

Kara K. Woodley, Ed.D.

Education

Texas A&M University, 2023

Ed.D. - Curriculum and Instruction

University of Texas at Austin, 2005

M.Ed. - Multicultural Special Education - Learning Disabilities and Behavior Disorders

Sam Houston State University, 2003

Bachelor of Music Education Piano and Instrumental Music

Research Interests

- Multicultural Special Education
 - Teacher Education and Preparation
 - Action Research for Educators
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University and College Experience

University of Wisconsin-Superior

Assistant Professor of Special Education, Fall 2024 – Present

Digital Accessibility Liaison, Fall 2025 - Present

Teaching Assistant Professor of Special Education, Summer 2023 – Summer 2024

Courses Taught:

- SPED 704: Assessment for Learners with Exceptionalities
- SPED 775/776/777: SPED Directed Student Teaching (Field Studies)
- SPED 760: Behavior Analysis and Intervention
- TED 750/SPED 780: Foundations of Action Research
- TED 752/SPED 784: Action Research Project
- IDS 495: Independent Study Experience
- SPED 355: Interventions in Services
- SPED 493: Inclusive Management Strategies

Blinn College

College Success Instructor, Fall 2022 – Fall 2023

Course Taught:

EDUC 1300: First-year college students learn study skills, test-taking skills, financial literacy, and time-management skills through project-based and experiential learning

Publications

Woodley, K. & Smith, J. (expected 2027). Teaching for pluralism and belonging in every classroom. London: Palgrave McMillan.

Woodley, K. (2025). Student success through collaboration: MTSS, RtI, and special education in schools. *OER Commons*. <https://wisconsin.pressbooks.pub/mtssrtisped/>

Woodley, K. (2023). Before culturally responsive teaching...Do they even know culture: Exploration of virtual middle school teacher perception of ADHD and culture. Doctoral Dissertation, Texas A&M University. <https://hdl.handle.net/1969.1/199785>

Woodley, K. (2020, July 31). Culturally responsive teaching in special education. *The Advocate*.

Conference Presentations and Posters

Woodley, K. (2025, November 20). Middle school students, special education, and ADHD: An interactive workshop. [Conference presentation]. National Association for Multicultural Education. New Orleans, LA.

Woodley, K. (2025, November 20). Equity in teaching in special education. [Poster presentation]. National Association for Multicultural Education. New Orleans, LA.

Woodley, K. (2025, October 16). Creative commons certification and open educational resources. [Virtual presentation]. MHEC Webinar: Fall 2025.

Smith, J. & **Woodley, K.** (2025, April 26). Critical intercultural competency and special education in urban education. [Conference presentation]. American Educational Research Association. Denver, CO.

Woodley, K. (2025, April 10). Defining equity in special education teaching practices: A SoTL inquiry. [Poster presentation]. The Joys of Teaching and Learning: Scholarly Reflective Practice. Madison, WI.

Zbacnik, A & **Woodley, K.** (2025, January 16). Journeys in open educational resources.

[Conference presentation]. Enhancement Day, Opening Week 2025, University of Wisconsin-Superior.

Hettinger, V., **Woodley, K.**, Urbaniak, J. (2025, January 16). Open licensing for educators: Navigating and utilizing creative commons resources. [Conference presentation]. Enhancement Day, Opening Week 2025, University of Wisconsin-Superior.

Smith, J. & **Woodley, K.** (2024, November 6-8). Critical intercultural competency and special education in urban education: Increasing student voice, visibility, and motivation through self-reflection. [Conference presentation]. *Proceedings of the 5th biennial International Conference on Urban Education*, Cancun, Mexico. <https://www.theicue.org>

Woodley, K. (2024, November 6-8). Disrupting the norm of disproportionality in special education: Becoming culturally and racially responsive educators. [Conference presentation]. *Proceedings of the 5th biennial International Conference on Urban Education*, Cancun, Mexico. <https://www.theicue.org>

Woodley, K. (2024, April 19). Building capacity: Culturally responsive teaching in virtual schools for middle school students with ADHD. [Conference presentation]. Wisconsin Chapter of the National Association for Multicultural Education.

Woodley, K. (2023, April 13-16). ADHD and the K-12 classroom: Building the middle school teacher's capacity. [Roundtable presentation]. American Educational Research Association, Chicago, Illinois.

Coffey, C., Smith, J. & **Woodley, K.** (2022, November 2-5). Comparison of three Title 1 schools in urban intensive and urban emergent settings. [Conference presentation]. *Proceedings of the 4th biennial International Conference on Urban Education*, Cancun, Mexico. <https://www.theicue.org>

Woodley, K. (2022, November 2-5). Comparative analysis: Defining urban education, funding inequities, and solutions. [Conference presentation]. *Proceedings of the 4th biennial International Conference on Urban Education*, Cancun, Mexico. <https://www.theicue.org>

Institutional Presentations

Woodley, K. (2025, March). Defining equity in special education teaching practices: A SoTL inquiry. [Virtual presentation]. Educational Showcase, University of Wisconsin-Superior.

