

**CARA D. WILLIAMS, PH.D.**  
**Curriculum Vitae**  
[DrCaral4@icloud.com](mailto:DrCaral4@icloud.com)  
[+971505154694](tel:+971505154694)

## **EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Education**

<b>2014</b>	<b>Ph.D.</b>	<b>Texas A &amp; M University, College Station</b> Educational Psychology
<b>2012</b>	<b>M.Ed.</b>	<b>Texas A &amp; M University, College Station</b> Special Education
<b>2007</b>	<b>B.A.</b>	<b>University of Nevada, Las Vegas</b> Special Education

### **Professional Experience** **08 / 2021 – Present**

**Mainstream and Inclusion Senior Specialist**  
**Abu Dhabi Department of Knowledge (ADEK)**  
**United Arab Emirates**

- Provide training for evidence-based inclusive education practices to school stakeholders
- Develop inclusion policy, frameworks, and guidebooks for school stakeholders
- Manage procurement requests
- Conduct school inspections to inform needed areas of Professional Development

**08 / 2015 – 07 / 2021**

**Assistant Professor, Counseling, Special Education, and Neuroscience Division, Emirates College for Advanced Education, United Arab Emirates**

- Taught master's courses in special education
- Advised graduate students and graduate students' theses
- Taught undergraduate courses in special education and the teaching of mathematics
- Taught foundational courses in mathematics
- Developed and revised courses for the special education concentration
- Collaborated with colleagues to create master's and doctoral level courses in special education and single-case research methods
- Current Program Coordinator for the M.Ed. and Ph.D. Special Education Programs

**08 / 2016 – 12 / 2020**

**Adjunct Assistant Professor, College of Education, University of Texas-El Paso, Texas, United States**

- Taught online undergraduate course using Blackboard

- Responsible for course content, rubrics, grading, and student interaction via email

**05 / 2014 – 12 / 2017**

**Online Instructional Coach, Florida International University, University of Texas-Permian Basin, and University of Texas-El Paso, United States**

- Responsible for grading all student assignments and responding to student emails

**08 / 2013 – 07 / 2015**

**Certified Special Education Teacher (EC-12), Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District and Houston Independent School District**

- Taught grades 9-12 mathematics
- Co-teacher and Resource room teacher
- Subjects: Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra II, and Math Models and Applications
- Responsible for IEP paperwork and other special education documentation
- Member of the Response to Intervention and Positive Behavior Intervention Supports Team Member
- Member of the Inclusion Intervention Team
- Assisted with career and vocational training for students
- Baton twirling coach

**05 / 2013 – 08 / 2013**

**Graduate Teaching Assistant, Texas A&M University, United States**

**01 / 2012 – 12 / 2012**

**Student-Teacher Supervisor Trainee, Texas A&M University, United States**

**08 / 2011 – 05 / 2012**

**Graduate Teaching Assistant, Texas A&M University, United States**

**08 / 2009 – 07 / 2011**

**Graduate Research Assistant, Texas A&M University, United States**

**08 / 2010 – 07 / 2012**

**Certified Substitute Teacher, Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District, Texas, United States**

**08 / 2007 – 07 / 2009**

**Certified Special Education Teacher (EC-12), Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District, Texas, United States**

- Taught grades 9-12 mathematics
- Co-teacher and Resource room teacher
- Subjects: Algebra 1 and Geometry
- Responsible for IEP paperwork and other special education documentation

**04 / 2004 – 07 / 2007**

**Substitute Teacher (Designated), Clark County School District,  
Nevada, United States**

### **Doctoral Dissertation**

Williams, C. D. (2014). Curriculum-based measurement as an intervention: A literature review and meta-analysis. Texas A&M University-College Station. Dissertation Chair: Yvonne Goddard, Ph.D.

Committee Members: Victor Wilson, Shanna Hagan-Burke, and Yeping Li.

### **Major Fields of Research Interest**

My research interests include teaching strategies, especially universal design, differentiated instruction, and inclusive techniques, mathematics education, and at-risk populations. I prefer to utilize qualitative and mixed methods approaches.

