

Curriculum Vitae

Emma Mecham

Professional Practice Assistant Professor

Utah State University

School of Teacher Education and Leadership
2805 Old Main Hill
Logan, UT 84322-2815

Phone: (435) 797-8435
Fax: (435) 797-0372
Email: emma.mecham@usu.edu

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy
Education, Culture and Society

University of Utah; Salt Lake City, UT (2008)
Dissertation: Working out rhetorical sovereignty
in challenging rhetorical situations: The
importance of epistemologies in the writing of
American Indian university students
Utah State University; Logan, UT (2004)

Master's of Science
Rhetoric and Literature

Bachelor of Arts
International Studies

Brigham Young University; Provo, UT (2002)

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Professional Practice Assistant Professor, Foundations of Education

2017 – Present

Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services

Utah State University, Logan, Utah

Responsibilities include teaching foundations of education courses in the School of Teacher Education and Leadership (TEAL), coordinating and overseeing practicum placements for pre-service teachers, organizing the bi-annual Common Experience Conference for 200+ undergraduate pre-service teachers, assistant coordination of the Masters of Science in Education and Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction, mentoring undergraduate and graduate students, and pursuing a research and service agenda in the foundations of education.

Research Area Lead

2022 – Present

ASPIRE, Engineering Research Center,

Utah State University, Logan, Utah

ASPIRE is a multi-institutional National Science Foundation Generation 4 Engineering Research Center that is funded for up to \$26,000,000. Responsibilities include leading and advising the Engineering Research Center on how to integrate equity into its research and implementation activities across five university campuses both in the United States and internationally.

Community Partnerships Researcher

2022 – Present

ASPIRE, Engineering Research Center,

Utah State University, Logan, Utah

Principal investigator on IRB-approved (and NSF-funded or DOE-funded) projects within ASPIRE, a multi-institutional National Science Foundation Generation 4 Engineering Research Center that is funded for up to \$26,000,000. R. Responsibilities include leading in visioning and implementing the design of community-based educational approaches to energy technology research.

Temporary Assistant Professor, Foundations of Education

2014 – 2017

Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services

Utah State University, Logan, Utah

Responsibilities include teaching foundations of education courses in the School of Teacher Education and Leadership (TEAL), coordinating the Level 2 elementary education program, co-organizing the bi-annual Common Experience Conference for 200+ undergraduate pre-service teachers, and mentoring undergraduate and graduate students.

Adjunct Professor, Foundations of Education

2010-2014

Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services

Utah State University, Logan, Utah

Responsibilities include teaching foundations of education courses in the School of Teacher Education and Leadership (TEAL).

Instructor, English

2007

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Utah State University, Brigham City, Utah

Responsibilities include teaching academic writing to undergraduate students in the Department of English.

International Programs Coordinator

2004-2007

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Utah State University, Logan, Utah

Responsibilities include course development, teacher training and supervision of adjunct English instructors in China.

Research Associate

2004-2007

Center for the Study of Empowered Students of Color

University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah

Responsibilities include pursuing a research agenda in American Indian education, co-developing and co-teaching a PRAXIS preparation course, teacher training and supervision of adjunct pre-service teachers.

Assistant Director of Writing

2003 - 2004

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Utah State University, Logan, Utah

Responsibilities include course development, teacher training and supervision of graduate student teaching assistants.

Language Specialist, 2004

Special Education Preschool, Nibley Elementary School, Nibley, Utah.

Responsibilities include assisting head teacher with course instruction and assessment, particularly with regard to English Language Learners in the classroom.

Specials Instructor, 2003

Huanchaco School, Huanchaco, Peru

Responsibilities include assisting in the development and instruction of arts and computer courses in grades 1-5.

Third Grade Teacher, 2001

Shanti Bahavan, Tamil Nadu, India

Responsibilities include teaching third grade curriculum.

