

CURRICULUM VITAE

NORA F. MURPHY

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Interests

Providing research, program evaluation, data management and professional development for educational, not-for-profit, private and public organizations

Education

M.A. Research Methodology, School of Education, Department of Psychology in Education, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, 2005
GPA 4.0/4.0

B.A. Major: Studies in Education, Minor: Biology, Earlham College, Richmond, IN, 1996
GPA 3.9/4.0

Current Employment

Dec 2006- **Director of Assessment and Evaluation, Perspectives Charter Schools,**
present **Chicago, IL**
Oversee the ongoing evaluation of student learning, school culture and teacher quality; Conduct extensive analysis of internally and externally generated quantitative and qualitative data to help inform strategic and professional development plans; Collaborate with leadership to identify program outcomes and measure and evaluate student learning; Share formative and summative data both internally and externally; Provide professional development for key stakeholders

Consultant Activities

- Dec 2004-
Dec 2007 **Evaluation Consultant, PI: Dr. Catherine Nelson,
Rochelle Lee Fund, Chicago, IL**
Work with the principal investigator to generate formative and summative evaluative feedback by: developing rubrics, performing classroom observations, analyzing qualitative data generated through observations and interviews, analyzing survey data using SPSS and creating power point presentations or written summaries of critical findings.
- Nov 2006 **Research Assistant, High School Reform Literature Review, Lead
Researchers: Dr. Bill Bickel, Dr. Catherine Nelson, and Dr. Jennifer Iriti
Pittsburgh Public School District, Pittsburgh, PA**
Work with lead researchers to: review academic and program evaluation studies relevant to urban high school reform, develop profiles of district-level high school reform strategies in comparable and/or best practice urban districts and synthesize information on design elements of interest to Pittsburgh's high school re-design team.
- January 2006-
Sept 2006 **Study Manager, Pearson Education,**
Manage a teacher-randomized control study, with baseline and post treatment assessment, designed to assess effect on student achievement, inform design improvements, and best practice methods. Duties include site research and recruitment, proposal writing, creation of training materials and data management.
- May-
August 2005 **Research Assistant, PI: Dr. Willa Doswell,
University of Pittsburgh, School of Nursing**
Examined the difference between sexual behavior intentions, peer and family attitudes towards sexual behavior and actual engagement in sexual behavior in control and intervention groups of middle school African American girls.
- May 2003-
January 2004 **Consultant, Youth Standards Project, Community Quality
Institute, Pittsburgh, PA**
Evaluated programs serving youth ages 12-18 using quality standards, observations, interviews and document analysis; reported results and formative and summative recommendations to lead consultant

Dec. 2003- **Data Manager, Pearson Education,**
Dec 2005 Developed the coding schemes, trained and supervised data input specialists, maintained quality control of data sets and met data analysis requests as needed.

Employment History

Spring 2005 **Instructor, Department Psychology in Education, Applied Developmental Psychology, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA.**

Lead instructor for undergraduate Qualitative Research Methods and Practice course (PSYED 1007)
The purpose of this course was to develop methods that are particularly useful for professional work in psychology and education at the intersection of research and practice, with emphasis on purposes of research, observation and interview techniques and communication.

Spring 2003- **Graduate Student Researcher, Impact of the PA System of School**
May 2005 **Assessment (PSSA), PI: Dr. Suzanne Lane, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA**

The PSSA Impact Project's aim was to look at the impact of the state assessment on instruction and student learning. Qualitative research duties included helping to develop coding schemes for the assessment of teacher instruction and assessment activities, as well as responses to open ended survey items; Quantitative research duties include statistical analysis of data; assisting in the writing of research reports; managing databases; supervising activities of other graduate student researchers on the project

2000-2003 **Regional Program Manager, Student Conservation Association, Pittsburgh, PA**

Designed, marketed and implemented all aspects of an outdoor service learning program for urban high school students including developing program partners and managing the budget; recruited and trained participants, targeting urban youth of color; trained and supervised a staff of up to 26 people with a focus on cultural sensitivity, conflict resolution, risk management and technical skills development; developed a curriculum focusing on leadership, life skills, outdoor skills, career exploration and environmental education; created assessment tools, evaluated and reported the necessary

qualitative and quantitative data to the organization, funders and program partners

- 1999- 2000 **Education Program Coordinator, Student Conservation Association, Hawley, MA**
Designed and implemented environmental education aspects of an AmeriCorps outdoor service learning program including developing program partners, training 20 program members on environmental education and cultural sensitivity; developed a curriculum with members to be used with student in grades K-12, focusing on ecology, botany, environmental awareness, leadership and outdoor skills; created assessment tools, evaluated and reported the necessary qualitative and quantitative data to the organization, funders and program partners
- 1997 - 1999 **High School and Middle School Math and Science Teacher and Advisor, Parkmont School, Washington, DC**
Developed engaging lessons, managed behavior, graded papers and wrote reports for at-risk students grades 7 through 12 at an independent alternative school; participated in the development of Individualized Education Plans for LD and SED students; organized and lead two week camping trips for New England Ecology and Coastal Ecology Classes; acted as an advisor and mentor to students on both academic, personal and behavioral topics
- 1996 - 1997 **Math Teacher, Thayer High School, Winchester, NH**
Successfully taught Algebra I and II to an underprivileged group of students in a rural school; founded, fundraised and led trips for a school outing club, founded school math club; acted as an academic advisor to students struggling with their courses

Professional Organizations

American Educational Research Association
American Evaluation Association

Honors and Awards

Excellence Award for Innovation, Student Conservation Association, 2001
Phi Beta Kappa, Academic Honors Society, 1996
College Honors, Earlham College, 1996
Departmental Honors, Earlham College, 1996
Student Athlete Award, North Coast Atlantic Conference, 1996

Computer Packages

SPSS, MS Access, MS Excel, MS Word, MS PowerPoint

Advanced Coursework

Masters Level Classes

Experimental Design	PSYED 2030
Constructing Achievement and Ability Tests	PSYED 2073
Applied Regression Analysis	PSYED 2410
Data Analysis Using Computer Packages (SPSS & SAS)	PSYED 2422
ANOVA	PSYED 2016

Doctoral Level Classes

Constructing Questionnaires and Conducting Surveys	PSYED 3471
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