

WOLFRAM E. VERLAAN, Ph.D., N.B.C.T

Associate Professor of Reading and Literacy

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EDUCATION

- 2012 Ph. D., Curriculum & Instruction (Literacy Education Specialization). (4.0 GPA)
Dissertation title: *A Comparison of Silent Reading Comprehension and Listening Comprehension in Fourth-, Sixth-, and Eighth-grade students.*
Dissertation Chair: Dr. Daniel L. Pearce
Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi
- 2003 M.S., Elementary Education (4.0 GPA)
Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi
- 1984 B.S., Systems Science (Cum Laude)
University of West Florida

UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2022 - Present UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE AL
Associate Professor of Reading/Literacy

Associate Professor of Reading and Literacy in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, College of Education. Responsibilities include teaching courses in literacy instruction for undergraduate and graduate students, supervision of teaching internships, and advising. Responsibilities also include teaching courses in and directing the M.Ed. Reading Specialist program. Research activities include investigating relationships between reading and listening comprehension and investigating classroom practices that improve literacy learning for a wide range of students. University service activities include serving on various department, college, and university committees, and participating in efforts to recruit new students to the College of Education. Professional service activities include serving as a program reviewer for the conferences of professional organizations such as the Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers (ALER), and serving as a peer-reviewer for various publications.

2018 - 2022 UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE AL
Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Associate Professor of Reading and Literacy and Chair of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, College of Education. Chair responsibilities include leading and managing faculty and staff effort, coordinating course offerings and faculty loads, facilitating curriculum development, recruitment and evaluation of faculty and staff,

promoting collaborative research, maintaining a climate hospitable to diversity, and assisting in preparation and support for CAEP and SACSCOC accreditation. Associate Professor responsibilities include teaching courses in literacy instruction for undergraduate and graduate students, supervision of teaching internships, and advising. Responsibilities also include teaching courses in and directing the M.Ed. Reading Specialist program. Research activities include investigating relationships between reading and listening comprehension and investigating classroom practices and activities that improve literacy learning for a wide range of students. University service activities include serving on various department, college, and university committees, and participating in efforts to recruit new students to the College of Education. Professional service activities include serving as a program reviewer for the conferences of professional organizations such as the Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers (ALER), serving as a Board Member for the Specialized Literacy Professionals Special Interest Group, and serving as a peer-reviewer for various publications.

2012 – 2018 UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE AL
Assistant Professor of Reading/Literacy

Assistant Professor of Reading and Literacy in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, College of Education, with responsibility for teaching courses in literacy instruction for undergraduate and graduate students, supervision of student teachers, and advising. Responsibilities also included teaching courses in and directing the M.Ed. Reading Specialist program. Research activities included investigating relationships between reading and listening comprehension and investigating classroom practices and activities that improve literacy learning for a wide range of students. University service activities included serving on various department, college, and university committees, and participating in efforts to recruit new students to the College of Education. Professional service activities included serving as a program reviewer for the conferences of professional organizations such as the Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers (ALER) and the Literacy Research Association (LRA), serving as treasurer for the International Literacy Association's (ILA – formerly the International Reading Association) Specialized Literacy Professionals Special Interest Group, and serving as a peer-reviewer for various publications.

Courses taught:

- Charger Success (FYE101)
- Educational Psychology (ED308)
- Teaching Language Arts in the Elementary Classroom (ED371)
- Teaching Elementary Social Studies (ED 372/672)
- Teaching Reading in the Intermediate Grades (ED405)
- Teaching Reading in the Content Area (ED408)
- Literature for Children and Adolescents (ED413)
- Secondary ELA Instruction: Writing to Read (ED421/521)
- Secondary ELA Instruction: Reading to Write (ED431/531)

- Supervision of Internship (Student Teaching) (ED497/698)
- Foundations of Literacy (ED510)
- Reading Research and Instruction (ED605)
- Expanding Reading Ability in Content Area Instruction (ED608)
- Reading Assessment and Diagnosis (ED612)
- M.Ed. Action Research Project (ED690)
- Reading Portfolio Seminar and Symposium (ED691)
- Reading Specialist Internship (ED692)

2010-2012 TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY – CORPUS CHRISTI TX
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Graduate Teaching Assistant in the department of Curriculum & Instruction with responsibility for teaching courses in Content Area Reading for Secondary Teachers and Literacy Methods for Secondary English Teachers. Activities included delivering undergraduate instruction, assisting master's students with design of research-based capstone projects, assisting professors with instruction in graduate level reading classes, and delivering instructional presentations to students in graduate classes. Research activities included co-authoring research articles and a book chapter and presenting at regional and national conferences. Service included membership in the TAMUCC Student Reading Council, serving as President-Elect of the Corpus Christi chapter of the International Reading Association, and assisting other doctoral students with writing and data collection.

