

## Emily K. Tanner

Georgia State University • Department of Learning Sciences  
30 Pryor St SW Suite 750 • Atlanta, GA 30303  
770-715-3828(Cell)  
emilyktanner@gmail.com

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### **EDUCATION**

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| 2019-2024 | Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA.<br>PhD, Learning Sciences<br>Education of Students with Exceptionalities<br>Under the supervision of Dr. David E. Houchins |
| 2017      | Vanderbilt, Nashville, TN.<br>Certification<br>Development of Gifted and Talented Youth (K-12)                                                                    |
| 2013      | University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL.<br>M.Ed., Education of Students with Exceptionalities (K-12)                                                       |
| 2009      | University of Georgia, Athens, GA.<br>B.A., Journalism and Mass Communication; Advertising                                                                        |

### **Professional Experience**

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| 2025-Current | <b>Assistant Professor</b> , University of South Alabama, Department of Leadership and Teacher Education, Special Education                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 2019-2025    | <b>Graduate Research Assistant</b> , Georgia State University for Project Liberate (Literacy Instruction Based on Evidence through Research for Adjudicated Teens to Excel; Institute of Education Sciences, R324A190145; Efficacy Trial; David E. Houchins, PhD, PI). <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Collected and analyzed fidelity of implementation data</li><li>• Collected ongoing quantitative student literacy and behavioral outcome data</li><li>• Coordinated, conducted, and analyzed qualitative teacher and administrator interviews</li><li>• Contributed to collection of qualitative student data collection</li><li>• Conducted teacher literacy-related professional development</li><li>• Developed Qualtrics surveys</li></ul> |
| 2020-2021    | <b>Graduate Research Assistant, Center for Leadership and Disability</b> (Georgia State University and the Center for Disease Control partnership on Autism planning for Georgia and Learn the Signs Act                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

Early Intervention, Directors: Drs. Brian Barger and Emily Graybill).

- 2019-2020      **Georgia LEND Fellow** (The Georgia Leadership and Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities is a one-year interdisciplinary training experiences)
- 2017- 2019      **Teacher of the Gifted and Talented**  
*Nassau County Schools*  
*Fernandina Beach Middle School, Amelia Island, FL.*
- Administrative team member for special education faculty
  - Led school-wide initiatives to incorporate a social skills curriculum into daily routines
- 2013-2017      **Special Education Teacher**  
*Nassau County Schools*  
*Emma Love Hardee Elementary (3-5), Amelia Island, FL.*
- Special Education Lead Teacher
  - Supervised and mentored new teachers and paraprofessionals
  - Developed new teacher training modules on data collection, parent communication, and paraprofessional training
- 2013-2019      **Education Consultant/Family Trainer**  
*Privately owned education consultation, Amelia Island, FL.*
- Worked collaboratively with families to provide training and support students' self-advocacy skills

### **SCHOLARLY WRITING**

- Marelle, C., Donehower, C., Hansen, S., Roach, A., Boden, L., & **Tanner, E.** (2025). Using Virtual Reality to Train Teacher Candidates in Classroom Management. *The Journal of Special Education Apprenticeship*, 14(1). <https://doi.org/10.58729/2167-3454.1215>
- Stevens, E.A, **Tanner, E.**, & Mowbray, M. H. (2024). A systematic review of mathematics vocabulary interventions for students with or at risk for mathematics difficulty. *Remedial and Special Education*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/07419325241265972>
- Myers, J.A., Arsenault, T., Powell. S.R., Witzel, B.S., Pigott, T., & **Tanner, E.** (2024). Considerations for intensifying word-problem interventions for students with mathematics difficulties (MD): A qualitative umbrella review of relevant meta-analyses. *Journal of Learning Disabilities*. 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/00222194241281293>
- Belden, J., Myers, J.A., Colquitt, E., & **Tanner, E.** (2024). Reading interventions for Spanish-speaking English learners at risk for reading difficulty: A meta-analysis. *Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness*. 0(0)1–34. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19345747.2024.2410324>