Woodley, K. (2023, November 29). ADHD and the K-12 classroom. [Virtual presentation]. Educational Showcase, University of Wisconsin-Superior.

Woodley, K. (2023, October 14). After the Ed.D. What comes next? [Virtual presentation]. Career Exploration Conference for Doctoral Students. Texas A&M University.

Service

University Service

Academic Program Review Committee - 2024–2027

Institutional Ethics Committee - 2023–2024

AI Focus Group Project Participant - Fall 2023

Digital Accessibility Focus Group Participant - Fall 2024

Departmental and Program Service- Department of Education, UW-Superior

I Heart Education Day - Education Department Facilitator, Fall 2025

Seek to Learn Academy-Barnum – Education Department Presentation, Fall 2025

Co-creator of SPED concentration plan and catalog, Summer 2025

Co-creator of accessible DOE lesson plan, Summer 2025

Co-created SPED Inclusive Management certificate, 2024-2025

Co-created SPED Learning Strategies certificate, 2024-2025

Compiled year 6 report for undergraduate special education program, Spring/Summer 2025

Assisted with updating CEC standards and assessments for graduate and undergraduate SPED programming for Appendix B work, 2024–2025

Co-editor for catalog copy of undergraduate and graduate SPED courses, Fall 2023, Fall 2025

Educator Preparation Program Committee, 2024–Present

Teacher Education Appeals Committee, 2024–Present

Scholarship Committee Member, Spring 2024–Present

Counselor Education Search Committee, Spring 2025

Graduate Advisor Search Committee, Fall 2023

Moderated TED 200 Final Project Panel, Fall 2023

Welcome Week New Beginnings Luncheon, Participated Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Fall 2025

Attended all DOE Department, and TED/SPED program meetings, Fall 2023–Fall 2025

Professional Service

AERA Division G - Co-Website Manager, 2024-2026

WI CEC- Member at Large Student Affairs, 2024-2025

Peer Review Activities

Council for Exceptional Children

AERA Special and Inclusive Education SIG

AERA Teacher as Researcher SIG

AERA Disability Studies SIG

AERA Urban Teaching and Learning SIG

Chapter Reviewer

Developing Simulation Materials to Support Teacher Anti-Racist & Anti-Ableist Practice During IEP Meetings: Supporting General Educator Collaborative Practice.

It Takes a Village: Perspectives, Best Practices, and Solutions to Effectively Engage Parents and Families in Urban Schools.

Grants and Awards

Grants - Awarded

SoTL Grant - University of Wisconsin-Superior, 2025-2026

Faculty Development Grant Recipient- University of Wisconsin-Superior, 2025- 2026

COIL Grant Recipient - 2025-2026

Faculty Development Grant Recipient- University of Wisconsin-Superior, Fall 2024

WI Department of Public Instruction Grant Recipient- University of Wisconsin-Superior, 2024

Superior Learning Experience Grant- University of Wisconsin-Superior, Summer 2024

Open Educational Resource Creation Grant- University of Wisconsin-Superior, 2024-2025

Jumpstart Scholarship Recipient- University of Wisconsin-Superior, Summer 2024

Distinguished Honor Graduate- Texas A&M University, Summer 2023

Graduate Student Travel Award - AERA, 2023

Grants - Submitted

Spencer Foundation Large Grant for Racial Equity, Spring 2025 – *Not Awarded*

Fellowships

Wisconsin Teaching Fellow and Scholar - University of Wisconsin-Superior, 2024–2025

WI SYS Grant Writing Fellow - University of Wisconsin-Superior, 2024

Scholarship and Professional Development Activities

Invited Talk – Midwestern Higher Education Compact Webinar, Fall 2025

Invited Book Proposal with publisher Palgrave-McMillan, 2025

Began work on OER Z-Degree SPED Graduate Program, 2025-2026

Auburn AI badges, Spring/Summer 2025

Appreciative Advising Institute, Summer 2025

Completed Open Educational Resource Textbook - UW-Superior, 2025

Earned Creative Commons Certificate - Fall 2024

Open Textbook Review Project - UW Superior - Fall 2023

Professional Affiliations

American Educational Research Association (AERA)

Teacher as Researcher SIG

Social Context of Education SIG

Special and Inclusive Education Research SIG

Urban Teaching and Learning SIG

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)

Wisconsin Council for Exceptional Children

National Association for Multicultural Education - Wisconsin

International Conference on Urban Education

National Society of Leadership and Success

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society