

Anna Bess Pridgen

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EDUCATION

Davidson College - Davidson, NC

Bachelor of Arts, Double Major Hispanic Studies / Education Studies, education policy concentration Class of 2024

- GPA: 3.79, Magna Cum Laude, Hispanic Honors Society Sigma Delta Pi

Classes - Critical Issues in Higher Ed, Intro to Ed Policy, Research Methods in Ed Studies, Data in Education, Politics of Education, Community Engagement and Change, Hispanic Bilingual Communities, Sociology of Education

University of Seville and CIEE Seville - Seville, Spain

Study Abroad

August-December 2022

- University of Seville Education Dept. - Qualitative Methodological Research for Social Change, Education History, Modern Global History, Advanced Spanish grammar, Spanish Culture and Cuisine

WORK EXPERIENCE

Fulbright Fellowship 2024-2025 - Esquipulas, Chiquimula, Guatemala

English Teaching Assistant Fellow

February-December 2025

- Instructed Access English courses to local high school students using innovative teaching methods in cooperation with local teachers
- Created events and workshops for students who teach English, American culture, history, and leadership
- Contributed to a Regional Enhancement Seminar in Lima, Peru, alongside 19 other ETAs to share our experiences and knowledge, and participate in workshops to enrich our teaching skills

Law Office of Kristin Parks - Chapel Hill, NC

Paralegal on Capital Post Conviction Cases, appointed by NC Indigent Defense Services

January 2026-Present

- Digested legal documents in post conviction cases
- Organized educational, medical, and incarceration records and wrote summaries for attorneys
- Wrote legal research memos for upcoming litigation
- Met with incarcerated clients to explain issues that have developed in their cases

Josh Stein for North Carolina - Raleigh, NC

Governor's Campaign Political Opposition Research Intern

August-November 2024

- Scouted for and categorized information about targets through social media and online records
- Transcribed speeches, videos, radio shows, etc, and categorized and emphasized important information
- Assisted in planning and worked in field research, team events, and State Democratic Party events

Private Families - Davidson, NC and Chapel Hill, NC

Nanny

August 2020-February 2025

- Cared for children aged 2 weeks to 12 years old, usually in sibling groups
- Emphasized activities that included spending time in and caring for nature, being an active part of the local community, healthy habits, and growing literacy and creativity skills through art and reading

The College Crisis Initiative - Davidson, NC

Summer Research Assistant

May-August 2023

- Efficiently searched for policies and keywords on institutions' websites and practices to research and present data on the effects of legacy admissions policies of higher education institutions nationwide

American Federation of Teachers - Washington, DC

Policy Intern

June-August 2022

- Researched policy issues related to focus and relayed the findings to lobbyists concisely
- Lobbied directly to Senators' and House members' staff with other education policy organizations
- Effectively liaised with union members to convey AFT policies and programs to ensure proper support
- Analyzed political rhetoric dynamics through an in-depth examination of the January 6th hearings

LEADERSHIP AND VOLUNTEER WORK

Center for Death Penalty Litigation - Durham, NC

Volunteer Research Intern

February 2026–Present

- Researched topics relevant to both individual cases and broader policy initiatives, organized research, and wrote summaries on findings
- Wrote memos on mitigation issues for attorneys

The Hometown Holler - Chapel Hill, NC

Research and Content Volunteer

November 2025–Present

- Investigate issues and claims facing North Carolinians
- Create content, including YouTube videos and Instagram reels, related to issues facing the population

Kamala Harris Campaign/North Carolina Democratic Party - Chapel Hill, NC

Volunteer Bilingual Canvasser

October 2024–November 2024

- Traveled across North Carolina to lesser-visited towns to canvass
- Connected with voters on issues that they care about across the political spectrum
- Visited Spanish-speaking communities to register voters and discuss the importance of the election

Union Board - Davidson College, Davidson, NC

Speakers Chair

May 2023–May 2024

- Connected with agencies and allocated \$45,000+ to bring speakers to campus for student-focused events
- Collaborated with board members to strategize and organize diverse events for the entire student body
- Served as a member of the Public Speakers Committee, coordinating events with other faculty members
- Strategically coordinated and managed speaking events for Nikole Hannah-Jones and Maysoun Zayid

Education Policy Committee - Davidson College, Davidson, NC

Student Representative

August 2023–May 2024

- Presented student perspectives on pressing policy issues within the college
- Debated and discussed a variety of issues facing the college, both short-term and long-term
- Collaborated with faculty and staff to come up with innovative solutions

Students in K-8 Schools - Davidson, NC

Student Teacher

August 2021–May 2023

- Taught and engaged students in a local 3rd-grade class in learning beginner Spanish once a week
- Developed comprehensive lesson plans tailored to student needs and curriculum objectives

Davidson Habitat for Humanity - Davidson, NC

Volunteer

August 2021–May 2024

- Volunteered weekends helping homeowners build and paint their homes with a small group of students

YMCA Leader's Club - Chapel Hill, NC

Member, Executive Board Member, Vice President, Senior Leader

August 2016–May 2021

- Dedicated over 100 to 150 hours annually to serving the community through various initiatives
- Coordinated programming for meetings, service events, and weekend-long retreats for members
- Raised thousands of dollars each year for the YMCA Annual Campaign through campaigns and events

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Language: Spanish (near native fluency), French (basic)

Technical: Certified to teach English as a foreign language (TEFL), Event planning, Stata, Canva, and PowerPoint

Soft Skills: Communication, research, improvisation, problem-solving, adaptation

Interests: Language, service and leadership, policy and change, teaching, travel, reading, violin, and hiking