

Sarah Dwyer

Department of Language, Literature, and Arts, Texas A&M University – San Antonio

Education

In Progress – Ph.D. in Technical Communication and Rhetoric, Texas Tech University

Graduate Certificate in Composition Studies, Indiana University East, 2013

M.A. in English, University of Rochester, 2008

Thesis: “Terms of Service: Cyborganization and Strikethrough 2007”

B.A. with Honors in English; Certificate in Sexuality Studies, University of Iowa, 2006

Honors Thesis: “The Joy of Slash: Cyberfeminism and the Otaku Fangirl”

Teaching and Research Interests

Composition, professional/technical writing, game-based pedagogy, cyberculture.

Professional Appointments

Texas A&M University – San Antonio. Senior Lecturer in English, 2022 - Present

Texas A&M University – San Antonio. Lecturer in English, 2016 – 2022

Valdosta State University. Lecturer in English, 2013 – 2016

Lake Michigan College. Adjunct Faculty, 2009 – Present

Ivy Tech Community College – Elkhart. Adjunct Faculty, 2009 – 2013

National University. Adjunct Faculty, 2012

Ivy Tech Community College – South Bend. Adjunct Faculty, 2009

Publications

Refereed Journal Articles

Dwyer, S. (2022). A question of affect: A queer reading of institutional nondiscrimination statements at Texas public universities. *Peitho: Journal of the Coalition of Feminist Scholars in the History of Rhetoric and Composition*, 24(2). <https://cfshrc.org/article/a-question-of-affect-a-queer-reading-of-institutional-nondiscrimination-statements-at-texas-public-universities/>

Dwyer, S. (2018). Gameful engagement: Gamification, critical thinking, and First-Year Composition. *Double Helix*, 6. <https://wac.colostate.edu/docs/double-helix/v6/dwyer.pdf>

Custom Textbooks

Borgman, J., & Dwyer, S. (2014, 2018, 2019). *A practical guidebook for English Composition and Technical Writing*. Pearson.

Carpenter, R., Sewell, D., Dwyer, S., LaPlant, S., Rogers, G., & Warren, A. (2015). A supplement for First-Year Writing students at Valdosta State University. *The St. Martin's handbook for Valdosta State University*. Bedford/St. Martin's.

Presentations and Panels

Refereed Conference Presentations

Role-Playing Peer Review: Games and Gatekeepers Round Two. [Half-day Workshop].

Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) 2024, Spokane, WA.

Sarah Dwyer

Department of Language, Literature, and Arts, Texas A&M University – San Antonio

- Playing for Hope: Interactive Narratives in the Classroom. [Half-day Workshop]. CCCC 2023, Chicago, IL.
- Role-Playing Peer Review: Games and Gatekeepers. Accepted and then postponed for CCCC 2020 and 2021; presented at CCCC 2022.
- Role-Playing Social Justice: A Game That Is a Panel. CCCC 2019, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Remixing Performance in Games. [All-day Workshop]. CCCC 2019, Pittsburgh, PA.
- A Question of Language: A Critical Analysis of Institutional Nondiscrimination Statements at Texas Public Universities. CCCC 2018, Kansas City, MO.
- Pedagogy and Playfulness: Exploring Games in the Composition Classroom. [Half-day Workshop]. CCCC 2018, Kansas City, MO.
- Queering Our Spaces: Cultivating Institutional Support for Queer/LGBTQ+ Composition Scholars. [Think Tank Session]. CCCC 2017, Portland, OR.
- Using Student Co-Research to Investigate Gamification in First-Year Composition. CCCC 2016, Houston, TX.
- Play As Activism: Using Game-Based Pedagogy to Build Structural Understanding, Foster Empathy, and Scaffold Change. [All-day Workshop]. CCCC 2016, Houston, TX.
- Press Start: Building a Gamified Curriculum. TIES – Conference on Instructional Technologies, Innovations, and Educational Strategies 2016, Valdosta State University, Valdosta, GA.
- Examining the Use of Google Docs for Collaborative Writing, Revision, and Reflection in a Professional Writing Class. CCCC 2015, Tampa, FL.
- “Oh no, I’m not a lemur anymore!” Using Google Docs for Student Collaboration in a Face-to-Face Course. TIES – Conference on Instructional Technologies, Innovations, and Educational Strategies 2015, Valdosta State University, Valdosta, GA.
- Convergence in the Classroom: Exploring New Media in Composition. [All-day Workshop]. CCCC 2012, St. Louis, MO.

