

Tiffany Y. Telesca, MEd, LPC-S, CSC

Assistant Professor of Education—Counselor Program

Sul Ross State University

College of Education and Professional Studies

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Last Update: 06/01/2022

Education

LIBERTY UNIVERSITY

LYNCHBURG, VA

Summer 2022—present

Currently pursuing a Doctor of Education degree in Community Care and Counseling (Pastoral Care and Counseling cognate).

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

LUBBOCK, TX

Fall 1998—Spring 1999

Completed 19 hours toward the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Human Development and Family Studies. 3.684 grade point average. Discontinued program to relocate to Golden, Colorado, where my husband had accepted a position with the Colorado School of Mines.

HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY

ABILENE, TX

Spring 1993—Spring 1998

Awarded the degree of **Master of Education** in Counseling and Human Development on May 9, 1998. 4.00 grade point average.

Awarded the degree of **Bachelor of Behavioral Science** in Education on December 15, 1995, majoring in English and minoring in Chemistry with Secondary Education Certification. Academic Honors all semesters. 3.96 grade point average; Summa Cum Laude.

Elected to membership in Alpha Chi National Honor Scholarship Society by the faculty of HSU; also, member of Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education; Texas Student Education Association (Past President of Hardin-Simmons Chapter); and Sigma Tau Delta National Literary Fraternity (Past Vice-President of Hardin-Simmons Chapter).

OKLAHOMA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

SHAWNEE, OK

Fall 1991—January Term 1993

Attended Oklahoma Baptist University as a Bible Major. Academic Honors all semesters. Member of the Philosophy Club (Secretary/Treasurer '92- '93) and Baptist Student Union Prison Ministry Team. Participated in a Study Tour of Israel during January Term 1993.

Professional Experience

SUL ROSS STATE UNIVERSITY

ALPINE, TX

06/01/22 to present

Assistant Professor of Education—Counselor Program

Began teaching in the College of Education and Professional Studies in the graduate program for

counselor preparation during the summer. Courses assigned include: Personality & Counseling Theories; Assessment in Counseling; Multiculturalism and Diversity in Counseling; Ethical, Legal, and Professional Issues in Counseling; and Professional Issues and Ethics in Counseling. Will also begin serving as Advisor to Clinical Mental Health Counselor students as well as Bridge students in the Fall.

GENESIS INTEGRATIVE COUNSELING & WELLNESS, PLLC NACOGDOCHES, TX
05/19 to Present/Temporarily Closed—Licensed Professional Counselor Supervisor
Limited private practice offering in person & online sessions for individual, couples, & family therapy to address areas of mental health & relationship concerns. Corporate consultations are also available as well as Supervision to those completing internships.

(CIGNA) EVERNORTH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ALPINE, TX
07/19 to 03/22—Inpatient Case Management Lead Analyst
Conducted utilization reviews for Premium customers who were receiving mental health or substance abuse treatment at inpatient, residential, or partial hospitalization level of care. Collaborated with facility physicians, nurses, therapists, and/or other treatment personnel to develop treatment plans and goals as well as to advocate for the best interest of the customer. Outreached parents of children & adolescents who were in a higher level of care to discuss treatment planning as well as to provide additional resources. Connected customers with community referrals for mental health providers or other areas of concern. Also selected for the CCMU specialty team. Helped develop and facilitate a webinar on grief and loss for the Dallas Police Department.

(CENTENE) SUPERIOR HEALTHPLAN, INC. MIDLAND, TX
03/18 to 09/18—Senior Behavioral Health Service Coordinator (sole position for Texas)
Developed & implemented New Hire Training modules including one on one training in person with new hires as well as supplemental training as needed (online or in person) with new hires &/or tenured staff. Taught (online) procedural updates/changes in group &/or individual settings. Auditing of documentation of Behavioral Health Service Coordinators to identify trends & develop resultant training seminars as needed. Assisting with managerial reporting such as 277 Weekly Caseload reports, Daily Census filtering & distribution, etc. Assisting with interviewing new hire candidates. Daily monitoring of TX BH SC group queue. Serving as Point of Contact (POC) when managers were unavailable. Collaborated with other departments for improved service delivery to members. Resigned due to my husband accepting a position with Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas—an SDA which Superior HealthPlan did not cover.

(CENTENE) SUPERIOR HEALTHPLAN, INC. MIDLAND, TX
09/17 to 03/18—Behavioral Case Manager

(CENTENE) ENVOLVE PEOPLE CARE MIDLAND, TX
11/16 to 08/17 (due to a company merger)—Behavioral Case Manager
Caseload included adult members (21 years & older) with Schizophrenia, Major Depressive Disorder, &/or Bipolar Disorder. Conducted Aged, Blind, Disabled assessments in person for members currently inpatient for psychiatric hospitalization. Contacted members by telephone at least once a year & met with members in person at least twice a year to evaluate their current needs and concerns, educate members on available health plan benefits & identify barriers to treatment. Connected members with available community resources for further support. Assisted colleagues & other Service Delivery Areas (SDA) as needed.

