

Curriculum Vitae

EARLISHA J. WHITFIELD, PH.D.

Assistant Professor, Reading Education
University of Central Florida
School of Teacher Education
College of Community Innovation and Education
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EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

2019 Doctor of Philosophy
 Education: Curriculum and Instruction
 Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

Dissertation Title: *Teachers as Change Agents: An Investigation into the Literacy Practices of Effective Tier 2 Charter School Teachers in South Louisiana*

2012 Educational Specialist
 Literacy Education
 Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

2007 Master of Arts
 Curriculum and Instruction
 Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

2003 Bachelor of Science
 Elementary Education
 Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor (tenure-earning) University of Central Florida
Reading Education School of Teacher Education
(2023-present) College of Community Innovation & Education
(*Outstanding rating for AESP 2023-24*) Orlando, Florida 32816-1250

Assistant Professor (tenure-earning) McNeese State University
Reading Education Burton College of Education
Lake Charles, Louisiana 70605

Adjunct Professor Louisiana State University
(2020-2021) College of Human Science and Education
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

Research Interest and Foci

- Engaging Families and Communities to Promote Literacy Achievement in Underserved Schools
- Access and Equity of Quality Literacy Programs and Education
- Literacy Assessments and Interventions for Educator Preparation in Underserved Schools
- Recruitment, Preparation, and Retention of Diverse Educators in K-12 Schools

Publications in Refereed Journals

In Print:

Whitfield, E.J. (2024). Equity in literacy education: A case study of tier 2 personalized instruction. *Higher Education Journal of Theory and Practice*, 27(4), 532-546.

Whitfield, E. J. (2024). Module 2: The Science of Reading. *Foundations of Reading*. Baton Rouge, LA: Louisiana Department of Education

Published:

Whitfield, E.J. (2003). Supporting Developing Readers: Intervention Practices Grounded in the Simple View of Reading Framework. Florida Literacy Journal, Fall 2023, 61-7 [Florida Literacy Journal Fall 2023 No2](#)

Puig, E., Manak A., & **Whitfield, E.J.** (2023). Learning and Leading at the Intersection of Science of Reading, Multi-Tiered Systems of Support and Transdisciplinary Literacy. Florida Literacy Journal, Fall 2023, 7-21 <https://flareads.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/FinalFLJ-Vol-3-No-2Fall-2023-1-JVWW.pdf>

Whitfield, E.J. (2019). Teachers as Change Agents: An Investigation into the Literacy Practices of Effective Tier 2 Charter School Teachers in South Louisiana. Louisiana State University A & M College.

Manuscripts Under Review:

Killingsworth- Roberts, S. & **Whitfield, E.J** (2024) Exploring current elementary writing evaluation rubrics”, Early Childhood Education Journal: Springer

Refereed Conference Proceedings:

Whitfield, E. J. (2024, April). Equitable Literacy Practices: An Investigation of Effective Literacy Intervention in a High-Needs School. American Educational Research Association Conference Proceedings: Philadelphia, PA:

PAPERS PRESENTED AT REFEREED PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

National & International Presentations

Whitfield, E. J. (2024, June). Defying Odds: Advancing Equitable Literacy Education in Underserved Schools. Paper presented at Paris Conference on Education: Paris, France.

Whitfield, E. J. (2024, April). Equitable Literacy Practices: An Investigation of Effective Literacy Intervention in a High-Needs School. Paper presented at American Educational Research Association Conference Proceedings: Philadelphia PA:

Whitfield, E. J. (January 2023). *Beyond Literacy: An Investigation into the Literacy Intervention Practices of Effective Teachers*; Paper presented at IAFOR International Conference: Honolulu, HI

Whitfield, E. J. (November 2019). *An investigation into school leaders position teachers as change agents: Overcoming Barriers in Subaltern* (University Council Educational Administration Conference), New Orleans, LA