Courses taught:

- Content Area Reading for Secondary Teachers (READ3353)
- Teaching English in the Secondary School (READ3355)

K-12 EXPERIENCE

2009-2010 CORPUS CHRISTI INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT TX
Teacher – Collegiate High School

Taught 9th grade algebra and 10th grade world history at Collegiate High School - an Early College High School designed to accelerate students through a four-year high school curriculum and a two-year Associates Degree in just four years. Served on the campus PDM committee as a teacher representative. Served as a faculty representative at curriculum alignment meetings with the host college to address alignment of high school curriculum with college curriculum. Worked on departmental teams to vertically align curriculum in the areas of mathematics and social studies. Served as faculty sponsor for a media studies and social awareness club that involved students in community service projects such as a can drive for the local food bank.

2006-2009 CORPUS CHRISTI INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT TX
Teacher – Marvin Baker Middle School

Taught 6th Grade Algebra Prep and 7th grade English Language Arts. Nominated for Teacher of the Year for the 2007/2008 School Year. Obtained my National Board Teaching Certification in 2007. Participated on two different grade-level teams charged with designing and implementing curriculum to meet the requirements for International Baccalaureate Organization (IB) certification. Presented professional development workshops addressing reading comprehension strategies at department meetings. Developed lessons for department use to improve writing skills needed for state-wide assessments. Sponsored the school's chapter of the National Junior Honor Society, a community service organization that engaged in activities such as beach clean-ups and fundraising for charities.

2004-2006 CORPUS CHRISTI INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT TX
Teacher – Roy Miller High School

Taught 10th Grade English Language Arts, 12th Grade English Language Arts, and 12th grade AP Literature. Assisted juniors and seniors on weekends with tutoring in various subjects. Served on a team charged with implementing a school district initiative to develop grade level curriculum and vertical alignment for English/Language Arts and Social Studies. Served as faculty sponsor for the graduating class of 2007 (each grade-level class performed community service activities). Worked with pre-service and student teachers in both the 2004/2005 and 2005/2006 school years.

2001-2004 CORPUS CHRISTI INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT TX
Teacher – Cullen Place Middle School

Taught 8th grade Language Arts, 8th grade Mathematics, 7th grade Algebra Prep, 7th grade Language Arts, and 6th grade Mathematics. Founded and coached the school's first MathCounts team and helped students to become competitive in regional competitions during just the second year of the program. Founded and served as editor of the school's first student newspaper. Worked after school twice weekly for 2 hours each day in the Texas After School Initiative – a program designed to reach at-risk children by delivering curriculum-based activities to provide them supervision, guidance, and academic help. Served as faculty representative at a series of mathematics education seminars sponsored by the Dana Center for Mathematics Education Research at the University of Texas. Worked with consultants from the Washington D.C. based Educational Trust organization to develop a plan to align current curriculum with new educational standards. Worked with grant consultants from the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation to form an implementation plan for the classroom teaching and environment practices that were developed as part of the foundation's Accountable Schools Program

OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

2011-2012 EDUCATIONAL TESTING CONSULTANTS, INC.
Instructor – Graduate Placement Exam Preparation

Instructor of test preparation courses for various graduate school placement exams. Responsibilities included teaching classes to prepare students for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT), and delivering test-taking strategy workshops for the GRE, GMAT, and Law School Admission Test (LSAT).

1994-2000 BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS ATLANTA, GA
Network Analyst and Engineer

Performed various roles including Project Manager and Technical Support Manager. Responsible for coordinating a multi-department project team charged with developing and implementing a design strategy to meet customer requirements for a network management solution to proactively monitor and provide fault management for BellSouth's 50,000 node Distributed IP intranet. Duties included developing project timelines, coordinating and facilitating project management meetings, installing, supporting, and customizing network management software, developing and delivering training classes for operations personnel in the use of the network management software, interfacing with third-party software developers and associated vendors, and developing in-house network management software.

1984-1994 BELLSOUTH SERVICES BIRMINGHAM, AL
Software Engineer and Systems Programmer

Held a highly visible position developing and supporting software critical to the functioning of a significant portion of BellSouth's data processing requirements. Performed various roles including lead technical analyst for in-house developed mainframe communications software. Duties included development, support, and troubleshooting of complex mainframe operating system software, data network design and implementation, training of co-workers, development of training classes in the management of data communications software, and delivery of those classes to operations personnel. Played a key role in integrating BellSouth's mainframe data communications network with BellSouth's distributed IP network. Served on a team to design and implement a solution for archival and retrieval of all of BellSouth's mini-computer data. Was selected to travel to New Delhi, India, on behalf of BellSouth International to deliver a talk as a panel member at an international electronics symposium on the subject of "Joint-Venture Companies and Software Development in India: BellSouth's Contribution."

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Relationship between listening comprehension and reading comprehension, instructional strategies to develop comprehension, adolescent and content area literacy, teacher

preparation and instructional effectiveness.

