

# BILLY J. CRYER, Ph.D.

## Curriculum Vitae

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## Education

**PhD., English Rhetoric and Composition**, University of Texas at El Paso, May 2021  
Dissertation: *Motivation and the Young Writer*

Supervisor: Maggy Smith

**M.A., English Literature and Culture**, University of Texas – Rio Grande Valley, May 2015

Thesis: *Future Memory: Ray Bradbury and the Aesthetics of Nostalgia*

Supervisor: Jean Braithwaite

**M.L.S., Library and Information Science**, Indiana University-Bloomington,  
December 2011

**B.A., English and Spanish**, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, 2006

**Study Abroad**, Centro Intercultural de Querétaro, Querétaro, Mexico, Summers  
2002-2004

## Teaching Experience

**English Teacher**, Nacogdoches High School, AY 2023 - Present

**Fixed-Term English Faculty**, Texas A&M International University, AY 2021-2023.

**Assistant Instructor** (graduate student instructor), University of Texas at El Paso, English  
Department, 2016—2021

Served as **Assistant Director of First-Year Composition** AY 2019 - 2021

**English Instructor** (part time), El Paso Community College, 2016—2021

**English Instructor** (part time), South Texas College, 2014-2016

**Associate Instructor** (part time), Indiana University, Department of Spanish and Portuguese,  
AY 2010-2011

**Spanish TA**, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, 2003-2006

**COURSES TAUGHT:** Creative Writing  
Developmental English  
English Composition I  
English Composition II  
Introduction to Creative Writing  
Introduction to Literature  
Spanish I  
Spanish II  
Survey of World Literature to 1650  
The Teaching of Composition  
Writing in the Disciplines  
English III (High School)  
AP English Language and Composition (High School)

## Library Experience

**Digital Projects Librarian**, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, 10/2014 –7/2016  
Served as **Interim Head of Special Collections** at UTRGV from 10/2015 - 7/2016

**Teen Services Supervisor**, McAllen Public Library, 11/2011 – 6/2014  
**Library Assistant**, Georgetown Public Library, 2006 – 2009

## Professional Activities

**Peer Reviewer**, *Texas Association for Literacy Education Yearbook*, 2022 -- Present  
**Chair**, Texas Library Association District 4, 2022-2023  
**Chair**, Texas Library Association LIFTA Round Table, 2024-2025

## Honors and Awards

**2019 - UTEP Graduate School Dissertation Fellowship** - University grant award of \$18,000 for AY 2019-2020 in order to focus on completing my dissertation.  
**2016 - IFLA Fellowship** – A \$1,000.00 fellowship to attend IFLA 2016 in Columbus, OH.  
**2016 - Texas Digital Library Stipend Award** -- \$500.00 to attend training provided by TDL.  
**2013 - TLA Stipend Award** – I was the recipient of a \$500.00 TLA stipend award to attend the annual conference.

## Publications

In Preparation:

**“Reorienting Writing Instruction through a Framework of Growth”**

Published:

**Review of *The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green**, Texas Association for Literacy Education Newsletter, November 2012

**“Thanksgiving” (short fiction)**, *Fiction at Work*, November 2010

**“Variation on Memory and Desire” (short fiction)**, *Black Lantern Publishing*, Summer 2010

**“Memories” (short fiction)**, *Future Earth Magazine*, Fall 2009

**“Understanding Copyright Law” (newspaper column)**, *Williamson County Sun*, September 2008

**Poems**, *Polluto Literary Magazine*, Spring 2008

**Short fiction**, *The Rio Review*, 2003

## Conference Presentations

**“Curriculum Quicksand: Cultivating Readers in an Age of Assessment ,”** March, 2024, Texas Association for Literacy Education Conference presentation on how ELAR educators can tackle the challenge of cultivating readers in a climate of assessment that often crowds out opportunities for sustained, independent reading; co-presenter with Rebecca Jaramillo, Nacogdoches High School. Waco, TX.

**“Teaching, Learning, and Information Literacy,”** November, 2021, Texas Library Association District 4 Conference presentation exploring how librarians as educators can take advantage of certain principles of learning--such as nurturing confidence and developing habitual reflective practices--in the work of engaging in information literacy instruction. Virtual.

**“Engaging Multilingual Writers in the Writing Center and Beyond,”** November, 2018, National Conference on Peer Tutoring in Writing Conference workshop that develops the idea that writing centers are not solely a place of academic

support and collaborative work, but they also play an essential role in developing a sense of community and belonging in multilingual writers. South Padre Island, TX.

**“Rhetoric Across the Seams: Disciplinary Blending as Pathway to Invention,”** May 2018, Rhetoric Society of America Conference panel presentation on the evolving interdisciplinary nature of the field of English rhetoric and composition. Minneapolis, MN.

**“Ambiguity and Educational Clutter in the Composition Course,”** March 2018, Conference on College Composition and Communication paper considers the challenges of educational clutter and the affordances of ambiguity in student verbal development. Kansas City, MO.

**“Libraries and the Elusive ‘Aversion’ Problem,”** October 2017, Texas Library Association District 6 Conference presentation about the role of libraries in community literacy efforts. I explore ways that librarians and educators can work together to promote literacy. El Paso, TX.

**“He Gave Me a Voice’: Valuing What Students Say,”** October 2017, Two-Year College Association Conference presentation that explores aspects of motivation theory that reveal pathways for promoting student success in writing proficiency; co-presented with Isela Maier. Glendale, AZ.

**“Student Motivation in the First-Year Composition Course,”** February 2017, Texas A&M University San Antonio English Conference presentation examining the scholarly dialogue on motivation and teaching, and how the field of educational psychology provides insight on issues of motivation in the composition classroom. San Antonio, TX.

**“Advocating Art in the Community,”** February 2013, NACCS Conference presentation on the issues in advocating literature in public libraries and the importance of public libraries collaborating with other agencies to promote literacy. University of Texas – Pan American, Edinburg, TX.

**“When Data Speaks, Stakeholders Listen,”** November 2012, Texas Library Association District 4 annual meeting breakout session on using data to quantify the value of the library’s services; co-presented with Kate Horan, Library Director, McAllen Public Library System. Corpus Christi, TX.

**“Issues in eBooks,”** October 2011, Texas Library Association District 3 annual meeting breakout session on eBooks, vendors, and issues in eBook ; co-presented with Eric Lashley, Library Director, Georgetown Public Library. Georgetown, TX.

## **Professional Memberships**

**National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)**, November 2017 — Present

**Texas Association for Literacy Education**, September 2012 — Present

**Texas Library Association**, 2011 - Present

**Texas Writers’ League**, August 2019 -- Present

**Nathaniel Hawthorne Society**, August 2009 -- 2019