

Amanda Gardner, Ph.D.

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education

Doctor of Philosophy in Curriculum and Teaching. Baylor University. August 2022.

- Dissertation: *An Exploratory Case Study on the Pedagogical Possibilities of Educational Cinematic Virtual Reality in High School English Classes.*

Master of Arts in English. California State University, Sacramento. May 2001.

- Thesis: *White Blooms: The Essence of Emily Dickinson's Fascicles.*

Bachelor of Arts in English. Latin Minor. Cum Laude. California State University, Sacramento. 1994.

research interests

Educational Cinematic Virtual Reality Creation & Production

- Implications for secondary teaching and learning
- Applications for the secondary education humanities classes
- Investigation into how to make the most effective CVR learning experience with technology available

Multiple Literacy Pedagogy in Secondary Classrooms

- Assessment of how multiple literacies are currently being taught in secondary schools
- Creation of, if needed, a primer for secondary teachers of each subject on how to analyze, and subsequently teach their students how to analyze, different modalities prominent in their field

Teacher Lore

- Capturing of late 20th – early 21st Century teacher lore for subsequent generations of learners and educators
- Examining how that lore shapes teacher practice and societal perceptions

professional credentials

Nevada Professional Secondary English Credential. Expires 2033.

California Single Subject Teaching Credential. Expires 2026.

professional history

10/22 – present	High School Librarian. Clark County School District (CCSD).
06/21 – 02/2022	Paralegal Case Manager. HMS Law, remote.
11/19 – present	Educational CVR, LLC Founder. Waco, Texas.
08/18 – 08/2021	Substitute Teacher. Waco Independent School District (Waco ISD).
01/19 – 08/2019	Middle School Full Time English Faculty. Waco ISD.
08/16 – 12/2018	Teacher of Record. Baylor University.
08/15 – 12/2019	Graduate Assistant. Baylor University.
08/95 – 08/2015	High School Full Time English Faculty. Nevada and California.

- 08/05 – 05/2013** **Adjunct English Faculty.** College of Southern Nevada & University of Las Vegas, Nevada.
- 08/01 – 06/2002** **Overseas Full Time High School English Faculty.** Cairo, Egypt.

education courses taught

- TED 2340** **Teaching in Secondary Schools.** Baylor University. Fall 2018.
- TED 2381** **American Educational Thought.** Baylor University. Spring 2018 & Fall 2017.
- LS 4320** **Young Adult (Young People's) Literature.** Baylor University. Spring 2017.
- TED 3396** **Secondary English Language Arts Practicum Part I.** Baylor University. Fall 2016.

education courses assisted

- TED 3380** **Social Issues in Education.** Baylor University. Fall 2019 & Spring 2017.
- FDM 4381** **Cutting Edge Technology.** Baylor University. Spring 2018.
- TED 3380** **Social Issues in Education.** Baylor University. Fall 2019 & Spring 2017.
- EDU 5313** **Media Literacy Across the Curriculum.** Baylor University. Fall 2017.
- EDC 6355** **Concepts of Teaching.** Baylor University. Fall 2017.
- TED 3396** **Secondary Teaching Associate Practicum Part II.** Baylor University. Spring 2016.
- TED 3346** **Secondary Reading.** Baylor University. Spring 2016.
- TED 3397** **Secondary English Language Arts Practicum Part II.** Baylor University. Spring 2017.

select english courses taught

- ENG 100** **Composition I-A (5 credits).** College of Southern Nevada. Spring 2012.
- ENG 102** **Research and Composition.** College of Southern Nevada. Fall 2011.
- ENG 092** **College Prep English I (5 credits).** College of Southern Nevada. Spring 2011.
- READ 95** **Reading and Improvement (3 credits).** College of Southern Nevada. Spring 2010.
- ENG E/F** **College Composition (3 Credits)** University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Fall 2009.
- ENG 098** **Remedial English (3 Credits).** University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Fall 2005.

current projects

Eldorado High School Library Revitalization - 2022 – present. Phase I.

