

**KATHLEEN M. WHITBREAD**  
**CURRICULUM VITAE**

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Office:	University of Saint Joseph Department of Education 1678 Asylum Avenue West Hartford, CT 06117 860.231.5362 <a href="mailto:kwhitbread@usj.edu">kwhitbread@usj.edu</a>	Home:	22 Fairy Dell Road Clinton, CT 06413 203.887.8028 <a href="mailto:whitbreadk@gmail.com">whitbreadk@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.kathleenwhitbread.com">www.kathleenwhitbread.com</a> <a href="http://www.openbooksopendoors.com">www.openbooksopendoors.com</a>
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**ACADEMIC PREPARATION**

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Ph.D. Educational Leadership, 1999  
Union Institute and University, Cincinnati, OH.

M.S. Special Education, 1996  
Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven, CT.

B.S. Special Education and Psychology, 1980  
Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven, CT.

***Licenses/Certification/Exams***

2012 Associate level certification, Academy of Orton Gillingham Practitioners and Educators; Board of Regents of the State University of New York, NY.

2010 Passed the Connecticut Foundations of Reading exam

1980 Connecticut Comprehensive Special Education, Grades Pre-K–12 (active).

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**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

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2007-present Associate Professor of Education, University of Saint Joseph School of Education, West Hartford, CT.

2003-2007 Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, University of Connecticut School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, Farmington, CT.

2003-2007 Assistant Professor of Special Education, University of Connecticut Neag School of Education, Storrs, CT.

2001-2003 Instructor of Pediatrics, University of Connecticut School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, Farmington, CT.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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- 2013-present Fellow, Institute for Autism and Behavioral Studies, University of Saint Joseph, West Hartford, CT.  
Provide professional development for educators, parents, clinicians and the public on evidence-based practices in post-secondary transition for students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Core faculty in the Autism Spectrum Disorder Professional Certificate Program.
- 2008-2011 Program Director, Department of Special Education, University of Saint Joseph, West Hartford, CT.  
Coordinated the special education team within the Department of Education. Collaborated with other departments across the college in program/curriculum development, service, and scholarship. Wrote grants and directed research projects. NCATE coordinator for Special Education team.
- 2001-2007 Associate Director, University of Connecticut Center of Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, Farmington, CT.  
Directed grant-funded projects, conducted research, supervised research staff, advised students, and taught coursework. Collaborated with other state agencies, including the Connecticut State Departments of Education, Developmental Services, and Children and Families to conduct research and disseminate findings.
- 2000-2001 Project Coordinator, Child and Family Studies, University of Connecticut Health Center, Farmington, CT  
Coordinated grant-funded research and training projects focused on early intervention and school-age populations. Managed quantitative and qualitative studies. Developed curricula on successful parent-professional partnerships. Supervised research assistants and graduate students.
- 1993-2000 Director of School Age Division, SARAH Tuxis Services, Guilford, CT.  
Provided training and technical assistance to schools, families and community agencies on educational and behavioral supports for children with developmental disabilities. Wrote grants, coordinated agency-wide training, supervised staff, and managed department budgets.
- 1995-1999 Researcher/Writer, Pennycorner Press, Gilman, CT.  
Published four volumes of *The Inclusion Notebook*, an award-winning newsletter of educational research and practice. Traveled to 35 states plus Russia and Italy to research the education of children with disabilities in general education classes. Completed a three-year study on the education of middle school students with disabilities in general education classrooms.

- 1989-1998 Educational Consultant, Private Contractor, CT  
Provided training and technical assistance to 60 schools and community agencies. Specialized in designing educational programs for children with significant disabilities in general education classrooms. Traveled to Russia to complete evaluations of young children with developmental disabilities as part of an interdisciplinary team. Provided training and technical assistance to parent-teacher groups from the Netherlands to improve educational practices for children with disabilities in schools and community agencies.
- 1989-1993 Special Education Teacher/Case Manager, Community Consultation Team, Department of Mental Retardation, Bridgeport, CT.  
Provided training and technical assistance to families, schools, and community agencies in 16 school districts to facilitate the inclusion of children with developmental disabilities in general education. Participated as a member of Individual Education Program teams, collected and analyzed data and provided special education instruction in school and home settings.
- 1987-1989 Special Education Teacher, The Curtis School, Meriden, CT.  
Provided instruction and support services to public school students with significant social/emotional disabilities living in a residential treatment facility. Facilitated transition plans for students moving from the on-site school to a local public school. Designed and monitored behavioral support plans for children.
- 1981-1987 Instructor/Case Manager, SARAH Inc., Guilford, CT.  
Taught vocational skills to young adults with developmental disabilities in a community-based vocational training program. Completed assessments, provided direct instruction, and designed and implemented positive behavior support plans. Assisted families to secure and manage support services for children and young adults with developmental disabilities. Collaborated with school and community agencies to coordinate services across settings.

