BREANA ABBOTT BAYRAKTAR

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Higher education scholar-practitioner with expertise in faculty development, instructional design, and pedagogical research. Methodological strengths in qualitative and mixed methods research, including grounded theory and classroom-based inquiry. Extensive experience facilitating SoTL projects, mentoring educators, and supporting instructional change at the course and institutional levels.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

– Alternative grading practices
– Collaborative and community-based models of faculty development
– Instructor feedback literacy and formative assessment design
– Ethical and pedagogical integration of generative AI in higher education
– Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) and classroom-based inquiry
– Qualitative and mixed methods research in postsecondary teaching and learning

EDUCATION

Ed.D. in Educational Leadership, Manhattanville College (*now Manhattanville University*)
M.Ed. in Adult Education, George Mason University
B.A. in French and History, College of William & Mary

SELECTED FACULTY POSITIONS

Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning, George Mason University
Educational Developer: Blended Learning/Hybrid Pedagogy Specialist   2022 – present
Affiliate faculty, Higher Education Program, College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Develop and offer professional development workshops for full-time/adjunct faculty. Develop new initiatives to meet faculty needs. Mentor faculty in applying SoTL/evidence-based practices to assess & improve student outcomes.

Northern Virginia Community College
Associate Professor, English as a Second Language   2018 - 2022
Assistant Professor, English as a Second Language   2015 - 2018
Instructor, English as a Second Language   2011 - 2015
Co-Chair, English Direct Enrollment Task Force   2021 – 2022
  Managed the work of a team of faculty and staff to develop policies and procedures for the direct enrollment of students into English coursework.
Chair, ESL Discipline Group   2018 - 2022
  Represented 50+ faculty across 5 campuses & collaborated across college departments/units to coordinate program planning for English language learners. Led emergency development of an online placement test for English language learners in response to the COVID-related closure of campus testing centers, leading to placement and subsequent enrollment of over 1500 students (April 2020-Dec. 2021)

Lead Faculty, Center for Excellence in Teaching & Learning (CETL)   2018 - 2022
    Developed and offered professional development workshops for full-time and
    adjunct faculty and college staff.
Resource Coordinator, High-Quality Remote Synchronous Task Force   Summer 2020
    Developed faculty pre-training self-assessment & intensive summer training
    program for faculty new to teaching online.
Coordinator, BRIDGE Program Development Team   Summer 2019
    Coordinated creation of a new "bridge" program for F1 visa students, including
    curriculum & schedule development, admissions, and program evaluation.

The George Washington University Center for Equity and Excellence in Education
Senior Research Associate   2011 - 2012
Conducted program evaluations, including developing evaluation criteria and procedures;
conducted observation/interviews of teachers, students, and administrators; prepared
evaluation reports.

SELECTED TEACHING EXPERIENCE

*Courses delivered face-to-face, asynchronous (via Canvas and Blackboard),
synchronous online (via Zoom and other web meeting systems), and hybrid (either face-
to-face/asynchronous online or synchronous/asynchronous).*

George Mason University   2022 - present
    Higher Education Program, College of Humanities and Social Sciences
    HE 703: Higher Ed in the Digital Age (spring 2023, spring 2025)
Northern Virginia Community College   2011 - 2022
    Department of English as a Second Language
    Teaching English for Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS/GRANTS

Finalist, POD Network Innovation Award   2025
    "The SoTL Collaboratory: Cultivating Statewide Educational Developer
    Collaboratories to Foster Pedagogical Change"
Principal investigator   2025 - 2026
    POD Network Research Grant ($3,200)
    "A Community of Practice Approach to Exploring Alternative Grading"
Principal investigator & project manager   2024 - 2026
    Fund for Excellent and Innovation grant ($93,000)
    State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV)
    "Preparing Students and Educators for Ethical AI Integration in Higher Education"
Co-principal investigator & project manager   2021 - 2024
    Virtual Library of Virginia Course Redesign Grant ($27,250)
    "English Composition Co-Requisite Support Course for English Language Learners"
Selected participant, *Dartmouth Seminar for Composition Research*   2021
    "Transparent assignment design in college composition courses"
Principal investigator & project manager   2020 - 2023
    Virtual Library of Virginia Course Redesign Grant ($15,350)

