

CORTNEY DILGARD

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CURRICULUM VITA

Updated: January 2024

EDUCATIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

Education

2023	Ph.D.	Elementary Education, <i>Emphasis: Literacy</i> The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
2018	Certificate	Instructional Leadership Certification Program Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, AL
2014	Ed.S.	Teacher Leadership Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, AL
2010	M.Ed.	Reading Specialist Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, AL
2003	B.S.	Elementary Education Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, AL

Professional Experience

2023 – present	Clinical Assistant Professor Curriculum and Instruction The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
2022 - 2023	Faculty Instructor Reading Specialist Program Coordinator Alt. A Literacy Block Practicum Coordinator Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, AL
2020 - 2022	Director of Curriculum and Instruction Jacksonville City Schools, Jacksonville, AL
2016 - 2020	Reading Specialist, K-3 Kitty Stone Elementary, Jacksonville, AL

2014 - 2016	Instructional Coach, 9-12 Cleburne County Schools, Heflin, AL
2012 - 2014	Instructional Coach, K-12 Oxford City Schools, Oxford, AL
2010 - 2012	Reading Interventionist, 9-12 Oxford High School, Oxford, AL
2003 - 2010	Elementary Teacher Carrollton Elementary, Carrollton, GA

RESEARCH

Research Agenda

I explore professional learning, interventions, instructional strategies, and teaching methods for elementary literacy. Specifically, my research emphasizes:

- a. Developing and implementing measures and professional learning to support pre-service and in-service teachers to instruct morphology;
- b. Creating interventions, curriculums, and instructional materials to support students' learning of morphology;
- c. Supporting teachers to embed disciplinary literacy skills in math, science, social studies, and cross-curricular reading;
- d. Preparing preservice teachers with the skills to teach literacy based on the science of reading;
- e. Mentoring literacy coaches to deliver professional development, form coaching partnerships, and foster self-efficacy for coaching.

Publications

Dilgard, C. & Hodges, T. S. (2021). Beyond the scores: Digging deeper into miscues to adjust instruction. *The Reading Paradigm*, 14(1), p. 6-23.

Dilgard, C. & Hodges, T. S. (2022). Leveraging literacy centers for phonics and fluency skill building in middle school. *The Clearinghouse Journal*, 95(1), p. 7-17.
[doi:10.1080/00098655.2021.2016565](https://doi.org/10.1080/00098655.2021.2016565).

Dilgard, C. & Si, Qi. (2022). A multimodal writing framework to promote agency. In Hodges, T. (Eds.), *Handbook of research on teacher writing practices for diverse writing instruction*. IGI Global. [doi:10.4018/978-1-6684-6213-3.ch007](https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-6684-6213-3.ch007).

Dilgard, C., Hodges, T. S., & Coleman, J. (2022). Phonics instruction in early literacy: Examining professional learning, instructional resources, and intervention intensity. *Reading Psychology*, 43(8), p. 541-575. [doi:10.1080/02702711.2022.2126045](https://doi.org/10.1080/02702711.2022.2126045).

Dilgard, C., Hodges, T. S. (2023). Getting to the root of reading intervention for upper elementary. *Journal of Literacy Innovation*, 8(1), 23-39.

Dilgard, C. (2023, April/May/June). Demarginalizing students through diverse literature access. *Literacy Today*, 40(4), 36-38.

Dilgard, C. (2023). *Supporting teachers to increase morphology instruction in elementary grades* (30419384). [Doctoral dissertation, The University of Alabama, ProQuest].

Dilgard, C. & Hodges, T. S. (2024). The survey of teacher morphology knowledge: Measuring content and pedagogical understanding. [under review]

Dilgard, C. & Hodges, T. S. (2024). Current trends of teacher morphology and content knowledge. [under review]

Research Projects in Process

Dilgard, C. and Rich, E. (2024). A Deep Look at Mathematical Morphology: Using Greek and Latin Roots to Support Mathematical Comprehension and Proficiency.

FUNDING

University of Alabama Doctoral Student Summer Research Stipend. Summer 2022. **\$3,500.00**

University of Alabama National Alumni Association Fellowship. Fall 2021 – Spring 2022. **\$32,571.00**

International Literacy Association Steven A. Stahl Research Grant – July 2021 - **\$1,000.00**

Dollar General Literacy Foundation Summer Reading Program Grant – Summer 2021. **\$2,000.00**

University of Alabama Doctoral Student Summer Research Stipend. Summer 2021. **\$3,500.00**

Belser-Parton Literacy Center 0.25 Graduate Assistant. Fall 2020 – Spring 2021. **\$6,862.50**

University of Alabama Doctoral Student Summer Research Stipend. Summer 2020. **\$3,500.00**

Spencer Foundation Research Large Grant. Spring 2024. **\$211,918.00** [under review]

PRESENTATIONS

National Presentations

Dilgard, C., Hodges, T. S., & Filderman, M. J. (2021, November 4-7). *A meta-analysis of morphology-focused instruction in the K-12 classroom setting*. Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers 2021 Conference, Hilton Head Island, SC, United States.

