

FACULTY VITA

JOSH THOMPSON

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Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education / Department of Curriculum & Instruction /
Texas A&M University-Commerce

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PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS:

Effective teaching can be demonstrated in a number of ways. “Value-added” is one method to enumerate growth, using pre- and post- measures to demonstrate change in the student. On the other hand, multiple researchers have pointed to the difference a TEACHER makes in effective teaching (Bond & Dykstra, 1967; Graves & Dykstra, 1997; Peterson, Henry, O’Quin, Ceprano, & Blue, 2003; Pressley, Allington, Wharton-McDonald, Block, & Morrow, 2001). That a teacher CARES turns out to be a significant factor in teaching effectiveness. I want to be known as a teacher who cares.

What happens when we speak with children? How does language use affect transmission of culture from one generation to the next? Following Naomi Baron's (1990) structure of Five Language Functions (affection, control, information, pedagogy, and social exchange), my research examines the effectiveness of this structure to describe the early language environment of young children.

Why aren't more men interested in early childhood education? What is necessary to attract, recruit, retain, and promote men in early childhood education?

EDUCATION

Ph.D. (2001) Humanities, The University of Texas at Arlington, Dissertation: Adaptations of Language Functions in Caregiver Speech: Nurturing the Acquisition of Pragmatic Competence

M.Ed. (1986) Elementary Education, Dallas Baptist University

B.M. (1980) Piano Performance, Trinity University

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

Faculty Instructor, Intel Teach to the Future program, 2003

Texas Educator Certificate, Classroom Teacher, Generalist, Grades (EC-4), 2003

Dads of Destiny Trainer, National Center for Fathering, 2001

Texas Early Care and Ed Career Development System, Trainer Registry, 1999

American Montessori Society, Elementary I, 1983

EXPERIENCE

Educational

Assistant Professor Early Childhood Education, College of Education & Human Services, Texas A&M University - Commerce (August 2004 – present)

Current Courses:

ECE 358 Language Acquisition Development in Early Childhood Ed (2004 – 2008)
ECE 364 Survey of Theories Influencing Childhood Development (2004 – present)
ECE 366 Learning Environments (2004 – present)
ECE 561 Foundations of Early Childhood Education (2007 – 2008)
ECE 566 Early Childhood Environments (2004 – present)
ELED 524 Language Arts in Grades One through Eight (2004 – present)
ELED 545 Curriculum Design & Development (2008)
EDCI 690 Doctoral Seminar: Listen: Oral Language in the Classroom (2008)

Previous Courses:

ECE 538 Classroom Management for Teachers (2007)
ELED 514 Management & Curriculum for Diverse Learners (Summer 2004)

Adjunct Professor, Program in Reading, Department of Teaching and Administration, College of Education, University of North Texas (Summer 2004)

Courses taught: Reading and Writing EC-4; Linguistically Diverse Learners; Assessment and Evaluation of Reading

Lecturer, Early Childhood Education, College of Education, The University of Texas at Arlington (September 2001 – May 2004)

Courses taught: Language and Literacy Development in Young Children; Family Literacy and Second Language Acquisition; Applications in Technology for Teachers of Young Children; Special Populations and Diverse Settings; Creative Arts and Social Studies for Young Children; Early Childhood Development and Learning; Residency in Early Childhood – 4; GRADUATE Courses: Theories of Development and Learning in Early Childhood Education; Language and Literacy Development: The Early Years; Liaison Supervisor of Residents to Arlington Independent School District (2002-2004) Beckham Elementary and West Elementary

Adjunct Professor, Program in Reading, Department of Teaching and Administration, College of Education, University of North Texas (2000 – 2001)

Courses taught: Developmental Prereading and Reading for Young Children; Teaching Reading K-12; Teaching Reading in the Content Areas and Language Arts K-12; Reading and Language Arts; Nurturing Children's Social Competence.

