

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy	University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY (2016) Major Area: Educational Sciences Emphases: Curriculum and Instruction Secondary Social Studies Education Dissertation: <i>Questioning as a civic act: An examination of how social studies teachers define, develop, and cultivate questions for inquiry</i> Dissertation Chair: Dr. Kathy Swan
Master of Education	Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (2004) Major Area: Secondary Education
Bachelor of Arts <i>summa cum laude</i>	Transylvania University, Lexington KY (2000) Major Area: Teaching Social Studies

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022 to present	Associate Professor of Social Studies Education University of South Carolina Upstate
2016-2022	Assistant Professor of Social Studies Education University of South Carolina Upstate
2015	Graduate Assistant New York Social Studies Resource Toolkit Project
2013-2016	Graduate Assistant, Masters of Initial Certification Coordinator University of Kentucky, Department of Curriculum & Instruction
2012- 2016	Teaching Assistant University of Kentucky, Department of Curriculum & Instruction
2012-2013	Graduate Assistant Council of Chief State School Officers, <i>C3 Framework Project</i>
2001-2012	Social Studies Teacher Bryan Station High School, Lexington KY

REFEREED ARTICLES

- Mueller, R. G. W. (2024). Local history as a pathway for powerful social studies. *Social Studies and the Young Learner*, 36(3), 25-30.
- Mueller, R. G. W. (2022). "More resilient than I thought": Examining the stress of teaching through COVID-19. *Teacher Education Journal of South Carolina*, Winter, 37-46. <https://issuu.com/scatejournalssc/docs/tejsc.winter22>
- Mueller, R. G. W. (2022). A conversation too late: An examination of early-career teachers' experiences with new social studies standards. *Social Studies Teaching & Learning*, 3(1), 1-15. https://louisville.edu/education/sstl/files/vol3-issue1/mueller-sstl-vol3-iss1_1-15docx.pdf
- Colley, L. M., Mueller, R. G. W., & Thacker, E. S. (2021). "We just followed the lead of the sources": An investigation of how teacher candidates developed critical curriculum through subject matter knowledge. *Journal of Social Studies Research*, 45(4), 253-265. doi.org/10.1016/j.jssr.2020.12.001
- Bareiss, W., Mueller, R., & Merryman, A. (2021). Teaching about the Industrial Revolution using local landmarks: Engaging students with community history. *Teacher Education Journal of South Carolina*, Fall. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pe8MrcjkQt0HCEft_D6pWR0naXC4tNSE/view
- Mueller, R. G. W., Colley, L. M., & Thacker, E. S. (2019). What should I teach? Supporting social studies teacher candidates' subject matter choices. *Social Studies Journal*, 39, 46-60. https://docs.google.com/viewerng/viewer?url=https://pcssonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/SSJSpring2019.pdf&hl=en_US
- Mueller, R. G. W. (2018). From potential to practice: Compelling questions as an impetus for curricular and instructional change. *Journal of Social Studies Research*, 42, 249-260. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jssr.2017.08.003>
- Mueller, R. G. W. (2018). Examining teachers' development and implementation of compelling questions. *Social Studies Research and Practice*, 13(1), 1-15. doi.org/10.1108/SSRP-08-2017-0042
- Mueller, R. G. W. (2016). Making them fit: Examining teacher support for student questioning. *Social Studies Research and Practice*, 11(1), 40-55.
- Mueller, R. G. W., & Colley, L. M. (2015). An evaluation of the impact of end-of-course Exams and ACT-QualityCore on U.S. history instruction in a Kentucky high school. *Journal of Social Studies Research*, 39, 95-106. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jssr.2014.07.002>

INVITED SCHOLARLY PAPERS

Colley, L., Thacker, E., & Mueller, R. (2023). Zoom-in, focus, and take the shot: Reflections on teaching inquiry. *Social Education*, 87(6), 384-385.

Mueller, R. G. W. (2017). Calibrating your “compelling compass”: Teacher-constructed prompts to assist question development. *Social Education*, 81(60), 343-345.

