

**Zarrow Center for Learning Instruction**

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**Educational Experience**

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- Ph.D. University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK  
Educational Psychology, Special Education  
Dissertation: *Using the AIR Self-Determination Scale to Predict the Performance of Students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders*  
Doctoral Advisor: James E. Martin, Ph.D.
- M.Ed CUNY-College of Staten Island, Staten Island, NY, 2006  
College of Education, Special Education
- B.A. Shaw University, Raleigh, NC 27601  
College of Business, Public Administration  
Magna Cum Laude

**Honors**

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- 2012 Shaw University Alumni Spotlight  
2011 Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education Fall Convocation Speaker  
2011 College Board/NCORE Student Scholar (National Conference on Race and Ethnicity)  
2010 *President Elect*, National Black Caucus of Special Educators  
2010 Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society  
2010 Honorable Mention, OU Graduate Research and Performance Day  
2010 Biltmore Who's Who  
2009 National Scholars Honor Society  
2009 Golden Key Honor Society  
2009 Recognition, National Black Caucus of Special Educators

**Professional Employment**

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- 2012 – Present *Post Doctoral Research Fellow*, Zarrow Center for Learning Enrichment, University of Oklahoma  
  
Responsible for data collection, specific analysis and reporting for

- students with emotional and behavioral disorders; primarily in middle school grades. Sources of data include independent research and data from the TAGG – IES Grant. Currently working on producing manuscripts for the purpose of publication in field-related journals.
- 2012 – Present *Adjunct Course Instructor*, Educational Psychology, Special Education Program, University of Oklahoma  
This course covers theoretical approaches for behavior management, specific interventions, methods of documentation, and designing interventions for positive and supportive learning environments.
- 2011 – 2012 *Graduate Research Assistant*, Zarrow Center for Learning Enrichment, University of Oklahoma  
IES Grant - Transition Success Assessment (TAGG)- Data Entry
- 2011 – 2012 *Graduate Teaching Assistant*, Educational Psychology, Special Education, University of Oklahoma  
This course covers instruction for preservice teachers on administering individual behavior supports for students with disabilities. Key concepts of the course include increasing working knowledge of IDEA, ESEA, and NCLB, how RTI, PBIS, and ABA fit into these laws, and how to facilitate practical delivery in the classroom environment.
- 2010 – 2011 *Graduate Research Assistant*, Zarrow Center for Learning Enrichment, University of Oklahoma  
Development of a transition manual for the Oklahoma State Department of Education.
- 2010 – 2011 *Graduate Teaching Assistant*, Educational Psychology, Special Education, University of Oklahoma  
This course covers theoretical approaches for behavior management, specific interventions, methods of documentation, and designing interventions for positive and supportive learning environments.
- 2006 – 2008 *Self-Contained Classroom Teacher*, Brooklyn School for Collaborative Studies (PS 448), Brooklyn, NY  
Moderate to Severe Learning and Emotional and Behavioral Disabilities, grades six and seven, Humanities.
- 2004 – 2006 *Collaborative Team Teacher – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade*, Writing and Reading.  
*Science Teacher*, Ramone E. Bestance School (PS 396), Brooklyn, NY  
Severe Emotional and Behavioral Disorders, K-5.  
*Teacher Trainer – District 75 Special Education Office*

### **Editorial Board Responsibilities**

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- 2010 *Editorial Assistant*, Journal of Post-Secondary Education and Disability (JPED)
- 2009 *Editorial Assistant*, Journal of Post-Secondary Education and Disability (JPED)

## **Educational Service**

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2011	<i>Guest Reviewer, Contemporary Educational Psychology</i>
2010	<i>Facilitator, Oklahoma Transition Institute</i>
2010	<i>Facilitator, National Secondary Transition and Technical Assistance Center</i>
2010	<i>Treasurer/Vice President, Educational Psychology Graduate Organization</i>
2010	<i>Guest Reviewer, Journal for Post-Secondary Education and Disability</i>
2009	<i>Treasurer, Educational Psychology Graduate Organization</i>
2009	<i>Guest Reviewer, Journal for Post-Secondary Education and Disability</i>
2009	<i>Planning Committee Member, North Dakota Study Group</i>
2009	<i>Facilitator, Oklahoma Transition Institute</i>
2008	<i>Reviewer, Eastside Community School Portfolio Assessment</i>
2008	<i>Presenter, IEP Clinic for NY State Standards</i>
2007	<i>Presenter, IEP Promotion Policies and Modification Criteria</i>
2007	<i>Delegate, National Expeditionary Learning and Outward Bound Conference</i>

## **Fellowships and Scholarships**

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2011 – 2012	Sandra L. O'Brien Special Education Endowed Scholarship R. Steven Hsu Special Education Endowed Scholarship
2010 – 2011	Sandra L. O'Brien Special Education Endowed Scholarship Sooner Heritage Scholarship
2008 – 2009	Sooner Scholar Fellowship, Zarrow Center for Learning Enrichment, University of Oklahoma
2009 – 2010	Sooner Heritage Scholarship
2008 – 2009	Sooner Heritage Scholarship

## **Courses Taught**

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*The University of Oklahoma*

EDSP 3054	Understanding and Accommodating Students with Exceptionalities
EDSP 4043	Behavior Management
EDSP 4083	Individual Behavior Supports
EDSP 4413	Behavior Management

## **Peer Reviewed Journal Articles**

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- Herron, D. M., & Martin, J.E. (submitted). *Using self-determination scores to predict school engagement of middle school students with behavioral disorders.*
- Herron, D. M., Haring, K., & Brandes, J. (in preparation). *Including the culture of disability in multicultural education.*

## Research Activities

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- 2011 – present Transition Success Assessment – (TAGG) Multi-state grant gathering data on transition assessment for secondary students with disabilities.
- 2010 – 2011 Single-subject multiple-baseline study investigating the impact of targeted classroom interventions such as verbal praise and motivating statements by teachers, as well as highly engaging activities on the reduction of disruptive classroom behaviors.
- 2009 – 2010 Phenomenological case study investigating the perceptions of the value and prevalence of self-advocacy and disability awareness instruction for students with disabilities from members of the IEP team, including parents, teachers, and administrators.
- 2009 – 2010 Self-awareness and self-advocacy survey study examining the awareness and use of self-awareness and self-advocacy curricula in schools around the state of Oklahoma.
- 2008 – 2009 Alternating treatment group design study investigating the effect of mp3 players on the ability of students in two area schools to learn spelling words versus traditional teaching methods.

