

# Taylor N. Thomas, MA, LMHCA

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## Education

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### Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing

**Estimated Graduation: May 2024**

*University of Notre Dame*

*Notre Dame, IN*

- *MFA Representative for English Graduate Student Association*
- *Current GPA: 3.8*

### Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

**July 2020**

*Ball State University*

*Muncie, IN*

- *College of Health 2019-2020 Academic Ethics Committee member*
- *GPA: 3.7*

### Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

**May 2018**

*Saint Mary's College*

*Notre Dame, IN*

- *Minors: Gender & Women's Studies and Intercultural Studies*

## Teaching Experience

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### Course Instructor

**August 2023 – Present**

*Notre Dame*

- *Introduction to Writing Creative Nonfiction*
- *Introduction to Creative Writing*

### Teaching Assistant

**August 2017 – May 2018**

*Psychology Department, Saint Mary's College*

*Notre Dame, IN*

- *Clinical Psychology*

## Scholarships, Grants, and Fellowships

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### Graduate School Professional Development Award

**Awarded February 2023**

- *Downes Memorial Fund: \$2,400*

### Frazier Thompson Scholarship

**Awarded January 2023**

- *Professional Student Scholarship: \$1,000*

### Graduate School Professional Development Award

**Awarded December 2022**

- *Downes Memorial Fund: \$3,995*

### Notre Dame Media Fellow

**August 2022 - Present**

### Hurston/Wright Foundation Fellow

**June 2022 – Present**

## Accolades

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### Voices of Diversity: Outstanding Literary Essay Award

**May 2021**

- *Presented to an Ivy Tech student, staff, or faculty in recognition of a particularly lauded literary piece or body of work dedicated to diversity.*

**Graduate Assistant of the Year****April 2020**

- Presented to a Student Affairs Graduate Assistant who is an exemplary model of commitment to our Enduring Values and whose work had a significant impact on Ball State students, Ball State faculty & staff, or the Student Affairs profession as a whole.

**Harry Watkins Outstanding Achievement Award****April 2020**

- Presented annually to a student who consistently strives for, and attains, excellence in and out of the classroom, despite the presence of tremendous obstacles.

**The Mary Frances Eder Halpin Award****May 2018**

- Presented to the student who demonstrates academic excellence in gender and women's studies and an integration of feminist theory with practice.

**The Intercultural Studies Award****May 2018**

- Presented to the student with superior academic achievement and who has made an outstanding contribution to the intercultural climate at Saint Mary's.

**Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award****May 2018**

- Presented to the student who demonstrates effectiveness in instruction including accessibility to students outside the classroom and concern with intellectual growth of students.

**Literary Publications**

- Thomas, T. (2024, January). The Unchosen One. *Agapanthus Collective*, online.
- Thomas, T. (2023, August). Metamorphosis. *The Bitchin' Kitsch: All My Relations*, 5.
- Thomas, T. (2023, August). Enough. *Unlikely Stories*, "Fuck Florida" online issue.
- Thomas, T. (2023, March). The Body Keeps the Score. *A Thin Slice of Anxiety*, online issue.
- Thomas, T. (2023, March). Sisterhood of Suffering. *The Journal*, 46.2.
- Thomas, T. (2023, January). lovemelovemelovemeloveme. *Dipity Magazine*, 2.
- Thomas, T. (2023, January). Joining the Ranks. *Dipity Magazine*, 2.
- Thomas, T. (2022, December). The Hero Complex. *Across the Margin*, online.
- Thomas, T. (2022, December). Say Their Names. *Dipity Magazine*, Fall 2022 online issue.
- Thomas, T. (2022, December). Bah Humbug. *Active Muse*, online.
- Thomas, T. (2022, December). Consequences Often Unheard Of. *Salt Hilt Journal*, 48.
- Thomas, T. (2022, May). The Word. *So to Speak Journal*, Summer 2022 online issue.
- Thomas, T. (2022, May). Motherhood in *Mother*, a title just above queen. *Wingless Dreamer*, p. 64.
- Thomas, T. (2021, September). The battle. *Indianapolis New Voices*, 19.
- Thomas, T. (2021, August). The angry, black girl at a party. *Bayou Magazine*, 74, 39-40.
- Thomas, T. (2021, August). You have underestimated me. *The Indianapolis Review*, 17.
- Thomas, T. (2021, April). My curly, brown home. *root and branch*, XIV, 8-10.

