

Curriculum Vitae  
Vicki Thomas

CURRENT POSITION

Stephen F. Austin State University  
Associate Professor, Tenured  
James I. Perkins College of Education  
Department of Elementary Education  
August 2013- Present

ACADEMIC HISTORY

Ph.D.: Department of Educational Leadership and Research  
Major: Educational Administration  
Minor: Statistics and Research  
University of Southern Mississippi; Hattiesburg, Mississippi  
Graduation Date: August, 2002  
Topic of Study: *Incentives and Barriers to Seeking Certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards* - Major Professor: Dr. Margaret Donaldson Smith

Master of Education Degree  
Curriculum and Instruction  
University of Southern Mississippi; Hattiesburg, Mississippi- Graduation Date: May, 1992

Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education Degree  
University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Mississippi- Graduation Date: May 1990

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Texas Educator Certificate  
2009 – Present- Generalist- Early Childhood- 4  
2009 – Present- Generalist- Grade 4- 8

Certified Online Instructor  
2014 – Present- Stephen F. Austin State University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Classroom Teacher** (August 2009- June 2013) Midway Independent School District, Waco, Texas-3<sup>rd</sup> grade, self-contained and 1 to 1 tablet classroom environment.

Wrote and received \$10,000 worth of grants that provided technology initiatives.

Utilized Response to Intervention practices in reading and math.

Completed Grant Writing, Technology, GT, Writing, Reading, Science, and Math Training.

**Lecturer** (Fall 2007 – Fall 2009) Baylor University School of Education; Waco, Texas – Instructor for TED 4308- Teaching Social Studies in Elementary School, TED 1312- Introduction to Education, and TED 3380- Social Issues in Education.

Engaged Education Majors to explore and investigate various social issues that affect schools and school children.

Taught Education Majors strategies for effectively teaching Social Studies in Elementary Schools.

Introduced Education Majors to many of their first teaching experiences by serving as a liaison between Baylor University and Waco Independent School District.

Participated in NVivo 8 training for conducting qualitative research.

**Classroom Teacher** (August 1995- June 1998) Whitney Independent School District, Whitney, Texas- 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade departmentalized, reading, language arts, and social studies.

Served on the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Committee for Texas Region XII.

Served on the district and site-based board, helped to make decisions regarding employment and other matters concerning the district.

Participated in Gifted and Talented, Behavior Management, Grant Writing and Technology Training Grant Writing.

Wrote and received a Goals 2000 Reading Grant (\$183,000) for two consecutive years to implement quality reading programs at Whitney Elementary.

**Assistant Professor** (Fall 2013- Present) Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas Tenured Track Position.

Graduate Level Course Taught

ELE 525 – Assessments in Early Childhood is a rigorous study of developmentally appropriate assessments in formal and informal contexts for the early childhood environment.

#### Undergraduate Level Courses Taught:

ELE 302, ELE 306, ELE 475 & MLG 423- Teaching Social Studies explores the scope and sequence of social studies content, with emphasis on reading integration, age/grade-appropriate strategies, activities, materials, and technologies for achieving curriculum objectives.

ELE 450- Field Experience II includes supervised facilitation, observation, and instruction. The field experience is designed to help teacher candidates apply knowledge and skills in all content areas in the public-school setting.

ELE 441- Clinical Teaching aims to give teacher candidates direct classroom teaching experience in a public-school setting. The course includes supervised observation and instruction directly related to all classroom practices and content for the elementary school level.

ELE 352- Current Issues and Professionalism focuses on leadership characteristics, educational laws and ethics, building positive relationships within the educational community, understanding diversity, effective communication, classroom management and climate, and childhood development – physical, social-emotional, and moral.

ELE 351- Pedagogy and Professional Roles and Responsibilities focuses on the concepts of lesson planning; assessments, guided instruction, and differentiated instruction for diverse learning needs within the learning community.

#### TEACHING AT SFASU

Student Evaluation Summaries – Overall Ratings for courses is 4.19 for 53 Courses.

#### Current Educational Certifications and Memberships

Texas Teacher Certification EC-4 and 4-8

Online Instructor Certification

Graduate Faculty Associate Membership

Curriculum Development - Course Director for ELE 302, ELE 306, and MLG 423

Teaching Excellence Award Nomination for the Department of Elementary Education.

### **Enhanced Student Learning Through Experiential Learning Activities**

Experiential Learning Coordinator and Facilitator of collaboration between Nacogdoches ISD, other area schools, and community entity - Historic Village of Millard's Crossing.

