

JENNIFER ERVIN

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research focuses on secondary English language arts pedagogy and curriculum; teachers' engagement with justice-oriented teaching practices, including culturally sustaining and antiracist pedagogies; and the intersection of educational policies with teachers' classroom work.

EDUCATION

- 2024 **Ph.D. in Language and Literacy Education**, with a concentration in English Education and graduate certification in Interdisciplinary Qualitative Studies and in Education Law and Policy
University of Georgia
Advisor: Dr. Kevin Burke
Dissertation Title: "Necessary Friction: Narratives of Justice and Equity-Oriented Pedagogy in Secondary ELA Classrooms"
- 2008 **M.S. in English Education** with graduate certification in Teaching English as a Second or Other Language
Florida State University
- 2006 **B.A. in English Literature** with a minor concentration in Spanish
Florida State University

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2024- current **Assistant Professor**, University of Wisconsin Eau Claire
- Teaching courses in English education methods, young adult literature, and first year writing
- 2020-2024 **Graduate Research Assistant**, University of Georgia Language and Literacy Education Department, Athens, GA

- DEEP Center Savannah, GA research team member under the direction of Dr. Kevin Burke
- Supervised eight undergraduate and master's level English education teacher candidates during their practicum experiences
- Taught courses in English education methods

- 2012-2014 **English Department Chair**, Invictus Preparatory School, Brooklyn, NY
- Supervised grades 5-7 language arts staff by reviewing lessons, observing classes, and providing teaching support
 - Developed and implemented grades 5-8 language arts curriculum maps and policies
 - Developed and implemented a school-wide reading intervention curriculum
- 2007-2008 **Graduate Assistant**, Florida State University English Education Department, Tallahassee, FL
- Advised undergraduate English education students
 - Assisted the English education department chair
 - Supported organization for the National Writing Project summer institute

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2024- Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin Eau Claire
Methods of Teaching English Education; Young Adult Literature; Critical Reading and Writing
- 2023-2024 Instructor of Record, University of Georgia, Athens, GA
Methods in Teaching English Education 1
- 2019-2020 Teacher, KIPP Austin Collegiate High School, Austin, TX
Grade 9 Pre-AP English Literature 1 and Reading Intervention
- 2014-2019 Teacher and Content Coordinator, KIPP Academy of Arts and Letters, Austin, TX
Grade 8 English Language Arts (2015-2019)
Grade 6 English Language Arts (2014-2015)
- 2011-2014 Founding Teacher, Invictus Preparatory School, Brooklyn, NY
Grade 5 English Language Arts (2011-2012; 2013-2014)
Grade 6 English Language Arts (2012-2014)
- 2009-2010 Fulbright English Teacher, Hanoi University and Phu Yen University, Vietnam
Secondary English as a Second or Other Language
TOEFL iBT Preparation
English Presentation Skills

