
Maria Haji-Georgi, Ph.D.

Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology
University at Albany, SUNY
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EDUCATION

- Aug 2023 **Ph.D. Educational Psychology, University at Albany, State University of New York**
Dissertation Title: Lovingkindness Meditation: Effects on Teacher Burnout, Emotion Regulation, and Teacher-Student Interaction Quality
- Dec 2015 **M.S. Special Education (Inclusion), University at Albany, State University of New York**
- Dec 2012 **B.S. Childhood Education, College at Oneonta, State University of New York**
Concentration: English

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- Aug 2023 – present **Visiting Assistant Professor**
Department of Educational and Counseling Psychology, Division of Special Education
University at Albany, State University of New York (SUNY), Albany NY
- Teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in special education
 - Conducting research related to social emotional learning and competencies, teacher-student relationships, and special educator preparation
 - Field supervision of student teachers and interns in their general and special education practicum experiences

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2023 – present **Assessing coherence in special educator preparation programs, University at Albany, SUNY, Albany NY**
- Reviewed the literature on program coherence and assessment tools related to general education teacher preparation. We then adapted and created new items and factors for specific use in special education programs, consulting the Council for Exceptional Children’s professional teaching standards and high leverage practices
 - Developed and piloted a 35-item multi-informant assessment tool for measuring coherence in special education teacher preparation programs.
 - Assessing validity of the tool through gathering feedback about items and factors from colleagues and content experts across the country, including faculty members, doctoral students, field supervisors, program directors, and program administrators
- 2023 – present **Assessing the reliability of the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) across diverse classroom settings, University at Albany, SUNY, Albany NY**
- Measuring reliability of the CLASS across special education, general education, and specialist classroom settings
 - Analyzing differences in reliability across the diverse classroom settings
 - Writing a manuscript to report results, make recommendations, and disseminate information

- 2022 – present **Enhancing cohesion and coherence in a special education teacher preparation program**, University at Albany, SUNY, Albany NY
- Aligned program attributes and local standards with High Leverage Practices and professional learning standards to strengthen program cohesion and assist in the program accreditation renewal process
 - Presented research and submitted conference proceedings for the 2023 Teacher Education Division Conference for the Council for Exceptional Children
- 2020 – 2023 **Disability Champions Mentoring Network**, University at Albany, SUNY, Albany NY
- Used deductive coding to gather data from transcripts
 - Co-authored and published a peer-reviewed journal article
 - Attended research team meetings and network gatherings with stakeholders
 - Delivered presentations on adolescent development and impacts of trauma, to prepare mentors
- Spring 2020 **Reflective thinking: Skill development in pre-service teachers**, University at Albany, SUNY, Albany NY
- Research lab manager: Assigned tasks using technology integrations and digitally organized all research notes and materials
 - Developed research-based rubric for teacher self-reflection
 - Coded pre-service teacher reflections using constant comparative analysis, consultation analysis, and independent analysis

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Higher Education

- 2023 – present **University at Albany, SUNY**
Visiting Assistant Professor
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| <u>Graduate:</u> | FA 2023 (online) | Instructional Environments and Practices for Students with Disabilities |
| | FA 2023 (online) | Introduction to Human Exceptionality |
| <u>Undergraduate:</u> | SP 2024 (online) | Special Education for Students with Emotional and Behavioral Problems |
| | SP 2024 | Introduction to Human Exceptionality |
- 2021 – 2023 **Research Foundation, SUNY, Albany NY**
Education Specialist: Field supervision of student teachers and interns in their general and special education practicum experiences
- 2019 – 2023 **University at Albany, SUNY, Albany NY**
Adjunct Instructor
- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|---|
| <u>Graduate:</u> | SU 2023 | Introduction to Human Exceptionality |
| | SU 2021 | Development in Childhood |
| <u>Undergraduate:</u> | SU 2023 (online) | Special Education for Students with Emotional and Behavioral Problems |
| | FA 2021 | Emotional and Behavioral Problems |
| | SP 2019 (online) | |

FA 2019

SP 2018

Local and International K-12

2020 – 2022	New Scotland Elementary School , Albany City School District, Albany NY Grade 4 (temporary leave), Grades K-5: building substitute
2018 – 2020	VIPKID , Beijing, China (online) English as a new language instruction (ages 3 – 13)
2018 – 2019	Interactive Strategies Approach , Altamont Elementary School, Altamont NY Grades K-1: Individual and small-group literacy instruction
2016 – 2017	Antofagasta International School , Antofagasta, Chile (International Baccalaureate) Grade 3: Students with mixed academic levels and English language proficiencies
2015 – 2016	West Hill Middle School , Albany City School District, Albany NY Grade 6: Science, Spanish, and Technology; Grades 6-8: Building Substitute

SCHOLARSHIP

Published

- Ellis-Robinson, T., Slusarz, E., **Haji-Georgi, M.**, Slichko, J., Mohammed, A., Terry, K., & Hazell, K. (2023). Collaborative action research with diverse stakeholders: Building the Disability Champions Mentoring Network. *Career Development and Transition for Exceptional Individuals*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/21651434231200176>
- Haji-Georgi, M.**, Xu, X., & Rosca, O. (2020). Academic conferencing in 2020: A virtual conference model. *Human Behavior and Emerging Technologies*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/hbe2.235>
- Haji-Georgi, M.**, Ellis-Robinson, T., & LaFave, M. (2023). Navigating HLPs as a coherent compass for teacher preparation. In A. Markelz (Ed.). *TED 2023 conference proceedings: Long Beach, California, 2023*. Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children. <https://tedcec.org/events/ted-conference/proceedings>
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In Preparation