- Evaluate the facility and the collection for 21st century standards.
- Transform current library facility into an active Sundevils Learning Commons (SLC).
- Support administration, faculty, and students through acquisition, collaboration, and teaching.

Voices from the Classroom: Teachers on Teaching (working title) - 2022 – present. Solicitation phase.

- Collection of essays on a day in the life of K-12 public school teachers.
- Will highlight teacher experiences in their profession and thoughts for its improvement.
- Curated for use in teacher education programs, hoping to provide a holistic look at current education.

I Choose Just a Crown - 2018 – present. Pre-production.

- 6 scene, 20-minute educational CVR experience on Emily Dickinson.
- Highlights Emily's wit, intelligence, contrived reclusiveness, and humanity.
- Designed to be filmed at The Evergreens and The Homestead in cooperation with the Dickinson Trust.

Quoth the Raven: Evermore! - 2019 – present. In development.

- 9 scene, 25-minute educational CVR experience on Edgar A. Poe.
- Emphasizes Poe's poetry, his life, and his invention – the short story.
- A hybrid CVR experience requiring on-location filming and pure digital creation.

past projects

How Do We Love Thee? 2017 – 2021.

- Prototype curriculum created and developed during doctoral studies.
- 2 scene, 26-minute educational CVR experience on Elizabeth Barrett Browning.
- Filmed on location in the Armstrong Browning Library with permission of the library.

service to professional community

The English Journal Article Reviewer. 05/2019 – present.

- Requested by co-editor to review article submissions that align with my research interests and teaching experiences

TAIR Committee Member, Texas Association of Literacy Educators (TALE), 2019 – present.

- Assist in reviewing and choosing candidates for the annual TAIR scholarship.

Secretary Texas Association for the Improvement of Reading (TAIR), 2016 - 2019.

- Took and maintained official records of TAIR Board Meetings
- Supported president during meetings and in the preparation for the organization's folding due to redundancy created by technology
- Participated in the restructuring of TAIR in order to merge with Texas Association of Literacy Educators (TALE) and continue in name as a subcommittee

Founder, Educational CVR, LLC, 2019 – present.

- Conceived of applications for cinematic virtual reality to literature pedagogy
- Coordinated interdepartmental collaboration in order to produce the short eduCVR experience

Student Teacher Mentor. CCSD via UNLV, NSC, and ARL Program. 2008 – 2015.

- Guided final semester student teachers in lesson planning, curriculum instruction, classroom discipline, common core implementation, and CCSD record keeping activities
- Assisted student teachers in assessing data from standardized and course specific exams in order to adjust instruction to meet the needs of students
- Allowed prospective teachers to observe classroom workings and share knowledge of best teaching strategies and practices necessary to successfully meet district requirements for academic rigor and record keeping

Nevada Department of Education Reading Standards, Assessment & Standards Service. 2011.

- Evaluated, assessed, and revised standards of Nevada State Reading exam
- Requested to assist in 2011 state Content Review for English Language Arts

Common Core Curriculum Writer. CCSD RPDP English Offerings at UNLV. 2011.

- Determined how best to create Common Core English Language Arts anchor text units that emphasize anchor strands while teaching secondary English teachers to develop effective Common Core lessons

- Effectively collaborated with district personnel and English colleagues to meet UNLV requirements for approval of college credit for Common Core training

IDMS Question Writer, Clark County School District (CCSD). 2011-2012.

- One of four members at the high school level chosen to create strand specific questions for the district high school reading question bank

Nevada Department of Foreign Language Latin Review Committee Member, CCSD. 2003-2004.

- As part of a multiple stakeholder committee, reviewed and discussed Latin curricular materials for district wide adoption

service to school community

Vice President Golden Key International Society, Baylor University Chapter. 2018 – 2019.

