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EDUCATION

Ed.D. English Education, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
M.Ed. Reading, Rutgers University
B.A. English, Clark University, Worcester, MA, magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa

Teaching and Testing Experience

Winston Preparatory School, New York, NY 2008-present

Focus Teacher. Individualized clinical teaching based on diagnostic profiles of elementary, middle and upper school learning disabled students. Report writing, comprehensive testing. Parent/student consultations. In house professional development, research based instruction.

MARYMOUNT MANHATTAN COLLEGE, New York, NY 1999 – 2008

Assistant/Acting Director, Program for Academic Access for learning disabled college students. Individual and group instruction; educational screening of referred students; advocacy with faculty, supervision of learning specialists. Accommodations. Parent /student consultations. Policy development, admission to program, workshops on learning disabilities for faculty.

SUNY COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY, New York, NY

1989 – 1999

Learning Disabilities Specialist, Learning Disabilities Unit. Individual and small group remediation for learning-disabled clients, all ages, in reading, writing, listening, study skills. Specialization in adolescent and college students. Parent advisement and conferences. Testing and evaluation of progress. Annual in house training in current clinical teaching techniques.

LONG ISLAND JEWISH MEDICAL CENTER, New Hyde Park, Long Island

1988 – 1989

Senior Learning Diagnostician. Diagnostic testing and reporting in reading, language, writing, mathematics for all ages. Coordination of diagnosis in team conferences with testing psychologists and speech and language professionals. Individual remediation, all ages.

THE LEWIS SCHOOL AND CLINIC FOR EDUCATIONAL THERAPY, Princeton, NJ

1984 – 1989

Reading and Study Skills Specialist. Testing, group and tutorial reading and study skills instruction for primarily dyslexic students. Academic advisement, educational counseling. Director of college preparatory program for Upper School. In-house training, multisensory teaching, decoding and encoding systems.

PRIVATE TUTORIAL PRACTICE

1984 – Present

Developmental, remedial reading, writing, educational testing, diagnostic testing with licensed psychologist, study skills instruction for school age through adult students. Specialization in adolescent and college students. SAT coaching. College preparation, selection and application consultation for learning disabled high school students. ADD coaching.

TEACHING PROFICIENCIES

Developmental and Remedial Reading

My teaching approach is geared toward activating and elaborating the cognitive processes necessary for independent comprehension. In tutorial recitation, the student is guided to understand as well as remember what he reads by verbalizing the structure and logic of written discourses. Visualization, at first encouraged in listening exercises, and then applied to reading, enhances recall and efficiency. Writing in a variety of patterns facilitates the recognition of the same structures in texts. Intensive tutorial work at all developmental levels has refined my informal diagnostic abilities and equipped me with a wide range of materials and methods.

Developmental and Remedial Writing/Composition

Studies at Rutgers University involved the investigation of developmental sequence in writing, the kind of instructions which elicit higher verbal performance, and the role of expressive writing in the development of analytic skills. Experience as a professional writer in journalistic and literary modes enriches my teaching strategies.

WORKSHOPS, TALKS, AND CONSULTING

Using Alternative Phonics Systems For Specific Decoding Difficulties, Workshop for Faculty, Winston Preparatory School, March, 2011. Application of strategies drawn from Alphabetic Phonics, Glass Analysis, and Lindamood Bell to problems in retention, blending, and sequencing.

Remembering What You Read, Improving Your Writing Style, Workshops for Program For Academic Access students open to all MMC students, fall and spring, 2000-2008.

Director, Teen Conference, N.Y. Branch of Orton Dyslexia Society Annual Conference, March 2002. Program plan, study skills workshop, information packets on study strategies and college selection process for learning-disabled students and their parents.

Attention Deficit Disorder, Diagnosis, Impact on Learning, Classroom Solutions, Student Responsibility, talk delivered to faculty, Marymount Manhattan College, January 2000

The Special Challenge of the Freshman Year for the Learning Disabled Student, talk and college student panel, New York Branch of Orton Dyslexia Society Annual Conference, March 2000

Helpful Classroom Strategies for Learning Disabled Students, talk to members DSNY, October 2000

What is a Learning Disability? talk delivered to faculty, Marymount Manhattan College, January 1999

Study Skills Workshop, Teen Conference. Twenty-second Annual Conference, the New York Branch of the Orton Dyslexia Society, March 1995

PUBLICATIONS AND AWARDS

Paradis and Siminoff, *Tackling College Admissions*, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc. 2008. Chapter on college admissions for learning disabled students.

The Able and Disabled Reader, Journal of New York Metropolitan Developmental Education (December 1999, Vol. 1, No. 1).

Poems have been published in *The Massachusetts Review*, *Prairie Schooner*, and in an anthology of Italian-American writers, *The Dream Book*, edited by Helen Barolini. The anthology was a winner of *The American Book Award* and was published in paperback in spring 2001 by Syracuse University Press.

Poetry Fellowship Recipient, New Jersey State Council on the Arts; 1981, 1984

Poetry Scholarship Recipient, Bread Loaf Writers Conference, 1980

CERTIFICATION AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

Reading Teacher, New York, Permanent

Completion of Teacher Excellence and Leadership Development Program, Winston Preparatory School, Spring, 2015. Year-long course with readings and discussions in current research on learning disabilities and research-based teaching methods. Final clinical teaching method assessment led by Winston leadership team.

ADD Coach Training Curriculum, American Coaching Association, Susan Sussman, M.Ed., Coach Trainer, Lafayette Hill, Pa. 2004, 2005

Diagnostic Conference, All Kinds of Minds and The School of Medicine of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, *Clinical Assessment and Management of Differences in Learning*, April 6 – 9, 2003, 19 CEU

