Curriculum Vita

I. Academic/Professional Background

A. Name: Lea Velez, DSW, LMSW (license # 52616; expires 8-31-2026), M.S.

B. Educational Background

Degree	Year	University	Major	Thesis/Dissertation
Doctor of Social Work (DSW)	2018	The University of Southern California	Social Work	The Intergenerational Leadership Academy (ILA)
M.S.	2011	Capella University	Social and Community Services	
MSW	1999	Texas State University	Social Work	
BSW	1997	Texas State University	Social Work	

C. University Experience

Position	University	Dates
BSW Program Director	Texas State University	2023-Present
Field Director/BSW & MSW Field Coordinator	Texas State University	2017-2018
BSW Associate Program Director	Texas State University	2015-2016
Clinical Lecturer	Texas State University	2014-Present
Assistant Professor in Practice	The University of Texas at Arlington	2013-2014
Adjunct Professor	The University of Texas at Arlington	2007-2013

D. Relevant Professional Experience

Position	Entity	Dates
Executive Director	Back on My Feet Dallas	2012-2013
Program Director	Back on My Feet Dallas	2011-2012
Sales Representative and Corporate Health Advocate	Run On Incorporated	2005-2010
Business Manager	H. Hugo Velez, DDS	2005-2010
Counselor	Surrogate Specialties of America	2008-2009
Prevention Facilitator	Girls Incorporated of Tarrant County	2005-2006
In-School Suspension Teacher's Aide	Highland Village Middle School	2003-2005
Police Officer	Carrollton Police Department-Carrollton, Texas	2002-2003
Security Sales Representative	ADT Security Services	2001-2002
Parole Officer	Texas Department of Criminal Justice	2000-2001
Project Director	Communities in Schools of Comal County	1999-2000
Parole Officer	Texas Department of Criminal Justice	1997-1999

E. Other Professional Credentials (licensure, certification, etc.).

Licensed Master Social Worker

II. Teaching

A. Teaching Honors and Awards:

Presidential Distinction Award for Excellence in Teaching 2025
Favorite Professor, Texas State University, Alpha Chi National Honor Society 2024
Favorite Professor, Texas State University, Alpha Chi National Honor Society 2017
Most Outstanding Adjunct Professor, The University of Texas at Arlington 2013
Nominee, The Texas Regent's Outstanding Teaching Award 2009
The University of Texas at Arlington
Nominee, The Provost's Excellence in Teaching Award 2008
The University of Texas at Arlington

B. Courses Taught:

Texas State University-Fall 2025

SOWK 5314.003----Foundation Practice II
SOWK 4356.004---Professionalism in Social Work
US 1100.J02---University Seminar
US 1100.015---University Seminar

Texas State University-Summer 2025

SOWK 4300 K---Innovative Community Engagement with Vulnerable Populations, Study in America, Service-Learning Designated
SOWK 5300 K---Innovative Community Engagement with Vulnerable Populations, Study in America, Service-Learning Designated
SOWK 5300E---Social Work in Health Care

Texas State University-Spring 2025

SOWK 3425.254----Practice II
SOWK 3312.256----Alcohol and Chemical Dependency
SOWK 4320.251--- Social Work with Older
US 1100.285 ---University Seminar

Texas State University-Fall 2024

SOWK 3425.004----Practice II
SOWK 4305.004----Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
SOWK 4305.001--- Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
SOWK 4356.003---Professionalism in Social Work
US 1100.R43---University Seminar
US 1100.R49---University Seminar

Texas State University-Summer 2024

SOWK 4300 K---Innovative Community Engagement with Vulnerable Populations, Study in America, Service-Learning Designated
SOWK 5300E---Social Work in Health Care

Texas State University-Spring 2024

SOWK 3425.254---Practice II Online
SOWK 3425.251---Practice II
SOWK 5316.251---Foundation Social Work Practice III
US1100.W51---US1100

Texas State University-Fall 2023

SOWK 3425.004----Practice II
SOWK 4305.006----Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
SOWK 4305.001--- Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
SOWK 5313.004---Practice I
US 1100.007---University Seminar
US 1100.R18---University Seminar
US 1100.R65---University Seminar

