

Susan M. Tyrrell, Ph.D.

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Education

Ph.D., Educational Psychology

Texas A&M University

Concentration: Learning Sciences (Creativity, Giftedness, and Intelligence)

Recipient of Regent Fellowship

M.A., English

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Master's Thesis: *The Themes of Conformity and Nonconformity in Lois Lowry's Number the Stars and The Giver* (currently in the United States Memorial Holocaust Museum Library in Washington, DC)

B.A., English

University of Texas at Tyler

Magna Cum Laude

Relevant Work Experience

2022-present University of North Texas

Denton/Frisco, TX

Clinical Associate Professor

- Teach all three unifying courses in Bachelor of Arts and Applied Sciences degree program
- Serve as course lead for BAAS 3020, Fundamentals of Inquiry and Discovery (an introduction to research methods).
- Served as part of collaborative team creating new minor in applied heritage studies
- Launched a literary journal for multidisciplinary department, which includes business papers, whitepapers, etc. in addition to traditional essay and literature submissions
- Taught section of ENGL 2341, Forms of Literature, in North Texas Now! (Dual-credit program in partnership with Frisco ISD)
- Teach 100% online and 51%/49% hybrid courses via Canvas courses, including hybrid courses, which meet in-person and online
- Chaired Awards Committee and helped align policies, budget, and department changes
- Engage in PBL in all courses

- Hire and supervise TAs
- Contribute to department and program activities and outreach
- Serve at recruitment activities around the DFW Metroplex

2018-2022 Cameron University
Associate Professor of English
(Promoted with tenure)

Lawton, OK

2013-present Cameron University
Assistant Professor of English

Lawton, OK

- English faculty
 - Taught Composition/ Rhetoric courses every semester
 - Taught online sections of Composition/Rhetoric II most semesters
 - Taught Communications courses on regular basis
 - Taught instructional methods courses: Teaching of English and Teaching of Reading (created and developed the latter, which also included a graduate section for working professionals)
 - Teach Women in Literature, a course to fulfill diversity requirement, based on cultural pedagogy needs.
 - Received funding award to bring author/poet Naomi Shihab Nye to speak to students, lecture, and read work at the university in March 2020.
 - Created and taught course over children's and YA literature: Holocaust through diaspora
 - Created and taught course over children's and YA literature: Fiction and Film
 - Taught multiple sections of Introduction to Literary Studies
 - Created and taught course: Investigative Journalism
 - Taught multiple courses with young adult literature focus
 - Various content supervision of ELA student teachers, grades 6-12 within public schools, including working with public school teacher/mentors
 - Taught Reading in the Content Area (Graduate reading course in Department of Education)
- Regularly assisted with English education program assessment for NCATE accreditation
- Primary participant in transition to new CAEP standards for English education program within department
- Member of Educator Preparation Council (university level committee)
- Member of Recruitment and Retention Committee
- Member of P-12 Transition committee, which also focuses on dual credit students (university level)
- Chaired debate coach/communication instructor hiring committee 2019
- Member of several hiring committees

- Member of tenure review committees

2021-2022 *Walters Schools*
Training/ Consultant

Walters, OK

- All faculty professional development and training on implementing creative innovation into all lessons, classes, and activities.

2018- 2021 *Lawton Public Schools*

Lawton, OK

- Outside grant evaluator/consultant for two federal grants
- Synthesized and evaluated annual federal grant data and create annual reports for federal evaluations of grants, explaining in laymen's terms both middle school and high school progress in detailed reports for Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA)

2018 *Lawton Public Schools*
Consultant

Lawton, OK

- "Engaging Gifted Learners: What Does a Gifted Learner Look Like?" Morning and Afternoon in-service sessions for Lawton Public School teachers on integrating gifted and creativity strategies into the regular education curriculum
- Session: "Engaging Students through Hands-On Arts Enrichment"
- After-school workshop "drop-ins" with campus gifted education director, demonstrating lessons for integrating creativity lessons for the classroom at all levels.

2012-2013 *University of Kansas*
Lecturer

Lawrence, KS

- Supervisor for multiple student teacher candidates in greater Kansas City area
- Visited and evaluated student teacher candidates
- Mentor students; grade reports and assessments of student teaching
- Served as liaison between university and schools, as well as clinical supervisor and student teacher candidates

2013 *Avila University*
Graduate adjunct faculty

Kansas City, MO

- Taught Learning Theories to a cohort of professional educators from both Kansas and Missouri

2011-2012 *Gadsden State Community College*
English and Psychology Faculty

Gadsden, AL

- Full time psychology and English faculty 2011-2012
 - Courses taught included Survey of English Literature I and II and Survey of American Literature Part I and II, in addition to Composition I and II and General Psychology.
- Adjunct faculty 2009-2010
- Taught face-to-face and online, supplemented all courses with online material
- Served on General Education Competencies Committee
- Member of professional development committee

2010-2011 *University of South Dakota*
Clinical Faculty (Temporary Grant Position)

Vermillion, SD

2005-2009 *Tyler Junior College*
Adjunct Professor

Tyler, TX

- Wrote and developed one of the first online composition courses (English 101 equivalent)
 - Courses taught included Survey of English Literature I and II and Survey of American Literature Part I and II

