# TEXAS STATE VITA

1. **Academic/Professional Background**

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| A. | Name: Rebekah Jane Proffer | Title: Lecturer |

B. Educational Background

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| *Master of Arts* | *2020* | *Texas State University* | *Creative Writing* | *Thesis Project: Schooled: A Memoir-An Essay**Collection* |
| *Bachelor of Arts* | *2013* | *University of Texas**at Tyler* | *History* |  |
| *Associate of Arts* | *2012* | *Kilgore College* | *History* |  |

C. University Experience

**Assistant Professor of Instruction** September 2024 – current

Texas State University

* Piloted the dual credit program at Texas State in Fall 2024, preparing students for college with advanced coursework
* Part of retaining record freshmen class of 2024; 93.3% persistence rate for First Time in College (FTIC) students; 81.1 for freshmen

**Lecturer** August 2022 – September 2024

Texas State University

* Instructed students in academic college writing courses with a focus on rhetorical analysis
* Developed and implemented a curriculum focusing on college-level composition, persuasive techniques, quality research, evaluation of sources, and critical thinking
* Managed the demands of paperwork and grading, with timely feedback and attention to detail
* Committed to fostering a growth mindset, accurately assessing learning, and providing opportunities for students to revise major essays to learn from mistakes and enhance understanding
* Led remedial courses focused on foundational academic skills empowering student success
* Part of retaining the freshmen class of 2022, with an increase of 14% in students
* Part of retaining record freshmen class of 2023; 93.3% persistence rate for First Time in College (FTIC) students; 81.1 for freshmen

**Undergraduate Teaching Assistant** August 2012 – May 2013 University of Texas at Tyler, Tyler, TX

* Project Manager for the organizational method of applicants’ materials for a tenure position
* Stood in as office manager when needed such as the creation of a new filing system
* Consistently compiled and processed textbook orders
* Facilitated the processing of hard copies of primary sources to digital files

D. Relevant Professional Experience

**Substitute Instructor** August 2022 – April 2022

Gary Job Corps Center, San Marcos, Texas

* Instructed 16–24-year-old young adults in the required curriculum
* Trained recent hires including Social Studies high school teacher, registrar, and substitute teacher

**Academic Instructor** December 2021 – August 2022 Gary Job Corps Center, San Marcos, Texas

* Instructed 16–24-year-old young adults in English high school curriculum. Point of contact for the six-person high school team
* Designed and spearheaded a new curriculum to adapt to pedagogical standards and meet the accommodations our diverse population requires
* Designed, organized, and was awarded for a campus-wide Women’s History Month project and incentive
* Developed an organizational system and trained fellow staff in its use to ensure academic compliance for students
* Liaison for the manager during the February 2022 winter storm and responsible for directing and organizing staff
* Advised students in career success standards to find and retain employment

**English Instructor** August 2018 – August 2021 Lamar Fine Arts Academy, Austin, Texas

* Instructed 7th and 8th grade Pre-AP English and led the 7th grade team of two other teachers. Created and presented over three hundred original lectures
* Achieved the highest passing rates in state assessment: 98% compared to the school’s 85%, and 74% mastery rate to 45%
* Received highest evaluation distinction three years consecutively (2019-2021)
* Instructed and led a student in writing a script that won the Young Playwrights for Change competition with Zach Theatre (2020)
* Recognized for my commitment to students and was nominated for the *Thank a Teacher*

contest (2021)

* Interviewed applicants for a hiring panel for a school position (2021)
* Piloted online curriculum to adjust to students’ new educational experience due to Covid-19 epidemic

**English Instructor** August 2016 – July 2018

Bastrop High School, Bastrop, Texas

* Instructed 9th grade English in a Title I (low-income) school and promoted youth leadership by establishing routines and encouraging perseverance
* Achieved the highest passing rates in state assessment: 85.5% compared to 41.3% and 50%
* Contributing member to the successful department that received Academic Achievement in ELA from TEA in 2017
* As Lead Instructional Liaison between Humanities Texas’ innovative curriculum, implemented it across the ELA department

**English Instructor** August 2014 – June 2016

Jacksonville High School, Jacksonville, Texas

* Instructed 9th-10th grade English in a Title I school. Tutored and mentored high-risk students and excelled in passing rates; assisted in various school functions
* Maintained the highest passing rate across all other regular classes in the 9th grade ELA department
* Tracked high volume phone and email correspondence with parents, resulting in positive outcomes. Tracked multiple student accommodations provided, and created alternate assignments designed to teach the same skill
* Announced as the best first year teacher by principal

**Substitute Teacher** October 2013 – June 2014

Gladewater Middle School, Gladewater, Texas

* Ensured consistency of student learning by following each teacher’s lesson plans
* Taught a behaviorally challenging class and ensured student advancement in unit

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

# CERTIFICATION

Texas State Residency Certificate August 2015 – Present

* Endorsement: English 7-12, and ESL supplemental
* Highly Qualified: **English** and **History**

# TEACHING

* 1. Teaching Honors and Awards:
* Teacher of the Month Award, Jacksonville High School (2014)
* Certificate of Achievement, Gary Job Corps (2022)
	1. Courses Taught:
* English Pre-AP 7th - 9th grade
* English 9th - 12th grade

D. Courses Prepared and Curriculum Development:

* College Writing I (1310)
* College Writing II (1320)
* English Pre-AP 7th - 9th grade
* English 9th - 12th grade.

# IV. SERVICE

D. Organization Memberships:

Treasurer, Modern Muse Poetry 2017 – 2018

Vice President, Walter Prescott Webb Historical Society 2012 – 2013

Member, Sigma Tau Delta English Honors Society 2013

Member, National Honor Society of Leadership and Success 2013

G. Service Professional Development Activities Attended:

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

* Writing and Editing: Word Choice and Order by University of Michigan (2021)
* Introduction to Marketing by Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania (2020)
* Viral Marketing and How to Craft Contagious Content by Wharton School (2020)
* The Science of Well-Being by Yale University (2020)