

# Jessica “Jai” Girard

## Curriculum Vitae

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### EDUCATION

**Ph.D.** Recreation, Park, and Tourism Science; **Texas A&M University**, ABD: May 2020

**Dissertation:** Traveler’s Food Waste Behaviors (Advisor: Dr. James Petrick) GPA 3.8

**M.S** Recreation, Park, and Tourism Science; **Texas A&M University**, May 2014

**Thesis:** Any base USA: The significance of military culture in the construction of identity. (Advisor: Dr. Corliss Outley) GPA 3.6

**B.A.** Sociology; **Texas A&M University**, December 2010 GPA 2.5

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### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

*Assistant Lecturer- Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Sciences; Texas A&M University*

Spring 2020- **Instructor of Record.**

Tourism Management (RPTS 323) –Enrollment 30 students

Summer 2018- **Instructor of Record.** (5-week online course) SR 4.65/5.00

Tourism Management (RPTS 423) –Enrollment 22 students

*Graduate Teaching Assistant- Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Sciences; Texas A&M University*

Summer 2019- **Instructor of Record** (5-week online course)

Planning and Implementation of Events and Programs (RPTS 311) –Enrollment 36 students

Spring 2019- **Instructor of Record** 4.23/5.00

Tourism Management (RPTS 323) –Enrollment 33 students

Fall 2018- **Instructor of Record** SR 4.64/5.00

Tourism Management (RPTS 423) –Enrollment 22 students

Spring 2018- **Instructor of Record** SR 4.94/5.00

Tourism Management (RPTS 423) –Enrollment 40 students

Fall 2017- **Instructor of Record** SR 4.89/5.00

Tourism Management (RPTS 423) –Enrollment 28 students

Summer 2017- **Instructor of Record** (5-week online course) SR 3.50/5.00  
Event Management and Operations I (RPTS 320) –Enrolment 25 students

Spring 2017- **Teaching Assistant** Under the direction of Debe Shafer  
Planning and Implementation of Events and Programs (RPTS 311) –Enrollment 87 students  
Event Management and Operations I (RPTS 320) –Enrollment 72 students

Fall 2016- **Teaching Assistant** Under the direction of Debe Shafer  
Planning and Implementation of Events and Programs (RPTS 311) –Enrollment 159 students

Spring 2016- **Teaching Assistant** Under the direction of Dr. James Petrick  
Tourism Marketing (RPTS 331) –Enrollment 76 students  
The responsibilities included grading papers, grading projects, exam proctoring, exam grading, and attendance keeping.

Tourism Marketing (RPTS 331) **Guest Lecturer**  
The Role of Marketing in Strategic Planning; Organizational Buyer Behavior of Group Market; Designing and Managing Products

Youth development and programming (RPTS 340) **Guest Lecturer**  
LGBT Youth Programming; Gender

Fall 2015-**Instructor of Record** SR 3.76/5.00  
Tourism Management (RPTS 423) –Enrollment 64 students

Summer 2015- **Teaching Assistant** Under the direction of Ron Fox  
Administration of Recreation Resource Agencies (RPTS 304) –Enrollment 49 students  
Financing and Marketing Recreation, Park, and Tourism Resources (RPTS 403) –Enrollment 53 students

Spring 2015-**Teaching Assistant** Under the direction of Ron Fox  
Administration of Recreation Resource Agencies (RPTS 304) –Enrollment 37 students  
Financing and Marketing Recreation, Park, and Tourism Resources (RPTS 403)-Enrollment 61 students

Fall 2014- **Teaching Assistant** Under the direction of Ron Fox  
Administration of Recreation Resource Agencies (RPTS 304) –Enrollment 23 students  
Planning and Implementation of Events and Programs (RPTS 311) –Enrollment 45 students  
Tourism Management (RPTS 423) -62 students

Spring 2014- **Teaching Assistant** Under the direction of Angela Durko and Matthew Stone  
Foundations of Tourism (RPTS 202) –Enrollment 40 students  
Event Management and Operations I (RPTS 320) –Enrollment 48 students

Fall 2013- **Teaching Assistant** Under the direction of Angela Durko and Matthew Stone  
Foundations of Tourism (RPTS 202) -Enrollment 120 students  
Tourism Management (RPTS 423) –Enrollment 42 students

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## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

**Graduate Research Assistant** to Dr. Corliss Outley- Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Sciences;  
Texas A&M University, August 2011-May 2012  
Responsibilities included data cleaning, manuscript writing, and citation checking.

**Graduate Research Assistant** to Dr. Heather Clark- Center for Community Health  
Development at the School of Rural Public Health, Health Sciences Center, September 2012-  
August 2013

Responsibilities included assisting with the implementation, evaluation of programs, tracking participants/data completion, data cleaning. Assisted with the write up for the following projects: Texas Healthy Adolescent Initiative (THAI); Brazos Valley Health Assessment (BVHA); Brazos Valley Interorganizational Network Survey; Somebody Cares with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. The Texas Healthy Adolescent Initiative case study sought to assess the impact of a Texas Department of State Health Services initiative on youth participants in the six project sites across the state of Texas. The Somebody Cares curriculum targeted knowledge, attitudes, intentions, and self- efficacy regarding medication and treatment adherence for HIV positive offenders in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice system 3 months prior to release. I was involved in tracking participants, evaluation of program, and assessment.

