Listed below are titles of research projects for dissertations and theses from graduate students in advanced programs in the College of Education and Leadership that reflect topics that focus on diverse populations. The list was compiled from titles off applications for approval from the Institute Review Board (IRB) at Stritch from 2009, 2010, and 2011. The process of lifting titles from a data base did not compromise the confidentiality of any information listed on the applications themselves. The list was compiled by Joy Vodnik and reviewed by Dr. Linda Neiman with the permission of the Chair of the IRB Board for the College of Education and Leadership, Joan Whitman.

2009-2010

- Implications of cooperative learning on students of low socioeconomic status
- Foster children and the education professional
- Strategies to improve comprehension of math word problems of ELLs
- Will the use of stand-up desks improve students’ attention, help them focus and given them energy?
- Journey through Theory U: Stories of cultural competency
- Persistence and the Academically Underprepared Student: A forgotten population
- Does using a wiki to journal in Spanish improve student achievement?
- How will the use of assistive technology, word prediction software, impact the writing productivity of secondary students with disabilities?
- The factors that affect the academic success of foreign students at Cardinal Stritch University (CSU)
- Effect of teacher initiated communication on conference attendance by parents of low achieving students
- English language learners and the use of listening to improve reading
- Effective school-based intervention strategies for students with ADHD
- Learning verbs through play with a child with autism.
- Data-driven instruction: The use of probes as an intervention to increase proficiency level in mathematics for students with disabilities
- The effects of reciprocal teaching on the reading comprehension of a struggling tenth grade student in social studies class.
- Strategies to improve Spanish listening, speaking, and questioning skills
- Motivating language learners: An investigation of the attitudes and motivated learning behavior of upper elementary students who are new to language learning
- Parents' motivation to choose dual immersion programming at a public school
- Does a student learning community help increase an at-risk students (as defined by WI Statute 118.153) ability to analyze and increase comprehension of the content material in social studies versus only using traditional classroom methods in a high school setting?
- Digital storytelling in the ELL classroom
- The impact of explicit morpheme instruction on the reading comprehension and vocabulary knowledge of a class of gifted third/fourth grade students
- Web-based practice for special education students
• The impact of the mathletics intervention on math scores of low achieving first graders
• The effect of using the Pic-Jour math strategy with fifth grade English language learners in a mathematics class
• The impact of a daily repeated reading intervention on the oral reading fluency of third grade students reading at below grade-level fluency rates
• Does improved literacy affect self-esteem in high school students with learning disabilities?
• The extent repeated readings increase the reading fluency of fourth/fifth grade students identified with specific special education needs
• The influence of music and parent involvement on vocabulary and language production.
• The impact of an educational intervention on people's attitude about negative stereotypes of Muslims
• Teaching students with intellectual disabilities grocery store purchasing skills through the use of DVD instruction
• The effects of interacting with text on comprehension of a fifth grade struggling reader
• The impact of looping and multiage classroom organization on at-risk middle school students' academic performance and motivation and attitudes toward school and school activities.
• Looped and the learning disabled middle school student: Impact on academic performance and motivation and attitudes toward school and school activities
• The effects of explicit instruction of decoding strategies on struggling first grade student ability to self-monitor
• Explicit instruction of multiple comprehension strategies to increase self-regulation of use and student comprehension of text with a struggling reader
• Students with disabilities and readiness to successfully complete activities of daily living skills: The effects of direct instruction and peer modeling.
• Examining the social and learner identities of nontraditional undergraduate students in an Early Childhood Bachelor's completion program
• Most appropriate classroom environments for students with moderate-severe cognitive disabilities
• The effectiveness of Robert Marzano’s six step vocabulary strategy with students with disabilities.
• Summer community action writing camp for Latino/a youth
• The implementation of the 6 traits of writing with a focus on organization and word choice affect 6th grade bilingual students' writing skills
• District school strategies to close the achievement gap
• The impact of an interactive word wall on second language learner's reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills
• The impact of repeated readings on fluency for students with cognitive disabilities
• Using phonological awareness and decoding strategies to promote word identification and fluency in struggling emergent readers
• Word identification and phonemic decoding in students with a learning disability.
• Using a story map to build comprehension and expressive language skills for a fourth grade student with a speech impairment
• Literacy skills and students with cognitive disabilities
• The effects of phoneme, graphing, mapping and personal writing by sound on the reading achievement of a secondary student with phonological memory reading disability
• Building engagement in reading and writing: A case study with a student with other health impairment
• Voices of the special education students
• A case study of literacy skills with a high school student who has cognitive disability
• Caught in the middle: Perceptions of Asian American middle school students
• The influence of peer collaboration and teacher support on Latino girls' confidence and academic achievement in mathematics
• Examining the impact of placement in an alternative education program for at-risk high school students

