

IZZY ALEXANDER

she/her/hers

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

I am a first-year master's candidate concentrating in Rhetoric, Writing, & Linguistics with a focus on Political Rhetoric. My educational and professional goals aim to increase civic engagement and education in the United States through studying our methods of political communication and analyzing political messaging. I am also a student athlete; I am a member of the player pool for the Women's Rugby Club at the University of Tennessee, the Knoxville Minx, USA South, and the USA U23 Southeast High-Performance Pathway selects. Both as an athlete and a researcher, I demonstrate a high work rate with a commitment to success.

CLIFTON STRENGTHS®

Input • Learner • Analytical • Achiever • Intellection

SKILLS

Communication (Interpersonal, Digital, & Public-Facing)

Team Leadership & Management

Organization, Strategy, & Execution

Community Connection

EDUCATION

The University of Tennessee-Knoxville, College of Arts & Sciences

Knoxville, Tennessee

Bachelor of Arts in English

Graduation: May 2025

Primary Major: *English*

Concentration: *Rhetoric & Writing (Honors)*

Major GPA: 4.00/4.00

Secondary Major: *World Languages & Cultures*

Concentration: *German*

Minor: *Linguistics*

Cumulative GPA: 3.96/4.00

Dean's List, 8 Semesters

WORK EXPERIENCE

University of Tennessee Libraries

Knoxville, Tennessee

Student Library Assistant, Community Learning & Engagement

August 2022 – May 2025

- Assist in the planning of local conferences and outreach programs servicing K-12 students
- Create presentation materials and edit the relevant research of the Assistant Dean
- Send and facilitate electronic communication of the Assistant Dean

University of Tennessee Jones Center for Leadership & Service

Knoxville, Tennessee

Ignite: Student Director of Operations

September 2023 – September 2024

- Manage operations and logistics of over fifty staff members and eight orientation sessions
- Assist full-time staff members in making schedules and planning details of the orientation
- Collaborate with executive team to holistically plan and achieve eight Ignite orientation sessions during the summer of 2024

Ignite: Student Director of Service

September 2022 – September 2023

- Plan both direct and indirect service opportunities at Ignite 865 sessions during the summer and the beginning of the academic year
- Act as service liaison between the Ignite programs at the Jones Center for Leadership and Service and local service partners, nonprofits, and organizations in Knoxville

- Collaborate with executive team to holistically plan and achieve six Ignite orientation sessions during the summer of 2023

Ignite: Serves Team Leader

November 2021 – August 2022

- Facilitate Ignite Serves sessions at the beginning of the academic year
- Provide structure and support for incoming freshman, acting as a mentor and a guide
- Encourage students to grow through inclusive, directed leadership training

University of Tennessee

Knoxville, Tennessee

Honors Ambassador

August 2022 – December 2022

- Communicate with prospective University students about the four Honors programs
- Provide information about each Honors program and answer student and family questions
- Collaborate with the Ambassador team to staff recruitment and orientation programs

College of Arts & Sciences Ambassador

August 2022 – December 2022

- Communicate with prospective University students about the College of Arts & Sciences, its majors and minors, and the University's pre-professional programs
- Host private tours centered around the prospective student's area of academic interest
- Answer questions from students and parents about the College and the University

Raising a Voice

Knoxville, Tennessee

Grant-Writing Intern

September 2021 – May 2022

- Write grants for a variety of projects and general support for a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization
- Research weekly to find new opportunities from governmental and private funders
- Service the organization through initiatives and community outreach
- Applied for 12 grants, received at least 5 grants for a total of \$66, 834 during my employment

INVOLVEMENT

GRIST Magazine

Knoxville, Tennessee

Fiction Reader

Spring 2025 – present

- Read, edit, and review 20+ fictional short within one week of assignment
- Determine the fictional and rhetorical merit of works submitted
- Offer recommendation to editors regarding placement of works within GRIST's style and vision

Sigma Tau Delta—Alpha Epsilon Chi chapter

Knoxville, Tennessee

Secretary

April 2024 – April 2025

- Attend and participate in biweekly executive board meetings
- Serve as the chapter's official notetaker
- Maintain a well-organized online portfolio of the chapter's resources and information
- Book meeting rooms and materials needed for events

Inductee

April 2022 – present

- Participate in discussions, events, and community-building efforts with fellow English majors in the chapter honor society
- Connect with alumni and other English majors
- Access scholarship and community-building resources through the national chapter

World Languages & Cultures

Knoxville, Tennessee

German Peer Mentor

Fall 2023

- Attend GERM 101 (first-semester German for non-native speakers) class sessions regularly to learn alongside students
- Host optional, extracurricular study sessions to engage students' needs while learning the language
- Provide additional 30-minute oral examination opportunities where students speak only German,

- utilizing key vocabulary from in-class units
- Ensure students receive tutoring and resources which work best for their unique learning styles

