

Russ Claxton, Ed.D
Department Chair, Associate Professor
School of Education
rlclaxton@liberty.edu 434-592-5825

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- Ed.D.** The University of Georgia, 2001
Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership
- Ed.S.** The University of Georgia, 1996
Educational Specialist in Educational Leadership
- M.Ed.** University of West Georgia, 1994
Master of Education in Administration and Supervision
Professional License in Leadership
Professional License in Business Education
- B.S.** Liberty University, 1987
Bachelor of Science in Human Resources Management
Psychology Minor

PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

- GA Postgraduate Professional License, Educational Leadership K-12
GA Postgraduate Professional License, Business Education 7-12

TEACHING/ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Online Chair, School of Education** 2018 to Present
Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA 2011 to 2015
- Support Instructional Mentors
 - Supervise and evaluate online faculty
 - Interview and recommend online faculty applicants
 - Provide professional development for online faculty
 - Address online grade appeals and complaints
 - Assist in the development of online courses and programs
 - Collect and analyze relevant data
- Chair, Department of Advanced Programs and Leadership** 2017 to 2018
School of Education
Liberty University
- Support and evaluate department faculty
 - Oversee department programs

- Collaborate with department leadership to develop and maintain program courses and curriculum

Director, Educational Leadership Program 2017 to 2018

School of Education

Liberty University

- Write program accreditation reports
- Oversee program courses
- Address student complaints and appeals
- Maintain program degree completion plans
- Insure program meets licensure requirements

Chair, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, 2015 to 2016
School of Education

Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA

- Support graduate and undergraduate faculty in Department of Curriculum and Instruction
- Supervise Instructional Mentors
- Monitor and support effective instruction
- Address student grade appeals and complaints
- Support and develop course content
- Attend departmental and university meetings
- Interview, recommend, and provide professional development for faculty
- Serve as a Faculty Mentor for students in education programs
- Communicate with graduate students regularly regarding coursework, programs, practicum completion, grades, and employment
- Conduct research for publication or presentation
- Mentor students conducting research
- Participate in department and university professional development
- Co-Sponsor of ASCD student chapter
- Counselor - Kappa Delta Pi Professional Chapter

Associate Professor, School of Education 2011 to Present

Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA

- Teach classes at the masters, specialist, and doctorate level
- Chair doctoral dissertation committees
- Supervise administration interns in local school placements
- Group leader for Study Abroad trips
- Courses taught include:
 - Leadership Principals and Ethics
 - School Finance and Management
 - Advanced Educational Psychology
 - Leadership and Supervision in Education
 - Supervision of Instruction
 - Behavior Management
 - Current Issues Education Policy
 - Advanced School Law

- Local Administrative Internship
- District Level Internship
- Foundations of Leadership
- School and Community Relations
- Educational Foundations
- Dissertation Proposal and Defense
- Freshman Orientation
- Introduction to Teaching

Principal, North Paulding High School

2010 to 2011

Paulding County School District, Dallas, GA

- Responsible for the day-to-day supervision and leadership of the total school program as a high school principal
- Oversee all athletics and student activities including the hiring and evaluation of athletic director, coaches, and extracurricular sponsors
- Responsible for the development and implementation of a School Improvement Plan
- Worked with instructional personnel to develop district curriculum guidelines
- Involved in ongoing data analysis to help determine instructional needs of students
- Used technology to assist struggling students including software such as NovaNET, Virtual School, E2020, Classworks, and BlackBoard.
- Managed the school budget and make decisions regarding facility needs and allocation of resources
- Supervised extracurricular functions including: organization of events, crowd control, and welcome or instructional speeches at the middle school and high school level
- Communicate with local and regional media sources to provide accurate and appropriate information to the community
- Interacted with parents in diverse situations
- Recruited, interviewed, selected, and evaluated personnel including teachers in various teaching fields, coaches, and support personnel
- Responsible for the selection, supervision, and training of assistant principals including preparing them for advancement opportunities
- Train teachers in the areas of teaching methodology, instructional technology, and student assessment
- Investigated and addressed concerns or complaints regarding classified and certified staff, and improved deficiencies through staff development or disciplinary action when necessary

