

NELLY KAAKATY

The Episcopal School of Dallas
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EDUCATION

PhD Educational Psychology

May 2016

Texas A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, TX

Dissertation: On the Write Track: A Persuasive Writing Intervention to Support Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders

M.S. Psychology

December 2015

Texas A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, TX

B.S. Psychology; Child Learning and Development

August 2013

Minor in Criminology

University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Middle School Learning Specialist

August 2016-Present

Learning Support Services

The Episcopal School of Dallas, Dallas, TX

- Develop and implement individualized plans to facilitate success of students with learning disabilities

Adjunct Instructor

August 2015-July 2016

Department of Psychology

Grayson College, VanAlystne, TX

Teach psychology courses

- PSYC 2314 Child & Lifespan Development
- PSYC 2301 General Psychology

Graduate Lecturer

January 2015-May 2016

Department of Psychology, Counseling, and Special Education

Texas A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, TX

Teach undergraduate and graduate special education courses

- Co-taught SPED 420 Moderate and Severe Disabilities

Guest lectures include:

- Shora, N. (2016, March). The Research Process. Guest lecturer for SPED 595 Research Techniques course.
- Shora, N. (2015, May). Special Education: What Educators Need to Know. Guest lecturer for SED 300, teacher preparation course.

- Shora, N. (2015, May). Special Education: What Educators Need to Know. Guest lecturer for Leo Teach, future educators in STEM fields.
- Shora, N. (2015, March). Single Case Designs. Guest lecturer for SPED 595 Research Techniques course.

STRIDE Lab Manager

January 2015-May 2016

Department of Psychology, Counseling, and Special Education
Texas A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, TX

- Direct research team of undergraduate and graduate students
 - Lead investigator of research study analyzing accessibility of Algebra I textbooks for students with disabilities
- Review and edit grant proposals
 - Identifying the Professional Development Needs of Rural Educators to Enhance School-Wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports. Principal Investigator- Brittany Hott, Funded American Educational Research Association
 - Project DREAM- Developing Rural Educators Algebra Methods. Principal Investigator- Brittany Hott, In Review.
- Train students in coding, writing, and presentation skills
 - Students awarded first place in undergraduate division at Texas A&M University-Commerce Annual Research Symposium (April, 2015)
 - Students presented at Texas Council for Exceptional Children conference (June, 2015)

Graduate Research Assistant

July 2014-July 2015

Department of Psychology, Counseling, and Special Education
Texas A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, TX

- Conducted research, analyzed data, and launched projects in special education with a focus on interventions for students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders
 - Proficient in SPSS data entry and analysis
 - Experienced in detailed and complex coding procedures
 - Skilled in both qualitative and quantitative data collection and interpretation

Decoding Dyslexia Training Facilitator

December 2014-Present

Texas A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, TX

- Provide training in dyslexia to Region 8 teachers through simulations and presentations

AmeriCorps Site Coordinator

August 2013-June 2014

Reading Partners, Dallas, TX

- Coordinated main operations of Reading Partners literacy intervention program at Bayles Elementary School
- Trained and coached 30 adult volunteer tutors in Reading Partners curriculum, comprehension strategies, and vocabulary building tools
- Students accelerated rates of learning and narrowed achievement gaps according to mid-year and end-of-year data
- Managed multiple databases to monitor student, tutor, and teacher information and effectiveness

After School Counselor

August 2012-June 2013

Neighborhood Service Council, Dallas, TX

- Planned and directed daily educational enrichment activities for underserved children in K-4th grade

- Taught in all core subjects and helped underperforming students meet and exceed grade level expectations by receiving academic achievement awards

Teaching Assistant

January 2013-May 2013

Department of Behavioral and Brain Sciences

University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX

Supervised 16 undergraduate students in developing research ideas, recruiting participants, analyzing data, building surveys, and constructing unique experiments in psychological research

- PSY 3393 Experimental Projects

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

Shora, N., & Hott, B. L. (in press). Write on! Using the POW-TREE strategy to teach persuasive writing to students with Emotional or Behavioral Disorders. *Beyond Behavior*.

Hott, B. L. & **Shora, N.** (in press). Using the What Works Clearinghouse to evaluate interventions. In S. B. Mertens, M. M. Caskey, & N. Flowers (Eds.), *The encyclopedia of middle level education*. Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing.

