

# Kirk Williams

## EDUCATION

### MS in Agronomy

1988

Oklahoma State University-Stillwater, OK

### BS in Crops

1986

Texas Tech University-Lubbock, TX

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Lecturer-Full Time

2023-Present

- Teach undergraduate courses as well as the online viticulture courses and four hands on vineyard courses every year.
- Started a new cohort of 21 viticulture certificate students in 2024.
- Coordinated registration with Continuing Education Department.
- Marketed programs to new students at meetings and through social media.
- Assisted managing Fredericksburg teaching vineyard by directing Technician.
- Trained two new technicians that maintain the Fredericksburg and FBRI vineyards.
- Raiders Uncorked Student Group Advisor

### Senior Teacher-Full Time

2014--2023

*Viticulture Certificate Program, Plant & Soil Science Dept., Texas Tech University*

- Teach five online viticulture courses and four hands on vineyard courses every year.
- Developed and taught twice the Viticulture for Winemakers course for the Winemaking Certificate program.
- Started a new cohort of 30 students every year since 2013.
- Coordinated registration with Continuing Education Department.
- Marketed programs to new students at meetings and through social media.
- Assisted managing Fredericksburg teaching vineyard by directing Technician.
- Trained three new technicians that maintained the Fredericksburg teaching vineyard.

### Instructor-Part Time

2008-2013

*Viticulture Certificate Program, Plant & Soil Science Dept., Texas Tech University*

- Developed five new online viticulture courses.
- Developed four new hands on vineyard courses
- Taught five online viticulture courses and four hands on vineyard courses every two years.
- Assisted in the development of the Fredericksburg teaching vineyard.

### Instructor

1996-2014

*Agriculture/Landscape & Turfgrass Management, Palo Alto College, San Antonio, TX*

- Developed a Landscape & Turfgrass Management AAS program.
- Developed eight new courses in Landscape & Turfgrass Management.
- Oversaw operations of greenhouse, turfgrass and horticulture demonstration areas.
- Supervised full time employee and part time employees.
- Managed budgets and did purchasing for program.
- Recruited and advised students.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### Owner/Operator

1997-present

*Williams Ranch Vineyard, Tokio, TX*

- Developed a 7.5-acre vineyard from the ground up.
- Responsible for all management practices in vineyard.

### Technical Sales Representative

1989-1996

*ICI/Zeneca Ag Products, Sacramento, CA*

- Managed a four-million-dollar sales territory that included 25 separate products.
- Territory had 30 different crops represented.
- California Pest Control Advisor license.

## Teaching

### Undergraduate Courses-2024

Year	Term	Number	Course	Credits	Enrollment
2024	Spring	4310	Viticulture II: Grape Production	3	28
2024	Fall	1311	Science of Wine (Co-Taught with M. Qualia)	3	58
2024	Fall	4001	Problems: Vineyard Operations	3	1

### Viticulture Certificate Program

Established, administer, and teach the Texas Tech Viticulture Certificate Program in order to meet the needs of the growing Texas Grape and Wine Industry. The certificate program is designed for wine industry entrepreneurs and prospective vineyard managers seeking comprehensive knowledge of viticultural principles and commercial grape production practices. The certificate program operates on a cohort basis to enhance the learning experience and facilitate networking opportunities for participants. The program consists of five online courses with four one day in person vineyard sessions. Completion of 17 CEUs is required to for program completion.

### Program Statistics to Date (2009- present)

Number of Graduates	209
Total CEUs Awarded	3,553

### Certificate Online Courses-2024

Year	Term	Course	CEUs	Enrollment
2024	Spring	Site Assessment and Vineyard Development (2023 Cohort)	3	20
2024	Spring	Canopy Management & Crop Load Management (2022 Cohort)	3	13
2024	Summer	Vine Nutrition and Water Management (2023 Cohort)	3	11
2024	Summer	Vineyard Pest Management (2022 Cohort)	3	13
2024	Fall	Grapevine Biology (2024 Cohort)	3	24
2024	Fall	Canopy Management & Crop Load Management (2023 Cohort)	3	8

## **GRANTS**

### **Texas Department of Agriculture**

**2021**

Development of a novel method to assist grape growers reduce off-target auxin herbicide drift related injury.

-Dr Montague, Dr Dotray, and Kirk Williams

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Pabuayon IL, Williams K, Ritchie G (2024) Hail netting changes to spray droplets and patterns in grape canopies. Viticulture Data Journal 5:e133532. <https://doi.org/10.3897/vdj.5.e133532>

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

Is Spray Coverage Affected by Hail Netting? Newsom Grape Day. Plains, TX. April 2024  
Texas High Plains Winter Bud Damage Survey, ASEV-ES, Austin, TX, June 2023  
Nematodes: The Hidden Pest. Newsom Grape Day, Plains, TX. April 2023  
Berry Sensory Analysis: Harvest Decision Aid. TWGGA Grape Camp, Dripping Springs TX, November 2022.

Phenoxy Herbicides and Grapevines: A Review, Newsom Grape Day, Plains, TX, April 2018.

Maximizing Weed Control in Vineyards, TWGGA Grape Camp, Fredericksburg, TX November 2018.

Weed Control for Small Vineyards, Gulf Coast Grape Growers Meeting, Cat Spring, TX, February 2018

Planting A Vineyard, TWGGA Grape Camp, Fredericksburg, TX, November 2012.

Micronutrients, TWGGA Grape Camp, Fredericksburg, TX, November 2014.

## **MEDIA CONTRIBUTIONS**

In Season Nutrient Management, The Grapevine Magazine, April 2024

Improve Vineyard Spray Performance with Adjuvants, The Grapevine Magazine, February 2024

Maximizing Weed Control with Herbicides, The Grapevine Magazine, December 2023

Keeping up with the Drip, The Grapevine Magazine, September 2023

Improving Late Season Spray Coverage, The Grapevine Magazine, July 2023

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

T.V. Munson Award for Contributions to Industry, Texas Wine & Grape Growers Assoc. **2018**

NISOD Teaching Excellence Award for Dedication & Persistence, **2010**, Palo Alto College

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

### 2023

Assisted Viticulture Professor Search Committee

Hiring Committee-Lecturer-Horticultural Crop Production

Hiring Committee-Technician III-Lubbock

Hiring Committee-Technician III-Fredericksburg

### 2022

Hiring Committee-Program Coordinator-Certificate Programs

### 2021

Hiring Committee-Technician III

### 2020

Hiring Committee-Senior Teacher-Small Farms

### 2019

Hiring Committee-Technician III

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

### Committee Chair

**2021 to present**

*Growers Advocacy Committee, Texas Wine & Grape Growers Assoc.*

- Started new committee and recruited members.
- Make recommendations to legislative committee.
- Developed a grape growers business guide calendar.

### Committee Member

**2022 to present**

*Legislative Committee, Texas Wine & Grape Growers Assoc.*

- Make recommendations about legislative matters to TWGGA board.

### Secretary/Treasurer

**2022 to present**

*Texas Wine Grape Research Foundation*

- Started new foundation and got founding documents completed.
- Take minutes at meeting.
- Handle banking transactions.

### Regional Director

**2019 to 2021**

*Texas Wine & Grape Growers Assoc.*

- Served as Region 1 Grower Director.
- Brought issues to TWGGA board for action including herbicide drift issues, freeze damage and grower pricing.

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Society of Enology and Viticulture (ASEV)
- Texas Wine & Grape Growers Association (TWGGA)