

HELEN ROSE MIESNER
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Education Policy Initiative at Carolina
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EDUCATION

- PhD Educational Policy Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2022.
Dissertation: *Compliance amid complexity? How policies and people shape special education in practice*
Advisor: Dr. Erica Turner
- MA Educational Policy Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2017.
Thesis: *Disruptions, dilemmas, and discretion: Understanding the daily work of special educators*
Advisor: Dr. Erica Turner
- MS Early Childhood General and Special Education, Bank Street College of Education, New York, 2014.
Thesis: *Critical media literacy in the early childhood setting*
Advisors: Dr. Molly Welsh Kruger and Alanna Navitski
- BA Communication and Media Studies, Fordham University, Bronx, 2007.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 6/2022 – Present **Education Policy Initiative at Carolina**, Chapel Hill, NC
Research Associate
- 8/2016 – 8/2022 **Wisconsin Center for Education Research**, Madison, WI
Research Assistant: Enhancing the Quality of Instruction in 4-Year-Old Kindergarten
Research Assistant: Madison Education Partnership
Project Assistant: Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems
Project Assistant: Kindergarten Readiness in Wisconsin
- 8/2017 – 2/2019 **Personalization in Practice Networked Improvement Community**, Madison, WI
Project Assistant: Assessing Personalized Learning in Schools
- 6/2017 – 8/2017 **American Institutes for Research**, Chicago, IL
Research and Development Intern: Technology for Teaching and Learning
- 1/2017 – 5/2017 **Center for Administrators of Special Education**, Madison, WI
Research Assistant: Determining Special Education Capacity for Open Enrollment

RESEARCH & EVALUATION FUNDING

- 2023-2025 North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and North Carolina Collaboratory. *High Dosage Tutoring to Support Pandemic Learning Recovery and School Improvement in Union County*. \$499,936. Co-Principal Investigator. (PI: Douglas Lauen; Co-PI: Eric Houck)

- 2020-2023 University of North Carolina System. *GEAR UP North Carolina Evaluation and Research Project*. \$671,332. Co-Principal Investigator. (PI: Sarah Crittenden Fuller)
- 2020 American Educational Research Association, Division K Seed Grant. *Compliance amid complexity? How policies, people, and a pandemic shape special education in practice*. \$4527.40

AWARDS

- 2022 John R. Palmer Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Education. \$2500.
- 2021 Virginia Landwehr Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Education. \$5000
- 2021 Semifinalist, National Academy of Education/ Spencer Dissertation Fellowship

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2023 **Miesner, H. R.**, Blair, E. E., Packard, C. C., MacGregor, L. C., & Grodsky, E. "Instructional coordination for Response to Intervention: How organizational contexts shape Tier 2 interventions in practice." *American Journal of Education*. doi.org/10.1086/725584
- 2023 Boonstra, K., **Miesner, H. R.**, Graue, E., & Grodsky, E. "Participation and learning in collaborative preK teacher workgroups: A Communities of Practice analysis of mathematics-focused professional development." *Journal of Early Childhood Teacher Education*. doi.org/10.1080/10901027.2022.2104185
- 2022 **Miesner, H. R.**, Blair, E. E., Packard, C. C., Velázquez, M., MacGregor, L. C., & Grodsky, E. "Collaborating in context: An examination of relational trust and collaborative formats at eight elementary schools." *Teaching and Teacher Education*. doi.org/10.1016/j.tate.2022.103729
- 2022 Grant, A., Grodsky, E., Velázquez, M., **Miesner, H. R.**, & MacGregor, L. C. "Individual Adjustments for Many and Structural Change for Some: Teacher and School Responses to Classed Out-of-School Responsibilities." *Children & Society*. https://doi.org/10.1111/chso.12617
- 2021 **Miesner, H. R.** "Dynamic and static working conditions: Examining the work of special education teachers." *The Educational Forum*. doi.org/10.1080/00131725.2020.1861146

