

Connie McDonald, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
School of Education
TE 113 434-592-4365

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- Ph. D.** August 1997
Doctor of Philosophy in Secondary Education, TESOL
University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS
- Ed.S.** August 1991
Educational Specialist, Elementary Education with minor in Educational
Administration
Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS
- M.Ed.** August 1983
Master of Education, Elementary Education
University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS
- B.S.** May 1978
Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education
University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS
- A.A.** November 1976
Associate of Arts, Education
Southwest Community College, Summit, MS

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATIONS

State of Virginia Postgraduate Professional License

Administration and Supervision, PreK-12

Elementary Education, PreK-6

English as a Second Language, PreK-12

Reading Specialist, PreK-12

National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education/International Reading Association,
Specialty Area Program Reviewer

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, Liberty University, 2006-Present

Program Director, Program Specialist, Liberty University, 2008-Present

Reading Specialist and English Language Learner Teacher, Portland and Salem, Oregon, 1999-2004

Elementary Combination Class Teacher, Pinole, California, 1997-1998

Elementary Education Instructor and Student Teacher Supervisor, University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi, 1996-1997

Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi, 1995-1996

Graduate Assistant, Delta State University, Cleveland, Mississippi, Fall 1994

Kindergarten Teacher, Okinawa Christian School, Okinawa, Japan, 1992-1993

Kindergarten Teacher, Pass Christian Public Schools, Pass Christian, Mississippi, 1991-1992

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, Mississippi, 1989-1991

Kindergarten Teacher, Amite County Public Schools (Title 1), North Pike Public Schools (Pilot Program for State Funded Kindergartens), Natchez Public Schools (Modified Montessori), and Columbus Public Schools in Mississippi, 1979-1989

Title 1 Reading Teacher, Amite County Public Schools, Liberty, Mississippi, 1978-1979

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Journals

Jones, J. & McDonald, C. (Fall 2007). *God's design and phonemic awareness: What is phonemic awareness, what is phonics, and what does God have to do with it.* Christian Perspectives in Education, 1(1).

LaCour, M., McDonald, C., Tissington, L., & Thomason, G. (2011). The impact of a caregiver workshop regarding storybook reading on pre-kindergarten children's emergent literacy development. Education, 132(1).

Jones, J., McDonald, C., McDonald, S., & Maddox, A. (2011). Teacher candidate success on state mandated professional tests: One predictive measure. Education, 131(4).

Dahmer, M., McDonald, C., Furrow, M., & Thomason, G. (2011, under review). The impact of kindergarten teachers' perceptions of phonological awareness on students' beginning reading. *Language and Literacy*.

LaCour, M., McDonald, C., Tissington, L., & Thomason, G. (2011, under review). Improving Pre-kindergarten children's attitude and interest in reading through a caregiver workshop on the use of dialogic reading techniques. *Florida Reading Journal*.

Books

McDonald, C. (1997). *An investigation of selected factors related to preparing teachers to work with limited English proficient students in north Mississippi public schools*. Doctoral dissertation. Oxford, MS: University of Mississippi.

McDonald, C. (1996). *Stormy horizon*. In *Our Words, Our Worlds: Essays from the 1996 Summer Writing Institute* (pp. 33-36). Oxford, MS: University of Mississippi.

McDonald, C. (1991). *A study of trends in computer and selected telecommunication technologies and their impact on the knowledge age*. Unpublished specialist's manuscript, Mississippi State University, Starkville, Mississippi.

Newsletters

McDonald, C. (2010). Book review on 50 literacy strategies step by step. *Virginia College Reading Educators Newsletter*, 6(1).

PRESENTATIONS

Peer Reviewed Presentations

McDonald, C., McDonald, S., & Maddox, A. (November 2011). College Literacy Division Roundtable Idea Exchange, Teacher candidate success on state mandated professional tests: One predictive measure. Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers Conference, Richmond, VA.

McDonald, C., McDonald, S., & Maddox, A. (November 2011). Concurrent session on strategies for developing 21st Century skills through visual literacy. Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers Conference, Richmond, VA.

McDonald, C. (March 2011). Developing comprehension with new literacies. Virginia State Reading Conference. Roanoke, VA.

McDonald, S. & McDonald, C. (November 2010). College Literacy Division Roundtable Idea Exchange Presentation, Making connections: Reading, math, and working memory. Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers Conference, Omaha, NE.

McDonald, S. & McDonald, C. (November 2010). Concurrent session on making Connections: Reading, math, and working memory. Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers Conference, Omaha, NE.

McDonald, C., & McDonald, S. (March 2010). Working memory: The reading and math connection. Virginia State Reading Conference, Virginia Beach, VA.