2010-2011

• Which tier of Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports (PBIS) has the most impact on expelled habitually truant high school students?
• The effectiveness of on-line education in a rural school
• Main concerns/difficulties of regular education teachers and including students with disabilities
• Positive behavior interventions and their effect on negative behaviors associated with ADHD/ODD in the elementary school setting
• Examining self-advocacy and its impact on academic achievement for high school students with special education needs
• The effects of an immersion environment on second-language learning in beginning levels
• Is there a relationship between math vocabulary instruction in a small group setting of a struggling third grader and the application of math vocabulary on a math assessment?
• The relationship between reading achievement and behavior for students with a learning and/or emotional behavior disability
• A comparison of instructional strategies with at-risk high school science students
• The effects of increased awareness of final consonants on the reading and writing achievement of third grade speakers of African American English
• Perceptions of participation: The impact of safe, secure housing on person's living in poverty in Belize
• The effects of one on one intervention on emergent readers with disabilities
• The effect of extrinsic incentives on reading efficacy in a middle school student with a learning disability
• The effects of explicit and systematic reading instruction in decoding, fluency, and comprehension on the reading performance of a fifth grade student with a learning disability
• Intervention strategies for increasing phonological awareness for a kindergarten student with a speech and language impairment
• Using the CLIFFTOP intervention with a student having a reading disability
• Under the microscope: Special educators perspective on the Wisconsin Alternate Assessment for Students with Disabilities
• The leadership and governance challenges of post-conflict African states: The Sierra Leone experience
• The self-care perceptions and practices of contemporary black women leaders.
• The impacts of suspensions on African American sixth grade middle school males' behaviors and attitudes in school.
• Semantic ambiguity and theological diversity: A descriptive study of the integration of faith and learning in Protestant higher education
• Incarcerated males with disabilities; How many are imprisoned and what led them there?
• A study on the impact on African American male students and their teachers affected by mandated standards-based grading transition in the urban American high school

2011-2012

• An investigation of instructional factors that contribute to the success of adult English Language Learners with learning difficulties, limited literacy or limited formal education
• Transforming knowledge and practice: Teacher educators engaged in collaborative self-study to understand linguistic diversity
• The impact of cooperative learning on the reading comprehension of EBD students
• The influence of flashcard use on American Sign Language students' receptive and expressive vocabulary retention
• What is the impact of Project-Based Learning on reading comprehension on students with disabilities?
• A comparison of the success rate for students transitioning from self-contained special education classes into 4K classes.
• The effects of the definition method versus the context method of target word instruction on foreign language student's vocabulary knowledge
• The impact of Orton Gillingham's multisensory approach to phonics on reading levels in high school students with moderate to high-functioning cognitive disabilities
• The impact of vocabulary intervention on the receptive vocabulary comprehension of 8th graders with identified disabilities
• Coming out in color: social justice in transgender communities of color
• Characteristics of specific spelling disabilities: the role of repertoire theory
• Reading flexibility in students with autism spectrum disorder
• The effects of explicit phonics instruction on the decoding, spelling and comprehension skills of bilingual students making the transition to English reading
• Challenges encountered in the teaching of social skills to children with social/emotional behavioral disabilities
• Technical college transition experience from English as a second language through graduation