- Marelle, C., **Tanner, E.**, & Donehower Paul, C., (2023). Special education teacher training to address challenging behaviors for students with ASD in the classroom setting: A systematic review of the literature. *Review Journal of Autism Developmental Disorders*. 1(1) 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40489-023-00404-3>
- Houchins, D. E., Marsh, R. J., & **Tanner, E.** (2022). An introduction to mixed methods special education research. In T. Farmer, E. Talbott, K. McMaster, D. Lee, & T. Aceves (Eds.), *Handbook of special education research* (Vol. I, pp. 187-203). Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003156857>
- Tanner, E. K.**, Marsh, R. J., & Houchins, D. E. (2024). Creating Highly Structured Classrooms for Students in Alternative Education Settings. *Intervention in School and Clinic*, 60(5), 285–291. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10534512241308164>
- Tanner, E.**, Slaven-Ruffing, S., Varjas, K., Houchins, D. E., Roach, A., & Reed, D., (2025). Juvenile correctional administrator and teacher perspectives on the implementation of Read 180®. *Residential Treatment of Children and Youth* (in press). <https://doi.org/10.1080/0886571X.2025.2506403>

## **PRESENTATIONS**

- Tanner, E.**, Varjas, K., Houchins, D. E., & Reed, D. (2025, March 12th-15th). *Utilizing student voices from marginalized populations to improve English Language Arts instruction* [Concurrent Presentation]. CEC Convention and Expo, Baltimore, MD.
- Tanner, E.**, & Marelle, C. (2025, March 12th-15th). *Low effort high impact behavior management for students with EBD in an alternative education setting* [Poster Presentation]. CEC Convention and Expo, Baltimore, MD.
- Tanner, E.**, & Houchins, D. E., (2024, November 5th – 8th). *Student voices: Learning literacy in long-term juvenile correctional facilities* [Kaleidoscope Poster Presentation]. Teacher Education Division of CEC, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Tanner, E.**, & Houchins, D. E., (2024, November 5th – 8th). *Student voices: Learning literacy in long-term juvenile correctional facilities* [PechaKucha Presentation]. Teacher Education Division of CEC, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Tanner, E.**, Varjas, K., Houchins, D. E., Reed, D., & Slaven-Ruffing, S. (2024, March 14th-17th). *Implementing Read 180®: Perspectives from juvenile correction teachers and administrators* [Poster Presentation]. CEC Convention and Expo, San Antonio, TX.
- Slaven-Ruffing, S., Goodwin, J., Simpson, K., **Tanner, E.**, Sundmark, A., McPhee, K., Varjas, K., & Houchins, D. (2024, February 14th-17th). *Getting a foot in the door: Initiating juvenile justice research* [Poster Presentation]. The National Association of School Psychologists Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.

Simpson, K., Varjas, K., Houchins, D. E., Broen, M., **Tanner, E.**, McPhee, K., Slaven-Ruffing, S., & Sundmark, A. (2024, February 14th-17th). *Motivating Incarcerated Youth for Reading and Writing* [Paper Presentation]. The National Association of School Psychologists Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA.

**Tanner, E.**, Houchins, D. E., Reed, D., Varjas, K., & Slaven-Ruffing, S. (2023, October 30<sup>th</sup>-November 2nd). *Juvenile Correctional Administrator and Teacher Perspectives on the Implementation of Read 180®* [Kaleidoscope Poster Presentation]. Teacher Education Division of CEC, Long Beach, CA.

**Tanner, E.**, Hall, R., Slaven-Ruffing, S., Simpson, K., Broen, M., Reed, R., Marsh, R., Varjas, K., & Houchins, D. E. (2023, March 1st-4th). *Literacy Studies within a Juvenile Justice Setting: A review of the literature* [Poster Presentation]. CEC Convention and Expo, Louisville, KY.

Slaven-Ruffing, S., Simpson, K., **Tanner, E.**, Sundmark, A., McPhee, K., Varjas, K., & Houchins, D. E. (2023, March 1st-4th). *Conducting research in juvenile justice settings: De-mystifying state approval processes* [Poster Presentation]. CEC Convention and Expo, Louisville, KY.

Simpson, K., Broen, M., Slaven-Ruffing, S., Sundmark, A., Hall, R., McPhee, K., **Tanner, E.**, Varjas, K., Marsh, R., Reed, D., & Houchins, D. E. (2023, February 10<sup>th</sup>). *Students speak out on juvenile justice education and school climate* [Paper Presentation]. The National Association of School Psychologists Annual Conference, Denver, CO.

