AnnaLise Hoopes

EDUCATION

Expected 2027: PhD Candidate in Social Sciences and Comparative Education, University of California, Los Angeles, GPA: 4.0
2008: Multiple Subjects Teaching Credential, Holy Names University, Oakland, CA
2007: Ed.M., Human Development & Psychology, Harvard Graduate School of Education, Cambridge, MA
2006: BA, Double Major: Studio Art and Philosophy, Minor: Honors Program, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN. Studied abroad in Rome, Italy.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

10/26-Present, Fellow and PI, UCLA Bedari Kindness Institute

- Awarded a year-long fellowship through the UCLA Bedari Kindness Institute
- Designing an intervention to foster online kindness, digital citizenship, and prosocial behavior among youth (based upon the research conducted in my 2024 GSR position)
- Conducting a randomized control trial to measure efficacy of the intervention in California schools

2/26-Present, Finalist Awardee and PI, Besample Dissertation Grant

- Awarded a sample of 600 participants in Turkey and Argentina through the Besample platform
- Designed an intervention to reduce ethnocentrism and promote positive attitudes towards immigrants utilizing self-compassion and empathy training
- Measured impact through a randomized control trial and achieved significant results in terms of reducing both explicit and implicit bias towards immigrants
- Currently replicating the study with participants in the US and Sweden to measure attitudes towards immigrants from Islamic countries
- Manuscript in preparation: *Mitigating Ethnocentrism: How self-compassion and empathy training can reduce anti-immigrant bias*

3/24 – Present, Principal Investigator, Roots of Resistance Project

- Designed and executed a qualitative study utilizing a retrospective approach with youth activists in the climate movement, investigating the early life experiences (especially their schooling) which may have sparked their journeys into activism
- Conducted semi-structured interviews and focus groups with 27 youth from Angola, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, Eswatini, Germany, Spain, Sweden, and the United States
- Utilized follow-up surveys to gauge participants' ecological empathy and conservation behavior using the *Dispositional Empathy with* Nature (DEN) scale (Tam, 2013)
- Manuscript in preparation: *Roots of Resistance: Young Climate Activists' Journeys into the Movement*

1/25-9/25, Fulbright Scholar

- Awarded a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Fellowship
- Traveled for eight months in Italy, Germany, and Ecuador to explore how teachers around the world foster empathy—particularly empathy towards outgroups on various dimensions
- Worked with Indigenous communities in Galápagos as well as the Amazon region of Ecuador, with a focus on how educators foster ecological empathy in regions where students have close proximity to nature
- Have since expanded the study to include schools in Sweden and Finland
- Conducted 120 interviews and 60 observations to date
- Manuscript in preparation: *Cultivating empathy in schools: A cross-cultural analysis of empathy pedagogy in the US, Finland, Italy, Germany, Ecuador, and Sweden*

3/25-6/25, Visiting Scholar, Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society

- Spent three months as a visiting scholar at the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society at Ludwig Maximillian University of Munich
- Attended seminars, talks, colloquia, and a doctoral retreat to learn from other environmental scholars
- Presented my work on the pedagogy of ecological empathy to the RCC community a colloquium
- Manuscript in preparation: *Nurturing Ecological Empathy in the Classroom*

1/24 – 12/24, Graduate Student Researcher, Online Kindness Project, UCLA

- Graduate Student Researcher on the *Project for the Cultivation of Kindness on the Internet*—a part of UCLA's *Initiative to Study Hate*
- Conducted a comprehensive review of kindness (particularly online kindness) interventions
- Identified best practices and articulated a theory of change informed by the current literature
- Manuscript in preparation: *Fostering digital citizenship and empathy online: Essential tools for K-12 educators*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