Whitfield, E. J. (October 2018). *Creating a Community of Writers in Schools to increase Student Achievement: The impact of literacy leadership: Cultivating Effectual Writing Teachers and Building* (International Literacy Association Conference), Austin, TX

Regional Presentations

Whitfield E. (2023, November). Equity in Action: A Case Study on Teachers' Experiences and Academic Outcomes of Literacy Interventions for Emerging Readers; Mid-South Research Educational Association Conference; Pensacola, FL

Whitfield, E. (June 2022). *Reading Methods: Addressing Unfinished Learning Utilizing the Science of Reading Approach*; McNeese State University MPACT on Education Conference; Lake Charles, LA

Whitfield, E. (February 2022). *Utilizing Technological Educational Resources*; Unlock Education Regional Conference; Lake Charles, LA

State Presentations

Whitfield, E.J. (October 2022). *Teacher Preparation: Addressing the Needs of Unfinished Learners with the Science of Reading*. (Louisiana Reading Association) New Orleans, LA

Whitfield, E. J. (April 2022). *Philosophy Meets Practice: Prioritizing Culturally Responsive Teaching in Clinical Experiences for Preservice Teachers* (LA NAME Conference), New Orleans, LA

Invited Reviewer

2024	Review editor, Frontiers in Education Journal
2024	Peer reviewer of the Florida Literacy Journal Spring 2024
2024	Proposal reviewer for the 2024 IAFOR Conference on Education
2022	Proposal reviewer for the 2023 IAFOR Conference on Education
2023	Proposal reviewer for the 2024 IAFOR Conference on Education

FUNDED GRANTS (\$50,000+)

- Shearman Family Academic Professorship (Minority Males in Education) 2022-2023 (\$6,918)
- Louisiana Department of Education Block Grant 2018-2019 2019-2020- Minority Girls' Mentorship Program (\$4,847)
- ExxonMobil STEM Grants 2010-2019 schools in underserved communities & or students in Baton Rouge, LA (\$30,000+)
- Seeds of Hope Grant- Earth Day Strong Roots Project, 2016 (\$250)
- Greater Baton Rouge Area Realtors Grant Recipient, 2010 (\$3,500)
- Deborah Rochelle Grant Recipient, 2009 (\$2,500)
- Academic Distinctive Fund Grant Recipient, 2008 (\$2,000)

GRANT FACILITATION & INVOLVEMENT

- **SRCL- Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy (SRCL) program (Federal)**
(provided disadvantaged schools with support to utilize evidence-based practices in providing comprehensive literacy instruction)
- **TANF Grant (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) Summer School Coordinator 2010 (Federal)**
(supervised teachers in curriculum, management, and extra-curricular activities; managed administrative tasks; collaborated with colleagues and community agents; managed school materials; and organized a parent/community showcase event)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Orange County Public Schools ADDition Volunteer, Read2Succeed, 2024-2025
- ILA- International Literacy Association Award Committee, (Lapp & Flood), 2024
- MIRC Transdisciplinary Advisory Committee Member 2023-2024
- STE Tenure and Promotion Committee 2024
- Elementary Curriculum Committee Alternate Member 2023-2024
- Mid-South Educational Research Association Conference Program Co-Chair 2024
- ETS Science of Reading Standard Setting Study and LA Dept. of Education 2023
- McNeese Call Me MiSTER Director, August 2022-Present
- Prime Time Reading Coordinator, Spring 2022, 2023
- Dr. Seuss Reading Day, Calcasieu Parish Schools, March 2022
- McNeese CARE Mentoring Program, 2022- Present
- LSU BRidge Program ELA Curriculum Developer/ Writer; Volunteer, June 2020
- LSU Alumni Association, 2007- Present
- LSU Black Alumni Association Member, 2019- Present
- LSU Black Alumni Scholarship Committee Member, 2021- Present
- Holiday Toy Drive Coordinator- Youth Oasis Homeless Shelter, 2018-2020
- Winter Drive-Plaquemine Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation Home, 2017-2020
- International Literacy Association (ILA), Member 2010-Present
- Bains Lower Girl Scouts, Daisy Troop Leader (K-1) 2014-15
- Story Time at Sweet Dreams, Sweet Dreams Homeless Shelter, 2012-2015
- United State Department of Education, PDK, Washington D.C., 2012
- Ryan Elementary Cheerleader and Drama Club Sponsor 2010-2012
- East Baton Rouge Schools Superintendent's Advisory Board 2010-2011
- Phi Delta Kappan, 2009-2012
- ExxonMobil Science and Math Academy (Afterschool Tutoring) 2009- 2015
- Grades Reward After School Tutoring Coordinator 2005- 2007
- LSU Black Graduate Student and Professional Association, 2005-2007; 2019-2020