2009 Teacher, Maclay School, Tallahassee, FL
 Grade 8 English Language Arts

PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- Ervin, J.** (2026). Beyond the grand narrative: Uncovering tensions in the experiences of critical educators. *Teaching and Teacher Education*, 172, 105366.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tate.2025.105366>
- Ervin, J.** (2025). Where is the line? Narratives of justice and equity-oriented pedagogies in a conflicted sociopolitical climate. *Literacy Research: Theory, Method, and Practice*, 74(1), 146-168. <https://doi.org/10.1177/23813377251358192>
- Ervin, J.** (2025). Navigating toward justice and equity in contested teaching contexts. *English Journal*, 114(4), 46 – 53. <https://doi.org/10.58680/ej2025114446>
- Ervin, J.** (2024). “I know I’m a good teacher”: An inquiry into literacy teachers’ conceptions of success. *Journal of Language and Literacy Education*, 20(2), 1-22.
<https://openjournals.libs.uga.edu/jolle>
- Grove, E., **Ervin, J.**, Gannon, M. (2024). “They’re just not mature enough sometimes”: Teacher candidates’ languaging of students and criticality. *English Education*, 56(2), 66-86.
<https://doi.org/10.58680/ee202456266>
- Ervin, J.**, & Gannon, M. (2024). Navigating tensions: A critical policy analysis of expectations for English educators in Georgia. *Educational Policy Analysis Archives*, 32(15), 1-21.
<https://doi.org/10.14507/epaa.32.7710>
- Ervin, J.** (2024). Work hard for whom? A critical autoethnography on disconnection within a KIPP charter school. *Critical Questions in Education*, 15(1), 19-37.
<https://academydstudies.files.wordpress.com/2024/01/ervin-final.pdf>
- Ervin, J.** & Gannon, M. (2022). Stories read and told in an antiracist teaching book club. *Journal of Education Controversy*, 15(1), 1-28. <https://cedar.wvu.edu/jec/vol15/iss1/5>
- Wright, W. T., Hadley, H. L., **Ervin, J.**, Overton, L., & Burke, K. J. (2022). Generative dissensus in a youth-led coalition-building enterprise. *Teachers College Record*, 124(9), 36-64.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/01614681221126014>

Gannon, M., **Ervin, J.**, Overton, L. (2022). (Re)Active praxis: What happens when you read about racism? *English Education*, 54(4), 333-340. <https://doi.org/10.58680/ee202231982>

Ervin, J. (2022). Critically reading the canon: Culturally sustaining approaches to a prescribed literature curriculum. *Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy*, 65(4), 321-329. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jaal.1208>

Book Chapters

Gannon, M., & **Ervin, J.** (in press). The reimagination of an English methods course in pursuit of reflection and liberation In A. Goodwyn, C. Durrant, J. Manuel, W. Sawyer, M. George, & M. Shoffner (Eds.) *International perspectives on English as an emancipatory subject: Promoting equity, justice, and democracy through ELA* [IFTE, Volume 5].

Ervin, J. (in press). Affirming identities: Black girls defining themselves through critical literacy practices. In E. O. Ohito, S. L. Deckman, A. Smith, and L. I. Mock (Eds.), *Thinking spatially about Black girlhoods: Researching the significance of home, place, and space in Black girls' education*. Routledge.

Bulletins and Reports

Burke, K. J., Hadley, H. L., Wright, W. T., **Ervin, J.**, & Overton, L. (2020). *It's interesting how exclusion plays a role in self-worth*. Savannah, GA: The Deep Center.

Book Reviews

Ervin, J. (2021). [Review of the book *Letting go of literary Whiteness: Antiracist literature instruction for White students*, by C. Borsheim-Black and S. T. Sarigianides]. *Growing Scholars Chronicle*, 12, 3.

Ervin, J. (2020). [Review of the book *Evelyn Del Rey is moving away*, by M. Medina]. *Journal of Language and Literacy Education*, 16(2), 1-3.

Podcasts and Interviews

Ervin, J. (Host). (2021, November 22). *Interview with the author of "The black box: Close reading literary life"* [Audio podcast]. *Journal of Language and Literacy Education*. <http://jolle.coe.uga.edu/volume-172/>

Ervin, J. (Host). (2021, November 8). *Interview with the authors of "It is the innocence which constitutes the crime": Interrogating Whiteness in a predominately White high school English classroom* [Audio podcast]. *Journal of Language and Literacy Education*. <http://jolle.coe.uga.edu/volume-172/>

Ervin, J. (Host). (2021, April 20). *Interview with the authors of “Chasing new worlds: Stories of roleplaying in classroom spaces”* [Audio podcast]. Journal of Language and Literacy Education. <http://jolle.coe.uga.edu/volume-171/>

Ervin, J. (Host). (2020, November 19). *Interview with the authors of “Justice for Justyce: Using Dear Martin and founding documents to create revolutionary remixes”* [Audio podcast]. Journal of Language and Literacy Education. <http://jolle.coe.uga.edu/volume-162/>