Book Chapters

*Reflects alphabetical authorship

- 2022 **Miesner, H. R.** "Special education policy and practice across scales: Providing a Free Appropriate Public Education during a pandemic." In Bartlett, L., & Vavrus, F. (Eds.) *Doing Comparative Case Studies: Producing Innovative Research*.
- In press *Bartlett, L., Beneke, A., Fuller, R., & **Miesner, H. R.** "The role of ethnography in analyzing education policy formation and enactment." In Cohen-Vogel, L., Scott, J., & Youngs, P. (Eds.) *AERA Handbook of Education Policy Research*.
- In press *Bartlett, L., Beneke, A., & **Miesner, H. R.** "Critical case study and social justice." *Routledge Encyclopedia of Qualitative Methods*.

Manuscripts

Miesner, H.R., & Woulfin, S. “Capturing teacher working conditions: An expansive framework.”

Miesner, H.R. “Special education instructional coaches: Spanning special education policy as/in practice.”

Select Working Papers and Reports

- 2023 **Miesner, H.R.** *An active implementation evaluation of ESSER-funded summer programs targeting learning recovery and acceleration within high schools in western North Carolina.* In “Harnessing Research-Practice Partnerships in the North Carolina Summer Learning Programs” Series. North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/media/17858>
- 2023 Love, H., Boonstra, K., **Miesner, H. R.**, Lauter, L., Grodsky, E., Vaade, E., Witthuhn, C., & Duong, L. (2023) *MEP full-day 4K evaluation: Examining 4K classroom pedagogy.* Madison, WI: Madison Education Partnership. pp.1-30. <http://mep.wceruw.org/documents/MEP-fd4k-observations.pdf>
- 2023 Bier, R., **Miesner, H. R.**, Grodsky, E., Vaade, E., Witthuhn, C., & Brown, K.G.. (2023) *Extending the school day for our youngest scholars: Learning gains in full- and half-day 4K classrooms.* Madison, WI: Madison Education Partnership. pp. 1-13. http://mep.wceruw.org/documents/MEP-report_student-assessments.pdf
- 2022 **Miesner, H. R.**, Grodsky, E., Witthuhn, C., & Vaade, E. *Mathematize Your CLASS 2: Supporting 4K Teachers through remote professional learning communities.* Madison, WI: Madison Education Partnership. pp. 1-16. <http://mep.wceruw.org/documents/MYC2-IES-reportDraft.pdf>
- 2017 Grodsky, E., Huangfu, Y., **Miesner, H. R.**, & Packard, C. (2017). *Kindergarten readiness in Wisconsin* (WCER Working Paper No. 2017-3). University of Wisconsin–Madison, Wisconsin Center for Education Research. <https://wcer.wisc.edu/publications/working-papers>

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 **Miesner, H. R.** *Re-envisioning teaching, teacher education, and research in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.* Invited panel session at American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, April 21–26.
- 2021 **Miesner, H. R.** *Preliminary insights: How policies, people, and a pandemic shape special education in practice.* Invited panel session at American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Virtual Conference, April 9–12.
- 2017 Grodsky, E., **Miesner, H. R.**, & Packard, C. *Kindergarten readiness in Wisconsin.* Invited presentation to the Governor’s Early Childhood Advisory Council, Madison, WI, December 13.

SELECT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 **Miesner, H.R.** *Promises, pitfalls, and policy ramifications: How special education instructional coaches inform policy as/in practice.* Paper Presentation at Association for Education Finance and Policy conference, Denver, CO, March 22–25.

