

**Dr. Sarah Thompson**

Email Address | Phone Number | LinkedIn Profile | Institution's Website

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**Education**

**Doctor of Education (EdD) in Educational Leadership**

Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale, IL.

*Expected May 2025*

- Dissertation: *"Transformative Leadership in Urban Schools: Addressing Inequities through Policy and Practice"*
- Committee Chair: Dr. Nicole Mueller

**Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Curriculum and Instruction**

University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, Champaign, Illinois

*June 2019*

- Thesis: *"Culturally Responsive Teaching in K-12 Classrooms: Best Practices for Inclusive Education"*

**Bachelor of Arts in Education**

University of North Texas, Denton, Texas

*June 2011*

- Major: Education
  - Minor: Educational Psychology
  - Graduated Summa Cum Laude
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**Research Interests**

- Educational Leadership and Policy
  - Culturally Responsive Pedagogy
  - Equity in Education
  - Teacher Professional Development
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**Teaching Experience**

**Adjunct Instructor**

School of Education, Southern Illinois University

*January 2023 – Present*

- **Course:** *Introduction to Educational Leadership (Graduate Level)*
  - Design and deliver an interactive curriculum focusing on leadership theories and applications in K-12 settings
  - Supervise and mentor 15 graduate students conducting action research projects on school leadership practices
  - Utilize case studies and collaborative learning to enhance student engagement

- **Course:** *Equity and Diversity in Education (Undergraduate Level)*
  - Lead discussions on systemic inequalities and strategies for creating inclusive classrooms
  - Develop assessment materials, including reflective journals, group presentations, and final papers

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

School of Education, SIU

*September 2021 – December 2022*

- Assisted with course delivery for *Educational Research Methods* by conducting tutorials and review sessions for 30 students
  - Provided feedback on research proposals and final projects, emphasizing qualitative and quantitative research methodologies
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**Research Experience**

**Graduate Researcher**

Center for Equity and Social Justice in Education

Southern Illinois University

*October 2021 – Present*

- Collaborate on a longitudinal study of 60 students examining the effectiveness of mentorship programs for first-generation college students in urban districts
- Utilize qualitative methods, including interviews and focus groups, to assess the impact of leadership practices on school climate
- Co-authored a forthcoming paper: "*Mentorship as a Catalyst for Success: A Case Study of Urban High Schools*"

**Research Assistant**

University of North Texas

*September 2016 – June 2017*

- Contributed to a nationwide analysis of professional development programs aimed at improving teacher retention in underserved communities
- Conducted data collection and statistical analysis using SPSS, presenting findings at the [Annual Conference on Educational Leadership]

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## Professional Experience

### Assistant Principal

Merton High School, Highland, Maryland

August 2019 – August 2021

- Led a team of 50 teachers in the implementation of a school-wide literacy initiative, resulting in a 15% increase in reading comprehension scores
- Organized professional development workshops focused on culturally responsive teaching and inclusive classroom practices
- Fostered partnerships with community organizations to support after-school programs for at-risk youth

### Instructional Coach

Alexandria Middle School, Champaign, Illinois

July 2017 – July 2019

- Mentored 20 teachers, providing feedback on lesson planning and instructional strategies to improve student engagement and achievement
- Facilitated data-driven discussions with teaching teams to assess student progress and tailor interventions for struggling learners

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## Publications & Presentations

- **Thompson, S.** (2023). *"Equity in Education: The Role of School Leadership in Promoting Inclusive Practices."* *Journal of Educational Leadership*, 12(1), 45-60.
- **Thompson, S., & [Co-Author].** (2022). *"Culturally Responsive Teaching: Challenges and Opportunities in Urban Schools."* Presented at the *Annual Conference on Equity in Education*, [City, Country].
- **Thompson, S.** (2021). *"Mentorship as a Tool for Teacher Retention in Underserved Communities."* *Educational Leadership Review*, 10(3), 25-38.

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## Awards & Fellowships

Doctoral Research Fellowship, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

2021 – 2024

Teaching Excellence Award, U of I Urbana-Champaign

2023

First-Generation Student Support Fellowship, University of North Texas

2017

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**Professional Development**

- Leadership in Equity and Inclusion Training, [Organization Name] 2022
- Advanced Qualitative Research Methods Workshop, [University Name] 2021
- K-12 School Leadership Certificate, [University Name] 2018

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**Professional Memberships**

- American Educational Research Association (AERA)
- Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD)
- National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)

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**References**

Dr. [Full Name]  
Professor of Educational Leadership  
[University Name]  
[Email Address] | [Phone Number]

Dr. [Full Name]  
Director of Research  
[National Education Policy Institute]  
[Email Address] | [Phone Number]

This format is highly customizable depending on specific experiences, achievements, and institutional requirements. Each section can be expanded or condensed as needed.