UNIVERSITY TEACHING

Utah State University, Logan, Utah (2010 – Present)

College of Education and Human Services

ELED 3000 Historical, Social, and Cultural Foundations of Education and School Practicum

Introduction to the historical, social, and cultural foundations of education. Students examine the interdependence of school and society, along with the influence of that interdependence on curricular and instructional practices in early childhood, elementary, and middle-level classrooms.

ELED 3002 Foundations Practicum

This course introduces students to the many constituents and actors in public schools, helping students to understand the perspectives of these actors, preparing students for their work in schools.

TEAL 3000/3001 Historical, Social, and Cultural Foundations of Education

This is an introduction to the historical, social, and cultural foundations of education. Students examine the interdependence of school and society, along with the influence of that interdependence on curricular and instructional practices in PreK-12 classrooms.

ELED 4480 Early Childhood Education Kindergarten Through Grade 3

Study of early childhood (K-3) curriculum, methodology, and learning environments.

ELED 4150 Assessment and Differentiation Across the Curriculum

This course explores the cyclical nature of assessment and instruction and provides students with knowledge, skills, tools, and dispositions necessary to effectively use assessment information to make differentiated instructional decisions.

TEAL 6190 Theories of Learning and Models of Teaching

Reviews the philosophical, psychological, and sociological genealogies behind historical and current theories of learning. Analyzes the approaches, metaphors, and models of teaching that these theories inform.

TEAL 6220 Workshop in Early Childhood Education

This course explores current topics important in teaching young children.

TEAL 6410 Social Foundations of Education

Examines current educational issues and trends within contexts of history, philosophy, and cultural foundations.

TEAL 6710 Diversity in Education

Analyzes the role of education in a culturally and linguistically diverse society. Examines the place multicultural education and inclusive pedagogies have in advancing educational equity and social justice. Explores multiple ways educators work with and for transnational communities.

TEAL 6900 Independent Study

Students engage in independent study with faculty mentor.

TEAL 7900 Independent Study

This is a course designed for graduate students working on special problems in educational foundations.

ITDS 4900 Senior Thesis

Students majoring in Interdisciplinary Studies are required to complete a 3-credit thesis or project as part of the major. The thesis or project must be either a research paper or a creative activity appropriate to the theme of the Interdisciplinary Studies major. Each student works with his or her faculty advisor to determine an appropriate topic of study or a project. The student and advisor outline the protocol and parameters of the thesis or project.

USU 1010 University Connections

Provides an environment of challenge and support to help new students make a successful transition to USU. Class curriculum and activities provide an environment wherein students become familiar with the broad academic, social, and cultural opportunities offered by USU and the surrounding community.

<u>Course Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Semesters</u>
TEAL 3000	Historical, Social, and Cultural Foundations of Education and School Practicum	Spring 2013, Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2018
ELED 3002	Foundations Practicum	Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025
ELED 3000/3001	Historical, Social, and Cultural Foundations of Education	Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025
ELED 4480	Early Childhood Education Kindergarten Through Grade 3	Spring 2020
ELED 4150	Assessment and Differentiation Across the Curriculum	Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025
ELED 5900	Independent Study	Spring 2025

TEAL 6190	Theories of Learning and Models of Teaching	Spring 2019, Summer 2019
TEAL 6220	Workshop in Early Childhood Education	Fall 2023
TEAL 6410	Social Foundations of Education	Fall 2010, Spring 2011, Summer 2011, Fall 2011, Spring 2012, Summer 2012, Fall 2012, Summer 2013, Summer 2014, Fall 2014, Summer 2015, Fall 2015, Summer 2016, Spring 2017, Summer 2017, Summer 2018, Summer 2019, Summer 2020
TEAL 6710	Diversity in Education	Summer 2021, Summer 2024
TEAL 6900	Independent Study	Fall 2021
TEAL 7670	Education Literature Reviews	Summer 2020, Summer 2024
TEAL 7900	Independent Study	Fall 2016, Fall 2023
ITDS 4900	Senior Thesis	Spring 2019
USU 1010	University Connections	Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2023

WORKSHOPS/INVITED LECTURES

Mecham, E. (2023). *An Introduction to Equity*. Invited speaker for Purdue REM Workshop, June 2023.