Service Learning Coordinator and Facilitator of collaboration between H2O for Life Schools, SFA Education Department to raise money for water initiatives in Africa.

Facilitated grant awards of scholarships for 35 students to attend the Law-Related Education Training in Austin, Texas - Hatten W. Summers State Bar of Texas and Law Focused Education.

Virtual Field Trip Using Community Resources - In this online course, teacher candidates create virtual field trips in their local communities.

Community Outreach Field Project - Teacher candidates work with children in the community to perform assessments that will assist in future learning experiences. The assessment is chosen by the teacher candidates based upon needs of the students.

Speaker - from the State Bar's Law Related Education, comes to SFA under my leadership and engages students in areas of civics and government.

### **Teaching-related Professional Development- 40 Total**

CivXNow Coalition Convening (January 2019)

Conference Attendance- National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) conference sessions, Chicago, Illinois. (December, 2018).

Conference Attendance – Texas Council for the Social Studies (TXSS) conference sessions, Houston, Texas (November 2018).

Webinar, "Responding to Hate and Bias in Schools"- Tolerance.org. (August, 2018).

Webinar, regarding "Digital Forensics and News Literacy Education"- edWeb.com (June 2018).

Conference Attendance- National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) conference sessions, San Francisco, CA. (December, 2017).

Conference Attendance – Texas Council for the Social Studies (TXSS) conference sessions, Los Colinas, Texas (November 2017).

Conference Attendance – “Hatten W. Sumners State Bar of Texas and Law Focused Education Institutes Training”, Texas State Bar Association, Austin, Texas (June 2017).

Conference Attendance- American Educational Research Association (AERA) conference sessions, San Antonio, Texas (May 2017).

Workshop- American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) Quality Support Workshop, Fort Worth, Texas (April 2017).

Conference Attendance – “Texas Chapter of the National Association of Multicultural Education”, Nacogdoches, Texas (April 2017).

Workshop- Marcia Tate in Nacogdoches, Texas (March 2017).

Conference Attendance- American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences (AABSS) conference sessions, Las Vegas, NV. (January 2017).

Book Study, *The Undergraduate Experience* by Felten, Gardner, Schroeder, Lambert, and Barefoot", Provost Office (September 2016- December 2016).

Center for Teaching and Learning- Individual consultation, "Working D2L Features: Collaborate, Attendance, and Grouping Students", OIT Staff at SFA- Janet Kamps (December 2014- December 2016).

Conference Attendance- National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) conference sessions, Washington, D.C. (November 2016).

Conference Attendance - National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) conference sessions, Los Angeles, California (November 2016).

Webinar, "The Hour of Code" - Attended the webinar offered by CODE.org in order to gain and demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts of Computer Science (October 2016).

Workshop - Texas Teacher Evaluation and Support System (T-TESS) Training conducted by Dr. Scott Bailey (August, 2016).

Webinar, "Powtoon, How to Tell a Story That Sells", Powtoon (June 2016).

Conference Attendance - American Educational Research Association (AERA) conference sessions, San Antonio, Texas (April 2016).

Conference Attendance, "Undergraduate Research Conference", Stephen F. Austin State University (April 2016).

Workshop, "Jo Guzman - How to Create a Brain-Based English Language Learner Development Program", SFA (March 2016).

Conference Attendance, "National Council for the Social Studies" (December 2015).

Book Study, *College Unbound*, by Jeffrey J. Selingo, Provost Office (September 2015 - December 2015).

Workshop, "Marcia Tate - Preparing Children for Success in School and in Life: 20 Ways to Increase Children's Brain Power" (November 2015).

Conference Attendance, "Texas Council for the Social Studies" (October 2015).

Conference Attendance, "Teacher Education Council of State Colleges and Universities" (October 2015).

Webinar, *Let's Talk! Discussing Racism, Race and Other Difficult Topics with Students*, Teaching Tolerance (September 2015).

Book Study, *The Critical Pedagogy Reader*, by Antonia Darder, Elementary Education Department led by Brandon Fox (September 2014 - September 2015).

Conference Attendance – "Hatten W. Sumners State Bar of Texas and Law Focused Education Institutes Training", Texas State Bar Association, Austin, Texas (July 2015).

Conference Attendance, "Bright Ideas Conference", Stephen F. Austin State University (April 2015).

Conference Attendance, "Undergraduate Research Conference", Stephen F. Austin State University (April 2015).

