

EMILY ALEXANDRIA “ALEX” TUCKER

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EDUCATION

- PhD** University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Child and Family Studies May 2021
Dissertation: “A Collective Metamorphosis of Breastfeeding Mothers: Phenomenological Exploration of a Face-to-Face Healthcare Provider Facilitated Peer Support Group”
Committee: Dr. Madrid Akpovo (Co-Chair), Dr. Hillary Fouts (Co-Chair), Dr. Megan Haselschwerdt and Dr. Katie Kavanagh
- MS** University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Child and Family Studies May 2015
Thesis: “Exploring Connections Between Prenatal Physical Activity and Breastfeeding”
Advisor: Dr. Hillary Fouts
- BS** University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Child and Family Studies May 2013
Graduated Summa Cum Laude
- BA** University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Africana Studies. May 2013
Graduated Summa Cum Laude

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Tennessee, Knoxville July 2021 to Present
Lecturer, Child and Family Studies –
Combination of face-to-face, hybrid, online asynchronous, and online synchronous modalities

Undergraduate Level Courses:

- **CFS 330** (Global Perspectives on Childhood and Learning) – S23
Basic concepts, rationale, frameworks, and vocabulary related to global citizenship, intercultural competence, and international perspectives of childhood education and learning. A critical comparison of international learning environments for young children as situated in a historical, social, cultural, and political context.
- **CFS 320** (Family Interactions) – S23, Winter 2023, F22 (two sections), S22
An undergraduate course, covering dynamics of family interactions and influences of diversity, including parent-child relations, development of parenting skills, and intrafamily verbal and nonverbal communication processes, patterns, and problems.
- **CFS 360** (Family Stress) – S23, F22, F21
An undergraduate course, covering the following topics: physiological response to stress, stress management on the individual and family level, relevant aspects to

normative transitions across the family life cycle, crises experienced by families, and how family resources and culture shape perceptions and values that influence family stress.

- **CFS 210** (Human Development) – F22
Conception through adulthood in various social/ecological contexts. Interrelationships among various aspects of development—physical, cognitive, emotional, social. Normative and non-normative development.

Graduate Level Courses:

- **CFS 591** (Clinical Studies) – Spring 2022
A graduate course for teacher licensure students, involving group and individual seminar activities during full-time internship. Application and evaluation of professional core competencies. Completion of an international collaborative online learning experience (COLAB) focused on experiential cultural learning with students from The University of Melbourne, Australia, University of Auckland, New Zealand, Universitas Pendidikan, Indonesia, City University of New York - College of Staten Island, and University of Tennessee.
- **CFS 511** (Explorations in Child Development) – Summer 2021
A graduate course, covering the following topics: family and individual stress, bring development and applicable family theory.

Tennessee Tech University, Cookeville, TN
Lecturer, Human Ecology
Asynchronous Online Courses

January 2022 to Present

Undergraduate Level Courses:

- **HEC 1010** (Lifespan Development) - Spring 2023, Fall 2022
Development of individuals and families across the life span and factors that influence this development. Focus on biological, cognitive, and socio-emotional processes.
- **HEC 2510** (Foundations of Play) – Spring 2023, Fall 2022, Spring 2022
Emphasis on the importance of play as related to developmental levels of young children (birth-9 years old) and to appropriate settings.
- **HEC 2200** (Development: Conception – 6) – Fall 2022, Spring 2022
An undergraduate course, covering basic principles and theories of child development from conception to age six, with emphasis on hereditary and environmental factors influencing development, and the importance of developmentally appropriate practices. Course includes approximately 8–10 hours of case study with a child below the age of six.

University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Graduate Teaching Associate, Child and Family Studies

Aug 2015 to May 2021

- Independently taught **CFS 320** (Family Interactions) Spring 2019 & Spring 2020
an undergraduate course, covering the following topics: family theories, models of family functioning, diverse family compositions, how contextual factors influence

family relationships, functioning, and make-up, and familial relationship change across the lifespan.

- Independently taught **CFS 360** (Family Stress) Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2018

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

May 2013 to Dec 2019

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Child and Family Studies

Dr. Spencer Olmstead

- **CFS 395**—Research Methods, Fall 2019
Graded all online course material.
Responded to student concerns and advised them on assignments.
- **CFS 240**—Human Sexuality, Fall 2013 & Spring 2014
Helped convert course into a hybrid format.
Generated online course content and created new course assignments.
Graded assignments.
Facilitated communication between students and the lead professor.

Dr. Priscilla Blanton

- **CFS 360**—Family Stress, Spring 2015
Facilitated small group and class discussions.
Served as a guest lecturer.
Graded assignments.