BOOKS

Swan, K., Lee, J., Mueller, R., & Day, S. (2014). *Teaching the C3 Framework: A guide to inquiry-based instruction in social studies*. National Council for the Social Studies.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Mueller, R. & Mewborn, M. (in press). Reimagining resources to support Holocaust education through geographic inquiry. In J. Eargle & M. Mewborne (Eds), *Teaching Holocaust Geographies in Middle and Secondary Schools*. Emerald.

Hardin, B. & Mueller, R. (2024). Exploring the forced migration experience using the middle grades novel *Refugee*. In P. Greathouse, M. Hundley, & A. Hostetler (Eds), *Exploring history through young adult literature: Middle level volume*. Rowan & Littlefield.

Thacker, E., Mueller, R., & Colley, L. (2024). Teaching about the Progressive Era through the story of Clara Lemlich: *Audacity*. In P. Greathouse, M. Hundley, & A. Hostetler (Eds), *Exploring history through young adult literature: High school volume*. Rowan & Littlefield.

Colley, L., Thacker, E., & Mueller, R. (2023). Zoom-in, focus, and take the shot: Reflections on teaching inquiry. In K. Swan, S. G. Grant, & J. Lee (Eds), *Revolution of ideas: A decade of C3 inquiry*. National Council for the Social Studies.

Mueller, R. G. W., Colley, L. C., & Thacker, E. S. (2017). What should I teach: Conceptualizing subject matter. In S. G. Grant, K. Swan, & J. Lee (Eds), *Teaching social studies: A methods book for methods teachers*. Information Age Publishing

BOOK REVIEWS

Mueller, R. G. W. (2013, Fall). [Review of the book *Social studies as new literacies in a global society: Relational cosmopolitanism in the classroom*, by M. Baildon & J.S. Damico]. *Alberta Journal of Educational Research*, 59, 520-524.

REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Southall, A., Long, E., & Mueller, R. (2024, November). Losing yourself and finding yourself at the same time: The journey from social studies educator to middle/secondary educator for all subjects. [Conference Session]. NCSS College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA) Meeting, Boston, MA.
- Mueller, R. G. W. (2024, March). The pedagogical potential of community history [Conference Session]. South Carolina Historical Association Annual Meeting, Marion, SC.
- Turgut, R. & Mueller, R. (2024, February). Exploring the impact of a graduate-level course on teachers' understanding and implementation of translanguaging pedagogy with emergent multilingual learners [Paper Presentation]. Eastern Educational Research Association Annual Conference, Clearwater, FL.
- Hostetler, A., Greathouse, P., Hundley., Thacker, E., Colley, L., Mueller, R. (2023, December). *Teaching history with young adult literature* [Conference Session]. National Council for the Social Studies Conference, Nashville, TN.
- Hostetler, A., Greathouse, P., Hundley, M., Burriss, S., Andrews, J....Palmeri, A. (2023, November). *Teaching history with young adult literature* [Symposium]. NCSS College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA) Meeting, Nashville, TN.
- Turgut, R. & Mueller, R. (2023, April). *Mainstream teachers' perceptions of leveraging multilingual learners' home languages and translanguaging pedagogy* [Paper Presentation]. American Educational Research Association (AERA) Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Mueller, R. G. W. (2022, April). *A conversation too late: An examination of early-career teachers' experiences with new social studies standards* [Conference Session]. SC Upstate Research Symposium, Spartanburg, SC.
- Turgut, R. & Mueller, R. (2022, February). *Translanguaging in mainstream classrooms: Exploring mainstream teachers' perceptions of translanguaging pedagogy* [Conference Session]. Eastern Educational Research Association (EERA) Conference, Clearwater Beach, FL.
- Whitlock, A., Southall, A., & Mueller, R. (2021, November). *"Right-sizing" is the new buzzword* [Conference Session]. NCSS College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA) Meeting, Virtual.
- Mueller, R. G. W. (2021, October). *A conversation too late: Preparing teachers for standards implementation* [Conference Session]. South Carolina Council for the Social Studies Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC.
- Merryman, A. & Mueller, R. G. W. (2021, October). *The Beaumont E: Weaving a community at Beaumont Mill* [Conference Session]. South Carolina Council for the Social Studies Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC.

