

## CURRICULUM VITAE

**Brecken Hunter Wellborn, PhD Candidate**  
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### **Education**

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- In Progress      **Doctor of Philosophy, Visual and Performing Arts**  
University of Texas at Dallas, Bass Jr. School of Arts, Humanities, and Technology
- 2018      **Master of Arts, Media Industry & Critical Studies**  
University of North Texas, Department of Media Arts  
Thesis Title: "Musicals and the Margins: African-Americans, Women, and Queerness in the Twenty-First Century American Musical"  
Committee: Harry M. Benshoff, Chair, Jennifer Porst, Jacqueline Ryan Vickery
- 2016      **Bachelor of Arts, Integrative Studies**, Summa Cum Laude  
University of North Texas, College of Arts & Sciences
- 2014      **Associate of Arts**  
Collin County Community College District

### **Teaching Experience**

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- 2024-      **Instructor of Record, FILM 3325: Film Authorship – Queer(ed) US Cinema**  
Bass Jr. School of Arts, Humanities, and Technology, University of Texas at Dallas  
Course Description: "What makes a film *queer* and how can cinema be *queered*?" are the guiding questions that shape this course. The goal is for students to reframe their understanding of queer US cinema by exploring the ways in which queerness functions as a form of authorship, and reframe their understanding of authorship by exploring how queer spectators, stars, and representations author cinematic meaning.
  - Fall 2024 – In-Person Instruction
- 2022-      **Instructor of Record, FILM 2332: Understanding Film**  
Bass Jr. School of Arts, Humanities, and Technology, University of Texas at Dallas  
Course Description: This course introduces students to the various formal elements of cinematic language, including narrative, editing, cinematography, and more. This course also introduces students to the practice of film analysis, allowing students to critically think about film in terms of ideology, culture, and politics.
  - Spring 2025 – In-Person Instruction

- Summer 2024 – In-Person Instruction
- Spring 2024 – In-Person Instruction
- Fall 2023 – In-Person Instruction
- Spring 2023 – In-Person Instruction
- Fall 2022 – In-Person Instruction
- Spring 2022 – In-Person Instruction

2021

**Teaching Assistant, HIST 2384: U.S. Women from Settlement to Present**

Bass Jr. School of Arts, Humanities, and Technology, University of Texas at Dallas

Course Description: This course critically analyzes gender history through women's lived experiences, from colonial North America to the contemporary United States. This course examines how women's history provides a crucial perspective on a broader American history and demonstrates how diverse groups of women have worked to influence ideologies, culture, and policies throughout U.S. history.

- Fall 2021- Hybrid Instruction

2019-2021

**Adjunct Instructor, MRTS 2010: Introduction to Media Arts Writing**

Department of Media Arts, University of North Texas

Course Description: This course provides students with an introduction to methodologies, techniques, and formats applicable to writing for visual media. This course will utilize visual writing (the primary mode of artistic writing emphasized in the course) to guide students through producing original scripts while providing constructive critiques and feedback on both professional materials and the work of classmates online. Media formats explored include news packages, commercials, narrative and non-narrative film, digital media, and more.

- Spring 2021 – Online Instruction
- Summer 2020 – Online Instruction
- Spring 2020 – Online Instruction
- Fall 2019 – Online Instruction

## **Higher Education Employment**

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2017-2021

**Student Success Coordinator**

Learning Center, University of North Texas

- Supervise student staff and coordinate academic support services
- Design and present research-based and development-focused training curriculum
- Collaborate with other departments and programs on campus
- Present outreach presentations across campus for both faculty members and organizations

2016-2017

**Graduate Assistant**

Learning Center, University of North Texas

- Assisted in student success coordination
- Speed Reading instructor
- Observed and evaluated student performance

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**Peer-Reviewed Academic Publications**

Forthcoming

**Book Chapter: *Claws & Queer Fantasy: The Queer Power of Contemporary Television Narrative***

*New Queer Television: from Marginalization to Mainstreamification*, eds. Thomas Brassington, Debra Ferreday and Dany Girard. Intellect Books.

2023

**Book Chapter: *Fans, Gender, and the Sequel: Analyzing Audience Reactions to The Legend of Korra***

*The Avatar Television Franchise: Storytelling, Identity, Trauma, and Fandom*, ed. Francis M. Agnoli, Bloomsbury.

