



Debalina Maitra, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Curriculum and Instruction

New Mexico Highlands University

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EDUCATION

- 2017 **Ph.D. in Literacy Education.**
University of Wyoming, Laramie
Minor in Qualitative Research Methods
- Dissertation:** “Investigating perception and experience of academic writing of culturally diverse adolescent undergraduate students in relation to their cultural identity”, (Published on Proquest, 2017). Adviser, Dr Victoria Gillis
- 2010 **Master of Psychology**
Psychology, Organizational Behavior, Amity University, Noida, India.
- 2008 **Bachelor of Psychology**
Calcutta University, Kolkata, West Bengal, India.

ACADEMIC APPONTMENTS

- 2023-Present **Tenure Track Assistant Professor of Curriculum & Instruction**

New Mexico Highlands University

- 2022-2023 **Associate Research Scientist at Arizona State University**
The Coley S.P.A.C.E (Shifting Perception, Attitude and Culture in Engineering) Lab.
This work was supported by NSF grants and other internal grants.
- 2020-2022 **Postdoctoral Researcher at Arizona State University**
The Coley S.P.A.C.E (Shifting Perception, Attitude and Culture in Engineering) Lab. PI- Dr Brooke Coley.
This work is supported by NSF grants. Award Number: #1733716, #182865.
- 2019-2020 **Postdoctoral Fellow at The Learning Partnership, CAFECS (Chicago Alliance for Equity in Computer Science).**
This work was supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF), Award Abstract #1738572.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Doctoral experiences of women of color
- Higher educational experiences of under-represented groups of students
- Faculty development – recognizing implicit biases
- Role strain of immigrant scholars and faculties
- Culturally Relevant Pedagogy
- Teacher Education

TEACHING INTERESTS

- Qualitative Research Methods
- Mixed Methods Research
- DEI
- Critical Thinking
- Literacy Education
- Foundational Education Courses

NOTABLE PUBLICATIONS (peer reviewed)- published and accepted articles are in bold

- **Maitra, D. and Coley, B. (2022). Marginalized engineering students' narrative construction through photo elicitation", *Qualitative Research Journal*, Vol. 22 No. 4, pp. 448-463. <https://doi.org/10.1108/QRJ-10-2021-0110>**
- Maitra, D & Hailu M. Pedagogical Opportunities: Black Immigrant's Women's Experiences with Challenges and Triumphs in Engineering Classrooms (2022). *Innovative Higher Education* (Under review)
- **Coley, B., Maitra, D., & McClain, T. (2023). Recommendations toward an antiracist engineering: Informing an institutional agenda to enhance Black engineering student experiences. *Policy Futures in Education*, 0(0) (online published) <https://doi.org/10.1177/14782103231184754>**
- Brisbane, J., London, J., Perry, L., Coley, B., Thomas, K., Greene, M., Maitra, D. (Manuscript accepted, 2023). Exploring Capital Assets Exhibited by Black Engineering Graduate Students: An Extension of Community Cultural Wealth. *Journal of Women and Minorities in Science and Engineering*.
- Maitra, D., Tekula-McGee, R & McGee, S. (2021). Investigating the Equity Imperative in High School Computer Science Curriculum among Hispanic Students. *Journal of Latinos and Education*. (under review for second round)
- **Brisbane, J., London, J., Perry, L., Coley, B., Thomas, K., Greene, M., Maitra, D. (Manuscript Submitted, 2021). The Added Value of Black Engineering Students' Participation in Identity-based Organizations: A Systematic Literature Review. *Studies in Engineering Education (SEE)* (accepted)**
- **Maitra, D. (2023). Community Values: Exploring What Underrepresented Engineering Students Value in their Community College Experience. *New Directions in Community College*. (Accepted and in the press for fall 2023 edition)**
- Thomas, K., M. F. Hailu., Maitra, D., Halkiyo, A., & Coley, B. (2021). Leadership, Labor, and Learning: Perceptions of Role Strain Among Undergraduate Black Women Engineering Students. *Journal of College Student Development*. (Under Review)
- **Weatherford, J.; & Maitra, D. (2019). Attitudes toward Bracketing Practices among Distance Graduate Students. *Educational Research: Theory and Practice*, 30(2), 91-102.**
- **Maitra, D. (2019). No soy de aqui, me soy de na, I am not from here, I am not from there, Emergence of Third Space in shaping literacies. *Culture in Focus, An International e-Journal of Educational, Literary and Cultural Studies*, 2 (1), 57-69.**

