

# Kyle Smith, MFA

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*The art of teaching is the art of assisting discovery.*  
– Mark Van Doren

## **EDUCATION**

ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY  
Abilene, Texas; 3.9 GPA, *summa cum laude*  
**BS, Electronic Media/Professional Writing**

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN  
Austin, Texas; 3.8 GPA  
**MFA, Screenwriting**

## **CREDENTIALS**

July 2016 – May 2017, ACT-Houston at Dallas  
Dallas, Texas  
**State of Texas Teacher of Record certification**

December 2018  
Abilene, Texas  
**State of Texas English as a Second Language certification**

## **EMPLOYMENT AND EXPERIENCE**

**July 2019/present**                      **CISCO COLLEGE**  
Abilene, Texas  
Professor of English  
Report to Kimberly Torres  
**Classes taught: Composition I, Composition II (online)**

Lead lectures and instruction in writing compositions, MLA formatting, and best primary and secondary research practices.  
Facilitate in-class and online discussions, activities, and collaborative exercises involving a variety of texts.  
Promote a culture of respect in the classroom and online while encouraging collaboration, dialogue, debate, and critical thinking.

**Aug 2017/May 2019**

**WOODSON CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE**

Abilene, Texas

Teacher

Report to Jaime Tindall

**Classes taught: English II, English III, Practical Writing, READ**

Led and facilitated English, reading, writing, and EOC test-preparatory courses.

Tripled the previous EOC test-score passing rate with focus on structured, engaging, thoughtful writing during all four semesters.

Facilitated learning among students.

Encouraged dialogue, critical thinking skills, leadership, and goal-setting.

Employed effective classroom management strategies and worked with students to set behavioral and academic expectations.

**Oct 2016/June 2017**

**DESOTO HIGH SCHOOL**

DeSoto, Texas

Teacher of Record

Report to Verlean West

**Classes taught: English I, English II, creative writing, English I night school**

Taught English classes with a focus on facilitating learning among students.

Encouraged dialogue, critical thinking skills, personal leadership, and student goal-setting.

Employed effective classroom management strategies.

Raised Common Assessment (district-wide standardized test) and STAAR End of Course (EOC) scores for all classes during first year of teaching.

**Aug 2013/May 2016**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON,**

Arlington, Texas

Senior Lecturer

Report to Mark Clive

**Courses taught: Introduction to Narrative Screenwriting, Advanced Screenwriting, Directed Screenings, Independent Studies**

Lectured and led narrative screenwriting workshops aimed at crafting original stories for short and feature-length films, and adapting literary works.

Focused on characterization, visual storytelling, three-act structure, originality, and conflict. (*continued*)

Mentored students on career and scholastic goals.

Led discussions related to historically significant films and international film movements.

Earned average score of 4.9 (5 being most satisfied) in student evaluations on a consistent, per-semester basis.

**Oct 2014/August 2016**    **KD CONSERVATORY**, Dallas, Texas

Lecturer

Report to Dennis Bishop

**Courses taught: Screenwriting 101, Screenwriting 301**

Lectured and led narrative screenwriting workshops focused crafting original material for short films.

Mentored students on career and scholastic goals.