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**Other Academic Publications**

2021

**Film Review: *Black Is King: Beyoncé's Authorial Morals***

*The Quint*, vol. 13, no. 2, pp. 248-252

2020

**Media Review: *That's So Raven (2003-2007)***

*The Popular Culture Studies Journal*, vol. 8, no. 2, pp. 282-285

2019

**Media Review: *Chilling Adventures of Sabrina (2018-Present)***

*The Popular Culture Studies Journal*, vol. 7, no. 2, pp. 364-367

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**Popular Press Publications**

2022-2023

**Features Writer, Collider.com**

Selected works:

- "Oscar-Nominated 'Close' Powerfully Depicts the Pressures Queer Kids Face"
- "How 'Bros' Unpacks the Everyday Effects of Internalized Homophobia"
- "How 'I Like to Watch with Trixie & Katya' Celebrates Queer Spectatorship"

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**Conferences**

**Coordination**

2021-2022

**Conference Coordinator**

RAW: Research, Art, and Writing Conference, University of Texas at Dallas; Hybrid; February 12

## **Presentations**

- 2024      ***The Slasher Gaze: Queering the Slasher***  
Panel Chair; Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS); Boston, Massachusetts; March 13-17
- 2023      ***Paris Is Burning: Exceeding Ethnography***  
Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS); Denver, Colorado; April 12-15
- 2022      ***Hustlers & Postfeminism: Confrontation & Continuation***  
Literature Film Association (LFA); New Orleans, Louisiana; Oct. 20-22
- Aspirational Wokeness & Aspirational Labor in HBO Max's And Just Like That...***  
University of Central Oklahoma International Gender & Sexuality Studies Conference; Oklahoma City; Sept. 29-Oct. 1
- Portrait of a Lady on Fire: Haunted by Marriage***  
Console-ing Passions Feminist Media Studies Conference; Virtual; June 23-25
- Van Helsing's Eugenic Legacy***  
Popular/American Culture Association (PCA/ACA); Virtual; April 13-16
- Fans, Gender, and the Sequel: Audience Reactions to The Legend of Korra***  
Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS); Virtual, March 31-April 3
- 2021      ***Student Employment & Social Consciousness: Training for Inclusivity***  
Equity & Diversity Conference, University of North Texas; Virtual; March 23
- Claws & Queer Fantasy: The Queer Power of Contemporary Television Narrative***  
Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS); Virtual, March 17-21
- The Holistic Overhaul: Strategies for Reinvigorating a Tutoring Program***  
National College Learning Center Association (NCLCA); Virtual; February 26
- The Queerstige Picture: Visibility, Intimacy, and Sexuality in Call Me by Your Name (2017)***

Panel Moderator; Southwest Popular/American Culture Association (SWPACA); Virtual; February 22-26

**"You Do Realize That's Your Brother?": Sex & Social Siblings on *Friends* (1994-2004)**

Siblings on Stage, Page, and Screen; Virtual, January 16

2019

**Social Media from Scratch: A Recipe for Success**

National College Learning Center Association (NCLCA); Louisville, Kentucky; October 4-7

**Setting the Standards: A Collaborative & Ethics-Minded Peer Leader Workshop**

National College Learning Center Association (NCLCA); Louisville, Kentucky, October 4-7

**"Cheetah Sisters:" Post-Feminist Diversity & Girlhood in the "Tween-TV Musical" Subgenre**

Literature Film Association (LFA); Portland, Oregon; Sept. 12-14

**Irrepressible: The Multiple Returns of *Halloween* in Horror Cinema**

Popular/American Culture Association (PCA/ACA); Washington, D.C.; April 17-20

2018

**Unleashing the Power of Mentorship: The SI Leader Mentee Program**

National College Learning Center Association (NCLCA); Niagara Falls, NY; October 2-5

**Senior SI Leaders as Mentors & Managers, Revisited**

International Center for Supplemental Instruction; Seattle, WA; May 24-26

**Creating Inclusive Tutoring Spaces: Identity Training for Student Workers**

Equity & Diversity Conference, University of North Texas; Denton, TX; February 22

**Monstrous-Mother Nature: Analyzing Animal Horror Films of the 1990's**

Southwest Popular/American Culture Association (SWPACA); Albuquerque, New Mexico; February 7-10

2017

**Senior SI Leaders as Mentors & Managers**

Academic Success Center, Texas A&M University; College Station, TX; May 23-26

**Panel Moderation**

2018

**Fabricating Media, Mediating Fabric**

Mediating Change Conference, University of North Texas; Denton, TX; November 2

## **Committees**

2019

### **Member, Proposal Review Committee**

Equity & Diversity Conference, University of North Texas; Denton, TX; November

## **Invited Talks, Workshops, and Panels**

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2024

### **Lavender Graduation Keynote Address**

Invited Keynote for Student Government's Lavender Graduation; UTD; Richardson, TX, December 6

