



UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA

Updated September 8, 2025

CURRICULUM VITAE

Dr. Clifford Davis, Jr.

cdavis@westga.edu

EDUCATION

- 2006 **The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN**
Doctor of Education (Ed.D.)
Educational Administration and Supervision
- 1995 **The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN**
Specialist in Education (Ed.S.)
Educational Administration and Supervision
- 1993 **The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN**
Master of Mathematics (M.M.)
Mathematics
- 1987 **Alabama A&M University, Huntsville, AL**
Bachelor of Science (B.S.)
Major: Mathematics Education

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2019 – Present** **Associate Professor**
University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA
- 2010 – 2015** **Adjunct Professor**
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
- 2009 – 2010** **Practitioner Partner**
The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
- Summer 1989** **Mathematics Specialist**
Teacher Certification Department, Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University, Huntsville, AL

COURSES TAUGHT

Graduate Level

- | | |
|---|--|
| EDLE 6312: Principles of Instructional Leadership | Fall 2022, Spring 2021,
Fall 2020, Summer 2020,
Spring 2020, Fall 2019 |
| EDLE 6316: School Law, Policy, and Ethics | Fall 2024, Fall 2023,
Spring 2023, Summer
2022, Spring 2022, Fall
2021, Spring 2021, Fall |



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	2020, Spring 2020, Fall 2019
EDLE 6329: School Operations for Student Learning	Fall 2022, Fall 2021, Fall 2020
EDLE 8304: Leadership for Organizational Change and Improvement	Fall 2025, Spring 2024
EDLE 8312: School Finance and Resource Management	Spring 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023, Spring 2022
EDSI 9933: Leadership for Change	Spring 2025, Spring 2024
EDSI 9941: Organizational Theories and School Improvement	Fall 2025, Summer 2025, Summer 2024, Summer 2023, Summer 2022
EDSI 9998: Research for Doctoral Dissertation	Fall 2025, Summer 2025, Spring 2025, Summer 2024, Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Summer 2023, Spring 2023, Fall 2022, Summer 2022

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (PK–12)

2015 – 2019	Chief of Staff <i>Knox County Schools, Knoxville, TN</i>
2012 – 2015	Executive Director of Secondary Education <i>Knox County Schools, Knoxville, TN</i>
2011 – 2012	Supervisor of Secondary Education <i>Knox County Schools, Knoxville, TN</i>
2010 – 2011	Principal <i>South-Doyle High School, Knox County Schools, Knoxville, TN</i>



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2005 – 2011	Principal <i>Knox County High School, Summer School Program, Knoxville, TN</i>
2004 – 2010	Principal <i>Karns High School, Knox County Schools, Knoxville, TN</i>
2003 – 2005	Recruiter <i>Human Resource Department, Knox County Schools, Knoxville, TN</i>
1999 – 2004	Principal <i>Cedar Bluff Middle School, Knox County Schools, Knoxville, TN</i>
Summer 1999	Intern <i>Mathematics Education Department, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN</i>
1995 – 1999	Assistant Principal <i>Bearden Middle School, Knox County Schools, Knoxville, TN</i>
1993 – 1995	Mathematics Consultant <i>Knox County Schools, Knoxville, TN</i>
1990 – 1993	Mathematics Teacher <i>Farragut Middle School, Knox County Schools, Knoxville, TN</i>
Summer 1989	Mathematics Specialist <i>Teacher Certification Department, Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University, Huntsville, AL</i>
1987 – 1990	Mathematics Teacher <i>Amelia Love Johnson High School, Marengo County Schools, Linden, AL</i>

PUBLICATIONS

Articles in Refereed Journals

Davis, C., Jr. (2024). The Changing Role of Principals: Are District Leaders and University Preparation Programs Providing the Needed Supports? *AASA Journal of Scholarship and Practice*, 21(1), 14-29. Available at <https://www.aasa.org/docs/default->



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source/publications/journal-of-scholarship-and-practice/spring-2024/changing-role-of-principals.pdf

Davis, C., Jr. (2024). Making Teamwork Work in the Virtual Classroom. *Advances in Online Education*, 2(2), 126-133.

Davis, C., Jr. (In progress). Convincing Graduate Students and Their Professors that the Pay-Off of Group Work Is Worth the Effort.

Davis, C. Jr. (2024). Empowering Teachers: Cultivating Agency in a Post-Pandemic Educational Landscape. *Journal of Educational Research and Practice*. Accepted for publication, 2024.

Davis, C., Jr. (Under Review). Mastering the Art of Online Instruction: Six Key Strategies for New Faculty Members. *Journal of Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*.

