PROJECT ASSISTANTSHIP
Department of Student Development

10 hour/week project assistantship is available for Fall 2015.

Responsibilities include: assists the department with national accreditation reports; provides support gathering and analyzing department data; assists in planning in department meetings; supports department strategic planning and other college-and university-wide initiatives; any other duties as assigned.

Qualifications include: excellent written and oral communications skills; excellent organizational skills; ability to work with various campus constituencies including faculty members, administrators, and students. Priority will be given to doctoral students.

To apply, please send a resume to Judy Pierce @ judithpierce@educ.umass.edu on behalf of Dr. Mary Lynn Boscardin.
**Research Assistantship** - Small Group Learning  
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies  
*NSF-funded research project*

One 10 hour/week research assistantship position available for fall 2015.

**Responsibilities** include: The student will primarily work in a research project on small group learning in high school biology classes. S/he will assist with transcribing and initial coding of videotaped small group observations, literature reviews on collaborative small groups in STEM disciplines, data entry into SPSS, and writing for conference presentations and publications.

**Qualifications** include: The ideal candidate will have a background in Science Education or an equivalent discipline, and strong writing, organizational, and time management skills. The ability to work collaboratively as well as independently is required. Knowledge of quantitative and qualitative research methods is required. The online training program called Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) for human subject investigators will need to be completed prior to hiring. For information see: [http://www.umass.edu/research/training-and-education](http://www.umass.edu/research/training-and-education)

Preference will be given to doctoral students.

To apply, please send a letter of application, your resume or C.V., and contact information for two references to Dr. Martina Nieswandt, mnieswan@educ.umass.edu.  
Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

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**Project Assistantship**  
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies  
Language, Literacy, and Culture Concentration

10 hr/week project assistantship for fall semester 2015. Position dependent on funding.

**Responsibilities** include: Assisting the LLC concentration coordinator on various projects such as orientation planning and execution, managing concentration data, website maintenance, etc.

**Qualifications** include: Excellent oral and written communication skills; exceptional organization and time management skills; ability to manage and resolve conflict and to work independently; technology skills. Doctoral students preferred.

Please email a letter of application and CV to Dr. Denise Ives at dives@educ.umass.edu by July 3, 2015.

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[www.umass.edu/education](http://www.umass.edu/education)
TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

One 10 hour/week teaching assistantship available for fall semester 2015 for HUM DEV 270 Child Development.

Responsibilities include: assist with course preparation; monitor student attendance and Moodle communication; attend weekly meetings; attend all classes; provide 2 hours per week of scheduled office hours; provide feedback on students’ written work.

Qualifications include: excellent written and oral communication skills; organizational skills; ability to work with undergraduate students; knowledge of human development desirable. Doctoral students will be given priority.

To apply, please send a resume and the names and contact information of three references to Dr. Sally Galman at sally@educ.umass.edu.

Teaching Associate (TO) – Exploratory Track Seminar
College of Education, Office of Academic Affairs

One 10 hour/week assistantship position available for fall 2015.

Responsibilities include: The TO will teach three sections of the new one credit, one hour a week Exploratory Track Seminar: Careers in Education to exploratory first year students. The Education Exploratory Track is for students interested in education as a career path in a variety of settings (e.g., formal, informal or international). Students who are thinking of pursuing a career in teaching at the early childhood, English as a Second Language, elementary, special education or secondary education levels (i.e., mathematics, science, English and history), or an advanced school professional career such as reading specialist, school counseling and school psychology will benefit as well from the Exploratory Track in Education. Students will be exposed to potential careers in education, learn about licensure requirements, and explore secondary majors that align with their career interests.

Qualifications include: The ideal candidate will have a background in education and teaching experience and strong writing, organizational, and time management skills. The ability to work collaboratively as well as independently is required.

Doctoral students only should apply.

To apply, please send a letter of application, your resume or C.V., and contact information for two references to Kim Drake (kdrake@educ.umass.edu). In the subject line of the email please put Exploratory Track TO. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

www.umass.edu/education
The Beacon is posted to the college's web site every week.

http://www.umass.edu/education/news/beacon

The Graduate School’s Workshops
https://www.umass.edu/gradschool/office-of-professional-development

Monday, June 15   3:00 -4:00pm, 538 Goodell (Lounge)
Intro to Grant Searching for Postdocs
This session discusses the basic tools available to UMass postdocs looking for grants and presents some tips on applying for external funding. Geared toward the diverse funding needs of postdocs, this session will be relevant to those seeking funding for UMass-based work or to cover the next stage of their career. Pre-registration is requested.