### **Camping Pastiche: Postmodernity, Camp, and Scream**

Invited Guest Lecture for FL 111.302: Introduction to Film, Film, Media, and Performing Arts, Fashion Institute of Technology; New York, NY, November 15

### **"I Marketed Subversive Drag to One Hundred Million Mother—": Mainstream Televisual Drag**

Invited Guest Lecture for the FIT LGBTQ+ Alliance, Fashion Institute of Technology; New York, NY, November 15

### **Trans, Trans\*, and Transnational TV**

Invited Guest Lecture for FILM 1303: Transnational Film and Video, Bass Jr. School of Arts, Humanities, and Technology, UTD; Richardson, TX, April 11

### **Queer Theory: Butler, Sedgwick, and de Lauretis**

Invited Guest Lecture for VPAS 6300: Proseminar, Bass Jr. School of Arts, Humanities, and Technology, UTD; Richardson, TX, March 6

2023

### **Queering Film: An Introduction to LGBTQ+ Film Analysis**

Invited Workshop Facilitator, Meteor Theater, UTD; Richardson, TX, March 24

2022

### **Book Talk: *All for Beauty: Makeup and Hairdressing in Hollywood's Studio Era* by Adrienne L. McLean.**

Invited Panelist, School of Arts, Humanities, and Technology, UTD; Richardson, TX, October 12.

### **Teach-In: Equity in the Classroom**

Invited Respondent for the School of Arts, Humanities, and Technology Teach-In, UTD; Richardson, TX, September 23

2021

### **Black Panther: Afro-Futurism & Super-Narratives**

Invited Guest Lecture for LIT 1301: Introduction to Literature, School of Arts & Humanities, UTD; Richardson, TX, November 10

- 2020      **Collaborative Vision-Making: Developing & Writing as a Team**  
Invited Guest Speaker for Women in Cinema, Department of Media Arts, UNT; Denton, TX; April 28
- 2019      **Sonic Black Formation: Beyoncé**  
Invited Guest Lecture for Women in Film, Department of Media Arts, UNT; Denton, TX; October 24
- 2017      **Trans Micro-Celebrity on YouTube: Identity in the Videos of Gigi Gorgeous**  
Invited Guest Lecture for Gender & Digital Cultures, Department of Media Arts, UNT; Denton, TX; October 26

### **Screening Discussions**

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- 2023      **The Whale Screening**  
Meteor Theater, UTD; Richardson, TX, March 22
- 2017-2021      **Guest Speaker, Media Arts Living Learning Community Movie Nights**  
Selected Talks:
- "Slashers & Sequels: *Halloween: H20 & Halloween*"; UNT, Denton, TX; October 15, 2021
  - "Post-Feminism, Camp, and Queer Fantasy in *Burlesque*"; UNT, Denton, TX; April 10, 2020
  - "Blockbuster Superhero Foundations in *X-Men*"; UNT; Denton, TX; April 26, 2019

### **Awards & Honors**

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- 2023      **Outstanding PhD Student, Visual and Performing Arts**  
University of Texas at Dallas; Richardson, TX; March 9
- 2022      **Victor Worsfold Teaching Assistant of the Year**  
University of Texas at Dallas; Richardson, TX; January 24
- 2020      **Supervisor of the Year**  
University of North Texas; Denton, TX; April 17
- 2018      **UNT Diversity Award**  
University of North Texas; Denton, TX; April 3
- 2017      **MA Graduate Academic Excellence Award**  
Department of Media Arts, University of North Texas; Denton, TX; April 26

2016                      **Supplemental Instructor of the Year**  
Learning Center, University of North Texas; Denton, TX; May 5

### **University Service**

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2023                      **Coordinator, *Screening the Art of Drag***  
Shot/Reverse Shot Film Screening Series  
Bass School of Visual & Performing Arts, UTD; Richardson, TX;  
October 25 & November 1

2020                      **Voting Member, Student Employee of the Year Committee**  
Career Center, UNT

**Host, Academy Awards Event**  
Department of Media Arts, UNT; Denton, TX; February 9

2019                      **Voting Judge, Eagle Awards**  
Division of Student Affairs, UNT

**Voting Member, Student Employee of the Year Committee**  
Career Center, UNT

**Host, Academy Awards Event**  
Department of Media Arts, UNT; Denton, TX; February 23

2018                      **Host, Academy Awards Event**  
Department of Media Arts, UNT; Denton, TX; March 4

### **Professional Memberships & Associations**

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Society for Cinema & Media Studies (SCMS)  
Popular Culture Association (PCA)