Program Assistantship
Department of Educational Policy, Research, and Administration

One 10 hour/week program assistantship is available for spring 2016.

**Responsibilities include:** This student will support the higher education concentration with administrative and programmatic activities. The student will serve as a liaison between faculty and students, develop a field manual for assistantships, assist with website design and content, and assist with admissions activities including Welcome Day. The individual will assist with additional selected higher education program coordination tasks as needed.

**Qualifications include:** The ideal candidate will have developed strong writing, organizational, and time management skills. The ability to work in collaboration as well as independently is required for this position. Good interpersonal skills and knowledge of higher education programming are also needed.

Applicants must complete CITI training. Priority will be given to doctoral candidates. Position depends on available funding.

To apply, please send a brief cover letter and CV to Dr. Ryan S. Wells at rswells@educ.umass.edu.
Teaching Assistantship
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

One 10 hrs. per week teaching assistantship for EDUC 378: Survey of Children's Literature is available for Spring 2016. This Education Minor course creates a space for undergraduate students, who are interested in early childhood, elementary, and secondary education, to explore children’s literature across genres, culture and power, and pedagogical practice. Course participants will deepen their critical reading practices and explore literature-based teaching that can contribute to multiliterate and multimodal learning. This course meets on Mondays from 12:20 p.m. to 2:50 p.m.

Responsibilities include: Collaborate with faculty member in the re/design of this undergraduate course in the following ways: select primary and secondary readings; construct and present mini-lectures; plan course activities; facilitate small-group discussions; maintain attendance records; assist with feedback on and grading of student work; create and update Moodle course space; communicate with students, as needed, via email or telephone; and, hold weekly office hours.

Qualifications include: Experience in early childhood, elementary, and/or secondary classroom teaching; interest in and extensive knowledge of children’s literature and critical literacies pedagogies; and interest in critical collaborative teaching. Previous experience in the teaching of upper-level undergraduate courses preferred. Doctoral students preferred.

To apply please send a letter of interest and current CV via email to Dr. Maria José Botelho at mbotelho@educ.umass.edu with a cc to Denise Ives dives@educ.umass.edu by December 4, 2015. Please add “EDUC 378 TA-Spring 2016” to the subject line.

Research Assistantship
Department of Educational Policy, Research, and Administration

One 10 hour/week research assistantship is available for Spring 2016.

Responsibilities include: The student will assist the Research in Educational Measurement and Psychometrics (REMP) coordinator in conducting a curriculum review of the REMP courses as well as analyzing trends in graduate student admissions for the Masters and doctoral programs.

Qualifications include: All applicants must have a background in psychometrics as well as knowledge of curriculum review around psychometric methods including classical test theory, item response theory, multidimensional scaling, test construction, and test validation research.

Preference will be given to doctoral students.

To apply, please contact Lisa Keller at lkeller@educ.umass.edu.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

CAROLYN GARDNER December 10, 2015, 10:00 a.m. N125 Furcolo Hall.
Chair: Dr. Sandra Madden
FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

MEKHRI BON ABDULLAEVA Proposed Dissertation Title: Involving immigrant parents in schools: Experience of Uzbek community in New York City schools

Statement of Problem: The research studies the involvement of Uzbek immigrant parents with their child’s education. The study identifies the behaviors, attitudes and habits that define their engagement. Further, parents are asked to evaluate the effectiveness of their involvement. The study looks for a relationship between their involvement and their expectations. Expectations are influenced by shared values and responsiveness, factors identified for study.

Chair: Dr. Jacqueline Mosselson

MSLT Project Assistant
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

Responsibilities: Support the research and administrative work of the MSLT faculty. Tasks may include, but are not limited to: assist in grant proposal preparation; assist in literature review including library search and document editing; information gathering; data-entry; helping with the creation of record-keeping systems; copying/scanning; website support, and other duties as assigned.

Qualifications: Ability to work independently, follow through on commitments, and meet deadlines; ability to communicate effectively through email and in person; highly organized, punctual, and detail-oriented; excellent writing and editing skills; ability to use library and online database research tools; knowledge and familiarity in using various software programs, e.g., Word, Excel, Power Point; and ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously.

Preferred qualifications include familiarity and experience with the university’s various offices, procedures, and personnel. Preference will be given to doctoral students.

To apply, send a CV and cover letter to Prof. Sullivan – florence@umass.edu - with MSLT – PA in the subject header. Deadline for application is 12/18/15. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

Project Assistantship
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

One 10 hour/week project assistantship is available for Spring 2016 to support the Teacher Education and School Improvement concentration with administrative and programmatic activities. The student will plan and execute student programming, coordinate communication with students, assist with event planning and website maintenance.

Qualifications: Strong communication, organizational, and time management skills. Ability to work proactively and independently. Preference will be given to doctoral students in good standing.

