

Art Education Graduate Handbook - 2013

812 Franklin Terrace
Suite 200
PO Box 843084
804.828.7154
Richmond, VA 23284
804.87.0255 (fax)

Art Education Orientation Agenda – August 19, 2013

10:00 - Welcome

10:10 - Policies

10:45 - Dr. Reuban Rodriguez, Dean of Student Affairs and Associate Vice Provost

11:00 - NAEA Student Chapter information

11:00-11:30 - Breakout time with advisers and current students

Dear Incoming Graduate Students,

Welcome to VCUarts and the Department of Art Education. The graduate program in Art Education offers two specific tracks. The first track is for teachers who are already licensed and who wish to deepen their understanding of Art Education. The second track is for people who hold a BA, BFA, or related degree and who wish to earn both a master's degree in Art Education and a teaching license at the same time. The program includes required and elective courses and, through graduate coursework, allows students to pursue their areas of interest. All students are expected to work at a high level of independence, be self-motivated, respect peers and instructors, and participate in the opportunities that the Art Education Department, the School of the Arts, and VCU offer.

As you begin your graduate study at VCU, it is essential that you are aware of the rules and policies. All students are bound by the policies of the Graduate School as explained in the Graduate Bulletin (<http://www.pubapps.vcu.edu/bulletins/graduate>). Further, you are required to be familiar with the policies of the School of the Arts and the Department of Art Education. The following pages of this handbook as well as the information on the departmental website (<http://arts.vcu.edu/arteducation/mae/>) will help you. You need to read and follow the policies that are contained in the documents.

We look forward to working with you in the next few years.

Sincerely,

Melanie L. Buffington
Assistant Professor of Art Education
Graduate Programs Coordinator

ART EDUCATION GRADUATE HANDBOOK

DEPARTMENT OF ART EDUCATION GRADUATE FACULTY CONTACT INFORMATION

Dr. Sara Wilson McKay
Associate Professor/Chair
Franklin Terrace, Room 200B
804-828-0471
swilsonmckay@vcu.edu

Dr. Melanie Buffington
Associate Professor
Franklin Terrace, Room 200G
804-828-3805
mbuffington@vcu.edu

Dr. David Burton
Professor
Franklin Terrace, Room 200H
804-828-3783
deburton@vcu.edu

Dr. Sarah Cunningham
Executive Director of Research, Dean's Office
325 N Harrison Street | Richmond, VA 23284-2519
804-828-6875
sbcunningham@vcu.edu

Dr. Nancy Lampert
Assistant Professor
Franklin Terrace, Room 200E
804-828-3772
nalamper@vcu.edu

Molly McFadden
Instructor
Franklin Terrace, Room 200A
804-828-1198
mmmcfadden@vcu.edu

Dr. Ryan Patton
Assistant Professor
Franklin Terrace, Room 200D
804-828-2803
rpatton@vcu.edu

Mentors for Incoming Graduate Students – 2013

Sean Collins – collinsms@vcu.edu
Valerie Graves – gravesvd@vcu.edu

Paula Dabbs – dabbspb@vcu.edu
Amy Smith – smithan24@mymail.vcu.edu

Allison Fiebert – fieberta@vcu.edu
Valerie Graves – gravesvd@vcu.edu

Mushamisi Kahari – kaharimm@vcu.edu
Esi Sam Annan – annanes@vcu.edu

Erika Ogier – ogiere@vcu.edu
Jess Norris – norrisj@vcu.edu

Lauren Rouatt – rouattl@vcu.edu
Elizabeth (Lizzie) Sampson- sampsoneh@mymail.vcu.edu

Amy Williams – williamsae@vcu.edu
Elizabeth (Lizzie) Sampson - sampsoneh@mymail.vcu.edu

General Policies

Degree Admission Track

Each student is admitted to a specific track within the MAE program. The tracks are either MAE (for those who already have a license) or MAE+ Licensure (for those who do not have a license). Students may not switch degree tracks and must complete the requirement of the track into which you were admitted.

Continuous Enrollment

Before candidacy – Students must complete at least one course per academic year to maintain their active status at VCU. If students cannot meet this requirement, they must apply for a leave of absence. If students do not follow this policy, their enrollment will be terminated; they will have to re-apply to VCU and will need to re-take courses.

After candidacy – Students must be enrolled in at least one credit EVERY semester (except summer) to maintain their status at VCU. If students cannot meet this requirement, they must apply for a leave of absence. If students do not follow this policy, their enrollment will be terminated; they will have to re-apply to VCU and may need to re-take courses.

