

Elizabeth C. Reynolds

University of Maryland College of Education

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EDUCATION

Ph.D.	Teaching and Learning, Policy and Leadership University of Maryland, College Park, MD Dissertation: Reasoning about controversial issues with digital sources	Expected May 2026
M.S.Ed.	Teaching, Learning, and Leadership University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA	2021
B.A.	Politics, Secondary Social Studies Teaching Certification Ursinus College, Collegeville, PA Summa cum laude with distinguished honors, Phi Beta Kappa	2015

HONORS & AWARDS

\$5,000	Graduate School Summer Research Fellowship, University of Maryland (2024)
\$25,000	Graduate School Dean's Fellowship, University of Maryland (2021-2024)
\$15,000	Penn GSE Merit Scholarship, University of Pennsylvania (2020-2021)

EXPERIENCE

Research

Civic Online Reasoning Research Group, University of Maryland 2021 – Present

- Design and study curricula that teach students digital media literacy and civic literacy skills
- Research effective pedagogies for teaching students to evaluate online sources on relevant civic issues
- Create and analyze professional learning opportunities for in-service social studies, ELA, and science teachers
- Funded by the Spencer Foundation, the U.S. Department of Education, and the University of Maryland College of Education

Maryland Democracy Initiative, University of Maryland

2023 – Present

- Design and analyze semi-structured interviews where young students reason about the credibility of digital sources
- Train undergraduate research assistants on qualitative analysis
- Funded by the University of Maryland Grand Challenges Grant Program

Penn Project-Based Learning Program, University of Pennsylvania

2020 – 2021

- Analyzed teacher educators’ practice-based pedagogies during video coaching sessions with in-service social studies, ELA, and science teachers
- Funded by Lucas Education Research

Teaching & Curriculum Development

College of Education, University of Maryland

- TLPL471: Curriculum, Teaching, and Assessment in Secondary Social Studies
 - o Instructor of Record (2023)
 - o Teaching Assistant (2022)
- Social Studies Teacher Certification Program (B.A./B.S., M.Ed.)
 - o University Supervisor (2022 - Present)
- Graduate School Center for Writing and Oral Communication
 - o Writing Fellow (2023 – Present)

Curriculum Developer

- Stanford History Education Group/Digital Inquiry Group (2022 - Present)
- Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Washington, DC (2023 - Present)
- Institute for Middle East Studies, George Washington University, Washington, DC (2025)

Middle School Humanities Teacher

- Frankford Friends School, Philadelphia, PA (2015 - 2020)

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

Reynolds, E. C. (2025). Embedding online evaluations in social studies: A comparative case study of teachers’ goals and approaches. *Theory and Research in Social Education*. 1–29.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/00933104.2025.2472785>

Reynolds, E. C. & McGrew, S. (2025). Developing reliable epistemic processes for civic life: A response to “Beyond ‘yelling at them’: Exploring the impact of a political simulation in polarized times.” *Democracy and Education*, 33(1), Article 6.

<https://democracyeducationjournal.org/home/vol33/iss1/6>

Reynolds, E. C. & McGrew, S. (2025). “From personal experience, it’s true!”: Students’ digital evaluations on relevant issues. *Journal of the Learning Sciences*, 1-44.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/10508406.2025.2495214>

McGrew, S., **Reynolds, E. C.**, & Glass, A. (2024). The problem with perspective: Students’ and teachers’ reasoning about credibility during discussions of online sources. *Cognition & Instruction*, 42(3). <https://doi.org/10.1080/07370008.2024.2340981>

Book Chapters

Clark, C.H. & **Reynolds, E. C.** (2025). In AI we trust? In C. H. Clark & C. Van Kessel (eds.) *AI in Social Studies Education: Tools for Thoughtful Practice with Generative Artificial Intelligence*. Teachers College Press.

Refereed Conference Proceedings

McGrew, S. & **Reynolds E. C.** (2025, June). Social studies teachers’ goals for teaching online evaluations. Proceedings of the International Society of the Learning Sciences. Helsinki, Norway.

Public Scholarship

McGrew, S., Merroth, L., Zuspan, S., Buhrman, S., & **Reynolds, E. C.** (2022). Teaching students to evaluate online information through current events. *Social Education*, 86(6), 386-391.

In Process

McGrew, S. & **Reynolds, E. C.** (Under review; Revise and resubmit). Discussing credibility and corroboration: Differences in students’ reasoning about digital sources and claims.

Reynolds, E. C. & McGrew, S. (In press). Teaching who to trust: Preparing students to make decisions about credible digital sources. In C.H. Clark and C. Van Kessel (eds.) *Teaching Democracy Now*. Teachers College Press.

