LAURA SIMS lsims@txstate.edu
Associate Professor of Instruction / Department of English / Texas State University-San Marcos

CURRICULUM VITAE

I. ACADEMIC/PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Educational Background:

- Master of Arts in Literature with Emphasis in Rhetoric & Composition
  - Texas State University, Dec. 2010
  - Thesis: "Rhetoricizing Body and Ritual: Women Writers of the Middle Ages"
- Bachelor of Arts in English with Secondary Teacher Certification
  - Liberty University, Aug. 2007
  - Honors Program Thesis: "Texts and Traditions: The Consequences of Humanist New Testament Scholarship for the Reformation"
- 32 undergraduate hours
  - Moody Bible Institute, 2002-2003

University Experience:

- Associate Professor of Instruction, Texas State University, Fall 2024-present
- Senior Lecturer, Texas State University, Fall 2015-Fall 2024
- Lecturer, Texas State University, Spring 2011-Spring 2015
- Teaching Assistant, Texas State University, Fall 2009-Spring 2010

Relevant Professional Experience:

- Proofreader, Educational Testing Service, San Antonio, TX, 2007-2008
- SAT Instructor, Sylvan Learning Center, Lynchburg, VA, Spring 2004
- Education Specialists' Assistant, Region IV Education Service Center, Houston, TX, Summer 2003 and 2004

Other Professional Credentials:

- Texas Educator Certificate, English Language Arts and Reading (grades 7-12), June 2014-present

II. TEACHING

Courses Taught:

- EDST 4681: Student/Clinical Teaching Seminar & Supervision, Texas State University, since 2014 (ftf & online)
- ENG 3389: The Discipline of English/Teaching ELA in the Secondary Classroom, Texas State University, since 2016
- ENG 2330: World Literature Before 1600, Texas State University, since 2016, (ftf & online)

ENG 1320: College Writing II, Texas State University, since 2010
ENG 1310: College Writing I, Texas State University, since 2009 (ftf & online)
ENG 3311: Practices in Writing & Rhetoric, Special Topic: Writing About Popular Culture, Spring 2024

US 1100: University Seminar, Texas State University, 2012-2014
10th grade English, Amherst County High School, Amherst, VA, Spring 2007 (student teacher & accelerated individual instruction)

Courses Prepared and Curriculum Development:
Student/Clinical Teaching Seminar (ftf & online)
The Discipline of English/Teaching ELA in the Secondary Classroom
World Literature Before 1600 (ftf & online)
College Writing II
College Writing I (ftf & online)
University Seminar
10th grade English *Macbeth* unit (student teacher)

III. SCHOLARLY/CREATIVE

Papers Presented at Professional Meetings:
"Dumb Luck in Teaching: It Pays to Be a Hoarder," Southwest Popular/American Culture Association Conference, Albuquerque, Feb. 2026
"Panic at the Lecture Hall: Using Interactive Technologies in a Large Classroom," Southwest Popular/American Culture Association Conference, Albuquerque, Feb. 2018
"Gender, Gamergate, and the Middle Ages: Second Verse, Same as the First," Southwest Popular/American Culture Association Conference, Albuquerque, Feb. 2015
"'For Kids: Comics, Memoir, and Growing Up," Southwest Popular/American Culture Association Conference, Albuquerque, Feb. 2014
"A Site of One's Own: Comic Autobiography and Women on the Web," Southwest Popular/American Culture Association Conference, Albuquerque, Feb. 2013
"The Dark Side of the Moon: The Woman Werewolf in Alan Moore's 'The Curse,'" Southwest Popular/American Culture Association Conference, Albuquerque, Feb. 2012
"Recasting Men in a Woman's Drama: Male Agency in The Book of the City of Ladies," Texas Medieval Association Conference, University of Texas at Austin, Oct. 2009
"Text, Tongue, and Tradition," Conference on Faith and History, Oklahoma Baptist University, Sept. 2006

Invited Talks, Lectures, Presentations:
Top Hat Textbook Focus Group for First-Year English, co-led with Corey DeBoest and Tiffany Rainey, May 2025

"Grading Electronically," Teaching First-Year English Workshop Series, Texas State University, Oct. 2014

Common Experience proposal: "Shout! How Your Online Voice Can Change the World," with Anne Winchell, Texas State University, Apr. 2012

IV. SERVICE

Departmental:

Member, First-Year English Top Hat Textbook Creation Subcommittee, 2025-2026

Member, First-Year English Textbook Creation Subcommittee, 2024-2026

Member, Sophomore Literature Committee, 2019-2026

Member, Teacher Preparation Committee, 2015-present

Member, Online Courses Committee, 2012-2026

Member, First-Year English Committee, 2012-present

Member, Secondary English Student Teacher Supervisor Hiring Committee, 2020/2021/2022

Canvas Template Creator for English Student Teacher Supervisors, 2021

Member, Reduced Textbook Cost Committee, 2021

Evaluated essays for SACS Assessment, May 2020

Member, Revamping First-Year English Ad Hoc Committee, 2019-2020

Judged submissions for the Writing Center Essay Contest, 2012-2020

Member, 1310 Reader Subcommittee, Fall 2016

Member, TA Preparation subcommittee, Fall 2015-Spring 2016

University:

Member, Student Teacher Supervision Leadership Team, Texas State University, 2020

Reader, Honor's Program Thesis: "To Write Press Play: Teaching Creative Writing Basics with Video Games" by Aisha Hellman-Lohr, Texas State University, Fall 2017

Research Assistant, Liberty University, 2006-2007

Panel Moderator, Literature and Christianity Conference, Liberty University, Mar. 2006

Writing Tutor for the Tutoring and Testing Center, Liberty University, 2003-2006

Professional:

Completed Multicultural Transformation and Research Institute, Texas State University, May 2019

Completed Power of Scaffolding Process Strategies Webinar, McGraw Hill, June 2018

Completed T-TESS Training, Texas State University, Aug. 2017

Completed ePortfolio Training, Texas State University, Aug. 2014

Completed Teachscape Observer Training for the Danielson Framework for Teaching, Texas State University, Aug. 2014

Completed US 1100 Instructor Training, Texas State University, Aug. 2012, Aug. 2013, and Aug. 2014
Completed Creating and Teaching an Online Course Workshop, Texas State University, May 2014
Completed Manage an Online Course and Still Have a Life Workshop, Texas State University, Sept. 2013
Completed Technology Integration Workshop, Texas State University, July-Aug. 2012
Completed Preparing Students for Socially Responsible Global Citizenship Workshop, Texas State University, May 2012
Completed Allies Training Workshop, Texas State University, Nov. 2011
Completed Practicum in Composition, Texas State University, Fall 2009

Community:

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer, Luther House Community Center, 2024
Administrative Assistant, Hays-Caldwell Women's Center, San Marcos, TX, Winter 2017-2018
English Tutor, Amherst County High School, Amherst, VA, Spring 2007
Middle School Tutor, The Center, Lynchburg, VA, Spring 2004