## Professional Presentations

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### *National/International*

#### *2011*

- Dempsey, M. Saving our students: *Using a self-determination assessment to predict the performance of middle school students with emotional and behavioral disorders*. Division on Career Development and Transition International Conference; October 2011; Kansas City, KS.
- Trainor, A., & Dempsey, M. Case studies in diversity and transition: Reflective practices for responsive planning and education. Division on Career Development and Transition International Conference; October 2011; Kansas City, KS.

#### *2010*

- Trainor, A., & Dempsey, M. *Community conversation on diversity and equity*. Division on Career Development and Transition Regional Conference; October 2010; Groton, CT.
- Cantley, P., McConnell, A., Little, K., Martin, J., & Dempsey, M. *Perceptions of self-awareness and self-advocacy and the Me! lessons*. CEC Convention and Expo; April 2010; Nashville, TN.
- Dempsey, M., *United we stand: Creating inclusive classroom cultures*. CEC Convention and Expo; April 2010; Nashville, TN.
- Strieb, L., Weber, E., & Dempsey, M. *The importance of play*. North Dakota Study Group; February 2010; Mundelein, IL.

2009

Dempsey, M. *What is an expedition: Classroom examples of expeditionary learning through understanding Ancient Rome*. Black Caucus, CEC Convention and Expo; April 2009; Seattle, WA.

Wissick, C.; Gardner, J.E., & Dempsey, M. *Implementing universal design for learning and differentiated instruction with free web tools*. CEC Convention and Expo; April 2009; Seattle, WA.

Dempsey, M. *What is self-determination: A comparative analysis of definitions and how they apply to students*. North Dakota Study Group; February 2009; Lake Mundelein, IL.

Dempsey, M. *Social justice from a new teacher's perspective*. North Dakota Study Group; February 2009; Woodstock, IL.

### ***Regional/State***

2012

Herron, D. M. *Uniquely Me*. Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma Middle School Event; February 2012; Norman, OK.

2010

Dempsey, M., McConnell, A., & Little, K. *5<sup>th</sup> Annual Oklahoma Transition Institute Facilitator Training*. OTI; September 2010; Norman, OK.

Dempsey, M., & Stormer, K. *A new spin on reading comprehension*. Oklahoma Technology Association; February 2010; Oklahoma City, OK.

Gardner, J., Dempsey, M., & Hayes, T. *Universal design for learning & technology tools: supporting students with mild disabilities*. Oklahoma Council for Exceptional Children; February 2010; Midwest City, OK.

Dempsey, M. *A foundation for motivation: Helping students make an increased investment in academics*. Oklahoma Council for Exceptional Children; February 2010; Midwest City, OK.

2009

Dempsey, M. *SMARTBoards: What are they good for?* Oklahoma Technology Association; February 2009; Oklahoma City, OK.

Gardner, J.E., & Dempsey, M. *Using universal design for learning and technology*. Oklahoma Federation of the Council for Exceptional Children; February 2009; Midwest City, OK.

## ***University Lectures***

2009

Dempsey, M. *Emotional behavioral disorders*. Guest Lecturer, University of Oklahoma; November 11, 2009; Norman, OK.

Dempsey, M., (2009) *Universal design for learning and instruction*. Guest Lecturer, University of Oklahoma; June 6, 2009; Norman, OK.

Dempsey, M. *Student manifestations of self-determination and the portfolio process*. Guest Lecturer, University of Oklahoma; February 17, 2009; Norman, OK.

Dempsey, M. *Universal design for learning and instruction*. Guest Lecturer, University of Oklahoma; February 17, 2009; Norman, OK.

## ***Professional Development Workshops***

2008

Dempsey, M. *Using SMARTBoards to increase student engagement*. Educator workshop, Brooklyn School for Collaborative Studies; May 2008; Brooklyn, NY.

2007

Dempsey, M. *The use of differentiation and technology within mixed ability and homogeneous special education classrooms*. Educator workshop, Brooklyn School for Collaborative Studies; May 2007; Brooklyn, NY.

Dempsey, M. NY State mandates for correctly writing IEP's and proper promotion procedures. Educator workshop, Brooklyn School for Collaborative Studies; April 2007; Brooklyn, NY.

2006

Dempsey, M. *Using science in the self-contained classroom to promote inquiry*. New York City Special Education District; March 2006; New York City, NY.

Dempsey, M. *Understanding the use of science for students with multiple disabilities*. Educator workshop, Ramone E. Bestance School; April 2006; Brooklyn, NY.

Dempsey, M., *Inquiry and beyond*. New York City Special Education District; April 2005; New York City, NY.

## **Membership in Professional Associations**

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Girls Scouts of Western Oklahoma

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)

Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders (CCBD)

Division for the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Exceptional Learner (DDEL)

Division for Career Development and Transition (DCDT)

North Dakota Study Group

National Black Caucus of Special Educators

Golden Key National Honor Society

National Scholars Honor Society

Biltmore Who's Who

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society