

## **EDWARD F. BEASON**

Assistant Director - Accessible Education Center, Tennessee Tech University

### **Contact Information**

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## **EDUCATION**

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### **Middle Tennessee State University**

PhD, Public History (2022)

“Public” Focus: Public History and American Society

Interdisciplinary Focus: Digital History

History focus: Nineteenth-Century American History

Dissertation: “Technology, the Media, and American Politics”

Advisor: Lisa Pruitt. Committee: Molly Taylor-Poleskey (Chair), Andrew Fialka, Mark Doyle, Louis Kyriakouides

### **Tennessee Technological University**

M.A., Curriculum and Instruction (2007)

B.S. History (2004)

## **TEACHING FIELDS**

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Public History, Digital history, Social and Cultural History, American Revolutionary Period, 19<sup>th</sup> Century American History (The Early Republic, Civil War Era, Gilded Age), 20<sup>th</sup> Century American History (Progressive Era, World War I, The Roaring Twenties, Great Depression, World War II).

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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### **TENNESSEE TECH UNIVERSITY**

HIST 2010 – SPRING 2008-PRESENT

HIST 2020 – FALL 2008-PRESENT

HIST 3430 – SPRING 2021

HIST 4420/5520 – SPRING 2022

### **Course Descriptions**

#### **HIST 4420/5420 – Public History (Spring 2022)**

This course was developed and taught during in Spring 2022. The first third of the course focused on the defining “public” history philosophically and the rest of the course focused on specific issues in public history, like historical representations of slavery and Native Americans. Students read and reviewed four books, reviewed a public history site,

and wrote a final essay. Students went on two field trips; one to the Tennessee State Museum and the State Library and Archives and the other to the Civil War sites of Rippavilla in Spring Hill and Carnton Plantation in Franklin.

### **HIST 3430 – Digital History (Spring 2021)**

This course was developed and taught during Spring 2021. The first third of the course was focused on defining digital history, the second third introduced students to specific digital projects, and the last third of the course consisted of a hands-on mapping project. Students were introduced to 3-D photography, mapping programs, and other digital technologies historians use for research or for presentations.

### **HIST 2010 and 2020 – American History Survey (2008-Present)**

I have taught American history survey courses since January 2008. Both courses are taught lecture style. Though I have experimented with clickers and other classroom technologies, I have found that spending the time needed to create thought-provoking lectures along with illustrative PowerPoints keeps everything simple and engages most students. Students typically take three exams and complete a series of textbook quizzes. They also have the option to take an optional final exam. Quizzes are posted to iLearn and exams have traditionally been in-class scantron exams. I have recently experimented with the Testing and Learning Center. That experience has been mixed.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

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### **Assistant Director, Accessible Education Center (11/01/2013 – Present)**

Provide access for students with disabilities, manage the interactive process for students seeking accommodations, collaborate with faculty, centers like the Center for Innovative Teaching and Learning, and other campus entities to provide accommodations and digital and physical access for students with disabilities. Also, supervise the AEC staff that includes a Coordinator, Student Support Associate, student-workers, interns, and graduate assistants.

### **American History Instructor (7/01/2010-11/01/2013)**

This position was a full-time non-tenure-track position. This position consisted exclusively of teaching HIST 2010 and HIST 2020. I began teaching these courses in January 2008 as an adjunct, continued teaching them as long as I held this position, and then resumed as an administrative adjunct when I accepted the position in the Accessible Education Center

### **Media Specialist (March 2005-July 2010)**

Provided end-user assistance and managed a thirty-computer lab, the student-workers who staffed it, and the technologies available to the general student population who utilized the Volpe Library Media Center.

## **Professional Service**

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### **ADA Advisory Committee – Ex Officio Officer**

I have served as a member of the ex officio team for this committee since joining the Accessible Education Center in 2013. The purpose of the ADA Advisory Committee is to

advise and make recommendations relative to students with disabilities on Tennessee Tech campus. As an ex officio officer, I serve as an organizer for the committee, including organizing meetings and recommending content for discussion, and as a content expert who can provide information to the Chairperson and the membership.

### **Admissions and Credits Committee – Chairperson**

I served in this capacity in 2021 and was re-elected in 2022. I joined the committee as a member in 2019. This committee recommends policies, standards, and regulations for the admissions and retention of students. It also reviews cases of students with admission or readmission issues or students who have issues with academic credits or other University requirements. The committee also studies problems and recommends policies relating to credits to be recognized by Tennessee Tech and can act on other matters referred by the Academic Council.

### **Digital Humanities Committee – Member**

I have served on this committee for the past year. As a member, I was involved in the creation of the Digital Humanities minor, which is a joint effort between Foreign Languages, Geology, Computer Science, History, and the Volpe Library. There is much more work to be done but I am committed to further developing the minor.

### **President – Tennessee Association on Higher Education and Disability (2020)**

I was elected the president of the organization in 2020. I was tasked with navigating the challenges of the COVID pandemic, including adopting an online conference vendor and other pandemic protocols that kept disruption to a minimum.

### **External Affairs Chair – TNAHEAD (2017-2020)**

Elected External Affairs in 2017 and served in that role until 2020 when I was elected president of the organization. The External Affairs Chair position managed relations with external partners and also worked with students seeking scholarships from the organization. Part of the duties included creating a sub-committee to determine the annual scholarship recipients.

## **PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

### **National Conferences**

- 2021 – Accessing Higher Ground (Virtual)
- 2020 – AHEAD (Virtual)
- 2019 – AHEAD (Boston, MA)
- 2018 – Accessing Higher Ground (Westminster, CO) - Presented
- 2017 – AHEAD (Orlando, FL) - Presented preconference session.
- 2016 – Accessing Higher Ground (Westminster, CO)
- 2015 – AHEAD (St. Paul, MN)
- 2014 – AHEAD (Sacramento, CA)

### **State Conferences**

- 2020 – TNAHEAD (Virtual)
  - Served as President at this conference
  - Chief organizer of the first virtual conference
- 2019 – TNAHEAD (Nashville, TN)
- 2018 – TNAHEAD (Memphis, TN)
- 2017 – TNAHEAD (Lynchburg, TN)
- 2016 – TNAHEAD (Chattanooga, TN)
  - Presented on digital accessibility at Chattanooga State Community College.
- 2015 – TNAHEAD (Clarksville, TN)
- 2014 – TNAHEAD (Johnson City, TN)