SCHOLARSHIP

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Verlaan, W.E., & Skelley, D.** (2021). Using structured student-led whole-class discussions to develop comprehension for literary analysis. In N. Cossa, A. Babino, J. J. Araujo, & R. D. Johnson (Eds.), *Building bridges with and through literacy: Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers Yearbook, Volume 42* (pp. 359-372). Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers.
- Verlaan, W.E.** (2019). Relative contributions of literal and inferential reading and listening comprehension to the reading comprehension of narrative and expository texts in middle grade students. In A. Babino, N. Cossa, J. J. Araujo, & R. D. Johnson (Eds.), *Educating for a just society: The 41st Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers Yearbook* (pp. 273-300). Louisville, KY: Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers.
- Verlaan, W.E.** (2018). Through the mind's eye: Using multi-modal assignments to build engagement and comprehension. *Journal of Adolescent and Adult Literacy*, 61(4), 453 – 456. doi: 10.1002/jaal.696
- Verlaan, W.E., Pearce, D., & Zeng, G.** (2017). Revisiting Sticht: The changing nature of the relationship between listening comprehension and reading comprehension among upper elementary and middle school students over the last 50 years. *Literacy Research and Instruction*, 56(2), 176-197. doi: 10.1080/19388071.2016.1275070
- Verlaan, W.E., Shull, M., Mims, M., & Nelson, G.** (2016). Using portfolios and student-led conferences to increase student motivation and parental engagement. In E. Martinez, J. Pilgrim, D. Kern, E. Ortlieb, L. Sharp, & W. Verlaan (Eds.), *What's hot in literacy: 2016 Literacy Summit Yearbook (Vol. 2)* (pp. 43-51). San Antonio: TX: Specialized Literacy Professionals and the Texas Association for Literacy Educators.
- Verlaan, W.E., & Verlaan, S.** (2015). Using video-reflection with pre-service teachers: A cautionary tale. In E. Ortlieb, L. Shanahan, & M. McVee (Eds.), *Video reflection in literacy teacher education and development: Lessons from research and practice* (pp. 151–171). Bingley, UK: Emerald Group. (**Winner of the Outstanding Author Contribution - 2016 Emerald Publishing Literati Network Awards for Excellence**)
- Verlaan, W.E., Ingraham, K., & Smith, J.** (2014). “I’m a boy and I don’t like pink!”: The influence of book covers on male elementary students’ text selection. In E. Martinez, L. Sharp, J. Pilgrim, & P. Durham (Eds.), *Texas Association for Literacy Education Yearbook Volume 2: Building momentum* (pp. 36-47). San

Antonio, TX: The University of the Incarnate Word.

Verlaan, W.E., Ortlieb, E., & Verlaan, S. (2014). Developing argument writing through evidence-based responses to student-generated questions. *Voices from the Middle*, 21(3), 34-40.

O'Brien, J. & **Verlaan, W.E.** (2013). 500 years of Spanish exploration and settlement: Children's literature. *Social Education*, (77), 1, 28-31.

Verlaan, W.E., & Ortlieb, E. (2012). Reading while listening: Improving struggling adolescent readers' comprehension through the use of digital audio recordings. In J. Cassidy, S. Grote-Garcia, E. Martinez, & R. Garcia (Eds.), *What's Hot in Literacy 2012 Yearbook* (pp. 30-36). San Antonio, TX: The University of the Incarnate Word.

Ortlieb, E., Perkins, D. R., & **Verlaan, W.E.** (2012). Investigating the effectiveness of vocabulary strategy instruction on content-specific word acquisition. *Elixir Psychology*, 43, 6843-6849.

Verlaan, W.E. (2010). Making writing count: Writing as a means of improving mathematics learning. In J. Cassidy, S. Garrett, & M. Sailors (Eds.). *Literacy Coaching: Research & Practice: 2009 CEDER Yearbook* (pp. 179 - 198). Corpus Christi, TX: Center for Educational Development, Evaluation, and Research; Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi College of Education.

Invited Book-Chapters

Verlaan, S.O., & **Verlaan, W.E.** (2020). Sequencing instruction in writing assignments to build purpose and promote student engagement. In E. Ortlieb, S. Grote-Garcia, J. Cassidy, and E.H. Cheek, Jr. (Eds.), *Literacy Research, Practice, and Evaluation: Vol. 11. What's Hot in Literacy: Exemplar Models of Effective Practice* (pp. 111-130). Bingley, UK: Emerald Group.

Ortlieb, E., **Verlaan, W.E.,** Cheek, Jr., E.H., & DiMarco, D. (2016). Rethinking writing products and processes in a digital age. In E. Ortlieb, E.H. Cheek, Jr., & W. Verlaan (Eds.), *Literacy Research, Practice, and Evaluation: Vol. 7. Writing Instruction to Support Literacy Success* (pp. 1-17). Bingley, UK: Emerald Group.

Verlaan, S.O., & **Verlaan, W.E.** (2016). Process with a purpose: Low-stakes writing in the secondary English classroom. In E. Ortlieb, E.H. Cheek, Jr., & W. Verlaan (Eds.), *Literacy Research, Practice, and Evaluation: Vol. 7. Writing Instruction to Support Literacy Success* (pp. 95-115). Bingley, UK: Emerald Group.