Dilgard, C., Hodges, T. S., & Coleman, J. (2021, November 4-7). *Explicit Phonics Instruction: A Systematic Literature Review*. Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers 2021 Conference, Hilton Head Island, SC, United States.

Hodges, T. S., Coleman, J., Donovan, C., Campbell, E., **Dilgard, C.,** Si, Q., Bailey, P., & Rich, E. (2021, November 4-7). *Literacy deserts or floods? Perspectives of rural teachers and preservice teachers on digital writing instruction and preparation amidst COVID-19*. Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers 2021 Conference, Hilton Head Island, SC, United States.

Dilgard, C. & Hodges, T.S. (2023, November 9-11). *Developing a Tool to Measure Teacher Morphology Knowledge and Analyzing Current Trends of Knowledge*. Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers 2023 Conference, Santa Fe, NM, United States.

Dilgard, C. & Coleman, J. (2023, November 29 – December 2). *Teacher Supports for a Cross-Curricular Approach to Embed Morphology in Elementary Core Instruction*. Literacy Research Association 2023 Conference, Atlanta, GA, United States.

Regional/State Presentations

Dilgard, C., Livingston, M., and Bain, V.. (2011, November). *The RtI Process in the High School Setting*. [Workshop Presentation]. Alabama Secondary Principals Conference, Orange Beach, AL.

Dilgard, C., Hodges, T. S., & Coleman, J. M. (2020, April). *Categorizing nonsense word fluency miscues for prescriptive interventions of the alphabetic principle in first grade reading: A secondary data analysis*. [Poster presentation]. Southeastern Universities Graduate Research Symposium, Tuscaloosa, AL.

Dilgard, C., Hodges, T. S., Coleman, J. M., Filderman, M. J. (2021, April). *Utilizing morphology-focused texts for rooting out reading issues* [Research Proposal Poster presentation]. Southeastern Universities Graduate Research Symposium, Tuscaloosa, AL.

Dilgard, C., Hodges, T. S., Coleman, J. M., Filderman, M. J. (2022, April). *Getting to the root of reading intervention in upper elementary* [Research Proposal Poster presentation]. Southeastern Universities Graduate Research Symposium, Tuscaloosa, AL.

Dilgard, C., Hodges, T. S., Coleman, J. M., Filderman, M. J. (2022, April). *Utilizing morphology-focused texts for rooting out reading issues* [Poster presentation]. Southeastern Universities Graduate Research Symposium, Tuscaloosa, AL.

Dilgard, C., Coleman, J., Donovan, C. & Adams, B. (2024, January 24-25). *Developing a four-phase model of morphology content and pedagogical knowledge for pre-service teachers.* Alabama Higher Education 2024 Science of Reading Symposium, Florence, AL, United States.

Donovan, C., Wilson, E., Coleman, J., Kerch, C., & **Dilgard, C. (2024, January 24-25).** *Let's talk field-based preparation: Considering 25+ years of field-based literacy teacher preparation.* Alabama Higher Education 2024 Science of Reading Symposium, Florence, AL, United States.

TEACHING

RDG 542: Strategic Teaching (Graduate Level), Jacksonville State University

Semester: Fall 2022

Format: Online

Catalog Description: *The purpose of this course is to provide instruction in methods and materials regarding strategic reading for the elementary grades with emphasis on building expertise in literacy instruction, including traditional and new literacies across the curriculum. Active participation in simulations, scenarios, discussion, and reflection are important and required components of this course.*

RDG 530: Methods & Materials for Reading: Teaching Students with Exceptionalities in the Inclusive Setting (Graduate Level, Diversity Course), Jacksonville State University

Semester: Fall 2022

Format: Online

Catalog Description: *The purpose of this course is to provide information regarding methods, materials, and research findings concerned with reading strategies for students with exceptionalities. The course is designed for general or special education classroom teachers and education professionals.*

RDG 540: Early Literacy (Graduate Level, 3 sections), Jacksonville State University

Semester: Fall 2022

Format: Face-to-Face

Catalog Description: *The purpose of this course is to provide information regarding materials and methods for teaching literacy in early childhood. Foundations of literacy including reading, writing, listening, spelling, and speaking will be emphasized.*

RDG 305: Early Literacy for Collaborative Educators, Jacksonville State University

Semester: Fall 2022

Format: Face-to-Face

Catalog Description: *The purpose of this course is to provide information regarding methods, materials, and research findings concerned with beginning reading instruction for elementary grades.*

RDG 343: Collaborative Reading, Jacksonville State University

Semester: Fall 2022, Spring 2023

Format: Face-to-Face

Catalog Description: *The purpose of this course is to provide information regarding methods, materials, and research findings concerned with beginning reading instruction for elementary grades.*

RDG 520: Teaching Reading (Graduate Level), Jacksonville State University

Semester: Spring 2023

Format: Hybrid

Catalog Description: *The purpose of this course is to provide information regarding methods, materials, and research findings concerned with beginning reading instruction for elementary grades. This course is part of the Alternative A Master's program.*

RDG 543: Teaching Struggling Readers: Methods for Collaborative Education (Graduate Level), Jacksonville State University

