

VITA

M'Balía Thomas, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor
Dept. of Curriculum & Teaching (TESOL)
The University of Kansas
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Research Interests

- Language ideology, and the intersections of race, class, nationality, gender and sexuality
- Popular Culture, Harry Potter Studies, Blerdom/Cosplay as emancipatory practices
- Engaged scholarship in the area of refugees, trauma, and language learning

Education

- 2014** **Ph.D., Second Language Acquisition and Teaching**
University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.

Dissertation: A Dialogic Approach to Oral Narrative Storytelling Analysis in English as a Foreign Language Research. Chair: Linda R. Waugh, Ph.D., Committee: Grace Fielder, Ph.D., Chantelle Warner, Ph.D.
- 1996** **M.A., Advertising**
Universidad Pontificia Comillas de Madrid, Madrid, Spain.
Master's Thesis: Advertising Strategy for the Launch of Snapple Beverage Drinks in Spain (written in Spanish).
- 1993** **A.B., Sociology, with Honors**
Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA
La Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (Stanford in Chile). Fall 1992.
Undergraduate Thesis: Decision Making in International Advertising.

Professional Experience

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS, Lawrence, KS

August 2014- Present **Assistant Professor, Curriculum & Teaching, TESOL**

Graduate Courses Taught:

C&T 896 The Internationalized Curriculum
C&T 825 Advanced TESOL Practicum (online)
C&T 818 Language, Discourse, & Ideology
C&T 817 Contact, Change, & American English
C&T 816 Culturally Responsive Pedagogy

Undergraduate Courses Taught:

C&T 491 TESOL Practicum (Online)
C&T 331 TESOL Methods (Middle/Secondary)

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA. Tucson, AZ.

- Fall 2013 GTA Linguistics 150A (UG Honors): Mind, Self and Language.
DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS.
- 2013-2014 Graduate Research Assistant, South-Central Renaissance Conference
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH. Under Dr. Meg Lota Brown
(English) to organize the South-Central Renaissance
Conference, April 3-5, 2014.
- 2010-2012 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Spanish 102
DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE.
- 2009-2010 Graduate Research Assistant, CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL
RESOURCES IN LANGUAGE AND LITERACY (CERLL), a US
Department of Education Title VI Language Resource Center. 2nd
International Conference on Developing and Assessing
Intercultural Competence.

NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY. Flagstaff, AZ.

- Spring 2009 *University Supervisor*. COLLEGE OF EDUCATION.
Spanish/FLE, Ironwood High School, Marana, AZ.

CARVER (BIBLE) COLLEGE. Atlanta, GA.

- Fall 2003 Adjunct Professor, English 101
- Summer 2001 Adjunct Professor, English 101
- Fall 2001 Adjunct Professor, English Literature

THE LANGUAGE STUDIO, INC. Atlanta, GA.

- 2002-2008 *Founder / Director*. The Spanish Enrichment Program, PK-6th

THE ATLANTA GIRLS' SCHOOL. Atlanta, GA.

- 2001-2002 *Spanish Teacher*

E.L. CONNALLY ELEMENTARY. Atlanta, GA.

- 1998-2001 Spanish Teacher, Department Chair (2001)

J. WALTER THOMPSON, Atlanta, GA.

- 1996-1998 Assistant Account Executive

KETCHUM FOOD MARKETING. San Francisco, CA.

- 1993-1995 Account Coordinator

Scholarship

A. Manuscripts

PEER-REVIEWED

1. (Under review). Testimonial Injustice: The Curious Case of Antoine and Kelly Dodson and the "Bed Intruder". *Applied Linguistics journal*
2. (Under review). Rendering the Untellable, Tellable: Cooperation & Face-Work in the Telling of a Transgressive Tale. *Narrative Inquiry*
3. (Under review). "I solemnly swear that I am up to no good": Mapping my way through TESOL teacher education. *STE*.
4. **Thomas, M.** (In press). Trauma, Harry Potter, and the Demented World of Academia. *Journal of Educational Thought*.