Ortlieb, E., **Verlaan, W.E.,** & Cheek, Jr., E.H. (2013). Fostering proactive reading instruction in the content areas. In E. Ortlieb & E.H. Cheek, Jr. (Eds.), *Literacy Research, Practice, and Evaluation: Vol. 3. School-based Interventions for Struggling Readers, K-8* (pp. 21-40). Bingley, UK: Emerald Group.

Ortlieb, E., **Verlaan, W.E.**, & Cheek, Jr., E.H. (2013). Vocabulary/comprehension-based models of reading clinics. In E. Ortlieb & E.H. Cheek, Jr. (Eds.), *Literacy Research, Practice, and Evaluation: Vol. 2. Advanced literacy practices: From the clinic to the classroom* (pp. 117-136). Bingley, UK: Emerald Group.

Pearce, D. L. & **Verlaan, W.E.** (2012). Using formal assessments to guide instruction. In E. T. Ortlieb, & E. H. Cheek, Jr. (Eds.), *Literacy Research, Practice, and Evaluation: Vol. 1. Using informative assessments towards effective literacy instruction* (pp. 73-105). Bingley, UK: Emerald Group.

Edited Volumes

Ortlieb, E., Cheek, Jr., E.H., & **Verlaan, W.E.** (Eds.) (2016). *Literacy Research, Practice, and Evaluation: Vol. 7. Writing instruction to support literacy success*. Bingley, UK: Emerald Group.

Martinez, E., Pilgrim, J., Kern, D., Ortlieb, E., Sharp, L., & **Verlaan, W.E.** (Eds.) (2016). *What's hot in literacy: 2016 Literacy Summit Yearbook*. San Antonio, TX: Specialized Literacy Professionals and the Texas Association for Literacy Educators.

Presentations (* Presentations not peer-reviewed are noted with an asterisk)

Verlaan, W.E. (November, 2023). *The critical but often underemphasized role of oral language comprehension in "Science of Reading"-based instructional initiatives*. Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers 66th Annual Conference, Santa Fe, NM.

Skelley, D., **Verlaan, W.E.** (November, 2023). *Seventh-graders' perceptions of identity development and outside influences after studying a coming-of-age ELA unit*. Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers 66th Annual Conference, Santa Fe, NM.

Skelley, D., Tarbett, L., & **Verlaan, W.E.** (November, 2021). *Implementing a multicultural literature unit to help students find commonality in each other's lived experiences*. Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers 64th Annual Conference, Hilton Head, SC.

Pletcher, B., Dagen, A. S., Pittman, R., Durham, P., Ortlieb, E. T., Toll, C., **Verlaan, W.E.**, Hill, J., Miller, C., Glance, C., & Lohnas, C. (November, 2021). *Looking forward: Determining best practices for clinical experiences of literacy professionals*. Specialized Literacy Professionals SIG Presentation, Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers 64th Annual Conference, Hilton Head, SC.

Pletcher, B., Dagen, A.S., Durham, P., Grote-Garcia, S., Hill, J., Kearn, D., Morewood,

- A., Ortlieb, E., Toll, C., & **Verlaan, W.E.** (October, 2020). *Looking forward: Determining best practices for clinical experiences of literacy professionals based on the actions of ILA Distinguished Programs*. SIG-Specialized Literacy Professionals, 65th International Literacy Association Annual Conference, Cloumbus, OH. (**Presentation accepted but conference canceled due to COVID**)
- Verlaan, W.E.**, & Skelley, D. (November, 2019). *Using structured student-led whole-class discussions to develop comprehension and critical thinking*. Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers 63rd Annual Conference, Corpus Christ, TX.
- Grote-Garcia, S., Bean, R., Durham, P., Hill, J., Ippolito, J., Kearn, D., Kindall, H., Ortlieb, E., Pletcher, B., Sharp, L., & **Verlaan, W.E.** (October, 2019). *ILA Standards for the Preparation of Literacy Professionals 2017: Challenges, barriers, bridges, and possibilities*. SIG-Specialized Literacy Professionals, 64th International Literacy Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Verlaan, W.E.** (November, 2018). *Reading comprehension of narrative vs. expository text: How literal and inferential reading and listening comprehension contribute to overall reading comprehension of each text type*. Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers 62nd Annual Conference, Louisville, KY.
- Cassidy, J., Castek, J., Dalton, B., Grote-Garcia, S., Hobbs, R., Ippolito, J., Kearn, D., Kindall, H., Ortlieb, E., Sharp, L., & **Verlaan, W.E.** (July, 2018). *Specialized literacy professionals as digital literacy leaders: From concept to practice*. SIG-Specialized Literacy Professionals, 63rd International Literacy Association Annual Conference, Austin, TX.
- Ortlieb, E., Tomassini, M., Susca, A., Cheek, Jr., E.H., **Verlaan, W.E.**, & Andersen, K. (November 2017). *Multinational and international perspectives on teacher effectiveness and student learning*. Literacy Research Association's 67th Annual Conference, Tampa, FL.
- Verlaan, W.E.**, & Verlaan, S.O. (November, 2017). *Making the process the product: dialoguing with student writers to increase engagement in the writing process*. 2017 National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention, St. Louis, MO.
- Verlaan, W.E.** (November, 2017). *Developing comprehension and close reading abilities with multi-modal assignments*. Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers 61st Annual Conference, St. Petersburg, FL.
- Cassidy, J., Grote-Garcia, S., Ippolito, J., Kearn, D., Kindall, H., Marinak, B., Ortlieb, E., Sharp, L., & **Verlaan, W.E.** (July, 2017). *Addressing diversity through literacy coaching and leadership*. SIG-Specialized Literacy Professionals, 62nd International Literacy Association Annual Conference, Orlando, FL.*