- Turgut, R. & Mueller, R. (2021, April). *"I used to be terrified of teaching MLs": Exploring changes in teachers' understandings about multilingual learners* [Conference Session]. American Educational Research Association (AERA) Meeting, Virtual.
- An, S., Blevins, B., Bohan, C. H., Bradshaw, L. Y., Caffrey, G., Colley, L.... Williams, M. (2020, December). *Motherscholars at CUFA: Engaging community, dialogue, scholarship, and advocacy* [Conference Session]. NCSS College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA) Meeting, Virtual.
- Shekitka, J. P., Muentel, K., Mueller, R., Wilcox, L., Stricker, K., & McCorkle, W. (2020, December). *The "new normal": From COVID-19, remote learning, and racial unrest to a divisive presidential election* [Conference Session]. NCSS College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA) Meeting, Virtual.
- Colley, L. C., Thacker, E. S., & Mueller, R. G. W. (2019, November). *"We just followed the lead of the sources": An investigation of how teacher candidates developed critical curriculum through subject matter knowledge*. [Paper Presentation]. NCSS College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA) Meeting, Austin, TX.
- Mueller, R. G. W. (2019, September). *Podcast possibilities*. [Conference Presentation]. South Carolina Council for the Social Studies Conference, Greenville, SC.
- Mueller, R. G. W., Thacker E. S., & Colley, L. M., (2019, April). *Secondary social studies teacher candidates' use of sources for subject matter knowledge and curricular decisions* [Paper Presentation]. SC Upstate Research Symposium, Spartanburg, SC.
- Mueller, R. G. W., & Baran, C. (2019, February). *Teachers as advocates for student activism* [Poster Presentation]. South Carolina Council for the Social Studies Conference, Charleston, SC.
- Mueller, R. G. W., Thacker, E. S., & Colley, L. M. (2018, November). *What should I teach: Examining a methods exercise for making subject matter choices* [Paper Presentation]. NCSS College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA) Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Whitlock, A., & Mueller, R. (2018, November). *Critical issues and active citizenship* [Conference Presentation]. NCSS College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA) Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Grant, S. G., Lee, J., Swan, K., O'Brien, J., Bain, B., Bardo., N.,...Willman, K., (2018, November). *Teaching social studies methods: Conversations among colleagues* [Conference Presentation]. NCSS College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA) Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Mueller, R. G. W. (2018, November). *Toward a more perfect union: Social studies teacher education as a model for social foundations* [Conference Presentation]. American Educational Studies Association Meeting, Greenville, SC.