### **TEACHING CERTIFICATIONS**

Special Education EC-12: Texas

Mathematics Grades 4-8: Texas

### **COURSES TAUGHT**

Emirates College for Advanced Education, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

- EDUSIE1: Current Research and Trends: High Incidence Disabilities
- EDUSIE3: Content Specific Assessments and Methods in Inclusive Settings
- EDUSIE5: Inclusive Pedagogy
- EDU2112 Practicum 3: Assessment
- EDU3002 Social and Cultural Worlds of Children
- EDU3091 Practicum 3: Student Teaching
- EDU3221 Teaching of Maths 2: Problem Solving
- EDU3222 Teaching of Maths 3: Assessment
- EDU4002 Individuals with Special Needs
  - Course Leader: Spring 2016 / Spring 2017 / Spring 2018
- EDU4003 Action Research Project
- EDU4091 Practicum 4: Student Teaching
- ELESN01 Special Education: Diverse Learners in Inclusive Settings
  - Course Leader: Fall 2015 / Fall 2016 / Fall 2017 / Fall 2018
- ELESN02 Special Education: Families of Students with Disabilities
  - Course Leader: Spring 2018
- ELESN03 Teaching Students with Mild to Moderate Disabilities
  - Course Leader: Fall 2017 / Fall 2018 / Fall 2019
- ELESN04 Special Education: Behavior Management
  - Course Leader Fall 2015
- Math Preparatory Program – 8 weeks
  - Spring 2016
    - Assisted with developing the curriculum

University of Texas-El Paso

-SPED 3310: Special Education Service for Students in General and Special Education Settings

## **COURSES COACHED**

Florida International University

- EEC 3070: Teaching Students with Exceptionalities in Inclusive Settings
- EEC 3403: Special Needs Children and Their Families

University of Texas – Permian Basin

- EDEC 6315: Young Exceptional Learners
- EDU 6302: Cultural Diversity
- EDU 6345: Transition for Exceptional Learners
- EDUC 6304: Educational Psychology
- EDSP 6344: Methods of Teaching Exceptional Learners

University of Texas-El Paso

- SPED 3310: Special Education Service for Students in General and Special Education Settings

## **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

09/2019 – Present	ECAE Graduate Sub-Committee
12/2018 – Present	Brain and Learning Research Committee
08/2016 – 08/2019	ECAE Undergraduate Sub-Committee
08/2018 – 08/2019	ECAE Research and Grants Committee

## **RESEARCH PROJECTS and GRANT-WRITING EXPERIENCE**

### **Data Collection**

2020 - 2021	<b>Williams, C. D.</b> & Agbenyega, J. <i>Online and hybrid teaching and learning processes and outcomes: A systematic review of best evidenced-based practices.</i>
2020 - 2021	El Zein, F., Santos, I., <b>Williams, C. D.</b> , & Jasperse, S. M. <i>Effective pedagogic strategies for online and hybrid teaching and learning: Findings from Abu Dhabi schools.</i>
2020 - 2021	Woolsey, M. L., <b>Williams, C. D.</b> , Lewis-Traylor, C., Kharbet, F., & Melkonian, M. <i>COVID-19: Stakeholder perceptions of distance learning for students with disabilities.</i>
2019 - 2020	Brezial, S. J. & <b>Williams, C. D.</b> <i>Teaching while black and male: A phenomenological study of the racialized professional experiences of underrepresented African American male k-12 public school teachers.</i>
2017 - 2018	Rashad, F. F. & <b>Williams, C. D.</b> <i>Screen media as an educational tool to</i>

*teach English-learning infants language.* Emirates College for Advanced Education Research Grant.

- 2015 - 2018      Areepattamannil, S., Al Suweidl, S. S. M., Al Hassan, S., Khine, M. S., Woolsey, M. L., Tennant, L., Welch, A. G., **Williams, C. D.**, Rashad, F. F., & Melkonian, M. *Beyond abc's and 123's: A two-year longitudinal study of the impact of kindergarten education on child outcomes in Abu Dhabi.* A.D.E.C. Award for Research Excellence.
- 2016 - 2017      Tennant, L., Woolsey, M. L., Al Hassan, S., **Williams, C. D.**, Saqr, S., & Rashad, F. *Emirati pre-service teachers' global self-esteem and self-efficacy in classroom management.*
- 2012              Diversity Project: Texas A&M University Dean's Office Project  
Collected data from various universities to address diversity within the Colleges of Education
- 2011              Assisted graduate student with coding of reading articles for dissertation data / Assisted with literature review for an IES grant submission

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Published Peer-Reviewed Manuscripts**

Johnson, J. & **Williams, C. D.** (2019). Emirati university students in the united arab emirates describe preferred mobile learning features used to make sense of mathematics. *International Electronic Journal of Mathematics Education*, 15(3), em0596.  
<https://doi.org/10.29333/iejme/8325>