New Faculty Development Series, NCATE/SPA/Livetext/Accountability (April 2015).

Workshop, "Patricia Morales, English Language Learners Leadership Institute", Texas (April 2015).

Workshop, "Visual Techniques – Enhancing Schools with Technology for Teaching and Learning", in Nacogdoches, Texas (October 29, 2014).

Conference Attendance, "Hatton W. Summers State Bar of Texas and Law Focused Education Institutes Training", Texas State Bar Association (July 26, 2014 - July 29, 2014).

Conference Attendance, "Bright Ideas Conference", Stephen F. Austin State University (April 2014).

Conference Attendance, "Undergraduate Research Conference", Stephen F. Austin State University (April 2014).

Center for Teaching and Learning - Teaching Circles, Cooperative Learning/ The Flipped Classroom (October 4, 2013).

Conference Attendance – Apple - "Enhancing Colleges of Education with Mobile Technologies" Houston, Texas (September 2013).

Center for Teaching and Learning - Teaching Circles, Technology in the Classroom/ Assignments and Grading (September 13, 2013).

Center for Teaching and Learning - Teaching Circles, Active Student Engagement and Participation Strategies (September 6, 2013).

### **Strategies and Innovations**

Course Enhancement - eBook (Ongoing).

New Teaching Strategy - WebQuests (Ongoing).

Course Enhancement - Website Development for Portfolios (Ongoing).

New Teaching Strategy - Glogsters (Ongoing).

Course enhancement module related to English Language Learners (Fall 2014 - Spring 2016).

New Teaching Strategy – iMovie (Ongoing).

Course enhancement related to iPad Integration in Pioneer Days (Fall 2015 – Present).

Computer Application - iPad Applications including Digital Storytelling (Spring 2015).

Computer Applications - iPad Applications including Pic Collage (Spring 2014).

Computer Applications - iPad Applications including Inspiration Maps (Spring 2013).

### **Directed Student Learning**

Academic Honor Contracts in undergraduate courses – Supervised 39 (Ongoing).

Academic Advising and SFA Freshman Orientation - Advised over 85 undergraduate students (Ongoing).

Five Students Awarded Funding to Present at National Conferences

- International Organization for the Social Sciences and Behavioral Research, San Antonio, Texas (Stephanie Butnick).
- National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Ashville, North Carolina (Dani Quadi, Haleigh Pickett).
- National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Spokane, Washington (Loriann Whitman).

## **RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AT SFASU**

### **Publications**

Byker, E., Thomas, V. (2018, Summer/Fall). Culturally Responsive Webquest: Connecting Technology with Inquiry-Based Learning *Teaching Social Studies*, Volume 18 (Number 2), pp. 19-25.

Thomas, V., Stewart, R. (2017, Fall/Winter). A Multiplicity Technology Toolbox for Future Distinguished Educators. *The Social Studies TEXAN*, Volume 33 (Number 3), pp. 16-18.

Reily, S., Thomas, V. (2016, June). Creating Change One Drop at a Time: Elementary Learners and Voting. *The Social Studies TEXAN*, Volume 32 (Number 2), pp. 38-40.

Thomas, V., Whitman, L., Johnston, K. (2016, March). Rising Tide: Raising Water Awareness in Texas Schools. *The Social Studies TEXAN*, Volume 32 (Number 1), pp. 45-47.



Thomas, V., Websites of Interest to Social Studies Educators. *The Social Studies TEXAN*, recurring article.

## Presentations

### National Level Presentations

Thomas, V., Byker, E., Hall, P. (2018, December). *Implementing Service Learning to Address the Global Water Crisis*. Paper presented at the National Council for the Social Studies, Chicago, Illinois.

Thomas, V. (2017, December) *Going Global: Creating Communities and Experiences for Teacher Candidates in a Clinical Teaching Abroad Program*. Paper presented at the National Council for the Social Studies, San Francisco, California.

Thomas, V., Byker, E., Hall, P. (2017, December). *Youth Can Change the World: Experiencing the Global Water Crisis*. Paper presented at the National Council for the Social Studies, San Francisco, California.

Akerson, A., Thomas, V. (2016, November). *Tablets in Early Childhood Settings: Engaging Learners*. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, Los Angeles, California.