Shora, N. (2015). Tips and Tools for Teachers: Using the Writing Strategy POW + TREE. *Texas Council for Exceptional Children Newsletter*, 21 (1), 6-7.

Hott, B. L., Berkeley, S., Fairfield, A., & **Shora, N.** (in press). An Analysis of 25 Years of Guidance for Practitioners. *Learning Disabilities Quarterly*.

Shora, N. & Hott, B. L. (in press). A job well done: Five tips for effective use of praise. *The New Teacher Advocate*.

Manuscripts in Review

Shora, N. Hott, B. L., & Hayes, D. (in review). Everything is All Write: A Persuasive Writing Intervention to Support Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders, *Education and Treatment of Children*.

Hott, B. L., Isbell, L. J., & Walker, J. D., Phannenstiel, K. H. & **Shora, N.** (in review). Using a simple decision-making framework and data mapping to prepare for high-stakes testing. *Manuscript submitted to Intervention in School and Clinic*. [revise and resubmit; revisions in process]

Hott, B. L. Berkeley, S., Shipman, K., Fairfield, A., Alhazmi, T., & **Shora, N.** (in review). What interventions are available for special education practitioners?: A review of 30 years of prominent practitioner journal publications. *Exceptional Children*.

Manuscripts in Development

Hott, B. L., **Shora, N.**, Raymond, L., Garlow, H., Berg, A., & Wilkins, M. (2016). The nature and function of Algebra I textbook questions: Implications for students with learning disabilities. Unpublished manuscript in development.

PRESENTATIONS

Oral Presentations

Shora, N. (2016, April). Words to Live By: A Persuasive Writing Intervention to Support Rural Middle School Students With Emotional and Behavioral Disorders. Presentation given at the Texas A&M University-Commerce Annual Research Symposium, Commerce, TX.

Shora, N. (2015, October). Stop Write There: Practical Strategies and Interventions to Teach Writing in Content Areas. Presentation given at the Teacher Educators for Children with Behavior Disorders Conference, Tempe, AZ.

Shora, N. (2015, October). On the Write Track: A Persuasive Writing Intervention to Support Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders. Presentation given at the Teacher Educators for Children with Behavior Disorders Conference, Tempe, AZ.

Garlow, H., **Shora, N.**, & Hott, B. L. (2015, October). Practical Tips for Supporting Students with EBD in Secondary Science. Presentation given at the Teacher Educators for Children with Behavior Disorders Conference, Tempe, AZ.

Hott, B. L., Pfannestiel, K., **Shora, N.** (2015, October). Reporting and Disseminating Results of Single Case Studies: Implications for LD Practitioners and Researchers. Panel presentation given at the Council for Learning Disabilities Conference, Las Vegas, NV.

Shora, N. (2015, April). Write On: The Effects of Self-Regulated Strategy Development Using Science Content Prompts on the Persuasive Writing of Students with Emotional Behavioral Disorders. Presentation given at the Texas A&M University-Commerce Annual Research Symposium.

Shora, N. (2015, April). Bridging the Gap Between Research and Practice in the Classroom. Presentation given at the Texas A&M University-Commerce Graduate Research Assistant Symposium.

Poster Presentations

Shora, N. (2016, April). On the Write Track: The Effects of A Persuasive Writing Intervention on Quality and Quantity. Poster presented at the Council for Exceptional Children Conference Kaleidoscope Session, St. Louis, MO.

Shora, N. & Garlow, H. (2016, April). The Nature and Function of Algebra I Textbooks: Accessibility of Mathematics Textbooks for Students with Learning Disabilities. Poster presented at the Council for Exceptional Children Conference Division for Learning Disabilities Session, St. Louis, MO.

Shora, N. (2016, April). Say The Word: A Persuasive Writing Intervention to Support Rural Middle School Students With Emotional and Behavioral Disorders. Poster presented at the Federation of North Texas Area Universities Symposium, Denton, TX.

Shora, N. (2015, October). A Step in the Write Direction: A Persuasive Writing Intervention to Support Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders. Poster presented at the Texas A&M System 12th Annual Pathways Student Research Symposium, Corpus Christi, TX.

