

# JENNIFER A. WHITACRE

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**OBJECTIVE:** Lecturer, Clinical Coach, Western Teacher Institute Director

## **ACADEMIC PREPARATION:**

**Indiana University, Bloomington, IN** GPA 3.67, June 2016

**Major:** M.S. in Secondary Education;  
Curriculum & Instruction: Secondary Education (General Track)

**Indiana University, Bloomington, IN** GPA 3.66, May 2010

**Major:** Transition to teach teacher licensure program (Graduate level)  
Secondary Teaching License: Life Sciences  
Continuing undergraduate study: Biology content classes

**SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry, Syracuse, NY** GPA 3.67, BS May 2004

**Major:** Environmental Science, Biological Applications  
**Honors:** Graduated Magna cum Laude

## **RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS**

- Educational technology, NGSS, Science Education, Project-Based Learning, Service Learning, 21<sup>st</sup>-Century Teaching and learning, Inquiry.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

*Lecturer, Western Colorado University*, Gunnison, CO, July 2016-present

- Clinical Coach: 5 years, oversee student teaching residents. Act as advisor to ensure K-12 residents are meeting CDE requirements for licensure.
- Courses Taught:
  - EDUC 210: Science Methods for Elementary Educators
  - EDUC 407/607: Rethinking Learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
  - EDUC 403/603: Instruction and Assessment in Content Areas (Science Content Specialist)
  - EDUC 404/604: Creating Positive Learning Environments
  - EDUC 405/605: Data Driven Instructional Practices
  - EDUC Student Teaching Courses (Fall & Spring)

*Director, Western Teacher Institute*, Gunnison, CO, January 2018-present

- Oversee a Teacher Institute for K-12 educators to earn graduate level credits
- Recruit and oversee 15-25 instructors, manage upwards of 25 courses to be taught each year
- Organize and review course proposals to ensure all courses meet HLC guidelines
- Collaborate with the Extended Studies department to implement logistics for the Institute as well as the budget, and strategic planning
- Network and market the Teacher Institute to Western alumni, K-12 schools throughout Colorado.

*Instructor, Western Teacher Institute*, Gunnison, CO, June 2016-June 2017

- Designed and taught two courses for K-12 teachers: Introduction to Service Learning (2016); Student-Centered Learning (2017)

*Reading Tutor, Crested Butte Elementary School*, Crested Butte, CO; August 2017-June 2019

- Supported and assisted K-3 children in reading remediation using Barton Reading Programs

*Farm to School Program Coordinator, Mountain Roots Food Project*, Crested Butte, CO; April 2015-May 2017

- Lead Environmental Educator for the summer camp program and local classrooms.
- Created and developed the curriculum for summer camp programs
- Developed & implemented standards based curriculum for K-5 classrooms utilizing hands on, experiential, garden-based lessons
- Managed the team of environmental educators to ensure organized and coordinated program delivery for the entire organization
- Researched curriculum strategies for implementation in classrooms that is aligned with both the Common Core and CO State Academic Standards

*Science Camp Instructor, Trailhead Children's Museum*, Crested Butte, CO; June 2014 – September 2014

- Lead Instructor of the Science Camp for ages 5-9 and the Advanced Science Camp for ages 9-13

- Created and developed the curriculum for daily science camp activities
- Utilized hands on experiential learning within the curriculum

*Science Teacher, Cathedral High School, Indianapolis, IN; August 2010 – present*

- Participated in facilitating the daily instruction of Academic Biology, Anatomy & Physiology, Honors Biology, and Environmental Science
- Developed student centered activities, implemented inquiry and project based learning into daily lesson plans
- Created a website to be used for classroom objectives and announcements
- Utilized Bloom's taxonomy to incorporate class objectives in compliance with Indiana state standards
- Implemented classroom management skills
- Developed an environmental science class focusing on sustainability and the global environment
- Implemented a long term STEM research project for students
- Utilized components of Service Learning with the successful implementation of two filtered drinking fountains on campus as well as many other environmental initiatives
- Collaborated with other leading faculty to implement a STEM program focusing on inquiry and innovation
- Coordinated the recycling program on campus (3 years)
- Supervised the Junior Class officers (2 years)
- Coached Girl's Cross Country (2 years)

*Student teacher, Bartholomew County School Corporation, Columbus, IN; January 2010 – April 2010*

- Experienced working at the Columbus Signature Academy, a project based learning high school that focuses on developing 21<sup>st</sup> century learning skills.
- Participated in facilitating the daily instruction of a ninth grade global science perspectives class, integrated tenth grade biology and English class, and a remedial biology content seminar
- Actively participated in a co-taught class and collaborative working environment.

*Tutor; SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry; Syracuse, NY, January 2003- May 2004*

- Tutored several different students in the following courses: Probability & Statistics, Economics, Zoology, and Social Processes.

*Teaching Assistant; SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry, Syracuse, NY; August 2003-May2004*

- Assisted a professor with an undergraduate course on the global environment and a graduate course on ecology, resources, development, and economics.
- Organized class material and facilitated class discussion

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

*Research Assistant; Rocky Mountain Biological Lab, Gothic, CO; May 2008-September 2008*

- Assisted Dr. Rebecca Irwin on several different research projects dealing with an invasive plant species, *Linaria Vulgaris* in the Rocky Mountains of Western Colorado

*Biological Science Technician; US Forest Service, Gunnison, CO; May-October 2005; June-August 2006*

- Assisted with a project studying the severe dieback and mortality of Alder associated with Cytospora canker.
- Compiled & organized data for 2005, 2006 Alder Project within the Gunnison National forest
- Utilized GPS mechanisms
- Obtained data for various pest and tree disease projects throughout Colorado

*Seedling Census Volunteer; University of Puerto Rico, Rio Grande, PR August-November 2004*

- Collected data for tree seedling species in the Luquillo Forest from existing plots
- Identified and measured all seedling species recorded

*Phytoremediation Intern; Natresco & Assoc. Ltd., Hummelstown, PA; May-September 2003; May- August 2004.*

- Facilitated an ongoing phytoremediation project used to aid in the transpiration of contaminated groundwater
- Constructed a nursery and planted over 10,000 tree seedlings
- Developed and implemented a Holding Pond Project using erosion control measures

## **COMMUNITY/PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

- Foster partnership with CU Boulder on providing STEM professional development and opportunities for rural educators of Colorado (specifically the Western Slope) (ongoing)
- Board Member, Secretary, Stepping Stones Children's Center (April 2019-present)
- Collaborate with Early Childhood Council on grant opportunities to support Early Childhood Education in the Gunnison Valley (2019-present)

- Professional Development Workshop: Project-Based Learning, Crested Butte Elementary School (April 2018)

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- *ISTE: Virtual Conference, November/December 2020*
- *Colorado Science Conference, April 2019*
- *NSTA: National Conference on Science Education, 2019*
- *National Science Teachers Association Indianapolis National Conference on Science Education (2011, 2012)*
- *edTech Teacher iPad Summit Atlanta (2013)*
- *National Service Learning Conference (2012, 2013, & 2014)*

### **AWARDS**

*Cathedral High School Service Learning Award (2013)*  
*Recognized as an outstanding teacher by the state of Indiana (2013)*  
*Excellent Instructor Recognition, Academic Affairs Western Colorado University (2019)*

### **REFERENCES**

Available upon request