Mecham, E. (2022). *Critical Race Scholarship and Pedagogy Today*. Invited speaker for Utah State University's Intersections on Inclusion Series, April 2022.

Mecham, E. (2018). *Lesson Plan Design*. Presented to teaching faculty at Merrill-Kazier Library, Utah State University, December, 2018.

Maughan, E. (2018). *How to Get the Most Out of Your Studies*. Presented to Higher Education Graduate Program students and faculty at Utah State University, August 2018.

Maughan, E. (2017). *Why Education Matters*. Presented to the students and staff at Gear Up, Utah State University, September 2017.

RESEARCH

Research Agenda: My research agenda focuses on investigating how teachers learn and how they develop a professional identity. My current work investigates how teachers' self-efficacy changes over time and how they employ new understandings and practices in their classrooms. Given the rate of

attrition among teachers, understanding the experiences of teachers as they adapt to a teaching context in flux is imperative to improving the efficacy and longevity of teachers.

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles (* denotes graduate student)

Parkinson, P.,* Groves, F. C., **Mecham, E.**, Wilson-Lopez, A., Santiago, I. (2025) *Designing Electric Vehicle Infrastructures and Opportunities to Benefit All Residents*. American Society for Engineering Education. Conference Publication.

Reale-Smith, C.,* Suárez, M. I., & **Mecham, E.** (2024). Using Mixed Methods to Explore Forms of Harassment for K-12 BIPOC Trans Students. *Journal of Queer and Trans Studies in Education*, 1(2). <https://doi.org/10.60808/nv36-q697>

Parkinson, P.,* & Groves, F., & **Mecham, E.**, & Wilson-Lopez, A., & Santiago, I., & Ramos-Chavez, J. (2023, June), *Community perceptions of procedural and distributive justice in engineered systems: A case study of community-engaged vehicular electrification*. Published in Conference Proceedings from 2023 ASEE Annual Conference & Exposition, Baltimore, Maryland. <https://peer.asee.org/43247>

Mecham, E., Kozlowski, J., Messervy, F., Player, C., Lopez, J., Reina, L., and Justus, N. (2023). Onboarding experienced teachers in a new school. *Educational Research: Theory and Practice*, 34(3), 117-132.

Mecham, E., Newell, E. J., Rhodes, S.,* Reina, L. J., & Parry, D. (2021). Accurate, age-appropriate and sensitive: Reconsidering how to teach the Utah studies fourth grade social studies core. *Social Studies Research and Practice*, 16(2), 179-190. <https://doi.org/10.1108/SSRP-11-2020-0049>.

Mecham, E., Newell, E., Reina, L., & Stewart, C. (2021). Navigating pandemic schooling for novice teachers. *Educational Research: Theory and Practice*, 32(1), 90-96.

Brayboy, B. M. J., Castagno, E., & **Maughan, E.** (2007) Equality and justice for all? Examining race in education scholarship. *Review of Research in Education*, 31(1), 159-194.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

Mecham, E. (2024). Epistemological clash: AI and ways of knowing. In B. Buyserie & T. Thurston (Eds.), *Teaching and generative AI: Pedagogical possibilities and productive tensions*. Logan, Utah: Utah State University. <https://www.usu.edu/empowerteaching/publications/books/teaching-ai/>

Mecham, E. (2024). Practicing what we preach: Using data from the praxis performance assessment for teachers to guide instruction. In S. Read, L. McKee, & D. Rickey (Eds.), *Using data for continuous improvement in educator preparation* (pp. 45-58). Gorham, Maine: Myers Education Press.

Brayboy, B. M. J., & **Maughan, E.** (2011). Indigenous Knowledges and the Story of the Bean. In K. P. Afolabi, C. Bocala, R. C. Diaquoi, J. M. Hayden, I.A. Liefshitz, and S. S. Oh (Eds.), *Education for a multicultural society*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard Educational Review.