McDonald, C. (February 2009). *Comprehension text strategies*. Virginia State Reading Association Conference, Arlington, Virginia.

McDonald, C., & Whicker, A. (March 2008). *Hoyt's expository text strategies*. Virginia State Reading Association Conference, Richmond, Virginia.

McDonald, C., Goodwin, M., & Moore-Austin, S. (November 2007). *An action plan: Your ACE in the hole*. Kappa Delta Pi Biennial International Convocation, Louisville, Kentucky.

McDonald, C., Goodwin, M., & Moore-Austin, S. (November 2007). *Kappa Delta Pi International Convocation regional meeting facilitators*. Kappa Delta Pi Biennial Convocation, Louisville, Kentucky.

Morgan, K. & McDonald, C. (March 2007). *Viewing skills & methods of visually representing*. Virginia State Reading Association Conference, Roanoke, Virginia

Presentations

McDonald, C. (1996). *Strategies for improving reading comprehension*. Summer Institute of the University of Mississippi Writing Project in Oxford, Mississippi.

McDonald, C. (1996). *Teaching writing skills to limited English proficient college students*. Internship at the Intensive English Program of University of Mississippi in Oxford, Mississippi.

McDonald, C., et al. (1990). *An evaluation of issues and innovations in reading instruction*. Paper presented at a display session of the annual meeting of the Mid-South Educational Research Association, New Orleans, Louisiana.

McDonald, C. (1990, October). *Whole language: Education for the future*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Mississippi Association on Children Under Six, Jackson, MS.

McDonald, C. (1990, June). *The power of motivation: Make and take workshop*. Workshop conducted at the Second Annual Mississippi State University Reading Conference, Starkville, Mississippi.

SERVICE

Leadership

Liberty University, School of Education, Program Director, Program Specialist, 2008-Present

Liberty University, School of Education, Japanese Homestay Program Coordinator, 2008-Present

Liberty University, School of Education, Counselor for Pi Sigma of Kappa Delta Pi, Fall 2006-2009

Liberty University, School of Education, Faculty Sponsor, Christian Educators Association International, 2008-Present

Liberty University School of Education Newsletter, co-editor, Fall 2008-Fall 2011

Committee or Task Force Service, University

Member of School of Education Field Experience Assessment Research Committee, Fall 2008-Present

Member of Senate Committee on Academic & Academic Standards, Summer 2008-2011

Secretary of Senate Committee on Academic & Academic Standards, Fall 2010-Fall 2011

Member-Undergraduate Course Description Committee for EDUC courses, Fall 2006-Present

Member-NCATE Diversity Committee, Spring 2008

Chair-Dissertation Committees

Perceptions of High School Minority Students and High School Teachers Regarding Racism: A Phenomenological Study, Paige Shiver Boomer, 2011

Releasing the Voice of Early Education Directors: Degree Requirements, Kristi Martin, 2011

Representations of L2 Motivational Self System With Beginning Chinese language Learners at College Level in the United States: Heritage and Nonheritage Language Learners, Yan Xie, 2011

Does Setting Affect Achievement Of Students With Disabilities: Comparing Co-teaching To Resource, Sarah Yvonne Mote, 2010

Phonological Awareness in the Kindergarten Classroom: How Do Teachers Perceive This Essential Link From Oral Communication to Reading Skill Development, Margaret Catharine Dahmer, 2010

The Impact of a Caregiver Workshop Regarding Storybook Reading on Pre-Kindergarten Children's Readiness for Reading, Misty Mae LaCour, 2010

The Impact of the Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy on the Home Literacy Environment, Gina Bennett Thomason, 2008

Committee Member, Dissertations, 2007-2009

Inclusive Learning Environments: An Analysis of Early Intervention Service Options for Preschoolers with Special Needs, Mimi L. Heath, 2009

An Analysis of Rx for Discovery Reading for Elementary Students Below Average in Reading, Susan Kay Stanley, 2007

Perceptions of Alabama School Personnel of Research-based Instructional Strategies to Improve Student Achievement, Christopher Glenn Pritchett, 2007

Chair-Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committees, 2007-Present

The Appeal of Caldecott Award Winning Books and Their Importance in the Classroom, Rebecca Ann Hoffman, 2010

The Educational System in Romania: An Overview of How Communism Has Influenced Current Aspects and Programs, Jessica Phillips, 2010

Reading Comprehension Instruction for Expository Text in Elementary Education, Kristen Ephraim, 2009

To Read or Not to Read: The Influence of Literature on Behavior Management, Katherine E. Ray, 2009