- Recruited by president to help revitalize the stagnant chapter
- Provided support to the president and mentored young officers in their roles

Freedom School Reader and ABL Visit Photographer. Waco, Texas. Summer 2019.

- Invited to prepare poetry reading for Freedom School participants
- Snapped informal photographs for Freedom School and Armstrong Browning Library

Mathematics Teacher Academy Photographer. Baylor University. June 2018 & 2019.

- Charged with capturing images and video for publication and archival use

University of Young People Instructor. Baylor University. Summer Session 2018.

- Created and taught media literacy & poetry course for GT middle school students
- Coached students in their explorations of how the medium used impacts the messages they create and receive

I-Engage Summer Graduate Assistant, Baylor University. 2016-2017.

- Provided personal assistance to program coordinators in order to provide positive student outcomes
- Assisted undergraduate group leaders as needed so they could effectively facilitate student activities

Reading and Writing Proficiency Tutor. Sierra Vista High School. 2011 – 2015.

- Translated strategic test-taking training to students in need of additional support
- Assessed student testing data to help approaching standards test takers focus on enhancing their skills in order to augment their chances at meeting proficiency standards

Key Club Founder and Faculty Advisor. Liberty High School. 2002-2004.

- Responsible for seeking out Kiwanis support to sponsor the founding chapter for the Liberty High School Key Club and for training inaugural officers
- Orientated and trained five students as program officers for Key Club International in the roles of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Publicity Coordinator. Officers then successfully ran the club for the following four years including at the district level, liaising with California and Hawaii clubs

Ashland Trip Coordinator and Instructor. Oak Ridge High School. 1996 – 1998.

- Wrote curriculum for an after school English elective class that was district approved for one semester of English credit
- Liaison with the Oregon Shakespeare Festival (OSF) and University of Southern Oregon, Ashland, to coordinate reservations for campus accommodations, cafeteria meals, theatre classes facilitated by OSF actors, and the studied plays

publications

Rogers, D. & Gardner, A. (2020). Coding as a platform for mathematics and productive struggle. *Texas Mathematics Teacher*, 66(1), 19-22.

Gardner, A. (2019). Graphic possibilities in an era of fake news. *The English Journal*, 108(5), 54-60.

Gardner, A. & Ditmore, E. (2018). Aesthetic approaches for teaching writing to upper-elementary students. In B. Purdum-Cassidy & L. Scott (Eds.), *Teaching literacy in urban schools: Lessons from the field*, (63-76). Lanham, MD: Rowan & Littlefield.

invited presentations

2019. **Browning Day, Armstrong Browning Library.** Baylor University. Waco, TX.

- **Presentation:** Celebrating Elizabeth Barrett Browning through Cinematic Virtual Reality
- **Panel Discussion** with Gabe Lipton, Director; Marcos Luna Hoyas, Cinematographer; Victor Larsen, Set Designer; Bonnie Bogovitch, Spatial Audio Post; and Joshua Conaster, VR Special Effects

2019. **CATE. California Association of Teachers of English.** San Francisco, CA.

- **Presentation:** Graphic novels: Incorporating multimodal reading into the high school classroom
- **Presentation:** Cinematic Virtual Reality (CVR) in the high school English classroom – Lessons learned from “How Do We Love Thee?”

conference presentations

2023. **SWPACA. Southwest Popular/American Culture Association.** Albuquerque, NM.

- **Panel Presentation.** Meeting Elizabeth Barrett Browning: The Pedagogical Possibilities of Cinematic Virtual Reality for Literary Study.

2022. **SWPACA. Southwest Popular/American Culture Association.** Albuquerque, NM. Withdrawn.

- **Experience Premiere.** Step into 1885 & Experience the Immersive Learning of How Do We Love Thee?

2022. **ALA LibLearnX American Library Association Library Learning Experience.** Remote.

- **Presentation.** When XR and Libraries Collide with Laura French, Assistant Librarian.

2020. **SWPACA. Southwest Popular/American Culture Association.** Albuquerque, NM.