- Haji-Georgi, M.** (in preparation). What happens when teachers practice daily lovingkindness meditation? Exploring the effects on teacher burnout, emotion regulation, and teacher-student interactions.
- Haji-Georgi, M.**, & Slusarz, E. (in preparation). Reliability of the Classroom Assessment Scoring System across diverse educational settings.
- Haji-Georgi, M.**, & Ellis-Robinson, T. (in preparation). Developing an assessment tool for measuring coherence in special education teacher preparation programs.
- Haji-Georgi, M.** & Ellis-Robinson, T. (in preparation). Validating the Coherence Assessment for Special Educator Preparation Programs (CASEPP).

INVITED TALKS

Panels

Elevating Student Voices: Virtual Panel of Students with Disabilities (Moderator), Academic Center for Equity and Inclusion - Inclusive Teaching Fellows, St. John's University, Queens NY. (2023, November 13).

Lectures

Adolescent Development and Trauma-Informed Understanding, Summer Youth Employment Program, Disability Champions Mentoring Network, Brooklyn NY (2023, August 9; 2021, July 23).

Workshops

Empowering College Students with Disabilities: A Virtual Case Study Workshop on Inclusive Pathways, Academic Center for Equity and Inclusion - Inclusive Teaching Fellows, St. John's University, Queens NY. (2023, November 13).

PRESENTATIONS

Haji-Georgi, M., Ellis-Robinson, T., & LaFave, M. (2023, November 1). *Navigating Critical Infusion of HLPs as a Coherent Compass for Teacher Preparation* [Conference session]. Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, Long Beach, CA, United States

Coles, J., **Haji-Georgi, M.**, Meyer, M., Slusarz, E. (2023, April 27). *The (Re)Search for Equity Symposium* [Panel and poster presentations]. UAlbany Showcase: Showcasing Student Excellence, Albany, NY, United States.

Haji-Georgi, M. (2023, March 2). *Lovingkindness Meditation: Impacts on Teacher Burnout, Emotion Regulation, and Classroom Interactions* [Poster presentation]. Council for Exceptional Children 2023 Annual Convention and Expo, Louisville, KY, United States.

Ellis-Robinson, T. Slusarz, E., **Haji-Georgi, M.** Slichko, J., Mohammed, A. Terry, K. (2022, November 3-4). *Disability champions mentoring network: Collaborative action research with diverse stakeholders* [Poster presentation] Annual International Division on Career Development and Transition (DCDT) Conference, Little Rock, AR, United States.

Haji-Georgi, M. (2022, March 11). *You [Don't] Need to Stop Caring*. Three Minute Thesis Competition, Final Round. Graduate School at the University at Albany, SUNY, Albany, NY, United States.

Ellis-Robinson, T. Hazell, K., Slusarz, E., **Haji-Georgi, M.**, Slichko, J. & Terry, K. (2022, January 16-19). *Disability Champions Mentoring Network: Building Relationships in Underserved Communities* [Poster presentation]. Annual conference of the Council for Exceptional Children, Orlando, FL, United States.

Haji-Georgi, M. (2021, May 14). *Disability Champions Mentoring Network: Project Overview* [Poster presentation]. Annual Educational Psychology and Methodology Poster Session at the University at Albany, SUNY (Virtual), Albany, NY, United States.

Haji-Georgi, M., & Belanger, S. (2020, November 17). *Review of the Teacher-Student Relationship Literature for Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders* [Conference session]. Teacher Educators for Children with Behavior Disorders (TECBD) Conference (Virtual), Tempe, AZ, United States

Haji-Georgi, M. (2020, May 8). *Managing a Research Lab: A "How-To" Presentation* [Poster and video presentation]. Annual Educational Psychology and Methodology Poster Session at the University at Albany, SUNY (Virtual), Albany, NY, United States.

AWARDS

May 2023	Thesis Grant Graduate Student Association, University at Albany, SUNY
April 2022	Quinlan Daly and C.T. Breslin Scholarship School of Education Awards and Scholarships, University at Albany, SUNY
February 2022	People's Choice Award 3 Minute Thesis, Graduate School at University at Albany, SUNY
May 2021	Dean's Excellence Award for Leadership and Service

April 2021 School of Education, University at Albany, SUNY
Judges' Choice Award
Data Visualization Competition, The National Institute of Statistical Sciences

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

2023 – Present **Communications Coordinator**
New York State Council for Exceptional Children

2021 – Present **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice Committee**
School of Education, University at Albany, SUNY

2021 – 2023 **Dean's Student Leadership Council**
School of Education, University at Albany, SUNY

2021 – 2023 **Leadership and Mentoring Sub-Committee**
New York State Council for Exceptional Children

2021 – 2022;
2019 – 2020 **Vice President** Recognized Graduate Student Organization, Educational Psychology
University at Albany, SUNY

2020 – 2021 **President**, Recognized Graduate Student Organization, Educational Psychology
University at Albany, SUNY

CERTIFICATIONS

- Classroom Assessment Scoring System, K-3 trained observer, *Teachstone*
- Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), *Oxford Seminars*
- Childhood Education Teacher Certificate (Grades 1-6), *New York State Department of Education*
- Early Childhood Education and Training Program, *New York State Office of Child and Family Services*