Davis, C., Jr. (In progress). Navigating the New Normal: Principals' Evolving Leadership in Times of Challenge and Change.

Davis, C. Jr. (In progress). The Use of Simulations to Prepare Aspiring School Leaders for the Ever-Changing Principalship.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

Davis, C. Jr. (2024). Seismic Shifts in the Online Learning Environment in Higher Education. In Tanya McGlashan Tarbutton & Lori Beth Doyle (Eds.), *Adjunct Faculty in Online Higher Education: Best Practices for Teaching Adult Learners* (pp. 225–246). IGI Global. <https://doi.org/10.4018/978-1-6684-9855-2>

Davis, C. Jr. (2024). Public Education: Good Trouble Needed in Leadership. In Natasha N. Ramsay-Jordan & Andrea N. Crenshaw (Eds.), *Supporting Best Practices Through Teaching as Activism*. IGI Global. <https://doi.org/10.4018/979-8-3693-0537-9>

Davis, C. Jr. (2025). Navigating the Turnaround: An Evocative Autoethnography of Leadership in School Improvement. In Kriss Kemp-Graham & Sharonda Pruitt (Eds.), *Interrupters, Visionaries, Champions and Legends: School Leader Evocative Autoethnographies of Resilience, Grit, Adversity, Failure and Success of Leading Public Schools in the 21st Century*. The International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership.



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Book Reviews in Refereed Journals

Davis Jr., C. (2023). Review of *Improvement science: Promoting equity in schools*. *Education Review*, 30. <https://doi.org/10.14507/er.v30.3711>

Davis, Jr., C. (2022). Review of *Improvement in action: Advancing quality in America's schools*. *Education Review*, 29. <https://doi.org/10.14507/er.v29.3365>

Davis, C., Jr. (2022). Review of *Rural education in America: What works for our students, teachers, and communities*, by Geoff Marietta and Sky Marietta. *Journal of Educational Research and Practice*, 12, 209–214. <https://doi.org/10.5590/JERAP.2022.12.1.15>

Davis, C. Jr. (2022). Review of *Jim Crow's Pink Slip: The Untold Story of Black Principal and Teacher Leadership*. *Teachers College Record*. <https://journals.sagepub.com/pb-assets/cmscontent/TCZ/Book%20Reviews%20Collection%202022/July%202022/Jim%20Crow's%20Pink%20Slip-1659381190.pdf>

GRANT WORK

Funded

Davis, C., Jr., & Evans, G. (2024). The Use of Simulations to Provide Authentic Learning in Educational Leadership Courses. A grant funded by the University of West Georgia Tech Fee. (\$10,500)

Davis, C., Jr., & Evans, G. (2023). The Use of Simulations to Provide Authentic Learning in Educational Leadership Courses. A grant funded by the University of West Georgia Tech Fee. (\$10,500)

Davis, C., Jr. (2023). Educational Leadership Simulations: Their Impact on Problem-Solving Abilities from the Students' Viewpoint. A grant funded by the Upchurch Family Innovation Fund. (\$3,350)



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PRESENTATIONS

International Presentations (*denotes student co-presenter)

Davis, C., Jr. (June 2022). *Six Ways to Improve Your Game as an Online Instructor*. The Teaching Professor Conference. Atlanta, GA: Magna.

*Davis, C., Jr., & El Burai Felix, S. (November 2021). *School Educational Leadership: Where Are We and Where Can We Go?* AMLE Annual Conference. Association of Middle-Level Education.

*Davis, C., Jr., & El Burai Felix, S. (August 2021). *School Educational Leadership: Where Are We and Where Can We Go?* ICPEL Annual Conference. International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership.

Davis, C., Jr., Nixon, A., & Morse, M. (August 2021). *Principals and Pandemics: Are Universities Up to the Challenge?* ICPEL Annual Conference. International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership.

Davis, C., Jr. (November 2020). *Academic Rigor in the Middle School: It Is Not Rocket Science*. AMLE Annual Conference. Association of Middle Level Education.

Davis, C., Jr. (November 2020). *Building a Culture of Excellence in a School Turnaround Situation*. AMLE Annual Conference. Association of Middle Level Education.

Gantner, M. W., Kimbrel, L., Evans, G. G., Nixon, A. M., **Davis, C., Jr.**, & Ruffin, J. F. (August 2020). *Collaboration for Research, Program Improvement, and Expanded Learning*. ICPEL Annual Conference. International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership.

University Presentations

Morales, K. & **Davis, C.** (2025, August 20). *Coaching the doctoral student through the struggle* [Invited presentation]. Continuing Medical Education: Lunch and Learn. Mercer University School of Medicine.



