

Sierra Mendez

she/her/hers

(210) 846-6314 | sierra.mendez@utexas.edu

Austin, Texas 78757

academic employment

Postdoctoral Lecturer (2022-2023)

University of Texas at Austin

Department of English

Department of Rhetoric & Writing

Graduate Student Lecturer (2017-2021)

University of Texas at Austin

Department of Rhetoric & Writing

Assistant Director (2018-2020)

University of Texas at Austin

Digital Writing & Research Lab

education

Ph.D. in English with an emphasis in Rhetoric & Composition (August 2022)

University of Texas at Austin

Committee: Diane Davis, Karma Chavez, Rasha Diab, Davida Charney, and Casey Boyle

Dissertation: “With love from San Antonio: Souvenir tourism postcards and colonized/ing reproductions of Mexicans”

M.A. in Design with an emphasis on Innovation Studies (May 2012)

University of North Texas

Practicum: “Intimidation & empowerment: Designing digital education resources for underserved mothers”

Certificate: Narrative Journalism

B.A. in English Language & Literature (May 2009)

Texas A&M University at College Station

publications

“With love from San Antonio: Settler souvenir postals and mass-(re)productions of ‘Mexicans.’”

Provisionally Accepted to Rhetoric Society Quarterly.

“Engulfing rationalities: Colonial imaginaries and enthymematic racial scripts.” Work in progress.

Will be submitted to the Journal for the History of Rhetoric.

funded projects and installations

“Becoming San Antonio” installation (Fall 2017-Spring 2018). Funded by the **San Antonio Public Library**. Recognized by “Project 300,” San Antonio’s Tricentennial Celebration

“First peoples” storytelling project and installation at Mission Branch Library and the Kampmann Library Portal (Summer 2015-Spring 2016). Funded by the **San Antonio Public Library**.

“Foreigners in their own land: The odyssey of Texas’ Native Indians and the Tejano Legacy” community speaker project and event (April 2016). Funded by the **American Library**

- Association, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the San Antonio Public Library.**
- “Latino Americans: 500 Years of History” community film series (Fall 2015-Spring 2016). Funded by the **American Library Association, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the San Antonio Public Library.**
- “Narrar una historia” community storytelling project and event (October 2015). Funded by the **American Library Association, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the San Antonio Public Library.**
- “Buffalo Soldiers” installation (Summer-Spring 2015). Kampmann Library Portal at the Briscoe Western Art Museum. Funded by the **San Antonio Public Library and the Briscoe Western Art Museum.** Recognized by Senator José Menendez, District 26, on behalf of the State of Texas.

presentations and professionalization

invited lectures and workshops

- “Changing the Times, Terms, and Traditions of the Rhetorical Archive” (May 2022). **Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference** (Baltimore, MD). Panelist with Romeo García, Courtney Rivard, and Jon Stone.
- “Haunt/ed/ing Literacies and the Role of Unsettling Archival Research” (March 2022). **Conference on College Composition & Communication** (virtual). Panelist with Romeo García, Gesa Kirsch, and Jessica Pauszek.
- “Labor Contract Grading: Deconstructing Classroom Hierarchies” (November 2021). **Supervised Teaching in Rhetoric & Writing.** Invited to speak by Rasha Diab and Clay Spinuzzi.
- “Inheriting What Remains” (September 2020). **American Association of University Women – Austin.** Invited to speak by Jean Bessent.
- “Thinkertoys Creative Prewriting” (July 2020). **Bedford New Scholars Summit Week** (Boston, MA). *Moved online due to COVID-19 pandemic.*
- “With Love from San Antonio: Vintage Postcards and Disappearing Natives” (May 2020). **Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference** (Seattle, WA). *Cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic.*
- “Making Places Common: Sites of Public Memory and Rhetorical Invention” (March 2020). **Conference on College Composition & Communication.** *Cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic.*
- “One Slide, One Story” (January 2017 and January 2020). **Three Minute Thesis Competition.** Invited to speak by Patricia Roberts-Miler.
- “Teaching Infographics to a Writing Class” (November 2017 and November 2019). 398T: **Supervised Teaching in Rhetoric & Writing.** Invited to speak by Clay Spinuzzi.
- “Remembering Publics: Exhibits Deconstructing Narrative” (November 2018). **Cultural Rhetorics Conference** at Michigan State University.
- “Visualizing Sound” (July 2018). “Supersonic” **Digital Field Methods Institute** at the University of Texas at Austin.
- “Muertos Fest at La Villita: San Antonio’s Haunted Hospitality” (June 2017). **Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference** (Minneapolis, MN).
- “Lesson Plan: Infographics as Visual Stories” (May 2017). **Digital Writing & Research Lab Pedagogy Showcase.** Invited to speak by Diane Davis and Will Burdette.
- “Lesson Plan: Collaborative Mindmapping in the Classroom” (December 2016). **Digital Writing & Research Lab Pedagogy Showcase.** Invited to speak by Diane Davis and Will Burdette.