12/17- Present, Founder, Executive Director, The Changemaker Project

- Founded a 501(c)(3) civics education nonprofit to empower youth as leaders, activists, and changemakers
- Partnered with schools in 40 countries to offer a leadership development curriculum helping students examine social and climate justice issues and design solutions with Stanford's *Design Thinking* process
- Developed curriculum, teacher training, outreach materials, and website: thechangemakerproject.org
- Hosted nine annual "Global Pitch" events in which teams pitch their projects to win funding
- Paired teams with mentors to support them in implementing and scaling their projects
- Awarded grants to youth around the world doing racial and climate justice projects in their communities
- Developed school partnerships and engaged thousands of students in 40 countries to date

9/26 – Present, Teaching Assistant for ED107A, UCLA

- Currently serve as a Teaching Assistant for ED107A: Race, Class, and Education Inequality in U.S.
- Lead my own weekly section of 30 students and facilitate discussion about the course readings
- Integrate "Empathy Circles" each week to build a caring community and facilitate deeper connections
- Grade assignments and provide ongoing feedback to each student

10/24 – 12/24, Teaching Assistant for ED479, UCLA

- Served as a Teaching Assistant for ED479: Introduction to Coaching and Leadership Research Methods
- Worked with faculty to refine the syllabus and identify appropriate readings for course topics
- Taught master's level students in the Transformative Coaching & Leadership program
- Taught lessons on both qualitative and quantitative research methods
- Supported students on their research design for their capstone research projects
- Graded assignments and provided feedback to each student

3/24 – 6/24, Teaching Assistant for ED138, UCLA

- Served as a Teaching Assistant for ED138: Cognitive Development and Schooling
- Led my own weekly Zoom section with discussion, writing exercises, and interactive activities
- Graded assignments and provided ongoing feedback to each student
- Introduced "Empathy Circles" each week to build a community and facilitate students' connections

1/24 – 3/24, TEACHING ASSISTANT FOR ED201, UCLA

- Served as a Teaching Assistant for ED201: Introduction to Research Methods
- Worked with faculty to develop the syllabus and identify relevant readings for course topics
- Taught master's level students in the Transformative Coaching & Leadership program
- Led weekly discussion to connect readings to lectures, facilitate student discussion, and support students on their research design and data collection protocol for their capstone research projects
- Graded assignments and provided ongoing feedback to each student

10/23 – 12/23, TEACHING ASSISTANT FOR ED10, UCLA

- Served as a Teaching Assistant for ED10: Introduction to Educational Issues & Scholarship
- Led my own weekly session and facilitated whole class discussion as well as small inquiry groups
- Integrated reflective writing exercises and other interactive activities to engage students
- Introduced and led "Empathy Circles" to build a caring community and facilitate deeper connections
- Integrated mindfulness activities and yoga + movement-based pedagogy throughout
- Graded assignments and provided ongoing feedback to each student

8/23 – 9/23, MINDFUL SELF-COMPASSION TEACHER, BERKELEY, CA

- Taught an 8-week donation-based course on Mindful Self-Compassion to students in Berkeley, CA
- Led meditations, writing exercises, retreats, and interactive activities to foster students' compassion and kindness towards themselves, transform their inner critic, and develop a positive sense of self
- Provided concrete tools for students to support themselves through difficult times and develop resilience

12/10-9/13, DIRECTOR, SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA, TECHNOVATION

- Oversaw the Technovation Challenge, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit app development and entrepreneurship program for middle and high school girls: technovationchallenge.org
- Scaled program from 43 girls at one site to over 1400 girls in 25 countries in three years
- Developed partnerships with 40+ schools across the SF Bay Area
- Managed recruitment, partnerships, and sponsorships, assisted in grant writing
- Developed a "Starter Kit" for teachers all over the world to start Technovation chapters
- Created a Student Ambassador Program for girls to lead clubs within their schools
- Facilitated recruitment and training sessions for teachers, mentors, and volunteers
- Designed and implemented a corporate sponsorship program, raising over $40,000 in program funding
- Coordinated speakers, judges, prizes, and host sites for local and national "Pitch Nights"
- Directly managed one full-time program coordinator and multiple interns
- Oversaw the development of three apps now on the Google Play market