"Pre-College Composition for English Language Learners"
Teaching Faculty Reward & Recognition ($2,000)   2020, 2021, 2022
　　　Northern Virginia Community College

SERVICE

George Mason University
Learning Environments Group (LEG)   2022 - present
Learning Environments Assessment Group (LEAG)   2022 - present
LMS Review Advisory Committee   2023 - 2025
Mason Academic Assessment Council (MAAC)   2022 - 2024

Northern Virginia Community College
Return to NOVA Advisory Group (appointed position)   2020 - 2022
Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) Committee (appointed position) 2020 - 2021
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Syllabus Taskforce (appointed position) 2020 - 2021
Campus Convocation Planning Committee (appointed position)   2018 - 2021
College Governance
　　　Chair, *Woodbridge Campus Forum Council* (elected position)   2018 - 2022
　　　Senator, *College Senate* (elected position)   2020 - 2022
　　　College Senate Steering Committee   2021 - 2022
　　　College Senate Committee on Committees   2018 - 2021
　　　Instructional & Student Services Committee   2012 - 2014
Festival of the Arts Planning Committee   2017 - 2020
ESL Discipline Review Committee   2017 - 2019

External Service
Associate Editor, *Teaching & Learning Inquiry*   2025 - present
Reviewer   2020 - present
　　　International Journal of Academic Development
　　　To Improve the Academy
　　　Journal of Response to Writing
Virginia Education Development Collaborative
　　　Chair/Past Chair   2023 - 2025
　　　Communications Coordinator   2022 - 2023
Coordinator, *TILT-VA Research Team*   2020 - 2022
　　　State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Bayraktar, Breana. 2026. "Institutional Support Structures as Catalysts for Faculty Development and Teaching Excellence." *Journal of Further and Higher Education*. Forthcoming.

Bayraktar, Breana, Dayna Henry, and Jessica Taggart. 2026. "Silos to Synergy: Statewide Collaboration as a Model for Ethical and Scalable AI Integration." *Journal of Higher Education Management.* Forthcoming.

Bayraktar, Breana. 2026. "Building Networks, Fostering Innovation: Designing and Facilitating a Collaborative Faculty Mentor Training Program." *To Improve the Academy.* https://doi.org/10.3998/tia.8661.

Bayraktar, Breana. 2026. "Applying TILT to Authentic Assessment in a Diverse, Interdisciplinary Graduate Course." In *TILTed Pedagogy: A Collection of Evidence-Based Assignments to Inspire Learning*, edited by Shannon M. Sipes, Mandy Frake, and Jennifer C. Friberg. Center for Engaged Learning.

Bayraktar, Breana. 2025. "From Comments to Conversations: Scaffolding Feedback." *Deeper Learning Journal of Practice*. https://dljp.org/from-comments-to-conversations-scaffolding-feedback/.

Bayraktar, Breana, Dayna Henry, and Jessica Taggart. 2025. "Navigating the AI-Enabled Education Landscape: A Multifaceted Approach to Providing Effective Professional Learning and Support for Educators." *Theory Into Practice*. https://doi.org/10.1080/00405841.2025.2528543.

Bayraktar, Breana, Lisa Mastrangelo, Jolivette Mecenas, and Katherine Daily O'Meara. 2025. "Equity-Minded Writing Placement for a 'New Normal': Four Case Studies of Student Self-Placement (SSP)." In *WPAing in a Pandemic and beyond: Revision, Innovation, and Advocacy*, edited by Todd Ruecker and Sheila Carter-Tod. Utah State University Press.