### **RESEARCH, GRANTS AND CONTRACTS**

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- 2012-2013 Project Director, *Literacy for All: Effective Reading Instruction for Students with Down Syndrome*. Funded by the Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress with support from the University of Saint Joseph. Disseminated research-based information on effective literacy instruction for children with Down syndrome to parents and professional. Provided free literacy screenings for young children with Down syndrome.
- 2011-2013 Co-investigator, *Assessing Bullying and School Climate in an Urban Elementary School*. Data were collected from multiple stakeholders (students in grades 1-8, teachers, staff, and parents) with the goal of developing interventions to reduce bullying and improve school climate. Principal Investigator: Kathleen Barrett, Ed.D., USJ Department of Counseling and Family Therapy.

- 2010-2012 Project Director, *Youth with Developmental Disabilities in Transition*. Funded by the Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities. Training provided to families and professionals of youth with developmental disabilities to facilitate person-centered transition plans using MAPS and PATH.
- 2009-2010 Project Director, *Fluency Instruction for Students with Down Syndrome: An Exploratory Study*. Funded by the Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress and University of Saint Joseph. A study to test a fluency intervention designed for children with dyslexia with children with Down syndrome.
- 2005-2007 Project Director, *Student Technical Assistance Response (STAR) Teams*. Funded by the Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education. Provide training and technical assistance to schools and families to increase access to general education for students with significant disabilities.
- 2005-2007 Project Director, *Instructional Coaches Academy*. Funded by the Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education. Provided training to teachers and administrators in inclusive education practices.
- 2006-2007 Principal Investigator, *Forty-Day Coaches Principal Training Project*. Funded by Stamford Public Schools. Provided training and technical assistance to principals and assistant principals in twelve urban elementary schools to increase compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
- 2004-2007 Project Director, *Families as Partners: School-Family Collaboration in the Education of Students with Disabilities*. State Improvement Grant funded by the Connecticut State Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education. Provided training to family members and school district personnel to develop effective partnerships in the Individual Education Program planning process.
- 2005-2007 Principal Investigator, *The Relationship between the Juvenile Justice System and Local Education Agencies: A Survey of Juvenile Probation Officers*. Funded by the University of Connecticut. Investigated the relationship between Juvenile Justice System probation officers and local education agencies in providing services to students with disabilities in the Juvenile Justice System.
- 2003 Principal Investigator, *Teaching Reading to Children with Intellectual Disabilities: A Study of Programs and Practices in Connecticut Schools*. Funded by the University of Connecticut. Conducted a study of early literacy instruction for students with intellectual disabilities in Connecticut Public Schools.
- 2002-2003 Project Director, *Individual Support Planning: Training Curriculum for Connecticut State Department of Developmental Services case managers*. Funded by the Department of Developmental Services. Created a curriculum to train case managers of the Department of Developmental Services in person-centered planning strategies.

- 2001-2005 Project Director, *Understanding Special Education; Parent/professional training*. Funded by the Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities. Provided training to family members and school district personnel to develop effective partnerships in the Individual Education Program planning process. Measured outcomes for students whose family members participated in training.
- 2000-2003 Project Coordinator, *Research and Training Center in Service Coordination*. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs. Coordinated a national, multi-site research and training center on outcomes and practices of early intervention service coordination.
- 1998-2000 Project Director, *Inclusive Education in Connecticut; A Study of Teacher Attitude toward Educating Children with Developmental Disabilities in Regular Education Settings*. Funded by the Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities. Conducted a study of teacher attitude toward inclusive education in a Connecticut school district that had eliminated self-contained special education classrooms.

## PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

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### *Refereed Publications:*

- Nocera, E.J., **Whitbread, K.M.** & Nocera, G. (2012) (in press). The impact of school-wide positive behavior support on student behavior. *Research in Middle Level Education*.
- Teffs, E. & **Whitbread, K.M.** (2009). Level of preparation of general education teachers to include students with autism spectrum disorders. *Current Issues in Education, 11*(10).
- Nicoll-Senft, J. & **Whitbread, K.M.** (2007). The STAR protocol process: Facilitating collaboration between families and school district personnel. *The Electronic Journal of Inclusive Education, 2*(2).
- Whitbread, K. M., Bruder, M.B, Fleming, G., & Park, H. (2007). Collaboration in Special Education. *Teaching Exceptional Children, 39*(4), 6-14.
- Whitbread, K.M., Nicoll-Senft, J. & Pace, L. (2006). Literacy instruction and students with intellectual disabilities in Connecticut. *The Journal of the Connecticut Association of Reading Research 3*, 15-22.
- Bruder, M.B., Harbin, G. L., **Whitbread, K.M.**, Conn-Powers, M., Roberts, R., Dunst, C. J., & ... Gabbard, G. (2005). Establishing Outcomes for Service Coordination: A Step Toward Evidence-Based Practice. *Topics In Early Childhood Special Education, 25*(3), 177-188.
- Harbin, G., Bruder, M.B., Adams, C., Mazzarella, C., **Whitbread, K.M.**, Gabbard, G. & Staff, I. (2004). Early intervention service coordination policies: National policy and infrastructure. *Topics in Early Childhood Special Education, 24*(2), 89-97.

Whitbread, K.M. (2004). The physician's role in educational planning for students with developmental disabilities. *Connecticut Medicine*, 68(7), 515-519.

Whitbread, K.M. (1999). Inclusion: Making it work. *Middle Ground: The Magazine of Middle Level Education*, 2 (4), 10-16.

***Non-Refereed Publications:***

Knapp, S. & **Whitbread, K.M.** (2012). Creating fluent readers. *Connecticut Down Syndrome Quarterly*, 23 (1), 8-9.

Whitbread, K.M., Feinstein, A., & Kechijian, L. (2007). *The relationship between the juvenile justice system and public schools in serving children with disabilities*. Data Report. Farmington: University of Connecticut Center on Developmental Disabilities.

Kardos, M. & **Whitbread, K.M.** (2007). Educating children with autism in inclusive classrooms. *The Inclusion Notebook*, 6 (1), 2-17.

Eason, A.I. & **Whitbread, K.M.** (2006). *IEP and Inclusion Tips for Parents and Teachers*. WI: Attainment Company.

Whitbread, K.M. (2000). *Policy effects on teachers' attitudes about inclusion: A multi-school system study*. Gilman, CT: Pennycorner Press.

***Presentations (Selected from more than 100 presentations since 2003):***

Whitbread, K. (2013, March 13). *Improving literacy outcomes for students with Down syndrome*. Featured speaker at the 29<sup>th</sup> annual convention of the Massachusetts Down Syndrome Congress, Boston, MA.

Whitbread, K. & Franchini, D. (2013, April 6). *Post-secondary transition for students on the Autism spectrum*. Strategic Plan facilitated for Fairfield Public Schools, Fairfield CT.

Whitbread, K. & Conca, L. (2013, April 6). *Co-teaching: Better together*. Presentation at the Connecticut Educator Association New Teacher Conference, Montville, CT.

Whitbread, K. (2012, July 27). Teaching Reading to Children with Significant Disabilities [Radio Interview]. *The Inclusive Class at Blog Talk Radio*. Podcast available at [http://www.theinclusiveclass.com/2012/07/teaching-reading-to-children-with\\_23.html](http://www.theinclusiveclass.com/2012/07/teaching-reading-to-children-with_23.html)

Barrett, K. & Whitbread, K. (2012, April). *Collaboration and research: Assessing and fostering healthy school climate in an urban charter school*. Presentation at the annual Faculty Symposium, University of Saint Joseph, West Hartford, CT.