9/10-12/10, RECRUITMENT DIRECTOR, TECHNOVATION

- Managed the recruitment of 300 girls, 60 women engineer mentors, 60 undergraduate Teaching Assistants, and six Graduate Student Instructors for the Technovation Challenge
- Recruited, trained, and managed 15 interns and 10 volunteers to aid in recruitment in 40 Bay Area high schools
- Oversaw recruitment directors in New York and Los Angeles sites

9/09-6/10: 1ST GRADE TEACHER, OCEAN VIEW ELEMENTARY, ALBANY, CA

- Full-time classroom teacher in a *Title I* school serving a diverse student group with seven home languages

- Designed and taught a six-month *Journey around the World* thematic unit in which students "traveled" to 16 countries—using artifacts, food, dress, artwork, and literature to enrich students' cultural understanding
- Designed and coordinated a 5'x7' *Families* class quilt using mixed media on fabric
- Member: *School Culture Committee*, *Gardening Committee*

9/08-6/09: 4TH GRADE TEACHER, CORNELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, ALBANY, CA

- Full-time classroom teacher in a *Title I* school serving a diverse student group
- Taught an integrated unit on California Native Plants
- Designed an interactive class website with published student writing and art
- Wrote and received two grants from the *Albany Education Foundation*
- Member: *Community of Respect Committee*, *Greening Schools Committee*, *Conflict Manager Program*

6/07-9/07: ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATOR, MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON SOCIETY, BELMONT, MA

- Lead instructor at Habitat Education Center & Wildlife Sanctuary
- Managed an Assistant Naturalist
- Designed outdoor, place-based science education curriculum for children ages 6-9
- Utilized hands-on nature exploration and educational games to teach native ecology and biodiversity

2/07-6/07: HARVARD F.E.P. INTERN, KING OPEN SCHOOL, CAMBRIDGE, MA

- Developed intervention strategies and provided counseling for at-risk students
- Designed and implemented a six-week unit on empathy, conflict resolution and perspective-taking
- Utilized art as a means to teach children the value of recognizing and understanding another's perspective

11/05-02/07: FOUNDER, TEACH COMPASSION AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM, SOUTH BEND, IN

- Established a student-led nonprofit in collaboration with the South Bend Community School Corporation to foster compassion, empathy, and social responsibility in 3rd-6th grade children
- Implemented program in ten schools—reaching over 2000 students
- Designed curriculum around social justice, animal welfare, and environmental activism
- Created marketing materials to recruit partner schools and volunteers
- Recruited, trained, and managed 25 university student volunteers to teach the program

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

3/17- 3/22, BOARD MEMBER, YES, NATURE TO NEIGHBORHOODS, RICHMOND, CA

- Served on the board of a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to bringing inner city Richmond youth and their families into nature for transformative leadership development experiences: yesfamilies.org
- Participated in Resource Development Committee, assisted with fundraising (events, sponsorships, etc.)
- Volunteered with Family Camp and Richmond Rangers
- Assisted with curriculum planning, and partnership development

1/13- 12/17 FOUNDER, CEO, GREEN & GO

- Founded a sustainable food startup serving organic, plant-based to-go meals to 40+ independent grocery stores, cafes, and offices across the Bay Area from Marin to Fresno, CA
- Built partnerships with manufacturers, distributors, and several B2B foodservice distribution channels

- Designed a school lunch program for local schools, offered workshops on impact of diet on climate
- Developed recipes, website and marketing materials, staff training manuals, and other branded collateral
- Recruited and managed a staff of a dozen cooks, delivery drivers, and brand ambassadors
- Designed and managed custom accounting software to manage orders, invoices, and finances
- Pitched products and got accepted into Whole Foods NorCal
- Led Pacific Northwest expansion project
- Sold to *2Forks Inc.* in 2017

CERTIFICATES

2023: Completed Mindful Self-Compassion (MSC) Teacher Training through the *Center for Mindful Self-Compassion*
2022: Completed Wake Up Schools Level II Mindfulness for Educators Training through *Wake Up Schools*

