

## Alicia A. Thomas, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Practice, ° Department of Plant and Soil Sciences  
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### EDUCATION

- January 2019- December 2023    PhD, Plant and Soil Science, *Texas Tech University* **GPA: 3.96**  
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* **GPA: 3.96**  
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* **GPA: 3.69**  
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* **GPA: 4.0**

### 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 – In-person and Online  
-Advise up to 75 PSS students  
Manage/coordinate up to 15 labs and instruct teaching 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- December 2013	<p>Biology/Chemistry Tutor, Lubbock</p> <p>-Helped prepare students for Biology and Chemistry course material as well as Exams.</p>

## **REFEREED PAPERS**

December 3, 2024	<p>Thomas, A.; Monsur, M.; Lindquist, C.S.; Montague, T.; Simpson, C.R. Impacts of Landscape Types and Flower Colors on the Emotional Perceptions of Military Service Members. <i>Land</i> <b>2024</b>, <i>13</i>, 2111. <a href="https://doi.org/10.3390/land13122111">https://doi.org/10.3390/land13122111</a></p>
May 11, 2024	<p>Thomas, A.; Monsur, M.; Lindquist, C.S.; Montague, T.; Simpson, C.R. Evaluation of Military Service Member Preferences of Landscape Design Elements in Therapeutic Gardens. <i>Land</i> <b>2024</b>, <i>13</i>, 658. <a href="https://doi.org/10.3390/land13050658">https://doi.org/10.3390/land13050658</a></p>

## **BOOK PUBLICATIONS**

August 15, 2024	<p>Thomas, A.; Baliga, V.; Plowman R.; McKenney, C.; Peffley, E. Practices and Techniques in Horticulture. <i>Kendall Hunt Publishing</i>. Ed. 8<sup>th</sup>. Dubuque, IA. 2024.</p>
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## **PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

- September 23, 2024 American Society of Horticultural Sciences (ASHS) 2024, Honolulu, HI  
**Oral Presentation:** Improving Military Community Reintegration: The effects of plant-related jobs on military service member mental and physical health
- February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Lubbock Christian University Chemistry Colloquium, Lubbock, TX  
**Oral Presentation: Microgreens and biofortification**
- September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Ag Week Congressional Luncheon, *Lubbock, TX*  
**Poster:** Adapting Horticultural Therapy: The Benefits of an At-home Bonsai Kit for Military Service Members
- August 4<sup>th</sup>, 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 American Society of Horticultural Sciences (ASHS) 2023, *Orlando, FL*  
**Scholars Ignite 3-minute Presentation:** 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> <b>Scholars Ignite 3-minute Presentation:</b> At-home Horticultural Therapy Kits for Military Service Members' Mental Health Rehabilitation
February 10th, 2022	Southern Region American Society of Horticultural Sciences (SR-ASHS) 2022, <i>New Orleans, LA</i> <b>Poster:</b> 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> <b>Oral Presentation:</b> Evaluating Landscape Design Elements for Veteran-based Therapeutic Horticulture
August 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	American Society of Horticultural Sciences (ASHS), Virtual <b>Poster Presentation:</b> 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> <b>Oral Presentation:</b> Urban Bees: An Insider's Look
August 12, 2016	American Society for Horticultural Sciences (ASHS) Conference, <i>Atlanta, GA</i> <b>Oral Presentation:</b> 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> <b>Poster:</b> 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> <b>Poster:</b> Local and landscape level relationships of habitat type and insect pollinator communities in an urban center on the Southern High Plains (Texas, USA)

#### **GRANTS:**

<b>Received Date</b>	<b>Title of Grant</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Percent Contribution</b>
September 2021	Graduate Research Grant	\$1000	100%
April 2021	CASNR Mini Teaching Grant	\$2000	100%

May 2020, 2019	Wildflower Selection and Enhancement Program	\$5,176	15%
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### **AWARDS**

August 2023	ASHS Scholars Ignite Competition	<b>1<sup>st</sup> place</b>
January 2023	LHF 2023 Oral Presentation Competition	<b>1<sup>st</sup> place</b>
August 2022	ASHS Scholars Ignite Competition	<b>1<sup>st</sup> place</b>
August 2021	CASNR Advisor Award	

### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

2023-2024	TTU David Koeppe Scholarship
	TTU Jones Part-time Graduate Scholarship
2022-2023	TTU D & LR Krieg Endow Ag Scholarship
	TTU Jones Part-time Graduate Scholarship
	Louise B. Belsterling Scholarship
2021-2022	TTU CH Foundation PS Scholarship
	TTU Dregne PSS AG Scholarship
	TTU Jones Part-time Graduate Scholarship
2020-2021	TTU Dow Agro Grad Fellowship Endowed Scholarship
	TTU Jones Part-time Graduate Scholarship
2019-2020	TTU Jones Part-time Graduate Scholarship
	TTU Triumph Seed Graduate Ag Scholarship

2018-2019                      TTU Dow Agro Grad Fellowship Endowed Scholarship

### **SERVICE**

October 2024 – Present    TTU Online Advisory Council – Davis College Representative

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

### **LOCAL/COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS**

March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023            STEM K-12 Composting Presentation, *Lubbock, TX*

October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021           Lubbock Master Gardeners Intern Class, *Lubbock, TX*  
Oral Presentation: Horticultural Therapy: A Complementary  
Alternative Therapy

September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018       Master Gardeners of Lubbock Monthly Meeting, *Lubbock, TX*  
Oral Presentation: A multivariate analysis of urban bee populations in  
Lubbock, TX

June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018              Arboretum Talks, *Lubbock, TX*  
Oral Presentation: Urban Pollinator Inclusion

May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017               Master Gardeners of Lubbock Monthly Meeting, *Lubbock, TX*  
Oral Presentation Topic: Urban Pollinators of Lubbock

**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 Curriculog 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

**SKILLS**

Qualtrics survey software  
Adobe Photoshop/Lightroom  
Horticultural Plant installation/ Landscaping  
PCORD V.7  
SPSS V.25  
SAS  
Matterport Virtual Reality

**MEMBERSHIPS**

August 2019 - Present	American Horticultural Therapy Association
August 2017 - Present	Texas Nursery Landscape Association

April 2016 – Present

American Society for Horticultural Science

October 2015-  
October 2016

Entomological Society of America ESA