Other Scholarship

- Invited speaker. A Practical Conversation: Building Coalitions in the Face of Anti-DEI Laws. With Natasha N. Jones. Cheryl Glenn Webinar Series for Advancing the Agenda. Organized by the Coalition of Feminist Scholars in the History of Rhetoric & Composition. April 19, 2024.
- Among Us: Teaching With Deception Games. With the Council for Play and Game Studies of the Conference on College Composition and Communication. December 3, 2020.

Campus and Department Talks

- 2nd Annual Gayla Awards. Organized by Rainbow P.A.W.S. (Pride at Work and School), formerly the LGBTQ+ Task Force at Texas A&M University – San Antonio. April 12, 2024.
- 8th Annual Transgender Day of Visibility Celebration. Organized by Rainbow P.A.W.S. at Texas

Sarah Dwyer

Department of Language, Literature, and Arts, Texas A&M University – San Antonio

A&M University – San Antonio. March 27, 2024.

Fall 2023 Common Experience Speaker Series: The Importance of Visibility. Organized by the Office of First-Year Experience and Rainbow P.A.W.S. at Texas A&M University – San Antonio. November 7, 2023.

A Fantastic Woman Film Screening and Discussion: A Transgender Day of Visibility Event. Organized by the Department of Language, Literature, and Arts; the University Library; and Rainbow P.A.W.S. (Pride at Work and School), formerly the LGBTQ+ Task Force at Texas A&M University – San Antonio. March 31, 2023.

7th Annual Transgender Day of Visibility Celebration: Transitioning 101: Everything You Wanted to Know But Were Afraid To Ask. Organized by Rainbow P.A.W.S. at Texas A&M University – San Antonio. March 28, 2023

6th Annual Transgender Day of Visibility Celebration. Organized by Rainbow P.A.W.S. at Texas A&M University – San Antonio. March 31, 2022.

Trans Narratives: 5th Annual Transgender Day of Visibility Celebration. Organized by Rainbow P.A.W.S. at Texas A&M University – San Antonio. March 31, 2021.

Safe Space Training Workshops. Organized by Rainbow P.A.W.S. at Texas A&M University – San Antonio. June 29, 2023. January 28, 2022. June 24, 2021. June 22, 2021. November 19, 2020. August 21, 2020. August 14, 2020. March 18, 2020. February 25, 2020. April 25, 2019. February 6, 2019. February 22, 2018. October 27, 2017. October 9, 2016.

Transgender Day of Remembrance Vigil. Organized by Rainbow P.A.W.S. at Texas A&M University – San Antonio. November 21, 2022. November 19, 2021. November 20, 2020. November 20, 2019.

Think Outside the Binary – A Transgender Awareness Week Celebration. Organized by the LGBTQ+ Task Force at Texas A&M University – San Antonio. November 13, 2019.

A Brief History of (the Fight for) Transgender Rights in the U.S.: A Transgender Day of Visibility Celebration. Organized by the LGBTQ+ Task Force at Texas A&M University – San Antonio. April 10, 2019.

LGBTQ+ Literature Celebration. Organized by the LGBTQ+ Task Force at Texas A&M University – San Antonio. October 25, 2018.

Out and Proud Voices. Organized by the LGBTQ+ Coalition and the Sociology Club at Texas A&M University – San Antonio. October 17, 2018.

Gamification 101. Organized by the First Year Composition Committee at Texas A&M University – San Antonio. April 11, 2018.

Safe Space Part II. Organized by the Office of Social Equity at Valdosta State University. October 13, 2015. April 21, 2016.

