

Ana Figueroa, Ed.D.

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### TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

I've always known that every student deserves a high-quality education. My education and experience have taught me the "how." A teacher's role is to facilitate student-led instruction in meaningful and engaging ways that include linguistic, cognitive, social, and emotional needs. In this point in my career, I agree with Maxine Greene's theory that education is an active process of lifelong learning, continuous improvement, and growth.

### PROFESSIONAL OBJECTIVE

My personal and professional objective is to participate in continuous improvement in the field of Education, Second Language Acquisition, Cognition, Special Education (gifted & cognitively challenged), classroom management, curriculum development and educational leadership.

### EDUCATION

Doctor of Education, Educational Leadership, University of the Cumberland – 2022

Master of Education, Curriculum and Instruction: Concentration in TESOL, USF – 2014

Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education, University of Central Florida – 2007

### CERTIFICATIONS

- Exceptional Student Education K-12
  - ESOL Endorsement
  - Elementary Education K-6
- Middle School Mathematics 5-9
  - Middle School English 5-9
  - Educational Leadership
    - Reading K-12

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Mentoring for Well-being, Educators Thriving, Virtual (2023)
- International Society for Technology in Education, New Orleans, LA (2022)
- Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA), Virtual Training (2022)
- School Improvement, Bartow, FL (2022)
- BEESS Students with Disabilities, Virtual Training (2021)
- Marzano Teacher Evaluation, Auburndale, FL (2021)
- Google Certification: Level 1, Virtual (2020)
- National Charter School Conference, Las Vegas, NV (2019)
- Ron Clark Math Training, Atlanta, GA (2019)
- National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Boston (2018)
- Marzano High Reliability Schools Summit, Austin, TX (2018)
- AdvancED Accreditation Training, Weston, FL. (2018)
- Kagan Math Training, Lake Alfred, FL. (2018)

- Robert Lavoie: Advocate for Children with Learning Differences, Lake County, FL (2017)
- Conscious Teaching, Auburndale, FL. (2017)
- Kagan Multiple Intelligences, Lake Alfred, FL. (2017)
- Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development on Teaching Excellence, New Orleans, LA (2016)
- Kagan Cooperative Learning Multiple Intelligences, Lake Alfred, FL (2015)

<b>PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE</b>
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**UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA, Tampa, FL**

**August 2023- Current**

**Visiting Assistant Professor of Education**

- Education instructor for Foundations of American Education and Classroom Management/Critical Thinking courses
- Curriculum development for undergraduate teacher preparation program

**FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE, Lakeland, FL**

**December 2022-**

**ESOL Adjunct Professor**

- ESOL instructor for teacher workshop program
- Applied linguistics, transformational teaching in diverse environments, second language acquisition, methods for elementary, middle, and high school, theories of second language acquisition, strategies and accommodations.

**BERKLEY ACCELERATED MIDDLE, Auburndale, FL**

**August 2013- December 2022**

**Director of ESE Services**

- ESE coordinator and facilitator of ESE meetings
- Collaborate with teachers, assist with lesson plans, model instructional delivery, progress monitoring based on formal and informal assessments.
- Data collection for norm-referenced and criterion-referenced assessments
- Collaboration with student support team for maximal student achievement
- Work with students in small groups and provide one-on-one support.
- Service hospital homebound student

**Leadership Team**

- Annual collaboration on school improvement plan
- Co-wrote charter school renewal.
- Member of the accreditation committee- AdvancED (now Cognia).

**Teacher Mentor**

- Collaborate with teachers to unpack standards and align curriculum with standards and assessments.
- Data collection and reflection to guide instruction, progress monitoring using formal/informal assessments.
- Model effective instructional strategies using Danielson and Marzano frameworks to maximize individual student achievement.
- Standards-based grading with proficiency scales to assess student learning.