- Whitbread, K. (2011, January). *Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorders*. Seminar for parents and professionals of children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Sponsored by African Caribbean American Parents of Children with Disabilities (AFCAMP), Hartford, CT.
- Whitbread, K., Golder, S., & Veneziano, J. (2010, May). *Planning positive futures: Students with developmental disabilities in transition*. Statewide, three-day training for parents and professionals of transition-age students with developmental disabilities. Sponsored by the Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities.
- Whitbread, K. & Eason, A. (2009, January). *Inclusive education: From law to implementation*. Opening seminar in series on educating children with Down syndrome. Sponsored by the Dallas Down Syndrome Guild, Dallas, TX.
- Whitbread, K. (2008, April). *Social skill and friendship development in elementary school-aged children with disabilities*. Annual Convention of the Council for Exceptional Children, Boston, MA.
- Whitbread, K. & Eason, A. (2008, March). *Reading for students with significant disabilities: Let's raise the bar*. Annual conference of the Council on Parent Advocates and Attorneys, Orange County, CA.
- Whitbread, K. & Fleming, G. (2007, November). *Together we're better: Forging new partnerships to increase access to the general education curriculum*. Presentation at the Annual Conference of Association of University Centers on Disability, Washington, DC.
- Whitbread, K. (2006, October). *Success for all in general education*. Keynote address at Connecticut Council for Exceptional Children Annual Meeting, Willimantic, CT.
- Whitbread, K. and Eason, A. (2006, May). *One- hundred-twenty-seven tips on building an inclusive education program*. Presentation and book signing at the annual Mamapalooza Festival, Valhalla New York.
- Whitbread, K. (2006, April). *Building an inclusive education program: Tips for families and advocates*. Presentation at the COPAA (Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates) Annual Conference, Phoenix, Arizona.
- Whitbread, K. (2005, November). *High school inclusion: From law to implementation*. Presentation at the National TASH conference, Milwaukee, WI.
- Whitbread, K. (2005, November). *Understanding special education: Parent professional training*. Professional development seminar sponsored by the African Caribbean American Parents of Children with Disabilities, Hartford, CT.
- Harbin, G. & Whitbread, K. (2005, February). *Service coordination: National policies and infrastructure*. Presentation at the National Office of Special Education Programs Annual Meeting, Washington, DC

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**TEACHING**


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***Undergraduate***

Spec 218: Children with Moderate to Severe Disabilities  
 Spec 383: Positive Behavior Intervention and Support  
 Spec 499: Special Education Coordinating Seminar

***Graduate***

Spec 530: Research in Special Education  
 Spec 518: Children with Moderate to Severe Disabilities  
 Spec 534: Positive Behavior Intervention and Support  
 Spec 535: Laws and Special Education  
 Spec 539: Curriculum and Instruction: Adaptations and Modifications  
 Spec 541: Collaborative Consultation for School Personnel  
 Spec 561: Autism Spectrum Disorders: Behavioral Interventions

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**SERVICE**


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***Department***

Autism Institute Executive Committee	2010
Accreditation Work Group	2009 to 2011
Special Education NCATE Coordinator	2009 to 2011
Special Education Program Director	2008 to 2011
GPA Waiver Committee	2008 to present
Undergraduate Award Committee, Chair	2008-present

***University***

Project team, University of Saint Joseph AIMI Project	2012-present
Grants and Contracts Planning Committee, Co-Chair	2012
Oman Conference Planning Committee, Chair	2012-present
Institutional Review Board	2011-2012
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee	2011-present
Secretary/treasurer—Faculty of the Whole	2008-2011
Professional Development Committee	2008-2011

***Community***

Director, assessment clinic for children with Down syndrome	2012-present
Newsletter editor, CDSC Quarterly	2012
Advanced Research Mentor, Glastonbury High School	2010
Education Advisor, Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress	2007-present

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**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES, AFFILIATIONS, AND AWARDS**

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- 2013 Expert Witness, P.J. et al v. State of Connecticut Board of Education, Second Circuit Court of Appeals, Civil Action No. 10-3586.
- 2012-present Education Blogger. Author/editor of *Open Books Open Doors*, focused on teaching reading to children with Down syndrome. Showcased internationally by organizations serving people with Down syndrome including Down Syndrome Education International, National Down Syndrome Society, National Down Syndrome Congress and National Association of Down Syndrome.
- 2012 Expert Witness, Disability Rights New Jersey, et al. v. New Jersey Department of Education, et al., Civil Action No. 07-2978
- 2011 Recipient, *Outstanding Professional Service* award, presented by the Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress.
- 2010-present Reviewer, *Current Issues in Education* journal.
- 2010 Panelist, Praxis Series Standard Setting Study, Education Testing Service.
- 2009-present Member, Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education
- 2005-present TASH, Lifetime Member
- 2006-2007 Autism Spectrum Disorders Steering Committee Member, Connecticut State Department of Developmental Services
- 2003-2007 Connecticut Comprehensive System of Personnel Development (CSPD)
- 2003 Recipient, *Educator of the Year* award, presented by the Connecticut Coalition for Inclusive Education
- 2002-2003 Coordinator, Statewide Network on Inclusive Education, University of Connecticut Center for Disabilities
- 2001-present Member, Council for Exceptional Children
- 1999 Recipient, Media Award for *The Inclusion Notebook*, presented by the Connecticut Coalition for Inclusive Education
- 1996-1999 Delegate, Russian-American Child Study Team, The Institute for World Affairs, Washington D.C. Traveled to Moscow, St. Petersburg, and Petrozavodsk as part of a trans-disciplinary evaluation team to assess young children with developmental disabilities.