

Curriculum Vitae

Jennifer E. Grace, PhD

College of Education
University of Houston-Clear Lake
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Education

- 2016 Ph.D., Education Administration, K-12 Administration
University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA
Advisor: Alonzo M. Flowers III, Ph.D., Professor, University of New Orleans
Dissertation Research: Rerouting the School to Prison Pipeline: A Phenomenological Study of the educational experiences of African American males who have been expelled from traditional public schools.
- 2009 Masters of Education; School Counseling
University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA
- 2005 Bachelor of Science; Secondary Education
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

Professional Licenses and Certificates

- 2024 Texas Principal Evaluation and Support System (T-PESS) Appraiser
2024 Texas Certified School Leader (EC-12)
2021 Texas Teacher Evaluation and Support System (T-TESS) Appraiser and Trainer
2021 Texas Advancing Educational Leadership (AEL) Trainer
2018 Intercultural Development Inventory Administrator
2018 Indiana Certified School Leader
2015 Louisiana Compass Evaluator
2013 Louisiana Certified School Leader (K-12)
2009 Louisiana Certified School Counselor
2005 Louisiana Certified Teacher (ELA 7-12)

Honors and Awards

- 2025 Education Administration Distinguished Alumni- University of New Orleans
2024 Texas Research and Scholarship Award- UHCL CFD
2023 Reviewer of the Year Award- Journal of Research on Leadership Education
2023 Early Career Faculty Award- University of Houston Clear Lake CFD
2023 Faculty Advisor of the Year- Texas Council of Professors of Educational Administration
2021 Jessie B. Vickman Special Teacher Award -NAACP- New Orleans

2016 American Association of Blacks in Higher Education Dissertation Award

Professional Experience

2025-Present Associate Professor of Educational Leadership
University of Houston Clear Lake
Department of Leadership and Policy Analysis

2022-Present Program Director-Administration and Supervision
University of Houston Clear Lake
Department of Leadership and Policy Analysis

2020-2025 Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership
University of Houston Clear Lake
Department of Leadership and Policy Analysis

2018-2020 Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership
University of Indianapolis
Department of Leadership and Educational Studies

2016-2018 Principal/ Chief Assessment and Accountability Officer
St. Helena Parish Schools, Greensburg, LA

2014- 2016 Assistant Principal, St. Helena Parish Schools, Greensburg, LA

2012-2014 Principal -Recovery School District/Future is Now Schools, New Orleans, LA

2008-2012 School Counselor -Nelson UNO Charter School, New Orleans, LA

2005-2008 ELA Teacher- Baton Rouge, LA

UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses Taught at University of Houston Clear Lake

ADSU 6030- Introduction to Educational Leadership- Graduate/Hybrid
ADSU 5010- Professional Preparation Seminar-Graduate/Online
ADSU 6638- School and Community Relations-Graduate/Online
ADSU 6233- Principalship- Graduate/Online
ADSU 6132- Curriculum-Graduate/Online
ADSU 6438- Trauma Informed School Leadership
ADSU 6533- Appraisal of Teaching-Graduate/Hybrid
ADSU 6735- Leadership Research Seminar- Graduate/Online
EDLS 7035- Race, Gender, and Ability in Education-Graduate/Hybrid
EDCI 7035- Race, Gender, and Ability in STEM-Graduate/Hybrid

EDLS 8132- Transition and Change Management-Graduate/Hybrid
EDLS 7033- Qualitative Research

Courses Taught at University of Indianapolis

EDUC 603- Equity in Education Reform- Graduate/Online
EDUC 604- Leadership for Social Justice in Rural and Urban Schools- Graduate/Online
EDUC 641- Urban Schools and Schooling-Graduate/Online
ELED 103- Inquiry in Education: Diverse learners, Schools, and Society-Undergraduate
EDUC 290- Teaching Diverse Society-Undergraduate
EDUC 300- Social, Political, & Philosophical Foundations of Education-Undergraduate

SCHOLARSHIP

Peer Reviewed Journals

Published

Verow, S., **Grace, J.**, & Peters, M. (2024). The area that continues to be unaddressed in public schools: Teacher bias in the EC-12 setting. *Voices of Reform: Educational Research to Inform and Reform*, 7(1), 143-169

Brown, K., **Grace, J.**, & Jones, L. A. (2024). Urban Educators' Journey with Restorative Justice: Insights and Challenges. *Middle Grades Review*, 10(2).
<https://scholarworks.uvm.edu/mgreview/vol10/iss2/4>

Grace, J. (2024). “Resisting Anti-Black Racism in U.S. Schools and Implications for Global Leadership.” In George Noblit (Ed.), *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Education*. New York: Oxford University Press. doi:10.1093/acrefore/9780190264093.013.2018.