PRESENTATIONS

Refereed Conference Presentations

Alton, J., **Reynolds, E.**, McGrew, S., Lombardi, D., Butler, L.P. (2025, May). Children's evaluations of the expertise and trustworthiness of online sources. Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Minnesota, MN.

Reynolds, E. (2025, April). Who bears responsibility?: Students' perspectives on the responsibility to evaluate and regulate social media content. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

Reynolds, E., McGrew, S. & Jovanovic, A. (2025, April). Considering personal resources amidst credibility judgments: Preparing teachers to discuss digital sources with students. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

Clark, C. & **Reynolds, E.** (2025, April). AI in social studies education: Tools for thoughtful practice with generative artificial intelligence. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

Alton, J., **Reynolds, E.,** McGrew, S., Lombardi, D., Butler, L.P. (2025, February). Children's evaluations of the expertise and trustworthiness of online sources. Misinformation and Belief Science Preconference, Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, Denver, CO.

Alton, J., **Reynolds, E.,** McGrew, S., Lombardi, D., Butler, L.P. (2025, January). Children's evaluations of online sources. Budapest CEU Conference on Cognitive Development, Budapest, Hungary.

McGrew, S. & **Reynolds, E.** (2024, November). Supporting teachers to teach online evaluations as part of civic inquiry. College and University Faculty Assembly of the National Council of the Social Studies Annual Conference, Boston, MA.

Reynolds, E. & McGrew, S. (2024, April). Embedding online evaluations in social studies: A comparative case study of teachers' goals and approaches. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

McGrew, S. & **Reynolds, E.** (2024, April). Discussing credibility, facilitation, and students: Opportunities for learning in rehearsal debriefs. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

Reynolds, E. & McGrew, S. (2023, December). How students evaluate online information on topics they care about: The role of personal resources. College and University Faculty Assembly of the National Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference, Nashville, TN.

Clark, C. & **Reynolds, E.** (2023, December) Can artificial intelligence aid in online information evaluation? College and University Faculty Assembly of the National Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference, Nashville, TN.

Crawford, J., **Reynolds, E.**, Carlan, V., & Sierra Mejia, A. (2023, April). Noticing "that teacher pull:" Collaborative self-study and identity development in novice university supervisors. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

McGrew, S. & **Reynolds, E.** (2023, April). Discussing beliefs and emotions as students evaluate social media posts. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL.

McGrew, S. & **Reynolds, E.** (2022, December). Teaching online evaluations in more authentic contexts: A pilot study. College and University Faculty Assembly of the National Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

Presentations and Workshops

Building Responsible Digital Lives on Social Media. (2025, August 26). Department of Residence Life, University of Maryland, College Park, MD.

Digital Inquiries on Social Media. (2025, August 18). Howard County Public Schools, Ellicott City, MD.

Teaching Geographic Thinking in Social Studies (2025, August 18). Howard County Public Schools, Ellicott City, MD.

Teaching Digital Civic Inquiries in Action Civics (2025, August 4-8). Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Washington, DC.

Community-Engaged Learning Strategies: Evaluating Online Political and Social Information. (2025, June 26). Teaching and Learning Transformation Center, University of Maryland, College Park, MD.

Building Digital Literacy in K-12 Schools. (2025, February 11). Center for Social Justice Research, Teaching and Service, Georgetown University, Washington, DC.

Teaching Digital Civic Inquiries (2024, July 8-12). Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Washington, DC.

Evaluating Digital Sources and Teaching Lateral Reading in ELA. (2024, June 3-6). Forsyth County Schools, Cumming, GA.

Civic Online Reasoning in Social Studies. (2023, August 7-9). Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Washington, DC.

Tackling Disinformation in the Classroom. (2023, February 15). Leadership in Schoolwide Reading Program, University of Maryland, College Park, MD.

Teaching Students to Make Better Online Evaluations. (2022, May 16). Montgomery County Public Schools, Silver Spring, MD.

Project-Based Learning for Civic Action. (2021, November 10). Preparing to Teach Middle and High School Students to Take Informed Action Workshop, University of Maryland, College Park, MD.

SERVICE & PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

Member, Graduate Research and Education Committee, University of Maryland, Department of Teaching and Learning, Policy and Leadership (2024 - 2026)

Co-Chair, Graduate Student Association, University of Maryland, Department of Teaching and Learning, Policy and Leadership (2024 - 2026)

Reviewer:

Theory and Research in Social Education

Member:

American Educational Research Association

International Society of the Learning Sciences

National Council for the Social Studies