Adjunct Professor, College of Education

2008-2009

Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

- Taught a large cohort group of students working on their specialist or add-on in Educational Leadership
- Provided face-to-face instruction using lecture, technology, group work, long and short term research projects, and site-based practice hours

- Classes taught include:
 - School Climate
 - Human Resources
 - School and Community relations

Principal, Russell Middle School

2007-2010

Barrow County Schools, Winder, GA

- Led faculty collaboration to improve Russell Middle School from “Did Not Meet” to “Meets” Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) status
- Developed and maintained school evacuation and emergency plans
- Implemented successful student discipline program
- Monitored maintenance and custodial functions, coordinating work with district officials as well as outside vendors and contractors
- Maintained master calendar of events and facilities usage
- Identified and provided professional development opportunities for teachers based on identified strengths or weaknesses of instructional programs
- Developed the master class schedule for students and teachers
- Assisted teachers with curriculum methodology and improvement of classroom management skills
- Developed school discipline guidelines at the school and district level
- Increased financial support from local business partners and community members
- Interacted with local business and community leaders to develop educational partnerships
- Directed the development and maintenance of a school web-site, newsletter, and student newspaper
- Participated in college recruitment and transfer fairs to fill district teaching positions
- Conducted teacher performance evaluations and goal setting sessions

Principal, West-Oak High School

2004-2007

School District of Oconee County, Walhalla, SC

- Developed and implemented a Freshman Academy and a transition program for eighth grade students
- Supported teachers through implementation of numerous improvements to the instructional setting
- Coordinated senior activities and graduation
- Developed remediation plans to help students recover credits using online programs and faculty support
- Developed the master class schedule for students and teachers
- Led West-Oak High School to become the recipient of South Carolina’s *Red Carpet Schools* and *Palmetto Gold Showcase Schools* awards
- Work with parents, faculty, students, and community members to improve West-Oak through the School Improvement Council
- Led implementation of Response to Intervention (RTI) and Positive Behavior Support (PBS) programs

- Directed the development of grants and proposals to acquire additional school funds
- Worked closely with district level human resources staff to identify superior educators and to verify candidate credentials and qualifications

High School and Middle School Assistant Principal 1994-2004
Fulton County Schools, Atlanta, GA

- Coordinated student transportation and bus services
- Worked with architects and contractors to help plan the building of a new school
- Taught staff development workshops on positive classroom management
- Initiated an administrative outreach program for ninth and tenth grade students to deter misconduct and build positive and beneficial relationships with students
- Served as faculty mentor
- Served as administrator over athletics
- Supervised special education services

Business Education Teacher 1991-1994
Cobb County Public Schools, Marietta, GA

- Taught Economics, Business, Law, Technology, Finance
- Coached Football, wrestling, and track
- Future Business Leaders of America Sponsor
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) Club Sponsor

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

- Chancellor's Award for Teaching Excellence, Liberty University
- Commended by Kappa Delta Pi for outstanding chapter leadership
- Kappa Delta Pi award for outstanding membership recruitment
- Region Principal of the Year
- *Palmetto Gold* Award recipient for raising SAT scores
- *Red Carpet Schools* Award Winner
- Recognized by SREB for academic success at a high poverty school
- Received award for raising SAT scores
- Received Governor's Award Teaching of Economics
- Selected to serve or chair numerous district level committees including: diversified work force, district calendar, discipline guidelines, long range building plan, building of new high school, and salary study
- Invited to present at the SREB Annual Education Conference
- President of Skyline Region 1-AA
- Recognized for service at West-Oak High School
- Recognized for service at Milton High School
- Recognized for 10 years of service to Fulton County Schools
- Recognized by inaugural athletic program at Harrison High School
- KDP award for outstanding chapter leadership

