

Curriculum Vitae
Kelli A. Rushek
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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Language, Literacy, and Culture** **2021**
University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
Dissertation: *Three Early Career Teachers' Application of Sociocultural Knowledge About Race in ELA Classrooms*
Advisor/Dissertation Co-Chair: Dr. Amanda Haertling Thein
Dissertation Co-Chair: Dr. Saba Khan Vlach
Committee: Dr. Carlin Borsheim-Black, Dr. Carolyn Colvin, Dr. Pamela Wesely
- M.Ed. Adolescent Development and Behaviour Management in Schools** **2016**
University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia
- M.A.T. English Education** **2005**
University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
- B.A. English and Creative Writing / Spanish minor** **2003**
University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
- Teaching Certification**
Illinois State Board of Education, Professional License: Secondary Education 6-12 (Type 09)
(2005-2016)

RESEARCH

Journal Articles – Refereed:

- Rushek, K.A.** (2019). “We are looking forward to another great school year!”: How principals’ language-in-use reflect school quality ratings in Chicago Public Schools. *Linguistics and Education*, 53, 100756.
- Rushek, K.A.** (2019). Using HBO’s *The Wire* to foster critical cosmopolitanism in preservice English teachers. *Changing English: Studies in Culture and Education*, 1-15.
- Rushek, K.A.** (2017). The Global Education Reform Movement and its effect on the local African American community. *Diaspora, Indigenous and Minority Education*, 11(3), 139-147.

Book Chapters, Edited Volumes

- Rushek, K.A. & Seylar, E.** (in press). Collective diamond mining: Using collaborative curriculum excavation to embrace the educator’s responsibility toward culturally sustaining literacy pedagogy. In S. Cantrell, D. Walker-Dalhouse, A. Lazar (Eds.) *Culturally Sustaining Pedagogy: Developing Socially Just Literacy Teaching Practices*.

Teachers College Press: New York.

Lechtenberg, K.D., Thein, A.H., & **Rushek, K.A.** (2020). Challenging hierarchies of reading and text selection in the Revised Publisher's Criteria for the Common Core State Standards. In B. Marshall, J. Manuel, D. Pasternak & J. Rowsell (Eds.) *The Bloomsbury Handbook of Reading Perspectives and Practices*. Bloomsbury Publishing: London.

Book Reviews, Public Essays, and Digital Humanities Works:

Rushek, K.A. (2019). A Think-Aloud Approach to Writing Assessment: Analyzing Process and Product with Adolescent Writers. *Teachers College Record*.

Rushek, K.A. & Harshman, J. (2018). Book review. Warren, C.A. (2017) *Urban preparation: Young Black men moving from Chicago's South Side to success in higher education*. *Urban Education*, 1-5. doi:10.1177/0042085918817335

Rushek, K.A. (2018). Interrogating Chicago Public Schools' Secondary Schools: A Two Tiered Model of Education? Retrieved from: <https://tinyurl.com/yxqyl66c>

Rushek, K. A. (2017). Voices from the field: Why does middle level matter? *Voices from the Middle*, 25(1), 11-12.

Research Presentations:

Refereed Presentations:

Hughes, M.M., **Rushek, K.A.** (November 2022) "*When I get my superpowers*": *How a multimodal origin story unit can spark joy, healing, and center Black students' stories*. Paper to be presented at the National Council of Teachers of English annual conference. Anaheim, CA.

Rushek, K.A., Ochs, K., Petersen, E., Phan, T., Suiter, A. (November 2022) *Early career ELA teachers subverting 'back to basics' instruction to include innovative, equitable, antiracist ELA instruction during the global pandemic*. Panel presentation at the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) annual conference. Anaheim, CA.

Rushek, K.A. (July 2022) *Improvisational texts-of-self as humanizing, disruptive, and affirmative ELA teaching practice*. Paper presented in the combined session, "Homeplace as Sites of Resistance, Community and Humanizing Practice" at the English Language Arts Teacher Educators (ELATE) annual conference. Louisville, KY.

Rushek, K.A. (July 2022) *The new teachable moment for advancing educational equity: Cultivating our critical pips*. Paper presentation at the English Language Arts Teacher Educators (ELATE) annual conference. Louisville, KY.

Rushek, K.A. (April 2022) *Embracing the educator's responsibility: Culturally sustaining curricular excavation with early career teachers*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association annual conference. San Diego, CA.

Rushek, K.A. (April 2022) *Beyond surviving – toward thriving – in suburbia: Narratives of two early career English teachers of Color*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association annual conference. San Diego, CA.

Rushek, K.A., Bernfeld, T. (March 2020) *The politics of racial discourse in classrooms: Moving beyond apolitical and “controversial” beliefs*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association (AERA) annual conference. Orlando, FL. Moved virtual due to Covid-19.

