

Literacy Studies Ph.D. Program,  
Middle Tennessee State University

# Literacy Studies Ph.D. Program

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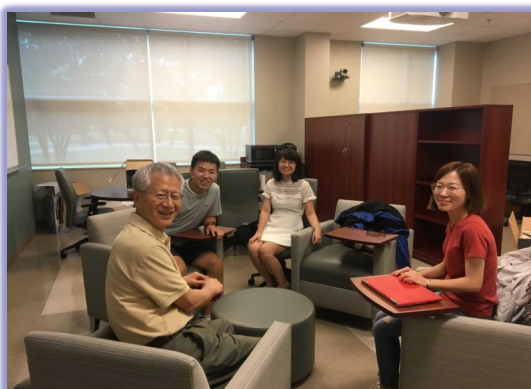
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## Literacy Studies Ph.D. Program Student Success Hub Open House

An Open House was held on November 5, 2018. Dr. Lana Seivers, Dean, College of Education, and Bobbie Lussier attended to help us celebrate. Thank you to all the administration that helped make the Literacy Studies Ph.D. Program Student Success Hub possible.

College of Education Room 144 is a designated space for all Ph.D. Literacy Studies students. The space features student computers and a printer, white boards and smart board, study carrels, and a large table for working with a group. This is a great space to practice presentations, meet for group work, or simply a place to relax and study. All students must use their student IDs to enter; if you have not submitted the paperwork and would like access to the room, please contact Angela.



## 7th Annual Literacy Studies Ph.D. Program Research Conference

February 16, 2019

MTSU College of Education

Murfreesboro, TN

MTSU Literacy Research Conference First Call for Proposals

### **Submissions Now Open**

Submission deadline: December 10, 2018

Registration open: January 4, 2019

Registration deadline: January 31, 2019

Conference Rate: \$35.00

This conference is for students and established scholars to present their research related to literacy in a supportive and collegial atmosphere. We invite researchers and practitioners from various disciplines (e.g., education, psychology, linguistics, and neuroscience) to attend and participate. We encourage presentations of original literacy research and we are especially interested in literacy research that helps bridge research to practice in education. Visit the following site to register:

**[www.mtsu.edu/literacy-conference](http://www.mtsu.edu/literacy-conference)**

## Upcoming Conferences & Proposal Deadlines

**Society for the Scientific Study of Reading (SSSR)**  
**July 19-20, 2019**  
**Toronto, Canada**

**Due by December 20, 2018**

**International Dyslexia Association**  
**November 7-10, 2019**  
**Location TBA**

**Opens January, 2019**

## Presentations & Publications

- Albakry, M. (November, 2018). Framing English in a global context: The good, the bad, and the ambivalent. Key note address given at the Sixth International Conference of the Association of Professors of English and Translation at Arab Universities in Amman, Jordan.
- Albakry, M., Meyer, J., Wood, K., Abarquez-New, J., & Crouch, N. (November, 2018). Language, culture & pedagogy: Challenges and realities in diverse literacy contexts. Symposium presented at the Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers in Louisville, Kentucky.
- Li, D., Kim, J., & Oslund, E. (November, 2018). Impacts of socioeconomic and ELL status on Matthew effect in English language arts. A research in progress session presented at the 2018 Annual Meeting of Mid-South Educational Research Association, Pensacola, Florida.
- McMahan, K. M. (November, 2018) Validation of a multiform instrument of teachers' knowledge of basic English language components. A research in progress session presented at the 2018 Annual Meeting of Mid-South Educational Research Association, Pensacola, Florida.
- McMahan, K. M. & Odegard, T. N. (July, 2018) A cross-sectional look at the impact of reading intervention teacher training on teachers' knowledge of literacy constructs. Poster session presented at the Twenty-Fifth Annual Meeting of the Society of the Scientific Study of Reading, Brighton, United Kingdom.
- Mahmoodi-Shahrehabaki, M. (November, 2018). Teacher burnout: A multidimensional construct. Paper presented at 41st National TED Research Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada.
- Myers, K. (November, 2018). A systematic literature review of dynamic assessment with English language learners. Paper presented 2018 Annual Meeting of Mid-South Educational Research Association, Pensacola, Florida..
- Oslund, E. L., Elleman, A., & Wallace, K. (June, 2018). RTI use, graph literacy and scoring: A preliminary examination. Data-based Decision Making in Education, Leiden, Netherlands.
- Oslund, E. L., Simmons, D. C., Clemens, N. H., & Simmons, L. E. (2018). The direct and indirect effects of word reading and vocabulary on adolescents' reading comprehension: Comparing struggling and adequate comprehenders. *Reading and Writing*, 31, 355-379.
- Rollins, A., Oslund, E., Wallace, K., & Li, D. (2018). Statistical methods and reporting practices in the study of dyslexia. *Dyslexia*.
- Wallace, K., Oslund, E., Elleman, A., Kim, J., & Rollins, A. (November, 2018). Teachers' graph literacy in relation to the amounts and perceived quality of professional development opportunities. A research in progress session presented at the 2018 Annual Meeting of Mid-South Educational Research Association, Pensacola, Florida.
- Wang, P. (November, 2018). Item Structure of the CCSS-Based 6th Grade English Language and Arts Test: Application of Unidimensional and Multidimensional IRT Methods. Paper presented 2018 Annual Meeting of Mid-South Educational Research Association, Pensacola, Florida.

