

Marissa Atchison

Killeen, TX / Open to Remote • (210) 663-0443 • marissa.r.atchison@gmail.com

Portfolio: marissaratchison.com • [linkedin.com/in/marissa-atchison](https://www.linkedin.com/in/marissa-atchison)

Instructional Designer & Curriculum Developer

Instructional Design • eLearning Development • Learning Experience Design

Instructional designer and former secondary science department chair with more than 13 years of experience developing engaging learning experiences, curriculum, and training materials grounded in real classroom practice. Skilled at translating complex scientific and technical content into clear, well-structured instruction, including online learning modules, assessments, and standards-aligned curriculum. Experienced in collaborating with subject matter experts and reviewing instructional materials for clarity, coherence, and alignment with learning goals. Currently completing a Master's in Learning Design and Technology at Purdue University (expected August 2026), with graduate work focused on developing effective digital learning and training solutions.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Instructional Design • eLearning Development • Learning Experience Design • Curriculum Development • Instructional Materials Review • Assessment Design • Digital Learning Development • SME Collaboration • Adult Learning Principles • Online Course Development • NGSS Standards Alignment • STEM Curriculum Design • Science Pedagogy • Educator Professional Development • Articulate Storyline • Canva • Google Workspace

EXPERIENCE

PLANNED CAREER BREAK | Killeen, TX

November 2025 - Present

Professional Development & Graduate Study

- Took a planned pause from full-time employment during a military family relocation while completing graduate coursework in Purdue University's Learning Design and Technology program.
- Focused on professional development in instructional design, online learning development, and evaluation of digital learning experiences.

FLEXI SOLUTIONS LLC | Remote

November 2024 - November 2025

Course Content Project Manager & Developer

- Designed and developed online learning modules using interactive activities and assessments to support learner engagement and knowledge checks.
- Collaborated with subject matter experts and design team members to translate complex scientific content into clear, engaging learning experiences.
- Reviewed and refined instructional materials to ensure clarity, instructional coherence, and alignment with learning objectives and standards.
- Managed timelines and deliverables across the course development process, coordinating work across a distributed design team.
- Provided subject matter guidance on instructional sequencing, standards alignment, and effective science pedagogy during course development.

PLANNED CAREER BREAK | Savannah, GA

May 2022 - May 2025

Family Care & Volunteer Leadership

- Served as Committee Chair and Advancement Chair for a Cub Scout pack, coordinating adult volunteers and organizing monthly meetings, events, and advancement tracking.
- Developed leader handbooks consolidating program requirements, activity ideas, and national resources to support volunteer leaders.

KILLEEN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT | Killeen, TX

August 2017 - May 2022

Pathophysiology Teacher

- Designed and implemented a full-year Pathophysiology course focused on helping students make sense of complex medical and physiological systems.
- Translated complex medical and physiological concepts into clear, structured lessons and assessments that helped students grasp challenging material and prepare for health science licensing exams.
- Developed the full sequence of lessons, laboratory investigations, and assessments aligned to health science standards and CTE certification pathways, refining the curriculum each year as the program expanded.

- Mentored a student teacher and supported newer science teachers transitioning into non-CTE courses, providing guidance on lesson design, pacing, and standards-aligned instruction.
- Designed and facilitated a professional development session modeling a cross-curricular unit based on *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, demonstrating how science, ELA, mathematics, and history can integrate around a shared narrative.

YSLETA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT | El Paso, TX

August 2014 - May 2015

Biology Teacher

- Developed and delivered standards-aligned biology instruction based on Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) standards.
- Designed lessons, laboratory investigations, and assessments to support student understanding of core biological concepts.
- Implemented inquiry-based instruction and hands-on laboratory activities to strengthen scientific reasoning and problem-solving.
- Collaborated with science colleagues to align curriculum pacing and review student performance data.
- Mentored a long-term science substitute teacher completing alternative certification by providing guidance on lesson planning, classroom management, and preparation for the TExES certification exam.

JUDSON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT | San Antonio, TX

June 2013 - May 2014

Science Department Chair

- Led a department of 14 science teachers, coordinating curriculum planning and instructional alignment across courses and grade levels.
- Facilitated department meetings focused on curriculum pacing, assessment alignment, and analysis of student performance data to strengthen instruction.
- Collaborated with science teachers as subject matter experts to strengthen lesson design, instructional materials, and standards alignment across department courses.
- Coordinated communication between the science department and school administration to support instructional initiatives and program needs.
- Managed a departmental budget of approximately \$10,000 for laboratory materials and instructional resources.

JUDSON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT | San Antonio, TX

August 2008 - May 2013

Science Teacher

- Taught multiple secondary science courses, including IPC, Pre-AP Biology, Environmental Systems, and Aquatic Science.
- Designed and developed the Aquatic Science course curriculum after identifying that the existing TEKS guidance lacked a clear instructional framework.
- Developed the full sequence of lessons, laboratory investigations, and assessments as the sole Aquatic Science instructor on campus.
- Taught inclusion IPC in a co-teaching model supporting students with diverse learning needs; the classroom was frequently observed by teachers and administrators as a model of effective inclusive instruction.
- Served as IPC Content Lead, coordinating curriculum pacing and assessment alignment across course sections.
- Mentored two student teachers and a newly hired science teacher while supporting colleagues preparing for Life Science and General Science TExES certification exams.
- **Recipient of the Spirit of Judson Teaching Award (2012)** for instructional creativity and student engagement.

EDUCATION AND LICENSURE

PURDUE UNIVERSITY | West Lafayette, IN

MSEd, Learning Design and Technology (Expected August 2026)

- Relevant Coursework: Instructional Design, eLearning Development, Learning Experience Design, Evaluation of Online Learning

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO | San Antonio, TX

Bachelor of Science in Biology, December 2005

TEXAS TEACHING CERTIFICATIONS | TX

Science (Grades 4–8) • Science (Grades 8–12) | Valid through April 2027