- Maitra, D. (2017). Funds of knowledge: An underrated tool for in school literacy and student engagement. *International Journal of Society, Language & Culture*, 5(1), 94-102.
- Greene, M., Maitra, D., & Coley, B. (2023). An Exploratory Study of the Engagement of Black Men in Engineering Academic Makerspaces. Submitted to Studies in Engineering Education for second round of review.

BOOK CHAPTER

- Maitra, D. (2018). *Culturally relevant teaching an alternative for diverse students*. Mauritius: Lap Lambert Academic Publishing.

BLOG POST

- Maitra, D. (2019, February 27th). Teaching Tips: Exploring the Nexus of Identity and Academic Writing. Retrieved from <https://www.literacyworldwide.org/blog/literacy-daily/2019/02/27/exploring-the-nexus-of-identity-and-academic-writing>. International Literacy Association.
- Maitra, D. (2019, September 17th). Are RPPs the Future of Education? A 2.0 Approach. Retrieved from <https://www.literacyworldwide.org/blog/literacy-daily/2019/09/17/are-rpps-the-future-of-education-a-2.0-approach>. International Literacy Association.

GRANTS

- Contributor, *Practice Makes for Promise: Improving STEM Faculty Competence in Teaching, Advising and Mentoring Black Engineering Students using Virtual Reality*, NSF Racial Equity in STEM Education (under review)
- Co-principal Investigator, *An Investigation of the Influence of Culture on Teacher Curricular Adaptations to a High School Computer Science Course in an Urban Setting*, National Science Foundation, EHR-Core, Chicago, IL (Not Funded).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (peer reviewed)

- Maitra, D., Dosunmu, F., & Coley, B. (2023). *Between Two Worlds: Exploring Black Women's Marginalized Experiences in Engineering Doctoral Programs*. AERA, Chicago, IL (presented)
- Bekki, J., Wilkins-Yel, K. G., Coley, B., Campbell, M., Nicole, F., Gutierrez Hincapie, J., Maitra, D., & Ahandani, M. (Accepted). *Using Participatory Action Research to Examine How Black Women in STEM Protect their Mental Health*. In K. G. Wilkins-Yel (Chair), *Resisting Damaged Centered Narratives: Uplifting Mental Health among Black*

and Brown Women in STEM. Symposium submitted for presentation at the 2023 Annual American Psychological Association Convention, Washington, DC, United States.