GRANTS

- New teacher 101: New Teachers Assisting Future Educators (ILLUminate, Liberty University, 2014), \$4,500
- HP technology grant, incentive grant to help establish a freshman academy (West-Oak High School), \$31,000
- Windstream computer grant for new computer lab (Russell Middle School), \$25,000

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY: PUBLICATIONS

- Claxton, B. L., Claxton, R. L., Keith, D. L., & Yocum, R. G. (2018). Support Services for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Higher Education. *Journal of College Orientation and Transition (JCOT)*, 25 (1), 5-16.
- Beam, A. P. & Claxton, R. L. (2017) *Professionalism in Education: Hitting Your Mark* (2nd ed.). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.
- Beam, A. P., Claxton, R. L., & Smith, S. J. (2016). Challenges for novice principals: Facing 21st-century issues in school administration. *Journal of California Association of Professors of Education Administration*, 27, 147-162.
- Claxton, R. L. (2015). What administrators look for in a new teachers. In E.C. Pinkie & A. P. Beam, *Professionalism in Education: Hitting Your Mark*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.
- Claxton, R. L. (2015). Interviewing skills for new teachers. In E.C. Pinkie & A. P. Beam, *Professionalism in Education: Making the Mark*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.
- Claxton, R. L. (2015). The many hats teachers wear. In E.C. Pinkie & A. P. Beam, *Professionalism in Education: Making the Mark*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.
- Beam, A. P., Claxton, R. L., & Smith, S. J. (2014). Challenges for novice principals: Facing 21st-century issues in school administration. In *Educating global citizens: Proceedings of the Kappa Delta Pi Conference on Learning, Leadership, and Practice* (pp. 107-120). Indianapolis, IN: Kappa Delta Pi.
- Claxton, R. L. (2013). Proactive measures for school safety. In S. J. Smith & J. A. Swezey (Eds.), *Public & private school administration: An overview in Christian perspective* (pp. 121-140). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.
- Claxton, R. L. (2013). Developing a school's greatest asset: The faculty. In S. J. Smith & J. A. Swezey (Eds.), *Public & private school administration: An overview in Christian perspective* (pp.73-86). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.
- Tilley, T. B., Smith, S. J., & Claxton, R. L. (2013). Success despite socioeconomics: A case study of a high-achieving, high-poverty school. *Journal of School Public Relations*, 34(2), 292-317.
- Claxton, R. L. (2001, May). School Counselors' and Administrators' Perceptions

of Middle School to High School Transition Programs (doctoral dissertation). Retrieved from *Proquest Information and Learning*, Ann Arbor, MI