**Literary Interviews****Notre Dame Review, #55****June 2023***Julie Anne Long***Readership and Literary Publisher Experience****Re:Visions Literary Magazine****October 2022 – Present***Graduate Student Liaison*

- Work as a guide to help students make selections
- Advise students on how to determine what standards to enforce for acceptances

**The Notre Dame Review** **September 2022 – Present**

*Reader & Editorial Assistant*

- *Read 5-10 prose submissions every 2 weeks*
- *Communicate with editors & staff on a weekly basis*

**The Master's Review** **April 2022 – December 2022**

*Reader*

- *Read 10 or more prose submissions weekly*
- *Communicate with editors & staff on a weekly basis*

**Relevant Volunteer Experience and Community Outreach**

**Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Judge** **January 2023**

- *Volunteer position*
- *Prose submissions*

**St. Joe County Public Library** **August 2022 – Present**

- *Community Workshop Instructor*
- *Community Workshop Coordinator*

**Professional Memberships**

- *The Association of Writers and Writing Programs* **January 2022 - Present**

**Employment History**

**University of Notre Dame** **August 2022 – Present**

*Office of Graduate Student Life Assistant*

*Notre Dame, Indiana*

- *Create media & marketing materials for social media accounts and more*
- *Run all social media accounts and posting regularly to encourage engagement*
- *Attend and help to facilitate events*

**University of Notre Dame** **July 2022 – August 2022**

*Research Assistant*

*Notre Dame, Indiana*

- *Helped to design and add information to new website for English Department*
- *Created online Bookshelf listing all writing authored and/or edited by faculty within English Department*
- *Updated lists of all current and past English students*

**University of Notre Dame** **February 2021 – June 2022**

*Part-Time, Staff Counselor*

*Notre Dame, Indiana*

- *Provide direct mental health services to students in short-term model*
- *Maintain accurate, timely clinical notes*
- *Adhere to relevant ethical and legal standards of HIPAA, relevant professional bodies, and state boards*
- *Consult with and refer to other professionals within UCC when appropriate*

*Supervisor: Amy Spanopoulos, LCSW, LCAC*

**Academic Advisor****June 2020 – November 4, 2021***Ivy Tech Community College**Elkhart, Indiana*

- *Ensured students meet educational goals as primary guide through degree requirements*
- *Advised students on degree-specific programs and procedures*
- *Identified at-risk student scenarios and highlighted opportunities for academic success improvement*
- *Guided students to a sense of accountability for their own choices and their impact on their prospects for academic success*

**Graduate Assistant****August 2018 – July 2020***Office of Student Life, Service-Learning**Muncie, Indiana*

- *Cultivated leadership in students*
- *Implemented service programming for Muncie community*
- *Managed volunteers*
- *Provided education on Service Learning*
- *Presented information on volunteer opportunities*
- *Maintained relationships with community partners*
- *Demonstrated dedication to student development*

**Teacher Assistant****May 2017 – August 2018***Early Childhood Development Center, Saint Mary's College**Notre Dame, IN*

- *Reinforced lessons presented by teachers by reviewing material with students*
- *Enforced school and class rules to help teach students proper behavior*
- *Helped supervise students in class, between classes, during lunch, and on field trips*

**Student Worker****August 2014 – May 2018***Office of Admissions, Saint Mary's College**Notre Dame, IN*

- *Provided clarifications to student's queries in a professional manner.*
- *Followed-up with students for any inquiries through direct meetings, live chat, phone calls, and emails.*
- *Advised students about the programs offered, admission procedure, eligibility and costs involved.*
- *Aided with recruitment activities, student interviews, admission publications, and information sessions.*

**Clinical Experience****University of Notre Dame****February 2021 – Present***Part-Time, Temporary Staff Counselor**Notre Dame, Indiana*

- *Provided direct mental health services to students in short-term model*
- *Maintained accurate, timely clinical notes*
- *Adhered to relevant ethical and legal standards of HIPAA, relevant professional bodies, and state boards*
- *Consulted with and referred to other professionals within UCC when appropriate*

*Supervisor: Amy Spanopoulos, LCSW, LCAC***Ball State University Counseling Center****August 2019 – May 2020***M.A. Intern*

- *240 Direct Service Hours*
- *Provided weekly individual counseling in short-term model*
- *Presenting concerns: anxiety, depression, interpersonal difficulties, eating disorders, etc.*
- *Received weekly individual and group supervision*

- *Conducted weekly initial intake and crisis assessment/intervention*
- *Coordinated care with psychiatrist on-site*
- *Participated in outreach activities*

*Supervisors: Brenda Karns, Ph.D., HSPP and Amanda McErlean, Psy.D., HSPP*

**Ball State Practicum Clinic****January 2019 – July 2019**

*M.A. Practicum Student*

- *Provided individual therapy services to diverse and underserved members of the community at outpatient community counseling clinic.*
- *Used Titanium to maintain and update electronic client records*

*Supervisor: Sharon Bowman, Ph.D., HSPP, ABPP, LMHC*

**Research Experience****Ball State University Counseling Center Diversity Team****August 2019 – June 2020**

*Member and Researcher*

- *Researched and presented on behalf of the team to the Ball State and Muncie Community*
- *Led LGBTQ+ and Transgender Safe Zone trainings for staff, faculty, and students of Ball State*
- *Over 50 direct service hours in research*
- *Research topic: Colorism and the impact on communities and individuals*

*Faculty Advisors: Kiara John, MA and Leslie Steele, LMHC*

**Multicultural Research Lab****September 2018 – May 2020**

*Lab Member*

- *Conducted experimental research*
- *Assisted fellow students in the development of research projects*

*Faculty Advisor: Dr. Mary Kite*

**Senior Comprehensive****January 2017 – May 2018**

*"Warped Images: The Sapphire and Intimate Partner Violence in the African American Community"*