Grace, J., & Lastrapes, R. E. (2024). What do school administrators think about race? A critical race mixed-method study. *Journal of School Leadership*, 34(2), 177-201.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/10526846231194349>

Grace, J. & Aming-Attai, R. (2023) ‘This is so white’: examining Black and Brown pre-service teachers’ sense of belonging in a predominantly White educator preparation program, *Whiteness and Education*, DOI: [10.1080/23793406.2023.2277789](https://doi.org/10.1080/23793406.2023.2277789)

Simieou, F., Miller, Q., **Grace, J.**, & Decman, J. (2023). “The road less traveled: Why black males choose alternative routes that lead to education.” *School Leadership Review*, 17(2).
<https://scholarworks.sfasu.edu/slr/vol17/iss2/1/>

- Decman, J., **Grace, J.**, Simieou, F., & Miller, Q. (2023). Educational accountability and equity: Superintendent perspectives. *School Leadership Review*, 17(2).
<https://scholarworks.sfasu.edu/slr/vol17/iss2/3/>
- Grace, J.**, (2023). “Not Looking to Blame, Shame or Horrify People”: Texas Educational Leaders Reflect on Employing Anti-Racism in Everyday School Leadership. *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education*, 1-16
<https://doi.org/10.1080/09518398.2023.2178688>
- Grace, J.**, Simieou III, F., Lastrapes, R. E., & Decman, J. (2022). Confronting the racism boogeyman: Educational leaders make meaning of the impact of George Floyd. *Education, Citizenship and Social Justice*, <https://doi.org/10.1177/17461979221123014>
- Simieou III, F., **Grace, J.**, Decman, J., & Cothorn, T. (2021). “Let’s Stay Together”: Examining a Grow Your Own Program in an Urban District. *International Journal of Educational Leadership Preparation*, 137.
- Grace, J.** (2020). “They are Scared of Me”: Black Male Perceptions of Sense of Belonging in US Public Schools. *Journal of Contemporary Issues in Education*, 15(2), 36-49. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.20355/jcie29402>
- Grace, J. E.**, & Nelson, S. L. (2019). “Tryin’ to Survive”: Black Male Students’ Understandings of the Role of Race and Racism in the School-to-Prison Pipeline. *Leadership and Policy in Schools*, 18(4), 664-680. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15700763.2018.1513154>
- Nelson, S.L., & **Grace, J. E.**, (2016). The Right to Remain Silent in New Orleans: The Role of Self-Selected Charter School Boards on the School-to-Prison Pipeline *Nova Law Review*, 40, 447 – 492. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15700763.2018.1513154>

Under Review

- Grace, J.** (Under Review) Holding Space for Healing: Exploring Undercurrents of Shame in Dialogue about Race in a Classroom Restorative Circle
- Grace, J.** (Under Review) Exploring the Intersection of Accountability and Care: Perspectives from the Houston Independent School District
- Grace, J.** (Under Review) Navigating the Intersection of Change Management and Educational Justice: Lessons from the Houston Independent School District Takeover
- Grace, J.** (Under Review) Leading While Black Amid a Failed Racial Reckoning
- Grace, J.** (Under Review) Déjà Vu: The Houston Independent School District Takeover and the Echo of Past Educational Injustices.

Peer Reviewed Book Chapters

Published

Grace, J. (2024). Educational Leadership as a Facilitator of Justice and Peace. In Anna Saiti & Rosemary Papa (Eds.) *Global Progressive Leadership: Peace Through Education*. ICPEL Publications

Grace, J. (2023). When They See Us: Implications for Anti-Racist School Leadership through Examining the Experiences of Black Boys. In Belinda Alexander-Ashley (Ed.) *Practical Strategies to Reduce Childhood Trauma and Mitigate Exposure to the School to Prison Pipeline*. IGI Global

Conference Proceedings

Veguilla-Martinez, N., Corrales, A., **Grace, J.**, & Peters, M. (2022). Campus leaders' use and attitudes towards technology impacted by COVID-19. In E. Langran (Ed.), *Proceedings of Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference* (pp. 697-701). San Diego, CA, United States: Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE).