- 2022 **Miesner, H. R.**, Boonstra, K., Venske, A., & Grodsky, E. *Teacher adaptations of mathematics instruction in remote and in-person prekindergarten*. Paper presentation at American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, April 21–26.
- 2021 Blair, E. E., **Miesner, H. R.**, Velázquez, M., Packard, C. C., Grant, A., MacGregor, L. C., & Grodsky, E. “*Struggling*” with what students “can’t let go”: *Exploring K-12 educator narratives of student trauma*. The 46th Annual Research on Women and Education SIG Fall Virtual Conference, October 22–23.
- 2021 Blair, E. E., **Miesner, H. R.**, Velázquez, M., Grant, A. Packard, C. C., MacGregor, L. C., & Grodsky, E. “*Now I want you to trust me?*”: *Teacher narratives of practice with students experiencing trauma*. Paper presentation at American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, virtual conference, April 9–12.
- 2021 Boonstra, K., **Miesner, H. R.**, Graue, E., & Grodsky, E. *Learning opportunities in collaborative preK teacher workgroups*. Paper presentation at American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, virtual conference, April 9–12.
- 2020 Blair, E. E., **Miesner, H. R.**, Velázquez, M., Grant, A. Packard, C. C., MacGregor, L. C., & Grodsky, E. “*We feel politics*”: *Exploring Wisconsin teacher identity making in discordant times*. Paper session at American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. (Conference cancelled.)
- 2020 **Miesner, H. R.**, Blair, E. E., Packard, C. C., MacGregor, L. C., & Grodsky, E. *Contextual supports and organizational limitations: Conducting Response to Intervention in varied elementary school environments*. Roundtable session at American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. (Conference cancelled.)
- 2020 Velázquez, M., **Miesner, H. R.**, Blair, E. E., Grant, A., Packard, C. C., MacGregor, L. C., & Grodsky, E. *Speaking truth to policy: Perspectives of Wisconsin educators across rural, suburban, and urban school contexts*. Roundtable session at American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA. (Conference cancelled.)
- 2019 **Miesner, H. R.** *Dynamic working conditions: A front-line examination of special education policy enactment*. Panel session at American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, ON, April 5–9.
- 2019 **Miesner, H. R.**, Blair, E. E., Packard, C. C., MacGregor, L. C., & Grodsky, E. “*They are truly ‘our’ kids.*”: *Examining practitioner understandings and contextual supports of inclusive education*. Roundtable session at American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, ON, April 5–9.
- 2019 Blair, E. E., **Miesner, H. R.**, Packard, C. C., MacGregor, L. C., & Grodsky, E. “*Trauma sensitivity? We’re still working on it.*”: *Exploring how elementary school staff make meaning of trauma discourse*. Paper session at American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, ON, April 5–9.

POST-SECONDARY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Spring 2024

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Lecturer: Disability and Education Policy

Fall 2021 **University of Wisconsin-Madison**, Madison, WI
Consultant: Inclusive Strategies for Secondary Educators

PK-12 TEACHING EXPERIENCE

8/2018 – 6/2022 **Madison Metropolitan School District**, Madison, WI
Substitute Teacher

8/2014 – 8/2016 **Madison Metropolitan School District**, Madison, WI
Special Education Teacher
Summer School Kindergarten/First Grade Teacher

8/2012 – 6/2014 **The Hewitt School**, New York, NY
Associate Teacher, Kindergarten
Head Teacher, Kindergarten
Literacy Teacher, Second Grade

7/2012 – 8/2012 **The Children’s School, P.S. 372**, Brooklyn, NY
Special Education Student Teacher, Second Grade

10/2009 – 6/2012 **The Buckley School**, New York, NY
Assistant Teacher, First Grade and Kindergarten
After-school Program Instructor, Kindergarten through Third Grade
Long-term Substitute Teacher, Third Grade

SERVICE

2023 Manuscript Review for *Education Research Review*.

2022 Manuscript Review for *Handbook on Special Education Teacher Preparation Research*.

2021 Manuscript Review for *Educational Policy*.

2020 Manuscript Review for *AERA Open*.

2018 – 2020 Departmental Steward, Teaching Assistants’ Association, University of Wisconsin-Madison, AFT Local #3220.

2018 Discussant, University of Wisconsin-Madison Undergraduate Research Symposium, Madison, WI, April 2018.

2017 Discussant, Educational Policy Studies conference, Madison, WI, April 2017.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2023 – present Association for Education Finance and Policy

2020 – present Council for Exceptional Children

2016 – present American Educational Research Association

2016 – 2022 Teaching Assistants' Association, University of Wisconsin-Madison, AFT Local #3220