Adjunct Professor, Northwood University, Cedar Hill, Texas, (2000 – 2001)

Courses taught: Creativity; Philosophy of American Life and Business; Ethics; Logic; Philosophy of American Enterprise; Critical Philosophical Problems; Introduction to American Government; Personality and Adjustment

Lecturer, Development, Family, and Early Childhood Education, College of Education,
University of North Texas, Denton, Texas, (1999 – 2000)

Courses taught: Administration of Programs for Young Children; Infant and Toddler
Development; Individual Differences of Young Children; Professional Development in
Early Childhood Education: National, State, and Local Trends and Issues; Graduate
course: Assessing Young Children

Montessori Director, Pre-school and Kindergarten (2½ - 6), Prince of Peace Community School
(now Mount St. Michael Catholic School), Catholic Diocese of Dallas, Texas, 1985 – 1999

Responsibilities included:

Primary Supervision of one classroom of up to forty children, 2½ - 6 years old
Supervision of 2 assistants
Training Parent Volunteers to work in the classroom
Developing a Community-based Parent Ed program for 150 families in 5 counties
Primary Level Leader, pre-school – grade 3, 1992 – 1999

Montessori Director, Upper Elementary (grades 4th – 6th), Lakemont Academy of the Americas,
Dallas, Texas, 1980 – 1985

Responsibilities included:

Supervision of one classroom with 1 assistant teacher and up to eighteen children
Upper School Level Leader, (grades 3rd – 12th), 1980 – 1985

Music Teacher, Laurel Heights United Methodist Church Weekday School, San Antonio, Texas,
1979 – 1980

Private Piano Instruction, San Antonio, Texas, 1977 – 1980

Professionally Related

Trainer, Childcare Training Project, Texas Workforce Commission, Child Care Associates, Fort
Worth, Texas, 2003; First Texas Council of Campfire, Fort Worth, Texas, 1997 – present;
Mountain View College, 1995 – 1997.

Courses taught: Words that Work with Infants & Toddlers; Books in the Block Bin; Making
a List – Using Observation to Assess Children and Programs; Family Talk, Family
Literacy; Literate Child; Discipline for 3 & 4 year olds; Parenting: A Caregiver's
Perspective; Pleasing Parents; Practical Life Skills for Early Childhood; Infants &
Toddlers; Discipline for 3 & 4 year olds; Curriculum Series: Science, Math, Writing,
Reading in Early Childhood.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND HONORARIES

American Educational Research Association

American Montessori Society (Life Member)

Association for Childhood Education International

Association for Moral Education

Center for Parent Education

Child Language Data Exchange System (CHILDES)

Dallas Association for the Education of Young Children

Fort Worth Association for the Education of Young Children

INTEL Faculty Pre-service Educators
International Association for the Study of Child Language
National Council on Family Relations
North American Montessori Teachers Association
National Association for the Education of Young Children
Southern Early Childhood Association
Texas Association for the Education of Young Children
Texas Council on Family Relations

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

National and Regional

Childcare Exchange, Faculty Advisory Board 2005 – present
Men in Education Network Forum, National Association for the Education of Young Children,
Web-forum manager 2006 – present

State and Local

Higher Education Collaborative, Texas Reading Initiative 2003 – present

University

Bill Martin Jr Memorial Symposium 2005 – present, Co-Chair 2006 – present
Curriculum & Instruction Department Website Manager 2005 – present
Northeast Texas Masters Cohort at Commerce Advisor 2005 – 2007
Curriculum & Instruction Department Scholarship Committee 2004 – present
Majors Fair and University Day Committee Co-chair 2005 – 2007
P-16 Power-up Workshop. Grapevine, Texas. July 26, 2005
UTA Faculty Governance, Issues Committee 2002 – 2003
UTA Participation in documentation for Site Visit by NCATE 2003 – 2004
UTA Participation in Field Placement of Interns and Residents. 2002 – 2004
UTA Participation in TExES practice and pilot exams, and review 2001 – 2004
UTA Curriculum and Instruction Dept Chair Search Committee 2002 – 2003