Technical Reports

2024 **Grace, J.**, Wiemer, A., Shefman, P., Braswell, T. (2024) University of Houston – Clear Lake Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) Implementation Year 2: 2023-2024 Annual Review

Conference Activity and Participation

2025 **Grace, J.** Déjà Vu in Houston ISD: Educator Voice on State Intervention
American Educational Research Association Annual Conference
Denver, Colorado (April 23-27), 2025

2025 **Grace, J.** Practicing Anti-Racism in School Leadership across Texas. National
Association for Multicultural Education (NAME) Region V Bi-Annual
Symposium.
Houston, TX (April 11), 2025

- 2024 Simieou, F., Decman, J., **Grace, J.**, & Young, K. Stop, Look and Listen: Examining Voices from the Field in a Teacher Shortage. Presentation at International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership Annual Conference. San Antonio, TX (July 29-31), 2024
- 2023 U.S. Educational Leader Perspectives on Confronting Anti-Black Racism and Implications for Global Leadership
Educational Leaders Without Borders Bi-Annual Conference
Athens, Greece (May 29-31), 2023
- 2023 Reflecting on the Impact of George Floyd on Educational Leadership
American Educational Research Association Annual Conference
Virtual (May 4-5), 2023
- 2023 Texas Educational Leaders Reflect on Navigating Issues of Race and Anti-Black Racism
American Educational Research Association Annual Conference
Virtual (May 4-5), 2023
- 2022 Navigating Educational Leadership in the Aftermath of George Floyd
Critical Race Studies in Education Association Annual Conference
Edwardsville, IL (October 26-27), 2022
- 2022 Examining Racial Attitudes with The Anti-Racism Disposition Scale for School Administrators (ARDSA)
American Educational Research Association Annual Conference
San Diego, CA (April 21-26), 2022
- 2021 Development of the Anti-Racism Dispositions Scale for School Administrators
University Council for Educational Administration Conference
Virtual (November 11-12), 2021
- 2021 Implications for Social Justice Leadership through Examining the Experiences of Black Males.
International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership Conference
Virtual (August 3-5), 2021
- 2021 The Road Less Traveled: Why Black Males Choose Alternative Routes that Lead to Education.
International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership Conference
Virtual (August 3-5), 2021
- 2021 ‘This is so White’: Black and Brown Pre-Service Teachers’ Experiences in a Predominantly White Educator Program
Southwest Educational Research Association Conference

Virtual (February 3-5, 2021).

- 2019 Re-Routing the School to Prison Pipeline
University Council for Educational Administration Conference, New Orleans, LA
(November 22, 2019).
- 2019 “They are scared of me”: Supporting Academic Achievement of Black Males by
Implementing Social Justice, and Cultural Competency Components of Teacher
Preparation Programs
Indiana Association of Colleges for Teacher Education Conference
Indianapolis, IN (November 8, 2019).
- 2019 School Choice and Black Communities: Discussing Educational Equity and
Educational Racism Beyond Test Scores, International School Choice and Reform
Conference, Lisbon, Portugal (January 10, 2019).
- 2018 Collaborative Leadership Development for Principals and School Counselors,
University Council for Educational Administration Conference, Houston, Tx
(November 17, 2018).

Grants and Sponsored Research

Sponsored Research

Principal Investigator- Translators of Change- \$399, 225.00 NSF/IUSE. Under Review

Principal Investigator- Political Dominance, Antiracist School Leadership, & STPP-
\$2, 000, 000.00 NSF/AIB Unfunded.

Principal Investigator- Community Perspectives on the State Takeover of HISD -\$4,800 UHCL
Faculty Research Support Funds September 2023 Funded

Principal Investigator- Autism While Black -\$75,000 Spencer Foundation August 2023
Unfunded.

Content Expert- The Lingering Impacts of School-Based Hate Crimes on Historically Marginalized
Communities -\$1, 100,000.00 National Institute of Justice (NIJ) May 2023 Unfunded.