To apply, send a cover letter and CV with names and contact information of two references to Meg Gebhard, subject line: PA application)
**FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE**

**SUSAN SHEYBANI-KASHANI**  
*Proposed Dissertation Title:* Psychological Adjustment, Marital Satisfaction, Social Support, and Coping in Parents of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Iran

**Statement of Problem:** Parents of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) are at risk for having higher psychological adjustment difficulties (stress, anxiety levels, and depressed mood) as well as couples’ relationships problems. The prolonged parenting stress and fatigue which is the result of intense child care demands and ongoing parental conflict over how to manage their child’s many and often severe communicative, social, and behavioral difficulties may contribute to these difficulties. However, despite the potentially long-term challenges of parenting a child with ASD, some families are resilient and manage to find a way to cope more effectively than others. According to McCubbin et al., 1997, parents who adapt successfully tend to have traits of resiliency, good coping skills, and informal and formal social support from the community. Social support has been consistently identified as one of the most powerful predictors of psychological adjustment among parents of children with ASD but the role of social support on marital quality has received relatively little research attention. Also, the majority of research, specially Asian and Middle Eastern countries, on coping strategies and parental wellbeing has been done with families of children with physical and other intellectual disabilities. Relatively little research has addressed the effectiveness of different coping strategies adopted by mothers and fathers of children with ASD as well as personal, family, and social resources that parents perceived helpful in their effort to cope well with the stressors associated with caring for their child.

**Chair:** Dr. Ernest Washington
February 2016 Degree Deadlines

Master’s Degree (M.Ed.) and Education Specialist Degree (Ed.S.) Candidates

- December 4, 2015 is the deadline to submit TYPED forms to Kristin Tyler, Office of Academic Affairs, Furcolo Hall to file to graduate for the February 2016 degree period.

  o Master’s Degree (M.Ed.) submit:
    - Typed Master’s Degree Eligibility Form
    - Typed College of Education’s Form M-2 Completed Program of Study
    - List in chronological order from your transcript only graduate courses to be counted toward the Master’s degree
    - Course numbers and course titles listed on the Form M-2 must match transcript and Degree Eligibility Form exactly

  o Education Specialist Degree (Ed.S.) submit:
    - Typed Education Specialist Degree Eligibility Form
    - Typed College of Education’s Form ES-2 Completed Program of Study
    - List in chronological order from your transcript only graduate courses to be counted toward the Ed.S. degree
    - Course numbers and course titles listed on the Form ES-2 must match transcript and Degree Eligibility Form exactly.

- This deadline is to allow time for processing and obtaining the necessary signatures of Dr. Linda Griffin, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Graduate Program Director, and Dean Christine B. McCormick who will sign Section E on the Master’s Degree Eligibility Form or Part II of the Education Specialist Degree Eligibility Form.

- Your advisor must sign the College of Education’s Form M-2 or ES-2, but NOT the Degree Eligibility Form.

- Please note that handwritten forms will not be accepted.

- Forms are fillable and are found at the following URL. If you have any difficulty, please open the forms in Internet Explorer or Safari: [http://www.umass.edu/education/students/current/forms](http://www.umass.edu/education/students/current/forms)

Doctoral Degree (Ed.D. and Ph.D.) Candidates Filing to Graduate for the February 2016 degree period

- Submit your TYPED Doctoral Form D-8 to Kristin Tyler to schedule your final oral defense 4 weeks plus 2 additional days in advance of the defense date in order to meet the Graduate School’s 4 week deadline.

- Schedule your defense no later than November 25, 2015 to have time to make any necessary edits.

- Rooms are reserved by contacting Robert Heath, College of Education Curriculum Coordinator, by email at: rheath@umass.edu

- December 4, 2015 is the deadline to submit yourTyped Doctoral Degree Eligibility Form. Typed Form D-9 (Result of Final Oral Examination) and one original signature page to Kristin Tyler, Office of Academic Affairs, Furcolo Hall.

- The Doctoral forms are fillable and are found at the following URL. If you have any difficulty, please open the documents in Internet Explorer or Safari: [http://www.umass.edu/education/students/current/advising-guidelines/doctoral-guidelines](http://www.umass.edu/education/students/current/advising-guidelines/doctoral-guidelines)

- Please note that handwritten forms will not be accepted.

- Kristin will submit these forms to the Graduate School after they are signed by Dr. Linda Griffin, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Graduate Program Director, and Dean Christine B. McCormick who will sign section C of the Doctoral Degree Eligibility Form as Department Head/Chair.

- December 15, 2015 (by 4:30pm) is the deadline for you to electronically submit your dissertation and the Survey of Earned Doctorates to the Graduate School. THIS IS A FIRM DEADLINE!
Research Assistantships
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies - Microgenetic Learning Analytics.