Community

North Texas Men in Education Fellowship, coordinator 2008 – present
Tyler St United Methodist Church Dads of Destiny, facilitator 2008 – present
Dallas Child Magazine Child Language Expert 2006
Tyler St United Methodist Church Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee 2005 – present,
Chair 2006 – present
Dallas AEYC Honoring the Profession: A Celebration of Excellence for Early Childhood
Professionals. 2005 – 2006
Parents Learning about Newborns (PLAN) Task Force, Tarrant County 2002 – 2003
Tyler St United Methodist Church Youth Council 2002 – 2005, Chair 2003 – 2005
Arlington Early Childhood Roundtable 2002 – 2003

HONORS, AWARDS, AND LISTINGS

Father of the Year, Tyler St United Methodist Church, 1997

PUBLICATIONS

Journals (refereed)

Thompson, J. (2008). Table Talk: Taking Dinner Conversation into the Classroom, in *Current Issues and Best Practices in Bilingual and ESL Education: A Monograph*, ed. M.E. Cowart & P. Dam (pp. 54 – 64). Denton, Texas: Federation of North Texas Universities.

Thompson, J. & Leeds, Lydia (2006) Infant Crying: To Soothe or Not to Soothe. *Montessori Life: Journal of the American Montessori Society*. V 18 n 1 pp 26-31

Leeds, L. & J. Thompson (Spring 2005) Tears as Tools. *Early Years* 27(1), 5-6.

Thompson, J. (2003). Hundred Language Zoo. *Dimensions of Early Childhood* 31(1), 3-20.

Manuscripts, Submitted to Refereed Journals

Thompson, J. & Stryker, A. (Submitted October 27, 2008). Tale of two talents: How teachers prepare for class. Submitted to *Curriculum and Teaching Dialogue*, national journal of the American Association for Teaching and Curriculum. (Presentation for AATC October 2008, Austin.)

Manuscripts in Progress

Book sections (invited)

Thompson, J. (due to editor, Jan 15. Scheduled for publication in 2009). Language and gender in ECE. *Gender and classrooms*, ed. Tamar Jacobson. St. Paul: Redleaf Press.

Book sections

Thompson, J. & Stryker, A. (outline due to editor, Dec 8). The changing roles of instructors as both leaders and learners. In Fallon, M.A. & Brown, S.C. *Teaching inclusively in higher education*.

Journals (Prioritized)

1. APPLICATION: Involving Fathers: Using their words to win their child, with Stephen Garretson. (Target publication: *Young Children*, due April 1. Acceptance rate: 21-30%, theme issue on Men in the Lives of Children. Accepted presentation for NAEYC November 2008, Dallas. Adapted from Language and gender in ECE, for Redleaf Press.).

2. RESEARCH: How many men does it take? Current count of men in ECE classrooms in Texas. w/ Rusty Waller. Target: *Childhood Education*

3. RESEARCH: Men in education – Coming or going? w/ Rusty Waller. Target: *Young Children*.

4. APPLICATION: Games teachers play. w/ Barbara Hammack. Target: *JECTE* (NAEYC presentation proposal due Jan 18)

5. RESEARCH: Microethnography: Looking at teacher talk. (Target publication: *Issues in Educational Research*, a referred academic research journal, Acceptance rate: 21-30%).

6. RESEARCH: Wait a minute: A description of a teacher putting children on hold. (Target publication: *Early Years: An International Journal of Research and Development*, Acceptance rate: 45-50% or *Language and Literacy*, a Canadian educational journal, Acceptance rate: 65%).

7. RESEARCH: Capturing teacher talk: Language functions in the ECE classroom. (Rejected: *First Language*).

8. RESEARCH: What happens when we speak with children. (Target publication: *Reading Psychology: An International Quarterly*, Acceptance rate: 21-30%).

Publications, Non-refereed

Szabo, S. and Thompson, J. (2008). Designing and implementing a professional development conference: Lessons learned. *Texas Reading Report Newsletter*: Texas State Reading Association, an affiliate of the International Reading Association.

The Birthday Story. (June 2005) Self-published.

Praying with Jesus (October 2005). Self-published.

Thompson, J.; K. Garnett; C. Dorsey; & C. Weberg. (2002). TRAINING MANUAL FOR YOUTH PROTECTION. Boy Scout Troop 21. Christian Community of God's Delight. Dallas, Texas.