- Maitra, D. (2023) *Deaths by 1000 cuts: Workshopping from Black engineering narratives from interview to stage*. ASEE. Washington, DC (accepted)
- Coley, B., Bekki, J.M., Wilkins-Yel, K.G., Nicole, F., Maitra, D., Guitierrez, J., Campbell, M. & Darvishpour, M. (2023). It's no mystery, so it must be intentional: How institutions fail to support Black STEM doctoral students' mental health. *Proceedings of the 2023 American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE) Annual Meeting*.
- Maitra, D.(September 23rd, 2022). *Transformative Research Experiences for Undergraduates as Paradigm Shifters in Engineering Education: Learning from the ENGagED model*. NSF EEC Grantee 2022 conference, Washington, DC.
- Maitra, D., Coley, B., Norris, J & Hobbs, K. (May 20th, 2022) *Bringing Critical Lens through Arts*. ICQI, Urbana-Champaign.
- Coley, B., Maitra, D., Greene, M., Thomas, K., & Khan, A. (April 24th, 2022). *Masking "X"periences: Ethnodrama as a Method to Unpack Role Adaptation in Black Engineering Graduate Student*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association conference, San Diego, CA.
- Thomas, K., M. F. Hailu., Maitra, D., Halkiyo, A., & Coley, B. (April 23rd, 2022). Black Women's Experiences with Leadership in Undergraduate Engineering. *Paper presentation at the American Educational Research Association conference, San Diego, CA. (accepted)*
- Maitra, D., Greene, M., Thomas, K., Coley, B., Brisbane, J., London, J.S. (Feb 23rd, 2022) *An Exploratory Investigation of the Experiences of Navigating Campus Resources of Black Immigrant Women in Engineering*. Paper presentation at the 2022 Collaborative Network for Engineering and Computing Diversity (CoNECD) Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- Brisbane, J., London, J.S., Coley, B., Greene, M., Thomas, K., Maitra, D., (Feb, 2022). Antecedents of the Outcomes of Students' Participation in Identity-based Professional Societies and Organizations. *Paper presentation at the 2022 Collaborative Network for Engineering and Computing Diversity (CoNECD) Conference, New Orleans, LA.*
- Greene, M., Thomas, K., Coley, B., Brisbane, J., Maitra, D., London, J.S.(Feb, 2022) *PhD'ing While Black: Unpacking the Emotions of Navigating Engineering as a Black Student and the Implications for Mental Health*. *Paper presentation at the 2022 Collaborative Network for Engineering and Computing Diversity (CoNECD) Conference. New Orleans, LA.*

- Thomas, K., Greene, M., Coley, B., Brisbane, J., Maitra, D., London, J.S.(Feb, 2022) For Us, By Us: Recommendations for Institutional Efforts to Enhance the Black Student Experience in Engineering. *Paper presentation at the 2022 Collaborative Network for Engineering and Computing Diversity (CoNECD) Conference, New Orleans, LA.*
- Maitra, D. (May, 2020). *Contemporary Street Protests over Citizenship Law in India through Art and Activism.* Paper presentation at the International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, Champaign-Urbana, IL.
- Maitra, D., McGee, S., McGee-Tekula, R., & McGee, C (May, 2020). *Inquiry for Building Equitable Practices: A pedagogical Approach.* Paper presentation at the International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, Champaign-Urbana, IL.
- Maitra, D., McGee, S., McGee-Tekula, R., & McGee, C (December, 2019). *Inquiry Based Equity Framework: An Analyses from Introductory Computer Science Classrooms in Chicago.* Paper Presented at the American Reading Forum, December 14th, 2019, Danibel, Florida.
- Maitra, D., McGee, S., McGee-Tekula, R., & McGee, C (May, 2019). *Exploring Equity and Inquiry Imperative in Computer Science Classroom.* Paper presentation at the International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, May 19th, 2019 Champaign-Urbana, IL.
- Maitra, D., McGee, S., McGee-Tekula, R., & McGee, C (2019). *Exploring Equity Imperative in High School Computer Science Curriculum for Hispanic Population.* Paper Presentation at IAFOR Conference on Educational Research & Innovation (ERI2019) Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia,
- Maitra, D., McGee, S., McGee-Tekula, R., & McGee, C (May, 2019) *Equity analytics: A qualitative approach from Computer Science classroom discourse.* Paper presentation at the International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, May 18th, Champaign-Urbana, IL.
- Maitra, D. (2017). *Investigating Cultural Identity and Academic Writing of Culturally Diverse Undergraduate Students.* Round table (invited talk) presented at American Reading Forum (ARF), December 8, 2017, Sanibel, Florida.
- Weatherford, J.; & Maitra, D. (2015, October). *Measures of researcher bracketing among graduate students.* Paper presented at the Northern Rocky Mountain Educational Research Association conference, October 1, 2015, Boise, Idaho.
- Maitra, D. (2015, May) *Day Dreamer's World: Content Analysis of a Teenage Blog to present.* Paper presented at the Eleventh International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry in Champaign-Urbana, IL, May 25, 2015, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois.
- Kamberelis, G.; Panozzo, D.; Bredehoft, W.; Maitra, D.; Sanders, A. University of Wyoming (2014, May). *Linking Arts-Based Inquiry Work, and Disciplinary practice, International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry.* Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