AWARDS

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| 2024 | Student Outstanding Research Award, Literacy Research Association |
| 2024 | Genelle Morain Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching, Language and Literacy Education Department, University of Georgia |
| 2024 | Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, University of Georgia |
| 2023 | Carol J. Fisher Award for Excellence in Research, Language and Literacy Education Department, UGA |
| 2020-2024 | College of Education Research Scholar Award, University of Georgia |
| 2009-2010 | Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Grant, Fulbright Program, Vietnam |

GRANTS

Internal Grants

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| 2025 | Ervin, J., Pfund, M., Meiser, K. “The role of self-reflection in building an antibias pedagogical approach.” Student Faculty Research Grant, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. \$1800, funded. |
| 2025 | Ervin, J., Pfund, M., Meiser, K. “The role of self-reflection in building an antibias pedagogical approach.” Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Grant, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. \$5000, funded. |

INVITED TALKS

Ervin, J. (2026, March 18). *Using complexity theory to visually map and code qualitative data*. AERA Complexity Theories in Education Special Interest Group Webinar Series. <https://youtu.be/G7rwwvGqmgk>

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Invited Plenary and Keynote Presentations

Ervin, J. & Schey, R. (2023, July 6-9). *Collective dreaming for equity and justice in English education* [Invited plenary session discussant]. English Language Arts Teacher Educators Summer Conference. Atlanta, GA.

Paper Presentations and Roundtable Discussions

Ervin, J. (2025, November 20-23). *Dreaming up possibilities and exploring realities for antibias pedagogies* [Paper presentation]. 2025 NCTE Annual Convention, Denver, CO.

Ervin, J. (2025, April 23-27). *Striving for sustainability: A complex account of experiences among critical educators* [Paper presentation]. 2025 Annual AERA Meeting, Denver, CO.

Ervin, J. (2025, April 23-27). *Where is the line? Teachers' affective responses to a conflicted sociopolitical climate* [Roundtable session]. 2025 Annual AERA Meeting, Denver, CO.

Ervin, J. (2025, April 23-27). *Beyond the Grand Narrative: An Inquiry Into Critical Pedagogies in a Conflicted Climate* [Roundtable session]. 2025 Annual AERA Meeting, Denver, CO.

Ervin, J. (2025, February 28-March 2). *Forging a way forward: Learning from justice and equity-oriented ELA teachers in Georgia* [Paper presentation]. 2025 National Council of Teachers of English Assembly on Research Annual Conference, Columbus, OH.

Ervin, J. (2024, December 4-7). *Seeking sustainability: Strategies for enacting justice and equity in divisive contexts* [Paper presentation]. 2024 Annual LRA Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Ervin, J. (2024, December 4-7). *"The system is on fire, but my classroom is okay": Justice and equity-oriented pedagogies in Georgia's secondary ELA classrooms* [Paper presentation]. 2024 Annual LRA Conference, Atlanta, GA.

Ervin, J., Grove, E., Gannon, M. (2024, April 11-14). *Possibilities in the praxis: Constructing criticality in preservice teachers' planning and instruction* [Roundtable session]. 2024 Annual AERA Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