- Mueller, R. G. W. (2017, November). *Learning by doing: The impact of question development and implementation on teachers' understanding of compelling questions* [Paper Presentation]. NCSS College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA) Meeting, San Francisco, CA.
- Anderson, D., Bauml, M., Burrough, G., Camardese, A., Cartwright, A., Daly, J,...Yoder, P. (2017, November). *Critical conversations in k-12 social studies teacher education: Politics, current events, and diversity* [Conference Presentation]. NCSS College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA) Meeting, San Francisco, CA.
- King, E., & Mueller, R. G. W. (2017, September). *Developing compelling questions* [Conference Presentation]. South Carolina Council for Social Studies (SCCSS) Conference, Myrtle Beach, S.C.
- Mueller, R. G. W. (2016, November). *From Potential to Practice: Compelling Questions as an Impetus for Curricular and Instructional Change* [Paper Presentation]. NCSS College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA) Meeting, Washington D. C.
- Mueller, R. G. W. (2015, November). *Questioning as a Civic Act: An Examination of How Social Studies Teachers Understand, Develop, and Cultivate Questions for Inquiry* [Paper Presentation]. Graduate Student Round Tables at the annual meeting of the NCSS College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA) Meeting, New Orleans, LA.
- Swan, K., & Mueller, R. (2015, September). *Questions matter: How compelling and supporting questions are used in IDM* [Conference Presentation]. Kentucky Council for the Social Studies (KCSS) Annual Conference, Erlanger, KY.
- Mueller, R. G. W. (2014, November). *Examining beliefs and actions of teachers who support student Questioning* [Paper Presentation]. NCSS College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA), Meeting, Boston, MA.
- Swan, K., Lee, J., Mueller, R., & Day, S. (2014, November). *Teaching the C3 Framework: A guide to inquiry-based instruction in the social studies* [Conference Presentation]. National Council for the Social Studies Conference, Boston, MA.
- Mueller, R. G. W. (2014, April). *Exploring teacher questioning techniques in university and high school history classes* [Poster Presentation]. Spring Research Conference, Cincinnati, OH.
- Mueller, R., & Colley, L. (2013, November). *End-of-course exams and ACT-QualityCore: An Evaluation of the impact on U.S. history instruction in a southern high school* [Paper Presentation]. Graduate Student Round Tables at the annual meeting of the NCSS College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA) Meeting, St. Louis, MO.
- Swan, K., Lee, J., Grant, S. G., & Mueller, R. (2013, November). *Literacy through social studies? A study of state social studies state coordinators' view of the Common Core* [Conference Presentation] NCSS College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA) Meeting, St. Louis, MO.

Mueller, R. G. W. (2012, May). *Technology as a tool for assisting and engaging high school students* [Conference Presentation]. Innovations for Learning Conference, Lexington, KY.

WORKSHOPS & INVITED TALKS

Mueller, R., Grady, P., Myers, A., Merryman, A., & Bareiss, W. (2022, July). *Fabric of the past: Weaving the twentieth century at Beaumont Mill and Village in South Carolina*. Summer Workshop, Spartanburg, SC.

Mueller, R. G. W. (2020, June). *Beaumont Mill Teacher Workshop*. Summer Workshop, Virtual.

Mueller, R. G. W. (2019, November). *Podcast Possibilities*. Guest Lecturer for EDSE 558 – Teaching Middle and High School (History and Social Studies) at University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC.

Swan, K., Mueller, R., Fraker, J., New, R., & Swan, G. (2016, February). *An Introduction to the Inquiry Design Model (IDM)*. ARI-UK Next Generation Teacher Leader Academy, Hazard, KY.

Colley, L., & Mueller, R. (2014, June). *Shifting instruction in a high stakes world*. Teaching American History (TAH) Network Summit, Kentucky Educational Development Corporation (KEDC), Richmond, KY.

Swan, K., Fraker, J., Colley, L., & Mueller, R. (2014, April). *Breaking bad social studies: The instructional shifts of the C3 Framework*. Teaching American History Grant (TAHG), Kentucky Valley Education Cooperative (KEVC), Lexington, KY.

GRANTS

Mueller, R. G. W. (2025). USC Upstate, Course Reallocation Grant. *An examination of Black teachers' experiences with South Carolina state legislation related to teaching race and racism*, \$2500.

Mueller, R. G. W. (2021). USC Upstate, Course Reallocation Grant. *NEH landmark grant and year 1 state standards study*, \$2500.

Grady, P., & Mueller, R. G. W. (2020-2022). National Endowment for the Humanities Landmarks of American History and Culture, *Fabric of the past: Weaving the twentieth century at Beaumont Mill and Village in South Carolina*, \$187,277

Mueller, R. G. W. (2020). Research Initiative for Summer Engagement (RISE), *Beaumont Mill Village Teacher Workshop*, \$6000

Mueller, R. G. W. (2017-2018). USC Upstate, Scholarly Start-Up Package, *What Should I Teach: Taking Steps to Strengthen Teacher Candidates' Content Choices*, \$5000

Mueller, R. G. W. (2017). Research Initiative for Summer Engagement (RISE), *Learning by Doing: The Impact of Question Development and Implementation on Teachers' Understanding of Compelling Questions*, \$6000

Library of Congress Midwest Center for Teaching Primary Sources, *Common Core English Language Arts Standards Implementation: An Opportunity for Social Studies*. Consultant, 2012-2013.