Content Expert-Collaborative Academy for Effective School Leadership (CAESL)-
\$3, 500,000.00 Institute of Education Sciences (IES) Fall 2020 Unfunded

Principal Investigator-School Leader Perceptions of Anti-Racism and its Role in Educational
Leadership - \$2,000.00 UHCL Faculty Research Support Funds Spring 2021 Funded

Training Grants

Co- Author- Principal Residency Grant with Goose Creek CISD-\$750,000.00 Texas Education Agency. March 2023. Funded

SERVICE

College and University Service

Department/Program

2022- Present Program Director- Administration and Supervision- Lead program logistics and recruitment and retention efforts
2022-2023 Chair- TEA ADSU Accreditation Requirement Revisions
2022-2023 Chair- ADSU Program Review Internal Report
2020-Present Attendee/Coordinator- 35+ Recruitment Events

College of Education

2023-2024 Academic Review Committee Chair
2022-Present Academic Review Committee
2023 Presenter (Best practices in Publishing)- New Faculty Mentoring Committee
2023 Committee Member- Social Studies Education Faculty Search Committee
2021-2023 Committee Member- Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects
2021-2023 Committee Member- Educational Leadership Admissions Committee
2021-2022 Committee Member-21st Century Skills Workgroup
2022 Committee Member- ELPA Qualitative Research Faculty Search Committee
2022 Committee Member- ELPA Educational Leadership Faculty Search Committee
2021-2023 Committee Member- Nominations and Elections Committee
2021-2023 Committee Chair- Student Affairs Committee Chair

University

2025-2027 Center for Faculty Development Advisory Board
2025 Committee Member: Vice President for Administration and Finance Search
2024- 2026 QEP Faculty Fellow- Becoming Aware
2023 Workshop Facilitator- Intercultural Pedagogy in Online Environments-UHCL QEP Cohort 2
2023 Workshop Facilitator- Why Teaching Interculturally Matters-UHCL QEP Cohort 2
2023-2025 Faculty Senate- Governance Committee
2023 Workshop Facilitator- Intercultural Pedagogy in Online Environments-UHCL QEP Cohort 1
2023 Workshop Facilitator- Intercultural Teamwork- UHCL QEP Cohort 1
2022-2023 Committee Member/Facilitator- Quality Enhancement Plan-
2021 Committee Member- Global Learning and Strategy Summer Institute
2022 Committee Member- UHCL Commencement Committee

Professional Service

Service to the Profession

2025-2027	Board of Directors Texas Chapter National Association of Multicultural Education
2023-Present	Manuscript Reviewer - Journal of Teacher Education
2023-2024	Committee Member International Council of Professors in Educational Leadership Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee Community Outreach Scholarship Mentor
2021-Present	Manuscript Reviewer - Journal of Research on Leadership Education
2021-Present	Manuscript Reviewer - International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education
2021-2022	Manuscript Reviewer - Sociological Perspectives Journal
2021-Present	Conference Reviewer - American Educational Research Association
2021-Present	Conference Reviewer - University Council of Education Administration
2021-2022	Conference Reviewer - Southwest Educational Research Association

Service to the Community

2025	Guest Lecture-Cultural Humility in Professional Development- EDCI Cohort
2024	Growth Mindset- Department of Defense Starbase STEM Education Program
2022	Guest Lecture- Recruiting, Hiring, Retention, and Termination in Educational Leadership University of Nevada-Las Vegas
2022	Guest Lecture- Intellectual Freedom and Underrepresented Populations UHCL Neumann Library
2022	Workshop- Engaging Culturally Diverse Learners in the Classroom Houston Community College-Upward Bound
2022	Workshop- Culturally Diverse Learners 101 Houston Community College-Upward Bound
2022	Guest Lecture-Debunking the Myths of Critical Race Theory Texas State Teachers Association - Aspiring Educators
2022	Workshop-Instructional Coaching Lenses Part Two Stafford Municipal School District
2022	Workshop-Instructional Coaching Lenses Part One Stafford Municipal School District
2021	Seminar-Global Citizens Cross-Cultural Global Certification Course UHCL Office of Global Learning & Strategy/Strategic Partnerships
2021	Workshop-Unlocking Innovation in Leadership: Keys for Individual and Team Development Houston Community College-Upward Bound
2021	Workshop-Taking a Critical Social Justice Approach in Advancing Educational Equity Houston Community College-Upward Bound
2021	Workshop- Know Your Rights/School to Prison Pipeline Presentation

Dissertation Advising

Chair

2025- "Exploration Into the Professional Experiences of African American Male Principals Serving Suburban Schools," Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis. Advised: Dr. Garnet Foster

2025- "Identifying and Supporting Students Who Experience the Incarceration of a Parent in Texas," Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis. Advised: Dr. Amber Akhtar