Texas State University-Summer 2023

SOWK 4300 K---Innovative Community Engagement with Vulnerable Populations, Study in America, Service-Learning Designated
SOWK 4300 O---Modern Day Colonialism and Indigenous People, Study in America

Texas State University-Spring 2023

SOWK 3425.254---Practice II
SOWK 3425.255---Practice II
SOWK 4305.251---Human Behavior in the Social Environment II

Texas State University-Fall 2022

SOWK 3425.004---Practice II
SOWK 4355.001---Policy Practice
SOWK 4305.001--- Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
SOWK 2375.003---Social Services in the Community
US 1100.001---University Seminar
US 1100.056---University Seminar

Texas State University-Summer 2022

SOWK 5309.503—Human Behavior in Local and Global Social Environments, Service Learning Designated
SOWK 5309.504—Human Behavior in Local and Global Social Environments
SOWK 5300G.S01---Ghana: Human Rights and Social Justice Applied
SOWK 4300K.D50---Innovative Community Engagement with Vulnerable Populations

Texas State University-Spring 2022

SOWK 3425.255----Practice II
SOWK 3425.254----Practice II
SOWK 4305.256---Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
SOWK 5314.255---Foundation Social Work Practice II

Texas State University-Fall 2021

SOWK 3425.002----Practice II
SOWK 3425.003----Practice II
SOWK 4305.001--- Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
SOWK 4305.003---Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
US 1100.018---University Seminar

Texas State University-Summer 2021

SOWK 5309.503—Human Behavior in Local and Global Social Environments
SOWK 5309.504—Human Behavior in Local and Global Social Environments

Texas State University-Spring 2021

SOWK 3425.252----Practice II
SOWK 2375.251---- Social Services in the Community
SOWK 2375.256---Social Services in the Community
SOWK 5314.255---Foundation Social Work Practice II

Texas State University-Fall 2020

SOWK 3425.002----Practice II
SOWK 3425.003----Practice II
SOWK 4305.001--- Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
SOWK 4305.002---Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
SOWK 2375.005---Social Services in the Community

Texas State University-Summer 2020

SOWK 5309.503—Human Behavior in Local and Global Social Environments
SOWK 5309.504—Human Behavior in Local and Global Social Environments

Texas State University-Spring 2020

SOWK 3425.252----Practice II
SOWK 3425.251----Practice II
SOWK 2375.251---Social Services in the Community
SOWK 4305.251---Human Behavior in the Social Environment II

Texas State University-Fall 2019

SOWK 3425.002----Practice II
SOWK 3425.003----Practice II
SOWK 4305.001--- Human Behavior in the Social Environment II
SOWK 4305.003---Human Behavior in the Social Environment II

Texas State University-Summer 2019

SOWK 5309—Human Behavior in Local and Global Social Environments
SOWK4320----Social Work with Older Adults-Service Learning

Texas State University-Spring 2019

SOWK 2375.252---Social Services in the Community
SOWK 2375.253---Social Services in the Community
SOWK 3425.251----Practice II
SOWK 3425.251252----Practice II

Texas State University-Fall 2018

SOWK 4305----Human Behavior in the Social Environment
SOWK1350---Introduction to Social Work
SOWK 2375.003---Social Services in the Community
SOWK 2375.004---Social Services in the Community

Texas State University-Summer 2018

SOWK 4320----Social Work with Older Adults-Service Learning

Texas State University-Spring 2018

SOWK 5328----Interdisciplinary Perspectives of Aging Online
SOWK 5410/5411---Foundation Field I & II

Texas State University-Fall 2017

SOWK 5314----Foundation Social Work Practice II Online
SOWK 5410/5411---Foundation Field I & II

Texas State University-Spring 2017

SOWK 3425----Practice II
SOWK 4645/4650---Undergraduate Field I & II

Texas State University-Fall 2016

SOWK 1350----Introduction to Social Work Online
SOWK 3420----Practice I

Texas State University-Summer 2016

SOWK 1350----Introduction to Social Work Online
SOWK 3339.1/5339.1----Topics in Social Work: Social Work with Older Adults/Service Learning