Thompson, J. (2002). FAMILY LIFE BY THE BOOK. Foundations to parenting course. Tyler St. United Methodist Church. Dallas, Texas.

Grants Awarded

Total in 2007 = \$2,350.00

Total since 2004 = \$5,632.00

Thompson (2007) Capturing Teacher Talk. TAMU-C Graduate School Faculty Research Mini-Grant to facilitate research on teachers' use of language functions in classrooms. \$600.00.

Thompson (2007) Men in Early Care and Education. Chicago, Illinois. TAMU-C Faculty Enhancement Grant. \$500.00.

Thompson (2007) Capturing Teacher Talk. College of Education and Human Services, Texas A&M University-Commerce. Faculty Research Grant to facilitate research on teacher's use of language functions in the classroom. \$250.00.

Thompson (2007). Scholarships for Graduate Students. Third Annual Bill Martin Jr Memorial Symposium. Early Childhood Committee Federation of North Texas Universities. \$1000.

Thompson (2006) Capturing Teacher Talk. Faculty Research Mini-Grant to facilitate research on teachers' use of language functions in classrooms. \$600.00.

Thompson (2006) A National Symposium: Men in the Lives of Children. Atlanta, GA. Faculty Enhancement Grant. \$500.00.

Thompson (2005) Capturing Talk. Faculty Research Mini-Grant to facilitate research on documentation of language functions in early childhood environments. \$600.00.

Thompson (2005) P-16 Power-Up Workshop. Presentation on Managing Literacy Centers. \$1582.00.

Thompson (2002) School of Education, The University of Texas at Arlington. Behavior Evaluation Strategies & Taxonomies software (BEST) software and video equipment \$700.00.

PRESENTATIONS

International

Thompson, J (2003). Pragmatic Functions in Caregiver Speech. International Conference: Oral Language of School Children. Organized by Laboratoire de Linguistique et Didactique des Langues Etrangères et Maternelles. Located at Institut Universitaire de Formation des Maîtres de l'Académie de Grenoble. 30 av. Marcelin Berthelot, F-38100 Grenoble, France. Conference agenda online: http://www.grenoble.iufm.fr/kiosque/colloque_eng.htm

Thompson, J (2003) Five Language Functions used by Caregivers Talking to a Toddler. Child Language Seminar. School of Education, Communication & Language at Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England.

National

Nelson, Carlson, West, & Thompson. (2008). "Men in Education Network Interest Forum". National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Thompson & Garretson. (2008). "Involving Fathers". National Association for the Education of Young Children. Dallas.

Thompson & Stryker. (2008). "Tale of Two Talents: How Teachers Prepare for Class". American Association for Teaching & Curriculum. Austin.

Nelson, Carlson, West, Thomas, Levitt, Piburn & Thompson. (2007). "Men in Early Care and Education." National Association for the Education of Young Children. Chicago.

Foote, Hammack, Thompson & Garretson (2007) "Learning From Families – Pre-Service Teachers Engaging Families." College Reading Association. Salt Lake City, Utah.

Thompson (2007) "Words @ Work in the Classroom." National Fall Conference of American Montessori Society. Irvine, California

Thompson (2007) "Language @ Work" and "MicroEthnography." National Conference of Christian Montessori Fellowship. San Antonio.

Foote, Hammack, & Thompson (2006). "Lessons Learned in Parent Engagement." National Conference, College Reading Association. Pittsburgh, PA.

Thompson (2006) "Capturing Teacher Talk." American Educational Research Association. San Francisco.

Foote, Hammack, & Thompson (2006). "Backpacks to Family Nights". Association for Childhood Education International. San Antonio, Texas.

Brown, David L & Thompson (2005) "Links between Family Involvement and Emerging Literacy." 13th Annual Conference on Parent Education. University of North Texas Center for Parent Education. Denton, Texas.

Foote, Martha, Stephen Garretson, & Barbara Hammack, with support from Josh Thompson. (2004) "Backpacks to Family Nights: Engaging Families in Quality Activities to Support Student Success" National Association for the Education of Young Children. Anaheim, California.