Slaven-Ruffing, S., Sundmark, A., Simpson, K., **Tanner, E.**, Broen, M., Hall, R., Varjas, K., Houchins, D., Marsh, R., & Reed, D. (2023 February 10<sup>th</sup>). *Understanding and addressing workplace stress in teachers of incarcerated youth* [Paper Presentation]. The National Association of School Psychologists Annual Conference, Denver, CO.

Simpson, K., Broen, M., Slaven-Ruffing, S., McPhee, K., Sundmark, A., Hall, R., **Tanner, E.**, Varjas, K., Marsh, R., Reed, D., & Houchins, D. E. (2022, November 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>). *Student perceptions of literacy and school climate in juvenile justice facilities* [Paper Presentation]. The Teacher Educators for Children with Behavior Disorders Annual Conference, Tempe, AZ.

**Tanner, E.**, Slaven-Ruffing, S., Simpson, K., Broen, M., McPhee, K., Sundmark, A., Hall, R., Varjas, K., Marsh, R., Reed, D., & Houchins, D. E. (2022, November 17th-18th). *Reading, writing, and incarceration: Juvenile justice educators' views on literacy instruction*. [Paper Presentation]. The Teacher Educators for Children with Behavior Disorders Annual Conference, Tempe, AZ.

Sundmark, A., McPhee, K., Slaven-Ruffing, S., **Tanner, E.**, Simpson, K., Varjas, K., Houchins, D. E., Reed, D., Lambert, R.G., Hitchcock, J. (2022, August 4th-6th). *Trauma exposure, PTSD symptoms, and reading skills among incarcerated adolescents*. [Poster Presentation]. American Psychological Association Annual Convention, Virtual.

McPhee, K., Slaven-Ruffing, S., Sundmark, A., **Tanner, E.**, Varjas, K., Houchins, D. E., Reed, D. K., Marsh, R. J., Hitchcock, J., Lambert, R. (2022, February 15-18). *Conducting culturally and contextually relevant research in juvenile justice settings* [Paper presentation]. National Association of School Psychologists Annual Convention, Boston, MA.

Sundmark, A., Slaven-Ruffing, S., **Tanner, E.**, McPhee, K., Elrod, B., Varjas, K., Houchins, D. E., Reed, D. (2022, February 15th-18th). *On-demand literacy professional development*. [Poster Presentation]. National Association of School Psychologists Annual Convention, Boston, MA.

**Tanner, E.**, & Houchins, D. E., (2022, January 13-21) *Researcher and Teacher Implications of K-12 Blended Learning Math Intervention Research Involving Students with Learning Disabilities* [Poster Presentation]. Council for Exceptional Children Convention and Expo: Division for Learning Disabilities, Orlando, FL.

Marelle, C. & **Tanner, E.** (2022, January 13-21). *Teacher training to address problem behaviors for ASD in the classroom: A systematic review*. [Poster Presentation]. Council for Exceptional Children Convention and Expo, Orlando, FL.

Marelle, C. & **Tanner, E.** (2022, January 26-28). *Teacher training to address problem behaviors for ASD in the classroom* [Poster Presentation]. International Conference on Autism, Intellectual Disability, & Developmental Disabilities, Clearwater Beach, FL.

**Tanner, E.** McPhee, K., Sundmark, A., Slaven-Ruffing, S., Houchins, D. E., Varjas, K., Reed, D., & Marsh, R. J. (2021, November 18-19). *A systematic literature review of behavioral interventions in alternative schools*. [Paper Presentation]. Teacher Educators for Children with Behavioral Disorders Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ.

**Tanner, E.**, McPhee, K., Sundmark, A., Slaven-Ruffing, S., Houchins, D. E., Varjas, K., Reed, D., & Marsh, R. J. (2021, November 18-19). *Denial of evidence-based practices? Facilitators and barriers of IRB policies in state juvenile justice*. [Paper Presentation]. Teacher Educators for Children with Behavioral Disorders Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ.

Marsh, R. J., Houchins, D. E., McPhee, K., M., & **Tanner, E.** (2021, November 18-19). *The Struggles of Support: Lessons Learned from Working with Juvenile Justice Facilities*. The Teacher Educators for Children with Behavior Disorders annual conference, Tempe, AZ.

Etchison, H. & **Tanner, E.** (2021, March). *Social validity of natural change agents as interventionists: A systematic literature review*. [Paper presentation]. Learning Sciences Graduate Student Association Spring Conference, Virtual.