Time Limit

Each student has six years to complete the MAE or MAE + Licensure degree. If students do not complete the degree in this time frame, they will need to re-apply to the program and will be required to re-take courses.

Candidacy Phase

Each student is required to take and pass a candidacy exam. Passing this exam leads to admission to degree candidacy. Though degree candidacy is no guarantee of graduation, it is an important step in moving toward that goal. Students apply for degree candidacy after completing 9 credits (including ARTE 611) and before completing 18 credits. Candidacy paperwork is due March 1 of each year and includes the completed candidacy form (available through the Graduate School website), a hard copy of the student's unofficial transcript, and the literature review. Not submitting the candidacy exam will result in dismissal from the program. Students have two chances (with documentation of extenuating circumstances, three chances) to pass the exam. Not passing the candidacy exam will result in being required to take additional courses and being required to re-take the exam the following semester by October 15. If a student does not pass the exam on the second (or third) attempt, s/he will be dismissed from the program.

The candidacy exam consists of writing a literature review on a research topic approved by the student's major advisor. Students will begin this when they take ARTE 611 and must work with their adviser following this course to prepare for the exam.

Additionally, as the faculty evaluates each student's proposal, the committee will also evaluate the student's progress in the program. If faculty members have concerns about a student's performance, this will factor into the decision to admit the student to degree candidacy or not.

Advising

All students are required to schedule a meeting with their adviser at least 1 time each semester. Advisers will not be chasing after students. Students are responsible for contacting their adviser and making appointments to meet with their adviser before registering for classes each semester.

Grades

Students may be dismissed from the program if they earn one (1) grade of 'C' or lower. Each student will be evaluated at the time of the candidacy exam and later, if necessary. Receiving two (2) or more grades of 'C' or lower will result in the dismissal of the student from the program.

Conferences

At times, there is funding available through the School of the Arts, Graduate School, or Department of Art Education to support student travel to conferences. Priority is given to students who are making presentations at the conferences. If you would like to be reimbursed for your travel, you must follow all Virginia and VCU policies for reimbursements. Contact the Program Coordinator (Danielle Shutt) in the Art Education Department for more information about processing reimbursements.

Address Updates

Every time you move, you must to update your address with the Art Education Department Program Coordinator (Danielle Shutt) and with VCU. If you do not, you will not receive information mailed to you.

Email

All students must activate and regularly (multiple times per week) check their VCU email account. This is the primary means by which the graduate school at VCU and the Department of Art Education will communicate with you. Information regarding course registration, scheduling, scholarships, jobs, deadlines, graduation, etc. will be regularly sent to your VCU email account. Not reading your VCU email does not excuse you from failing to meet any of these deadlines.

Thesis/Thesis Project/Comprehensive Exam

Students may choose the final portion of their degree from the three options currently offered by the department. Regardless of the option that students select, they must ask a professor to serve as their major adviser. Additionally, in consultation with the adviser, students must also ask two other faculty members to serve as committee members.

Thesis/Thesis Project Writing

Writing a thesis or a thesis project takes at least two semesters. Plan your progress through the degree program accordingly. You may not work on your thesis or thesis project while you student teach. Upon final approval of the thesis/thesis project, the student is require to provide a bound copy of the thesis or thesis project for the adviser and each committee member. All research for a thesis or thesis project that involves Human Subjects **must** be approved by VCU's Office of Research through the IRB process. This should be **completed** one semester before the student intends to conduct the research.

Graduation

You must file the application to graduate within the first 2 weeks of the semester in which you plan to graduate. Failure to do so will result in not graduating. Students must be registered for at least 1 credit in the semester in which they plan to graduate. If a student is not able to complete all the requirements to graduate, s/he must notify the Graduate Program Director at least 3 weeks before graduation. The following semester, the student must again file the graduation application paperwork within the first 2 weeks of the semester.

Social Security Numbers and V Numbers

VCU does not allow the use of Social Security Numbers on paperwork. However, not all VCU forms have been updated to reflect this. Whenever you see a form that asks for your SS#, please put your V number there and indicate it as V12345678. If you turn in a form with your SS# on it, the form will be returned to you and you will need to change it to your V#. This will cause delays and slow the processing of your documents, potentially delaying your student teaching, graduation, etc.