Akerson, A., Thomas, V. (2016, October). *Methods of Enhancing a Standard's Based, Technology Rich Environment*. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Association for Teaching and Curriculum, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Thomas, V. (2016, February). *Case Studies: Exploring the Experiences of Early Career Teachers in Multiple Contexts Including Rural and Urban Environments*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Ethnographic and Qualitative Research Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Thomas, V., Quadi, D., Pickett, H., Xu, T. (2016, February). *Using Play-Based Learning with English Language Learners*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Ethnographic and Qualitative Research Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada (Student Directed Research: Dani Quade, Haleigh Pickett).

Thomas, V. (2015, October). *Transforming Classrooms: Using iPads in Educator Preparation Programs*. Teacher Education Council of State Colleges and Universities, San Antonio, Texas.

Fox, B., Thomas, V. (2015, February). *Case Studies: Exploring the Experiences of Early Career Teachers in Urban Schooling Environments*. Ethnographic and Qualitative Research Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada.

## State Level Presentations

Black, L. J., Thomas, V. (2018, October). *AP World History Beginning Skills and Strategies*. Paper presented at the 66th Annual Conference of the Texas Council for the Social Studies, Houston, Texas.

Black, L. J., Thomas, V. (2017, October). *Research in Social Studies Education. Elementary Technology and AP World History*. Paper presented at the 65th Annual Conference of the Texas Council for the Social Studies, Las Colinas, Irving, Texas.

## Local Level Presentations

Thomas, V. (2015, April). *Transforming Teaching and Learning – iPads in the Classroom*. Bright Ideas Conference Poster Exhibitor, Nacogdoches, Texas.

Thomas, V. (2015, April). *Creating Websites for Documenting Student Learning*. Central Heights Independent School District, Nacogdoches.

Thomas, V. (2014, November). *Tablet Applications for Classroom Teachers*. Kappa Delta Pi, Nacogdoches, Texas.

Thomas, V. (2014, April). *Integrated Uses of Technology in the Classroom*. Central Heights Independent School District, Nacogdoches.

Thomas, V. (2014, March). *Grant Writing for Innovative Ideas*. Texas State Teachers Association, Nacogdoches, Texas.

## Contracts, Grants, and Sponsored Research

Margaret Hoover Perkins Research Professorship (August 2016 - Present)

Thomas, Vicki (Principal),

Going Global: Creating Communities and Experiences for SFA's Clinical Teachers in a Clinical Teaching Abroad Program. Awarded \$6,000 to plan and execute a clinical teaching abroad program at Stephen F. Austin State University. This professorship supports the ongoing research agenda of establishing a university and state specific experiential clinical teaching abroad program. Ten students have participated.

Service Learning Grant (January 2016)

Thomas, Vicki (Principal)

Schools for Schools - Engaging Teacher Candidates in Global Clean Water Initiatives

Awarded \$400 to implement a research-based service learning initiative to promote safe drinking water in global schools. The research has been presented and submitted for peer review.

STEP Program Sponsored Research (August 2015 – May 2016)

Thomas, Vicki (Principal)

Awarded 14 iPads for use with candidates in Field Experience II to determine the benefits of a campus-wide tablet initiative. The iPads were being used for learning experiences for both teacher candidates and learners in the SFASU Charter School. The research was conducted, and results were presented at national conferences.

CONFIANZA Implementation Grant (April 2016) Awarded \$1,500 to be a chair and discussant at American Educational Research Association's 2016 annual meeting in Washington, DC.

ORSP Research Presentation Grant (January 2015) Awarded \$750 to present research at a national conference.

### **Other Research and Creative Accomplishments**

Development of New Course - ELE 306 (Spring 2015 - Spring 2016).

Revision of Course – ELE 302 (Summer, 2017).

Journal/Textbook Reviewer Textbook Reviewer (October 2015)

Brophy/Alleman/Halvorsen, *Powerful Social Studies for Elementary Students*, 3e.

Reviewer of Scholarly Materials – Reviewer for AERA Award Winning Research Paper (Fall 2015 - Present).

Production of Instructional Support Materials of Video and Website Design for Clinical Teachers and Teacher Candidates – Developed templates for videos and websites for clinical teachers and teacher candidates for online portfolios.

Publication Submitted for Review Abstract: The Reading Matrix: International Online Journal - Thomas, V., Byker, E., Hall, P. Service Learning as an Act of Generative Literacy p. 49

### **SERVICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS At SFASU**

#### **SFASU University Service**

Breast Cancer Awareness Talent Show Judge, SFASU Zeta Tau Alpha (Fall 2017).

Gen Jacks Success Coach (May 2017 – Present).

University Faculty Sponsor of Student Group - SFA Council for the Social Studies (2014 - Present).