Brayboy, B. M. J., Castagno, E., & **Maughan, E.** (2008). Indigenous epistemologies and the neoliberal view of higher education. In J. E. Canaan, & W. Shumar (Eds.), *Structure and agency in the neoliberal university*. New York: Routledge.

Practitioner Publications

Mecham, E., & Newell, E. (2024). How to get the candidates you want. *Communicator*. National Association of Elementary School Principals.

Conference Presentations

Mecham, E., & Newell, E. (May 2026). Outdoor Education: Student and Parent Perceptions. Children and Nature. St Paul, Minnesota.

Cuch, M., Hart, S., Longhurst, M., **Mecham, E.**, Read, S., & Robertson, M. (2024, April). Using Data to Make Informed Program Decisions. AAQEP Quality Assurance Symposium. Orlando, FL.

Mecham, E., Wilson-López, A., Ramos-Chávez, R., & Espinoza, P. (2023, September 15). "Teaching for an Understanding of Environmental Justice in the Middle School Curriculum". Utah Science Teachers Association Annual Conference. Layton, Utah.

Parkinson, P.,* & Groves, F., & **Mecham, E.**, & Wilson-Lopez, A., & Santiago, I., & Ramos-Chavez, J. (2023, June), "Community Perceptions of Procedural and Distributive Justice in Engineered Systems: A Case Study of Community-Engaged Vehicular Electrification." American Society of Engineering Education Annual Conference & Exposition. Baltimore, Maryland.

Newell, E., & **Mecham, E.** (April 2023). "Conflicting Cultures on the San Juan River: Honoring Mormon and Indigenous Histories on a 6th Grade San Juan River Run." Place-Based Education Symposium. Kelly, Wyoming.

Mecham, E., Newell, E., & Saunderson, L.,* (February 2023). "Experiential, Integrated Learning in Social Studies Core for Relevance, Engagement, and Inclusion." Critical Questions in Education Conference. San Diego, CA.

Mecham, E., Newell, E., & Saunderson, L.,* (May 2022). "Sacred Spaces: Decolonizing Fourth Grade Utah Social Studies Standards at the Bear River Massacre Site." Children and Nature. Atlanta, GA.

Reina, L., and **Mecham, E.**, (March 2022). "Building Phonological Awareness Through Purposeful Play." Utah Early Childhood Conference. Salt Lake City, UT.

Mecham, E., Newell, E., Reina, L., & Stewart, C., (October 2021). "The impact of self-efficacy in novice teachers: A longitudinal study." Northern Rocky Mountain Educational Research Association. Ketchum, ID.

Mecham, E., Newell, E., Rhodes, S.,* & Seifert, M. (April 2021). "Accurate, Age-Appropriate, and Sensitive: Reconsidering how to teach social studies core in a place-based manner in partnership with the Shoshone Tribe." Place-based Education Symposium. Jackson, WY.

Mecham, E., Stewart, C., Newell, E., Reina, L. (February 2020). "Finding Common Connections and Tensions Between Student Teachers and Their Hiring Districts." Conference on Academic Research in Education. Las Vegas, NV.

Mecham, E., and Rhodes, S.* (October 2019). "Accurate, Age-Appropriate, and Sensitive: Reconsidering How to Teach the Utah Studies Fourth Grade Core." Northern Rocky Mountain Educational Research Association. Denver, CO.

Newell, E., **Maughan, E.,** and Stewart, C. (February 2019). "Teacher Perspectives on the Value and Barriers of Curriculum-Based Outdoor Field Experiences." Conference for Academic Research in Education. Las Vegas, NV.

Maughan, E., Newell, E., and Stewart, C. (September 2015). "Teachers' Perceptions of Field Experiences and the Impact on Diverse Learners, Achievement, and Community." The Utah Environmental Education Conference. Salt Lake City, UT.

Stewart, C. and **Maughan, E.** (April 2018). "Walking in two worlds: A narrative case study of a Native American woman rural principal." American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting. New York City, NY.

