



THE BEACON

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Access The Beacon online: <http://www.umass.edu/education/publications/beacon.shtml>.
Or go to the School of Education home page and click on The Beacon
in the menu under News and Events.

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP

Department of Student Development and Pupil Personnel Services /

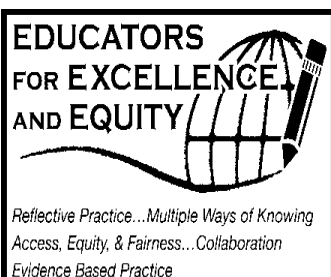
One (10 hours per week) teaching assistantship is available for Fall 2010 for Educ 325. Educ 325 is designed to teach education and non-education majors the fundamentals of Special Ed. in the U.S.

Responsibilities include: attending weekly class lecture, meeting weekly with instructor to plan/discuss class, holding weekly office hours, facilitating course instructional planning, helping with grading, and tracking student attendance.

Qualifications include: Preference given to those who have special education teaching experience at any level, college level special education course teaching experience, experience using Blackboard/SPARK as a teaching and grading platform, computer skills (excel and data management) and strong organizational skills.

To apply, please contact: Dr. Mary Lynn Boscardin or Robbie Calliham calliham@educ.umass.edu

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE BEACON WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY TWO WEEKS DURING THE SUMMER.



The Beacon Deadline is FRIDAY

Please submit *Beacon* announcements to: **Room 126 Furcolo Hall or to**
dms@educ.umass.edu

by 5:00 P.M. on **Friday** for inclusion in the following issue.

All assistantship notices will run for two issues;
notices of examinations and formation of dissertation committees will run for one.

Teaching Assistantship

Department of Student Development and Pupil Personnel Services

EDUC 210 - 15hrs/week, Fall 2010

Teaching Assistant to solo teach sections of EDUC 210 for Fall 2010. Applicants must have completed the SJE graduate core and have taught EDUC 392 or 395 or equivalent undergraduate diversity/SJE courses using interactive pedagogies.

Job description: Primary instructional responsibility, including curriculum design and pedagogy, for one section per semester of EDUC 210, *Social Diversity in Education* (General Education I & D) which meet twice weekly, Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:15-12:30. Design and teach individual sections of 30 students, assign and grade papers and/or projects, hold weekly office hours, and turn in final grades. TA positions are funded through the School of Education (10 hrs.) and other campus sources (5 hrs.)

EDUC 210 fulfills part of the University's general education "diversity" and "interdisciplinary" requirements. Critical thinking and writing are important ingredients of the course, as well as the experiential and interactive approach to social justice education.

Contact Maurianne Adams adams@educ.umass.edu

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Teaching Assistantship

Department of Student Development and Pupil Personnel Services

Summer Assistantship for online course

One (10 hours/week) teaching assistantship is available for Summer 2010 for EDUC 305.

Hiring contingent upon enrollment. Educ 305, Summer 2010, is an online course designed to provide students with an understanding of the major historical and contemporary theories of human development and learning and their educational implications.

Responsibilities include: Maintaining class materials in SPARK, managing grading both online and in database, and general assistance to the instructor throughout the course.

Qualifications include: Excellent data management computer skills and strong organizational skills.

To apply, please email: Wendy Kohler, wkohler@educ.umass.edu, the subject line of the email to read "Educ 305 Summer." (Use the email for the cover letter and attach resume or CV). //

Research Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies
Mathematics, Science, and Learning Technology Concentration

Part-time (10 hour/week) Research Assistant position for Fall 2010. Will assist MSLT faculty member with the following:

1. *Inquiry support* - will search relevant literature and suggest resources; will analyze qualitative and quantitative data with faculty support; may assist with data collection through videotaping or interviewing participants.
2. *Instructional support* - obtain reference materials and assist with the development of instructional materials.
3. *Writing Support* - edit and proofread manuscripts for purposes of publication or grant proposals. Opportunity to co-author papers under certain circumstances.

Qualifications: A qualified candidate will possess research and organizational skills and be able to work independently. Candidate will be able to accurately transcribe video and/or audio data. Experience in secondary mathematics teaching and interest in statistics education preferred, but negotiable.

To apply: Send cover letter and resume to smadden@educ.umass.edu

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Research Assistantships

Department of Educational Policy, Research, and Administration

Two graduate student research assistantships are available for 10 to 20 hours per week beginning July 1, 2010 and Fall 2010; contingent upon funding.

These assistantships are associated with the *Teacher Collaboration and Instructional Improvement Project (TCIIP)*, which is a partnership between the School of Education and the Amherst Regional Public School system focused on instructional improvement and building capacity for student learning. Assistantships are contingent upon funding.

Qualifications: All applicants must have teaching experience, a strong background in curriculum, instruction and assessment, and have highly effective communication skills. School leadership experience preferred.

Responsibilities include: Working with Dr. Rebecca Woodland to develop and provide specialized consultation for the Amherst Regional Public Schools in the topical areas of Professional Learning Communities (Dufour, Dufour & Eaker, 2008), Instructional Rounds (City, Elmore, Fiarman, & Teitel, 2009) and evaluating and improving teacher collaboration (Gajda & Koliba, 2008). Assist in the collecting, analyzing, reporting, and using TCIIP evaluation data.

To apply, please send brief letter of interest and resume to Sue Overstreet, EPRA Administrative Assistant, (413) 545-3610 (sue163@educ.umass.edu)

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION

E. GRANT WILLIAMS July 20, 2010, 1:30 p.m., Room 230, Furcolo Hall. "Fostering High School Physics Students' Construction of Explanatory Mental Models for Electricity: Identifying and Describing Whole-Class Discussion-Based Teaching Strategies."

