

## **Alicia A. Thomas, Ph.D.**

Instructor of Horticulture, ° Department of Plant and Soil Sciences  
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### **EDUCATION**

- January 2019- December 2023    PhD, Plant and Soil Science, *Texas Tech University*  
Dissertation Topic: Horticultural Therapy as a Tool to Support the Sustainable-Self and Improve Military Service Members' Reintegration  
Advisor: Dr. Catherine Simpson
- August 2014- December 2017    M.S., Horticulture, *Texas Tech University*  
Thesis: A multivariate analysis of pollinator habitat and bee communities across urban yards in a semiarid environment  
Advisor: Dr. Cynthia McKenney
- August 2011- May 2014    B.A., Biology, *Lubbock Christian University*  
Undergrad Research: Use of natural plant derived phytochemicals against Alzheimer's disease  
Advisor: Dr. Kirt Martin
- August 2009- May 2011    Biology Transfer, *South Plains College*

### **TEACHING/PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- January 2023- Present    Assistant Professor of Practice/Advisor, *Texas Tech University*  
-PSS 1411 Principles of Horticulture – In-person and Online  
-PSS 2313 Herbaceous Plant Materials  
-Advise up to 75 PSS students  
Manage/coordinate up to 15 labs and instruct teach assistants. Grading and Correspondence.
- January 2021- Present    Senior Lecturer of Horticulture, *Texas Tech University*  
-PSS 1411 Principles of Horticulture – In-person and Online  
-PSS 2313 Herbaceous Plant Materials  
Manage/coordinate up to 15 labs and instruct teach assistants. Grading and Correspondence.

January 2018- December 2020	<p>Instructor of Horticulture, <i>Texas Tech University</i></p> <p>-PSS 1411 Principles of Horticulture Labs</p> <p>-PSS 4313 Management of Horticultural Enterprises.</p> <p>-PSS 2313 Herbaceous Plant Materials</p> <p>Manage up to 8 labs of College age students. Grading and Correspondence. Lecture business course.</p>
August 2014- December 2017	<p>Teaching/Research Assistant, <i>Texas Tech University</i></p> <p>-Teach 1411 Horticulture Labs. Help conduct wildflower research.</p>
January 2014- January 2015	<p>Greenhouse attendant, <i>Lubbock Christian University</i></p> <p>-Plant, water and maintain an assortment of plants in greenhouse.</p>
January 2012- May 2014	<p>Chemistry Teaching Assistant/ Lab attendant, <i>Lubbock Christian University</i></p> <p>-Teaching assistant for General, Organic, Inorganic Chemistry labs and graded for each lab. Prepared the chemicals for each lab and cleaned and organized the stock room.</p>

January 2011- Biology/Chemistry Tutor, Lubbock  
 December -Helped prepare students for Biology and Chemistry course material as  
 2013 well as Exams.

### **PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

September 16th, 2023 Ag Week Congressional Luncheon, Lubbock, TX  
 Poster: Adapting Horticultural Therapy: The Benefits of an At-home Bonsai Kit for Military Service Members

August 4th, 2023 American Society of Horticultural Sciences (ASHS) 2023, Orlando, FL  
 Poster: Adapting Horticultural Therapy: The Benefits of an At-home Bonsai Kit for Military Service Members

August 3rd, 2023 American Society of Horticultural Sciences (ASHS) 2023, Orlando, FL  
 Scholars Ignite: Horticultural Therapy as a Tool to Support the Sustainable-Self in Military Service Member Reintegration

January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Lone Star Hort Forum (LSHF) 2023, *College Station, TX*  
 Oral Presentation: At-home Bonsai Kit: Providing Horticultural Therapy to Military Members in Isolation

October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Texas Tech University 3-minute Competition: *Lubbock, TX*  
 3-minute Thesis Presentation: At-home Horticultural Therapy Kits for Military Service Members' Mental Health Rehabilitation

September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022 CASNR First Annual Poster Competition, *Lubbock, TX*  
 Poster: An Evaluation of Military Service Member Preferences and Emotional Perceptions of Landscape Design Elements

August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 American Society of Horticultural Sciences (ASHS) 2022, *Chicago, IL*  
 Poster: Military branch does not affect military service member landscape element preferences or emotional perceptions

August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 American Society of Horticultural Sciences (ASHS) 2022, *Chicago, IL*  
 Oral Presentation: Cultivate to recuperate: Why military service members join plant-based jobs, fields of study and programs

