

SUZANNE VARGAS, PH.D.

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TEACHER EDUCATOR

An accomplished and dedicated professor committed to the growth and development of students. Ph.D. in Reading, Language and Literacy with a comprehensive background in teaching, field supervision, and innovative course development. Extensive classroom experience in pre-K, early childhood and middle school programs. Proven expertise in leading large and small scale program development, including a P.S.C. certified E.S.O.L. endorsement program at Georgia State University. Excellent communication skills, which foster positive relationships with students, parents, community and colleagues. Canvas Learning Management System certified, Bicultural (Spanish/English), and Bilingual. Consistently recognized for integrity, reliability and dedication.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

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| ▪ ESOL/Bilingual Education | ▪ Reading Diagnostics | ▪ Family Literacy |
| ▪ Diversity/Multicultural Education | ▪ Field Supervision | ▪ Course/Curriculum Development |
| ▪ Teacher Education | ▪ Partner School Development | ▪ Student Needs Assessment |
| ▪ Service Learning | ▪ Program Design at all Levels | ▪ Reggio Emilia |
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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| MORNINGSIDE PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL, ATLANTA, GA
PRE-K TEACHER | 2018- |
| MERCER UNIVERSITY, ATLANTA, GA
FIELD SUPERVISOR
Student Teacher Supervisor | 2015 – 2016 |
| REINHARDT UNIVERSITY, ATLANTA, GA
ADJUNCT PROFESSOR
Literacy Instructor, Diversity Instructor, Student Teacher Supervisor | 2014 – 2015 |
| OLGETHORPE UNIVERSITY, ATLANTA, GA
VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, CLINICAL
▪ Literacy Instructor and Service Learning Instructor | 2008 – 2014 |
| THE ATLANTA SCHOOL, ATLANTA, GA
MULTI-AGE CLASSROOM TEACHER
▪ Part-time Literacy Facilitator and Co-teacher to classes comprised of 5/6, 6/7 and 7/8 year olds | 2008 – 2010 |
| GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY, ATLANTA, GA
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, CLINICAL (2001 – 2007)
▪ ESOL Coordinator/Instructor; Diversity Instructor for the Department of Early Childhood | 1998 – 2007 |
| GRADUATE TEACHING/RESEARCH ASSISTANT (1998 – 1999)
▪ Reading Assessment Instructor/Partner School Liaison for the Department of Middle and Secondary Instruction | |
| ANDERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, ATLANTA, GA
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER | 1996 – 1998 |
| GIDNEY AVENUE SCHOOL, NEWBURGH, NY
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER | 1994 – 1996 |

HORIZONS-ON-THE-HUDSON SCHOOL, NEWBURGH, NY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER ESOL ASSISTANT	1993 – 1994
CATHOLIC CENTRAL SCHOOL, BUFFALO, NY MIDDLE SCHOOL TEACHER	1992 – 1993

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Ph.D.- Reading, Language and Literacy, Georgia State University
M.S.- English as a Second or Other Language/Bilingual Education, State University of New York College at New Paltz
B.S.- Elementary Education, Minor: Sociology, State University of New York College at Buffalo
Canvas Certification, Brenau University

HONORS & AWARDS

1999 Departmental Doctoral Award

- An award given by the Department of Middle and Secondary Education to select doctoral students for excellence in scholarship, outstanding service to the department and educational community, and demonstrated professional excellence

2003 Martin Luther King Torch of Peace Award

- The Torch of Peace Award honors exemplary GSU community members who have demonstrated leadership and service in the promotion of intercultural relations

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“The Literacy Gap: Effective Strategies for Today’s Diverse Classrooms.” Presented to the 2005 National Association for Multicultural Education Conference, November, 2005
“Building Cultural Competence in the Classroom.” Presented by invitation to the 2005 Latin American Association of Atlanta Annual Conference, October, 2005
“Planning for Success: Planning, Teaching, and Learning with Linguistically Diverse Students.” Presented to the 2004 GA TESOL Conference, April, 2004
“Planning for Success with English Language Learners.” Presented to the 2004 Kennesaw State University ESOL Conference, February, 2004

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

International Literacy Association
National Council for Teachers of English
Georgia TESOL

COMMUNITY SERVICE/VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Hess Academy: Member of Board of Trustees, 2012- 2014
Hess Academy: Volunteer Literacy Consultant, 2012- 2016
Refugee Family Services Literacy workshops: Fall 2013
Midvale Elementary School: Writer’s Workshop, first grade class, weekly, 2013-2014 school year
Chamblee Middle School: Annual Used Book Sale, Committee Member/Chairperson, 2011-2016