Tuesday, June 23   12:00 -1:00pm, 538 Goodell (Lounge)
Brown Bag: Aligning your funding applications with your graduate career
Many grants and fellowships seek applicants at specific stages of graduate study. By understanding how these funding opportunities align with graduate education milestones (e.g. achieving candidacy, dissertation writing), students are better able to identify, plan and execute effective proposal submission strategies. Bring your lunch, we'll provide coffee to fuel our conversation! Pre-registration requested.

Tuesdays, June 23, July 14 & 28, and August 11 & 25  9:00am-1:00pm
1367 Du Bois Library
Summer Writing Series
We'll do the coffee; you do the writing! This bi-monthly writing group provides a designated time and place to write while caffeinated this summer. Writing in the presence of others is not only less lonely, but also leads to better accountability. Come late or leave early. First come, first served. Pre-registration is required.

Tuesday, June 30 - 6:00-8:00pm
225 Franklin Street, Boston, MA 02110
Life Sciences Networking Opportunity- Boston, MA
The Life Sciences Alumni Network invites you to connect with UMass alumni and life science professionals in Boston. Dr. Charles Sherwood, President and CEO of Anika Therapeutics, will give an insightful talk on how collaborations between UMass life sciences programs and private industry are spurring innovation and growth. Dr. Peter Reinheart, founding director of the Institute of Applied Life Sciences, will discuss recent developments in life sciences on the UMass campus. Pre-registration is required and the $15 registration fee will support a UMass Amherst Life Science Alumni Network Scholarship.
Teaching Assistantships
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

Four 10 hour/week teaching assistants for fall 2015 for EDUC 503: Sheltered English Immersion (secondary sections). Please note that the exact number of TAs will be contingent upon enrollment. This assistantship begins September 6, 2015.

Responsibilities include: Attending all classes on Tuesday evenings from 5:00-7:30; attending a weekly planning meeting with other TAs under the direction of Dr. Gebhard; and leading a discipline-specific discussion section for secondary English, history, math, or science licensure candidates. In these discipline specific sections, TAs will take attendance; keep student performance records; implement weekly lesson plans; collect and evaluate students’ weekly assignments; provide feedback on course projects; and provide input on the assessment of students’ progress in the course. TAs will also be responsible for responding to students’ emails in a timely fashion and holding weekly office hours.

Qualifications include: A combination of content knowledge in a specific subject areas (e.g., math, science, history, English language Arts) and a knowledge of how to explicitly scaffold ELLs to using disciplinary literacy practices orally and in writing; a knowledge of sociocultural theory (e.g., Moll’s funds of knowledge; Halliday’s systemic functional linguistics, Vygotsky’s Zone of Proximal Development); and an ability to use these theories to design critical content-based units of instruction for secondary English language learners. In addition, applicants should have a demonstrated commitment to equity in education; a knowledge of the schooling experiences of ELL and the policies that shape these experiences; an ability to collaborate and communicate; and an ability to use technology to support teaching and learning (e.g. Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Moodle, Tk20).

Interested applicants should send a brief cover letter that includes the names of two former employers who can provide a telephone reference, and CV/resume to Dr. Meg Gebhard at gebhard@educ.umass.edu. The subject line should read TA 503 and specify the content area (e.g., TA 503 Secondary Science).

These assistantships are contingent upon enrollment and are only for fall 2015. Application deadline: July 1, 2015. Preference will be give to doctoral students.
SEPTEMBER 2015 Degree Deadlines

Doctoral Degree (Ed.D. and Ph.D.) Candidates Filing for the September 2015 degree

- 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 August 14, 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

- **August 21, 2015** 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.

- 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.