LANGUAGES

Italian: Intermediate Proficiency | **Spanish**: Intermediate Proficiency | **Swedish**: Intermediate Proficiency
French: Beginner Proficiency | **German:** Beginner Proficiency

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

- Awarded a fellowship from the UCLA Bedari Kindness Institute: $20,000 (2026-2027)
- Admitted to the UCLA *Graduate Leadership Academy* (Jan. 2026)
- Finalist for the *Besample Dissertation Grant,* granted access to a 600-participant pilot sample (Jan. 2026)
- Awarded the UCLA *Dissertation Year Award* fellowship: $30,000 + tuition and fees (2025-2026)
- Awarded the *Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Fellowship* to study how schools in Italy, Germany, and Ecuador foster empathy—particularly towards outgroups: $45,131 (1/9/2025-9/8/2025)
- Awarded the UCLA Graduate Research Mentorship fellowship: $30,000 + tuition and fees (2024-2025)
- Awarded the UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship fellowship: $6000 (Summer 2024)
- Awarded the UCLA Dept. of Education Fellowship: $18,000 (2022-2023)

INVITED TALKS

- "Educating for Empathy: Pedagogical Perspectives from Global Classrooms*,"* Department of Education, University of Leipzig, May 2025.

PUBLICATIONS

- **Hoopes, A.** (2026). The Changemaker Project: A Case Study of Social Justice Education in Action. In *Handbook of Social Justice in Education*, Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd.

- **Hoopes, A.** (2026). The Changemaker Project: Problem Posing in Action. In *Letters to Paulo*, Peter Lang Group.

- **Hoopes, A.** (in press). Thrive: The Purpose of Schools in a Changing World [Book Review] *InterActions*: *UCLA Journal of Education and Information Studies*.

- **Hoopes, A.** (2024). How might Apple, Freire, and hooks redesign the modern school as a site for social transformation? *InterActions*: *UCLA Journal of Education and Information Studies*, 19(1). https://doi.org/10.5070/D41.19440

- **Hoopes, A.** (2023). Ecological empathy. In *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia.* https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecological_empathy [public scholarship]

UNDER REVIEW/IN-PROGRESS PAPERS

- **Hoopes, A.** (under review). *Empathy towards "Other:" Defining a new construct of inclusive empathy*. Manuscript submitted for publication to *Perspectives on Psychological Science*.

- **Hoopes, A.** (under review). *Rosa and Freire: The dialectic of being and doing in contemporary classrooms*. Manuscript submitted for publication to *Research Papers in Education*.

- **Hoopes, A.** (in prep). *Mitigating Ethnocentrism: How self-compassion and empathy training can reduce anti-immigrant bias*.

- **Hoopes, A.**, Benomar, C., & Maggi, S. (in prep). *Hope, spirituality, and empathy as drivers in youth environmental activism*.

- Wiksten, S., Hadjeris, F., **Hoopes, A.**, & Nur, N. H. M. (in prep). *Civic religious literacy in teacher education to promote better recognition of Muslim minorities in K-12 schools in the US and Finland*.

- **Hoopes, A.** (in prep). *Fostering ecological empathy: Lessons learned from global classrooms*.

- **Hoopes, A.**, & Ong, C. (in prep). *Fostering digital citizenship and empathy online: Essential tools for K-12 educators*.

- **Hoopes, A.** (in prep). *Empathy: A foundation for global citizenship education*.

- **Hoopes, A.**, & Hecht, C. (in prep). *Student-driven social change: Utilizing a values alignment framework to promote climate-friendly food choices*.

- **Hoopes, A.** (in prep). *Roots of resistance: Young climate activists' journeys into the movement*.

