

Maura Dennehy White

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RESEARCH INTEREST

I am interested in exploring ways that innovative modern technologies can be combined with well-established developmental and social theories of learning in order to increase student engagement and achievement, particularly in areas of reading and literacy. Specifically, I am interested in the possibilities for emerging generative AI technologies to positively impact classroom collaboration opportunities in the secondary classroom by connecting students and teachers with tools to support the integration of diverse voices in the traditional classroom setting.

EDUCATION

PhD, Education Studies

In Progress

University of California, San Diego- San Diego, CA

- Advisor: Dr. Amy Eguchi

Master of Education, Education and Human Development

June 2021

George Washington University- Washington, D.C.

- Secondary English Specialization
- 4.0 GPA

Bachelor of Arts, Education Sciences

June 2019

University of California, Irvine- Irvine, CA

- English Minor
- Thesis: “Examining Familial Engagement in Out-of-School Science”
- Completed in part through courses taken at Oxford University- Oxford, UK

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

Special Education Evaluator- Teacher Representative

July 2022 – July 2024

Fairfax County Public Schools, Fairfax, VA

- Supported the identification and evaluation of students for special education services.
- Collaborated with special educators and counselors to determine accommodations for identified students.
- Developed IEP and 504 materials collaboratively with school, family, and clinical stakeholders.
- Ensured that students and families understand their rights and accommodation by thoroughly explaining the defining features and implications of complex special education paperwork.

Secondary English Teacher

August 2022 – July 2024

Hayfield Secondary School, Alexandria, VA

- Taught English and remediation courses to 135 students in a DC-metro area Secondary School.
- Successfully increased student argumentative writing scores by an average of 25% by mid-year.
- Collaborated with department and content teams to pilot a standards-based grading initiative for the county.
- Developed a student-centered, interdisciplinary literary curriculum to fit shifting state requirements.
- Managed, collected, and evaluated quantitative and qualitative data relevant to educational planning goals.

Secondary English Teacher

August 2020 – July 2022

Bishop McNamara High School, Forestville, MD

- Independently researched and restructured the 9th-grade English curriculum for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Integrated innovative and traditional technologies to support student engagement while learning virtually.
- Piloted the schoolwide integration of data collection systems to support literary curricular adjustments.
- Managed classroom behaviors by curating a community focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Successfully improved student writing stamina by an average of 75% by implementing short and long-term progressive writing goals.
- Developed and implemented solutions to school-wide curriculum and assessment goals as a Dujarie Fellow

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant

August 2018 – June 2019

UC Irvine School of Education, Irvine, CA

- Collaborated on the creation and implementation of a research-based science and engineering curriculum.
- Assisted in a graduate study addressing the successful and meaningful implementation of tech in schools.
- Conducted a usability study by analyzing survey data through coding techniques and syllogism analyses to evaluate the impacts of family involvement on learning in middle school science.
- Developed a comprehensive research thesis analyzing collected data and potential impacts.

NOTABLE COURSEWORK

University of California, Irvine

- Education Research Design (EDUC 10)
- Education Technology (EDUC 131)
- Statistics for Education Research (EDUC 15)
- 21st Century Literacies in Education (EDUC 30)

George Washington University

- Interdisciplinary Adolescent Literacy (CPED 6691)
- Theories of Learning and Development (CPED 6606)
- Teachers as Researchers (CPED 6339)
- Teacher Leadership in Education (CPED 6340)

HONORS & AWARDS

- Presidential Volunteer Service Award- George Washington University **June 2021**
- Corey Hansen Endowment Scholarship- GW GSEHD **May 2020**
- Merit Scholarship- GW GSEHD **April 2020**
- Campuswide Honors Colloquium Graduate- UC Irvine **June 2019**
- Dean's List- UC Irvine **2016- 2019**

CERTIFICATIONS

- Microsoft Certificate, Career Essentials in Data Analysis **February 2023**
- Virginia, Postgraduate Professional License (Secondary, English) **May 2022**
- Washington, D.C. Standard Teaching Credential (7-12, English) **November 2021**

MEMBERSHIPS

- Phi Beta Kappa National Honors Society
- Kappa Delta Pi Education Honors Society
- UCI Campuswide Honors Colloquium
- Folger Shakespeare Teacher Member

LEADERSHIP AND OUTREACH

Resource and Assessment Support

June 2023 – August 2024

Fairfax County Public Schools, Fairfax, VA

- Provides support to the county Educational Technology Systems and Design Team by developing and assessing curricular materials for copyright, accessibility, and clarity.

Remediation Data Team Contributor

January 2023 – June 2023

Hayfield Secondary School, Alexandria, VA

- Serve as a key contributor for the entry and transformation of student math and reading data in order to identify and remediate areas of need on an individual basis.

Respite Facilitator

January 2019– June 2020

Jovie Company, Tustin, CA

- Coordinated events and activities to promote the inclusion of children with moderate to severe special needs in their respective communities, and to support their social and academic development.

Honors Colloquium Resident Advisor

August 2018 – June 2019

University of California, Irvine Honors Colloquium, Irvine, CA

- Developed residential programs and events to support the community engagement and mental health of freshmen in the Campuswide Honors Colloquium.

School of Education Peer Mentor

August 2017 – July 2018

University of California, Irvine School of Education, Irvine, CA

- Served as a mentor supporting the social, mental, and academic well-being of freshmen in the school of Education.

Tilly's Life Center Intern

January 2017 – July 2017

Tilly's, Irvine, CA

- Studied and developed support solutions for students with developmental and emotional disabilities.