- Maitra, D. (2014, April). *Adolescents' web based literacies in identity construction: A bridge between in and out school literacy*. Paper presented at PCAACA conference: Illinois, Chicago.
- Gilbert, L.; & Maitra, D. (2013, April). *Project Based Learning with American Indian Students: A Viable Alternative?* Shepard Symposium on Social Justice, University of Wyoming, Laramie.
- Gillis, V.; Rush, L.; Marshall, M.; Wig, V. A.; Reynolds, T.; Ford, J.; Wehunt, M.; Maitra, D.; Headley, & K.; Hartman, C. (2013) *Adolescent literacy conversation circles: Looking back to see ahead* alternative Session Presented at the Literacy Research Association Conference, December 5, 2013, Dallas, Texas.
- Maitra, D. (2010) *Leadership*, paper presented at Amity University, India
- Maitra, D. (2009) *Emotion and Emotional Intelligence*, paper presented at Amity University, India.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Tenure Track Assistant Professor, New Mexico Highlands University (2023-present)

As a tenure track faculty, I am involved in high-quality cutting-edge research. I am trying to establish partnership across different colleges with in NMHU, surrounding school districts and with different institutions to submit relevant federal grants which are culturally inclusive. I am submitting a collaborative proposal titled as “examining supports and deterrents to thriving during transitions in STEM professional pathways among immigrant Women of Color” in collaboration with Arizona State University and University of Massachusetts for a track 2 category by October 5th for NSF CORE deadline. Also, I am working to submit a makerspace grant through Los Alamos National Lab (small and competitive grant program) along with a colleague from NMHU. Also, I am involved with different manuscripts writing.

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Arizona State University (2020-2023)

This position contributes to the data collection, analysis processes, and dissemination for the three NSF funded studies. I gained project management experience of three federally funded projects through this work. An additional focus remains on the dissemination of research findings associated with the aforementioned studies to a broad set of venues and audiences. I am working on writing federal grants and my title change helps to serve as PI or Co-PI on the grants. Also, I have been able to pursue some other research areas like professional development of faculty and teachers in terms of implementing equity. (PI-Dr. Brooke Coley)

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Learning Partnership LLC (2018-2019)

It's a NSF funded position to explore Computer Science in Chicago Public Schools. My current role is to ensure and implement equity and inquiry-based approaches in ECS classrooms. I focus on embracing culturally relevant pedagogy to equip teachers with the skills to teach a diverse

school district. My research includes qualitative video analysis of different CS classrooms and developing a framework that indicates equity. For this position I worked to identify the unique need of Latinx students in terms of ECS curriculum. I also contributed in a coding framework that could be used in the future to explore the presence of cultural components in the classroom. (PI-Dr. Steven McGee)

Dissertation Research

Dissertation focused on perception and experience of academic writing of culturally diverse adolescent students. The purpose of this study was to construct an understanding of how culturally diverse adolescent students utilize their cultural resources (language and ethnic identity) as a tool for their academic writing. They also drew on their culture and language when explaining their academic decisions or academic writing. This dissertation research advocates for a need for students to be able to connect their cultural and linguistic identities with their academic writing. (2015 Spring -2017 Fall)

Graduate Assistant

- Investigating how national board certified (NBC) Albany County teachers manage and monitor student learning. Responsibilities included conducting interviews, classroom observations, transcribing the data and data analysis. Now I am working on getting the publication done with the team. (PI: Dr. Joan James and Dr. Amy Roberts, 2017 Spring-2017 October)
- Exploring the landscape of adolescent literacy research in the aftermath of the International Reading Association's (IRA) resolution on Adolescent Literacy (1999) and legislated mandates such as No Child Left Behind (NCLB, 2003). (2013 Fall-2014 spring)
- Investigating Cultural Identity and Art Making process. Data collection and analysis. (University of Wyoming, Dr George Kamberelis, PI, 2011 Sep-2014 May)
- Master's thesis focused on Effect of Organizational Climate on Job Satisfaction. (2010)
- Summer Research Project (June-July, 2009) Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, India. Guide: Dr. R. K. Pradhan. Topic: Effect of Emotional Intelligence on Anxiety, Stress, Coping, Job Satisfaction and Job Performance.