Bayraktar, Breana, Kiruthika Ragupathi, and Katherine A. Troyer. 2025. "Building Trust Through Feedback: A Conceptual Framework for Educators." *Teaching and Learning Inquiry* 13 (January). https://doi.org/10.20343/teachlearninqu.13.7.

Bayraktar, Breana. 2024. "Finding Community through an Academic Development Collective: Overcoming Constraints through Strategic Collaboration." *International Journal for Academic Development* 29 (02): 255–68. https://doi.org/10.1080/1360144X.2024.2337227.

Bayraktar, Breana, and Indigo Eriksen. 2024. "Reduced Stress through Agency and Autonomy: Community College Student Perspectives of Labor-Based Grading." *Teaching English in the Two Year College* 52 (1): 21–43. https://doi.org/10.58680/tetyc202452121.

Bayraktar, Breana, Kim Case, Jodi Fisler, and Heather Keith. 2024. "Cross-Institutional FLCs That Support Equity-Based Pedagogy and Student Success." In *Faculty Learning Communities: Working Towards a More Equitable, Just, and Antiracist Future in Higher Education*, edited by Kristin N. Rainville, David Title, and Cynthia G. Desrochers. Transforming Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. Information Age Publishing.

Bayraktar, Breana. 2023. "Inclusive Student Engagement Strategies and Students' Sense of Belonging in Multimodal Learning Environments." In *Emerging Stronger: Pedagogical Lessons from the Pandemic*, edited by Jeffrey Chin and Michele Lee Kozimor. Routledge. http://doi.org/10.4324/9781003316336-2.

Bayraktar, Breana. 2023. "Supporting English Language Learners in the Era of Direct Enrollment." *Inquiry: The Journal of the Virginia Community Colleges* 26 (1). https://commons.vccs.edu/inquiry/vol26/iss1/5.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

Communicating About Ethical AI Use with Students*. [Pre-conference workshop.] Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, February 2025. With Tim Ball, Dayna Henry, Jessica Taggart, Sevinj Iskandarova, and Fang Yi.

subsequently delivered at several institutions and online for the State Council for Higher Education of Virginia (SCHEV)

Utilizing Learning Outcomes in Hybrid Teaching and *Best Practices in Hybrid Teaching* [2-day workshops]. Richard Bland College, August 2024.

Blogging as Public Scholarship. [Workshop]. Radford University Professional Development Week, May 2024.

Finding Your Path: Strategic Planning and Assessment for Educational Developers [Pre-conference workshop.] Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, February 2024. With Pam Tracy and Gilpatrick Hornsby.

Advocacy in the Context of Faculty and Educational Development. [Pre-conference workshop.] Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, February 2023. With Pam Tracy and Gilpatrick Hornsby.

A Research Based Framework for Redesigning Your Assignments. [Workshop]. Old Dominion University, Faculty Professional Development Conference, online, May 2022. With Heather Keith.

Experiential learning in the HyFlex classroom. [Panel] Student Opportunity Center, online, July 2020. With K. Henry, J. L. Jones, and J. Kang.

Supporting Faculty in Developing Their Teaching Practices. [Panel]. State Council of Higher Education for Virginia Day of Dialogue Conference, Richmond, VA, June 2019.

SELECTED REFEREED PRESENTATIONS

Beyond the Red Pen: Cultivating Feedback Literacy for Equity & Reflection. Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Conference, November 2025. With Kiruthika Ragupathi and Katherine Troyer.

Learning to Ungrade: Faculty Identity Change Through Community. Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Conference, November 2025.

Shaping Feedback Culture in Universities: Equipping Faculty Developers with Feedback Literacy Strategies. International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL) Conference, October 2025. With Kiruthika Ragupathi and Katherine Troyer.

The Power of Feedback: Equipping Developers with Feedback Literacy Strategies. Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Conference, November 2024. With Kiruthika Ragupathi and Katherine Troyer.