Hott, B. L., Isbell, L., Pfannestiel, K., **Shora, N.** (2015, October). The Use of Simple Data Mapping Tool to Support Classroom Level RtI Implementation. Poster presented at the Council for Learning Disabilities Conference, Las Vegas, NV.

Shora, N. (2015, June). Everything is All Write: A Writing Intervention to Support Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders. Poster presented at the Texas Council for Exceptional Children Conference, Fort Worth, TX.

Shora, N. (2015, April). Write On: An Analysis Of Writing Interventions for Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders. Poster presented at the Council for Exceptional Children Conference Kaleidoscope Session, San Diego, CA.

Shora, N. (2015, April). Write On: The Effects of Self-Regulated Strategy Development Using Science Content Prompts on the Persuasive Writing of Students with Emotional Behavioral Disorders. Poster presented at the Council for Exceptional Children Conference Division for Learning Disabilities Session, San Diego, CA.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS

Council for Exceptional Children

- Division for Research
- Division for Learning Disabilities
- Teacher Education Division

Texas Council for Exceptional Children

Student Council for Exceptional Children

Texas A&M University-Commerce Graduate Council

- Curriculum committee
- Academic Integrity Taskforce member

Psychology Counseling, Special Education Graduate Student Association

AWARDS

Paul Zelhart Award for Outstanding Research in Psychology	April 2016
Federation of North Texas Area Universities Symposium Social Science Division, First Place	April 2016
Texas A&M University-Commerce Annual Research Symposium Oral presentation, First Place	April 2016
12 th Annual Pathways Texas A&M System Student Research Symposium Social Science Doctoral Division, Second Place	October 2015
<i>Texas Council for Exceptional Children</i> Annual Research Award	June 2015
Texas A&M University-Commerce Annual Research Symposium Oral presentation, First Place	April 2015

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

H.M. Lafferty Graduate Scholarship Endowment, awarded \$3,000	Fall 2015-Spring 2016
Harry Fullwood Endowment Travel Grant, awarded \$500	Fall 2015
Doctoral Student Scholarship Fund, awarded \$500	Fall 2015
<i>Texas Council for Exceptional Children</i> Research Grant, awarded \$500	Summer 2015
Educational Psychology Doctoral Student Scholarship, awarded \$500	Spring 2015
Student Organizations Allocations Committee Travel grant, awarded \$2,000	Spring 2015
Educational Psychology Doctoral Student Scholarship, awarded \$500	Fall 2014
Harry Fullwood Endowment Travel Grant, awarded \$500	Fall 2014
Educational Psychology Doctoral Student Scholarship, awarded \$500	Spring 2014

SERVICE

Student Council for Exceptional Children President Texas A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, TX	August 2015-May 2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elected to lead organization on advocacy and service to enhance lives of individuals with disabilities • Student Organizations Allocations Committee Travel Grant, \$2,000 requested Principal Investigator- Nelly Shora, Co-Principal Investigator- Ambre Fairfield In Review 	
Judge and moderator	October 2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selected to judge and moderate undergraduate division of Texas A&M System 12th Annual Pathways Student Research Symposium 	
Doctoral Student Representative Texas A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, TX	September 2014-May 2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elected to represent doctoral students as member of Graduate Council 	

Safe Spaces Ally	August 2015-Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Serves as faculty representative to provide secure environment for students of LGBTQ community at Grayson College 	
Editorial service	February 2015-Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guest reviewer, <i>Education and Treatment of Children</i> Guest reviewer, <i>Journal of Special Education Technology</i> Guest reviewer, Texas Council for Exceptional Children 	
McNair Scholar Mentor	January 2015-May 2016
Texas A&M University-Commerce, Commerce, TX	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oversee undergraduate student in research methodology and thesis proposal writing to prepare for graduate school admission 	
Lead organizer	March 2014-Present
Read Across America, Dallas, TX	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Directs community partnerships and recruits volunteers for annual literacy event in elementary schools 	
Dallas Dinner Table Facilitator	January 2015-Present
Dallas Faces Race, Dallas, TX	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leads dialogue on race, ethnicity, and culture to promote tolerance and diversity 	
Speech and Debate Judge	October 2008-Present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluates student performance at local and national tournaments 	
Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)	February 2012-August 2013
Dallas CASA, Dallas, TX	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Represented abused and neglected children to help find safe and permanent homes Compiled court reports, developed needs assessments, and oversaw home visits 	