- Ervin, J., & Gannon, M.** (2023, November 29-December 2). *Interrogating ourselves: Critical literacy storytelling in an English methods course* [Paper presentation]. 2023 Annual LRA Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Ervin, J.** (2023, November 29-December 2). *“I’m going to take you with me”*: Poetic vignettes of a “successful” literacy teacher [Paper presentation]. 2023 Annual LRA Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Ervin, J., Grove, E., Gannon, M.** (2023, November 29-December 2). *Lost in translation: Criticality and other ‘divisive’ concepts in preservice teachers’ secondary ELA classrooms* [Paper presentation]. 2023 Annual LRA Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Gannon, M., & Ervin, J.** (2023, November 16-19). *“Critical literacy storytelling” in an English methods classroom* [Paper presentation]. 2023 NCTE Annual Convention, Columbus, OH.
- Ervin, J., Gannon, M., & Grove, E.** (2023, July 6-9). *Divisive concepts in diverse contexts: Supporting the transitions of preservice teachers in an “anti-CRT” state* [Paper presentation]. English Language Arts Teacher Educators Summer Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Gannon, M., Ervin, J., Grove, E., Hogan, J., Kajder, S., Wright, W.** (2023, July 6-9). *Discussions and decisions during program revision: Mentoring graduate students into English education* [Problems of practice discussion]. English Language Arts Teacher Educators Summer Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Gannon, M., & Ervin, J.** (2023, July 6-9). *Navigating the university-school divide in English education* [Paper presentation]. English Language Arts Teacher Educators Summer Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Grove, E., Ervin, J., & Wright, W.** (2023, July 6-9). *Shifting student teaching lesson planning to culturally and historically responsive frameworks: What does criticality look like in student teachers’ classrooms?* [Paper presentation]. English Language Arts Teacher Educators Summer Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Greer, K. J., & Ervin, J.** (2023, July 6-9). *Centering hope and joy in syllabus creation* [Workshop session]. English Language Arts Teacher Educators Summer Conference, Atlanta, GA.
- Gannon, M., & Ervin, J.** (2023, June 23-25). *Histories, identities, biases, and dreams: Critical writing in English methods courses* [Paper presentation]. The 58th United Kingdom Literacy Association International Conference, Exeter, United Kingdom.

- Ervin, J., & Gannon, M.** (2023, March 4-5). *Seeking truth in the divide between institutional standards for English educators in Georgia* [Paper presentation]. 2023 AERA Annual Meeting, Virtual.
- Ervin, J.** (2023, March 4-5). *Stories of success: Literacy teachers share their truths about "effective" teaching* [Paper presentation]. 2023 AERA Annual Meeting, Virtual.
- Ervin, J., Williams, J., Deaton, A., Allen, H., Yoo, J., Diaz, A., Kimario, P., Zhang, J., Kim, N., Chang, S.J.** (2023, March 20-31). *Behind the curtain of an academic journal: A talk with the JOLLE editorial team* [Conference presentation]. Southeastern Universities Graduate Research Symposium, Virtual.
- Ervin, J.** (2023, February 11). *"It's everything": Seeking an understanding of success in English language arts instruction.* [Paper presentation]. Journal of Language and Literacy Education Winter 2023 Conference, Virtual.
- Ervin, J. & Gannon, M.** (2022, November 29-December 3). *Navigating boundaries between learning standards: An analysis of the NCTE and GA DOE standards for ELA educators* [Roundtable session]. 2022 Annual LRA Conference, Phoenix, AZ.
- Ervin, J.** (2022, November 17-20). *The "R" word: Talking about race with young White children.* [Paper Presentation]. 2022 NCTE Annual Convention, Anaheim, CA.
- Banack, A., **Ervin, J.**, Jacobs, L., Joensen, T., Jones-Greer, K., Phelps, D., Robillard, S., Spinner, E. (2022, November 17-20). *Uncovering "the hidden curriculum" of graduate school through ELATE-GS.* [Roundtable session]. 2022 NCTE Annual Convention, Anaheim, CA.
- Ervin, J.** (2022, November 17-20). *Analyzing identity through the lens of graphic novels.* [Paper presentation]. 2022 NCTE Annual Convention, Anaheim, CA.
- Ervin, J.** (2022, July 29-31). *Reflections on success: Placing teachers' goals for cultivating literacy at the heart of the work* [Paper presentation]. 2022 NCTE Homecoming, Louisville, KY.
- Ervin, J., Lathrop, B., Spinner, E.** (2022, July 29-31). *Between homeplaces: Real talk on the transition from teacher to teacher educator* [Roundtable session]. 2022 NCTE Homecoming, Louisville, KY.
- Banack, A., **Ervin, J.**, Jones-Greer, K. (2022, July 29-31). *Humanizing your syllabus* [Workshop]. 2022 NCTE Homecoming, Louisville, KY.
- Ervin, J. & Gannon, M.** (2022, March 5-6). *Stories of subversion: Navigating conversations on race in Georgia schools* [Paper presentation]. Journal of Language and Literacy Education Winter 2022 Conference, Virtual.