Semester: Spring 2023

Format: Hybrid

Catalog Description: *The purpose of this course is to provide information regarding methods, materials, and research findings concerned with beginning reading instruction for elementary grades. This course is part of the Alternative A Special Education Master's program.*

RDG 521: Practicum in Teaching Reading (Graduate Level), Jacksonville State University

Semester: Spring 2023

Format: Hybrid

Catalog Description: *Provides prospective teachers an opportunity to observe, analyze, and apply concepts and theories in schools and classrooms.*

ED 595: Internship in Education (Graduate Level), Jacksonville State University

Semester: Spring 2023

Format: Site-based

Catalog Description: *Provides student interns with two site-based placements for internship observations and seven seminars to prepare for employment.*

ED 596: Reflective Practices in Education (Graduate Level), Jacksonville State University

Semester: Spring 2023

Format: Hybrid

Catalog Description: *This course contributes to the preparation and meaningfulness of the student internship and is a hybrid course. This hybrid course is a blend of face-to-face instruction with online learning.*

RDG 354: Reading Diagnosis, Jacksonville State University

Semester: Summer 2023

Format: Online

Catalog Description: *Methods and materials in reading and literacy development in elementary grades with emphasis on diagnostic, remediation, and enrichment strategies along with progress monitoring of reading progress.*

RDG 538: Teaching Reading in Early Childhood Education (Graduate Level), Jacksonville State University

Semester: Summer 2023

Format: Online

Catalog Description: *The purpose of this course is to provide information regarding methods, materials, and research findings concerned with beginning reading instruction for grades P-3.*

CEE 365: Children's Literature, The University of Alabama

Semester: Fall 2023, 2 sections

Format: Face-to-Face

Catalog Description: *Selection and teaching of literature for P-6 children at various developmental levels, according to interests, needs, and abilities. Intensive field experience.*

CEE 478: Teaching Language Arts, The University of Alabama

Semester: Fall 2023, 2 sections; Spring 2024, 2 sections

Format: Face-to-Face

Catalog Description: *Deepening understanding of the materials and methods for teaching of P-6 language arts with emphasis on planning and implementing a writing program. Intensive field experience. Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course.*

CEE 370: Teaching Reading in Elementary School, The University of Alabama

Semester: Spring 2024, 2 sections

Format: Face-to-Face

Catalog Description: *Materials and methods in the teaching of reading, with emphasis on assessment-based instruction and planning a balanced program. Intensive field experience. Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course.*

Higher Education Guest Lectures

Dilgard, C. (2022, April 24) *Review of TKM Measure for Phonological Awareness and Phonics*. Presentation for CRD 369, taught by Dr. Julianne Coleman, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL.

Dilgard, C. (2022, March 31) *Writing in Early Childhood Grades*. Presentation for RDG 304, taught by Robyn Boyles and Aimee Weathers, Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, AL.

Dilgard, C. (2021, April 21) *Review of TKM Measure for Phonological Awareness and Phonics*. Presentation for CRD 369, taught by Dr. Julianne Coleman and Dr. Erica Rutherford, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL.

Dilgard, C. (2020, November 30) *Review of TKM Measure for Phonological Awareness and Phonics*. Presentation for CRD 369, taught by Dr. Tracey Hodges and Dr. Cailin Kerch, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL.

Dilgard, C. (2020, December 1) *Review of TKM Measure for Phonological Awareness and Phonics*. Presentation for CRD 369, taught by Dr. Julianne Coleman and Dr. Erica Rutherford, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL.

Dilgard, C. (2019, April 16) *Tools for Assessing Reading Difficulties*. Presentation for EED 354, taught by Robin Boyles, Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, AL.

Dilgard C. (2019, November 19) *Developing Individualized Reading Plans*. Presentation for EED 354, taught by Robin Boyles, Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, AL.

SERVICE

Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Conference. (2021, March 31) Education category judge, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL.

Calhoun County Career Fair (2022, September 30). College of Education and Professional Studies representative, Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, AL.

Admitted Student Day (2023, February 20). College of Education and Professional Studies representative, Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, AL.

Elementary Education Practicum Sub-Committee (2023, December 11). College of Education, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL.

Journal Reviewer

November 2022
May 2023
January 2024

Reading Psychology
Journal of Literacy Research
Journal of Literacy Research

AWARDS

2021 Most Outstanding Student Awards - Graduate Literacy Award, The University of Alabama, College of Education

2022 Most Outstanding Student Awards - Graduate Elementary Research Award, The University of Alabama, College of Education

VALID EDUCATOR CERTIFICATES

2018 – present	Class A, Instructional Leader, Alabama
2014 – present	Class AA, Teacher Leader, Alabama
2010 – present	Class A, Reading Specialist, P-12, Alabama
2003 – present	Class B, Elementary, K-6, Alabama

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2020 – present	International Reading Association
2020 – present	Alabama Literacy Association
2020 – present	Council for Leaders in Alabama Schools
2020 – present	American Association of School Personnel Administrators
2020 – present	Alabama Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
2021 - present	Association for Literacy Educators and Researchers