One 10-hour/week research assistantship available for spring 2016. This is a NSF-funded research project.

Responsibilities: Assist PI in the ongoing development of a computational method for analyzing co-present, small group discussions. Duties include developing java-based computer programs for searching a large corpus of transcript data based on pseudo code provided by the PI, manage data files, assist in the development of research reports based on the results of three pilot studies, prepare conference presentations, travel to conference presentations and present work, perform literature reviews related to both the MLA method development, as well as small group learning in robotics contexts. Assist in the development of grant proposals.

Qualifications include: Expertise in computer programming including knowledge of java or similar web-based programming language. Strong writing abilities. Knowledge of and facility with excel spreadsheets; excellent communication and organizational skills; able to perform literature review to PI specifications; excellent facility with online and offline systems for video and audio file back-up and maintenance; able to work independently; able to identify problems and suggest solutions. Preference will be given to doctoral students with a focus on Math, Science and Learning Technology.

To apply, please send a letter of application, your CV and a cover letter to Florence Sullivan, florence@umass.edu. Deadline for application is 12/18/15.

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP for EDUC 190A
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

10 hr/week graduate assistantship for spring 2016

Responsibilities: Assist for Education and the Movies (EDUC 190A), a large undergraduate General Education lecture course. This course offers a critical examination of race, class, gender and sexuality in films about education. The responsibilities of the position are: Attend and assist in facilitating class sessions; attend regular teaching-team meetings; grade student papers; assess student group work; manage Moodle grade book; hold office hours; respond to student email and questions; participate in online discussions on the course website; provide administrative support. Applicants must be available to attend class sessions, all of which meet on Tuesday and Thursday from 10-11:15am.

Qualifications: Competitive applicants will have an understanding of the academic literature on race, class, gender or sexuality in education (and/or film), educational sociology, and media studies/media literacy; demonstrated understanding of and commitment to student-centered learning; experience facilitating discussion-based workshops or classes; knowledge of and experiencing using instructional technologies to facilitate large classes. Preference to doctoral students.

To apply: Submit a CV to: Professor Betsy McEneaney, coordinator TESI, emcanean@educ.umass.edu and to Professor Kysa Nygreen at knygreen@educ.umass.edu.
RESEARCH ASSISTANT  
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies  
10 hour/week research assistantship available for spring 2016. This position will support research on culturally and linguistically relevant pedagogy in early childhood education.

**Responsibilities include:** conducting literature reviews; conduct library research about census data and demographics in local cities; provide additional research, administrative, technical, and grant-writing assistance in support of the professor's research agenda.

**Qualifications include:** excellent written and oral communication skills; excellent organizational and time management skills; familiarity with early childhood education, in particular working with teachers, able to work independently with little supervision; excellent written and verbal communication skills; library research skills. Applicant must complete CITI training. Preference will be given to doctoral students.

Please email a letter of application and CV to Sally Galman at sally@educ.umass.edu and Ysaaca Axelrod at yaxelrod@umass.edu.

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TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP  
Department of Student Development  
One 10 hours/week teaching assistantship is available for spring 2016 for EDUC 293A: Love and Work.

**Responsibilities include:** Maintaining class materials in Moodle, grading student papers, managing grading through Moodle, coordinating discussion groups, and general assistance in the course.

**Qualifications include:** Teaching or TA experience, excellent computer skills (excel and data management), ability to work in Moodle, and strong organizational skills.

To apply, please send your CV to Dr. Catherine Griffith at cagriiif@umass.edu, using the term EDUC 293 TA in the subject line of the email.

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FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE  

**HAJJAN ASLAMI**  
Proposed Dissertation Title: Financing Public Education in Afghanistan: Alternative Sources and Options

**Statement of Problem:** Access to the public higher education (HE) in Afghanistan is very limited due to a lack of physical infrastructure, qualified instructors, and, mainly, adequate financing. Increased demand, limited government funding, lack of donor interest, and the inability of the public universities to change tuition and fees have left the Afghan public HE in a situation of financial austerity. In addition, free HE up to the bachelor's level is guaranteed by the Afghan constitution to be offered by the state at the state institutions (GoIRA, 2004). Therefore, Afghan public HEIs provide education, housing, and food to the citizens of Afghanistan without charging them. Afghan HE institutions also suffer from lack of autonomy to control their academic agendas and provide the flexibility, creativity, and infrastructure conditions that facilitate the provision of funds from non-government sources. This study will explore alternative sources and policy options to increase and sustain funding of public higher education.

**Chair:** Dr. David Evans

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TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP  
Department of Student Development  
One 10 hours/week teaching assistantship is available for spring 2016 for EDUC 293A: Love and Work.

**Responsibilities include:** Maintaining class materials in Moodle, grading student papers, managing grading through Moodle, coordinating discussion groups, and general assistance in the course.