- **Hoopes, A.** (in prep). *Cultivating empathy in schools: A cross-cultural analysis of empathy pedagogy in the US, Finland, Italy, Germany, Ecuador, and Sweden*.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- **Hoopes, A.** (2026, Sept. 9-10). *Cultivating Empathy, Mindfulness, and Inclusivity in Schools: A Cross-Cultural Analysis of Empathy Pedagogy in the USA, Italy, Germany, and Ecuador.* [Paper presentation.] Mindfulness in Education, Leipzig, Germany. https://www.zls.unileipzig.de/fileadmin/Einrichtung_ZLS/ABiK/Konferenz_2026/260902_Programmheft_Fachtagung_Achtsamkeit-in-der-Bildung_2026_mR.pdf

- **Hoopes, A.** (2026, Sept. 9-10). *How can mindfulness be a tool for fostering empathy in the classroom and promote a sense of global citizenship in the next generation?* [Roundtable presentation and session chair]. Mindfulness in Education, Leipzig, Germany.

- **Hoopes, A.** (2026, Sept. 9-10). *Pedagogical Strategies to Promote Empathy and Mindfulness in the Classroom* [Workshop]. Mindfulness in Education, Leipzig, Germany.

- **Hoopes, A.** (2026, June 12-13). *Nurturing Ecological Empathy* [Paper presentation]. Association for Moral Education, Madrid, Spain. https://annagilarrufat3.wixsite.com/ame26program

- **Hoopes, A.** (2026, June 12-13). *The Changemaker Project: Education for Social and Environmental Justice* [Paper presentation]. Association for Moral Education, Madrid, Spain. https://annagilarrufat3.wixsite.com/ame26program

- **Hoopes, A.** (2026, April 8-12). *Empathy as a Foundation for Global Citizenship Education* [Roundtable paper presentation]. American Educational Research Association Conference, Los Angeles, CA, United States. https://www.aera.net/Events-Meetings/AERA-2026-Annual-Meeting/Program-Information/2026-Annual-Meeting-Program-PDFs

- **Hoopes, A.** 2026, (March 28-April 1). *Nurturing Ecological Empathy: Pedagogical Approaches from the US, Italy, Germany, and Ecuador* [Roundtable paper presentation]. Comparative International Education Society Conference, San Francisco, CA, United States. https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/cies/cies26/online_program_direct_link/view_event/436375/

- Agirreazkuenaga, L. & **Hoopes, A.** 2026, (March 28-April 1). *Rooted in Peace: experiential practices with nature for transformative education* [Workshop]. Comparative International Education Society Conference, San Francisco, CA, United States. https://convention2.allacademic.com/one/cies/cies26/index.php?cmd=Online+Program+View+Session&selected_session_id=2293637&PHPSESSID=fmj2bb9j7a04fsv2nnr1fre5n5

- **Hoopes, A.** (2026, March 13). *Cultivating Empathy in Schools: A Cross-Cultural Analysis of Empathy Pedagogy in the US, Italy, Germany, and Ecuador* [Paper presentation]. UC Berkeley Research Day, Berkeley, CA, United States. https://docs.google.com/document/d/17h5IvVtWEw3iYCZOrWWcclkztpULHySTsuhHjhqjMBY/edit?tab=t.0

- **Hoopes, A.** (2026, February 26-28). *Educating for Empathy: A Cross-Cultural Analysis of Empathy Pedagogy in the US, Italy, Germany, and Ecuador* [Poster presentation]. Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Chicago, IL, United States. https://spsp.org/sites/default/files/2026-02/SPSP-2026-Convention-Program_0.pdf

- **Hoopes, A. (**2024, March 10-14). *Extending Environmental Activism through Dispositional Empathy for Nature* [Paper presentation]. Comparative and International Education Society Conference, Miami, FL, United States. https://tinyurl.com/yt6lndne

- **Hoopes, A.** (2023, October 26-28). *Teaching Empathy in Primary School Classrooms* [Paper presentation]. Association for Moral Education, Fort Worth, TX, United States. https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/event/3988/submission/131