5. **Thomas, M.**, Russell, A. & Warren, H. (2018). The Good, The Bad & The Ugly of Harry Potter. *The Clearing House: A Journal of Educational Strategies, Issues and Ideas*.
6. **Thomas, M.** (2018). "Harry Potter and the Border Crossings Analogy: An exploration of the instructional use of analogy in a TESOL methods course". *The Teacher Educator: Special Issue: Immigration & Teacher Education*
7. **Thomas, M.** (2018). The Girl Who Lived: Exploring the Liminal Spaces of Self-Study Research with Textual Critical Partners. In D. Garbett & A. Ovens (Eds). *Pushing boundaries and crossing borders: Self-study as a means for knowing pedagogy* (pp. 327-333). Herstmonceux UK: S-STEP.
8. **Thomas, M.** (2016). A Dialogic Approach to Supervision in the Practicum. *The Advocate*, 23(2). <https://doi.org/10.4148/2637-4552.1036>
9. **Thomas, M.** (2013). The problematization of racial/ethnic minority student participation in US study abroad. *Applied Linguistics Review*, 4(2), 365-390. (Refereed, Invited).
10. **Thomas, M.** (2009). WORDS AS WEAPONS: The metaphorical attack of Michelle Obama in US print headlines (A critical discourse analysis). In Proceedings of the Symposium on Language and Society in Austin (SALSA) (pp. 39-49). Austin, TX. (Refereed, Accepted).

PEER-REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS (Edited)

1. **Thomas, M.** (Accepted, submitted). Culturally Responsive Pedagogy in TESOL. In J. K. Shin and P. Vinogradova (Eds.). *Teaching English as an Additional Language in the 21st Century: Pedagogical Approaches and Classroom Applications*. Tentatively contracted by Routledge.
2. **Thomas, M.** (Accepted, contracted). "**The Carnivalization of Victimization: The Case of "The Bed Intruder"**". In J. Douthwaite & U. Tabbert (eds) *The Linguistics of Crime*, Cambridge Univ. Press.
3. Waugh, L., Alvarez, J. with T. Do, K. Michelson & **Thomas, M.** (2013). Chapter 27: Meaning in texts and contexts. In *Oxford Handbook of the History of Linguistics*. (Refereed, Invited). Contribution: provided background research on discourse analysis section of the manuscript (approximately 1/5 of the total text).

BOOK REVIEWS

1. **Thomas, M.** (2015, August 26). Linguist List [Review of the book *The Unspeakable: Narratives of Trauma*, M. Stroinska, V. Cecchetto, K. Szymanski (eds)]. *Linguist List*, <https://linguistlist.org/issues/26/26-3788.html>.

B. Academic Conference Presentations

PEER-REVIEWED—INTERNATIONAL

1. **Thomas, M.** & Carvajal-Regidor, M. (2018, October). "Being 'Lazy' and Slowing Down" in an Evening Graduate Teacher Education Course". *International Society for the Study of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL) 2018 Conference*, Bergen Norway. Paper Presentation.
2. **Thomas, M.** (2018, July). The Girl Who Lived: Exploring the Liminal Spaces of Self-Study Research with Textual Critical Partners Castle Conference, 12. Paper presentation.
3. **Thomas, M.** (2017, July). "Space Invasion: A Text World Approach to Exploring Language, Race and Space in "Bed Intruder". Special Panel (co-organizer, with Daria Tunca): African and Diasporic Literatures. Annual Conference of the Poetics & Linguistics Society (PALA). West Chester, PA (International, Accepted).

