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) Management
- Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS)
- Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) Verifier
- Campus Testing Coordinator
- UTSA “C-TESS” Calibration

Conference Presentations and Experiences

Graduate Student Colloquium September 2008: Discussion Panelist and Poster Session Presenter

Reviewer of Abstracts: SALSA (Symposium About Language and Society- Austin) April 2008

Chicago Area Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference 2005,
Research Session Presenter: “Does Blue Have a Clue for You Too?”: What a Children’s
Television Program Can Teach Us About How We Talk to Children.

Paper session AERA 2011: *Proximity and Access During Computer Supported Collaborative Authoring*

Recent Research Interests

- Sociocultural research in coaching and mentoring pre- and early-service teachers.
- Pre-service and early service teachers' perceptions and understanding of T-TESS.
- Coaching and mentoring using T-TESS as a framework
- Instructional Technology and the Science of Teaching Reading/Writing

Ongoing/Past Research Interests

- Instructional technology use in various contexts, especially control of, and access to technology.
- Language and communication in learning communities.
- Physical arrangements in technology rich learning environments.
- Project- and problem-based learning; engaged learning.

Volunteer Civic and Religious Activities

Musica Sacra San Antonio: Alto (2010-2012)

Filigree: Alto, flute (2013-2023)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church: Lay-Eucharistic Minister and Acolyte (2013-present)

Camp Capers: Teacher, Primary Camp B (08/2016, 08/2017)

Winston Churchill High School PTA, COBA, Choir Boosters (Present)

Resurrection Episcopal Church and School: Volunteer Curriculum Consultant, Fall 2016