

JESSICA M. GRAVES

STARKVILLE, MISSISSIPPI 39759

205-955-5810

jbm205@gmail.com

EDUCATION

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY | 2022

Doctor of Philosophy

Agricultural & Extension Education

Focus area: International Capacity Development

Dissertation: *The Guatemala Rabbit Project: A household agricultural intervention program evaluation using the RE-AIM framework*

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY | 2010

Master of Science in Agriculture

Focus area: Animal Nutrition

Thesis: *Performance of neonatal Holstein heifers fed yeast derivatives in milk replacer*

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY | 2008

Bachelor of Science

Animal & Dairy Sciences

LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

PARTNERS IN ADVOCACY LEADERSHIP (PAL) Class 12

American Farm Bureau Federation | 2024 - PRESENT

WORK EXPERIENCE

OWNER & OPERATOR

Kindred Hills Ag, LLC | 2023-PRESENT

DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

M4 Institute | 2023-PRESENT

- Cultivate and nurture partnerships with academic institutions for community-engaged learning opportunities (study abroad, internships, mission trips, and related)
- Forge and foster lasting relationships with domestic and international partners
- Coordinate and host Christ-centered, in-country ministry activities for teams
- Promote the organization for outreach and engagement
- Secure monthly support for ministry activities
- Create and share organizational news by way of newsletters
- Oversee program planning, monitoring, and evaluation
- Conduct needs assessments for new programs/projects
- Develop, implement, and evaluate agricultural projects
- Identify, develop, and submit proposals for competitive funding opportunities
- Lead hands-on agricultural training and education activities

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR

Huntington University | 2024-PRESENT

- Instruct international agriculture courses with a biblical focus
- Forge and foster lasting relationships with domestic and international partners
- Coordinate and lead agricultural missions and ministry activities for teams
- Lead hands-on agricultural training and education activities

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE



Global Discovery Seed Grant Needs Assessment Activities | Uganda 2024



World Food Prize | Borlaug Dialogue | Exhibitor & Mississippi Youth Institute Program Assistant | 2018-2023



Community- and School-based Agricultural Training | Guatemala



Christian Veterinary Mission Short Term Missions|Haiti | 2015 & 2016



Rural Medical Experience in Cambodia

- 2023 & 2024 | 20 students



People, Planet, & Profit: An Interdisciplinary Experience in Kenya

- 2022 | 13 students



Guatemala Livestock Education

- 2017-2023 | 102 students



Vietnam: Muscle Foods & Cuisine

- 2016 | 2 students

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DIRECTOR OF ACADEMIC ADVISING & INSTRUCTOR

Mississippi State University | 2020-2023

- Directed academic advising activities for the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences (CALs)
- Served as the clearinghouse in the CALs for degree candidates by way of degree auditing
- Collaborated with departmental coordinators to resolve degree audit issues
- Hosted advising workshops for students and faculty advisors
- Maintained academic records for CALs
- Reviewed & approved academic forms on behalf of the CALs Dean
- Developed and implemented effective communication plans with departmental administration, faculty/staff, and students with dates, deadlines, policies & procedures
- Instructed international agricultural courses
- Developed, recruited, and directed study abroad programs for the CALs
- Served as the CALs liaison with community colleges to develop academic agreements
- Hosted the CALs television show, "INFLUENCE"
- Sought funding opportunities (internal & external) and submitted proposals that enhance student learning through international experiences and other experiential learning platforms

UNDERGRADUATE COORDINATOR & INSTRUCTOR

Mississippi State University | 2012-2020

- Chaired undergraduate courses and curricula programming
- Developed and implemented undergraduate student recruitment strategies
- Directed departmental internship program
- Developed novel advising "course" via Canvas platform for students and faculty advisors
- Coordinated, facilitated, and hosted departmental visits for prospective students, school groups, and other invited guests
- Forged interdepartmental relationships to enhance teaching, research, and outreach efforts
- Cultivated global-mindedness among students through study abroad programming
- Collaborated with community college advisors and administration to ensure course articulation agreements for transfer students
- Conducted degree audits for and exit interviews with degree candidates
- Advised approximately 85 students each semester including College of Veterinary Medicine Early Entry Program students

