



PILLAR 2

High Quality and Diverse Teachers and Leaders

Teachers play a critical role in society, educating and shaping future generations of leaders in every field imaginable. As Maryland seeks to grow a pipeline of teachers who want to transform learning in the state, the University of Maryland College of Education's academic programs and research relevance are helping to attract and retain high-quality teachers. The college's deep commitment to elevating and diversifying the teaching profession has led to teacher salary increases in Maryland and several career growth opportunities for new and seasoned teachers.



Learn more about our teacher educator preparation programs, professional learning opportunities and faculty expertise.

Preparing Highly Qualified and Diverse Teachers

- Teacher candidates engage in a rigorous teacher preparation program. Students in our programs take and perform well on the **Educative Teaching Performance Assessment (edTPA)** which helps lay the foundation for our students to eventually become Nationally Board certified teachers.
- A partnership between the College of Education and the College of Computer, Mathematical and Natural Sciences, **Terrapin Teachers** is an innovative Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) teacher pathway. The program partners with Montgomery and Prince George's community colleges to recruit a diverse pool of undergraduate students, non-instructional staff

(i.e. teaching aides) and career changes into the STEM teaching field. Students in the program gain early field experience and graduate with a teaching certification in grades 7-12.

- The **Creative Initiatives in Teacher Education (CITE)** is a graduate-level teacher preparation program that prepares students and working professionals for a master's degree and teacher certification in grades 1-6 with an emphasis on special education or English for Speakers of Other Languages. The program is offered in partnership with Montgomery County Public Schools and the Maryland State Department of Education.
- Funded by the Maryland State Department of Education and led by researchers at the College of Education, the **Professional Development Schools (PDS) 2025** Project provides professional learning for prospective, new, and experienced teachers. Our researchers are playing a critical role in:
 - reimagining the teacher education internship. They have developed a yearlong teacher residency program

that will serve as a model for all Maryland teacher candidates.

- creating a Mentor Teacher Academy to provide additional support to teachers in their early years of teaching.
- developing a teacher career ladder to ensure a pathway for career advancement in Maryland schools. The model provides local districts with clear descriptions of professional responsibilities and advancement requirements at each step on the career ladder.

Professional Learning to Boost Teacher Retention

- The **Center for Educational Innovative and Improvement (CEii)** facilitates innovative leadership trainings and offers degree and certification programs that serve school leaders across Maryland and the greater metro area.
- The **School Improvement Leadership Academy (SILA)** provides comprehensive, evidence-based professional learning to principals and assistant principals in Title I schools, Targeted

Faculty Expertise

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Drew Fagan, CLINICAL PROFESSOR

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Multilingual education
CONTACT: dfagan@umd.edu

Megan Madigan Peercy, PROFESSOR

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Multilingual education; teacher collaboration; teacher development
CONTACT: mpeercy@umd.edu

Loren Jones, ASSOCIATE CLINICAL PROFESSOR

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Language and literacy
CONTACT: ldjones@umd.edu

Maggie Peterson, ASSOCIATE CLINICAL PROFESSOR

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Literacy, writing instruction; teacher coaching in clinical settings
CONTACT: magpete@umd.edu

Karen Rehder, PRINCIPAL FACULTY SPECIALIST

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Clinical settings
CONTACT: krehder@umd.edu

TEACHER INTERNSHIPS

Lawrence Clark, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Math education and STEM
CONTACT: lmclark@umd.edu

Tracy Dunheimer, PRINCIPAL FACULTY SPECIALIST

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Elementary education; clinical settings
CONTACT: tdunheim@umd.edu

Loren Jones, ASSOCIATE CLINICAL PROFESSOR

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Multilingual learners
CONTACT: ldjones@umd.edu

Allison Jovanovic, PRINCIPAL FACULTY SPECIALIST

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Undergraduate students
Teacher Recruitment and Retention
CONTACT: ajovanov@umd.edu

David Blazar, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Educator diversity; culturally responsive teaching; student outcomes
CONTACT: dblazar@umd.edu

Andrew Brantlinger, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Secondary mathematics
CONTACT: amb@umd.edu

Anisha Campbell, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, TERRAPIN TEACHERS

AREA OF EXPERTISE: STEM
CONTACT: amcamp10@umd.edu

Drew Fagan, CLINICAL PROFESSOR

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Multilingual education
CONTACT: dfagan@umd.edu

Dan Levin, ASSOCIATE CLINICAL PROFESSOR

AREA OF EXPERTISE: STEM
CONTACT: dlevin2@umd.edu

Dawn Martin, ASSOCIATE CLINICAL PROFESSOR

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Special education
CONTACT: djmartin@umd.edu

Support and Improvement (TSI) schools, and/or high need schools. The academy supports effective principals in increasing educator diversity, promoting equity in student access to educational resources and opportunities, and meeting students' social, emotional, and academic needs.

