

Allison Kilgore Thompson
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Education

Post-Doctoral Certification in Administration and Supervision, North Greenville University, Greenville, South Carolina
EdD, Educational Leadership, North Greenville University, Greenville, South Carolina.

Dissertation title: *Practice Makes Confident: Building self-efficacy in preservice teachers*

MA, English, Kutztown University; Kutztown, Pennsylvania

BA, Secondary Ed/English, Clemson University; Clemson, South Carolina

Recent Professional Experience

University of South Carolina, Upstate, Spartanburg, SC

August 2026 - Present

Director of Field Experiences and Instructor, College of Education, Human Performance, and Health

- Partner with local schools and districts to provide strong placements for teacher candidates
- Teacher Cadet College Partner for Spartanburg, Union, and Cherokee schools
- Courses taught:
 - EDFO U333: Educational Development of the Lifelong Learner
 - EDSC U443: Middle and Secondary Educational Assessment

Riverside High School, Greer, SC

August 2017 – June 2026

Courses Taught:

- AP Seminar: a rigorous, college-level research course where students learn to interpret and synthesize scholarly studies, engaging in written and oral academic discourse about current issues in our society
- Teacher Education- Future Teacher Academy: A series of four dual-enrollment teacher education courses through Clemson University that provide exposure to the K-12 education profession and curriculum building, including three 50-hour field practicum courses
- English 101/102: Dual enrollment Freshman writing and literature courses through Greenville Technical College
- AP English Language and Composition: a college-level writing course in which students learn to analyze rhetorical strategy, synthesize source perspectives, and compose original arguments.
- Film Criticism: an introductory course that explores cinematic technique, film analysis, and film history
- Survey in American Literature

Professional Accomplishments:

- Led initiative to implement and promote AP Capstone programming, growing to 71 students in five years
- Cultivated positive relationships with local elementary and middle schools to support Future Teacher Academy
- Networked with district personnel and key community members to create valuable professional development opportunities for FTA students.
- Collaborated with English department colleagues to develop and implement strong vertical teaming processes
- Delivered a pass rate for both AP Seminar and AP English Lang consistently above State and National averages

The College Board

February 2024 – Present

Workshop Consultant and Presenter for AP Seminar

- Provide initial endorsement training and ongoing support for new AP Seminar teachers, including instruction in curriculum framework, pedagogy, and teaching strategies.

June 2019 – Present

Scoring Leader and Reader for AP Seminar Exam

- Deliver professional development for a team of AP Seminar exam readers
- Coach and support individuals and small groups throughout the AP reading

North Greenville University, Tigerville, SC
August 2024 – Present
Adjunct English Instructor

Leadership Experience and Institutional Service

School Improvement Committee, member, SY 2025-2026

Board Member, South Carolina Council of Teachers of English. 2021-2025

- Co-Vice President of Programs
- Assist in planning annual state-wide conference by securing exhibitors and vendors

Teacher Fellow, Public Education Partners. 2024-2025 Cohort

- One of 10 public school teachers selected for participation in a half-year policy and advocacy fellowship

Peer evaluator for Greenville County Schools teacher induction process.

- Observe and evaluate new teachers for state and district teacher induction
- Collaborate with administration and district staff to provide interim and summative evaluations and recommendations for new teachers

National Honor Society Sponsor

- Advise and oversee the activities of over 200 NHS student members, including monthly meetings, service projects, and special events

Greenville County Schools Instructional Materials Committee Pool.

- Review challenged instructional material

Faculty Council member.

- Riverside High School

Re-accreditation Committee Member

- Lehigh Valley Christian High School (school improvement)
- Shannon Forest Christian School (curriculum)

English Department Chair.

- Shannon Forest Christian School

Publications

Thompson, A. K. (2024). Quiet rebellion in an English classroom. In A.W. Jordan, T. S. Hawley, S. Wisdom, & T. Junter-Doniger (Eds.), *Rebellious Education: Joyful teaching as resistance in the American South and Appalachia* (in publication). Information Age Publishing, Inc., Charlotte, NC.

Thompson, A. K. (2024). Practice Makes Confident: Building Self-Efficacy in Preservice Secondary ELA Teachers. In ProQuest LLC.

Thompson, A. K. (March 19, 2024). Three ways to give preservice teachers meaningful classroom experiences. Education Week.

<https://www.edweek.org/teaching-learning/opinion-3-ways-to-give-preservice-teachers-meaningful-classroom-experiences/2024/03>

Thompson, A. K. (November 17, 2023). The four ways teaching is like yoga. Education Week.

<https://www.edweek.org/teaching-learning/opinion-the-4-ways-teaching-is-like-yoga/2023/11>

Professional Presentations

“Extending the Classroom: Ideas for Challenging High Flyers,” Riverside High School, January 2026

“Engaging FTA Practicum Students: Best Practices for Mentor Teachers,” Woodland Elementary School, November 2025

“Partnering with Preservice Teachers (concurrent session, accepted) South Carolina Council of Teachers of English, January 2025

“The Heart of a Teacher: Building Confidence in Preservice Teachers (poster session, accepted). National Council of Teachers of English. Boston Massachusetts. November 2024

“Best Practices in AP Lang.” South Carolina Council of Teachers of English. February 2024

“Students Helping Seniors: Engaging High School Students in Senior Service Opportunities.” Piedmont Region Assisted Living Activity Director’s Conference. October 2023

“Effective Feedback.” South Carolina Council of Teachers of English. January 2022

“Pointless Grading.” Faculty Professional Development. Riverside High School. 2021

Professional Affiliations

National Council of Teachers of English
South Carolina Council of Teachers of English

Previous Educator Experience

Adjunct English Instructor, Greenville Technical College; Greenville, SC
Instructed English 101, 102, and Developmental Grammar courses

English Teacher, Lehigh Valley Christian High School; Allentown, PA
Taught English I, World Literature, British Literature, ESOL

English Teacher, Shannon Forest Christian School; Greenville, SC
Taught AP English Literature and Composition, British literature, American literature, World literature, English I, Speech/Drama

English Teacher, Garrett Academy of Technology; Charleston, SC
Taught English I, World literature, American literature, Drama

Certifications, Endorsements, and Other Training

South Carolina Teacher Certification
South Carolina Principal Certification
ADEPT/PAS-T Evaluator
Gifted and Talented

AP English Language and Composition
AP English Literature and Composition
AP Seminar
AP Research