- Ortlieb, E., Cheek, Jr., E.H., Sampson, M., Susca, A., **Verlaan, W.E.**, Minogue, B., & Andersen, K. (July, 2017). *No medium left behind: Making writing relevant with multimodal practices*. 62nd International Literacy Association Annual Conference, Orlando, FL.
- Ortlieb, E., Smith, A. Sasake, Y., **Verlaan, W.E.**, & Cheek, Jr. E. Jr., (December, 2016). *Investigating how Japanese students perceive silence: Transitioning from Eastern to Western contexts*. Literacy Research Association's 66th Annual Conference, Nashville, TN.
- Verlaan, W.E.** (November, 2016). *The relationship of reading comprehension to listening comprehension for different text and question types*. Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers 60th Annual Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC.
- Risko, V., Cassidy, J., Fisher, D., Grote-Garcia, S., Harris, B. Kern, D., Marinak, B., Ortlieb, E., **Verlaan, W.E.**, & Walker-Dalhouse, D. (July, 2016). *Disciplinary literacy: Reading and writing across the content areas*. SIG-Specialized Literacy Professionals, 61st International Literacy Association Annual Conference, Boston, MA.*
- Shull, M., & **Verlaan, W.E.** (April, 2016). *The relationship between student-led parent conferences and parental conference participation and student motivation and achievement*. Research Horizons Day Poster Presentation, University of Alabama in Huntsville, Huntsville, AL.
- Verlaan, W.E.**, Mims, M. & Shull, M. (February, 2016). *Using digital writing portfolios and student-led conferences to increase student motivation and parental engagement*. 2016 Literacy Summit: Celebrating 20 years of “What’s Hot”, San Antonio, TX.
- Ortlieb, E.T., **Verlaan, W.E.**, Cheek, Jr., E.H., et al. (December, 2015). *International ICG alternative poster session: Language, literacy, equity, and imagination in global contexts*. Literacy Research Association 65th Annual Conference, Carlsbad, CA.
- Verlaan, W.E.** (November, 2015). *Video reflection instruction for pre-service teachers: A proposed instructional framework*. Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers 59th Annual Conference, Costa Mesa, CA.
- Verlaan, W.E.**, & Ortlieb, E.T. (December, 2014). *Comparing listening and reading comprehension of narrative vs. expository text*. Literacy Research Association 64th Annual Conference, Marco Island, FL.
- Verlaan, W.E.**, & Pearce, D.L. (November, 2014). *The relationship of gender to the listening and reading comprehension of narrative and expository text*. Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers 58th Annual Conference, Delray Beach, FL.

- Verlaan, W.E.** (May, 2014). *Comparing silent reading comprehension and listening comprehension in fourth, sixth, and eighth grade students*. Outstanding Dissertation Award Finalist Presentation, 59th International Reading Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Verlaan, W.E.** (May, 2014). *Using student-generated questions to address the common-core reading and writing standards*. SIG-Professors of Reading and Teacher Education (PRTE), 59th International Reading Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Ortlieb, E.T., Rennie, J.A., Dwyer, B.B., Frankel, K., Jaeger, E., Pearson, P.D., Marinak, B., Gambrell, L., Bates, A., Guvrit, D., Applegate, M., Applegate, T., Dalton, B., Jocius, R., Fisher, P., **Verlaan, W.E.** (December, 2013). *Symposium: School-based interventions for struggling readers, K-8*. Literacy Research Association 63rd Annual Conference, Dallas, TX.
- Ortlieb, E.T., Bowers, E., Ryan, T., Tysseling, L., Milby, T., Laster, B., **Verlaan, W.E.**, Deeney, T., & Dozier, C. (December, 2013). *Symposium: Advanced literacy practices: From the clinic to the classroom*. Literacy Research Association 63rd Annual Conference, Dallas, TX.
- Verlaan, W.E.** (November, 2013). *Investigating the effects of a "Freedom School" summer program on reading achievement and the prevention of summer learning loss*. Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers 57th Annual Conference, Dallas, TX.
- Verlaan, W.E.**, Ingraham, K., & Smith, J. (October, 2013). *"I'm a boy and I don't like pink!": The influence of book covers on males' text selection*. 2013 Literacy Summit: Building Momentum – Texas Association of Literacy Educators' Annual Conference, Austin, TX.
- Verlaan, W.E.** (April, 2013). *Using digital media to enhance secondary ELA teachers' awareness of methods to scaffold reading instruction*. SIG-Professors of Reading and Teacher Education (PRTE), 58th International Reading Association Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX.
- Verlaan, W.E.**, Pearce, D.L., & Ortlieb, E.T. (December, 2012). *The relationship between reading comprehension and listening comprehension in the 21st century: Developmental or environmental?* Literacy Research Association 62nd Annual Conference, San Diego, CA.
- Ortlieb, E.T., Cheek, E. H., Bowers, E., Dennis, D., Elish-Piper, L., Grandstaff-Beckers, G., Rodgers, E., **Verlaan, W.E.**, Wilson, K.M., Xu, S. (December, 2012). *Symposium: Utilizing informative assessments towards effective literacy practices*. Literacy Research Association 62nd Annual Conference, San Diego, CA.