MENTORING EXPERIENCE

- Mentored two undergraduate students through REU research program (ENGagED REU) funded by NSF (Summer, 2021) for 10 weeks. I mentored two undergraduate students to introduce them with the concept of educational research. They were involved in variety of projects under my daily mentorship. We submitted two AERA proposal and two articles are underway.
- Mentoring 9 REU students through for 8 weeks. Involved in student advising and daily mentoring and planning for other activities. (Summer, 2022)

- Mentoring PhD students within the EESD program at ASU.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- RDED 5270 Reading in the content area Alternative Licensure Program – Fall 2023.
- RDED 4160/5160, Teaching Reading and Language Arts in the Bilingual Classroom-Fall 2023
- ENGagED REU Summer 2022-2023 Workshop: Introduction to Research Methods in Engineering Education for Undergraduates, Summer 2022 and 2023 at Arizona State University (Instructor).
- EGR 671: Application of Qualitative Methods for Engineering Education Research (Spring 2021) at Arizona State University (Instructor)
- ESL intermediate class and College preparation class at Laramie County Community College. (2017 Spring and fall) Instructor.
- Taught “Intro to Research” (EDRE 5530). Responsibilities included teaching modules online, making lesson plans, uploading articles, facilitating discussions, posting audio-video materials and finally grading them. This course was offered online through Curriculum & Instruction department. This class was a graduate standing(masters) class. This experience helped me to understand how to conduct a class online and maintain the class dynamics when students are learning virtually (2015 spring)
- EDCI 5430, Theory and Methods of ESL I (Fall 2014). Instructor.

DISSERTATION AND THESIS ADVISING

Nelson Uloma Egond, Educational Leadership, Masters Student, New Mexico Highlands University (2023). Thesis Title- Advancing Computer Curriculum Education for Young Disabled Students in New Mexico Schools through AI-Driven Reinforcement Learning Solutions" (external committee member)

Academic Tutor

- Academic Tutor and academic mentor with Students Educational Opportunity at University of Wyoming. (Fall 2012-Spring 2014)

SERVICE

- **Peer Review**

INVITED MANUSCRIPT REVIEWER

- **Invited Manuscript Reviewer for Journal of Latinos and Education. 2021-present.**
- Invited Manuscript Reviewer for British Journal of Educational Technology. 2017-Present.
- Invited Manuscript Reviewer and guest editor for International Journal of Culture and History. 2018-Present
- Reviewer and Guest Editor for Culture in Focus. 2018-2019.
- Invited Manuscript Reviewer for Teacher Education Quarterly. 2017

PROPOSAL REVIEWER

- Senior proposal Reviewer for Educational Research and Innovation (ERI) 2019, organized by International Academic Forum.
- Proposal Reviewer for American Educational Research Association, AERA-2018-Present
- Proposal Reviewer and Chair for Literacy Research association, LRA. 2018-Present
- Proposal Reviewer for American Reading Forum, ARF-2017-Present
- Proposal reviewer for American Society for Engineering Education, ASEE -2021
- Proposal Reviewer for Collaborative Network for Engineering & Computing Diversity (CoNECD) 2021 to present.