MAE Candidacy Exam

Each student is required to take and pass a candidacy exam. Passing this exam leads to admission to degree candidacy. Though degree candidacy is no guarantee of graduation, it is an important step in moving toward that goal. Students apply for degree candidacy after completing 9 credits (including ARTE 611) and before completing 18 credits. Candidacy paperwork is due March 1 of each year and includes the completed candidacy form (available through the Graduate School website), a hard copy of the student's unofficial transcript, and the literature review. Not submitting the candidacy exam will result in dismissal from the program. Students have two chances (with documentation of extenuating circumstances, three chances) to pass the exam. Not passing the candidacy exam will result in being required to take additional courses and being required to re-take the exam the following semester by October 15. If a student does not pass the exam on the second (or third) attempt, s/he will be dismissed from the program.

The candidacy exam consists of writing a literature review on a research topic approved by the student's major advisor. Students will begin this when they take ARTE 611 and must work with their adviser following this course to prepare for the exam.

Additionally, as the faculty evaluates each student's proposal, the committee will also evaluate the student's progress in the program. If faculty members have concerns about a student's performance, this will factor into the decision to admit the student to degree candidacy or not.

Post-Candidacy Policies

Advising

It is the responsibility of each graduate student to schedule and appointment with her/his adviser at least once every semester to discuss courses, progress toward graduation, scheduling issues, etc. Advisers will not initiate these meetings; it is the responsibility of students to initiate these meetings.

Continuous Enrollment

Once admitted into degree candidacy, students MUST register for classes every fall and spring semester. See the full policy on the VCU Graduate School's web site (<http://www.pubapps.vcu.edu/bulletins/graduate/?uid=10045&iid=30064>).

Failure to register every semester will result in being withdrawn from the program.

Leave of Absence

If you cannot register for a course, you must contact your adviser before the semester begins and begin working on a Leave of Absence request. See the full details on the VCU Graduate School's web site (<http://www.pubapps.vcu.edu/bulletins/graduate/?uid=10045&iid=31071>).

MAE Comprehensive Exam – Policies and Procedures

The comprehensive exam is one of three final options for completing the MAE or MAE + Licensure degree. In order to choose this option, a student must complete an additional 6 credits of Art Education courses at or above the 600-level. These 6 credits are in lieu of the 6 credits of thesis hours that other students take.

The comprehensive exam consists of 2 questions that the student uses as the basis for a weekend take home exam. The written response to *each* question must be at least 8 typed pages plus 10 references. These are the minimum requirements and students may write more or have additional references.

Student Responsibilities

- Notify both your adviser and the Chair of the Graduate Programs Committee of the intent to take the comprehensive exam no later than the first week of the semester in which you intend to take the exam.
- Meet with your adviser by the second week of the semester in which you intend to take the exam to clarify any questions.
- Pick up the articles selected by the Graduate Programs Committee from the Art Ed office when notified by the Chair of the Graduate Programs Committee.
- Adhere to the Thursday 5pm-Tuesday 9am timeframe for completing the exam.
- Bring 3 hard copies of the exam to the Art Ed office by Tuesday at 9am. If your adviser is not available at 9am on Tuesday morning, submit the copies to her/his mailbox.

Timing

The comprehensive exam is given once each semester during fall and spring semesters. It is not given during the summer. The exam dates will be announced each spring for the following academic year via the graduate student listserv. There are no alternate dates. Students should take the comprehensive exam toward the end of their coursework, but must pass it before student teaching.

Approximately 2 weeks before the exam, the student will receive an email from the Graduate Programs Committee Chair confirming the dates of the exam and notifying the student to pick up articles in the Art Ed office.

Coursework

A student who chooses to take the comprehensive exam must take 2 additional Art Education courses (6 credits) in lieu of taking 6 thesis credits. These classes must begin with the ARTE prefix and be at or above the 600 level and cannot include thesis (ARTE 799) credits. No other courses can count for this requirement. The Graduate Programs Committee must approve independent study ARTE courses **before** the student enrolls in the course.

Format and Test Administration

The format of the comprehensive exam is as follows:

On Thursday afternoon (by 5pm) of the designated weekend, students will receive an email from their adviser that contains 2 questions. One of the questions relates to the articles that the student picked up from the Art Ed office and the other question relates to the student's area of interest. Students have until Tuesday at 9am to submit 3 hard copies of BOTH answers to their adviser.

Each response must be typed in a 12-point standard font, double spaced, and adhere to APA formatting guidelines. At a minimum, each answer must be at least 8 pages plus references. A minimum of 10 scholarly sources must be cited for each question.