Teaching Audience. Organized by the Composition Committee at Valdosta State University. November 19, 2014.

Teaching Experience

Texas A&M University – San Antonio (2016 – Present)

Sarah Dwyer

Department of Language, Literature, and Arts, Texas A&M University – San Antonio

Selected curriculum design elements: gamification, collaboration, student-led primary research, e-portfolios, multimodal projects; adherence to Quality Matters design principles.

ENGL 1301: Composition I. A gamified FYC class focused on the exploration of the university and student interests.

ENGL 1302: Composition II. A gamified second-semester FYC class focused on research skills and the exploration of the city and surrounding area based on student interests.

ENGL 2311: Technical Writing. A second-semester FYC class focused on career exploration and writing for the workplace. Gamified in Spring 2019.

ENGL 2300: Writing for the Social Sciences. A class for social sciences majors focused on professionalization and the analysis and practice of various research methods and forms of writing in the social sciences.

ENGL 3300: Special Topics in Writing: Writing for Psychology. A class for psychology majors focused on professionalization and research and writing in the field.

ENGL 3312: Introduction to Rhetoric. A class introducing students to concepts, traditions, and debates in rhetorical theory, with emphasis on the work of modern rhetoricians.

Valdosta State University (2013 – 2016)

Selected curriculum design elements: gamification, online collaboration, and digital narrative projects; adherence to Quality Matters design principles.

ENGL 1101: Composition I. A composition course focused on skills required for effective writing, emphasizing exposition, analysis, and argumentation, and introducing basic research skills. Gamified in the 2015 – 2016 academic year.

ENGL 1101-A: Composition I for international students. A composition course focused on skills required for effective writing in the context of American universities, emphasizing exposition, analysis, and argumentation, and introducing basic research skills.

ENGL 1102: Composition II. A composition course focused on writing skills beyond the levels of proficiency required by ENGL 1101 emphasizing interpretation and evaluation and incorporating a variety of more advanced research skills. Gamified in Spring 2016.

ENGL 1102-A: Composition II for international students. A composition course focusing on research and argumentation in the context of American universities, emphasizing interpretation and evaluation and incorporating a variety of more advanced research skills.

ENGL 2010: Writing in the Professions. A professional writing course designed to introduce students to writing and reading in the academic disciplines and related professions.

Lake Michigan College (2009 – Present)

Course designer and instructor, ENGL 103, Technical Writing Online; Second author of custom textbook used for all online first-year writing classes 2015 - 2020 (Composition I and II, Technical Writing).

Selected curriculum design elements: multimodal composition, career-based research projects,

Sarah Dwyer

Department of Language, Literature, and Arts, Texas A&M University – San Antonio

intensive peer review; adherence to Quality Matters design principles.

ENGL 103: Technical Writing Online. An online class designed to help students write with greater skill, confidence and effectiveness on the job. Writing assignments develop the ability to analyze specific audiences, purposes, and situations, and to use appropriate content, organization, style, and format. 2014 - Present.

ENGL 093: English Fundamentals. A face-to-face developmental writing course focused on the basic mechanics of grammar and style, focusing on sentence, paragraph, and essay forms.

ENGL 101: Composition I. A face-to-face composition course focused on expository writing and the closely related activities of critical reading and thinking. Primary attention was given to formal elements of short essays based upon or incorporating documented source material.

ENGL 102: Composition II. A face-to-face second-semester composition course focused on an extension and intensification of elements of expository writing and critical reading and thinking covered in ENGL 101.

ENGL 103: Technical Writing. A face-to-face second-semester FYC course designed to help students write with greater skill, confidence and effectiveness on the job.

Ivy Tech Community College – Elkhart (2009 – 2013)

Selected curriculum design elements: text-based research and inquiry, multimodal composition; adherence to Quality Matters design principles 2012 - 2013.

ENGL 111: English Composition. A face-to-face composition course with an emphasis on the various forms of expository writing such as process, description, narration, comparison, analysis, persuasion, and argumentation.