4. **Thomas, M.** (2016, July). "Victimization, signification and misrecognition in the deviantly curious case of internet sensation Antoine Dodson". Annual Conference of the Poetics & Linguistics Society (PALA), Cagliari, Sardinia, Italy. (International, Accepted).
5. **Thomas, M.** (2015, July). "Verbal Style, Tellability, and Second (L2) Language Use: A dialogic analysis of the everyday language of 'Girl Talk'". Annual Conference of the Poetics and Linguistics Association (PALA), University of Kent, Canterbury, United Kingdom. (International, Accepted).
6. **Thomas, M.** (2015, June). "'Girl Talk': An examination of stylized language use as power, solidarity and resistance in an Evangelical Christian Bible Study Gathering". International Society for Language Studies (ISLS) -- NM, Albuquerque, NM. (International, Accepted).
7. **Thomas, M.** (2014, March). "Reconceptualizing 'Native/Nonnative' as Performative Identities: Implications for SLA and Study Abroad Research Practices". American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL), Portland, OR. (International, Accepted).
8. **Thomas, M.** (2012, November). "The linguistic disorder of 'going there' in the age of social media: The recontextualization of a Black signifying act into white public space (the curious case of Antoine Dodson)." *American Association of Anthropologists (AAA)*, San Francisco, CA.
9. **Thomas, M.** (2012, July). "The discursive construction of a secular identity in Rudyard Kipling's 'If.'" *Annual Conference of the Poetics and Linguistics Association (PALA)*. University of Malta, Malta.
10. **Thomas, M.** (2010, June). "WORDS AS WEAPONS in US Presidential Campaigns: An examination of the political discourse surrounding would-be First Ladies in US newspaper headlines: Election years 1996, 2004, 2008." *Researching and Applying Metaphors (RaAM)*, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

PEER-REVIEWED NATIONAL

1. **Thomas, M.** (Under review). Intercultural (in)competence, Misrecognition, and Testimonial Injustice: Language Games in the Louisiana case of the "Lawyer Dog". Conference Proposal, AAAL.
2. **Thomas, M.** (Under review). Dumbledore Narrative Inquiry SIG. AERA
3. **Thomas, M.** (2011, March). "Here's a 'Lick': Maintaining familial ties in a digital age – using E. Goffman to analyze a message of love made by i-Phone." *Georgetown University Round Table on Languages and Linguistics (GURT)*, Washington, DC.

PEER-REVIEWED—REGIONAL

1. **Thomas, M.,** Quirin, A., McClure, S. & Carniero, R. (Under review). Dumbledore Corpus Project paper, SWPACA
2. **Thomas, M.** (accepted, February 2018). Trauma, Harry Potter, and the Demented World of Academia. Southwest Popular and American Culture Association (SWPACA), Albuquerque, NM.
3. **Thomas, M.,** Fox, M, Russell, A. & Warren, H. (accepted, February 2018). The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly of Teaching in Harry Potter: The role of "Personal Practical Knowledge" in Assessing Teacher Quality. Southwest Popular and American Culture Association (SWPACA), Albuquerque, NM.
4. **Thomas, M.** & Fox, M. (Sept. 30 2017). Teaching TESOL Methods through the wizarding world of *Harry Potter*. (Funding: SoE 2017-2018). September 29-30, MidTESOL Conference, Kansas City, MO.

5. **Thomas, M.** (2017, Feb). "Literature and the Advancement of Human Rights in TESOL Education: Capitalizing on student empathy toward the Harry Potter Universe in Pre-service Teacher Education". Southwest Popular/American Culture Association (SWPACA). Albuquerque, NM. (Regional, Accepted).
6. **Thomas, M.** (2015, April). "Revisiting Bakhtinian 'Dialogue' Examining the classroom interactions of in-service teachers during practicum observations". National Field Experience Conference, Greeley, CO. (Regional, Accepted).

LOCAL

1. **Thomas, M.** (2018 May). POPULAR CULTURE AS A VEHICLE TO SHARED, PRIOR KNOWLEDGE IN AN UNDERGRADUATE TEACHER EDUCATION COURSE, CTE Teaching Conference. Poster Presentation.
2. **Thomas, M.** (Oct 2, 2017). "Scholarship of Teaching & Learning (SoTL): The 'Pragmatism' of Documenting and Assessing Teaching and Learning" (Funding: TREAT via CTE). October 1-2, 2017 – WELC Conference. Lincoln, NE.
3. **Thomas, M.** Forbush, Duff, Doll. (Upcoming September 2017). Citizenship Education as Content-Based Instruction (poster presentation). (Funding: NFGRF. September 29-30, MidTESOL Conference, Kansas City, MO.
4. **Thomas, M.** (2017, January). Capitalizing on Fandom: Harry Potter & TESOL Pre-service Teacher Education. School of Education Research Conference. (Local, Accepted).
5. **Thomas, M.** (2016, March). "Exploring the uses of mobile technology in child language use, play, and the socialization of affect". Child Language Proseminar, (Local, Invited).
6. **Thomas, M.,** Darban, B., & Tonnie, K. (2016, January). "100 Questions & the Quest for Citizenship Ethnographic Data Collection in a Citizenship Education Program in Northeast Kansas". School of Education Research Conference, JRP. (Local, Accepted).
7. **Thomas, M.** (2015, June). "Teaching and Learning in a Technological World: Recasting the Practicum Observation as Dialogue (Bakhtin)". Strategies for Educational Improvement: Teaching and Learning in a Technological World. KU School of Education / KSDE, University of Kansas, Lawrence KS. (State, Accepted).