MENTORSHIP (20+ Mentees)

- McNair Scholar Mentor, 2024 -2026
- UCF HUT Program- Honors Undergraduate Thesis Student- 2024
- UCF RAMP- Research and Mentoring Program – 2024
- Student Teachers 2008-2012
- New Teacher Experience Program Mentor 2012-2021
- Research Assistant – McNeese State University 2022-2023
- She Leaders Mentorship Program Founder and Mentor (10 Underprivileged teenage minority girls) 2019-2021

AWARDS, HONORS & RECOGNITIONS

- National Technology Leadership Summit SITE Emerging Leader Award, 2024
- Louisiana Leading Leaders, Award Recipient, 2022
- Outstanding Principal Award, Iberville Charter Academy, 2020
- Leadership Recognition, 8th Grade Class of Iberville Charter Academy, 2020
- The Vision Award, Presented by the Sponsors of ShE Leaders, 2019
- Charles Harrington Graduate Student Award, Nominee 2015
- LSU Graduate School Tuition Scholarship Award, 2014 -2016
- Phi Delta Kappa Emergent Leader, 2012
- National Board Teacher Certification, 2010-2020
- Teacher of the Year State Finalist- School, District, and Regional & State Semifinalist Teacher of the Year, 2010
- National Society of Collegiate Scholars, 2007
- National Writing Project & Consultant, 2006-Present
- Kappa Delta Epsilon Honors Fraternity, 2003
- LSU Black Scholars Award, 2003
- Phi Delta Kappan, 2009-2012

K-8 TEACHING & LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

2015-2021 Assistant Principal/ Director of Instruction
Iberville Charter STEM Academy K-8

(Title I school in low socio-economic area with a high proportion of disadvantaged subgroups)

- **Recipient of TOP GAINS awards 3 consecutive years** 2017, 2018, and 2019 from the Louisiana Department of Education (recognizes top schools with exceptional growth of school performance)
- **Growth grade from D to an A** in progress within two years and maintained an A for two years

2013- 2016 West Feliciana Parish (SRCL Federal Grant for Striving Readers)
Bains Lower Elementary
Literacy Specialist/ Interventionist
Early Childhood Education

2004-2012 **Teacher/Reading Specialist**
East Baton Rouge Parish

(Title I school in a low socio-economic urban area with a high proportion of disadvantaged subgroups)

National Board Teacher Certification 2010-2020

- Supervised administration of DIBELS *state assessments* and Progress Monitoring
- Organized Literacy Night for students and parents
- Provided demonstrations of new methods and materials for teaching ELA
- Mentored teachers in the areas of literacy instruction
- Highly Effective Rating
- State Finalist Teacher of the Year Award (Received School, District, and regional award)
- Parental Involvement Liaison K-5th, 2009- 2011
- School Blue Ribbon Award

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE & CERTIFICATIONS

2016-2020 Educational Leader-LA State Department of Education -EDL 1 (570807)
2003 Professional Teaching License- LDOE (523220) Louisiana

Education Certification Areas:

2012 Education Specialist
2007 Reading Specialist Certification, Grades 1-12
2003 Elementary Education, All Subjects, Grades 1-8