

TAJA R. YOUNG, Ph.D. Candidate

University at Albany—SUNY
Writing and Critical Inquiry
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EDUCATION

May 2024 (expected) **Ph.D.**, Educational Psychology & Methodology
University at Albany—SUNY, Albany, NY
Expected graduation date of May 2023

Dissertation: *An Exploration of Student Empowerment, Academic Identification, and Stereotype Threat: The Black Male College Student Experience.*

Doctoral Mentor: Heidi L. Andrade, Ed. D.

July 2014 **M.S.**, Educational Psychology & Methodology
Graduated *summa cum laude*
Organization of American States (OAS) Scholar
University at Albany—SUNY, Albany, NY

Master's Research Project: *The efficacy of technology for teaching phonological awareness (PA) to Preschoolers*

December 2006 **B.A.**, Psychology
Graduated *summa cum laude*
Lee University, Cleveland, TN

EXPERIENCE

2019 – present **Lecturer**, Writing and Critical Inquiry, University at Albany—SUNY, Albany, NY

2021 – present **Instructor**, Educational Psychology & Methodology, University at Albany—SUNY, Albany, NY

2018 – present **Graduate Assistant**, Educational Psychology & Methodology, University at Albany—SUNY, Albany, NY

2018 – present **Research Apprenticeship**, Educational Psychology & Methodology, University at Albany—SUNY, Albany, NY

Fall 2018 – Spring 2019. Assisted Dr. Heidi Andrade in conducting literature review of students’ self-assessment practices by systemically searching for, reviewing, summarizing, and organizing relevant peer-reviewed articles.

Fall 2018 – Spring 2019. Assisted editors of the *Handbook of Formative Assessment* (Andrade, Bennett, & Cizek, 2019) by editing chapter manuscripts according to APA guidelines.

Fall 2019 – Spring 2020. Research Lab led by Dr. Tammy Ellis-Robinson: Focused on validating a rubric that measures levels of reflective writing/thinking of pre-service teachers and establishing interrater reliability by pairing qualitative content analysis with quantitative scores.

Fall 2019 – Spring 2020. Conducted qualitative analysis of open-ended survey items measuring pre-service teachers’ perceptions of reflective practice.

Fall 2019 – Spring 2020. Conducted qualitative content analysis of a sample of reflective journals completed by pre-service teachers in a masters’ level course to determine levels of reflective thinking skills. A rubric was applied to yield quantitative scores.

Fall 2020 – Present

Research with Dr. Tammy Ellis-Robinson and Dr. Kimberly Colvin: Conducted qualitative and quantitative analyses of data from surveys and interviews measuring experiences of K-12 special education teachers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- October 2020 **Data Analyst**, American Mathematical Association (AMA), Washington, DC
Quantitative and qualitative analyses of closed- and open-ended survey items intended to measure perceptions of racism in mathematics.
- 2014 - 2018 **School Social Worker**, Ministry of Education
Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- 2012 – 2013 **Research Officer**, Public Sector Reform Unit (PSRU), Ministry of the Public Service
Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- 2009 - 2012 **Administrative Officer and Secretary** to the National Accreditation Board, Ministry of Education
Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

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- 2008 - 2009 **Administrative Officer and Secretary** to the National Career Fair Committee, Ministry of Education
Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- 2008 - 2015 **Course Facilitator**, Miami International Seminary (MINTS-SVG)
Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- 2007 - 2008 **Case Planner**, Catholic Guardian Society and Home Bureau
New York, NY
- 2001 - 2002 **Teacher**, Carmel High School
Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

PUBLICATIONS

Colvin, K. F., Ellis-Robinson, T., & **Young, T. R.** (in press). Delivery of special education services during COVID-19 remote instruction. *Journal of the American Academy of Special Education Professionals*.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Ellis-Robinson, T., Colvin, K. F., & **Young, T. R.** Experiences of special educators during COVID-19 remote instruction. To be submitted to *Teacher Education and Special Education*.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Young, T. R. (2022, May). *Student empowerment, academic identification, and stereotype threat: The black male college student experience*. Poster presented at the 21st Annual Educational Psychology & Methodology Poster Session, University at Albany—SUNY, Albany, NY.

Colvin, K. F., Ellis-Robinson, T., & **Young, T. R.** (2021, May). *Delivery of special education services during COVID-19 remote instruction – The home-school connection*. Poster presented at the 20th Annual Educational Psychology & Methodology Poster Session, University at Albany—SUNY, Albany, NY.

Colvin, K. F., Ellis-Robinson, T., & **Young, T.R.** (2021, April). *Delivery of special education services during COVID-19 remote instruction: Innovations & challenges*. A paper presented at the 2021 Virtual American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting.

Ellis-Robinson, T. & **Young, T. R.** (2020, May). *Perceptions of reflective thinking skills among preservice teachers*. Poster presented at the 19th Annual Educational Psychology & Methodology Poster Session, University at Albany—SUNY, Albany, NY.

TEACHING

Undergraduate Courses Taught, University at Albany

UUNI 110 – Writing and Critical Inquiry (F23)

EPSY 224 – Lifespan Development (F21, S22, S23)

EPSY 440 – Introduction to Assessment & Measurement (S21, S23)

EPSY 481 – Research Project in Human Development (F22)

SERVICE

Founder & President, World Changers International Foundation, SVG INC., St. Vincent and the Grenadines, 2020 - Present

Member, Student Leadership Council, School of Education, University at Albany—SUNY, 2019 – Present

Mentor, Touhey Family Fellowship Program, School of Education, University at Albany—SUNY, 2019 – 2020

Member, Future Faculty Leadership Council (FFLC), Institute for Teaching, Learning, and Academic Leadership (ITLAL), University at Albany—SUNY, 2019 – 2020

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, and AWARDS

2018 - present Graduate Assistantship, University at Albany—SUNY

2022 Ralph W. Harbison Fellowship, School of Education, University at Albany—SUNY

2021 Dr. Ralph B. Kenney Endowment, School of Education, University at Albany—SUNY

2020 Alice Clark Long Scholarship, School of Education, University at Albany—SUNY

2013 - 2014 Dean's List with Honors, University at Albany—SUNY

2013 - 2014 Organization of American States (OAS) Scholar, the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines

2004 - 2006 Honor Scholar, Lee University

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2004 - 2006 Dean's List with Honors, Lee University

2005 - 2006 Hick's Scholars Program, Lee University

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2020 – present *American Educational Research Association (AERA)*

2006 - present *Psi Chi Psychology Honor Society*