- **August 31, 2015 (by 4:30pm)** is the **deadline to submit** the dissertation electronically and other required materials to the Graduate School (Room 534 Goodell). **THIS IS A FIRM DEADLINE!**
SEPTEMBER 2015 Degree Deadlines

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

- August 21, 2015 is the deadline to submit TYPED forms to Kristin Tyler, Office of Academic Affairs, Furcolo Hall to file for the September 2015 degree.

  - **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 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)
**Teaching Assistantship**  
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies  
Program Supervisors--Early Childhood Licensure

10 hour/week teaching assistantships for fall 2015 for program supervisors for the Early Childhood Licensure Program, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies.

Supervision of students seeking early childhood licensure in pre-K or K practicum in the fall semester; **responsibilities include** observations, giving verbal and written feedback, problem solving with and supporting pre-practicum and practicum students, supporting supervising practitioners, conducing three-way meetings, conducting debriefing sessions with students, timely completion of ongoing documentation of student performance, attending weekly seminar meetings (Monday mornings), attending program supervisor meetings twice a month. Priority will be given to doctoral students.

**Qualifications:** Classroom teaching experience (PreK-2 preferred). Excellent communication and problem solving skills.

Applicants should submit letter of interest, resume, and names and contact information for two references to Sally Galman sally@educ.umass.edu and Camille Cammack at jcammack@educ.umass.edu. Please include Early Childhood Program Supervisor Application in the subject line.

Application deadline: July 2, 2015

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**RESEARCH ASSISTANT**  
Department of Educational Policy, Research, and Administration

10 hour/week research assistantship is available for fall 2015. This position will primarily support a mixed methods study on racial identity development among international students.

**Responsibilities include:** data collection using qualitative interviewing techniques; data management and data analysis using NVivo and Qualtrics software; development of literature reviews; writing for conference presentations and publications.

**Qualifications include:** experience with qualitative interviewing/analysis and familiarity with mixed methods research; strong writing, organizational, and time management skills; ability to work both collaboratively and independently; familiarity with scholarship in student development theory, racial identity development theory, immigrant/international students, and college student experiences; prior experience with NVIVO and/or Qualtrics software is preferred, but not required. Applicant must complete CITI training.

Priority given to doctoral students. Position contingent upon funding.

Application deadline is July 10

To apply, please send a brief cover letter and CV/resume to Chrystal A. George Mwangi at chrystal@umass.edu
PROJECT ASSISTANTSHIPS
Center for Educational Policy
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration

One 12 hr/week project assistantship available for 2015-2016 and one 10 hr/week project assistantship available for 2015-2016. Contingent upon funding.

Responsibilities include assisting Dr. Sharon Rallis, Director, with data collection, instrument design, interpretation and analysis of data, writing of reports and other communications, and delivery of findings on the evaluation of a federally funded grant for the Massachusetts Public Charter Schools Association. Some travel will be necessary.

Qualifications include: excellent written and oral communications skills; excellent organizational skills; ability to work with various on and off-campus constituencies including faculty members, administrators, and authors; experience in program planning and evaluation. Knowledge of systems change theory, special education, and English Language Learner resources and needs would be especially helpful.

To apply, please send a resume to Sharon Rallis, sharonr@educ.umass.edu

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

JOANNE WHITE     Proposed Dissertation Title: The Influence of Instructional Coaching on Middle School Teachers’ Sense of Self-efficacy and Changes in Instructional Practice: A Mixed Methods Study

Statement of Problem: Instructional coaching is a widely used professional development strategy for increasing teachers’ content knowledge and strengthening pedagogical practice so as to increase student engagement. There is evidence to suggest that instructional coaching may have a positive influence on teacher self-efficacy, that is, teachers’ belief, and vision of their own ability to provide exemplary instruction. Teachers’ self-efficacy begins to change when they themselves are motivated to implement new strategies, construct new patterns of teaching, and engage in self-reflection. Self-efficacy is important because it determines an individual’s level of motivation as exhibited by the amount of effort exerted to undertake an activity and level of persistence in the face of hardship. Grades 5 - 8 is a critical time period for ensuring students stay in school, and are academically on course for college and career readiness upon high school graduation - hence, the study of instructional coaching and its’ influence on teachers' sense of self-efficacy and changes in instructional practice is especially important at the Middle level of schooling.

Chair: Dr. Rebecca Woodland

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