Vlach, S.K., Taylor, L.A., **Rushek, K.A.,** Tillis, G.E, Maloch, B., Brown, K.D. (March 2020) Teachers Accepting Educational Responsibility by Foregrounding Humanizing Critical Sociocultural Knowledge Across K-16 Classrooms. Paper *Talking the talk, but walking the walk? The situatedness, development, and enactment of HCSK in early career English teachers* presented at the American Educational Research Association (AERA) annual conference. Orlando, FL. Moved virtual due to Covid-19.

Thein, A.; **Rushek, K.A.** and Lindo, T. (December 2020) White English language arts teachers’ negotiating race and equity in the rapidly changing rural Midwest. Paper *External and internal constraints in a novice, White teachers’ efforts to teach racial literacy in a White parochial school* presented at the Literacy Research Association (LRA) annual conference. Houston, TX. Moved virtual due to Covid-19.

Rushek, K.A. and Hughes, M. (November 2020) *“When I get my superpowers”:* How a multimodal origin story unit can spark joy, healing, and center Black students’ stories. Presented at the National Council of Teachers of Education (NCTE) annual conference. Denver CO. Moved virtual due to Covid-19.

Rushek, K.A., Bernfeld, T. (April 2020) *Racial discourse in the educational context: How in-service teachers talk about race with their students*. Presented at the American Educational Research Association (AERA) annual conference. San Francisco CA. Cancelled due to Covid-19.

Rushek, K.A. (February 2020) *Critical educational cosmopolitanism in the English Language Arts classroom: Where are we and where can we go?* Presented at the Critical Questions in Education Conference. Seattle, WA.

Rushek, K.A. (February 2020) *What is next for educational cosmopolitanism?* Presented at the Journal of Language and Literacy Education (JOLLE) Winter 2020 Conference. Athens, GA.

Rushek, K.A. (December, 2019) *Illuminating the future of cosmopolitan literacies in the English language arts classroom*. Presented at the Literacy Research Association annual conference. Tampa, FL.

Rushek, K.A. & Hughes, M.M. (November 2019) *Trauma-informed Identity Inquiry: Using a Multimodal Origin Story Unit in ELA classrooms*. Presented at the National Council of Teachers of English Annual Conference. Baltimore, MD.

Rushek, K.A., Amato, N., Limlamai, N., Bohney, B., Neville, M., Spinner, B., Hendrix, A. (July 2019) *Teaching the pre-service teachers where we left off.: Reflecting and interrogating the transition from ELA teacher to teacher educator*. Presented at the national English Language Arts Teachers of English (ELATE) annual conference. Fayetteville, AK.

Thein, A., Amato, N., **Rushek, K.A.** (July 2019). *Perspective-taking as activism in English education: Saving the world through small changes that matter*. Presented at the national English Language Arts Teachers of English (ELATE) annual conference. Fayetteville, AK.

Rushek, K.A. (April 2019). *The reflection and reproduction of the accountability measure: Principals' discourse in Chicago Public Schools*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association annual conference. Toronto, Ontario.

Liu, R.Z., **Rushek, K.A.**, Ali, S.R. (November 2018). *"I wrote this blurred American flag": The racio- and socio-political realities in rural Latinx youth's counter self-portraits*. Paper presented at the Literacy Research Association (LRA) Annual Conference. Indian Wells, California.

Liu, R.Z., **Rushek, K.A.**, Ali, S.R. (November 2018). *Critical multimodal, nonfiction writing across contexts, disciplines, and communities: Youth of color compose "counter-self-portraits" about their socio-cultural-political realities*. Panel presentation at the National Council of Teachers of English Annual Conference. Houston, Texas.

Liu, R.Z., Swanston, J., Esposito, B., **Rushek, K.A.**, Trung, C. (March 2018). *Teaching essays of resistance in rural America: Disrupting white spaces through mixed-media interdisciplinary forms*. Paper presented at the Association of Writers and Writing Programs Annual Conference. Tampa, Florida.

Liu, R.Z., Ali, S.R., **Rushek, K.A.**, & Garrison, Y. (November 2017). *Between meatpacking and healthcare: Rural youth compose multimodal nonfiction about career prospects and everything else*. Paper presented at the Literacy Research Association Annual Conference. Tampa, Florida.

Liu, R.Z. & **Rushek, K.A.** (November 2017). *Creative nonfiction across learning contexts: Latino students in a rural middle school challenge language boundaries and literacy practices through art-text collage essays*. Paper presented at the National Council of Teachers of English annual conference. St. Louis, Missouri.

Invited Presentations:

Rushek, K.A. (January 2020) Trends in Classroom Racial Discourse: Expanding the Conversation. Workshop presentation for the Connect, Absorb, Respond, Empower (CARE) Conference. Mt. Vernon, Iowa.