AGAPE COUNSELING SERVICES OF WEST TEXAS
2015—2016

MIDLAND, TX

Served as a Licensed Professional Counselor gaining experience working with individuals ranging in age from 5 years old to over 80 years old. Sessions included individual, couple, or family systems as well as group & community presentations. Areas of concern encompassed depression, anxiety, physical &/or sexual abuse, suicidal ideation, anger management, stress relief, marital concerns, parenting, ADD/ADHD, developmental transitions, sports performance, etc. Treatment modalities included: cognitive-behavioral; person-centered; family systems; solution focused brief therapy; and some play therapy techniques.

FBC COUNSELING CENTER
2013—2015

MIDLAND, TX

Served as a Licensed Professional Counselor Intern at the First Baptist Church Counseling Center under the Supervision of Gene E. Hilburn, M.Ed., LPC-S. Gained experience in individual, couple, family, and group therapy settings. Utilized an eclectic approach to counseling including: counseling based upon Biblical principles; person-centered; cognitive behavior therapy; family systems; solution focused brief therapy; bibliotherapy, etc., in which current and past mental health concerns of clients such as depression; anxiety; anger; abuse; cutting; suicidal thoughts; crisis intervention; spiritual issues; parenting; adolescent development; and relationship challenges were addressed and treated through these and other appropriate modalities. Solely facilitated several semester-long groups of GriefShare.

SAM HOUSTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
2012—2013

ODESSA, TX

Served as a Certified School Counselor who was solely responsible for designing and implementing an all-encompassing counseling and guidance program to over 715 Kindergarten through sixth grade students. Regularly served students in small and large group settings, also aided countless students, staff, and parents in individual sessions as well. Established a monthly recognition luncheon celebrating attendance, attitude, and academics. Designated 504 Coordinator and AVID Campus Coordinator. Also served as STAAR and TELPAS Testing Co-coordinator.

LEE FRESHMAN HIGH SCHOOL
2009—02/12

MIDLAND, TX

Served as one of two Certified School Counselors with a 2011-2012 student enrollment of over 800 freshmen students. Provided academic, career, and emotional support to students and staff on a daily basis. Also, effectively communicated with parents, administration, and local community stakeholders in person, via telephone, and/or email. Solely responsible for research, implementation, evaluation, report, and data analysis of numerous local, state, and federal educational programs. Responsible for enrollment, testing coordination, academic scheduling, community resource referrals, and ongoing support of all students in the Newcomer Academy at Lee Freshman which served new to the United States non-English speaking students. Resigned in February due to illness.

NOEL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
2008—2009

ODESSA, TX

Served as a Certified School Counselor who was solely responsible for designing and implementing an all-encompassing counseling and guidance program to over 700 Kindergarten through sixth grade students. Worked with over 90 students in small group settings, also aided countless students, staff, and parents in individual sessions, taught character education lessons as well as drug prevention lessons to K-6 throughout the year, created a "Random Acts of Kindness" on-going emphasis and

recognition program, and designed and implemented “New 2 Noel” small groups at the beginning of the year to aid transfer students in their transition to a new school setting. Designated 504 Coordinator and Response to Intervention Team Leader. Also served as TAKS and TELPAS Testing Co-coordinator.

Collegiate Teaching Experience

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

LUBBOCK, TX

Fall 1998—Spring 1999

Solely responsible for two sections each semester (considered full-time) of Human Development & Family Studies (HDFS) 2320 Basic Interpersonal Skills. Served as a fulltime Teaching Assistant who was solely responsible for all aspects of this undergraduate course such as syllabus creation/course planning, daily lesson planning, instruction/teaching delivery, integrative project design & evaluation, intermittent test creation as well as final exam, all grading, & ongoing data collection & recording of grades.

MCMURRY UNIVERSITY

ABILENE, TX

Fall 1997

ACAD 1100 Freshman Seminar

Team-taught this introductory study skills and communication course with Dr. Tom Jackson and Jami Amerine. Shared responsibilities included course planning, instruction, and evaluation. Topics included: introduction to the university, how to develop study skills, student services available on campus, housing programs, intramural sports, special interest clubs, degree planning & advising. Guest speakers were also secured.

Secondary Teaching Experience

BASIC HIGH SCHOOL (2007—2008)

HENDERSON, NV

Clark County School District

Taught three sections of Seniors in English Literature Honors and two sections of Juniors in American Literature. Weekly volunteer at Tardy Table. Served over 700 incoming students/family members during the Freshman Barbecue and assisted with serving almost 500 Seniors during the Senior Breakfast. Also performed duties as a Fall Ticket Taker for athletic events. Facilitated session on improving mentoring for Freshmen students during Staff Development (4/14/08) and also asked by Academic Dean to lead session on effective classroom management strategies through drama.