INVITED TALKS/GUEST LECTURES

1. **Thomas, M.** (2017, October 18). Space, Place, & Race in Antoine Dodson's 'Bed Intruder': A stylistic analysis. Wichita State Colloquium 3pm. (Funding: SoE 2017-2018) Invited Talk.
2. **Thomas, M.** (2016, February). "Immigration, Migration and Transnational Flows: Intercultural Competence & Internationalization in Higher Education". Invited talk to Grad students. University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Dept of Teaching, Learning & Teacher Ed, Lincoln, NE. (Regional, Invited).
3. **Thomas, M.** (2016, February). "Intercultural Communication: Teaching, Planning, Policy & Teacher Education". Invited Departmental Talk. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Dept of Teaching, Learning & Teacher Ed, Lincoln, NE. (Regional, Invited).
4. **Thomas, M.** (2015, March). *Globalization, the Cultural Imaginary, and the Challenge to Promote and Diversify U.S. Study Abroad*. CLAS Merienda Lecture, Latin American Center, KU. (Local, Invited).

C. Scholarly Digital Projects (not peer reviewed; published online)

1. "Rethinking Harry Potter: For the greater good". In progress. Project funded through SoE GRF 2017-2018.
2. "Being and becoming a teacher educator – The journey from content knowledge to pedagogical content knowledge, Digital Teaching Portfolio, Center for Teaching Excellence, Summer 2017.
<https://cte.ku.edu/being-and-becoming-teacher-educator%E2%80%9494-journey-content-knowledge-pedagogical-content-knowledge%E2%80%9494mbalia#summary>
3. "Planning with the end in mind: The merits of backward design". Digital Teaching Poster, Center for Teaching Excellence, Spring 2016. <https://cte.ku.edu/posters/thomas>

D. Grants and/or Other Funded Projects

Internal Funding

1. **Thomas, M.** (Principal). Finding my voice as a teacher educator of color: Exploring the liminal spaces of self-study research. FY2018-2019 School of Education Summer Writing Support
2. **Thomas, M.** (Principal). *"The Greater Good -- Engaging with K-12 Content-Based TESOL Methods through the Harry Potter Wizarding World"*. A web-based methods course and resource portal for preservice and in-service teachers. \$5,121.50, School of Education General Research Fund (2017-2018). (Referred/Competitive). Current Status: Funded, In progress.
3. **Thomas, M.** (Principal). *Internationalizing Higher Education for International Student "Success"*. \$6,535, School of Education General Research Fund (2016-2017). Working with Alison Watkins and Seth Coulter, KU International Programs. (Referred/Competitive). Current Status: Funded, In progress.
4. **Thomas, M.** (Principal). *Transgressive Classroom Talk and the Pursuit of a Dialogic Stance in the English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Practicum Observation*. School of Education Summer Writing Grant (Summer 2015). (Refereed/Competitive). Current Status: Funded, Completed.
5. **Thomas, M.** (Principal). *Ethnographic Study of the Instruction and Assessment Practices within the Citizenship Education Program of Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas*. \$7,931, University of Kansas, New Faculty General Research Fund (2015-2017). (Refereed/Competitive). Current Status: Funded, In progress.