2008 *University of Texas*
Assistant Lecturer

Tyler , TX

- Taught one section of Literature for Children (accelerated summer school course) on satellite campus
- Taught fall composition course

2007-2008 *Texas A&M University*
Assistant Lecturer

College Station, TX

- Taught four sections of Literature for Children (English 360) -Course included primarily pre-service teachers and included strategies of teaching literacy in the elementary and secondary classroom by nature of my course design
- Taught two sections of Scientific and Technical Writing (English 210)

2007-2008 *Blinn College*
Assistant Lecturer

Bryan , TX

- Composition and Rhetoric I and II on campus in Bryan
- Taught Composition at Hearne High School for Blinn College as Dual Credit Instructor from Blinn

**2006 *University of Texas Health Science Center*
*Technical Writer and Project Trainer***

Tyler, TX

- Shorter-term position in IT department as technical writer, primarily.
- Worked with revision of policies and manuals
- Oversaw projects within the university hospital, which included training physicians on software and working with all populations of faculty/staff
- Worked with training for safety and risk management

Other Relevant Experience

2005-2006 Whitehouse Independent School District

Whitehouse, TX

- Fifth grade math and language teacher working with individualized students and groups for diagnostic and developmental preparation for state assessments
- Sixth grade language arts

2004-2005 Clear Creek Independent School District

League City, TX

- English teacher
- Speech teacher
- Speech and debate coach
- UIL Academic Coordinator, responsible for recruitment of staff, communication and leadership
- Committee Member: Smaller Learning Communities

2001-2003, 2005 Tyler Independent School District

Tyler, TX

- English teacher (Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and on-level)
- Dual Credit English teacher for Tyler ISD in partnership with Tyler Junior College (2006)
- Committee member: Campus Reorganization Committee
- Freshman Task Force
- Journalism teacher; responsible for both print and broadcast journalism advisement and publication supervision and instruction
- Temporarily re-employed with district again in 2006 until return to school

1999-2001 Quitman Independent School District

Quitman, TX

- English Language Arts teacher (middle school, all grades)
- Multi-cultural elective course teacher

Publications (Peer-Reviewed)

Tyrrell, S.M. (2025) “Every Seven Years: Recursive Trends and Mandates in Teacher Education Drive Rising Attrition Rates” paper presentation at 9th International Conference on Advanced Research in Education, Cambridge, United Kingdom. (*Accepted, forthcoming, December 2025.*)

Tyrrell, S.M. (2022). “[Untitled poem in anthology].” *Dear Vaccine*. In N. Shihab Nye, D. Hassler. T. Meier (Eds.). The Kent State University Press.

Tyrrell, S.M. (2021). “Exploring social justice issues through diverse youth literature.” *Teaching Diverse Youth Literature to Pre-Service Professionals*. IGI Global. (Textbook Chapter).

Tyrrell, S.M. and Juntune, J.E. (2017). “Finding and serving gifted students raised in poverty. *TEMPO*-Journal of the Texas Association of Gifted and Talented.

Tyrrell, S.M. (2015). “Value defined: Using creativity to restore ELA teacher efficacy in the culture of testing.” *Oklahoma English Journal*, 27:2.

Tyrrell, S.M. and Juntune, J.E. (2008). Literature review. *The State of Gifted Education in Texas: A research study conducted by the research division of the Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented*.

Tyrrell, S. M. (2000). *The Themes of Conformity and Nonconformity in Lois Lowry's Number the Stars and The Giver*. Thesis (M.A.)—Texas A & M University-Commerce, 2000.

Presentations

Tyrrell, S. M. (July 2025) “Impunity Incarnate: A Monster Walks into A Pulpit Dressed Like Jesus.” Paper presentation at London Conference in Critical Thought, London, United Kingdom.

Ranieri, E.N., Tyrrell, S. M. & Stanley, D. (May 2025) “Cross-campus PBL: A student-run publication at UNT at Frisco.” Project-Based Learning (PBL) Symposium 2025, Frisco, TX.

Tyrrell, S. M. (June 2024) “Developing Multidisciplinary, Multimodal Literary Journals for Undergraduate.” Paper presentation International Conference On Multidisciplinary Research and Innovation, London, United Kingdom.

Tyrrell, S. M. (May 2024) “It’s not just for poetry anymore... A multidisciplinary, multimodal literature journal: The best of DMI as a unified PBL” Project-Based Learning (PBL) Symposium 2024, Frisco, TX.

Tyrrell, S. M. (July 2023) “The youngest others: Stateless children without a voice call from the borders.” Paper presentation at London Conference in Critical Thought, London, United Kingdom.

Tyrrell, S. M. (June 2023) "Separate but Unequal: An analysis of the downward hurdle of education since passage of Israel's Nation-State Law." Paper presentation at 2023 Summer Days of the Research Network of History and Philosophy of Education, Helsinki, Finland.

Tyrrell, S. M. (November 2022) "Searching for significance: Attachment theory, PTSD, and the Hero's Journey to find a child in Lois Lowry's *Son*." Paper presentation at Pacific and Ancient Modern Language Association (PAMLA) Annual Conference, Los Angeles, CA.