**ESE Teacher**

- Resource teacher providing individualized instruction in core content areas.
- Differentiated instruction using multisensory strategies to deliver visual, auditory, kinesthetic, and tactile instruction with brain breaks and mindfulness built in

**Math Teacher**

- Create lesson plans, provide differentiated instruction, progress monitoring, and effective use of multisensory instructional strategies.
- Top Math FSA scores for the district

**POLK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, Bartow, FL**

**August 2007- May 2013**

**Elementary Teacher**

- Grade chair and team leader
- Collaborated with students on all core content areas.

**Resource Teacher**

- Curriculum development and instructional delivery
- Teacher observations, model lessons/effective instructional strategies

**OSCEOLA COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, Kissimmee, FL**

**September 2004- May 2006**

**ESE Paraprofessional/ESE Permanent Substitute Teacher**

- Facilitate student mastery of taught concepts.

**VERIZON COMMUNICATIONS, New York, NY**

**April 1998- August 2003**

**Multilingual Customer Service Representative**

- Resolve customer issues and enhance sales performance.

<b>AWARDS</b>
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- High Impact Teacher, 2015
- Polk County Charter School Teacher of the Year, 2015
- Polk County Teacher of the Year, 2012
- Nominated for the Council of Exceptional Children (CEC) for Outstanding Achievement, 2005

<b>ACTIVITIES</b>
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- School Improvement Plan, 2014-2022
- Weekly ESE tips for Teachers (facilitated), 2019-2022
- Created School-Wide Documentation Log, 2020
- BAMS Summer Institute (facilitated), 2019
- Co-Wrote Charter School Renewal, 2021
- Accreditation Team Member, 2019-2020
- Leadership Team, 2014-2022
- Girl's Basketball Coach, 2021-2022
- Origami Club, 2014-2022
- Afterschool ESOL Tutoring, 2013-2022

## INTELLECTUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Figueroa, Ana (under review). Should Multicultural Education Permeate the Curriculum? Intended for Education Week (Fall 2023).

Erben, T. (a chapter in book progress). Surviving the Pandemic. “*Exceptional Learning.*”

Figueroa, Ana (2022). How Mindset Influences Learning and Performance Among K-12 Teachers in East Central Florida. University of the Cumberland, Virtual Research Symposium.

Figueroa, Ana (2020). ESE/504 and ELL Documentation Log, Berkley Advanced Middle and Advanced Studies.

## RESEARCH INTERESTS AND PUBLICATIONS

My dissertation focused on “How Mindset Influences Learning and Performance Among K-12 Teachers in East Central Florida.” I wanted to understand a teacher’s mindset to provide proper resources and professional development that may eliminate negativity and retrain the malleable brain to accept challenges and grow from mistakes. My findings uncovered that while teachers have a fixed mindset on performance, we have a growth mindset in learning. Successful teachers participate in continuous improvement through self-reflection that promotes awareness and improved efforts. My future research would focus on creating professional learning opportunities that promote a growth mindset to develop teachers based on their individual needs.

## PEER-REVIEWED EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

ICPEL Annual Conference (2023). Hyflex Conference. Title: Influence of Teacher Mindset on Performance and Learning. (facilitated)

International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership (ICPEL), Fall 2023 (reviewer).

## PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES AND JOURNALS

Figueroa, Ana (under review). Mental and Physical Breaks. Intended for Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Educational Leadership: Mental Health Matters (Fall 2024).

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

### UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA, Tampa, FL

- Teacher Advisory Council Member

## LINGUISTIC ABILITY

Fluent and fully understand, read, write, and speak Spanish.

## GRANTS

Figueroa, Ana. Berkley Accelerated Middle School Walmart Grant. Awarded Fall 2020. ESE and ELL Student Learning. Awarded \$1,000

## **INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY TOOLS**

Smart Technologies, Google, Microsoft, Zoom, Canvas, and all software related to education and instructional technology.

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

- Florida Teacher Certification, Exceptional Student Education K-12
  - Florida Teacher Certification, ESOL Endorsement
  - Florida Teacher Certification, Elementary Education K-6
- Florida Teacher Certification, Middle School Mathematics 5-9
- Florida Teacher Certification, Middle School English 5-9
  - Florida Teacher Certification, Educational Leadership
    - Florida Teacher Certification, Reading K-12