Liu, R., & **Rushek, K.A.**, Spiering, J., Wood, R. (January 2018) Critical Reflections on Race and Privilege in the Classroom: A Writing Workshop. Workshop and presentation co-facilitated at Winter Symposium Day: Privilege at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois.

Regional Presentations:

Rushek, K.A. (April 2019). *The reflection and reproduction of the accountability measure: Principals' discourse in Chicago Public Schools*. Presented at the Graduate Student Research Colloquium of the Teaching and Learning department at the University of Iowa. Iowa City, IA.

Rushek, K.A. (January 2019). *Interrogating Chicago Public Schools' secondary schools: A two-tiered model of education?* Panel presentation for the Digital Humanities Graduate Student Showcase at the University of Iowa. Iowa City, IA.

Rushek, K.A. (January 2018). *Neoliberal education reforms in the United States and their effect on a large, urban public schools district and its low-income students of color: A case study of Chicago Public Schools*. Poster presented at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Research Symposium at the University of Iowa. Iowa City, IA..

Rushek, K.A. (June 2017). *Neoliberal education reforms in the United States and their effect on a large, urban public schools district and its low-income students of color: A case study of Chicago Public Schools*. Paper presented at the Addressing Inequalities, Mobility, and Dislocation: Insights from international and Domestic Research and Practice Conference at Michigan State University. East Lansing, MI.

Hamot, G. & **Rushek, K.A.** (March 2017). Social discourse and the diverse learner. Presentation presented at the Diversity in Education Conference at the University of Iowa. Iowa City, IA.

Contracts, Grants, and Sponsored Research:

Rushek, K.A. (Principal Investigator), "Early career English language Arts Teachers' stances on and instruction about racial inequity" Sponsored by the University of Iowa Graduate and Professional Student Government (awarded, \$1,500).

Audrey Qualls Travel Award, Iowa Testing Program, totaling \$1,200 (2017-2020)

Office of the Dean Graduate Student Travel Award, totaling \$1,200 (2017-2020)

Donors Choose: 25+ proposals fulfilled for my classroom at TEAM Englewood (over \$25,000) (2007-2013)

Oppenheimer Grant Award Winner: *Fame! We Want to Live Forever!* Chicago, Illinois, (\$1,000) (2007)

National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) Featured Classroom Teacher and Grant Winner, National Award (\$5,000) (2007)

Scholarship/Research Awards, Honors, and Recognition

Ada Louise Ballard and Seashore Dissertation Fellowship. Awarded by Graduate College, University of Iowa (\$10,000)
University of Iowa Graduate College Summer Fellowship Award (\$5,000) (Summer 2020)
University of Iowa's Teaching and Learning 2020 Graduate Student Research Paper Award: Honorable Mention (Spring 2020)
Language, Literacy, and Culture Tuition Supplement Revenue Award (\$1,500) (Spring 2019)
University of Queensland: Graduate Student Distinction Award (Fall 2016)
University of Queensland's Dean's Commendation for Academic Excellence (2015-2016)

TEACHING

Related Employment:

Higher Education Teaching Experience:

Assistant Professor of English Education, Miami University (2022-present)
Visiting Assistant Professor, English Education, Miami University (2021 – 2022)
English Education Primary Instructor, University of Iowa (2017-2021)
Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Iowa (2017-2019)
Adjunct Professor, Kirkwood Community College, Iowa City, Iowa (2017)
University Supervisor for Student Teachers, University of Iowa (2017-2019)
Graduate Student Resource Instructor, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia (2016)

K-12 Teaching Experience:

Student Support Liaison, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students, Clontarf Beach High School, Queensland, Australia (2016)
Writing Department Chair, TEAM Englewood High School, Chicago, Illinois (2012 - 2015)
English/Writing Teacher, TEAM Englewood High School, Chicago, Illinois (2008-2015)
Literacy Coordinator, Rise and Shine Sports Academy, Chicago, Illinois (2011-2013)
English/Writing Teacher, George Henry Corliss High School, Chicago, Illinois (2005-2008)

Educational Consulting Experience:

Bias Reader; Item Developer; Professional Development Leader; Curriculum Developer, American College Testing (2009-2021)
Curriculum Developer, Spheres of Influence Virtual Learning Program (2020)
Test Validity Consultant; Curriculum Developer, College Board (2012-2020)
Passage Developer, Iowa Reading Research Center (2017)

Courses Taught, Miami University, Oxford, OH

Department Curriculum, Teaching and Inquiry in the College of Education, Health, and Society

Primarily Undergraduate Level:

Critical Literacy Foundations: Fall 2021, Spring 2022
Classroom Cultures and Community: Fall 2021, Spring 2022
Writing for Educators: Winter 2022, Winter 2023

Integrated Literacy Across Content Areas: Fall 2022

Graduate Level:

Language, Literacy, and Culture Seminar: Spring 2022

Reading and Writing in the Content Areas: Fall 2022

Courses Taught, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

Primarily Undergraduate Level:

Reading and Teaching Adolescent Literature: Spring 2020, Fall 2020

Teaching Reading in the Secondary Content Areas: Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018,
Spring, 2019, Fall 2019, Fall 2020

Language and Learning: Spring 2019; Fall 2019

Secondary Reading Instruction: Fall 2018

Courses Taught, Kirkwood Community College, Iowa City, IA

Composition II, Fall 2017

Teaching Awards, Honors, and Recognition:

Miami University (2021 – Present):

HOWE Faculty Writing Fellow, Miami University, 2022-present

Sigma Tau Delta English Education Professor of the Year, Miami University, Spring 2022

University of Iowa (2018-2021):

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, University of Iowa Council on Teaching
(competitive, \$1,000, Spring 2019)

Recognition as Outstanding Instructor in the College of Education, University of Iowa Office
of the Executive Vice-President and Provost (Fall 2017)

Chicago Public School District (2005-2016):

Chuck D. Lyrical Terrorism Award, Louder Than a Bomb, TEAM Englewood High School
Spoken Word Co-Coach (Fall 2014)

Girls Swimming Coach of the Year, Chicago Public Schools, Nominee (Fall 2011, Fall 2012)

Teacher of Distinction Award, Golden Apple Foundation (Statewide Award, Spring 2010)

National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) Featured Classroom Teacher and Grant
Winner (National Award, Fall 2007)

SERVICE

National Professional Memberships

English Language Arts Teacher Educators (ELATE)

American Educational Research Association (AERA)

Division Membership: *Teaching and Teaching Education; Social Context of Education*

Literacy Research Association (LRA)

National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)

Society of Professors of Education (SPE)

Professional Organization Committee Membership and Offices Held (National)

Society of Professors of Education Annual Conference Program Co-Chairperson (2022-2023)

English Language Arts Teacher Educator (ELATE) Mentoring Program for Early Career Scholars: Mentor Dr. Melanie Shoffner, James Madison University (2020-2021)

American Educational Research Association: Division K Graduate Student Executive Committee: Professional Development Co-Chair (2019-2021)

Literacy Research Association: Leadership team: Doctoral Student Innovative Community Group (2018-2021)

English Language Arts Teacher Educator (ELATE) Mentoring Program for Early Career Scholars: Mentor Dr. Melanie Shoffner, James Madison University (2020-2021)

Conference Presentation Leadership (National)

Panel Chair

Rushek, K.A. (2020). *Reclaiming voices in literacy practices: The possibilities when learning moves into the hands of the learners*. Presented at the Literacy Research Association 2020 National Conference. Orlando, FL. Moved virtual due to COVID-19.

Editorial and Review Activities

Manuscript Peer Reviewer

SAGE Open

International Journal of Multicultural Education

Pedagogy: Critical Approaches to Teaching Literature, Language, Composition, and Culture

Linguistics in Education

Literacy Research: Theory, Method, and Practice

English Teaching: Practice and Critique

Diaspora, Indigenous, and Minority Education

Conference Proposal Reviewing Activities

Literacy Research Association Annual Conference (2019-present)

American Educational Research Association annual conference (2022-present)

Society of Professors of Education (2022-present)

Committee Assignments:

Miami University, College of Education, Health, and Society:

Miami University Learning Lab (co-coordinator) (2022-present)

Language and Literacy Equity Committee (member) (2021-present)

Adolescent and Young Adult Committee (member) (2021-present)

University of Iowa:

Independent Graduate Student Antiracist Alliance (Co-Conspirator) (2020 – 2021)

Graduate and Professional Student Government (Grant Reviewer) (2019-2021)

University of Iowa, College of Education

Graduate Advisory Committee: Language, Literacy, and Culture representative (2019-2021)

College of Education Anti-Racism Collaborative (ARC) member (2020)

Volunteer Committees:

Miami University:

Charles F. and Claudia E. Cornett Creative Teaching Scholarship ad hoc committee

Community Outreach and Educational Service:

Miami University:

National Council of Teachers of English Student Affiliate Miami (NCTE-SAM) Faculty
Liaison (2022-present)

University of Iowa:

University of Iowa Athletics Summer Bridge Program: College Reading Instructor (2019)

Project H.O.P.E.: Teacher, researcher, simulation provider (2016-2019)

University of Iowa Liberal Arts Beyond Bars: Peer Mentor and Tutor, Oakdale Prison (2018)

African American Achievement Program: Book club leader (2018)

Committees Served:

Alyssa Guzman, 2020, Masters in the Arts of Teaching: English Education, University of Iowa. “Language as power: How and why educators must empower student voices and end the stifling of thought processes”

Initial position: English faculty at Riverside Community High School, Riverside, Iowa