- Ervin, J.** (2022, February 21-23). *Analyzing the barriers to antiracist pedagogies in English language arts classrooms* [Paper presentation]. 2022 Critical Questions in Education Conference, Savannah, GA.
- Ervin, J.** (2022, February 21-23). *What is going on right now? A look at recent educational policy changes in relation to the year 2020* [Paper presentation]. 2022 Critical Questions in Education Conference, Savannah, GA.
- Ervin, J., Gannon, M., & Overton, L.** (2022, February 11-12). *Stories read and told in an antiracist teaching book club* [Paper presentation]. 74th Annual Meeting of the Southeast Philosophy of Education Society, Atlanta, GA.
- Gannon, M., **Ervin, J.**, Overton, L. (2021, November 18-21). *Learning together: An antiracist teaching book club for teacher candidates* [Poster presentation]. 2021 NCTE Annual Convention, Virtual.
- Ervin, J.** (2021, November 3-7). *A, B, C, D, failure: The harm of ESSA report cards on marginalized student populations* [Paper presentation]. 2021 American Educational Studies Association Annual Conference, Portland, OR.
- Burke, K. J. & **Ervin, J.** (2021, November 3-7). *Generative dissensus in a youth-led coalition-building enterprise* [Paper presentation]. 2021 American Educational Studies Association Annual Conference, Portland, OR.
- Ervin, J.** (2021, October 22). *Affirming identities: The critical literature responses of Black female readers* [Paper presentation]. Research on Women and Education 46th Annual Conference, Virtual.
- Ervin, J.** (2021, October 13-15). *A, B, C, D, failure: The harm of ESSA report cards on marginalized student populations* [Paper presentation]. 52nd Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Educational Research Association, Virtual.
- Ervin, J.** (2021, October 8-9). *Affirming identities: The critical literature responses of Black female readers* [Paper presentation]. Locating the Geographies of Black Girlhoods in Education Research Conference, Virtual.
- Ervin, J.** (2021, October 8). *Analyzing the barriers to antiracist pedagogies in English language arts classrooms* [Paper presentation]. 46th Annual Georgia Educational Research Association Conference, Virtual.
- Ervin, J.** (2021, February 6-7). *Critically reading the canon: Culturally responsive approaches to a prescribed literature curriculum* [Paper presentation]. Journal of Language and Literacy Education Winter 2021 Conference, Virtual.

CAMPUS TALKS

Ervin, J. (2025, October 1). *Research as story: Exploring narrative inquiry as methodology*. Faculty Forum Series, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

2025- current External peer reviewer, *Literacy Research and Instruction*

October 16, 2024 Invited speaker for the AERA Qualitative Research Special Interest Group's Graduate Student Committee meeting on the topic of preparing for the academic job market.

2024- current External peer reviewer, *English Education*

2023- current External peer reviewer, *Urban Education*

2023- current External peer reviewer, *Journal of Language and Literacy Education*

2022 - current External peer reviewer, *The ALAN Review*

2021– 2024 Graduate student representative, AERA Literature Special Interest Group

2022 – 2023 Principal Editor, *Journal of Language and Literacy Education*

2021 – 2023 Growing Scholars Chronicle Editor, ELATE Graduate Strand

February 7, 2023 Workshop host for the Professional Association of Georgia Educators on the English Education program at the University of Georgia.

March 2022 Workshop host for the ELATE Graduate Strand on the topic of academic publishing.

2021 – 2022 Managing Editor, *Journal of Language and Literacy Education*

2020 – 2021 Production Editor, *Journal of Language and Literacy Education*

MEMBERSHIPS

National Council of Teachers of English
American Educational Research Association

Literacy Research Association