**Qualifications include:** Teaching or TA experience, excellent computer skills (excel and data management), ability to work in Moodle, and strong organizational skills.

To apply, please send your CV to Dr. Catherine Griffith at cagriiif@umass.edu, using the term EDUC 293 TA in the subject line of the email.
May 2016 Degree Deadlines

Master’s Degree (M.Ed.) and Education Specialist Degree (Ed.S.) Candidates

- **March 23, 2016** is the deadline to submit **TYPED** forms to Kristin Tyler, Office of Academic Affairs, Furcolo Hall to file to graduate for the May 2016 degree period.

**Master’s Degree (M.Ed.) submit:**
- Typed Master’s Degree Eligibility Form
- Typed College of Education’s **Form M-2** Completed Program of Study
- List in chronological order from your transcript only graduate courses to be counted toward the Master’s degree
- **Course numbers and course titles listed on the Form M-2 must match transcript and Degree Eligibility Form exactly**

**Education Specialist Degree (Ed.S.) submit:**
- Typed Education Specialist Degree Eligibility Form
- Typed College of Education’s **Form ES-2** Completed Program of Study
- List in chronological order from your transcript only graduate courses to be counted toward the Ed.S. degree
- **Course numbers and course titles listed on the Form ES-2 must match transcript and Degree Eligibility Form exactly.**

- This deadline is to allow time for processing and obtaining the necessary signatures of Dr. Linda Griffin, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Graduate Program Director, and Dean Christine B. McCormick who will sign Sections D and E on the Master’s Degree Eligibility Form or Part II of the Education Specialist Degree Eligibility Form.

- Your **advisor** must sign the College of Education’s Form M-2 or ES-2, but NOT the Degree Eligibility Form.

- **Please note that handwritten forms will not be accepted.**

- Forms are fillable and are found at the following URL. If you have any difficulty, please open the forms in Internet Explorer or Safari: [http://www.umass.edu/education/students/current/forms](http://www.umass.edu/education/students/current/forms)

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The Hub in Furcolo Hall is open from 8-7 Monday through Thursday and 8-2 on Friday.
May 2016 Degree Deadlines

Doctoral Degree (Ed.D. and Ph.D.) Candidates
Filing to Graduate for the May 2016 degree period

- Submit your **TYPED Doctoral Form D-8** to Kristin Tyler to schedule your final oral defense 4 weeks plus 2 additional business days in advance of the defense date in order to meet the Graduate School’s 4 week deadline.

- Schedule your defense no later than March 16, 2016 to have time to make any necessary edits.

- Rooms are reserved by contacting Robert Heath, College of Education Curriculum Coordinator, by email at: rheath@umass.edu

- **March 23, 2016** is the deadline to submit your **TYPED Doctoral Degree Eligibility Form, TYPED Form D-9 (Result of Final Oral Examination)** and one original signature page to Kristin Tyler, Office of Academic Affairs, Furcolo Hall.

- The Doctoral forms are fillable and are found at the following URL. If you have any difficulty, please open the documents in Internet Explorer or Safari: http://www.umass.edu/education/students/current/advising-guidelines/doctoral-guidelines

- Please note that handwritten forms will not be accepted.

- Kristin will submit these forms to the Graduate School after they are signed by Dr. Linda Griffin, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Graduate Program Director, and Dean Christine B. McCormick who will sign section C of the Doctoral Degree Eligibility Form as Department Head/Chair.

- **April 1, 2016 (by 4:30pm)** is the deadline for you to electronically submit your dissertation and the Survey of Earned Doctorates to the Graduate School. **THIS IS A FIRM DEADLINE!**

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**Graduate School workshops**  [https://www.umass.edu/gradschool/opd](https://www.umass.edu/gradschool/opd)

**Monday, December 7th - 1:00-2:30pm**  904-08 Campus Center

**Syllabus Design**

Your syllabus can be a powerful tool for communicating your passions and intentions, and encouraging an active, meaningful learning experience for students. This session will provide tools to help you develop course goals, learning outcomes, content, tone, assignments, statements of responsibilities and other course policies. At the end of session you will construct your own syllabus for a class that you are independently teaching. Co-sponsored by the Institute for Teaching Excellence & Faculty Development (TEFD). A pizza lunch will be served. **Pre-registration** is required.

**Tuesday, December 8th - 2:00-3:00pm**  174-76 Campus Center

**Online Career Exploration: Intro to Versatile PhD**

[VersatilePhD](https://versatilephd.com) is an online resource for all graduate students to explore non-academic career opportunities, network with professionals in the field, and access job postings. The Graduate School provides a free subscription to current graduate students. Attend this information session to learn how to join and navigate premium content to make the most of your career exploration. **Pre-registration** is required.