Texas State University-Spring 2016

SOWK 1350----Introduction to Social Work Online
SOWK 3425----Practice II

Texas State University-Fall 2015

SOWK 1350----Introduction to Social Work Online
SOWK 3425----Practice II

Texas State University-Summer 2015

SOWK 1350----Introduction to Social Work Online
SOWK 5326----Advanced Direct Practice with Individual

Texas State University-Spring 2015

SOWK 3305----Human Behavior and the Social Environment
SOWK 3425----Practice II
SOWK 5326----Advanced Direct Practice with Individuals

Texas State University-Fall 2014

SOWK 3305----Human Behavior and the Social Environment
SOWK 3420----Practice I
SOWK 3425----Practice II
SOWK 5326----Advanced Direct Practice with Individuals

The University of Texas-Arlington

SOCW 2311----Introduction to Social Work
SOCW 2311----Introduction to Social Work Online
SOCW 3302----Human Behavior and the Social Environment II
SOCW 3303----Social Welfare Policy and Services

SOCW 3303----Social Welfare Policy and Services Online
SOCW 3304----Social Work Practice II
SOCW 3306----Social Work Practice III
SOCW 3317----Human Behavior and Diverse Populations
SOCW 6334----Women and Family Policy
SOCW 6312----Group Dynamics I and Social Work Practice
SOCW 6334----Women and Family Policy
SOCW 6451----Field Liaison

C. Graduate Theses/Dissertation or Exit Committees:
Comprehensive Exam Reviewer, Master of Science in Dementia and Aging Fall 2025
Thesis Committee Member, Texas State University, Sustainability Studies, 2022-2023

D. Courses Prepared and Curriculum Development:

Social Work 5300 O: Modern Day Colonialism and Indigenous People, Study in America Course. Developed Fall 2023.

Social Work 4300 O: Modern Day Colonialism and Indigenous People, Study in America Course. Developed Fall 2022, taught Summer 2023.

E. Funded External Teaching Grants and Contracts: N/A

F. Submitted, but not Funded, External Teaching Grants and Contracts: N/A

G. Funded Internal Teaching Grants and Contracts:
Ausbrooks, A., & Velez, L. (2016). Innovative community engagement with vulnerable populations. Study in America New Program Grant, Office of Distance and Extended Learning, Texas State University.

H. Submitted, but not Funded, Internal Teaching Grants and Contracts: N/A

I. Other – Continuing Education:

Volunteer Training, Back on My Feet, Homelessness and Volunteerism Presentation, May 2014, 1 contact hour

TEDx Talk, Annual Conference for Texas Health Resources, Homelessness in Dallas Presentation, April 2012, 1 contact hour

III. Scholarly/Creative

A. Works in Print:

1. Books (if not refereed, please indicate).

a. Scholarly Monographs: N/A
b. Textbooks: N/A
c. Edited Books: N/A
d. Chapters in Books:

Renick, O., & Velez, L. (2013). Racing into the Storm: Roberta Gibb, Katherine Switzer, and Women's Marathoning. Jackson, Mississippi: The University Press of Mississippi.

e. Creative Books: N/A
2. Articles:
a. Refereed Journals: N/A
b. Non-Refereed Journals: N/A

3. Conference Proceedings:

Velez, L., & Alberton, A. (2024). Study in America: Bridging Online to On the Ground Experiential Service-Learning in Los Angeles, California, and Hawai'i. Experiential Learning Leadership Institute Conference, University of Tennessee, Martin, TN., March 2024

Velez, L., Hawkins, C., & Summerhill, L. (2018). School-based field education model: Evolving from interprofessional collaboration to practice to education. Council on Social Work Education, Annual Program Meeting, Orlando, FL. November 2018.

Crosson, R., Greene, N., & Velez, L. (2018). Innovative ideas integrating the 12 Grand Challenges into social work education and the community. National Association of Social Workers National Conference, Washington, D.C., June 2018.

