

Cassie Polasek

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EDUCATION

Master of Education, Curriculum and Instruction December 2012

Texas State University - San Marcos, Texas

Minor Composite

Overall GPA 4.00

Master of Arts, Literature – Thesis: *The Shape of the Road: A Study of the Journey in Cormac McCarthy's Border Trilogy* August 2009

Texas State University - San Marcos, Texas

Minor Cognate

Overall GPA 4.00

Bachelor of Arts, English-Creative Writing and French December 2003

Texas State University - San Marcos, Texas

Minor Philosophy

Overall GPA 3.87, Summa Cum Laude

CONFERENCES

Cormac McCarthy Society's Special Symposium on *The Passenger* and *Stella Maris*, 2023

Presenter: “‘The last pagan on earth.’ An Allegorical Reading of Bobby Western’s Consciousness”

National Council Council of Teachers of English, 2021

Co-Presenter On Demand Session: *Committed to Equitable Workshop: Curriculum as a Critical and Collaborative Act Between Students and Teachers*

Cormac McCarthy Society International Conference, 2017

Teaching McCarthy Panel Presenter: “‘Things abandoned long ago’: A pedagogical approach to teaching *Hamlet* with a thematic connection to Cormac McCarthy’s *The Road*”

South Central Modern Languages Association (SCMLA), 2014

Western/Southwestern Literature Panel, Chair

SCMLA, 2013

Western/Southwestern Literature Panel, Secretary

SCMLA, 2012

Western/Southwestern Literature Panel Presenter: “‘Listen to the *Corridos* of the Country.’ Deciphering Billy Parham’s Journeys and the Tales he Witnesses”

Cormac McCarthy Society International Conference, 2010

Intertextuality Panel Presenter: “‘Books are Made out of Books’: Moby Dick and Cormac McCarthy’s Judge Holden”

Rocky Mountain Modern Languages Association (RMMLA), 2009

Western/Southwestern Literature Panel Chair and Presenter: "The Shape of the Road: A Study of Cormac McCarthy's Border Trilogy"

SCMLA, 2009

Children's Literature Panel Chair

American Studies Association of Texas, 2008

Southern/Southwestern Literature Panel Presenter: "The Old Man, His Country, and a Light in a Horn: A Study of Sheriff Bell in Cormac McCarthy's *No Country for Old Men*"

RMMLA, 2008

Western/Southwestern Literature Panel Presenter: "Nothing is as It Appears, Everything is as It Appears: Terry Tempest Williams' *Refuge*"

SCMLA, 2008

Children's Literature Panel Presenter: "Colonizing the Colonizer: E. Nesbit's *The Phoenix and The Carpet*"

PUBLICATIONS

Poetry

Persona, 2002

"Looking Down Over China"

"Concubine"

"An Old Hotel in Shanghai"

Book Review

"Texas Books in Review," 2008 Review of Peter Koch's *Exploring Big Bend Country*

Articles

"'Books are Made out of Books': Moby Dick and Cormac McCarthy's Judge Holden." *They Rode on: Blood Meridian and the Tragedy of the American West*. Rick Wallach: The Cormac McCarthy Society, 2014.

"'Each the other's world entire': Father and Son in The Road." *Carrying the Fire: Cormac McCarthy's The Road and the Apocalyptic Tradition. Volume 1: Characters, Themes and Issues*. Rick Wallach & Scott Yarbrough. Miami: The Cormac McCarthy Society, 2020.

ACTIVITIES and SERVICE

Chair Department of English Reading Task Force TXST, Fall 2024 - present

Member Co-Req Curriculum Development Committee Spring 2025 - present

Co-presenter Co-Req Development Faculty Workshop September 2025

Member First-Year English Committee Fall 2024 - present

Member Teacher Preparation Committee Spring 2022 - present

AP Language Composition and Literature Composition Research Study Spring 2025

PTO President Miller Middle School 2024/2025 school year
Parents on Patrol Volunteer and Grant Writer 2023/2024 school year
PTO Vice President Miller Middle School 2023/2024 school year
Fundraising Committee First Class Dance Center 2023/2024 dance season
Curriculum Consultant AP English Literature and Composition SMHS 2022
Campus Improvement Team Miller Middle School, Parent Representative, 2022-2023
PTO Volunteer Crockett Elementary, 2021 - 2024
Department Chair - ELAR San Marcos High School, 2021
Essay Scorer UC Irvine Pathways Project, 2021, 2022
Teacher Coach SMCISD Central Texas Writing Project (CTWP) Year Long Institute, 2016/2017
Participant CTWP/ National Writing Project Analytical Writing Continuum Institute, 2017
Teacher Leadership Advanced Institute CTWP, 2017
Judge Scholastic Arts and Writing Contest, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021
Presenter SMCISD AVID District Institute, 2019
Participant Humanities Texas Teacher Teacher Institute, Fall 2017, Spring 2017, Fall 2018, Spring 2018
Participant Writing Texas Summer Institute - Humanities Texas, 2017, 2018
Kappa Delta Pi—Education honors society, member since 2012
San Marcos Young Writers, Co-director, 2006-2007
Texas State in Ireland Study Abroad Program Non-degree Graduate Course Work, 2004
San Marcos Young Writers, volunteer/editor, 2003-2005
Sigma Tau Delta—English honors society, member since 2002
Phi Sigma Tau—Philosophy honors society, member since 2001
Pi Delta Phi—French honors society, member since 2000

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Texas State University January 2022 - present Student Teacher Supervisor/Assistant
Professor of Instruction
Coastal Bend College May 2021 - January 2022 Adjunct Professor—Dual Credit
Austin Community College August 2019 - present Adjunct Professor—Dual Credit
Central Texas Writing Project Teacher Consultant July 2016 - present Texas
State University-San Marcos
Classroom Teacher August 2012 - January 2022 San Marcos High School, San Marcos,
Texas
Certifications: ELAR 8-12, ESL Supplemental