Special Needs

If a student has documentation of a disability or special need through VCU's Office of Disability Support Services, we will work to meet that student's need. It is the student's responsibility to present documentation of this need to the Graduate Programs Coordinator by the end of the first week of the semester in which the exam is to be taken.

Honor Code

Once the exam period has started (i.e. after students receive the questions from their advisers), students must complete their work independently. This means they are not to discuss the exam questions or related material with anyone or submit work that has been prepared in whole or part by others. Students should give proper credit to the work or ideas of others by including appropriate citations and references in their answers.

Students are allowed to seek the assistance of an editor to assist with style, grammar, or organization. However, they cannot receive assistance with regard to content.

Results

The student's major adviser and 2 committee members will assess the answers. The student either passes or fails the entire exam. If the student fails, s/he will have 1 opportunity to re-take the exam in the following semester. The adviser will notify the student in writing within 3 academic weeks of the submission of the exam regarding the outcome of the exam. If VCU has a holiday, that will not count as part of the 3 weeks.

Grade Review Procedure

If a student thinks that a grade is inaccurate, the student needs to schedule an appointment with the faculty member to discuss the situation. This will allow the faculty member to explain how the final grade was determined and, if an error is detected, to submit a change of grade.

If, after this review, the student still thinks that the grade was assigned unfairly, a written appeal must be submitted to the Department Chair within the first fourteen (14) calendar days of the semester following the semester in which the grade was assigned. Upon receipt of the written appeal, the Department Chair shall provide the student with a copy and explanation of the Grade Review Procedure (published in the VCU Rules and Procedures), and shall ensure that the requirements of the Grade Review Procedure are followed.

If the Department Chair is unable to resolve the complaint, then the dean of the school in which the course was offered will form a grade review committee as described in the Grade Review Procedure policy and will submit its decision to the dean of the school. The decision communicated by the dean of the school in which the program resides is the final decision that will be distributed to the student, faculty member(s) and Department Chair.

In cases concerning grades awarded for the fall semester, the written appeal must be submitted to the Department Chair no later than fourteen (14) calendar days after the beginning of the following spring semester. In cases concerning grades awarded for the spring semester or summer sessions, the written appeal must be submitted no later than fourteen (14) calendar days after the beginning of the following fall semester.

Art Education Termination Appeal Process

Timing

Please note that due to limited faculty availability during the December/January break and over the summer, appeals will be considered during the fall and spring semesters only. Thus, if a student is terminated due to performance in fall semester, this appeal process will begin in the spring semester.

Process

1. A panel of three faculty and/or staff members is appointed by the Chair to review the appeal. The panel will include at least two faculty members. One staff member may serve on the committee
2. The Director of Graduate Studies provides a statement explaining the grounds for termination. This statement will be forwarded via email to the student by the Director of Graduate Studies and remaining panel members within five (5) business days of the student's request.
3. Within five (5) business days of receiving this statement, the student submits to the panel a written response that addresses three questions: Are any of the facts included in the statement inaccurate? Are there any extenuating circumstances that should be considered? Why is the student deserving of a second chance to complete the degree? The student also includes a list of times in the next 10 business days that s/he is available for a hearing.
4. A hearing is scheduled within ten (10) business days of receipt of the student's response. At the hearing, the student states her/his case to the appeal panel.
5. Immediately after the hearing, the appeal panel adjudicates until a unanimous decision is reached.
6. One faculty member writes a synopsis of the student's statement, response, hearing, and decision. This synopsis is submitted to the other two committee members for review. It is then submitted to the Department Chair for review before being sent to the student. The synopsis is due to the Department Chair five (5) business days after the hearing.

If the student is granted a second chance to complete the degree, the synopsis will delineate performance goals that the student must meet on or before specified dates in order to remain in the program.

7. Within five (5) business days of receiving the synopsis, the Department Chair communicates the outcome of the appeals process to the student.

If the appeal is denied, the student may appeal for further review by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the School of the Arts. If this appeal is denied, a final

appeal may be made through the office of the Graduate Dean according to the procedures outlined in the Graduate Bulletin.

Exceptions

Exceptions from policies or requirements are rarely granted. If a student wants to request an exception, s/he should do the following:

Meet with her/his adviser to see if the adviser supports the exception.

If the adviser supports the exception, the student must write a short (1-page) rationale explaining why the exception should be granted.

