

Rhonda L. Thomas is a junior undergraduate in the Professional and Technical Writing program, minoring in history. Raised in the air force, Thomas spent the majority of her childhood on Blytheville Air Force Base in Mississippi County, Arkansas, and considers herself a native daughter of Carroll County, Arkansas, having traced her ancestors back to its pre-territorial days.

A first-generation graduate, Thomas is the recipient of the 2018-2019 Donna Barkan Jensen Writing About Families Scholarship and winner of the spring 2018 Technical and Workplace Writing Award for her research paper, *Grant Writing: An Analysis of the Genre*. Thomas is currently an intern at the University Writing Center and her work experience includes employment in academia, law enforcement, military, county government, and the volunteer sector in both the United States and the United Kingdom.

Thomas's future plans include applying for the Master of Arts in Professional and Technical Writing and becoming a published author. Thomas is working on a memoir of her time in Blytheville and a book to guide researchers who are studying migration as a part of their family history research.

Thomas is a published songwriter, having won several songwriting awards. She is a member of Broadcast Music Incorporated and the Nashville Songwriters Association International, having served as a songwriting workshop coordinator for the organization while living in Wales.

A history enthusiast, Thomas is a member of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution and several historical societies, including the Arkansas Historical Association, Georgia Historical Society, South Carolina Historical Society, and Mississippi Historical Society.

In her spare time, Thomas enjoys gardening, reading, writing, and playing music with friends. An avid researcher, Thomas published an online digital narrative of her investigation into the unsolved murder of her grandfather. This narrative can be viewed at murderedman.wordpress.com.