## Practicum & Preliminary Exams

### Practicum Completion

*The following students successfully completed  
their practicums:*

Zahya Ahmed—*Fall, 2017*

Qian Wang—*Fall, 2017*

Victoria Gay—*Spring, 2018*

Melissa McMahan—*Spring, 2018*

Katie Myers—*Spring, 2018*

Natalie Griffin—*Summer, 2018*

### Preliminary Exams

*The following students successfully completed  
their preliminary exams:*

Katie Myers—*Summer, 2018*

Tim Nelson—*Summer, 2018*

Zahya Ahmed—*Fall, 2018*

Tess Fotidzis—*Fall, 2018*

Collin Olson—*Fall, 2018*



## Faculty & Student News

- **Dr. Jwa K. Kim** was presented with the *Walter M. Mathews Historical Contributions Award* by the leaders and members of the Mid-South Educational Research Association at their annual conference in November, 2018.
- **Dr. Eric L. Oslund** was recently confirmed as the Tennessee State Representative for the Mid-South Educational Research Association (MSERA) at the November conference.
- **Katie Myers** earned her Reading Specialist add-on endorsement.

## Dissertation Defenses

### R. Stacy Fields

Effects of Adapted Self-Regulated Strategy Development and Focused Vocabulary Instruction for Second Language Adolescents

Dissertation Committee:

Dr. Amy M. Elleman, Chair  
Dr. Eric L. Oslund  
Dr. Laura Clark

### Zack Barnes

Cognitive Flexibility and Working Memory's Longitudinal Prediction of Reading Achievement

Dissertation Committee:

Dr. Amy M. Elleman, Co-Chair  
Dr. Eric L. Oslund, Co-Chair  
Dr. Tim Odegard  
Dr. Jwa Kim

## Alumni News: Stacy Fields

Dr. Fields graduated from the Literacy Studies Ph.D. Program in the summer of 2018. She successfully defended her dissertation, Effects of Adapted Self-Regulated Strategy Development and Focused Vocabulary Instruction for Second Language Adolescents, and accepted a position as Lecturer in the Department of Elementary & Special Education at MTSU.

## Scholarship Opportunities for Literacy Studies Ph.D. Program Students

### Sawyer-Rudler Research Fellowship in Literacy

The deadline to apply is March 31, 2019

### Ethel Bowden Stricklin Scholarship

The deadline to apply is February 28, 2019

## Important Reminders for Students

- **All Literacy Studies Ph.D. Program students are required to participate** in the annual Literacy Research Conference on February 16, 2019.
- Students wanting to complete the preliminary exam must complete the registration form during the first two weeks of the semester.
- For students planning on working on their residency requirements, be sure to complete and return the residency contract.
- When requesting a POD for LITS courses, email both Angela and the course professor with your M#, course number, and CRN number.

### Upcoming Semester Dates

**Commencement**  
(College of Graduate Studies)  
*December 15, 2018*

**Spring classes begin**  
*January 14, 2019*

**Ethel Bowden Stricklin Scholarship**  
**Application Due**  
*February 28, 2019*

**Sawyer-Rudler Research Fellowship**  
**Application Due:**  
*March 31, 2019*

## Program Updates

### AS OF FALL 2019 – THIS WILL BE A POST-BACHELOR'S PH.D. PROGRAM

- Applicants with bachelor's or master's degrees in education and related disciplines are eligible for admission. (Applicants holding a master's degree may transfer up to 15 credit hours with approval.)
- The Literacy Studies Ph.D. Program at MTSU is prepared to supply a limited number of graduate assistantships (GAs) to qualified applicants. Two types of assistantships are available: full-time and part-time assistantships. The full-time assistantship provides full tuition plus a stipend of \$14,000 per year and requires 20 hours of work commitment per week. The part-time assistantship offers partial tuition and stipend and requires a reduced number of hours of work commitment per week.
- Courses are available in the evenings and weekends to accommodate the typical professional work schedule.
- The priority deadline for application is February 1, 2019 for the 2019-2020 academic year. The general deadline for application is June 1.

**Please visit the Program website:**

**[www.mtsu.edu/literacy](http://www.mtsu.edu/literacy)**

**E-mail Dr. Jwa K. Kim at [Jwa.Kim@mtsu.edu](mailto:Jwa.Kim@mtsu.edu)**  
**for more information.**

### GOT NEWS?

We would like to publish your news in our newsletters. Please let us know if you have published, presented, or performed other newsworthy events!

Also, if you have questions regarding the program, please email us and we will try to provide the answers in the next newsletter.

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