**Tanner, E.**, Belden, J., Watson, J. Houchins, D. E., (2021, March 3-6). *Fidelity Measures in K-*

*12 Blended Learning Math Interventions Involving Students with Disabilities* [Poster Presentation]. Council for Exceptional Children Convention and Expo, Virtual.

**Tanner, E.,** Elrod, B., Slaven-Ruffing, S, Sundmark, A., Houchins, D. E., Varjas, K., Reed, D. (2021, March 3-6). *Denial of evidence-based practices? An analysis of state juvenile justice IRB policies and practices* [Poster Presentation]. Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Convention and Expo, Virtual

Elrod, B., **Tanner, E.,** Slaven-Ruffing, S, Sundmark, A., Varjas, K., Houchins, D. E., Reed, D. (2021, February 23-26). *Juvenile justice IRB policies: Increasing access to evidence-based practices* [Paper Presentation]. National Association of School Psychologists Annual Convention, Virtual.

Marsh, R., Houchins, D. E., Christenson, C. & **Tanner, E.** (2020, October). *Integrating multiple methods in juvenile justice research*. Teacher Educators for Children with Behavioral Disorders Annual Conference, Phoenix, AZ.

**Tanner, E.,** Gates, E., Schufreider, K., Javed, Z., Barger, B., (2019, December). *From what to why: Building a roadmap to identify and resolve early ASD identification differences* [Poster Presentation]. Satcher Fellowship Institute Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia.

## **UNIVERSITY INSTRUCTION AND SUPERVISION**

### **Adjunct Instructor, Spring 2025**

EEX 6848: *Literacy Practicum in Special Education*  
University of North Florida, Virtual

### **Adjunct Instructor, Spring 2025**

EEX 6849: *Practicum in Special Education*  
University of North Florida, Virtual

### **Adjunct Instructor, Spring 2025**

EXC 4671 & 7940: *Practicum II Student Teaching*  
Georgia State University, In Person

### **Teacher of Record, Fall 2024**

EXC 4671 & 7940: *Practicum II Student Teaching*  
Georgia State University, In Person

### **Graduate Teaching Assistant, Summer 2023**

EXC 7160: *Social and Emotional Strategies for Students with Behavior and Learning* Georgia State University, Virtual

### **Teacher of Record, Spring 2022**

EXC 6590: *Functional and Social Methods for Students with Behavior/Learning Disabilities* Georgia State University, Hybrid

**Teacher of Record, Fall 2021**

EXC 4190: *Theoretical Foundations of Literacy Instruction.*  
Georgia State University, In Person

**Graduate Teaching Assistant, Summer 2021**

EXC 7190: *Theoretical Foundations of Literacy Instruction.*  
Georgia State University, Virtual

**Graduate Teaching Assistant, Fall 2020**

EXC 6560: *Educational Evaluation of Disabilities.*  
Georgia State University, Virtual

**Graduate Teaching Assistant, Summer 2020**

EXC 4020: *Characteristics and Instructional Strategies for Students with Disabilities.* Georgia State University, Virtual

**COMMUNITY and PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

2022-2023	Learning Sciences-Graduate Student Organization, Vice President
2020-2022	G.N.E.T.S. volunteer math advisor and tutor Learning Sciences-Graduate Student Organization, Officer
2020-2021	CEC mentor teacher for small group instruction specialist Clinical Partnerships and Induction Committee (CPIC) Student Chair at Georgia State University
2019	Co-reviewer with Dr. David Houchins-Journal of Emotional Behavior Disorders
2017 – 2019	Communities in School, Mentor Amelia Island, FL
2012	Teaching Abroad, University of North Florida Volunteer, University of the Philippines, Manila.
2012	Teaching Abroad, University of North Florida Volunteer, Honolulu, HI
2008	International Student Volunteer, University of Georgia New Zealand

**SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS**

2016-2019	Florida Best and Brightest Teaching Scholarship Recipient
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2017 Nassau County Education Foundation Grant Recipient  
**PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS**

Florida Advanced Professional Teaching Certifications:

Exceptional Student Education (K-12)  
Elementary Education (K-6)  
Social Sciences (5-9)  
Gifted and Talented Endorsed (K-12)  
ESOL Endorsed (K-12)

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

2019 – Present	Council for Exceptional Children Division for Learning Disabilities Division for Teacher Education Division for Research
2019-2024	Kappa Delta Pi College of Education Honors Society
2018-2019	Alpha Kappa Gamma Professional Teacher Sorority