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Davis, C. & Morales, K. (2025, August 13). *How to facilitate deep learning in the struggle* [Invited presentation]. Continuing Medical Education: Lunch and Learn. Mercer University School of Medicine.

Davis, C., Jr. (May 2024). *Virtual Learning in Action: Using Simulations to Connect Theory with Practice*. Innovations in Pedagogy 2024. University of West Georgia.

Davis, C., Jr. (August 2023). *Leadership, Research, and School Improvement Department SchoolSims' Discussion*. Leader, Research, and School Improvement Retreat 2023. University of West Georgia.

Davis, C., Jr. (May 2023). *Live Synchronous Sessions: A Key to Student Engagement in Virtual Classrooms*. Innovations in Pedagogy 2023. University of West Georgia.

Davis, C., Jr. (April 2023). *The Use of Choice to Increase Student Voice*. University of West Georgia.

Davis, C., Jr. (March 2023). *Maintaining and Increasing Your Presence in a Virtual Classroom*. University of West Georgia.

Davis, C., Jr. (February 2023). *Using Live Synchronous Sessions to Increase Student Engagement in a Virtual Classroom Environment*. University of West Georgia.

Gantner, M., & **Davis, C., Jr.** (May 2020). *Making Teamwork Work*. Innovations in Pedagogy 2020. University of West Georgia.

Davis, C., Jr. (October 2019). *Academic Rigor in the Middle School: It Is Not Rocket Science*. University of West Georgia Residency Lab Presentation.

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND HONORS

- | | |
|------|--|
| 2023 | Leading the Pack: Focused on the Future Award (University of West Georgia Department of Leadership, Research and School Improvement) |
| 2022 | Nominee, Regents' Award for Excellence in Online Teaching (University System of Georgia) |
| 2022 | College of Education Award for Excellence in Online Teaching (University of West Georgia) |



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2022	Mace Bearer for the 2022 Fall Commencement Ceremony
2013	University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA) Excellence in Educational Leadership Award (University of Tennessee)
2010	Bronze Man of the Year
2010	100 Black Men of Greater Knoxville – Educator of the Year
2001	Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award
1999	Leadership Education, Knoxville
1995	Edgar Eaves Summer Fellowship for Mathematics Teachers

STUDENT COMMITTEE WORK

UWG Doctoral Dissertation Committees

In progress	Nicole Bullen, Dissertation Committee Chair
In progress	Anna Cox, Dissertation Committee Chair
In progress	Lauren Crump Meyers, Dissertation Committee Chair
In progress	Derrick Dalton, Dissertation Committee Co-Chair
In progress	Semeka Samuels, Dissertation Committee Chair
In progress	Jamie Voorhies, Dissertation Committee Chair

External Dissertation Committee

Completed Spring 2025	Emily Evans, Lincoln Memorial University, Dissertation Committee Member
Completed Spring 2025	Paul McMillan, Lincoln Memorial University, Dissertation Committee Member
Completed Summer 2024	Charis Reagan, Lincoln Memorial University, Dissertation Committee Member
Completed Summer 2023	Jeremy Jones, Lincoln Memorial University, Dissertation Committee Member
Completed Fall 2020	Bradley Smith, Lincoln Memorial University, Dissertation Committee Member



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UWG Educational Specialist Committee

Completed Spring 2021

Destiny Holloway, Exit Paper, University of West Georgia, Committee Member

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS AND SERVICES RENDERED

University

2023 – 2025	Faculty Senate Academic Policies Committee (APC), Co-Chair
2023 – 2025	Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Member
2022 – 2025	Faculty Senate, Member
2022 – 2023	Senate-Athletics-and-Advancement (SAIA) Committee, Member

College

2025 – Present	College-level Promotion & Tenure Representative
2025 – Present	College of Education Faculty Governance Council Representative
2023 – Present	Instructional Support Mentor (ISM) for Adjuncts, UWG's Georgia's BEST Program
2023 – 2025	College of Education Diversity Inclusion Advisory Committee (COEDIAC), Member
2022 – Present	Course Design Workgroup
2022 – 2023	Faculty Development Mentoring and Retention (FDMR), Committee Chair
2022	Leadership, Research, and School Improvement Development Chair Search Committee
2022	Alternative Dissertation Format Workgroup
2021 – 2023	Faculty Development Mentoring and Retention (FDMR), Committee Member
2021	Annual Dissertation of the Year Award Application Reviewer