- Verlaan, W.E.,** Pearce, D.L., & Ortlieb, E.T. (November, 2012). *Listening comprehension in the digital age: What do the data indicate?* Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers 56th Annual Conference, Grand Rapids, MI.
- Ortlieb, E.T., Cheek, E. H., Johns, J., Walker-Dalhouse, D., Perkins, H., Elish-Piper, L., Pearce, D.L., **Verlaan, W.E.**, Mohr, K., Risko, V., Daniel, M. (November, 2012). *Symposium: Utilizing informative assessments towards effective literacy practices.* Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers 56th Annual Conference, Grand Rapids, MI.
- Verlaan, W.E.** (May, 2012). *Reading response assignments: Fostering reflective practice in pre-service secondary content area teachers.* SIG – Professors of Reading and Teacher Education (PRTE), 57th International Reading Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.
- Verlaan, W.E.,** & Ortlieb, E. T. (February, 2012). *Improving comprehension in striving adolescent readers through the use of digital audio recordings.* Literacy Summit: What's Hot in Literacy for 2012, San Antonio, TX.
- Verlaan, W.E.** & Pearce, D.L. (October, 2011). *Increasing student achievement through formal assessment.* 34th Annual Conference of the Society of Educators and Scholars: Ethical Leadership for a Global Perspective, Corpus Christi, TX.
- Verlaan, W.E.** (April, 2010). *Using ELA skills to scaffold reading/writing in the content areas.* 2nd International Literacy Coaching Summit, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.
- Verlaan, W.E.** & Verlaan, S. O. (December, 2009). *Tips and strategies for writing National Board Certification entries.* Annual Texas Partnership for Accomplished Teaching State Conference, Austin, TX. *
- Verlaan, W.E.** (June, 2009). *Using writing to scaffold math achievement.* Me by the Sea Math Conference, Coastal Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi.
- Verlaan, W.E.** (April, 2009). *Making writing count: A look at writing in the mathematics classroom.* 1st National Literacy Coaching Summit, Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi.
- Verlaan, W.E.** (January, 2009). *What can Johnny read? A statistical comparison of reading assessment tools.* 6th Annual Conference of the Center for Educational Development, Evaluation, and Research, Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi.
- Skinner, K., **Verlaan, W.E.**, Rosales, L. (2008, April). *The teacher researcher: Grant writing and funding sources for action research in the Classroom.* 12th Annual Reading Conference, Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi.

Verlaan, W.E. (2007, December). *Implications of students' socio-economic status for multicultural education initiatives – what do the data say?* 5th Annual Conference of the Center for Educational Development, Evaluation, and Research, Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi.

Verlaan, W.E., & Verlaan, S. O. (2007, March). *Self-selected reading texts and reading response logs as an alternative to AR at the middle school and high school level: Teacher experiences and student work samples.* 11th Annual Reading Conference, Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi.

Flint, C., Griffith, B., & **Verlaan, W. E.** (2007, March). *Gifted and Talented programs: The disconnect between definition and selection matrix.* 11th Annual Reading Conference, Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi.

GRANTS/FUNDING

(2019) UAH Scholarship Enhancement Travel Award. *Using structured student-led whole-class discussions to develop comprehension and critical thinking.* Amount funded: \$500.

(2018) UAH Scholarship Enhancement Travel Award. *Reading comprehension of narrative vs. expository text: How literal and inferential reading and listening comprehension contribute to overall reading comprehension of each text type.* Amount funded: \$500.

(2018) National Science Foundation (NSF) Grant. **Other Grant Personnel.** *MuSTEM Scholarship Program.* Amount requested: \$999,975 (Not Funded).

(2017) Institute for Education Sciences (IES) Grant. **Co-PI.** *Differentiation of Instructional and Academic Language (DIAL) for Math and Reading in Middle Grades.* Amount requested: \$1,322,514 (Not Funded).

(2017) UAH Scholarship Enhancement Travel Award. *Developing comprehension and close reading abilities with multi-modal assignments.* Amount funded: \$500.

(2016) UAH Distinguished Speaker Series Award. *“Tested”: A documentary film examining the implications of high-stakes testing for students coming from diverse backgrounds.* Amount funded: \$2000.