Uniting for Impact: Strategies for the Formation of MegaSoTL Collaborations. Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Conference, November 2024. With Dayna Henry and Jessica Taggart.

Frameworks for Elevating Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Programming through Fostering Relationships. Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Conference, November 2024. With the POD SoTL SIG.

Cultivating Trust in the Feedback Process: Instructor Practices and Learning Environment Conditions. International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL) Conference, October 2024. With Kiruthika Ragupathi and Katherine Troyer.

From Concept to Classrooms: Initiating Successful MegaSoTL Projects. International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL) Conference, October 2024.

Faculty impressions of alternative grading practices and barriers to implementation. Teaching English in the Two-Year College-Southeast Conference (TYCA-SE), February 2024. With Indigo Eriksen.

We want to, but how: Faculty impressions of alternative grading practices and barriers to implementation. Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, February 2024. With Indigo Eriksen.

(Re)Examining Key Practices for Fostering Engaged Learning. Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) Conference, January 2024. With Jessie Moore, Melinda Adams, and Jennifer Dobbs-Oats

Finding community: From crisis management to "insider" support and validation. Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Conference, November 2023.

Can We Talk? Fostering Trans-disciplinary Discourse in SoTL Programming. Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Conference, November 2023. With Sara Nasrollahian, Anna Santucci, Devshikha Bose, Peter Felten, Holly Buckland Parker, Cynthia Korpan, and Travis Thurston.

Navigating Challenges and Reaping Benefits of Long-Term, Multi-Institutional, International SoTL Partnerships. International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL) Conference, November 2023. With Jennifer Dobbs-Oates, Katherine Troyer, Kiruthika Ragupathi, Peter Felten, Rachel Forsyth.

Exploring Feedback Beliefs and Practices among Higher Education Faculty: A Cross-Institutional, Mixed Methods, International Research Study. International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL) Conference, November 2023. With Katherine Troyer and Kiruthika Ragupathi.

Narratives of Feedback: Exploring Faculty Beliefs and Practices on Feedback as Dialogue and Relationship in a Cross-Institutional Study. Association for the Assessment of Learning in Higher Education (AALHE) Conference, June 2023.

Reduced stress through agency and autonomy: Community college student perspectives of labor-based grading. Teaching English in the Two-Year College-Southeast Conference (TYCA-SE), February 2023. With Indigo Eriksen.

Reduced stress through agency and autonomy: Community college student perspectives of labor-based grading. Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, February 2023. With Indigo Eriksen.

Cross-Institutional Partnerships to Strengthen Educational Developer Toolkits. Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network in Higher Education Conference, November 2022. With Heather Keith, Kim Case, Laura Lukes, and Dayna Henry.

Successful OER Projects: From Conception to Grant to Publication. VCCS New Horizons Conference, April 2022. With Cathy Gaiser.

Sharing What Works in English Direct Enrollment. [Panel]. VCCS New Horizons Conference, April 2022.

Success for ELLs Through Directed Self-Placement and Corequisite Support. Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) International Conference, March 2022. With Elaine George and Nataliya Schetchikova.

Anti-Racist Assessment and the Covid-19 Pandemic as Catalysts for Directed/Informed Self-Placement. Conference on College Composition & Communication Annual Convention, March 2022. With Katherine O'Meara, Lisa Mastrangelo, and Jolivette Mecenas.

Cross-Institutional Interdisciplinary Initiative to Reduce Equity Gaps Through Transparent Design. Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, February 2022. With Heather Keith, Kim Case, Jodi Fisler, and Mary-Ann Winklemes.

Student-Centered Flexible Course Design Strategies. Old Dominion University Faculty Summer Conference, Online, May 2021.

Faculty-Led Professional Development: Meeting Faculty Where They Are. Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, February 2020.

Dealing with student writing: How to craft better assignments. Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, February 2019.

Supporting Non-Native English-Speaking Students in Reading and Writing Across the Disciplines. Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, February 2018. With Stephanie Harm and Martha Wheeler.