*Faculty Advisor: Dr. Catherine Pittman, Professor of Psychology*

- *This 20-25-page paper explores the African American community, the stereotypes assigned to black men and women, and the resulting lack of discussion about relationship violence.*
- *Accepted for Gender Studies Symposium in Portland, Oregon*

**Independent Study Research****August 2017 – May 2018**

*"Student Attitudes of Socioeconomic Background on a Same-Sex Campus"*

*Faculty Advisor: Dr. Bettina Spencer, Associate Professor of Psychology*

- *We hypothesized that exposure to a high or low-income vignette, and participants' own SES, would have a significant effect on ratings of the target's guilt, trustworthiness, and sanction. We also explored whether condition and P SES had a significant effect on income-based word stem completion.*

**Research Methods****January 2017 – May 2017**

*"Perceived Stigmas of Lower Socioeconomic Students on a Same-Sex College Campus"*

*Faculty Advisor: Dr. Karen Chambers, Associate Professor of Psychology*

- *We hypothesized that participants from a higher SES background would give a harsher punishment to those from a lower SES background than they would have for people from a higher SES background.*

### Introduction to Gender & Women's Studies

August 2016 – December 2016

*"Jezebel and the African-American Woman's Sexuality"*

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jamie Wagman, Assistant Professor of History and Gender & Women's Studies

- *Produced an 11-page research report that explores the sexuality of African American women and the stereotypes that mainstream media has about black women.*

### Research Presentations

Thomas, T., Gaillard, S., & Banerjee A. (2021, March). *We are failing our Black clients: A call to action.* Association for Women in Psychology 2021: *Doing Anti-racism Work and Addressing Intergenerational Trauma.* Virtual.

Gerstein, L., Banerjee, A., Parker, C., Hobby, J., & Thomas, T. (2020, April 2-5). *The importance of equivalence and bias: A social justice imperative [Decolonization Work].* Counseling Psychology Conference, New Orleans, LA, United States.

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/v2ff7c1chhy9diw/Poster%20Session%20Assignments.xlsx?dl=0> (Conference canceled)

Thomas, T., Banerjee, A., & Gaillard, S. (2020, April 2-5). *Do Better: Why we need training to work with communities of color [Education and Training, Decolonization Work].* Counseling Psychology Conference, New Orleans, LA, United States.

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/d0anf9ldf2dtop/Roundtable%20Assignments.xlsx?dl=0> (Conference canceled)

Thomas, T. and Banerjee, A. (2019, November). *Race, caste, and violence: Affirmative Action and Reservation in U.S. and Indian universities.* *Building Sustainable Peace: Ideas, Evidence, and Strategies.* Notre Dame, Indiana.

Varner, B., Barrera, S.M., & Thomas, T. (2019, April). *Religion & slut-shaming: The impact religious views and sexual behavior have on sexual assault victim-blaming.* Poster presented at the 2019 Great Lakes Regional Counseling Psychology Conference. Louisville, KY.

Banerjee, A., Hernandez Finch, M., Halter-Rainey, R., Keesling, K., & Thomas, T. (2019, January). *Leaders creating spaces for meaningful participation.* *Beneficence Leadership Conference.* Muncie, Indiana.

Thomas, T. (2018, April). *Warped images: The Sapphire and intimate partner violence in the African American Community.* *New Directions 2018 Midwest Undergraduate Conference in Gender Studies.* Notre Dame, Indiana.

Thomas, T. (2018, March). *Warped images: The Sapphire and intimate partner violence in the African American Community.* Selected to present at 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Gender Studies Symposium. Portland, Oregon.

Thomas, T. & Lodge, C. (2018, March). *Student attitudes of socioeconomic background on a same-sex campus.* *Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) 2018 Annual Convention.* Atlanta, Georgia.

Thomas, T., Lodge, C., & Roberts, M. (2017, October). *Perceived stigmas of lower socioeconomic students on a same-sex college campus.* *Indiana Academy of the Social Sciences 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference.* Crawfordsville,

Indiana.

**Internship Experience**

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**SOS Advocate and Hotline Intern****June 2017 – August 2018***Family Justice Center**South Bend, IN*

- *Provided crisis intervention, emotional support, and referrals to victims of sexual assault and domestic violence and to their significant others on the phone and in person at area hospitals.*

**Associations & Activities**

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**English Graduate Student Association****May 2023 – Present***MFA Representative***Graduate Students Against Racial Injustice at Notre Dame (GS-ARIND)****August 2022 – Present***Member***Black Graduate Student Association****August 2022 – Present***Member***Black Student Association****August 2017 – May 2018***Secretary***Feminist United****August 2016 – May 2018***Club Member***Circle K International****August 2014 – May 2018***Club Member & Volunteer***Student Diversity Board****August 2014 – May 2018***Club Member***Skills**

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- *Proficient in record keeping software (Titanium)*
- *Familiar with statistical analysis software (SPSS)*
- *Familiar with various school databases such as Banner and Starfish*
- *Experience with Microsoft Office – Word, Excel, & PowerPoint*
- *Experienced presenting to a variety of audiences (i.e. parents, students, and staff)*
- *Experienced in event planning in higher education settings*