



**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION  
& PROFESSIONAL STUDIES**  
JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

**Department: Curriculum and Instruction**

**Department Head: Janet L. Bavonese (Acting)**

**Phone: 256-782-8340**

**Email: [jbavonese@jsu.edu](mailto:jbavonese@jsu.edu)**

**Degrees Offered & Contact Person for each Degree:**

**Undergraduate Program Course Descriptions**

Collaborative/Elementary K-6; 6-12: Ms. Valerie Gamble, [vgamble@jsu.edu](mailto:vgamble@jsu.edu)

Early Childhood Education/Elementary Education: Dr. Nina King, [nking@jsu.edu](mailto:nking@jsu.edu)

**Graduate Programs: Master of Science in Education**

**Alternative Certification MSE-A Programs**

Early Childhood Education, P-3: Dr. Elizabeth Engley, [eengley@jsu.edu](mailto:eengley@jsu.edu)

Elementary Education, K-6: Dr. Gena Thornburg, [gthornburg@jsu.edu](mailto:gthornburg@jsu.edu)

Collaborative Education, K-6, 6-12: Dr. Teresa Gardner, [tgardner@jsu.edu](mailto:tgardner@jsu.edu)

**Traditional MSE-T Programs**

Collaborative Teacher K-6, 6-12: Dr. Larry Beard, [lbeard@jsu.edu](mailto:lbeard@jsu.edu)

Early Childhood Education P-3: Dr. Elizabeth Engley, [eengley@jsu.edu](mailto:eengley@jsu.edu)

Early Childhood Special Education P-3: Dr. Cynthia Connor, [cconnor@jsu.edu](mailto:cconnor@jsu.edu)

Elementary Education K-6: Dr. Kyoko Johns, [kjohns@jsu.edu](mailto:kjohns@jsu.edu)

Reading Specialist P-12: Ms. Janet Bavonese, [jbavonese@jsu.edu](mailto:jbavonese@jsu.edu)

**Department Summary:**

**The primary mission of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction (C&I) is to provide instruction for teacher education candidates majoring in Early Childhood Education/Elementary Education, and Collaborative Education at the undergraduate levels and Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education, Collaborative Education, Early Childhood Special Education, and Reading Specialist at the master's level.**

**All programs are accredited by the Alabama State Department of Education, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. Each program is evaluated and updated on a regular basis to enable graduates to become creative decision makers. Current literature and innovative practices are also implemented to assure these programs are of the highest quality.**

**In addition, opportunities are provided for teacher education candidates to implement knowledge gained from coursework in their major with practicum and internship experiences. This combination of experiences in the university classroom and opportunities in the real world prepares the candidates with the knowledge, skills, and dispositions needed for successful employment upon completion of their program of study.**

**Department Statistics:**

**Average number of students in an academic year:**

Undergraduate = 1400 per year (fall, spring, summer terms combined)

Graduate = 600 (fall, spring, summer terms combined)

**Student to Faculty Ratio:**

Undergraduate = \* 22:1

Graduate =\*14:1

\*these numbers include the use of our regular pro rata and adjunct faculty

**Faculty & Their Expertise:**

**BAVONESE, JANET L.** (2011). BS, St. Thomas University; MS NOVA Southeastern University; MS, Jacksonville State University, EdD, University of Alabama (ABD Fall 2014)  
Acting Department Head  
Instructor of Elementary Education

**BEARD, LAWRENCE A.** (1999) BA, B.S, BA, EdS and EdD, University of Alabama  
Professor of Special Education

**CALHOUN, CHRISTIE** (2013). BA., MS, EdS, Jacksonville State University  
Instructor of Elementary Education

**CONNOR, CYNTHIA**(1990) BA, Mercer University; MA, Columbia University; and PhD, University of Virginia  
Assistant Professor of Special Education

**ENGLEY, ELIZABETH A.** (1985) BS, Hood College; MEd and PhD, University of Missouri-Columbia  
Professor of Early Childhood Education

**GAMBLE, VALERIE** (2012) BS, MS, Jacksonville State University  
Instructor of Special Education

**GARDNER, TERESA** (2005) BS, MS Ed, and EdS, Jacksonville State University;  
PhD, University of Alabama  
Associate Professor of Special Education

**HILBER, CELIA** (2001) BA, University of Texas at Edinburgh;  
MEd Trinity University; MA, California State University at Northridge;  
PhD, University of Alabama at Birmingham  
Associate Professor of Early Childhood Education

**JOHNS, KYOKO** (2010) BS, Jacksonville State University; MA. and PhD, University of Alabama  
Assistant Professor of Elementary Education

**KING, NINA** (1996) BS and MS Ed, Jacksonville State University;  
PhD, University of Alabama at Birmingham  
Associate Professor of Early Childhood Education

**OWENS, LYNETTA A.** (1994) BS, Talladega College;  
MA, University of Alabama; EdS, Jacksonville State University  
Instructor of Special Education

**STAUBS, MELINDA ODOM** (2007) BS, University of Tulsa;  
MS. Ed and EdD, University of Alabama  
Assistant Professor of Elementary Education

**THORNBURG, GENA** (2001) BS, Auburn University;  
MA and PhD, University of Alabama  
Professor of Elementary Education

**TRONCALE, JENNIFER M.** (2011). BS, MA, EdS and PhD, University of Alabama  
Assistant Professor of Elementary Education.

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