Dr. Heidi Stolz

- **CFS 320**—Family Interactions, Summer 2013
- **CFS 345**—Family Resource Management, Summer 2013
Graded all student assignments and proctored all exams.
Provided feedback on student assignments.
Communicated with and provided support for students.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Dissertation, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

2021

Advisor: Dr. Samara Madrid Akpovo and Dr. Hillary Fouts (Co-Advisors)

- Independently recruited all participants, collected and analyzed all data utilizing phenomenological methods, and successfully reported the analysis.
- Interviewed and observed a breastfeeding support group for a year.
- Participated in the Transdisciplinary Phenomenology Research Group throughout the creation and completion of the project for added reliability and rigor of research.

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

May 2020 to May 2021

Graduate Research Assistant, Dr. Samara Madrid Akpovo

- Created and maintained a website for the Collaborative Online Learning Across Borders (COLAB).
- Helped organize and facilitate international webinar.
- Facilitated international meetings with partners.

- Assisted with tasks associated with publications and grant applications.
- Helped facilitate the 2021 COLAB online course which includes students and partners from New York, Australia, and New Zealand.
- Organized and documented the Early Childhood Education curriculum development which involved collaboration with the University of Wyoming and Western Carolina University.

University of Tennessee, Knoxville Aug 2018 to May 2020
Graduate Research Assistant, Dr. Hillary Fouts Aug 2013 to May 2016
 Early Experiences Research Center

- Assisted with quantitative and qualitative data entry, coding, and analysis.
- Trained undergraduates in data entry and data coding procedures.
- Managed and supervised undergraduates' work.
- Helped undergraduate students maintain deadlines and ensure goals were met.

University of Tennessee, Knoxville Aug 2013 to May 2014
Graduate Research Assistant, Dr. Jim Malia
 Child and family studies Advising Center

- Advised undergraduate students on courses to take to meet graduation requirements.
- Ensured students met all deadlines and major requirements.
- Directed students towards relevant campus resources.

University of Tennessee, Knoxville May 2013 to May 2014
Graduate Research Assistant, Dr. Heidi Stolz
 Center for Parenting

- Conducted literature searches and assisted in literature reviews for publications and grants
- Quantitative data entry
- Trained and supervised undergraduate students on research tasks such as data entry and literature searches.

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Publications

Stolz, H. E., Brandon, D. J., Wallace, H. S., & **Tucker-Norris, E. A.** (2017). Preventing Shaken Baby Syndrome: Evaluation of a multiple setting program. *Journal of Family Issues*, 1-22., doi: 10.1177/0192513X16647985

Tucker, E. A., & Fouts, H. N. (2015). Exploring Connections Between Prenatal Physical Activity and Breastfeeding. *Qualitative Health Research*

Wise, D., Brandon, D., & **Tucker, A.** (2014). Strengthening Families: Making the

Connection to Early Childhood Policy. *National Council on Family Relations Report*, Early Childhood.

Journal Papers in Progress

Tucker, E. A., Fouts, H., & Madrid Akpovo, S. The story of a collective metamorphosis of breastfeeding mothers. *Qualitative Health*.

Presentations

Tucker, E. A. & Fouts, H. N. (2015). Exploring connections between prenatal physical activity and breastfeeding. Poster accepted at the Deans Advisory Board Colloquium, Knoxville, TN.

Salinas, D., **Tucker, E. A.**, Bader, L., Neitzel, C. L., Fouts, H. N. (2015). Cultural differences in child-rearing beliefs in an urban informal settlement in Kenya. Poster accepted at the Society for Cross-Cultural Research, Albuquerque, NM.

Green, M. J., **Tucker, E. A.**, Fouts, H.N., Neitzel, C.L. (2014). Children's Movement in and out of Play in an Urban Informal Settlement of Kenya. Poster accepted at the Society for Cross-Cultural Research, Charleston, SC.

Green, M. J., **Tucker, E. A.**, Fouts, H.N., Neitzel, C.L. (2014). Children's Movement in and out of Play in an Urban Informal Settlement of Kenya. Poster presentation at the Child and Family Studies Department Colloquium, Knoxville, TN.

Green, M. J., **Tucker, E. A.**, Fouts, H.N., Neitzel, C.L. (2014). Children's Movement in and out of Play in an Urban Informal Settlement of Kenya. Poster presentation at the Graduate Student Research Colloquium, Knoxville, TN.

Tucker, E. A., Fouts, H. N., Neitzel, C.L. (2013). Gender and Mother-Child Interaction in Informal Urban Settlements of Kenya. Poster presentation at the Exhibition of Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement, Knoxville, TN.