SPARK! for German

SPARK! Lab Instructor

Knoxville, Tennessee

Spring 2022 & Spring 2024

- Utilize common curriculum and build personalized lesson plans for elementary-aged children
- Facilitate a friendly and fun environment to learn a world language within
- Participate in activities with children to engage their world language learning
- Answer questions appropriately and accurately while avoiding confusing, complex explanations about the German language

German Club

President

Knoxville, Tennessee

January 2022 – August 2024

- Plan events to spread awareness about the German program at the University
- Collaborate with team members from the United States and exchange students from Germany to accurately represent the culture of Germany
- Engage the greater university in club events
- Practice and apply language-learning skills with other German-speaking students

University of Tennessee Women's Rugby & Football Club

Member

Knoxville, Tennessee

August 2021 – Present

- Practice to play women's rugby through the University's RecSports program
- Actively compete against other South Atlantic Rugby Conference schools' women's teams
- Collaborate and engage in local adult rugby circles, helping volunteer and play with the adult women's and men's teams to facilitate the growth of the rugby community of Knoxville

Match Secretary

April 2022 – May 2024

- Schedule competitions, matches, and tournaments with schools in the Southeast and beyond
- Work with RecSports employees to reserve facilities, maintain reimbursements, approve travel, and keep open communication about events the team hosts on- or off-campus
- Communicate details and schedule to the team in a timely and personable fashion
- Design and maintain the team website and social media with updates and alumni
- Serve as the travel liaison; plan all of team's competitive travel opportunities, seek approval for each, provide proper paperwork for funding and reimbursement, and act as team driver

Captain

August 2022 – May 2025

- Act as liaison between team members and coaches
- Lead warm-up and warm-down sessions at practice, stretching sessions after matches, and all optional fitness sessions outside of regular practice time
- Attend practice regularly to establish expectations and communication between team members
- While competing, communicate with the referee and team members to ensure safe gameplay

President

May 2024 – May 2025

- Supervise, mentor, and support all leadership activities from other executive board members
- Set an agenda and host General Body Meetings of the club
- Serve as the club's national and local liaison (National Collegiate Rugby, South Atlantic Rugby Conference, RecSports)
- Represent the club during recruitment and recognition efforts

RESEARCH

- Undergraduate honors thesis in English, directed by Dr. Lisa M. King and secondarily advised by Dr. Daniel H. Magilow (Spring 2025)
- Virginia Woolf research assistant with UT-Prof. Urmilia Seshagiri (Summer 2023)

HONORS & AWARDS

– University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Torchbearer (2025)

Volunteer of Distinction (2025)

Anne Hight Gore Best Thesis Prize (2025)

Spirit of the Hellbender “Porsha Smash” Award from the Women’s Rugby Club (2025)

National Collegiate Rugby Scholastic All-American (2024, 2025)

Women’s Rugby Club Officer of the Year (2023, 2025)

John L. & Elsbeth Kind Award (2022, 2023)

Induction to the Alpha Epsilon Chi chapter of Sigma Tau Delta (2022)

Chancellor’s Honors graduate

Leadership Knoxville Scholars graduate

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

– May 2025

“Zwei Mauern: A rhetorical analysis of U.S. and Soviet internal and external communication surrounding the construction of the Berlin Wall.” *Chancellor’s Honors Program Projects*, May 2025, trace.tennessee.edu/cgi/preview.cgi?article=3630&context=utk_chanhonoproj.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Sigma Tau Delta, the international English honors society (2022—present)

National Collegiate Rugby (2022 – present)

MidSouth Rugby Referee Union (2023 – present)

GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

– University of Tennessee, Knoxville (M.A.)

Academic Fellowship, English department

– University of Tennessee, Knoxville (B.A.)

Chancellor’s Scholarship

Fred M. Roddy Merit Scholarship

Volunteer Scholarship

LICENSES & CERTIFICATIONS

- German C1 Proficiency Designation – Non-Native Fluency

Deutsche Sprachdiplom II der Kultusministerkonferenz

- L1 Referee

World Rugby

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Friends of Literacy

Leadership Knoxville Scholars intern

Knoxville, Tennessee

January 2024 – May 2025

- Manage incoming donations to the MUSE Knoxville Little Free Library

- Exchange donated books and purchase used children’s books at local bookstores

- Assist with administrative needs

Knoxville Rookie Rugby

Volunteer

Knoxville, Tennessee

August 2023 – present

- Referee and volunteer at the annual Halloween 7s event for youth, middle, and high school girls and boys rugby
- Assist with drills during Knoxville Inner City Rugby practices
- Coach fifth grade practices once a week in the spring

- Recruit local gym teachers and encourage the play of rugby in gym classrooms, according to USA Rugby's *Imagine Rugby* pathway

Knoxville Museum of Art*Front Desk Volunteer*

Knoxville, Tennessee

December 2021 – Present

- Explain and advertise the museum's various exhibits
- Answer pedagogical or practical questions raised in a timely manner
- Organize information and personal profiles of patrons digitally
- Collaborate with volunteer and part-time staff to manage the first impression of the museum

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CPR/AED and First Aid certified (September 2023)

Naloxone certified (September 2021)