External Funding

1. **Thomas, M.** (Principal). Harry Potter and the Border Crossings Analogy: The Instructional Use of Analogy in TESOL Teacher Education". *Spencer Foundation*, February 2018. Status: Unfunded.
2. **Thomas, M. (Principal). Spencer 2017. Unfunded**

E. Honors and Awards for Research

2016	Recipient, International Programs Faculty International Travel Fund. \$1000 to present research at the Poetics and Linguistics Association (PALA) 2016. Funding Number: 1729703-906.
2012	Dissertation Fellowship, 1885 Society Graduate Fellow in Arts and Humanities: The University of Arizona Confluence Center for Creative Inquiry. <i>AY Tuition + stipend.</i>
2011	Comprehensive Exams: passed with Distinction, December 2011.
2000	Grant Recipient, National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) for summer study in San Juan, PR.
1995	Recipient, Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholarship (<i>Tuition/stipend</i>)

*Service Record***A. University of Kansas Service****DEPARTMENT**

2017, Fall	Organizer, KU screening of Jennifer Brea's documentary, "Unrest"
2017-2018	Member, C&T Curriculum Search Committee
2016, Sum	Member, C&T TESOL ONLINE Hiring Committee
2016, Fall	Panel Discussant, KU Department of Special Education Inclusion and Social Justice. Topic: "Same Topic, Different Methods: Dual Language Learners"
2015, Fall	Organizer, C&T High Tea at the JRP. Curriculum & Teaching. (October 2015)
2015, Spring	Participant, University of Kansas Libraries' "Contested American Identities" Exhibit
2014-2017	Member, C&T Communications Committee
2014, Fall	Panel Discussant, "Future of Higher Education" School of Education Retreat
2014, Fall	Participant, IPSR Qualitative Methods Workgroup (KU Institute for Policy and Social Research). "Stuck Places Forum" for our IPSR Qualitative Methods Graduate Student Working Group

SCHOOL

2017, Sum	Guest scholar, BFSU-KU English Institute in Lawrence.
2016, Fall	Panel Discussant, KU Department of Special Education Inclusion and Social Justice. Topic: "Same Topic, Different Methods: Dual Language Learners"
2015 - 2017	Learning Resource Center Advisory Council
2014, Fall	Panel Discussant, "Future of Higher Education" School of Education Retreat

UNIVERSITY

2016, Spring	Participant, Center for Civic and Social Responsibility (CCSR). Introduction to service learning; planning service learning project.
2014-2015	Participant, University of Kansas New Faculty Orientation
2015, Spring	Participant, University of Kansas Libraries' "Contested American Identities" Exhibit
2015, Spring	Grant review committee for ISPR. Select the IQRM participant
2014, Fall	Participant, IPSR Qualitative Methods Workgroup (KU Institute for Policy and Social Research). "Stuck Places Forum" for our IPSR Qualitative Methods Graduate Student Working Group

CENTER FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

- 2017-2018 CTE Faculty Fellow, Reading group, presentation, \$1500
- 2015, Fall Participant, University of Kansas, Center for Teaching Excellence Teaching Summit
- 2015, Spring Participant, Best Practices Institute (BPI).

B. Outside the University

- 2017, Spring Alumnus Evaluator, Academic Program Reviewer for the Second Language Acquisition and Teaching (SLAT) Graduate Interdisciplinary Program, University of Arizona. Invited by SLAT Program Chair, Beatrice Dupuy
- 2016, Spring Participant (April 2016). AERA Division K SIG - Teaching & Teacher Ed, Faculty Preconference Seminar

EDITORIAL BOARD

- 2013-current Editorial Review Board Member, *Critical Multilingualism Studies*, Tucson, AZ

JOURNAL REFEREE

- 2017-2018 Reviewer, Castle Conference Self-Study
- 2017-2018 Learning Communities Journal: Presenting the Scholarship of Student and Faculty Learning Communities and Communities of Practice (2018). <http://celt.miamioh.edu/lcj/index.php>

C. Professional Memberships/Honor Societies

- 2017--pres Member, University Women's Club, KU
- 2016--pres Member, American Educational Research Association (AERA)
- 2016 -pres Member, Association of Teacher Educators -- Kansas (ATE-K)
- 2015 -pres Member, International Society for Language Studies (ISLS)
- 2014 -pres Member, MidTESOL Society
- 2012 -pres Member, American Association for Applied Linguistics (AAAL)
- 2012 -pres Member, Poetics and Linguistics Association (PALA)