(2016) UAH Scholarship Enhancement Travel Award. *The relationship of reading comprehension to listening comprehension for different text and question types.* Amount funded: \$500.

(2016) UAH Humanities Center Faculty Travel Grant. *Investigating how Japanese students perceive silence: Transitioning from Eastern to Western contexts.* Amount Requested: \$750 (not funded).

- (2015) UAH Scholarship Enhancement Travel Award. *Using digital writing portfolios and student-led conferences to increase student motivation and parental engagement*. Amount funded: \$500.
- (2015) UAH Humanities Center Faculty Travel Grant. *Video reflection instruction for pre-service teachers: A proposed instructional framework*. Amount funded: \$750.
- (2015) UAH New Faculty Research Program Grant. *Comparing Reading Comprehension and Listening Comprehension of Narrative and Expository Text in Middle Grade Students*. Amount funded: \$6,117.
- (2014) UAH Humanities Center Faculty Travel Grant. *The relationship of gender to the listening and reading comprehension of narrative and expository text*. Amount funded: \$750.
- (2014) UAH Scholarship Enhancement Travel Award. *Outstanding Dissertation Award Finalist Presentation, 59th International Reading Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA*. Amount funded: \$500.
- (2014) UAH New Faculty Research Program Grant. *Evaluating the effectiveness of two programs in preventing summer learning loss in elementary school students*. Amount funded: \$8,117.
- (2013) UAH Humanities Center Faculty Travel Grant. *“I’m a boy and I don’t like pink!”: The influence of book covers on males’ text selection*. Amount funded: \$750.
- (2013) UAH Individual Investigator Distinguished Research Award. *Evaluating the effectiveness of a freedom school summer reading program*. Amount funded: \$12,003.
- (2012) UAH Humanities Center Faculty Travel Grant. *The relationship between reading comprehension and listening comprehension in the 21st century: Developmental or environmental?* Amount funded: \$1250.
- (2012) UAH Scholarship Enhancement Travel Award. *Listening comprehension in the digital age: What do the data indicate?* Amount funded: \$500.

AWARDS

University of Alabama in Huntsville Outstanding Faculty Award 2020 – College of Education

Outstanding Author Contribution in the 2016 Emerald Publishing Literati Network Awards for Excellence for the chapter “Using Video-reflection with Pre-Service

Teachers: A Cautionary Tale” published in *Literacy Research, Practice and Evaluation*

International Reading Association’s 2014 Outstanding Dissertation Award – Finalist

American Education Week’s 2014 Teacher of the Year Award for the UAH College of Education

TEACHING CERTIFICATIONS

Elementary Education	Grades, K-8	(Texas)
English Language Arts	Grades, 8-12	(Texas)
Mathematics	Grades, 8-12	(Texas)
Social Studies Composite	Grades, 8-12	(Texas)

National Board Certified Teacher (English Language Arts/Early Adolescence)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS

International Literacy Association (ILA) (Formerly International Reading Association)
Specialized Literacy Professionals
Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers (ALER)
National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS)
Alabama Reading Association

SERVICE

Program Reviewer – ALER annual conference (2012 – Present)
Board Member – Specialized Literacy Professionals (2019 – 2021)
Committee Member – UAH Sustainability Committee College of Education
Representative (2020 – Present)
Committee Member – UAH Honors Council Committee College of Education
Representative (2015 – 2020)
Committee Member – UAH College of Education Dean 5-Year Reappointment
Committee (2019 - 2020)
Committee Member – UAH Authorships and Textbook Selection Policy
Committee (2019)
Reviewer – ALER Teacher Researcher Grant Award (2015 – 2020)
Committee Member – UAH Individual Investigator Distinguished Research Award
(IIDR) Committee College of Education Representative (2018)
Committee Member – UAH Graduate Dean 5-Year Reappointment Committee
(2018)
Committee Member – UAH Research Infrastructure Funding Award Committee College
of Education Representative (2018)
Committee Member – UAH Faculty Senate Personnel Committee and College of
Education Faculty Senate Alternate (2015 – 2017)
Faculty Sponsor for Kappa Delta Pi (2014 – 2018)
Treasurer – Specialized Literacy Professionals SIG of ILA (2013 – 2018)