Harris, Mary & Josh Thompson (2004) "No Child Left Behind." 12th Annual Conference on Parent Education. University of North Texas Center for Parent Education. Dallas, Texas. February 21, 2004.

Harris, Mary, Arminta Jacobson, & Josh Thompson (2003) "Preparing K-12 Teachers for Parental Engagement." 11th Annual Conference on Parent Education. University of North Texas Center for Parent Education. Denton, Texas.

Harris, Mary, Rebecca Edwards, Arminta Jacobson, and Josh Thompson (2002) "Preparing K-12 Teachers for Parental Engagement – The AACTE/MetLife Foundation Grantee Texas Partnership for Parent Engagement." Partners for Student Success. National Summit on Parent Involvement in Teacher Education. American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education and National Parent Teachers Association. Washington, DC.

Thompson, Josh (2000) "The Language(s) of Childhood: A Research Seminar." 9th Annual Conference on Parent Education. University of North Texas Center for Parent Education. Denton, Texas.

Thompson, Josh (1998) "Observing: Using the Lens of Brain Research to See the Child." 3rd Annual Velma Schmidt Spring Conference. University of North Texas. Denton, Texas.

Thompson, Josh (1997). "Moral Education." 6th Annual Conference on Parent Education. University of North Texas. Center for Parent Education. Denton, Texas.

Regional, State, and Local

"What Language is Good For." Southwest Educational Research Association. New Orleans. Feb 7, 2008.

“Montessori Primer.” University of North Texas Seminar on International Education. June 5, 2007.

“MicroEthnography Observation.” Southwest Education Research Association. San Antonio. Feb 6, 2007.

“Classroom Management.” Childcare Training. Lancaster, Texas November 18, 2006

“Singing Your Way Through Current Research.” Best Practices Symposium for English Language Learners. Commerce. November 13, 2006.

“Diversity in the Early Childhood Classroom: Something for Everyone.” Childcare Training. Arlington, Texas. April 29, 2006

“Observation and Assessment.” Childcare Training. Fort Worth, Texas. January 31 & February 7. 2006

“Using Words that Work with Infants and Toddlers.” Childcare Training. Arlington, Texas. January 28, 2006.

“Pleasing Parents.” Childcare Training. Allen, Texas. September 26, 2005.

“Pleasing Parents.” Childcare Training. Lancaster, Texas. September 10, 2005.

“Managing Literacy Centers.” P-16 Power-up Workshop. Grapevine, Texas. July 26, 2005.

“Family Involvement that Supports Early Literacy Development” Dallas ISD Prekindergarten Conference. Dallas, Texas. April 2, 2005.

“Infant Cry: To Soothe or not to Soothe?” Texas Association for the Education of Young Children. Arlington, Texas. October 8, 2004.

“Music and the Young Child in Motion.” Collin County Association for the Education of Young Children. Plano, Texas. September 27, 2003.

“Children and Books in the Block Bin.” Collin County Association for the Education of Young Children. Plano, Texas. September 27, 2003.

“Making a List: Observation and Authentic Assessment,” with Karen Powers Mullins. Texas Association for the Education of Young Children. Dallas, Texas. October 14, 2000.

“Story time in Early Childhood,” with Teresa Stadelman. Fort Worth Association for the Education of Young Children. Fort Worth, Texas. April 24, 1999.

“Moral Development.” Texas Association for the Education of Young Children. Fort Worth, Texas. October 10, 1998.

“Music Moves the Young Child” with Karen Powers. Collin County Association for the Education of Young Children. Plano, Texas. September 17, 1998.

COMMUNITY AND CIVIC ACTIVITIES

Worship and Fine Arts Committee, Tyler St. United Methodist Church, Chair, 2008 – present
Staff / Pastor – Parish Relations Committee, Tyler St. United Methodist Church, 2005 – 2007,
Chair, 2006-2007

King’s Joy Sunday School Class, Tyler St. United Methodist Church, President 2005 – 2006

Highland Park Presbyterian Day School, Teacher In-Service 2004

St. Vincent’s Episcopal School, Bedford, Texas Teacher In-service 2003

Boy Scouts of America Troop 21 Advancement Chair, 1997 – 2006