Velez, L. (2017). Implementation of an Intergenerational Service-Learning Course: Connecting the Student and Community. Baccalaureate Program Directors, 34th Annual Conference, March 2017.

Hawkins, C. & Velez, L. (2017). Spiritually-relevant field education. Council on Social Work Education, Annual Program Meeting, Dallas, TX, October 2017.

Velez, L., & Idais, N. (2016). Advisor and academic program directors: Working together to create a holistic academic experience for students. 18th Annual Academic Advisors' Conference, Texas State University, September 2016.

Hawkins, C., Marks, A. & Velez, L. (2016). Spirituality, ethics, and social work: Principles for best practice. National Association of Social Workers/Texas Conference, Arlington, TX, October 2016 (invited presentation).
Note: Mr. Marks had to cancel at the last minute although he did preparation for the presentation, and we were invited to give it together based on our 2016 NASW presentation. I invited Ms. Velez to join me in his place since she was attending the conference and had relevant experience.

Velez, L. (2016). Enhancing the Educational Experience of Technology Based Tools: Excellence in the Classroom. Baccalaureate Program Directors, 33rd Annual Conference, March 2016.

a. Refereed Conference Proceedings: N/A
b. Non-Refereed Conference Proceedings: N/A

4. Abstracts: N/A

5. Reports: N/A

6. Book Reviews: N/A

7. Other Works in Print: N/A

B. Works not in Print: N/A

1. Papers Presented at Professional Meetings: N/A

2. Invited Talks, Lectures, Presentations:

Velez, L. (2023). National Association of Social Workers, Texas Chapter. Panel Discussion, Meeting Across the Globe (invited panel presenter).

Velez, L. (2022). Texas State University, ITAC, Summer Institute. May 2022 (invited presentation).

Velez, L. (2016). Social work with older adults: Mariposa course. Service-learning Fellowship Spotlight, Texas State University, November, 2016 (invited presentation).

Velez, L. (2016). Self-care for helping professionals. School of Education, Master's of School Psychology, Texas State University, March 2016 (invited lecture).

3. Consultancies:

Velez, L. (2013-2014). Consultant, National Volunteer Caregiving Network. (Development of major fundraising project.). San Marcos, Texas.

Velez, L. (2013). Consultant, Back on My Feet. (Staff Development). Dallas, Texas.

4. Workshops: N/A

5. Other Works not in Print: N/A

a. Works "submitted" or "under review": N/A
b. Works "in progress": N/A
c. Other Works not in Print: N/A

C. Grants and Contracts:
1. Funded External Grants and Contracts: N/A
2. Submitted, but not Funded, External Grants and Contracts: N/A
3. Funded Internal Grants and Contracts: N/A
4. Submitted, but not Funded, Internal Grants and Contracts:
University Lecture Series 2021

D. Fellowships, Awards, Honors:

Aging Forward, National Gallery of Volunteer Excellence Inductee 2025
College of Applied Arts, School of Social Work, Service Award, Fall 2023
Faculty in Residence, Teaching Space of Tomorrow 2022-2023
Faculty in Residence, Teaching Space of Tomorrow 2021-2022
Service Learning Fellowship 2015
Texas State University

IV. Service

A. University/College:
1. University

IEF Scholarship Committee Fall 2025-Current
TX1100 Task Group, College of Applied Arts Representative Fall 2025-Current
Texas Needle Artists Faulty Advisor Fall 2025-Current
General Education Council Fall 2024-Current
College of Applied Arts, Scholarship Committee Spring 2024-Current
Honors College, Independent Study, Instructor Summer 2023
Bobcat Build Spring 2023
Faculty Advisor, Renegade Roses Fall 2022-Spring 2023
Empowering Women as Leaders Scholarship Program Spring 2021-2024
Liaison-this is a new scholarship program, two scholarships awarded during Fall 2022, five scholarships awarded Fall 2023
Common Experience, School of Social Work Police Work Group Spring 2021
Organizer and Host, Shawn Livingston Webinar
International Research Conference for Graduate Students Spring 2021
Faculty Respondent
Service-Learning Excellence Weeks of Welcome Panel September 10, 2020
Participant
Well Cats Champion 2017-present
Service-Learning Advisory Committee 2017-present