Reviewer – Voices from the Middle (2013 – 2017)
 Program Reviewer – LRA annual conference (2012 – 2016)
 Reviewer – Center for Educational Development, Evaluation, and Research Yearbook (TAMUCC) (2011 – 2015)
 Site-Testing Manager – Children’s Defense Fund Freedom School Initiative (Summer 2013)
 Session Chair – PRTE SIG session at the IRA annual conference (2012, 2013)
 President-Elect – Corpus Christi International Reading Association (2011 – 2012)
 Vice-President - Corpus Christi International Reading Association (2010 – 2011)
 Member - TAMUCC Student Reading Council (2010 – 2012)
 Member – Corpus Christi International Reading Association (2008 – 2012)
 Volunteer – 2012 Coastal Bend Regional Science Fair Safety Committee
 Volunteer Judge – 2012 University Interscholastic League (UIL) meet
 Volunteer Instructor – PSAT/SAT test preparation tutoring at Collegiate High School (2011 – 2012)
 Volunteer Coach – Collegiate High School Academic Decathlon Team (2011 – 2012)
 Volunteer Coach – Collegiate High School Speech and Debate Team (2011 – 2012)
 Volunteer – Corpus Christi Literacy Council Bowling Tournament Fundraiser (2011)
 Mentor – National Board Certified Teacher Candidates (2008 – 2010)
 Faculty Sponsor – Media Literacy Club, Collegiate High School (2009 – 2010)
 Faculty Sponsor – National Junior Honor Society, Baker Middle School (2007 - 2008)
 Volunteer Instructor – Corpus Christi Independent School District National Merit Scholars Summer PSAT Preparation Program (2003, 2004, 2006)
 Faculty Sponsor – Miller High School Class of 2007 (2004 – 2006)
 Commodore (President) – Corpus Christi Windsurfing Association (501-C3 Public Corporation) (2004 – 2005)
 Assistant to Race Director – U.S. Open Windsurfing Championship (2003, 2004)
 Coach and Sponsor – MathCounts Team, Cullen Middle School (2002 – 2004)
 Editor – School Newspaper, Cullen Middle School (2002 – 2004)
 Volunteer Instructor – Texas After School Initiative, Cullen Middle School (2002 – 2004)
 Vice-President and member – Islander Association of Childhood Education International (ACEI) (2000 – 2002)
 Volunteer – BellSouth Buddies School Volunteer Program (1998 – 2000)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Activity	Date	Topics Covered
ALER Annual Conference	2023	Literacy Research and Instruction
ALER Annual Conference	2021	Literacy Research and Instruction
Quality Educational Practices Online	2020	QEPO Online Instructional Certification
LETRS Training	2019-2020	Language Essentials for Reading Teachers
ALER Annual Conference	2019	Literacy Research and Instruction
Alabama Literacy Association Conference	2019	Literacy Research and Instruction
ILA Annual Conference	2019	Literacy Research and Instruction
ALER Annual Conference	2018	Literacy Research and Instruction

Alabama Literacy Association Conference	2018	Literacy Research and Instruction
CIEP Training	2018	State Program Certification Documentation
NCTE Annual Conference	2017	Literacy Research and Instruction
ALER Annual Conference	2017	Literacy Research and Instruction
UAH DOE/NSF Grant Writing Training	2017	Writing competitive DOE and NSF Grants
ILA Annual Conference	2017	Literacy Research and Instruction
Alabama Literacy Summit	2017	Instruction for beginning readers
UAH Collaborative Learning Workshops	2017	Collaborative Learning Strategies
LRA Annual Conference	2016	Literacy Research and Instruction
ALER Annual Conference	2016	Literacy Research and Instruction
Alabama edTPA Conference	2016	Aspects of edTPA Certification
ILA Annual conference	2016	Literacy Research and Instruction
IES Grant Writing Webinar Series	2016	Writing Successful Grants
3 rd Literacy Summit, San Antonio, TX	2016	Literacy Research and Instruction
ALER Annual Conference	2015	Literacy Research and Instruction
ILA Annual conference	2015	Literacy Research and Instruction
LRA Annual Conference	2014	Literacy Research and Instruction
ALER Annual Conference	2014	Literacy Research and Instruction
IRA Annual conference	2014	Literacy Research and Instruction
LRA Annual Conference	2013	Literacy Research and Instruction
ALER Annual Conference	2013	Literacy Research and Instruction
Texas Association of Literacy Educators	2013	Literacy Research and Instruction
IRA Annual Conference	2013	Literacy Research and Instruction
LRA Annual Conference	2012	Literacy Research and Instruction
Alabama State Reading Conference	2012	Literacy Instruction
ALER Annual Conference	2012	Literacy Research and Instruction
IRA Research Institute (Annual Conference)	2012	Literacy Research
CITI Training	2011	Research Ethics
BlackBoard Training	2010-2011	Online Course Delivery and Instruction
ELITE Grant Writing Course	2010-2011	Grant Writing Process
AVID Training	2009-2010	Helping Diverse Populations be Successful
Echalk Training	2009-2010	Online Course Delivery and Instruction
International Baccalaureate Training	2007-2009	IBO Level 1 - 3 requirements
National Board Certification	2006-2007	Early Adolescence English Language Arts
Gifted and Talented Training (30 hours)	2006-2007	Meeting the Needs of Gifted Learners
TELPAS Training	2005/2006	Texas ELL Student Assistance Training
Regional AP Institute	2006	Delivering English Instruction
TAMUCC Brain-Based Workshops	2005-2006	Approaches to Brain-Based Instruction
Annual Texas NBPTS State Conference	2005-2009	NBCT Certification/Improving Instruction
University of Texas Dana Center Seminars	2003-2004	Math Education/Content Delivery
NCTM National Conference	2004	Math Education