

RACHEL R. GARRISON

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy

University of South Carolina

Special Education, Leadership

Dissertation: *Supporting School Administrators' knowledge of the IDEA: What do they know and what do they think*

December 2025

Columbia, South Carolina

Master of Education

University of South Carolina

Special Education, Learning Disabilities

December 2010

Columbia, South Carolina

Bachelor of Behavioral Science

Hardin-Simmons University

Graduated Summa Cum Laude

Interdisciplinary Generalist EC-4

Special Education

December 2007

Abilene, Texas

HONORS AND AWARDS

Nelle Taylor Scholarship in Special Education recipient, 2021, 2022, 2023

President's list, Fall 2003, Spring 2006, Fall 2006, Spring 2007, and Fall 2007

David Ham Endowed Scholarship recipient, 2006 and 2007

Junior League Scholarship Recipient, 2003-2007

PUBLICATIONS

Bloom, M., **Garrison, R.**, Huesmann, M., Simith-Hill, R., Viotto, J., & Hébert, T. (2023).

Conversations on friendship with 2e individuals: The importance of companionship.

Variations 2e: Not all great minds think alike, (8), 22-23.

Ascetta, K., Googe, H., & **Garrison, R.** (2022). Supporting inclusion in early childhood

through itinerant service delivery: A systematic literature review. *Early Childhood*

Education Journal, 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10643-022-01397-0>

EVALUATION REPORTS

Garrison, R., Montpeirous, B., & Lewis, A. A. (2025, August). *Carolina Teacher Induction*

Program (CarolinaTIP) Evaluation Summary for 2024-2025. University of South

Carolina, Research, Evaluation, and Measurement (REM) Center.

- Montpeirous, B., **Garrison, R.**, & Lewis, A. A. (2025, August). *Carolina Teacher Induction Program (CarolinaTIP) Evaluation Report for 2024-2025*. University of South Carolina, Research, Evaluation, and Measurement (REM) Center.
- Leighton, E., Watts, J., & **Garrison, R.** (2025). *Project Aspire: Harbison West Gifted & Talent Development Magnet School 2025 Teacher Survey Results*. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina, Research, Evaluation, and Measurement (REM) Center.
- Leighton, E., Watts, J., & **Garrison, R.** (2025). *Project Aspire: Harbison West Gifted & Talent Development Magnet School 2025 Student Survey Results*. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina, Research, Evaluation, and Measurement (REM) Center.
- Leighton, E., Watts, J., & **Garrison, R.** (2025). *Project Aspire: Seven Oaks Elementary Global Magnet School 2025 Teacher Survey Results*. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina, Research, Evaluation, and Measurement (REM) Center.
- Montpeirous, B., **Garrison, R.**, & Lewis, A. A. (2024, August). *Carolina Teacher Induction Program (CarolinaTIP) Evaluation Summary for 2023-2024*. University of South Carolina, Research, Evaluation, and Measurement (REM) Center.
- Montpeirous, B., **Garrison, R.**, Lewis, A. A., Turner, V., & Watts, J. (2024, August). *Carolina Teacher Induction Program (CarolinaTIP) Evaluation Report for 2023-2024*. University of South Carolina, Research, Evaluation, and Measurement (REM) Center.
- Montpeirous, B., **Garrison, R.**, & Lewis, A. A. (2023, November). *Carolina Teacher Induction Program (CarolinaTIP) Evaluation Summary for 2022-2023*. University of South Carolina, Research, Evaluation, and Measurement (REM) Center.
- Montpeirous, B., Lewis, A. A., & **Garrison, R.** (2023, August). *Carolina Teacher Induction Program (CarolinaTIP) Evaluation Report for 2022-2023*. University of South Carolina, Research, Evaluation, and Measurement (REM) Center.

DATA REPORTS

College of Arts & Sciences University of South Carolina – Columbia Return Rate Comparisons Report (2022). Created for the College of Arts and Sciences at USC Columbia. While working in Associate Vice President for Student Success Office

First Year Retention Survey (USC and You), Longitudinal Data Reports. (2022, August). Created for sharing data with individual colleges at the University of South Carolina, Columbia. While working in Associate Vice President for Student Success Office. (Twelve PowerPoint reports were created, one overall report and one for college or school who serves undergraduate students on the USC campus.)

OTHER REPORTS AND EXPERIENCE

Briefs

Garrison, R., Montpeirous, B., & Lewis, A. A. (2024, July). *Information brief: Implementation Fidelity*. University of South Carolina, Research, Evaluation, and Measurement Center.

Montpeirous, B., **Garrison, R.**, & Lewis, A. A. (2024, January). *Carolina Teacher Induction Program (CarolinaTIP) survey longitudinal data brief*. University of South Carolina, Research, Evaluation, and Measurement Center.

Garrison, R., Montpeirous, B., & Lewis, A. A. (2023, October). *Evidence brief: Teacher mobility by the numbers*. University of South Carolina, Research, Evaluation, and Measurement Center.

Conference Papers and Presentations

Garrison, R., Montpeirous, B., & Lewis, A. A., (2024, October). *Leveraging evaluation data in the development of an implementation fidelity instrument to support program expansion* [Multi-paper session presentation]. American Evaluation Association (AEA) 2024 Annual Conference, Portland, OR.

