

Earl Thomas, Ed.D.

Doctoral Faculty at Fielding Graduate University

Santa Barbara, CA, US

Professor of Human Development in the School of Leadership Studies

Biography

Dr. Earl Thomas currently serves as Professor of Human Development in the School of Leadership Studies at Fielding Graduate University Santa Barbara California. Thomas has spent the majority of his career in higher education teaching and advising graduate students as well as carrying out administrative roles such as program chair and associate dean. His areas of expertise include adult learning and development, early childhood education program leadership, qualitative and action research design. Dr. Thomas has written numerous peer-reviewed journal articles, 2 books and contributed book chapters to major research publications in the field of education. His research interest center around diversity and teacher professional development transformation, adult learning, and professional development systems. He has presented at national conferences in early childhood and adult education. Dr. Thomas has an extensive background that combines early childhood and adult development. He has served as program specialist in the Administration for Children and Families Federal Region VII Office of Head Start, and Regional Field Specialist at the National Center on Early Childhood Development Teaching and Learning Region V Chicago Federal Office of Head Start.

Industry Expertise

Social Services, Education/Learning, Training and Development

Areas of Expertise

Action Research, Transformative Learning, Mixed Methods Research, Adult Learning Theory, Qualitative Research Methods, Adult Development, Curriculum Development

Event Appearances

Building learner persistence in 2-year and 4- year colleges and universities through online instructor/student engagement

Annual American Association for Adult and Continuing Education 63rd Annual Conference

The role of governing boards in the oversight of RTI and school diversity transformation

Illinois Association of School Boards Annual Conference

Lessons learned respective to program design and implementation of a faculty-led student peer-mentoring program

National Symposium on Student Retention

The effect of traditional peer-mentoring vs. hybrid peer-mentoring on student retention and goal attainment

National Symposium on Student Retention

Empowering Head Start Programs to plan and manage systems that influence cultural diversity

National Head Start Conference

Understanding the facilitators and barriers for private elementary schools to serve a diverse student population

National Alliance of Black School Educators 35th Annual Conference

Education

Kansas State University-Manhattan Kansas

EdD Adult Education

University of Missouri-Kansas City

MA Adult Education

University of Missouri-Kansas City

BA Psychology and Sociology

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