Texas State University
Faulty Senate, PACE Council 2017
Bobcat Bond Mentor 2017
Honors Contract Supervisor 2016
Honors Thesis Supervisor 2015
Texas State University
Honors Contract Supervisor 2015
Texas State University 2015-2016
Bobcat Bond Mentor

Departmental/School:

Non-Tenure Line Annual Review of Reviews, Sub-Committee Spring 2025
School of Social Work, Field Committee Fall 2025-present
Curriculum Committee, Macro Team Lead Summer 2025-Fall 2025
Faculty Search Committee for Assistant and Associate Line Fall 2025-present
Organization of Student Social Workers (OSSW) Faculty Advisor Fall 2025
External Field Instructor Fall 2024
Artificial Intelligence School of Social Work, Sub-Committee Fall 2024
Curriculum Committee Spring 2024-present
Bobcat Bounty, Cupboard Implementation, Encino Hall Fall 2024-present
Participant, Bobcat Day Fall 2024
Honors College, Independent Study, Instructor Summer 2023
Bobcat Welcome Open House, Event Volunteer August 2023
School of Social Work, Town Hall Event, Planning Group April 2023
School of Social Work, Town Hall Event with Dr. Ackerson February 2023
School of Social Work, BSW Program Director Fall 2023-present
School of Social Work, Faculty Retreat Planning Committee and Presenter Fall 2023
Non-Tenure Line Annual Review of Reviews, Sub-Committee Spring 2023
School of Social Work, Awards Coordinator 2022-present
Family Campaign, Co-Leader 2022-present
Chair, School of Social Work Scholarship Committee 2021-present
Field Instructor 2021-2023
Social Work and Criminal Justice Work Group 2020-2023
Introduction to Social Work/Social Services in the Community Work Group 2020-2023
Macro Social Work Group 2020-present
Co-Chair, BSW Committee 2023-present
BSW Committee 2020-present
School of Social Work Fun Committee 2019-2022
Participant, Bobcat Day October 2016
Participant, The University College Advising Center, Majors Fair 2015
Texas State University
BSW Associate Program Director 2015-2016
Texas State University

Field Director and BSW Field Coordinator.	2016-2018
Member, Social Work Anniversary Event Planning Committee Texas State University	2015
Chair, BSW Committee Texas State University	2015-2016
Member, BSW Committee Texas State University	2014-2015
Member, Field Committee Texas State University	2014-2015

B. Professional:

University of Hawaii at Manoa, External Reviewer	Fall 2024
Board Member, The National Volunteer Caregiving Network	2014-2016

C. Community:

Board Member, Healing Hands	2024-present
Board Member, Empowering Women as Leaders, Austin	2024-present
Awards Committee, International Association for Research on Service Learning and Community Engagement	2024-present
Board Member, Comal County Senior Center	2024-2025
Visiting Professor, Hands of Hope 2023	Fall 2022-Spring
Volunteer, Comal County Senior Center	2023-present
Shepherd's Center Steering Committee: Member	2023-present
Volunteer Instructor, Mariposa Active Senior Community	2023
Guest Lecturer, Hands of Hope	2022
Mentor, Hands of Hope	2022
Co-Director, The San Marcos 5K Stampede	2014-2016
Board Member, The Collective for Orphan Care and Education	2013-2014
Board Member, Back on My Feet Austin	2014
Board Member, Back on My Feet Dallas	2013-2014

D. Services, Honors & Awards

Dallas Furniture Bank, Young Professionals Honoree	2013
Dallas Observer, Featured in the issue "Dallas People 2012"	2012

E. Services, Grants & Contracts

1. Funded External Service Grants & Contracts: N/A
2. Submitted, but not Funded, External Service Grants & Contracts: N/A
3. Funded Internal Service Grants & Contracts: N/A
4. Submitted, but not Funded, Internal Service Grants & Contracts: N/A