INVITED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Starkville Rotary Club | July 2025
- Huntington University | Chapel Service | February 2025
- Indiana Sheep Association | September 2024
- Global Learning in Agriculture (GLAG) | Expert Panelist | Field of Hope "Ask me anything" via WhatsApp | April 2022
- Fireside Chat | AIARD | July 2021
 - Global food security experience and leading students abroad
- Global Learning in Agriculture (GLAG) | World Tour Guide | February 2021
- AELC 4603 International Agricultural Education | Guest Lecturer | spring 2019 & 2020

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS

- Association for International Agriculture and Rural Development (AIARD)
- Association for International Agricultural and Extension Education (AIAEE)
- Global Teach Ag Network

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- SEED Ministries | Board Member | 2025- Present
- Artesia Baptist Church | Music Director | 2011- Present
- 4-H Youth Program Volunteer
- Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation Collegiate Discussion Meet - Judge

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RELEVANT COURSES TAUGHT

- Program Planning & Development(graduate level)
- Animal Agriculture & Society (*general education social science course*)
- Introduction to Animal Science & Laboratory
- Introduction to Environmental Science
- Farm2Fork:Meat Rabbit Production
- Dairy Cattle Appraisal
- International Agricultural Systems
- International Agricultural Education
- Wholeness, Global Poverty, and Alleviation Strategies
- Christ-centered Agricultural Development

SERVICE & COMMITTEES - MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

- MSU International Programs Committee|2020-2023
- CALS Courses & Curricula Committee|2013-2023
- CALS Courses & Curricula Committee|Chair|2016-2019
- Academic Review Board|2015-2020
- CALS Recruitment Committee|2012-2023
- ADS Scholarship Committee|2012-2020
- MSU Community Engagement Committee|2015-2018

GRANT WRITING ACTIVITIES & FUNDING

- Mississippi State University International Institute Global Discovery Seed Grant | **\$5,000** | 2023
- USDA - FAS. International Agricultural Education Fellowship Program (IAEFP)
 - 2023 |**\$499,465**|Further review & *considered for funding*
 - 2022 |**\$504,551**|Further review & *considered for funding*
 - 2021 |**\$454,524**|Further review & *considered for funding*
- Center for Community-Engaged Learning Mini-Grant|**\$300**|2022-2023
- Center for Community-Engaged Learning Award|**\$750**|2021
- CALS/MAFES Undergraduate Research Scholars Program|**\$3,500**|2020
- William M. White Special Project Award|**\$2,500**|2020
- Mississippi State University International Institute Global Discovery Seed Grant|**\$3,620**|2020
- Center for Community-Engaged Learning Mini-Grant. "Guatemala Livestock Education"|**\$500**|2019
- USDA-NIFA. "Agricultural Graduates: Prepared through Global and Applied Programs"|**\$374,993.00**|2019
- U.S. Department of State – Capacity Building Program for U.S. Study Abroad. "Establishing a Study Abroad Coordinator Position within the Division of Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine (DAFVM) Bridge International Research Faculty and Teaching Faculty for Study Abroad Development and Sustainability"|**\$34,419.90**|2019
 - **Served as DAFVM Study Abroad Coordinator**
- CALS Faculty-Led Study Abroad Grant. "Guatemala Livestock Education"|**\$3,000**|2016-2017
- Center for the Advancement of Service-Learning Excellence Mini-Grant. "Partnering with the 4-H Cloverbud Program"|**\$500**|2015
- CALS Faculty-Led Study Abroad Grant. "Meat Production, Merchandizing, and Consumption in Developing Countries"|**\$3,000**|2015-2016
- William M. White Special Project Award|**\$1,750**|2014
 - Proposal: Service Learning in Animal Agriculture: Teaching Students and Helping Producers through Community Involvement

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- Komakech, Joel J., Nsubuga, Edirisa J., **Graves, Jessica M.**, Apalowo, Oladayo E., Mathews, Rahel, and Pylate, Leah B.(2025) Determinants of Anemia Among Children Under Five in Eastern Uganda: A Community-Based Cross-Sectional Study. *Frontiers in Public Health*.Volume 13.
<https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2025.1618395>