

**Mr. Derek G. Abrams**  
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley  
Department of International Business and Entrepreneurship  
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## EDUCATION

M.S., Physics (Condensed Matter), Texas Tech University, 2019  
Thesis Title: Light Absorbers for Optical-Thermal-Electrical Energy Conversion  
Committee: Dr. Ayrton Bernussi, Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering (Advisor)  
Dr. Mahdi Sanati, Associate Professor, Department of Physics / Los Alamos Affiliate

M.B.A., General Management & Finance, Harvard Business School, 2002

B.S., Electrical Engineering, United States Military Academy at West Point, 1994

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Vackar College of Business & Entrepreneurship, Edinburg, TX  
*Associate Professor of Practice*, Department of International Business & Entrepreneurship, 2020–Present

Texas Tech University, Rawls College of Business, Lubbock, TX  
*Assistant Professor of Practice*, Area of Energy Commerce & Business Economics, 2013–2020

University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), Collat School of Business, Birmingham, AL  
*Visiting Assistant Professor*, Department of Finance, Economics, and Quantitative Methods, 2005–2008

## ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL DUTIES

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Vackar College of Business & Entrepreneurship, Edinburg, TX  
*Associate Director*, UTRGV Center for Innovation & Commercialization (CIC), 2020–Present

## OTHER EMPLOYMENT & CONSULTING

Consultant, Peregrine Academic Services, 2016–2021

Consultant, Bloomberg Businessweek, 2015–2016

Principal, Abrams Consulting, 2011–2013

Senior Electrical Engineer, Alliant Energy, 2008–2011

General Manager, Guardsmark LLC, 2002–2004

Project & Operations Electrical Engineer, Kimberly-Clark Corporation, 1996–2000

Platoon Leader & Executive Officer, United States Army *Signal Corps*, 1994–1996

## TEACHING

At University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Department of International Business & Entrepreneurship

ENTR 4381, Senior Project II

ENTR 4360, Entrepreneurial Finance & Funding

FIN 4381, International Finance

Outside University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

BE4310, Applied Business Economics, Rawls College of Business, Texas Tech

BA3306, Fundamentals of Business Economics, Rawls College of Business, Texas Tech

ECE 3311, Electronics, Whitacre College of Engineering, Texas Tech

QM 214, Quantitative Analysis I, Collat School of Business, UAB

QM215, Quantitative Analysis II, Collat School of Business, UAB

EC110, Essentials of Economics, Collat School of Business, UAB

## COMMITTEES AND SERVICE

At University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Non-Tenure Track (NTT) Compensation Task Force, Summer 2021

Faculty Advisor, Collegiate Entrepreneur Organization (CEO), 2020–Present

Outside University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Rio Grande Valley Angel Network (RGVAN), Member, 2021–Present

Texas University Network of Innovation & Entrepreneurship, Webmaster, 2021–Present

Proposal Reviewer, Global Consortium for Entrepreneurship Centers Conference, 2021

East Lubbock Resident-Owned Business Initiative, Board Member, 2019–Present

Rawls Staff/Faculty Recruiting Diversity & Inclusion Subcommittee, Texas Tech, 2018–2020

Rawls Diversity & Inclusion Committee, Texas Tech, Fall 2018–2020

Rawls Diversity & Inclusion Strategic Initiative Committee, Texas Tech, 2018

Rawls Business Leadership Program, Faculty Service-Learning Advisor, 2017–2020

East Lubbock Resident-Owned Business Initiative Council, 2017–2019

Rawls Business Leadership Program, Faculty Mentor, Texas Tech, 2015–2020

Faculty/Staff Veterans Mentoring Program, Faculty Mentor, Texas Tech, 2015–2020

Mentor Tech Program, Mentor Cluster Leader, Texas Tech, 2014–2016

Mentor Tech Program, Faculty Mentor, Texas Tech, 2014–2020

## AWARDS, CERTIFICATES, & FELLOWSHIPS

Faculty Ambassador, Texas Tech Innovation Hub at Research Park, 2019-2020  
 Gayle Earls Graduate Research Scholarship, Texas Tech University, 2015  
 Certificate in Strategy & Innovation, MIT Sloan School of Management, 2015  
 Bucy Applied Physics Scholarship, Texas Tech University, 2015  
 Graduate Travel Award, Texas Tech University, 2014  
 George P. Baker Fellow, Harvard Business School, 2001–2002  
 Paul Sack Fellow, Harvard Business School, 2001–2002

## BOOK CHAPTER

Abrams, Derek G., "The Financing of Minority Entrepreneurial Efforts in the U.S.," in Carlos Lassala Navarre and Samuel Ribeiro Navarrete (editors), *Financing Startups: Understanding Strategic Risks, Funding Sources, and the Impact of Emerging Technologies* (2021), Springer Nature.

## CASES AND TEACHING MATERIALS

Abrams, Derek G. and Steven J. Rogers. "Herman E. Bulls: Bulls Advisory Group & Bulls Capital Partners." Harvard Business School Case 9-317-132, May 2019.

Abrams, Derek G. and Steven J. Rogers. "Herman E. Bulls: Bulls Advisory Group & Bulls Capital Partners." Harvard Business School Case Teaching Note 5-317-133, May 2019.

Abrams, Derek G. and Steven J. Rogers. "Joel L. Dawson: Eta Devices." Harvard Business School Case 9-317-080, April 2017.

Abrams, Derek G. and Steven J. Rogers. "Joel L. Dawson: Eta Devices." Harvard Business School Case Teaching Note 5-317-096, April 2017.

Abrams, Derek G. and Steven J. Rogers. "Scott Royster: Maarifa Education." Harvard Business School Case Teaching Note 5-317-042, October 2016.

Abrams, Derek G. and Steven J. Rogers. "Scott Royster: Maarifa Education." Harvard Business School Case 9-317-041, September 2016.

## SELECTED RETREATS, SEMINARS, & WORKSHOPS

MIT Venture Mentoring Service Immersion Program, Boston, MA	2021
Brightman Master Teacher Workshop, UTRGV, Edinburg, TX	2020
McGraw-Hill Education, Economics Retreat, Atlanta, GA	2019
Pearson Education, Economics Retreat, Atlanta, GA	2019
Peregrine Academic Advisory Board Annual Retreat, Houston, TX	2017
HBS Teaching with Cases Online, Boston, MA	2014
HBS Case Method Teaching Seminar II, Boston, MA	2014
HBS Case Method Teaching Seminar I, Boston, MA	2014
PhD Project, Chicago, IL	2007

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Member, U.S. Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (USASBE), 2020–Present

Member, International Council for Small Business (ICSB), 2020–Present

Member, American Finance Association (AFA), 2017–Present

Member, American Economic Association (AEA), 2015–Present

Member, American Physical Society (APS), 2015–Present

Member, Institute of Electrical & Electronic Engineers (IEEE), 1994–Present

Last Updated: August 13, 2021