conference organization

Institute Co-organizer, “**Sensing**” **Digital Fields Methods Institute** (Summer 2019). University of Texas at Austin. Co-lead with Casey Boyle, Will Burdette, Sarah Welsh, Matthew Breece, and Cindy Holland-Rhodes.

Institute Co-organizer, “**Supersonic**” **Digital Fields Methods Institute** (Summer 2018). University of Texas at Austin. Co-lead with Casey Boyle, Will Burdette, Sarah Welsh, Amy Tuttle, and Jake Cowan.

workshops and institutes

“**Decoloniality: Forum on the Future**” (October 2021). University of Utah.

“**The Question of Decoloniality**” (June 2021). Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Institute.

“**Bordering Rhetorics**” (June 2021). Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Institute.

university teaching experience

instructor

Department of English, University of Texas at Austin

Postdoctoral Instructor (2022-2023)

ENGL 314: Banned Books and Novel Ideas (Fall 2022)

ENGL 314/MAS 314: Mexican American Literature and Culture (scheduled for Spring 2023)

ENGL 321: Shakespeare (Fall 2022)

ENGL 343/MAS 343: Latinx Short Story (scheduled for Spring 2023)

Department of Rhetoric & Writing, University of Texas at Austin

Postdoctoral Instructor (2022-2023)

RHE 306: Introduction to Rhetoric & Writing (Fall 2022-Spring 2023)

Department of Rhetoric & Writing, University of Texas at Austin

Graduate Student Instructor (2017-2021)

RHE 306: Introduction to Rhetoric & Writing (Fall 2017-Spring 2018)

RHE: 309: Rhetoric of Texas (Fall 2019, Spring 2020 virtual, Spring 2021 virtual)

RHE 315: Introduction to Visual Rhetoric (Fall 2020 virtual)

teaching assistant

Department of English, University of Texas at Austin (Summer 2022 virtual)

ENGL 316: World Literature. Supervised by Lars Hinrichs.

Department of Visual Arts & Design, University of North Texas (Fall 2011-Spring 2012)

AEAH 4842: History of Communication Design. Supervised by Michael Gibson.

undergraduate writing assistant

University Writing Center, Texas A&M University at College Station (2007-2009)

AERO 307: Aerospace Engineering Laboratory. Supervised by Valerie Balester.

POSC 406: Poultry Further Processing. Supervised by Valerie Balester.

VIST 235: Theory and Practice in Visualization. Supervised by Valerie Balester.

grants, awards, and distinctions

national

Recipient. **American Society for the History of Rhetoric Dissertation Award** (Fall 2022).

Nominated by Davida Charney
Recipient. **American Association for University Women Research Grant** (Fall 2020-Spring 2021)

Recipient. **Bedford/St. Martin's Summer Scholar**. Nominated by Diane Davis.

Recipient. **American Library Association** and the **National Endowment for the Arts' "Latino Americans: 500 Years of History" Community Programming Grant** (Summer 2015-Summer 2016). Organized and applied with Candelaria Mendoza on behalf of the San Antonio Public Library.

First Prize. **Mayborn Literary Nonfiction Conference Reported Narrative Competition** (Summer 2012).

institutional

Thematic Fellowship (Fall 2021-2022). University of Texas' College of Liberal Arts.

E. Bagby Atwood Memorial Graduate Scholarship (Summer 2021). University of Texas' Department of English.

Summer Research Stipend (Summer 2020). University of Texas' Department of Rhetoric & Writing.

Flash Research Fellowship (Spring 2019). University of Texas' Digital Writing & Research Lab.