- **To Profession**

- Newsletter co-editor, Literacy Research Association Doctoral Student Innovative Community Group, 2013-2014.
- Course content development for Post Graduate Diploma in Child Rights and Governance, Center for Inclusive Development, Tezpur University, India. Developed Unit 1, Socio-cultural construction of childhood, 2016.
- LRA member at large 2013-Present

- **To Community**

- **Serving as Co-Chair for** Early Career Research Network leadership team at ASU. 2021-Present.
- **Workshop facilitator for Postdoctoral Career conference at ASU -2022.**
- Served as secretary with MILAAP (Indian Students' association at University of Wyoming). This responsibility included planning, organizing Diwali night (known as festival of lights in India) where the goal was to educate people more about Indian culture, South Asian Culture. (2013 Summer- 2014 summer.)
- Public Relation Officer with ISA (International Students' Association). I was responsible for all communication with other RSOs, public at large and all advertisements at University of Wyoming on behalf of the ISA. (2014 Summer- 2015 Summer)

- Served as panel in classes like Intro to women studies, women in India.
- Organized and presented several times at Shepard symposium that is also known as social justice symposium at UW.
- Served as proposal reviewer at College of Education research symposium several times at University of Wyoming.
- Helped in planning and organizing yearly literacy conference at UW.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Working as assistant to the vice president of Information Technology at University of Wyoming. I was responsible for assisting VP and directors with newsletters, researched on employee and student satisfaction, arranged all travels, kept track of all bookstore orders and placed them, prepared bi-weekly updates for IT that goes to Board of Trustees, writing directors' agenda, writing different articles on behalf of IT, taking care of accounts etc. (2015 Fall-2017 Summer)
- Recruitment and Corporate Training experience with Hindustan Computers Limited (HCL) in internship program. (2008 August-2009 December, Noida, India)
- HR training from NTPC (National Thermal Power Corporation). Worked closely with their Performance Appraisal System. The core duties were data collection from several other organizations regarding their appraisal system, making a format for survey purpose etc. (2009 November-2010 May)

HONORS and AWARDS

- Recipient of Graduate Student Scholarship at American Reading Forum (2017).
- Recipient of International student scholarship (2015-2016) academic year.
- Travel grant recipient for Literacy Research Association (2013), International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry (2015), PCA/ACA (2014), NRMERA (2015) from Department of Education and Academic Affairs.
- Recipient of International scholarship (2014-2015) academic year.

INVITED TALKS

- Maitra, D (2022). *What goes into a research statement*. Organized by Graduate and Professional Students Association at ASU. April 4th, 2022.
- Maitra, D. (September 23rd, 2022). *Transformative Research Experiences for Undergraduates as Paradigm Shifters in Engineering Education: Learning from the ENGagED model*. NSF EEC Grantee 2022 conference, Washington, DC. (peer reviewed and invited)
- Curry, F.N., Thomas, K., Greene, M., Maitra, D., & Coley, B. (2022) Justice and Black Liberation in Academia. March, 2022, National Society For Black Engineers Convention, LA.

- Maitra, D (2020). *Constructing and Imaging identities in Varied Contexts and Culture* (Invited as chair), Literacy Research Association. December 3, 2020, Virtual.
- Maitra, D. (2020). *Language and Cultural Identities in International Context*. (Chair). Literacy Research Association. December 3, 2020, Virtual.
- Maitra, D. (2018). *Teacher readiness effective pedagogy* (invited talk) presented at Rider University, February, 2018, Lawrenceville, New jersey.
- Maitra, D. (2017). *Close Reading and Critical Literacy* (invited talk) facilitated the TRIP workshop at Aims Community College, July, 2017, Greeley, Co.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Educational Research Association (AERA)
- International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry (ICQI)
- International Reading Association (IRA)
- American Reading Forum (ARF)
- American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE)

EXPERTISE

• Qualitative Research	• Diversity, Inclusion and Equity
• Adolescent Literacy	• Culture and Identity
• Social Justice	• Anti-Racist Practices
• Equity Pedagogy	• Broadening Participation in STEM

Experience Using SOFTWARE

- NVivo
- Dedoose
- SPSS
- MAXQDA

Languages

Hindi -Full Professional Proficiency

Bengali-Native/ Bilingual Proficiency

REFERENCES

Brooke Coley, Ph.D.

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Steven McGee, PhD

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