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## INSTITUTIONAL INVOLVEMENT

**Mock Interviewer-** 2015-2019 Department of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Sciences at Texas A&M University

**Mentor-** 2018-2019 GLBT Resource Center at Texas A&M University

**External Reviewer-** Fall 2018, Fall 2019 Student Media Grant Program Proposals for the Center on Conflict and Development at Texas A&M University

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## PUBLICATIONS

Alaniz, A., Catanach, C., Clark, H., Drake, K., Garney, W., Nimmons, K,...& Moser, A. (2013). *RHP 17 health status assessment 2013: Regional report*. College Station, TX: Center for Community Health Development.

Girard, J. (2019) *Tourist's Food Waste Behaviors*. Proceedings of the FoodTreX Food Travel Research Summit, London, England, November 2019.

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## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Outley, C., Blake, J., & **Girard, J.** *Out of school time bullying*. Poster presented at the 2012 at Texas Recreation and Park Society Annual Conference, Houston, TX.

Outley, C., & **Girard, J.** *Community youth mapping*. Poster presented at the 2012 at Texas Recreation and Park Society Annual Conference, Houston, TX.

**Girard, J.** *Military bases as childhood symbols: The significance of place in the construction of identity for military dependents*, Paper presentation at the 2013 Southwestern Social Science Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.

**Girard, J.** *Any base USA: The significance of place in the construction of identity for military dependents*, Paper presentation at the 2015 Graduate Colloquium, College Station, TX.

**Girard, J.** *Tourist's Food Waste Behaviors*, Paper presentation at 2019 Food Travel Research Summit, London, England.

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## AWARDS

Bradberry Youth Development Scholarship – Fall 2011  
Graduate Student Scholarship- WCHRIE Feb 2019  
Student Scholarship- FoodTreX 2019

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## SPECIAL CERTIFICATIONS/MEMBERSHIP

World Food Travel Association, Member, 2019-2020  
International Council on Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Education, Member, 2019-2020  
Certificate in Community Development Texas A&M University, 2017  
Certificate in Leadership Study and Development Texas A&M University, 2009  
Gamma Sigma Delta International Honor Society of Agriculture, Member, 2014  
Phi Phi Lambda Honorary Recreation, Park, and Leisure Fraternity, Member, 2014  
Sigma Alpha Pi National Society of Leadership and Success, Member, 2017  
Texas Food Safety Manager Certification, 2014-2024  
Texas Alcohol and Beverage Commission Seller/Server Certification, 2009-2020

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## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Member of the Fightin' Texas Aggie Corps of Cadets, August 2005- May2009  
Voices of Praise Gospel Choir, August 2005-May 2006  
Sophomores Advancing In Leadership, September 2006-May 2007  
Officer Candidate United States Marine Corps, February 2007-May 2010  
Corps of Cadets Recruiter- March 2007, May 2009  
Student Conference On National Affairs (SCONA) member, October 2006-May 2008  
SCONA **Executive Director** of Marketing, May 2007-May 2008  
Corps of Cadets Fast-Pitch Softball **Coach**, February 2007-May 2009

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## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Boys and Girls Club of Bryan, Summer 2013  
Six Kittens Rescue 501(c)3- **Co-Founder** October 2018-Present

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## MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Six Kittens Rescue 501(c)3- **Executive Director** October 2018-Present  
Founded a 501(c)3 non-profit kitten rescue and community outreach program. Recruited 4 board members and 20 volunteers. Developed the mission, strategic directions, and goals for the initial 3 years of operation. Recruited people to foster over 100 kittens and 3 dogs. Coordinates transport of cats/kittens in our care with fosters for veterinary visits, potential adoptions, and adoption events. Negotiated a long-term contract with a veterinary clinic for discounted services and special care. Trapped over 30 feral cats to spay/neuter, test for feline leukemia and feline AIDS, and vaccinate for rabies. Created and maintains all social media accounts including Facebook and Instagram, as well as a website. Planned and implemented adoption and fundraising events at local businesses. Was featured on the local news station as a community impact spotlight. Serves as the primary foster for sick kittens and/or kittens with contagious diseases. Raised over \$35,000 to care for all animals helped by the rescue. I am also responsible for researching and applying for grants.

Jeff Harmon Entertainment LLC (Bryan, TX)- **General Manager & Show Director** June 2017-Present;

Bartender. June 2017-Present

I was hired to help renovate and reopen the establishment after it suffered an extensive fire. It is located in a historic building in a Texas Historic Cultural District. I was tasked with helping applying for new permits for TABC, code, and Health. I have also been responsible for customer service, daily operations, product ordering, forecasting, maintaining positive vendor relationships, employee management, employee safety, training, payroll, event coordination,

light equipment maintenance, show coordinator, talent finder, marketing, and public relations. I maintain and develop content for all social media accounts Facebook, Instagram, and Snapchat.

Murphy's Law & Bavarian Brauhaus (Bryan, TX)- **General Manager** January 2011-March 2017; Bartender September 2010-March 2017

I was promoted to General Manger after working there for less than 4 months. My responsibilities included customer service, daily operations, product ordering/forecasting, maintaining positive vendor relationships, employee scheduling, employee management, employee safety, employee training, payroll, event booking and coordination, light equipment maintenance on walk-in coolers, beer taps, ice machines. I developed an extensive wine list, drink menu, and Irish faire menu. I was solely responsible for wine, beer, mixer, and alcohol selection. I booked live bands once a month and worked with the Irish Fiddlers group who played music once a week. I wrote 40 trivia questions a week for five years and on occasion was responsible for hosting Trivia Night. I also developed, grew, and maintained their social media presence on Facebook and Twitter.