- **Hoopes, A.** (2020, October 28-November 1). *Social Justice Concerns Among Adolescents in 25 Countries: An Exploration of The Changemaker Project Program Impact and Findings* [Paper presentation]. Association for Moral Education, virtual. https://www.amenetwork.org/ame2020-conference-program

- **Hoopes, A.** (2019, November 7-9). *The Changemaker Project: Empowering Youth to Innovate Social Change* [Workshop]. Association for Moral Education, Seattle, WA, United States. https://www.amenetwork.org/s/AME-Seattle-2019-Final-Program.pdf

- **Hoopes, A.** (2018, November 8-10). *Engaging Teens in a Global Design Challenge for a Better World* [Poster presentation]. Association for Moral Education, Barcelona, Spain. https://www.amenetwork.org/s/ame_program-vf-ejwc.pdf [Won "Best Poster" award.]

- **Hoopes, A.**, Chklovski, T., & Olmsted, D. (2013, March 6-9). *Technovation Challenge: Teaching Girls Computer Science & Entrepreneurship* [Paper presentation]. ACM technical symposium on Computer Science Education, Denver, Colorado. https://dl.acm.org/doi/abs/10.1145/2445196.2445436

ADDITIONAL CONFERENCES ATTENDED

- 02/2023: Attended the SPSP Pre-Conference: Intervention Science—Harnessing Psychology to Address Real-World Social Problems in San Diego, CA
- 09/2023: Attended the Teaching Assistant Conference at UCLA
- 02/2023: Attended the Comparative and International Education Society Conference in Washington, D.C.
- 10/2019: Presented at the Teachers for Social Justice Conference in San Francisco, CA
- 01/2019: Facilitated a social entrepreneurship course for teens at *El Pueblo Unido* (now *Center for Design Thinking and Innovation*) in San Juan, Puerto Rico
- 06/2013: Presented at the Women in Technology International (WITI) Conference
- 04/2013: Presented at the Girl Start Conference in Austin, TX
- 10/2012: Presented at the CalGirls Conference, National Girls Collaborative Project
- 09/2012: Presented at the Czech-U.S. Sustainable Energy Conference, (STEM Education strand) in Prague, Czech Republic
- 05/2012: Presented at the TechWomen Canada Conference
- 03/2012: Presented at the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) Conference
- 04/2007: Co-led a Humane Education Workshop, AlterEd Conference, Harvard University
- 02/2007: Presented research at the Harvard University Student Research Conference

CURRENT SERVICE

9/2022-PRESENT, NATIVE PLANT RESTORATION

- Native plant restoration in Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook with nonprofit *Nature Nexus*
- Native plant restoration in the Oakland-Berkeley hills with nonprofit *Skyline Gardens Alliance*

6/2018-PRESENT, SAILING INSTRUCTOR AT CAL SAILING CLUB

- Teach sailing to youth and adults at a nonprofit sailing school
- Organize sailing excursions for underserved youth
- Serve as *Safety Gear Chair*—responsible for purchasing and maintaining all club safety gear

10/2008-PRESENT, FACILITATOR AT NEW GENERATION SANGHA

- Facilitate a mindfulness meditation group for young adults in the tradition of Thich Nhat Hanh
- Organized and led a mindfulness retreat for sangha members in Petaluma, CA
- Taught mindfulness at Salesforce through a partnership between Plum Village and the Trailblazers Ranch
- Co-led an anti-racist book club centered around *America's Racial Karma: An Invitation to Heal*

PAST SERVICE

- Abstract Reviewer, analyzed hundreds of abstracts for a scoping review of plant-based food interventions as a means to mitigate climate change, a project led by *Rethinking Priorities,* Palo Alto, CA
- Peer Reviewer, *InterActions: UCLA Journal of Education and Information Studies*, Los Angeles, CA
- Site Leader at *Sidewalk Talk: A Community Listening Project*, Berkeley, CA
- Volunteer at *Animal Place (*retail shop supporting an animal sanctuary), Berkeley, CA
- Tutor for unhoused youth at *B.O.S.S. Children's Learning Center*, Berkeley, CA