Lewis, A. A., Adams, A., Montpeirous, Lee, M., Skeen, N., & **Garrison, R.**, (2024, February). *A Glimpse into University-Based Induction: An Innovative Approach to the Role of Educator Preparation Providers* [Presentation]. American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) 2024 Annual Meeting.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE AND PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

In Progress

Carolina Teacher Induction Program Coaching Implementation Fidelity Tool development paper
Life After CarolinaTIP, completer follow up study

Experience

Conducted a pilot study for created instrument assessing school administrators' knowledge of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
Qualitative coding on open response survey questions for ongoing research with advisor
Survey analysis work on mCrED evaluation

WORK EXPERIENCE

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE <i>Research, Evaluation, and Measurement Center at USC</i>	JANUARY 2026-PRESENT <i>Columbia, South Carolina</i>
GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT <i>Research, Evaluation, and Measurement Center at USC</i>	AUGUST 2022-DECEMBER 2025 <i>Columbia, South Carolina</i>
INTERNSHIP: SC STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION <i>Office of Special Education under the 619 Coordinator</i>	AUGUST 2024-DECEMBER 2024 <i>Columbia, South Carolina</i>
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO AVP FOR STUDENT SUCCESS <i>Student Success Unit at USC</i>	JANUARY-AUGUST 2022 <i>Columbia, South Carolina</i>
TESTING SPECIALIST <i>University Testing Center at USC</i>	FEBRUARY 2020-DECEMBER 2021 <i>Columbia, South Carolina</i>
SHADOW <i>Congaree-Wood Early Childhood Center</i>	SEPTEMBER 2008-SEPTEMBER 2009 <i>West Columbia, South Carolina</i>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

SECOND THROUGH FIFTH GRADE LD-SELF-CONTAINED TEACHER <i>Herbert A. Wood Elementary School</i>	AUGUST 2013- JUNE 2019 <i>West Columbia, SC</i>
SECOND THROUGH FIFTH GRADE LD-RESOURCE TEACHER <i>Herbert A. Wood Elementary School</i>	AUGUST 2010- JUNE 2013 <i>West Columbia, SC</i>
KINDERGARTEN AND FIRST GRADE LD-RESOURCE TEACHER <i>Congaree-Wood Early Childhood Center</i>	SEPTEMBER 2009- JUNE 2010 <i>West Columbia, SC</i>
THIRD GRADE SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER <i>Allie Ward Elementary</i>	JANUARY- JUNE 2008 <i>Abilene, Texas</i>

TEACHING CERTIFICATION

South Carolina Teaching Certificate: Professional, Masters + 30 hours
Early Childhood: 2-11-2009 to 6-30-2027
Special Education: Multi-categorical: 2-11-2009 to 6-30-2027
Special Education: Learning Disabilities: 7-1-2015 to 6-30-2027

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND RELEVANT COURSE WORK

Service

Midlands Heart Walk Coach for Student Success Unit at USC Spring 2022
Special Education Round Table Representative 2013-2014

Conferences

SC TEACHER Insights Symposium, June 2025
American Evaluation Association (AEA) 2024 Annual Conference, October 2024
South Carolina Educators for the Practical Use of Research (SCEPUR), February 2023,
February 2024

Relevant Course Work

EDEX 710 Legal Issues in Special Education
EDEX 809 Single-Case Research Design in Special Education
EDEX 815 Coordination of Programs for Exceptional Children
EDEX 894 Research Seminar in Special Education
EDFI 731 Qualitative Inquiry
EDLP 705 Legal Basis of Educational Organization and Administration
EDLP 732 Data informed Decisions Making
EDLP 755 Educational Policy Analysis
EDLP 805 Advanced Educational Policy Analysis
EDRM 710 Educational Statistics I
EDRM 711 Educational Statistics II
EDRM 736 Program Evaluation

Continuing Education in Teaching

Read to Succeed: Foundations of Reading Spring 2019
Read to Succeed: Assessment of Reading, Summer 2018
Learning First, Technology Second-Elementary, June 2018
Data that Does the Trick! Best Practices for SPED teachers, June 2018
Using Donors Choose to Supply Your Classroom, June 2018
Digital Assessments with Google, June 2018
STAR-Student Goals & Progress Monitoring, June 2018
Teen Common Challenges Facing Educators and Tools to Address Them, June 2018
Coping Skills Methods for the Special Education Classroom, 2017-2018
SRA Best Practices Training with Nancy Moore, June 2017
Creating Resources to Foster Social Skills for Students with Special Needs, 2016-2017
Making it Count: Strategies for Improving Elementary Mathematics Instruction: Marti Kuntz, June 2016
Embracing Technology: Josh Stumpfenhorst, June 2016
Teaching Children of Poverty: Tammy Pawloski, June 2016

Keynote: Preparing Kids for the Test of Life Fogarty & Pete, June 2016
Rigor in the Classroom: Sandra Lindsay, June 2016
Pushing Back: Josh Stumpenhorst, June 2016
Effective Teaching Strategies Part 1: Fogarty & Pete, June 2016
Keynote: Instructional Implications and Visible Learning-Stephen Ventura, June 2016
Understanding SLO's (Special Education, 2015-2016
Autism Training, August 2015
Bringing Technology into your Classroom with Google Apps for Educators, July 2015
New! SCCCR Standards-ELA & Math: Grades 3-5, July 2015
Technology Integration Cohort-Davis, Wood, Saluda River 3-5, 2014-2015
Enrich Training, November 2014
Elementary/Middle Self-Contained Teachers-Math 2013-2014
Connecting Math Concepts Training, September 2013
Elementary Special Education Progress Monitoring and Assessment, 2012-2013
Kids of Poverty, August 2012
Dr. Tim Rasinski Literacy Workshop, Elementary Level, August 2012
Elementary Resource-Curriculum and Assessment, 2011-2012
Rich Milner: Culturally Responsive Teaching, January 2012
Corrective Reading Training, October 2011
Multiple Intelligence and Learning Styles with Valerie Hargett, June 2011
Curriculum Development for Elementary Resource Programs, 2010-2011