Dr. Lynn Masterson

Dr. Lynn Masterson was a senior lecturer in the Secondary Education Program in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at Texas State University from 2006 until her retirement in 2020. She began her 41-year career as an elementary art teacher in 1979. She then taught English at the middle school level and served as a secondary language arts specialist for Austin Independent School District. She completed her doctorate at the University of Texas at Austin in 2010.

Dr. Masterson’s research interests focused on engaging teacher candidates in an exploration of self through narrative inquiry as a way to consider beliefs about teaching and learning, the purpose of schooling, and the role of personal history in professional identity. A central theme of her research was building relationships while creating a caring, culturally responsive community that honors students’ prior experiences.

Dr. Masterson taught undergraduate and graduate teacher candidates in the McNeil High School Block. Many of her students were part of the Teacher Recruitment Program, an accelerated graduate program for working adults seeking a teaching certificate. She also taught a graduate course on second language acquisition on the Round Rock campus. Students loved Dr. Masterson and named her an Alpha Chi Honor Society Favorite Professor seven times. The Texas Council of Teachers of English Language Arts named her College Teacher of the Year in 2019.

Dr. Masterson served the university and education profession in multiple ways. She was active in several professional organizations and served as the president of the Texas Council of Teachers of English Language Arts and as the president of the Central Texas Council of Teachers of English. She was the co-director of Heart of Texas Writing Project (HTWP) from 2004 to 2010 and a member of the leadership team of the Central Texas Writing Project (CTWP) from 2013 until 2020. She organized the Young Writers’ Camp for students in elementary through high school for both HTWP and CTWP. Because of her expertise in literacy and her work with the writing projects, she conducted multiple professional development workshops for teachers in the school districts in Central Texas. She also served on the Undergraduate Scholarship Committee at Texas State University.