PALO ALTO HIGH SCHOOL (2006—2007)

PALO ALTO, CA

Palo Alto Unified School District

Taught two sections of American Classics (accelerated version of Junior-level English requirement), one section of American Literature (college preparatory version of Junior-level requirement), and two sections of Foods (open to grades 9-12 for Vocational Education credit) during the 2006 Fall Semester. Taught one section of American Classics (asked by Instructional Supervisor to teach 100% in English Department during the Spring but was under contract for emergency assistance with Vocational Education) and four sections of Foods during the Spring Semester. Volunteered to serve as a camp counselor/educator for a four-day student conference at Camp Everytown where identity safety issues were highlighted.

ALPINE HIGH SCHOOL (2005—2006)

ALPINE, TX

Alpine Independent School District

Taught four sections of Junior-level General Chemistry including laboratory instruction. Named Science Department Chairman for the 2006-2007 school year. Taught two sections of Sophomore English Language Arts. Served as Senior 2006 Class Sponsor which included all duties associated with Graduation, Senior Trip, and fundraising events such as the Senior Talent Show. Served as Sponsor/Coach for the University Interscholastic League Ready-Writing Team which placed in all practice meets & won the District Meet qualifying two students to participate at the Regional level. Other duties included: Chemistry Storage Room Supervisor; assistance with In-School Suspension; serving as substitute (without compensation) for other teachers more than thirteen times during ISS period; and occasional Cafeteria/Grounds Duty.

SANTA FE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL (Fall 1996)

SANTA FE, TX

Santa Fe Independent School District

Taught eighth grade English Language Arts. Named Yellow Team Secretary. Collaborated with other departments to create cross-subject student projects. Resigned in November due to pregnancy complications.

Related Experience

MCMURRY UNIVERSITY

ABILENE, TX

August 1, 1997—July 31, 1998

Residence Director

Responsibilities included: supervising daily operations of a female residence hall as well as sharing responsibilities for the entire residence life system; managing hall budgets; creating and administering numerous student development functions; recruiting, selecting, training, scheduling, and supervising paraprofessional staff; developing educational programming and promotion of events; and assisting residents with academic and personal issues.

Ministry Experience

HIGHLAND HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

HENDERSON, NV

September 2007—June 2008

Student Ministries Coordinator

Responsible for all aspects of student ministries for sixth through twelfth grade students including: programming; curriculum; fundraising; missions; outreach; youth praise band; recruiting, training, and supervising volunteers; overseeing ministry budget; and counseling students in personal, academic, and spiritual issues.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

ALPINE, TX

Summer 2002—December 2004

Co-taught the College and Career Sunday School class. Other responsibilities included: outreach; developing, advertising, and participating in monthly activities as well as semester trips; overseeing a \$1,000 activity budget; and assisting participants with personal, academic, and career concerns.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

GOLDEN, CO

2000—2002

Served as Youth Leader (volunteer) including teaching an in-depth Bible study for grades 7-12 on

Wednesday nights. Also responsible for organizing, advertising, and participating in monthly activities. Planned and directed a summer trip for the youth for the first time in over 15 years at the church.

Texas Certifications

Licensed Professional Counselor Supervisor (#70289); School Counselor Certification (Grades EC-12); Lifetime certified in Secondary Chemistry (Grades 06-12), Secondary English (Grades 06-12), Secondary English Language Arts (Grades 06-12), and Secondary Psychology (Grades 06-12).

Publications Reifman, A., Villa, L. C., Amans, J. A., Rethinam, V., & Telesca, T. Y. (2001). Children of divorce in the 1990s: A meta-analysis. *Journal of Divorce and Remarriage*, 36(1-2), 27-36. https://doi.org/10.1300/J087v36n01_02

Recent Presentations and other Participation

May 2022. School Counselor Panel Participant. Teacher Recognition Reception. Sul Ross State University, Alpine, TX.

May 2022. Presentation: “Becoming a Certified School Counselor &/or a Licensed Professional Counselor: The Art of Helping Others” at Region 18 Educational Service Center (ESC): College and Career Fair. Sul Ross State University, Alpine, TX.

Professional Organizations

Current member of the American Association of Christian Counselors with divisional membership in Biblical Counseling & Spiritual Formation, the American Counseling Association, Christian Counselors of Texas, & the Texas Counseling Association. Past Secretary of the Permian Basin Counseling Association

Community Service (present and past affiliations)

Substitute Sunday School teacher at FBC Alpine as well as elected Pastor Search Committee Member (2022-present); Praise Band singer at FUMC Nacogdoches (2019-2021); weekly library volunteer at FBC Midland Media Library (2012-2016); Pastors’ conference and training in Ongata Rongai, Kenya with service to the Magnet School Orphanage (October 2013); Campo de Ferias Youth Basketball Camp in Lisbon, Portugal (March 2012); FBC Midland Impact Weekend for Youth Host Home (each February from 2010-2016); and FBC Midland Vacation Bible School 2nd grade teacher (June 2012 & 2013); Upward Bound basketball coach; Highland Hills Baptist Church (Henderson, NV) Student Ministries Coordinator (2007-2008); FBC Alpine College and Career Sunday School class co-teacher (2002-2004) as well as elected to the Pastor Search Committee; Big Bend Youth soccer, basketball, and Little League baseball coach; Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA); Calvary Baptist Church (Golden, CO) Youth Leader (2000-2002)