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Department

2024	Faculty Mentor for Adjuncts for EDSI 9941, University of West Georgia
2023	Peer Reviewer for Faculty Member's Online Course, University of West Georgia
2023	Educational Leadership Faculty Search Committee Member, University of West Georgia
2022	Educational Leadership Faculty Search Committee Member, University of West Georgia
2022	Educational Leadership Scholarship Selection Committee Member, University of West Georgia
2022	Peer Reviewer for Faculty Member's Online Course, University of West Georgia
2022	Faculty Mentor for Adjuncts for EDLE 6312, University of West Georgia
2021	Educational Leadership Faculty Search Committee Member, University of West Georgia

Professional

2024	Editorial Advisory Board for the book, <i>Supporting Best Practices through Teaching as Activism</i> , Manuscript Reviewer
2024	A reviewer for chapter proposals for the book, <i>Interrupters, Visionaries, Champions and Legends: School Leader Evocative Autoethnographies of Resilience, Grit, Adversity, Failure and Success of Leading Public Schools in the 21st Century</i> .
2023	A reviewer for chapter proposals for the book, <i>Adjunct Faculty in Online Higher Education: Best Practices for Teaching Adult Learners</i> .
2024	<i>International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership</i> , Manuscript Reviewer
2024	<i>Teaching & Learning Inquiry</i> , Manuscript Reviewer
2024	<i>Theory and Practice in Rural Education</i> , Manuscript Reviewer



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- 2023 Educational Leadership Advisor, Oak Valley Baptist Church SERVE
Leadership Training Team
- 2023 *Journal of School Leadership*, Manuscript Reviewer
- 2023 *Theory and Practice in Rural Education*, Manuscript Reviewer
- 2022 *Theory and Practice in Rural Education*, Manuscript Reviewer
- 2022 *International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership*, Manuscript
Reviewer
- 2022 *International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership*, Manuscript
Reviewer
- 2022 Teacher and Principal Liability, Guest Lecturer, Lincoln Memorial University
Preservice Teacher Candidates
- 2022 Faculty Reading Group: The Art of Reflective Teaching, University of West
Georgia
- 2021 *International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership*, Manuscript
Reviewer
- 2021 Innovations in Pedagogy Conference, University of West Georgia
- 2021 *Journal of School Leadership*, Manuscript Reviewer
- 2021 Educational Law, Guest Lecturer, Lincoln Memorial University
- 2021 AMLE 21 Selection Committee Session Reviewer
- 2021 Teacher and Principal Liability, Guest Lecturer, Lincoln Memorial University
Preservice Teacher Candidates
- 2020 – Leadership Coach, The Center for Educational Leadership, University of
2021 Tennessee
- 2021 Educational Law, Guest Lecturer, Lincoln Memorial University
- 2020 Teacher and Principal Liability, Guest Lecturer, Lincoln Memorial University
Preservice Teacher Candidates
- 2020 AMLE 20 Selection Committee Session Reviewer

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2025 Innovations in Pedagogy Conference, University of West Georgia
- 2024 Innovations in Pedagogy Conference, University of West Georgia
- 2023 Innovations in Pedagogy Conference, University of West Georgia
- 2022 Faculty Development Mentoring and Retention (FDMR) Tenure and
Promotion Session, University of West Georgia
- 2022 Teaching Professor Conference



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2022	Interfolio Session, University of West Georgia
2021	Innovations in Pedagogy Conference, University of West Georgia
2021	APSU Center for Rural Education Virtual Conference
2021	Faculty Reading Group: Engaging in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, University of West Georgia
2021	Faculty Reading Group: What the Best College Teachers Do, University of West Georgia
2021	AMLE National Conference
2021	ICPEL Annual Conference
2021	Teaching Professor Virtual Conference
2021	Faculty Productivity Session
2020	AMLE National Conference
2020	Faculty Reading Group: Small Teaching Online, University of West Georgia
2020	Analyzing Qualitative Data, University of West Georgia
2020	ICPEL Annual Conference
2020	Faculty Reading Group: Small Teaching Online, University of West Georgia
2020	New Faculty Academy, University of West Georgia
2019	Quality Matters: Applying the QM Rubric in Online Courses
2019	AMLE National Conference
2019	New Faculty Academy, University of West Georgia

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Educational Research Association (AERA)
- Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD)
- Association for Middle-Level Education (AMLE)
- Georgia Association of Educational Leaders (GAEL)
- Georgia Educational Leadership Association (GELFA)
- International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership (ICPEL)

SKILLS AND PROFICIENCIES

- Microsoft Office (Outlook, PowerPoint, Excel, Word)
- Blackboard Learn
- CourseDen
- Canvas
- Google Suite