Spencer Foundation, Common Core English Language Arts Standards Implementation: An Opportunity for Literacy through Social Studies. Consultant, 2012-2013.

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

Mueller, R., Merryman, A., Myers, A., Carlton, D., & Grady, P. (2023). Beaumont Mill: A story of textiles in the south [Teachers Guide]. *EDSITEment*.
<https://edsitement.neh.gov/teachers-guides/beaumont-mill-story-textiles-south>

Mueller, R. G. W. (2023, September 2). Look Closely: Strengthening students' visual literacy. *Literacies in the Disciplines*. <https://literacy6-12.org/look-closely-strengthening-students-visual-literacy/>

Mueller, R. G. W. (2022, February 14). Building community through inquiry. *C3Teachers*.
<https://c3teachers.org/building-community-through-inquiry/>

Jackson Smith, S. & Mueller, R. G. W. (2022, January 25). *Civics in the Classroom: What South Carolina Students are Learning*. League of Women Voters of Greenville County Meeting, Virtual.

Mueller, R. G. W., Turner, M., & Kelly, P. (2022, January 22). *What About Civics?: Civics Education in South Carolina Schools*. South Carolina League of Women Voters LEAD Day, Virtual.

Krutka, D. G., & Milton, M. K. with Mueller, R. G. W. (2017, December 19). *Visions of Education: Compelling questions with Rebecca Mueller* [audio podcast]. Retrieved from <https://visionsofed.com/2017/12/19/episode-72-compelling-questions-with-rebecca-mueller/>

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer, *Theory & Research in Social Education*, 2024 to present

Member, University of South Carolina Dissertation Committee, Rebekah Driscoll Austing (Thematic Geo-Inquiry in Seventh-Grade Geography), 2024

Reviewer, NEH Landmarks of American History and Culture grant panelist, 2024

Communications Chair, Small Colleges and Universities Faculty Forum, NCSS College and University Faculty Assembly, 2024-2025

Reviewer, *Social Studies Research and Practice*, 2022 to present

Program Chair, Small Colleges and Universities Faculty Forum, NCSS College and University Faculty Assembly, 2020-2021

Reviewer, *Social Education*, 2020 to present

Reviewer, *Journal of Social Studies Research*, 2019 to present

South Carolina Department of Education Social Studies Standards Review Panel, 2017

Conference Proposal Reviewer, American Educational Research Association (AERA), 2016 to present; College and University Faculty Assembly (CUFA), 2014-present; National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS), 2017 to present

Content Expert, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, 2015

University Social Studies Methods Partner, Central Kentucky Educational Cooperative Social Studies Content Network, 2014-2016

Program Faculty, University of Kentucky Social Studies Education Initial Teacher Certification Graduate Program, 2012-2016

ONxGL Cross-Curricular Workgroup, Kentucky Department of Education, 2011-2012

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Chair, USC Upstate Promotion and Tenure Committee, 2023-2024

Member, College of Education, Human Performance, and Health Student Handbook Ad-hoc Committee, 2024

Member, USC Upstate Promotion & Tenure Committee, 2023 to 2025

Co-Chair, College of Education, Human Performance, and Health Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, 2023-2024

Member, College of Education, Human Performance, and Health CAEP Steering Committee, 2023 to present

Member, College of Education, Human Performance, and Health Scholarship Criteria Ad-hoc Committee, 2023-2024

Chair, College of Education, Human Performance, and Health Assistant Professor in English Language Arts Search Committee, 2022-2023

Member, College of Education, Human Performance, and Health New Course Proposals Ad-hoc Committee, 2022

Member, Mary Black College of Nursing, Peer Review Committee, 2022

Chair, School of Education, Human Performance, and Health Curriculum Committee, 2022 to present