The Academic Needs of the Native Spanish-Speaking English Language Learner under the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), Amy J. Whicker, 2008

To Read or Not to Read: A Comprehensive Study of Effective Reading and Methods of Teaching Reading, Morgan Decker, 2007

Member- Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committees, 2007-Present

Instructing All Students as Language Learners, Emily Hassebeck, 2010

The Impact of the No Child Left Behind Act on the K-8 Setting, Kara Robertson, 2010

The Effect of Classroom Experiences on Future Success, Jennifer R. Presson, 2008

Chair, Honors Petitions for EDUC 318 Teaching Elementary Reading, Fall 2011

Julia Cummings, Dorothy Rhodes, and Johannah Stohman

Committee or Task Force Service, Non-University

Virginia College Reading Educators, Membership Chair, 2010-Present

NCATE/IRA Program Reviewer, 2011-Present

Educational Testing Service, Elementary and Special Education Reading for Virginia Educators Committee, 2010

Virginia/NCATE Partnership Program Standards Alignment Reviewer for Reading Specialist Programs, Virginia State Department of Education, Richmond, Virginia, May 2009

Scholarship Reviewer for Kappa Delta Pi International, Summer 2008

Association of Teacher Educators Proposal Reviewer, May 2008

International Reading Association Proposal Reviewer, June 2008

Manuscript Reviewer for Christian Perspectives in Education, 2007-Present

Community/Church

Liberty University, School of Education, Japanese Homestay Program Coordinator, 2008-Present

LU Practicum Facilitator. Amelon Elementary School, Spring 2011

Assistant Sunday School Teacher, Family Life Church Senior Adult Class, Fall 2008-Present

Family Life Church Adoption Seminar Speaker, July 2008

LU Practicum Facilitator at Linkhorne Elementary School, Fall 2006- 2010

LU Practicum Facilitator at Amherst Elementary School, Fall 2008- 2010

LU Practicum Facilitator at Liberty Christian Academy, Fall 2006- Summer 2011

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Liberty University

Evidence-Based Teaching and Learning: What the Research Has Shown About How Students Learn, August 2011

Effective Strategies for Engaging Students in Any Sized Class, August 2011

Finance 100, Financial Systems Access, February 2011

Effective Use of LUO Discussion Boards, August 2010

What the Best College Teachers Do and Other Books on College-Level Teaching, August 2010

Worldview Seminar, August 2009

Turnitin, November 2008

MS OneNote Basics, October 2008

Academic Integrity, August 2008

Blackboard 7.3 Gradebook Enhancements, August 2008

Deep and Not So Wide: Demystifying Qualitative Research, August 2008

LiveText, August 2008

Presenting in A New Way: PointCast, August 2008

SMART Lectern Software, August 2008

What's New At the Writing Center, August 2008

VACTE Conference, October 2007

Common Punctuation Errors, August 2007

Emergency Response for Critical Incidents, August 2007

Helping Dissertation and Thesis Students Through the IRB Process, August 2007

Responsibilities in the Classroom and Legally, August 2007

The Big Picture, August 2007

Every Thought Captive: World View Planning, Teaching, and Assessment, May 2007

International Students: Optimizing the Classroom Experience, May 2007

Introducing the Liberty University Digital Commons, May 2007

Course Embedded Assessment, March 2007

Peer Evaluation Tips, February 2007

Naturalism, Humanism, and Theism, November 2006

What Makes LU Distinctive, September 2006

Faculty Evaluation Portfolio Development, August 2006

Getting Published: The Fundamentals, August 2006

Getting Ready to Teach a Class, August 2006

Introduction to Blackboard Basics, August 2006

Using the Smart Classroom Equipment, August 2006

Laptop Training, July 2006

New Employee Orientation Class, July 2006

Professional Conferences

Virginia State Reading Educators Conference, 2007-2011

Association of Literacy Educators and Researches Conference, 2010

Virginia College Reading Educators Annual Meeting, 2008-2011

Kappa Delta Pi Biennial Convocation, November 2007

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Christian Educators Association International

Association of Teacher Educators in Virginia

Virginia State Reading Association

Virginia College Reading Educators

Piedmont Area Reading Council

International Reading Association

Phi Delta Kappa

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

EDUC 210 Early Childhood Curriculum Fundamentals, 2011

EDUC 215 Wellness in the Early Childhood Setting, 2011

EDUC 650 the Specialist and the School Program, Redevelopment, 2011

EDUC 699 Internship for Program Specialists, Redevelopment, 2011

EDUC 554 Reading and Language Acquisition, Redevelopment, 2010

EDUC 745 Systems Analysis, Minor Redevelopment, 2010