Encouraging Server Volunteer (Late Night Breakfast) - served students free late night breakfast during exam week (December 2015, December 2016).

Office of Multicultural Affairs Cultural Celebration Ceremony - participated in diversity celebration held by the Office of Multicultural Affairs (Spring 2016).

Office of Admissions - advisor to incoming freshmen at Showcase Saturday Registration (March 2015, March 2016).

Teaching Effectiveness Committee Member - established to formulate a plan for evaluating teaching effectiveness for SFA (2015 - 2016).

Faculty Advisor for National Conference for Undergraduate Research - supervised students from different colleges at NCUR in Spokane, Washington (April 2015).

### **SFASU James I Perkins College Service**

Clinical Practice/Field Experience Advisory Committee (Appointed: Fall 2017).

American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education Conference (AACTE) – Represented the College of Education (Spring 2017).

Perkins College of Education Council, Promotion and Tenure Policy Sub-Committee (Appointed: Fall 2015 - Spring 2016).

Undergraduate Research Committee Evaluator (Appointed: Fall 2013 - Spring 2016).

Perkins College of Education Dean's Advisor/College Council (Elected: Fall 2013 - Spring, 2016).

Co-Chair, Perkins College of Education Professional Development Funds Committee (Appointed: Fall 2013 - Spring 2016).

Bright Ideas Conference Proposal Reviewer Committee (Appointed: March 2015).

### **SFASU Elementary Education Department and Program Service**

Educator Preparation Program Interviews (2017, 2018).

Elementary Education Masters' Program Committee Member (Spring 2014 - Present).

Promotion and Tenure Policy Committee- Subcommittee – Teaching (March 2014 - Present).

New Student Convocation Committee Member (Fall 2013 – Present).

EC-6 Field Experience II Faculty Team (Fall 2013 - Present).

Parent’s Day Committee (Fall 2013 - Present).

Showcase Saturday Committee (Fall 2013 - Present).

Chair, Technology Committee (Fall 2013-Present).

EC6 Program Committee Member (2013 - Present).

Chair, TEKS System for EC6 Committee (Fall 2015 - Spring 2016).

### **Professional National Service**

CivXNow Coalition Team (January 2019 - Present)

National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) Service - Business Meetings Attendance: 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018

Committee: Government Relations Committee (Fall 2015 - Present)

Office Held: International Assembly Representative (Fall 2015 - Present)

Office Held: Vice Chair (Fall 2018)

Committee: International Assembly Executive Board (Fall 2018 - Present)

Office Held: Treasurer

Committee: Citizenship (Fall 2018)

American Educational Research Association (AERA)

Constructivist Special Interest Group

Office Held: Treasurer/Secretary Position (Spring 2015 - Spring 2018)

Committee: AERA SIG Awards Committee (Fall 2015 - Present)

Business Meetings Attendance: 2017, 2017

American Educational Research Association (AERA)

Law and Education Special Interest Group

Office Held: Membership Position (Fall 2015- Fall 2017)

Chair for AERA Conference Presentations - (2017 - 3) (2016 - 4)

Discussant for AERA Conference Sessions - (2017 - 1) (2016 - 3)

## **Professional State Service**

Texas Council for the Social Studies (TCSS) Service

Office Held: Board Representative (Fall 2015 - Present)

Office Held: Editorial Board (Fall/Winter 2017)

Office Held: Publicity Chairman (Fall 2015 and Spring 2016)

Committee: Technology (Fall 2016 - Present)

Committee: Publications (Spring 2015 - Present)

Business Meetings: 2015, 2016, 2017

Journal Reviewer – The Social Studies Texan, Summer (2017)

Texas National Association for Multicultural Conference

Proposal Review and Assistance (Spring, 2017).

## **Professional Local Service**

American Association of University Women Local Chapter

Office Held: Secretary (Spring 2016 - Spring 2018)

Office Held: Membership (Spring 2018 - Present)

Millard's Crossing Field Trip - (Spring 2013 - Present)

## **Membership in Professional Organization**

American Educational Research Association Division K - Member (Fall 2013 - Present)

Special Interest Group - Constructivist

Special Interest Group - Law and Education

Special Interest Group - Social Studies Research

Special Interest Group - Brain, Neurosciences, and Education

National Council for the Social Studies - Member (Fall 2015 - Present)

International Assembly

American Association of University Women - Member (Fall 2016 - Present)

Association for Middle-Level Education (Fall 2015 - Present)