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY: PRESENTATIONS

- Claxton, B.L., Claxton, R.L. & Keith, D.L. (2017, September). *Support Services for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Higher Education*. Virginia Educational Research Association (VERA), Charlottesville, VA.
- Claxton, R.L. (2017, August). *Challenges for Novice Principals: Facing 21st Century Issues in School Administration*. National Council for Professors of Educational Administration (NCPEA), San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- Claxton, R.L. (2017, August). Round table book talk on *Professionalism in Education: Hitting your Mark (2nd Edition)*. National Council for Professors of Educational Administration (NCPEA), San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- Beam, A.P., Claxton, R.L. (2016, September). *School Law: A Discussion on Current Trends and Issues*. Virginia Educational Research Association (VERA), Charlottesville, VA.
- Claxton, R.L. (2016, May). *School Safety and Crisis Management Planning*. International Christian Community of Teacher Educators (ICCTE), Trinity Christian College, Palos Heights, Illinois
- Beam, A.P., Claxton, R.L. (2016, May). *Challenges for Novice Principals: Facing 21st-Century Issues in School Administration*. International Christian Community of Teacher Educators (ICCTE), Trinity Christian College, Palos Heights, Illinois
- Beam, A.P., Claxton, R.L., & Smith, S.J. (2014, October). *Challenges for Novice School Principals: Facing 21st-Century Issues in School Administration*. Kappa Delta Pi (KDP) Leadership, Learning and Practice: Educating Global Citizens International Conference, Calgary, Canada.
- Beam, A.P., Claxton, R.L., & Smith, S.J. (2014, October). *Challenges for Novice Principals: Facing Digital-Age Issues in School Administration*. Virginia Educational Research Association (VERA), Charlottesville, VA.
- Yocum, R.G., Claxton, R.L., James, S.D., & Pinkie, E.C. (2013, June). *Perspectives on Current Trends and Issues in Education from Future Educational Leaders in a Graduate-Level Supervision of Instruction Course*. Poster presented at the Hawaii University International Conference, Honolulu, HI.
- Claxton, R. L. & Smith, S. J. (2013, September). *Proactive measures for school safety: An analysis of the comprehensive nature of crisis management plans*. Virginia Educational Research Association (VERA), Charlottesville, VA.
- Claxton, R. L. & Smith, S. J. (2013, August). *Imagining safer schools: An analysis of the comprehensive nature of crisis management plans*. Paper presented at the meeting of National Council for Professors of Educational Administration (NCPEA), Rutherford, NJ.
- Tilley, T. B., Smith, S. J., & Claxton, R. L. (2012, September). *High academic*

achievement in a high-poverty school. Virginian Educational Research Association (VERA), Charlottesville, VA.

Tilley, T. B., Smith, S. J., & Claxton, R. L. (2012, August). *Success Despite socioeconomics: A case study of a high-achieving, high-poverty school*. National Council for Professors of Educational Administration (NCPEA), Kansas City, MO.

SERVICE: PROFESSIONAL

Presentations

Claxton, R. L. (2014, November) *ADHD in the classroom*. Invited to repeat previous presentation sessions at professional development workshop at Liberty Christian Academy, Lynchburg, VA.

Claxton, R. L. (2013, November) *ADHD in the classroom*. Presented as a professional development workshop at Liberty Christian Academy, Lynchburg, VA.

Claxton, R. L. (2013, November) *Differentiated Assessment*. Invited to repeat previous presentation sessions at professional development workshop at Liberty Christian Academy, Lynchburg, VA.

Claxton, R. L. (2011, November) *Differentiated Assessment*. Presented as a professional development workshop at Liberty Christian Academy, Lynchburg, VA.

Claxton, R. L. (2009) *Reducing school bullying using Safe School Ambassadors Program*, Georgia School Superintendents Association, Atlanta, GA

Claxton, R. L. (2009) *Use of software for data management and instruction*. Russell Middle School, Winder, GA

Claxton, R. L. (2008) *Reducing bullying through student involvement*. Russell Middle School, Winder, GA

Claxton, R. L. (2008) *The Case Against Zeros*. Russell Middle School, Winder, GA

Claxton, R. L. (2008) *Using Positive Behavior Support to improve school-wide discipline*. Russell Middle School, Winder, GA

Claxton, R. L. (2007) *Differentiated Assessment*. Russell Middle School, Winder, GA

Claxton, R. L. (2005) *Teaching students of low socioeconomic status*. West-Oak High School, Westminster, SC

Claxton, R. L. (2003) *Classroom Management*. Presented as a professional Development in-service at Milton High School, Alpharetta, GA

Current Research Projects

- Professionalism in Education
- Use of video in teacher observations
- Trends in School Safety and Crisis Management
- Challenges of novice school leaders
- Graduate Student Perceptions of School Leadership
- Differentiated Assessment

- Education Policy
- Interviewing skills for preservice teachers
- What principals look for in a teaching candidate
- School Choice
- Education is a Choice – Helping parents select the best educational setting for their child