Shih, M., Calhoun, M. B., Olson, C. L., & **Williams, C. D.** (2013). Using computation curriculum based measurement probes for error pattern analysis. *Intervention in School and Clinic*, 49(5). 281-289. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1053451213513957>

### **Published Manuscripts**

Williams, C. D. (2018). Special needs education: Trends and future outlook in the UAE. *The Knowledge Review October 2018*. 66-67. <http://magazine.theknowledgereview.com/The-10-Best-Value-Institutes-In-UAE-2018-October2018/#page=69>

### **Published Abstracts**

Williams, C. D. (2018). Educational considerations for using manipulatives in mathematics. *Front. Neurosci. Conference Abstract: International Conference – Educational Neuroscience.*

Williams, C. D. (2016). Does progress monitoring increase student achievement? Curriculum-based measurement in mathematics. *Front. Neurosci. Conference Abstract: International Conference – Educational Neuroscience.* doi: 10.3389/conf.fnins.2016.92.00027

### **Manuscripts Under Review**

Eppard, J., **Williams, C.**, Hojeij, Z., Johnson, J. D. (2021). Ipad integration: How parents and students at a Dubai-based indian school perceive its effectiveness. *Submitted to Journal of Education in Mathematics, Science and Technology*.

Woolsey, M. L., Kharbat, F., Lewis, C. L., **Williams, C. D.**, & Melkonian, M. (2021). How was distance learning for your child with ASD or intellectual disability? - A Snapshot of parental perceptions during COVID-19. *Submitted to Research in Developmental Disabilities*.

Williams, C. D., Lewis, C., Kharbat, F., Melkonian, M., & Woolsey, M. L. (2021). COVID-19 is shifting K-12 education: Stakeholder's satisfaction towards support and implementation of distance learning for students with disabilities. *Submitted to School Psychology*.

### **Manuscripts in Preparation**

Williams, C. D. (2021). Education in africa: A systematic literature review.

### **Editorial Board**

International Journal of Technology in Education and Science

### **Guest Reviewer**

2019	Guest reviewer for the <i>American Educational Research Journal</i>
2018	Guest reviewer for <i>Educational Researcher</i>
2017	Guest abstract reviewer for the 3 <sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Education
2012	Assisted advisor as guest reviewer for <i>Educational Administration Quarterly</i>
2011	Assisted advisor as guest reviewer for <i>Journal of Teacher Education</i>
2010	Guest reviewer for AERA conference proposals

### **Conference Presentations**

Williams, C. D. (October 2019). *Instilling inclusivity: Teaching students of determination*. Panel Moderator at the Qudwa Forum in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

**Williams, C. D.** & Johnson, J. D. (June 2019). *Undergraduate student preference of mobile learning features to make sense of mathematics*. Poster presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference on Education and New Learning Technologies in Palma de Mallorca, Spain.

Williams, C. D. (April 2018). *Playing with mathematics*. Workshop presented at the International Conference on Education in Mathematics, Science and Technology in Marmaris, Turkey.

Williams, C. D. (March 2018). *Educational considerations for using manipulatives in mathematics*. Poster presented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Educational Neuroscience in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Williams, C. D. (February 2018). *Turn math worksheets into activities*. Workshop presented at the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of Education in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Williams, C. D. (2018). *Differentiated Instruction in Math and Worksheet-less Mathematics*. Workshop for the First Subject Teacher Forum at the Teacher Training Institute in Ajman, United Arab Emirates.

Williams, C. D. (April 2016). *To use or not to use progress monitoring as an intervention in mathematics*. Oral presentation presented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Conference on Education in Bangkok, Thailand.

Woolsey, M. L., Tennant, L., & **Williams, C. D.** (March 2016). *Workshop A: Informal assessment of at-risk students and progress monitoring. Workshop B: Accommodations vs modifications: The stand-off!* Workshop presented at the International Conference on Inclusive Education: Education for Diversity in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Williams, C. D. (February 2016). *Does progress monitoring increase student achievement? Curriculum-based measurement in mathematics*. Poster presented at The International Conference on Educational Neuroscience in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Williams, C. D. (February 2016). *Curriculum-based measurement in mathematics as an intervention: A meta-analysis*. Poster presented at the International Teacher Education Conference in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Williams, C. D. (October 2015). *The effects of social media and protection strategies*. Oral presentation presented at The International Conference on the Protection from Sexual Harassment in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Calvo, B., Tucker, M., & **Williams, C. D.** (May 2014). *Enhancing student outcomes in online learning with instructional coaches*. Roundtable discussion presented at the Innovations in Online Learning Conference in San Antonio, Texas, United States.

