

SERENE KOH

610, East University Avenue, Rm 3118 • Ann Arbor, MI 48109 • serenek@umich.edu • (734) 846-7997
<http://www.umich.edu/~serenek>

EDUCATION

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan
Doctoral Student, School of Education (Degree expected Summer 2010)

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan
Masters of Arts, School of Education Dec 2004
Concentration in Educational Foundations/Policy and Research Methodology

Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.
Postgraduate Diploma in Education May 2000
Specialization in Teaching of English Literature and Teaching of Upper Secondary History

National University of Singapore, Singapore May 1999
Bachelor of Arts Degree in English Literature (Honors)
Majors in English Literature and European Studies

AWARDS

Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant (Candidate), Horace R. Rackham School of Graduate Studies, University of Michigan (2008)

David L. Angus International Research Travel Award, School of Education, University of Michigan (2008)

Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant (Pre-candidate), Horace R. Rackham School of Graduate Studies, University of Michigan (2007)

School of Education Masters Fellowship, School of Education, University of Michigan (2003)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed

Neuman, S.B., Koh, S., and Dwyer, J. (2008). Child/ Home Early Language and Literacy Observation (CHELLO). *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*. 23 (2), 159-172.

Koh, S. & Neuman, S.B. (2008). Professional Development in Home-based Care: A Practice-based Approach *Early Education and Development*. (publication pending, June 2009)

Research Instrument

Neuman, S.B., Dwyer J., and Koh, S. (2007). *Child/ Home Early Language and Literacy Observation (CHELLO)*. Boston, MA: Brookes Publishing.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Associate, School of Education, University of Michigan Oct 2005- Present

- Worked on research project grant-sponsored by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and Public Broadcasting Service and directed by Prof. Susan Neuman- "Project Ready To Learn"
- Responsible for research into effective pedagogical practices for disadvantaged children.
- Developed research-based literacy curriculum targeted at children from high-poverty school districts.

Writer, National Center for Children in Poverty, Columbia University

Jun 2006- Oct 2006

- Prepared literature reviews on early child care quality.
- Consolidated published research into policy briefs on the quality of child care in the United States.

Research Associate, School of Education, University of Michigan

Aug 2004 - Aug 2007

- Worked on a federally-funded project directed by Prof. Susan Neuman- "Project Great Start- Professional Development Initiative". The project aims to study the effects of teacher knowledge on teacher quality, and how that relates to child outcomes.
- Responsible for research into quality teaching in early childhood settings, particularly in disadvantaged areas.
- In conjunction with four Michigan community colleges (Lansing Community College, Mott Community College, Grand Rapids Community College and Schoolcraft Community College), created a core knowledge base for early childhood professionalism.
- Developed pilot assessment of early childhood professional knowledge, *Center/Home Early Language and Literacy Observation*, which is pending acceptance for publication and for presentation at the American Education Research Association Annual Meeting 2006.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Student Teaching Assistant, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan

June 2008 and June 2009

- Assisted Prof. Valerie Lee in the instruction of SurvMeth 988: Multi-Level Analysis of Survey Data (HLM), an advanced level course in quantitative research methods.
- Responsible for conducting lab sessions, consultation and grading of all assignments.

Graduate Student Assistant, School of Education, University of Michigan

Aug 2006- Oct 2006

- Helped coordinate a doctoral level professional development seminar with Prof. Roger Goddard.
- Assisted in the formulation of the course schedule and content.

Instructor, School of Education, University of Michigan

Sep 2005- Dec 2005

- Independent instructor for the course ED 392: Education in a Multicultural Society, a required undergraduate Education course on the history and politics of the American education system.
- Designed the syllabus, reading list and related teaching materials.
- Responsible for all lectures, discussion and grading of assignments.

Graduate Student Teaching Assistant, School of Education, University of Michigan

Jan 2005- May 2005

- Assisted Prof. Gary Fenstermacher in the instruction of ED 392: Education in a Multicultural Society, a required undergraduate Education course on the history and politics of the American education system.
- Was responsible for leading two discussion sections.
- Was responsible for the grading of all assignments and projects.

Teaching Associate, Child Development Center, University of Michigan

Sep 2003- Sep 2004

- Worked with preschool children (2½ years- 5 years old) on developing early literacy and math skills.
- Helped sustain a play-centered environment that encouraged cognitive and socio-emotional development.

Teacher, Catholic Junior College, Singapore.

May 2000 – Jun 2003

- Designed the syllabus, lectured and tutored students in the College for the following subjects: General Paper & English Literature
- Imparted essential writing skills in order to prepare students (17- 18 year olds) for presenting cogent and insightful arguments.
- Incorporated critical and creative thinking skills in lessons to enable students to engage in non-textbook based, higher-order learning.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- Koh, S. (2008). The World of Words: A Theoretical Rationale. *Presented at the National Reading Conference Annual Meeting, December 2-4, 2007, Orlando, Florida. Presented in symposium The World of Words: A Vocabulary Intervention for At-risk Early Literacy Learners. (Chair, Susan Neuman)*
- Koh, S. (2008). Project Great Start Professional Development Initiative: A Practice-based Approach to Professional Development. *Presented at the National Reading Conference Annual Meeting, December 2-4, 2007, Orlando, Florida. Presented in symposium Improving Teacher Knowledge, Teacher Practice, and Child Outcomes in Early Childhood Settings. (Chair, Susan Neuman)*
- Dwyer J. & Koh, S. (2007). The World of Words: The Impact of an Embedded Multimedia Vocabulary Intervention for At-Risk Early Literacy Learners. *Presented at the National Reading Conference Annual Meeting, November 26-27, 2007, Austin, Texas.*
- Koh, S. (2007). Closing the Gap: Professional Development in Home-based vs. Center-based Care. *Presented at American Education Research Association Annual Meeting April 9-13, 2007, Chicago, Illinois. Presented in symposium Improving Teacher Knowledge, Teacher Practice, and Child Outcomes in Early Childhood Settings. (Chair, Susan Neuman)*
- Koh, S. (2007). Child/ Home Early Language and Literacy Observation (CHELLO): An Observation Protocol. *Presented at the National Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Meeting November 7-10, 2006, Atlanta, Georgia.*
- Koh, S. (2006). Re-thinking “a highly qualified teacher: A Multilevel Analysis of Teacher Quality in the Context of Institutional Social Disadvantage. *Presented at American Education Research Association Annual Meeting April 7-11, 2006, San Francisco, California.*

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION

American Educational Research Association

July 2005- Present