July 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2022	American Society of Horticultural Sciences (ASHS) 2022, <i>Chicago, IL</i> Scholars Ignite 3-minute Presentation: At-home Horticultural Therapy Kits for Military Service Members' Mental Health Rehabilitation
February 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Southern Region American Society of Horticultural Sciences (SR-ASHS) 2022, <i>New Orleans, LA</i> Poster: Veteran Emotional Perceptions and Preferences of Landscape Design Elements
January 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2022	Lone Star Hort Forum (LSHF) 2022, <i>College Station, TX</i> Oral Presentation: Evaluating Landscape Design Elements for Veteran-based Therapeutic Horticulture
August 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	American Society of Horticultural Sciences (ASHS), Virtual Poster Presentation: The Effect of Plant and Soil Science Jobs on Military Veteran Mental and Physical Well-being
August 17, 2018	Texas Nursery and Landscape Association (TNLA) Expo, <i>San Antonio, TX</i> Oral Presentation: Urban Bees: An Insider's Look
August 12, 2016	American Society for Horticultural Sciences (ASHS) Conference, <i>Atlanta, GA</i> Oral Presentation: Diversity of Bees Across Different Urban Lawn Types in Lubbock, TX
April 16, 2016	Graduate Student Research Poster Competition, Texas Tech University, <i>Lubbock, TX</i>  Poster: Local and landscape level relationships of habitat type and insect pollinator communities in an urban center on the Southern High Plains (Texas, USA)
November 17, 2015	Entomological Society of America (ESA) Conference, <i>Minneapolis, MN</i>  Poster: Local and landscape level relationships of habitat type and insect pollinator communities in an urban center on the Southern High Plains (Texas, USA)

### **LOCAL/COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS**

March 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	STEM K-12 Composting Presentation, <i>Lubbock, TX</i>
October 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	Lubbock Master Gardeners Intern Class, <i>Lubbock, TX</i> Oral Presentation: Horticultural Therapy: A Complementary Alternative Therapy
September 11, 2018	Master Gardeners of Lubbock Monthly Meeting, <i>Lubbock, TX</i> Oral Presentation: A multivariate analysis of urban bee populations in Lubbock, TX
June 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	Arboretum Talks, <i>Lubbock, TX</i> Oral Presentation: Urban Pollinator Inclusion
May 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2017	Master Gardeners of Lubbock Monthly Meeting, <i>Lubbock, TX</i> Oral Presentation Topic: Urban Pollinators of Lubbock

### **GRANTS:**

<b>Received Date</b>	<b>Title of Grant</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Percent Contribution</b>
April 2021	CASNR Mini Teaching Grant	\$2000	100%
May 2020, 2019	Wildflower Selection and Enhancement Program	\$5,176	15%

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

December 2021	Horticultural Therapy Certificate Holder
May 2021	Horticultural Therapy: Management Certification
March 2021	Horticultural Therapy: Techniques Certification
June 2020	Qualtrics survey update webinar
June 2020	TTU Curriculum Training
May 2020-present	OLC Online Science Labs Mastery Series certification
February 2020	Extreme PowerPoint TLPDC Workshop

November 2019	Horticultural Therapy: Fundamentals Certification
August 2019	CITI IRB training
January 2019	Greenzone: Military Veteran Advising Workshop
October 2014	Research Poster, Research Presentation TLPDC Workshop
January 2012,2013,2014	Chemistry Lab Management training

### **SERVICE**

April 2021-Present	Nursery FFA AREA 1 & 2 CDE's Coordinator
May 2020-Present	Committee member of PSS distance learning
September 2019-Present	Committee member Texas Tech horticultural greenhouse gardens
August 2015, 2016, 2017	Moderator for TNLA Expo
October 2014	Volunteer Lubbock arboretum cleanup
August 2014 – August 2017	Member of Texas Tech Horticulture Club
September 2012-November 2012	Dunbar Preparatory Academy teaching assistant

### **SKILLS**

Qualtrics survey software

Adobe Photoshop/Lightroom

Horticultural Plant installation/ Landscaping

PCORD V.7

SPSS V.25

SAS

Matterport Virtual Reality

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

August 2019 - American Horticultural Therapy Association  
Present

August 2017 - Texas Nursery Landscape Association  
Present

April 2016 - American Society for Horticultural Science  
Present

October 2015- Entomological Society of America ESA  
October 2016

## **Awards**

August 2023 ASHS Scholars Ignite 1<sup>st</sup> place Award

January 2023 Lonestar Hort Forum 2023 1<sup>st</sup> place PhD Award

August 2022 ASHS Scholars Ignite 1<sup>st</sup> place Award

August 2021 CASNR Advisor Award