Maughan, E. (February 2018). "Review of Research on Pre-Service Teacher Clinical Experiences." Utah Association of Teacher Educators. Orem, UT.

Mecham, E.L. and Searle, K.A. (April 2006). "Naming Success: American Indian Students' Encounters with and Negotiations of Institutional Norms." Educators for Diversity Conference. Salt Lake City, UT.

Brayboy, B.M., Estrada, M., **Mecham, E.L.,** and Searle, K.A. (April 2005). "How Does Race Matter in Educational Achievement?" Educators for Diversity Conference. Logan, UT.

Mecham, E.L. and Searle, K.A. (April 2005). "Endangered Epistemologies: American Indians' Textual Encounters with the University." Endangered Languages Conference. Salt Lake City, UT.

Mecham, E.L., and Searle, K.A. (March 2005). "Negotiating Conflicting Literacies: Research into the Polemics of American Indian Student Strategies." University of Utah Graduate Student Association. Salt Lake City, UT.

Mecham, E.L., and Searle, K.A. (February 2005). "American Indian Students' Experience of Literacy Across Place and Space." National Council of Teachers of English Assembly for Research. Columbus, OH.

Mecham, E. (April 2004). "The Community Classroom." The Western Social Science Association. Salt Lake City, UT.

Mecham, E. (February 2002). "Shanti Bahavan: Place of Peace." International Inquiry Conference. Provo, UT.

Representative
2020 – 2023
Utah System of Higher Education Early Childhood Committee

Board Member
2017 – 2022
Utah Association of Teacher Educators

Awards Reviewer
Spring 2018
Utah Parent Teacher Association

University

Chair
2024 – Present
School of Teacher Education and Leadership Awards Committee

Committee Member
2016 – Present
Cultural Studies Program Committee

Reviewer
2022 – Present
Graduate Research and Creative Opportunities Grant

Co-Chair
2020 - 2024
Intersections Research Cluster on Race, Ethnicity, and Indigenous Studies

Committee Member
2023
Undergraduate Research Inclusion Task Force

Committee Member
2023
Instructional Leadership Lecturer Hiring Committee

Reviewer
Undergraduate Research and Creative Opportunities Grant

Summer 2019 – 2022

Committee Member Scholarship Committee
2017 – Present

Assistant Coordinator School of Teacher Education and Leadership Master’s Program
2021 – Present

Committee Member Undergraduate Programs Assessment Committee
2021 – Present

Volunteer Interviewer Aggies Elevated
2020 - 2023

Committee Member Professional Practice Instructional Leadership Hiring Committee
2022

Committee Member Edith Bowen Laboratory School Teacher Hiring Committee
2021

Committee Member Robins Awards Committee
2020

Facilitator University Conference for Undergraduate Research
2020

Committee Member Education Summit Committee
Fall 2018

Committee Member Classroom Management Course Review Committee
Fall 2018

Committee Member Dispositions/Entry Requirements Task Force
Spring 2018

Committee Chair Preparation Anchor Task Force
Fall 2016 – Spring 2018

Committee Member Edith Bowen Laboratory School Director Hiring Committee
Spring 2017 – Spring 2018

Committee Chair Educational Foundations Lecturer Hiring Committee
Fall 2017

Community

Committee Member School Community Council, Spring Creek Middle School
2024 – Present

Committee Member School Community Council, Ridgeline High School
2024 – Present

Committee Chair School Community Council, Spring Creek Middle School
2022-2023

Committee Member Cache County School District Building Task Force Committee
2022-2023

Ambassador Logan Encircle

2022

Committee Member School Community Council, Spring Creek Middle School
2020 - 2022

Board Member Logan Encircle Advisory Board
2019 – 2021

Facilitator Cache Valley Diversity Dinner
Spring 2019

Committee Chair School Community Council, Edith Bowen Laboratory School
2014 – 2016

AWARDS

Faculty Undergraduate Mentor Award, School of Teacher Education and Leadership 2021

Diversity Award, Utah State University 2004