Summer Research Stipend (Summer 2017). University of Texas' Department of Rhetoric & Writing.

Academic Excellence Full Tuition Scholarship. University of North Texas' College of Visual Arts & Design (Fall 2011-Spring 2012).

Jean Andrews Scholarship. University of North Texas' College of Visual Arts & Design (Fall 2010-Spring 2011).

CB Recognition Scholarship (Fall 2005-Spring 2009). Texas A&M University.

service

pedagogical

Grader (2021-2022). **OnRamps**. University of Texas at Austin.

Producer (Summer 2020). **Instructor Materials/Resources for Virtual Writing Classrooms during COVID-19**. Digital Writing & Research Lab and the Department of Rhetoric & Writing.

Producer (Summer 2020). **Instructor Materials/Resources for Labor Contract Grading**. Department of Rhetoric & Writing.

First Year Forum (2021). Department of Rhetoric & Writing. University of Texas at Austin.

Host Instructor (2019). Writing Bridge, Pre-College Academic Readiness Program. University of Texas at Austin.

Lower Division Curriculum Committee (2018-2019). Department of Rhetoric & Writing. University of Texas at Austin.

Producer (Fall 2016-Spring 2017). **Digital Writing Classroom Workshops**. Digital Writing & Research Lab.

Producer (Fall 2016-2017). **Digital Writing Classroom Lesson Plans**. Digital Writing & Research Lab.

research

Graduate Research Assistant (Summer 2022). **Digital Writing & Research Lab**, University of Texas at Austin. Supervised by Casey Boyle.

Graduate Research Assistant (2016-2017). **Digital Writing & Research Lab**, University of Texas at Austin. Supervised by Casey Boyle.
Transcriber (Spring-Summer 2014). **Mission Branch Library**. Supervised by Oscar Gonzalez.
Research Assistant (2011-2012). “KERA Kids & Family Website Project.” **Design Research Center, University of North Texas and PBS-KERA**.
Research Assistant (2011-2012). “Downtown Dallas’ West End Revitalization Project.” **Design Research Center, University of North Texas**.

editorial

Reviewer/Editor (Fall 2020). *Everything’s an Argument* Ninth Edition. Bedford New Scholars Program.
Reviewer/Editor (Fall 2020). *Writer/Designer: A Guide to Making Multimodal Projects* Second Edition. Bedford New Scholars Program.
Digital Producer/Editor (Summer 2020). *Controversies: An Open-Source Guide to Public Discourse*. Supervised by Marc Longaker.
Digital Producer/Assistant Editor (2017-2018). “Pixelating the Self: Digital Feminist Memoirs.” *Intermezzo by Enculturation*. Supervised by Jim Brown.
Digital Producer/Copywriter (2008-2009). *Undergraduate Writing and Speaking Guides*. University Writing Center. Texas A&M University at College Station. Supervised by Valerie Balester.

design

Media Curator (Summer 2022). Administrative Archive. Digital Writing & Research Lab.
Website Designer (Summer 2020). Digital Writing & Research Lab.
Event Marketing/Communications (2018-2020). Department of Rhetoric & Writing. University of Texas at Austin.
Website Designer (Fall 2019). Longhorn Heath Solutions.
Logo Design (Fall 2019). “Hospitality” Rhetoric Society of America Biennial Conference.
Logo Design (Summer 2018). Digital Field Methods Institute.
Digital Producer/Designer (Fall 2017-Summer 2018). “Talk: English Department Newsletter.” Supervised by Elizabeth Cullingford.
Social Media Coordinator (Fall 2017- Summer 2018). Department of English. University of Texas at Austin. Supervised by Lars Hinrichs.

community

Communication Design (Summer-Fall 2020). **League of Women Voters – Austin**.
Awareness Campaign (Spring - Summer 2020). **Witnessing Texas Detention**.

related work experience

Digital Services Librarian and Education Resources Coordinator (Summer 2013-Summer 2016). San Antonio Public Library. Supervised by Ignacio Albarrón and Rolf Laun.
Communications Coordinator (Summer 2012-Summer 2013). College of Arts & Sciences. University of North Texas.
Resource & Communications Coordinator (Summer 2009-Summer 2010). University Writing Center. Texas A&M University at College Station.