2025- "Third Through Fifth Grade English Language Arts and Reading Teacher Perceptions of the Five Dimensions of Professional Learning Communities and the Impact on Reading Achievement," Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis. Advised: Dr. Carmen Gonzales

2025- "Why Do Black Men Leave the Classroom? Exploring Perceptions of Black Male Educators That Have Left the Teaching Force," Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis. Advised: Dr. April Bernard *UHCL Dissertation of the year award*

2024- "The Self-Efficacy of Charter School Teachers in Classroom Management and the Mentor's Influence," Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis. Advised: Dr. Julia Wright

2024- "Impact of Casual Attribution Upon the Exclusionary Disciplinary Assignments of Junior High Students," Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis. Advised: Dr. Kimberly Darden
UHCL Dissertation of the year award

2024- "Navigating Challenges with Tenacity: Examination of Early Childhood Teachers' Perseverance for At Risk Student Populations," Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis. Advised: Dr. Monica Thompson

2024- "Resilience and Adaptability: A Phenomenological Study Examining Principal Retention Prior To, Amid, and Post the Covid-19 Pandemic," Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis. Advised: Dr. Sandra Cisneros

2023- "Evaluating the experiences and perceptions on how restorative practice strategies impact the execution of school discipline in a Title I urban school," Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis. Advised: Dr. Kathy Brown

2023- "From Their Perspective: A Qualitative Study Examining Black Boys' Relationship With Reading In Grades 3-5," Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. Advised: Dr. Alexandria Harrison

2022- "The influence of administrative support on teacher self-efficacy and attrition during the coronavirus pandemic". Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. Advised: Dr. Ijeoma Anugweje *TCPEA Dissertation of the year award*

2022- "Public-School Teacher's Implicit and Explicit Bias," Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. Advised: Dr. Shawn Verow *UHCL Dissertation of the year award*

Qualitative Methodologist

2024 “Pivoting to Distance Education: Community College Faculty Readiness, Attitudes, Challenges, and Experiences During Covid 19 and Beyond.” Dr. Cassandra Bell

2023 “Examining the Relationship Between Principal Leadership Styles and the Impact on Teacher Burnout” Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. Dr. Diana De La Rosa

2023 “The Effects of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports on Middle School Achievement and Middle School Student Outcomes” Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. Dr. Torrance Brooks

2023 “Teacher Perceptions of Preparedness to Establish the Learning Environment” Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. Dr. Precious Parks

2023 "Exploring Novice Principal Perception on Whether Alignment Exists Between Their Principal Development Program and Their Principal Evaluation Rubric," Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. Dr. Rachel Alex

2022 "Bending Barriers: African American Women in Education Leadership," Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. Dr. Barbara Ramirez

2022 "Perceptions Matter: Factors that Contribute to a Successful STEM Education in a Title I School District," Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. Dr. LaKenya Perry-Allen

2022 "Factors Affecting Black, Hispanic, and White Females to the Superintendency." Dr. Krystal Hawks

Committee Member

2024 “An Exploratory Study About African American Engineering Professionals’ Experiences of Their Student Support.” Curriculum and Instruction Dr. Frederic Darden

2024 “Examining the Impact of SB3 on Dialogue, Discourse, and Discussion in the High School Social Studies Classroom.” Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. Dr. Ryan Nassif

2024 “A Quantitative Study: Blossoming Black Girls in Early Childhood STREAM with Experiential Learning.” Curriculum and Instruction. Dr. Earline Wash

2023 “Examining the Influence of Dispositions and Practices on Student Achievement of Elementary Principals in Title I Schools,” Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. Dr. Traci Lightfoot

2023 "Examining the Impact of Veteran-centric Support on Retention and Degree Completion Rates of Military Affiliated Students Utilizing Post- 9/11 GI Bill at a Four-Year Public University," Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. Dr. Dipal Parekh

2023 "Examining the Relationship Between Teachers' Perceptions of School Climate and Student Achievement of Middle School Students," Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. Dr. Tanya Edwards

2022 "Classroom Management, Self Efficacy and Burnout of Teachers Who Began Their Career During the 2020/2021 School Year," Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. Dr. Corey DeFelice

2022 "The Relationship between Principals' Tenure and Other Fixed Variables and Students' Achievement on the 3rd and 4th Grade reading STAAR Exams in Texas," Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. Dr. Melissa Chalupsky

2022 "The Influence of COVID-19 on Campus Leaders' Attitudes Toward an Acquired Expertise in Technology," Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis. Dr. Norma Veguilla-Martinez