Tyrrell, S. M. (November 2021-Accepted) "Displaced by destruction: Young voices emerge from Palestinian rubble." Paper presentation at Pacific and Ancient Modern Language Association (PAMLA) Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV.

Tyrrell, S. M. (November 2019) "Crawling under walls: Children, literature, and peace in the Middle East." Paper presentation at Pacific and Ancient Modern Language Association (PAMLA) Annual Conference, San Diego, CA.

Tyrrell, S. M. (March 2019) "*Marhaba!:* Palestine Life and Literature. Invited lecture for Sigma Tau Delta International Honor Society for English at Cameron University, Lawton, OK.

Tyrrell, S. M. (October 2018) "CLT Roundtable-Creative Innovations: Transforming Educational Culture by Implementing Creativity Technology and Creative Thinking Strategies." Roundtable at national annual conference of the Association for Educational Communications and Technology. Kansas City, MO.

Tyrrell, S. M. (October 2017) "Creative innovations: Using creativity research to transform the classroom." Presentation at annual Rocky Mountain Educational Research Association, Lawton, OK

Tyrrell, S. M. (September 2017). "Engaging gifted learners." Professional Development for Lawton Public Schools. Lawton, OK.

Tyrrell, S. M. (April 2015). "Finding new life in an era of standardization." Presentation at annual spring state conference of Oklahoma Council of Teachers of English, Oklahoma City, OK.

Tyrrell, S. M. (April 2014). "Dystopian dilemmas: Teaching critical thinking and writing with dystopian Novels." Presentation at annual spring state conference of Oklahoma Council of Teachers of English, Oklahoma City, OK.

Tyrrell, S. M. (September 2013). "Applying creativity research to the mentoring process." Presentation at annual fall state conference of Oklahoma Council of Teachers of English, Bethany, OK.

Tyrrell, S. M. (November 2011). "Using rubrics in the classroom." Presentation at Annual Professional Development Workshop, Gadsden State Community College in Gadsden, AL.

Tyrrell, S. M. (January 2010). “Dabrowski’s overexcitabilities and theory of Positive Disintegration.” Professional development for elementary teachers. The Daniel Academy, Atlanta, GA.

Tyrrell, S. M. (January 2010). “The new Bloom in the classroom.” Professional development for elementary teachers. The Daniel Academy, Atlanta, GA.

Tyrrell, S. M. (November 2008). “Teaching English language arts at gifted levels in the TAKS Era.” Presentation at Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented Annual Professional Development Conference in Dallas, TX.

Other Publications

Tyrrell, S.M. (February 2022). Dance, ballerina, dance. *580 Monthly*, 4(1), 12-15.

Tyrrell, S.M. (December 2021). A retro revolution: Local brings love of vintage history to life. *580 Monthly*, 3(11), 12-15.

Tyrrell, S.M. (November 2021). The steam engine of STEM education: Local STEM teacher never stops learning or teaching. *580 Monthly*, 3(10), 28-31.

Tyrrell, S.M. (October 2021). As wise as 7 little owls: An outlet for relief becomes a recipe for success. *580 Monthly*, 3(9), 12-15.

Tyrrell, S.M. (2014). “Away in a manger.” *It’s About Living*. Durham. 2014.

Tyrrell, S.M. (2010). “Parent corner.” Alabama Association for Gifted Children.

Tyrrell, S.M. (1997). *Four Letter Words*. Theatrical Script. (Produced on stage, unpublished in North Hollywood, CA)

Los Angeles Times. Various articles as freelance writer, clips available upon request.

Gene Bua’s Acting for Life (professional acting school in Burbank, CA). Author of multiple scenes for the school (paid professional work)

Endowed Lectureships

- 2019-2021- Three-time recipient of the Helen C. Schutz Endowed Lectureship in English (\$3500) Cameron University

Recent Honors/Awards

- 2022- Nominee for Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching and Innovation
- 2021- Nominee for Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching and Innovation
- 2018- Recipient of Outstanding Faculty Award from Student Support Services

Professional Affiliations/Certifications

- Middle Eastern Studies Association (2023-present)
- Pacific and Ancient Modern Language Association (2019- present)
- Sigma Tau Delta (International Honor Society for English)
- Freelancers' Union (present)
- 2020-2021- Appointed by State Superintendent of Education as sole university-level member of the "ELA Executive Committee" to rewrite standards for the state of Oklahoma (approved by Oklahoma State Legislature and in effect since Fall 2021)
- American Association of University Professors (since 2020)
- Phi Kappa Phi (Inducted, Texas A&M, 2008)
- Oklahoma Council of Teachers of English
- Association for Educational Communications and Technology (2018-2019)
- Rocky Mountain Educational Research Association (2017-2018)
- National Council of Teachers of English (2013-2015)
- Oklahoma Association of Gifted, Creative and Talented (2014-2016)
- Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented (2008-2013)
- Alabama Association for Gifted Children (2009-2010)
- Educational Psychology Student Organization (Texas A&M University, 2007-2008)