- **Network Improvement Communities**, a partnership between the College of Education and Prince George's County Public Schools, focuses on reducing student learning loss and school improvement.
- With close to 20 programs, **EdTerps Learning Academy** offers graduate-level and certificate programs for working professionals. Educators, school and district leaders, school support professionals and school counselors can pursue a Ed.D., M.Ed., or graduate certificate, as well as eligibility for certain Maryland MSDE certification, including MSDE Initial Teacher Certification in Elementary Grades 1-6, MSDE Superintendent II Certification, and MSDE Admin I Certification.

- The **University of Maryland Writing Project** is a grant funded teacher-made and -led professional development for current teachers. These professional development programs, including classroom coaching opportunities, focus on classroom inquiry in literacy and writing, classroom writing communities, and teacher leadership.
- The **Maryland Initiative for Literacy and Equity (MILE)**, an interdisciplinary initiative aimed at combating persistent illiteracy in Maryland and the surrounding region, offers professional learning opportunities to school system leaders, teachers, librarians and other literacy professionals, on topics such as the science of reading, literacy instruction for multilingual learners and structured literacy instruction.

Innovative and Research-Based Strategies and Tools for Teacher Support

- **MPowering Teachers (MPT)** is a machine learning tool for mathematics instruction measurement and feedback. With MPT, teachers receive more frequent feedback about their teaching by using an

electronic device to collect audio of their classroom instruction. MPT was developed by Assistant Professor Jing Liu.

- Developed by Professor Jade Wexler, **Adaptive Intervention Model Coaching System (AIM Coaching)** offers ongoing and individualized job-embedded professional development for middle school teachers implementing literacy practices in content-area classes like social studies, science and English language arts, as well as in supplemental intervention courses, such as special education. AIM Coaching also integrates evidence-based adolescent literacy practices school-wide.
- The **Racial and Social Justice Research-Practice Partnership Collaborative** is designing and implementing research-practice partnerships that tackle pressing problems of racial and social justice in our school communities.

Sonya Riley, *MANAGER, MIDDLE COLLEGE TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM*

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Dual enrollment programs
CONTACT: smercer1@umd.edu

Theresa Robinson, *PRINCIPAL FACULTY SPECIALIST*

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Teacher preparation programming and licensure
CONTACT: tnebrob1@umd.edu

Ebony Terrell Shockley, *ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES & EDUCATOR PREPARATION*

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Teacher preparation programming and licensure
CONTACT: eterrell@umd.edu

Christy Tirrell-Corbin, *CLINICAL PROFESSOR*

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Early childhood
CONTACT: ctc@umd.edu

Raven Wilson, *RECRUITMENT COORDINATOR*

AREA OF EXPERTISE: Undergraduate admissions
CONTACT: rbwilson@umd.edu

Ways to Engage with the College of Education

- Request AIM Coaching by contacting Professor Jade Wexler at jawexler@umd.edu or 301-405-6479.
- Request professional development from the University of Maryland Writing Project by contacting UMdWPdirectors@gmail.com or by emailing Associate Clinical Professor Maggie Peterson at magpete@umd.edu.
- Contact Assistant Professor Jing Liu at jliu28@umd.edu to learn more about MPowering Teachers.
- Explore courses offered by the EdTerps Learning Academy by visiting go.umd.edu/etla.
- Connect with a faculty researcher about the development of a career ladder by contacting the Center for Educational Innovation and Improvement at seubank2@umd.edu.
- Learn more about research-practice partnerships, and improvement science focused work within your district by contacting Segun Eubanks, director of the Center for Educational Innovative and Improvement, at seubank2@umd.edu or 301-405-5601.
- Connect with the Maryland Initiative for Literacy and Equity for professional development programs at umd-mile@umd.edu.

Learn More: education.umd.edu



COLLEGE OF
EDUCATION

TRANSFORMING EDUCATION FOR GOOD

education.umd.edu