Katie Anderson Knapp PhD

Educational Consultant and Professor

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Professional Profile

Educational consultant, Kent State University professor, and licensed teacher with 27 years of teaching experience and 12 years of consulting in schools. Brings elementary and middle school classroom experience to teacher professional development, curriculum design, and instructional improvement. Helps educators connect research with practical approaches to student engagement, inclusive instruction, child development, and supportive learning environments.

Areas of Expertise

School consulting • Teacher professional development • Curriculum design and review • Instructional strategies • Child development • Inclusive teaching • Inquiry based learning • Teacher mentoring • Online instruction

Consulting and Professional Learning

Social Studies Consultant | Lorain County Educational Service Center | 2015–2021

Provided social studies consulting through the county educational service center.

School Consulting and Teacher Professional Development | 12 years

- Consult in schools to support instructional practice and learning environments, drawing on classroom experience and research in curriculum and instruction.
- Develop and teach professional learning courses for educators through Kent State University, including Culture of Poverty, Family History for Teachers, Counselors, and Social Workers, and Improving Classroom Instruction.
- Connect course objectives, learning activities, and assessments to strengthen curricular coherence and practical application.

Mentor and Curriculum Specialist | Hathaway Brown School | 2004–2006

- Supported college aged apprentice teachers in the Aspire Summer Program through social studies curriculum consulting, classroom performance evaluation, and mentoring.

Curriculum Leadership | Cleveland Heights–University Heights and Dublin Schools | 1999–2007

- Served as a district social studies specialist, curriculum writer, department chair, and team leader at Wiley Middle School.
- Represented schools in district curriculum development and presented instructional work to colleagues; served on the Dublin Schools Social Studies Council.

University Teaching and Leadership

Professor of Education | Kent State University | Current

- Teach undergraduate and graduate courses in classroom instruction, social studies methods, child development and pedagogy, early childhood inquiry, and student teaching seminars.
- Teach in synchronous and asynchronous online formats, supporting discussion, student engagement, and meaningful feedback.
- Prepare future teachers to plan instruction, apply educational research, and reflect on classroom practice.

University Teaching and Leadership continued | Kent State University

- Serve as Early Childhood Block V unit coordinator
- Served as Early Childhood Education program coordinator, 2018–2019
- University supervisor for student teaching, 2017–2019.
- Mentor faculty and graduate students; contribute to curriculum, student teaching evaluation, and teacher preparation initiatives.

Adjunct Professor | Kent State University | 2007–2013

- Taught undergraduate and graduate courses in teacher professional learning, inquiry, social studies methods

Adjunct Professor | John Carroll University | 2008–2013

- Taught undergraduate and graduate courses in middle school philosophy and instruction.

Classroom Teaching Experience

Teacher and Instructional Leader | Cleveland Hts-University Hts | 2003–2007

- Served as a tenured teacher, inclusion specialist, team leader, department chair, and mentor for preservice teachers.
- Developed social studies curriculum and contributed to student advisory programming and school improvement committees.

Fifth Grade Teacher | Dublin City Schools | 1999–2002

- Taught social studies and language arts and served as the grade level inclusion teacher.
- Created schoolwide programs and assemblies, taught after school programming, and coordinated field trips.

Additional Classroom Experience | 1998–1999; 2002–2003

Third grade apprentice teacher, John Burroughs Elementary School; K–12 substitute teacher, including long term assignments, in Mayfield City Schools, Richmond Heights Schools, and Gesu Catholic School.

Education and Credentials

PhD in Curriculum and Instruction | Kent State University | 2013
Master of Education | The Ohio State University | 1999
Bachelor of Arts in Music | Marietta College | 1997 | Valedictorian

Ohio Teaching License, Grades 1–8 | 1999–present
Ohio Science of Reading Certificate | 2026
International Baccalaureate workshop training, Levels One and Two | 2013–2016
Certified Resident Educator Summative Assessment Evaluator | 2015

Selected Publications Presentations and Recognition

- Coauthored “What’s the buzz? A K–5 school uses the C3 Framework,” Social Studies and the Young Learner, 2018.
- Presented at national and state education conferences on teacher preparation, primary sources, family history, and racial and gender identity development.
- Received the Burton W. Gorman Faculty Impact on Reality and Excellence in Teaching Award and Kent City Schools Collaborative Organization Award, 2017.