ENGL 111-R: English Composition Online. An online composition course with an emphasis on the various forms of expository writing such as process, description, narration, comparison, analysis, persuasion, and argumentation.

ENGL 112: Exposition and Persuasion. A face-to-face second-semester composition course built on the writing skills taught in ENGL 111 and emphasizing research-based analytic and argumentative writing.

National University (2012)

Selected curriculum design elements: daily discussions for questions and troubleshooting, adherence to departmental and college design and delivery principles; classes taught in an accelerated 4-week format at a private non-profit university for adult learners.

ILR260: Information Literacy. An online cross-disciplinary course focused on effective report and research paper writing through the use of key computer technologies.

Ivy Tech Community College – South Bend (2009)

Selected curriculum design elements: career-based research projects focused on student interests; review and curation of provided materials to provide quality instruction without the cost

Sarah Dwyer

Department of Language, Literature, and Arts, Texas A&M University – San Antonio

of a textbook.

ENGL 211: Technical Writing. A face-to-face class focused on technical reports and correspondence, using standard research techniques, documentation, and formatting.

Professional Activities and Service

Affiliations

Conference on College Composition and Communication, 2015 – Present

National Council of Teachers of English, 2010 - Present

Professional Service

Proposal Reviewer, Conference on College Composition and Communication 2019, 2020, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025

Proposal Reviewer, National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention 2015, 2022, 2023, 2024

University and Department Service

Department of Language, Literature, and Arts Professional Track Faculty Evaluation Committee, Texas A&M University – San Antonio, 2023 - Present

Rainbow P.A.W.S. (Pride at Work and School), Texas A&M University – San Antonio, 2016 – Present

Co-chair, December 2017 – May 2021

Secretary, May 2021 – Present

Interim Chair, April – July 2023

First-Year Composition Committee, Texas A&M University – San Antonio, 2016 – Present

Preferred Name Working Group, Texas A&M University – San Antonio, Spring 2021

Faculty Advisor, Animal Hearts Club, Texas A&M University – San Antonio, 2019 – 2022

Departmental Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee, Texas A&M University – San Antonio, 2018 - 2019

Campus Pride Connection, Valdosta State University, 2014 – 2016

First-Year Composition Committee, Valdosta State University, 2014 – 2016

Scholarships, Fellowships, and Honors

Texas Tech University. Elizabeth Overman Smith Graduate Scholarship, 2024

Texas A&M University – San Antonio. College of Arts and Sciences Award for Outstanding Contributions to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Runner-Up, 2023

Coalition of Feminist Scholars in the History of Rhetoric and Composition. Kathleen Ethel Welch Outstanding Article Award, 2023

Texas Tech University. Carolyn Detjen Rude Scholarship, 2023

Texas A&M University – San Antonio. College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching, 2022

Texas Tech University. Susan and Eric Stotzer Scholarship, 2022

Sarah Dwyer

Department of Language, Literature, and Arts, Texas A&M University – San Antonio

Texas Tech University. Helen Locke Carter Quasi Endowment Scholarship, 2021

Texas Tech University. Carolyn Detjen Rude Scholarship, 2020

Texas A&M University – San Antonio. Summer Faculty Research Fellowship, 2020

University of Rochester. English Department Tuition Scholarship, 2007 – 2008

University of Iowa. National Scholars Award, 2003 – 2006

University of Iowa. Dean's List, 2003 – 2006

University of Iowa. National Society of Collegiate Scholars, 2004 – 2006

University of Iowa. Phi Eta Sigma. Chapter Webmaster, 2004 – 2005

Skills

Course Management Systems: Blackboard, Canvas, D2L/Brightspace, ecollege.

Software: Google Drive, Microsoft Office, Wordpress, Digication, YouTube, basic knowledge of

HTML, basic knowledge of multimedia editing, extensive experience writing online,

including a variety of blogging platforms and other forms of social media. Working

knowledge of most standard computer software and classroom technologies.

Conversational fluency in French (reading, writing, speaking).