The student must email this to the Graduate Program Director and provide any relevant documentation.

Example:

If a student wants to take a class other than ARTE 600 to count toward the required 2 ARTE classes at or above the 600 level (for the comprehensive exam requirement), she would first need to discuss this with her adviser. If she and her adviser agree that this could be a viable substitution, she must submit a written rationale as well as the syllabus and documentation from the class that she would like to substitute for the ARTE 600 class. This request and documentation must be submitted to the Graduate Program Director. Acceptable documentation must include the syllabus from the class as well as the work the student completed in the class (if this request is made after the end of the semester). If this request is made before the student takes the class, an email from the instructor indicating the level of writing required in the class could be acceptable.

Late policy for exams in the MAE and MAE + Licensure

(regarding Candidacy & Comprehensive Exams, everything outside of a *regular* class and NOT related to Licensure)

Late candidacy exams and comprehensive exams are not allowed. Asking for a deviation from the stated dates and deadlines is not to be taken lightly. Rarely will the Department grant this type of request and it will only be granted with significant documentation.

a. Conditions

- i. Death in the immediate family (spouse, child, mother, father, sibling, grandparent – not a friend’s parent, neighbor, a 2nd cousin, someone who was ‘like’ a grandmother, etc.) just before or during the candidacy due date or comprehensive exam weekend;
- ii. Extended hospitalization of the student or her/his spouse or child; or
- iii. Other extraordinary life situation (car troubles, financial issues, computer issues, time management issues, relationship issues, etc. are **not** considered extraordinary)

b. Procedure

- i. The student must first ask her/his adviser to write a letter of support. Then the student will submit an email request, not more than 1 page, in writing to the Graduate Programs Committee explaining why the extension/exception is warranted. This request must be presented with significant documentation and the letter of support from the student’s adviser.

c. Decision

- i. The Graduate Programs Committee will meet as soon as possible to make a decision. If necessary, the Committee may decide via email on the student’s case. The outcome will be communicated as soon as possible to the student via email.

Art Education

Websites for useful information from various VCU departments

Art Education Departmental Information

Art Education <http://arts.vcu.edu/arteducation/>
MAE Information <http://arts.vcu.edu/arteducation/mae/>

VCU Important Information

VCU <http://www.vcu.edu>
Graduate School <http://www.graduate.vcu.edu/>
School of the Arts <http://www.vcu.edu/arts/>
School of the Arts Financial Aid ↴
<http://arts.vcu.edu/admissions/how-to-apply/faqs/financial-information/>
VCU Financial Aid <http://www.vcu.edu/enroll/finaid/>
Student Accounting (Tuition) <http://www.vcu.edu/enroll/sa/>
Course Schedule <http://www.pubapps.vcu.edu/scheduleofclasses/>
Registration System <http://www.eservices.vcu.edu/>
Records & Registration <http://www.vcu.edu/enroll/rar/>
Username & Password <https://husky.vcu.edu/eid/finder/index.cgi>
Technology Services <http://www.ts.vcu.edu/>
VCU Library <http://www.library.vcu.edu/>
Academic Calendars <http://www.vcu.edu/academiccalendars/>
Housing <http://www.housing.vcu.edu/>

Graduate School Policies

Graduate School <http://www.vcu.edu/graduate/index.html>
Thesis & Dissertation Policies <http://www.graduate.vcu.edu/community/thesis.html>
Graduation Policies <http://www.graduate.vcu.edu/community/graduation.html>

Top 10 Ways to be Successful in Graduate Study in Art Education at VCU

10. Be active in student and professional organizations

Job searching should not start after you graduate. Think about your time in school as an opportunity not only to learn, but also to build your resume. Consider a leadership role in a student organization. Present at local, state, and national conferences. Join NAEA (National Art Education Association) and VAEA (Virginia Art Education Association).

VAEA 2013 Conference – October 31-November 2, 2013 in Falls Church, VA
(www.vaea.org)

NAEA 2013 Conference – March 29-31, 2013 in San Diego, CA (www.arteducators.org)

9. Activate your student ID and your VCU email

You must get your student ID.

The graduate school sends mass-messages to VCU email accounts and the department uses a listserv to keep students informed.

<https://husky.vcu.edu/eid/finder/index.cgi>

<http://www.ts.vcu.edu/>

8. Be aware of deadlines

You need to know when to register for classes, pay tuition bills, file paperwork for graduation, etc. It is your responsibility to do all these things on time. Be **PROACTIVE** instead of **REACTIVE**.