- **Paper Presentation.** Introducing Elizabeth Barrett Browning – Using Cinematic Virtual Reality as literature pedagogy with Marcos Luna Hoyas

2019. **TALE. Texas Association of Literacy Educators.** Waco, TX.

- **Presentation.** Virtual Reality (VR) & Cinematic Virtual Reality (CVR) – A Primer.

2019. **MTA. Mathematics Teacher Academy.** Waco, TX.

- **Workshop.** Dr. Doug Rogers & Amanda Gardner. “I was learning math?” Coding and Mathematical Conversations.

2018. **AATC. American Association of Teaching & Curriculum.** Dallas, TX.

- **Issues & Ideas Session.** Conceiving English Curriculum through Immersive Cinematic Virtual Reality: A Presentation of Methodology and Expected Findings.

2018. **ATE. Association of Teacher Educators.** Las Vegas, NV.

- **Symposium Paper.** Aesthetic Approaches for Teaching Writing to Upper Elementary Students. **Amanda Gardner** & Evan Ditmore.
- 2017. SWPACA. Southwest Popular/American Cultural Association.** Albuquerque, NM.
- **Panel Presentation.** Distinguishing between Propaganda and Persuasion: Expanding Rhetoric Through Graphic Novels. **Amanda Gardner** & Gretchen Schwarz.
- 2017. TALE. Texas Association for Literacy Education.** Corpus Christie, TX.
- **Workshop.** Distinguishing between Propaganda and Persuasion: Recovering Rhetoric through Graphic Novels. **Amanda Gardner** & Gretchen Schwarz.
- 2016. AATC. American Association for Teaching and Curriculum.** Grand Rapids, MI.
- **Paper.** From the Margin: Nine Career High School Teachers’ Voices on Their Craft Before and After High Stakes Testing.”
- 2016. TXNAME. Texas Chapter of National Association for Multicultural Education.** Fort Worth, TX.
- **Presentation.** Immigration Nation: Cultural Change Over Time in One Great State. Karen LeCompte, Brooke Blevins, & **Amanda Gardner**.
- 2016. EQRC. Ethnographic and Qualitative Research Conference.** Las Vegas, NV.
- **Poster.** From the Margin: A Phenomenological Case Study of Public High School Teaching Before and After Implementation of High-Stakes Testing.

selected professional affiliations

American Association for Teaching & Curriculum, Member. 2016 – present.

Texas Association for Literacy Education, Member 2016 – present.

- Founding member of TAIR Committee, 2019

Kappa Delta Phi International Honor Society in Education, Member 2016 – present.

- Secretary (2018-2019) and Membership Chair (2017-2018)

Texas Association for the Improvement of Reading Member 2015 – 2019.

- Secretary (2016 - 2019)

Emily Dickinson International Society, Member. 2001 - present.

- One of six Dickinson scholars chosen by Susan Juhasz to interpret select Dickinson poems for 2005 University of Maryland, College Park meeting

National Council for Teachers of English, Member. 1995 – 2021.

select awards

Fulbright Memorial Fund Scholarship. Okayama & Tokyo. November 1997.

- One of 7,200 total American educators to be a guest of the Japanese government in the advancement of peace between our two nations
- Returned with a deeper understanding of the country and its educational practices, successfully adapting some of their strategies for the American classroom in promotion of community

Paul Douglas Teaching Scholarship. California. 1992-1994.

Most Creative Lesson Plans. California State University, Sacramento Teacher Credentialing Program, 1995.

media section

Celebrating Elizabeth Barrett Browning Through Cinematic Virtual Reality. April 2019. Baylor Libraries Event Announcement & Browning Day Video.

Baylor Virtual Reality Project Puts Viewers in Victorian Poets' Living Room. 11 April 2019. *Waco Tribune* front page.

How Do We Love Thee? A VR Experience. Spring 2018. A Behind the Scenes Graduate Project Produced by Trent Logan for FDM graduate course.