Williams, C. D. (April 2013). *Curriculum-based measurement in mathematics: A meta-analysis*. Poster presented at the Houston Symposium for Research in Education and Psychology in Houston, Texas, United States.

Williams, C. D. (April 2011). *Improving mathematical performance of struggling high school students*. Poster presented at the Council for Exceptional Children Convention and Expo in National Harbor, Maryland, United States.

Goddard, Y. & **Williams, C. D.** (October 2010). *Connecting response to intervention (RtI) and differentiated instruction*. Paper presented at the Council for Learning Disabilities Conference in Myrtle Beach, Florida, United States.

Williams, C. D. (May 2010). *Self-regulatory strategies in mathematics for students with learning disabilities at the secondary level*. Poster presented at the Association for Behavior Analysis International Conference in San, Antonio, Texas, United States.

### **Professional Development Offered**

Williams, C. D. (2021). *Early identification and intervention*. Online webinar for Al Yasmina School Parents, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Williams, C. D. (2021). *Teaching and learning strategies 4-week professional development workshop series*. Online workshops, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates  
<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLSSxpG3QegzWU8thb9no4DsXtrTKEkWUp>

Williams, C. D. (2021). *Introduction to special education 4-week professional development workshop series*. Online workshops, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates  
<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLSSxpG3QegzVHOObOa095zpXaUklADT1jG>

Williams, C. D. (2021). *Personalized learning*. Online workshop for Al Yasmina School, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Rashad, F. F., **Williams, C. D.**, & Lewis-Traylor, C. (2020). *Strategies for the student-centered classroom*. Workshop online for Educators Without Borders, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Williams, C. D. (2019). *Lesson planning for inclusive classrooms*. Workshop at the Emirates College for Advanced Education, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Williams, C. D. (2019). *Inclusive strategies for struggling students*. Workshop at the Emirates College for Advanced Education, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Williams, C. D. (2019). *Lesson Planning*. Workshop as part of the Emirates College for Advanced Education student internship orientation in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Williams, C. D. (2016). *Teaching math to students with special needs*. Workshop at the Future Center in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Williams, C. D. & Parkman, S. (2016). *Dynamic duo of tools for mobile learning in the classroom*. Workshop as part of the Emirates College for Advanced Education Faculty Development Day in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

### **Community Service**

04/2019 – 12/2020     Al Mubarakah program development with Sheikha Shamma bint Sultan bin Khalifa al Nahyan  
-Content Development Team Member



01/2019 – 07/2020	Providing English immersion classes for displaced Syrian children in collaboration with the United Nations and Retal Center – Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
05/2019 – 08/2019	Emirates College for Advanced Education 4-week Summer Camp. -Camp for grades 10-12 -Development Team Member
06/2019 – 07/2019	Emirates College for Advanced Education Helping Hands & Lotus Retal Centre -5-week Summer Program -Program for displaced Syrian children -Coordinator & Developer
02/2019 – 06/2019	Parent Volunteer for Student Reading at Repton School - Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
10/2017 – 11/2017	6-week Autism Workshop for children with GOALS UAE -Creative Designer
10/2016 – 11/2016	6-week Autism Workshop for children with GOALS UAE

## References

### **David Pedder**

Emirates College for Advanced Education  
Deputy Vice Chancellor – Academic Dean  
[David.Pedder@ecae.ac.ae](mailto:David.Pedder@ecae.ac.ae)

### **Mohamed Seghier**

Emirates College for Advanced Education  
Counseling, Special Education, and Neuroscience Division Chair  
Associate Professor  
[Mohamed.Seghier@ecae.ac.ae](mailto:Mohamed.Seghier@ecae.ac.ae)

### **Mary Lynn Woolsey**

Emirates College for Advanced Education  
Counseling, Special Education, and Neuroscience Division  
Associate Professor  
[MWoolsey@ecae.ac.ae](mailto:MWoolsey@ecae.ac.ae)

### **Fatimah F. Rashad**

Emirates College for Advanced Education  
Practicum and Internship Coordinator  
Assistant Professor  
[frashad@ecae.ac.ae](mailto:frashad@ecae.ac.ae)