Member, School of Education, Human Performance, and Health Internship Certificate Ad-hoc Committee, 2022

Member, USC Upstate Tables and Technology Ad-hoc Committee, 2021-2023

Member, USC Upstate Faculty Senate, 2021-2023

Member, USC Upstate Faculty Advisory Committee, 2021-2023

Member, School of Education, Human Performance, and Health Assistant/Associate Professor in Science Education Search Committee, 2021-2022

Member, School of Education, Human Performance and Health Mission Statement Ad-hoc Committee, 2021

Member, School of Education, Human Performance and Health Diversity and Inclusion Committee, 2019 to present

Chair, School of Education, Human Performance, and Health Instructor of Exercise Science Search Committee, 2019

Chair, School of Education, Human Performance and Health Chair of Department of Education Search Committee, 2019

Secretary, USC Upstate Academic Affairs Committee, 2019 to 2021

Member, USC Upstate Academic Affairs Committee, 2018 to 2021

Member, USC Upstate Research Advisory Council, 2018 to 2021

Member, USC Upstate Teaching Fellows Advisory Council, 2018 to present

Member, School of Education, Human Performance, and Health Curriculum Committee, 2018 to present

Member, School of Education, Human Performance, and Health Standing and Petitions Committee, 2018-2020

Chair, School of Education, Human Performance, and Health Assistant Professor of Middle-Level/Secondary Education Search Committee, 2018-2019

Member, School of Education, Human Performance and Health Greenville Campus Ad-hoc Committee, 2018

Recording Secretary, USC Upstate Faculty Senate, 2017-2018

Member, USC Upstate Faculty Advisory Committee, 2017-2018

Member, School of Education Teacher Work Sample Ad-hoc Committee, 2017-2018

Member, School of Education Field Experiences Coordinator Search Committee, 2017

Member, School of Education CAEP Standard 1 Committee, 2016-2018

Member, USC Upstate Literacy Awards Committee, 2016-2017

Member, School of Education Course Load/Pull-back/Clinical Ad-hoc Committee, 2016

RECOGNITIONS/AWARDS

Recipient of USC Upstate Center of Africana and African American Studies Community Builder Award (2025).

Finalist for College of Education, Human Performance, and Health Excellence in Advising and Teaching Award (2024)

Recipient of the College of Education, Human Performance, and Health Excellence in Advising and Teaching Award (2020)

Recipient of USC Upstate Student Government Association's James E. Talley Vision Award (2019)

Finalist for USC Upstate Excellence in Advising and Teaching Award (2019)

Nominee for USC Upstate Excellence in Advising and Teaching Award (2018)

Teacher Who Made A Difference (University of Kentucky, 2010 and 2016)

National Board Certified Teacher (earned credentials in 2009, since expired)

James Madison Fellow (James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation, 2003)

UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of South Carolina Upstate

EDSC U333: Middle-Level/Secondary Education Adolescent Development

EDFO U397: Minor in Education Seminar

EDSC U398: Special Topics – Geography Education
EDSC U440: Field Experience I in Middle/Secondary Education
EDSC U450: Field Experience II in Middle/Secondary Education
EDSC U442: Secondary School Curriculum and Methods
EDSC U447: Teaching Middle and Secondary Social Studies
EDSC U485: Middle-Level/Secondary Education: Senior Seminar

University of Kentucky

EDC 575: Special Topics - Inquiry-Based Instruction in Social Studies
EDC 632: Social Studies Pedagogy in the Secondary School
EDU 645: Foundations of Pedagogical Theory/Practice in Secondary School
EDC 746: Subject Area Instruction in Secondary School: Student Teaching in
Social Studies

SUPERVISION

University Supervisor, University of South Carolina Upstate, 2016-present

University Supervisor, University of Kentucky, 2012-2016

Cooperating Teacher, Bryan Station High School, 2005-2012

KTIP Mentor Teacher, Bryan Station High School, 2008-2010