Dissertation Chair

- Ashley, Ryan - A study in how school principals prioritize their personal lives in relation to their professional lives
- Bloomfield, Julie - The development of relationships between at risk teens and teachers in of freshman transition programs setting
- Crowder, B.J. - Teachers' Perceptions of Administrative Support in Incentive Grant Schools
- Hout, Brenda – Reading success indicators for middle school students in special education programs
- Kennedy, Chris - An analysis of perceptions of dropout factors and interventions by eighth and ninth grade teachers in a semi-urban school district
- McLaurin, Josh - Perceptions of school leaders in North Carolina turn-around Schools
- Meadows, Russell - A case study of a former athletic coach became an award-winning school administrator and characteristics he possesses
- Sears, Leigh – Study of efficacious elementary principal experiences with school improvement in the age of accountability
- Seng, Mark - A comparative study of academic achievement and participation in a high school freshman Academy
- Smith, Ashley - Novice Elementary Teachers' Experiences with Preparedness to Teach Mathematics: A Phenomenological Study

Other University Service

- Internship Supervisor for School Administration, Liberty University.
- Panel Member: *Classroom Management*. School of Education, Liberty University.
- Panel Member: Council for Exceptional Children, Liberty University
- Panel Member: Kappa Delta Pi, Liberty University
- Panel Member for preservice teacher courses
- Served as School of Education liaison to the Liberty University Career Center.
- Senior Honors Thesis committee member
- Served as student mentor
- Center for Teaching Excellence panel member
- Faculty Senate member
- Graduate Administrative Council
- Faculty Development and Welfare Committee
- Served on NCATE accreditation team
- Study Abroad program faculty leader

- Conducted pre-service teacher workshop
- Guest Speaker in Education Foundations courses: *Making yourself marketable in education*

Course Development

- Developed doctorate level internship (EDUC 799)
- Developed a masters level course in education policy (EDUC 643)
- Subject Matter Expert for EDUC 643 - Current Trends in Education Policy
- Subject Matter Expert for EDUC 646 – School and Community Relations
- Lead instructor for EDUC 641 - Supervision of Instruction
- Lead instructor for EDUC 645 – Foundations of Leadership
- Lead Instructor for EDUC 741 – Theories of Educational Leadership
- Contributed video content for numerous education courses
- Meet with content development teams for course development and redevelopment
- Work with residential and online faculty to develop course content

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Jefferson Forest HS football parent volunteer
- Speaker, Liberty Christian Academy (LCA) Career Day
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) Central and Southwest Virginia board member
- Adult Sunday school teacher at Thomas Road Baptist Church
- High School ministry volunteer at Thomas Road Baptist Church
- Parking/welcome volunteer at Go Church
- Parent volunteer for LCA Track & Field
- FCA 5K race volunteer
- FCA Golf Tournament volunteer
- LCA Cross Country parent volunteer
- LCA middle school football parent volunteer
- Central Virginia Youth Wrestling Association assistant coach
- Friends of Scouting Campaign Captain
- Local Rotary Member
- Chamber of Commerce Member
- Diversified Work Force Advisory Member

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Dealing with challenging online students
- Making the Trinity understandable
- Using Safe Assign Effectively
- Assessing experiential learning of the adult student
- Jerry Falwell Library research assistance for online students
- Student feedback using Grade Assist
- Grading Multi-lingual students' assignments
- Spiritual formation in distance learning

- Biblical integration
- Supporting military students
- Blackboard
- Plagiarism
- Microsoft Excel
- Photoshop in the classroom
- Online Communities
- Legal Issues in Education
- WebEx
- Apologetics

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD)
- International Christian Community of Teacher Educators (ICCTE)
- Kappa Delta Pi (KDP)
- Council on Undergraduate Research
- Liberty University Varsity Club (former lettermen)
- National Council of Professors of Educational Administration (NCPEA)
- Virginia Professors of Educational Leadership (VPEL)
- Virginia Educational Research Association (VERA)