Chairperson: Dr. John Clement.

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

HABIBULLAH WAJDI Proposed Dissertation Title: "Community participation for the improvement of schools in Afghanistan: social capital in action. **Statement of the Problem:** In Afghanistan, effective and active community participation can improve performance of rural schools. But effective and successful community participation depends on in-depth understanding of cultural and social characteristics of rural communities, and how these characteristics are effectively mobilized for the improvement of schools. This study will explore important parameters of social capital in promotion of community participation for the improvement of rural schools in Afghanistan. **Chairperson: Dr. David R. Evans.**

HADLEY H. MOORE Proposed Dissertation Title: "Exploring Differences between Student and Teacher Reports of Relational Aggression." **Statement of the Problem:** There are a wide range of behaviors consistent with bullying, including both relational and physical expressions. Relational aggression refers to behaviors that harm others through damage to relationships, feelings of acceptance, and group inclusion. More research is needed on how relational aggression is understood by students, teachers and administrators in the context of a school.

Chairperson: Dr. John Hintze.

Jobs at the Learning Resource Center

Supplemental Instruction Supervisor – 20 hours/week

Assists with hiring, scheduling, training, and supervision of Supplemental Instruction staff, provide evening supervision of LRC as scheduled, attend staff meetings as necessary, responsible for collecting data from SI leaders and course instructors and otherwise contributing to the assessment of LRC programs as required, perform other duties as needed in support of the research and development of LRC.

Applicant should provide cover letter describing relevant experience and resume.

Tutor Supervisor – 15 hours/week

Assist with hiring, training and supervision of tutoring staff, provide evening supervision of LRC as scheduled, attend staff meetings as required, perform other duties as needed.

If interested please contact:

Susan Bronstein, Director, Learning Resource Center
sbronstein@acad.umass.edu

2010 Teaching Assistant Orientation

UMass-Amherst

Friday, September 3, 2010

The Provost's Office and the Graduate School offer the annual campus-wide Teaching Assistant Orientation (TAO) on **Friday, September 3, 2010**. The TAO, which is coordinated by the Center for Teaching, provides participants with an opportunity to meet senior TAs, gain important basic teaching skills, and to begin to feel a sense of membership in the larger University of Massachusetts community of scholars.

The TAO grew out of a commitment to equip TAs for their role as teacher. For many new TAs this Orientation is their first professional preparation opportunity. The campus-wide TA Orientation may also meet the departmental requirement for a TA development as stipulated in the contract negotiated on behalf of TAs by the Graduate Employee Organization (GEO). While the GEO contract mandates training for all first-time TAs, returning TAs are also always welcome to attend the TAO. Because of the overwhelmingly positive response to past programs, we heartily encourage that TAs in your department be invited to participate in the 2010 TA Orientation.

The program includes a general overview of teaching at the University of Massachusetts, including workshops on fundamental teaching skills from distinguished faculty members.

For more information: <http://www.umass.edu/cft/development/tao.htm>

School of Education faculty, students, staff & alumni share what they are doing.

Sandra Madden, assistant professor in the School of Education's Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, will be in Ljubljana, Slovenia in July to present a lecture on "Overcoming obstacles to support secondary teachers' statistical content knowledge for teaching."

The talk, to be presented at the International Conference on Teaching Statistics, builds on Dr. Madden's work in statistics education with practicing teachers and the use of dynamic technology to support learning.

Organized by the International Association for Statistical Education, the conference is held every four years as a means to provide statistics educators and professionals around the world the opportunity to present recent innovation and research in the field of statistics education, and to expand their range of collaborators.

**You can read more about our faculty, students, staff and alumni on the
School of Education's website.**

www.umass.edu/education

Send items to dms@educ.umass.edu

Second Internat'I Conference on Education Research New Orleans, LA · Hilton Riverside · Sept. 26-28

www.educationconf.net

This conference will draw together faculty members, researchers and education professionals and provides them with the opportunity to interact with colleagues from the same field as well as other, related fields.

It is a presenter's conference, and we strongly encourage people to attend the various sessions throughout the three day conference. The conference registration fee includes a plated lunch each day of the conference, as well as an opening night reception, providing attendees an opportunity to meet and get to know each other. Student registration rates are \$300, and faculty registration rates are \$375.

Kerry Lassiter will deliver a keynote address at the meeting, "Research Guiding Literacy Practices in Louisiana." Dr. Lassiter is the Executive Director for PreK-12 Literacy at the Louisiana Department of Education. She has received numerous awards, including selection as Louisiana Principal of the year, the Fouquier Education Leadership Award, and Fulbright Scholar. Speakers at previous education conferences included: Peter Levine, CIRCLE; Carolyn Pereira, Constitutional Rights Foundation; Trey Grayson, Kentucky Secretary of State.

Funding Opportunity: Education Research

Deadline: Ongoing for pre-proposals

The Spencer Foundation Major Grants Program provides grants greater than \$40,000 for research that contributes new knowledge to the improvement of education, broadly conceived, in the U.S. and abroad. A variety of disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches are favored; though emphasis is given to the behavioral sciences. Priority areas of inquiry are: Relation between Education and Social Opportunity; Organizational Learning in Schools, School Systems, and Higher Education Institutions; Teaching, Learning, and Instructional Resources; and Purposes and Values of Education. Spencer also gives grants for three strategic initiatives: Civic Learning and Civic Action; Data Use and Educational Improvement; and Philosophy in Educational Policy and Practice. Research may range from medium-sized studies that can be completed in a year by an individual researcher to more extensive collaborative studies that last several years. Field-initiated proposals outside these areas will also be considered. For more information:

<http://www.spencer.org/content.cfm/budgets-over-40000>