

Faculty Research

Faculty Name	Research Lab, Program, or Organized Research & Training Unit (ORTU)	Areas of Research	Developmental Periods
Janet Bang, Ph.D. (she/her) Assistant Professor	Diverse Interactions Around Language (DIAL) lab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Communication development ● Multilingualism ● Language development ● Word learning ● Caregiver-child engagement 	Early childhood Middle Childhood
Maria Fusaro, Ed.D. (she/her) Associate Professor	Co-Founder, Early Childhood Institute (ECI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Imagination and Inquisitiveness ● Verbal and non-verbal adult/child interactions ● Teaching Competencies for Early Childhood Educators 	Early Childhood Adulthood (current/future early educators)
Dina Izenstark, Ph.D. (she/her) Assistant Professor	Humans in Nature (HIN) Lab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Family-based nature activities ● Parent-child relationships ● Youth development programs ● Family leisure 	Middle Childhood Adolescence Emerging adulthood
Robin Love, Ph.D. (she/her) Associate Professor	Cilker Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Arts education ● Motivation 	
Cara Maffini, Ph.D. (she/her) Associate Professor	Co-Founder and Faculty Director, Healthy Development Community Clinic (HDCC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Race, ethnicity, and culture ● Trauma and healing ● Bicultural/biracial identity development ● Mental health 	Adolescence Emerging adulthood

<p>Robert Marx, Ph.D. (<i>they/them</i>) Assistant Professor</p>	<p>Queer Educators and Counselors Network</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gender and sexuality ● Adolescent development ● Familial, school, and community sources of support and strength 	<p>Adolescence</p> <p>Emerging adulthood</p>
<p>Ravisha Mathur, Ph.D. (<i>she/her</i>) Associate Professor</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Friendships ● Children's imagination ● Teaching pedagogy 	<p>Early childhood</p> <p>Adolescence</p> <p>Emerging adulthood</p>
<p>Danielle Mead-Nytko, Ph.D. (<i>she/her</i>) Associate Professor</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Language development ● Research methods ● Bilingualism ● Children with special needs 	<p>Early childhood</p> <p>Middle childhood</p>
<p>Ellen Middaugh, Ph.D. (<i>she/her</i>) Associate Professor</p>	<p>Civic Literacy, Action and Reasoning in Online Networks (CLARION) Project</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Civic engagement ● Civic education ● Adolescent development ● Digital media literacy ● Social media 	<p>Adolescence</p> <p>Emerging adulthood</p>
<p>Emily Slusser, Ph.D. (<i>she/her</i>) Associate Professor & Department Chair</p>	<p>Co-Founder, Early Childhood Institute (ECI)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Early childhood ● Cognitive development ● Language development ● Number and math concepts 	<p>Early Childhood</p> <p>Adulthood (Future/Current workforce)</p>
<p>Maureen Smith, Ph.D. (<i>she/her</i>) Professor</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reading for pleasure ● Imagination/fantasy ● Social and emotional development 	<p>Middle Childhood</p> <p>Adolescence</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Risk and resilience 	Emerging adulthood
Nadia Sorkhabi, Ph.D. (<i>she/her</i>) Professor		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parenting and Cultural Variations ● Academic Achievement ● Mental Health ● Family Conflict 	Childhood Adolescence Emerging adulthood
Kim Tsai, Ph.D. (<i>she/her</i>) Associate Professor	TsaiKicks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Family dynamics ● Cultural socialization ● Ethnic identity development ● Health and Well-being 	Adolescence Emerging adulthood