

# University of West Florida | Graduate School

## *Student Spotlight: Kylie Pugh*

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### **Kylie Pugh, English**

I do want to teach at the collegiate level and thankfully, once you achieve eighteen credits in the state of Florida with the master's of English, you can start teaching, and the composition program for graduates really preps you for that. So, you do a semester of GTA-ing, so you're helping another professor, you're learning how to plan, you do a couple of lessons on your own, and the next semester, you transition, and you have your own class. And so, I've been lucky enough to have my own class several times. And going through the whole process not just what you like to teach, but also: How do you grade? How do you do weighted grades? How do you answer student questions? Like, I have foreign exchange students that maybe don't know what pineapple is. That's a real question, that really happened. But it really prepped me for the real world afterwards because I'm about to graduate, my thesis has been approved, and I get to go and apply for jobs knowing that I already have collegiate experience. I don't have to bluff my teaching philosophy. I can write it from experience, and I think that that is really valuable.