<http://www.vcu.edu/academiccalendars/>

7. Know the rules

Familiarize yourself with the Graduate School Bulletin. All of the student policies are available online. These are the official rules that govern what happens at VCU with regard to graduate study.

<http://www.pubapps.vcu.edu/bulletins/graduate/>

Also, read the Art Education Department website for important information about the graduate program in this department.

<http://arts.vcu.edu/arteducation/mae/>

6. Learn to conduct scholarly research

Wikipedia is not a scholarly source, neither is artcyclopedia or artnet.com.

Familiarize yourself with the library resources at VCU as well as the scholarly journals in our field. You will need to **physically** go to the library, check out books, request books and articles through Inter Library Loan (ILL), and speak with a librarian.

Scholarly Art Education journals include: *Studies in Art Education*, *Art Education*, *Visual Arts Research*, *Journal of Cultural Research in Art Education*, *Arts Education Policy Review*, *Journal of Social Theory in Art Education*, among others.

5. Be inquisitive

Make the time to follow up on topics discussed in class. Look up articles written by authors you enjoy. Invite faculty for coffee to discuss academic articles or scholarly pursuits. Be proactive in your approach to learning about the field.

4. Keep a binder of important documents

Recognize that VCU is a large university, and there are thousands of graduate students. An important paper relating to you may get lost in campus mail or simply not arrive somewhere. Make sure you make a copy and keep it of every important document. Print your grades each semester, save your tuition bills, print a copy that indicates that it is paid, print your schedule, save your admission letter, save your candidacy letter, etc.

3. Work with your adviser

It is your responsibility to seek out your adviser and you should meet with her/him at least once each semester. Neither your adviser nor the graduate program director will chase after you to make sure you are taking the correct classes. It is your responsibility to follow the course of study and to meet with your adviser regularly.

2. Recognize that graduate study is hard

You should be working a minimum of 3 hours per week outside of class time for each credit of class time. Thus, a 3 credit class = minimum of 9 hours of work outside of class time. Learn to enjoy reading and writing in your field. Advanced degrees are supposed to be hard, they are supposed to require a significant amount of reading and writing, and they are supposed to challenge your beliefs.

1. Be nice (and network) and know that stuff happens

Make the time to get to know your classmates, your professors, students in other departments, etc. You can learn a great deal from your peers, colleagues and the faculty in the department both in and outside of class.

If something happens and a document gets lost, recognize that it was not intentional and work to help it get resolved.

Suggestions from Current Student and Recent Graduates

Organizing

- Keep a very detailed To-Do list.
- Take time to think about how you will have to change your lifestyle. Relationships go on hold, you may become excessively sedentary, and you may be depressed sometimes because you cannot have all of your needs taken care of. It will be ok, but it is very important to be aware that this is happening, and to think about what ways you can problem solve to help yourself and those around you.

Studying

- You need to take on completely new (and more intense) study habits than in undergrad.
- Find a “Study Buddy” (i.e. just someone to go to the library or coffee shop and work next to) to keep you on task.
- Find a place outside of your home to do school work.
- Check out the Library 3rd floor study carrels along the back wall right next to windows: Perfect area for studying. This is where I wrote my comps and did research (they are also right next to all the education books – once I looked over from my carrel at the shelves of books next to me and found the PERFECT reference that totally reformed my research).
- Know that all classes should relate to one another and serve as additional ways of looking at your personal research interests (in this program you will be quickly identifying what aspects of art education are particularly of interest to you and how that aspect could be researched).

Other Opportunities

- Get a VMFA student membership!!!
- You can get a FREE amazon.com Prime membership with a school email address!
- Carver Promise Mentorship program (pursue this even if it’s not included in your classes).
- Grad Zone Library on the 2nd floor of Franklin Terrace: PLEASE use it! It was just organized, labeled, and re-arranged. There are GREAT references that I wish I knew existed while I was researching and planning lessons.

Fun Suggestions

- Good veggie restaurants: Harrison Street Café, Fresca, Lamplighter, & Ipanema
- Good veggie-friendly spots nearby: 821 Café & Panda Garden (mock meats) & Mama's Kitchen (good vegetarian sets)
- Monday night is \$2 draft night at Ipanema
- Make friends with caffeine!
- Diversity Thrift for cheap teacher pants
- Little Mexico – Huge delicious Margaritas
- Do not ever go to eat at Baja Bean