

# Dr. Ramona Freeman, Ph.D

Assistant Professor  
TLC  
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## Education

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**Ph.D., Curricular and Instructional Studies** 2005

Note: Please see the most current copy of vitae in FolioWeb. The University of Akron

*Dissertation: A phenomenological investigation of the pedagogy of family child care*

**M.A., Early Childhood Education** 1998

Kent State University

**B.S., Elementary Education** 1974

The University of Akron

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## Higher Education Work Experience

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**Assistant Professor** 8/2006 - present

Kent State University - Salem

**Prior to Current Position:** 0/2003 - 0/2006

*Instructor* 1/2006 - 5/2006

*Kent State University - Tuscarawas*

*Instructor* 1/2006 - 5/2006

*Indiana University, Purdue University at Fort Wayne*

*Instructor* 1/2006 - 5/2006

*The University of Akron*

*Visiting Professor* 8/2003 - 5/2004

*Ashland University*

*Visiting Professor* 8/2000 - 5/2003

*The University of Akron*

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## Other Professional Experience

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<b>Owner/Operator</b> Gentle Years Daycare and Preschool	<b>3/1990 - 5/1998</b>
<b>Preschool Teacher</b> Firestone Park Preschool, Akron	<b>9/1986 - 5/1987</b>
<b>Elementary Teacher</b> Akron Public Schools	<b>09/1975 - 06/1981</b>
<b>Elementary Teacher</b> Florida College Academy	<b>8/1974 - 5/1975</b>

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## Publications

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- Freeman, R. (in press). [Reggio Emilia, Vygotsky, and family child care: Four American providers describe their pedagogical practice](#). *Child Care in Practice*. 2011  
Publication: *Journal Articles, Refereed*
- Freeman, R., & Karlsson, M. (in press). [Strategies for learning experiences in family day care: An American and Swedish perspective](#). *Childhood Education*. 2011  
Publication: *Journal Articles, Refereed*
- Freeman, R., Swim, T., Norton-Smith, L., & White, B. (2010). [Study groups as tools for reflective practice and professional development: The Akron experience](#). In J. Biddle & B. White (Eds.). *The power of we: The Ohio study group experience* (pp. 15-22). Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing. 2010  
Publication: *Book Chapters*
- Freeman, R. (2010). [Home, school partnerships in family child care: Providers' relationships within their communities](#). *Early Child Development and Care*, 181(6), 287-845. 2010  
Publication: *Journal Articles, Refereed*
- Freeman, R., & Swim, T. (2009). [Intellectual integrity: Examining common rituals in early childhood curriculum](#). *Contemporary Issues in Early Childhood*. *Contemporary Issues in Early Childhood*, 10(4), 366-377. 2009  
Publication: *Journal Articles, Refereed*
- Freeman, R. (2008). Preparing environments in family child care homes. *Pace*, 2(2), 22-28. 2008  
Publication: *Journal Articles, Refereed*
- Freeman, R., & Vakil, S. (2007). [The pedagogical experiences and practices of family child care providers](#). *Early Childhood Education Journal*, 35(3), 269-276. 2007  
Publication: *Journal Articles, Refereed*
- Tu, T., Freeman, R., & White, B. (2007). Implementing multicultural education in PreK-3rd grade classrooms through the empowerment of teachers, children, and families. *The International Journal of Learning*, 14(5), 27-22. 2007

Publication: *Journal Articles, Refereed*

Freeman, R. (2006). Science curriculum in family child care. A.A.A.E.Y.C. Newsletter, Fall, 2006. 2006

Publication: *Journal Articles, Non-Refereed*

Swim, T. J., & Freeman, R. (2004). A time to reflect: The use of food in early childhood classrooms, *Young Children*, 59(6), 18-23. 2004

Publication: *Journal Articles, Refereed*

Vakil, S., Freeman, R., & Swim, T.J. (2003). The Reggio Emilia approach and inclusive early childhood programs. *Early Childhood Education Journal*, 30(3), 187-92. 2003

Publication: *Journal Articles, Refereed*

Swim, T. J., & Freeman, R. (2003). Parents and teachers working together: Should food be used for learning materials? *Early Childhood News*, 15(3), 41-46. 2003

Publication: *Journal Articles, Refereed*

Freeman, R., & Vakil, S. (2003). The role of family childcare providers in early intervention. *Early Childhood Education Journal*, 32(2), 121-5. 2003

Publication: *Journal Articles, Refereed*

Freeman, R., & Swim, T.J. (2003). A critical reflection on using food as learning material, *Journal of Early Childhood Teacher Education*, 24, 83-88. 2003

Publication: *Journal Articles, Refereed*

Freeman, R. (2002). Reflection of the year's work in the Akron Reggio Study Group. Essay published in *Focus: The Ohio Association for The Education of Young Children*, 26(2), 2. 2002

Publication: *Journal Articles, Non-Refereed*

Editor, NEOPN monthly newsletter. 1993

Publication: *Other*

Freeman, R. (1992). Some tools to battle caregiver stress. *The Children's Room*, 18, 3. 1992

Publication: *Journal Articles, Non-Refereed*

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## Presentations

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McFalls, L., Freeman, R., Atchison, S., & Cooper, M. (2011, February). *Relationships with materials and space*. Paper presentation at the state conference of The Wonder of Learning: The Hundred Languages of Children Exhibit, Columbus, OH. 2011

Type: *State Non-Refereed*

Freeman, R. (2009, July). *Male counterparts in family child care: The positive role that husbands play in successful homes*. Paper presented at the conference of the International Family Day Care Organization. Cork, Ireland. 2009

Type: *International Refereed*

- Freeman, R. (2009, June). *Curriculum is not about us, it's about the child: Structuring and implementing curriculum based on children's interests*. Paper presented at the National Association for Family Child Care, Baltimore, MD. 2009  
Type: *National Refereed*
- Freeman, R. (2009, November). *Family child care as a setting for science inquiry*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, Washington, DC. 2009  
Type: *National Refereed*
- Freeman, R. (2008, July). *How to put time in a bottle, and reach for some when you need it and have time to spare at the end of the day*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Association for Family Child Care. Chicago, IL. 2008  
Type: *National Refereed*
- Freeman, R. (2008, July). *The role of husbands in family child care programs*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Association for Family Child Care conference. Chicago, IL. 2008  
Type: *National Refereed*
- Freeman, R., & White, B. (2008, June). *"... But words will never hurt me?" The problem of young children's bullying from a social justice perspective: A cross-national phenomenon*. Paper presented at The International Conference on Learning. Chicago, IL. 2008  
Type: *International Refereed*
- Freeman, R. (2008, November). *Family child care as a place for children's learning: Tapping in to the rich learning potential of environment, relationships, and curriculum*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Dallas, TX. 2008  
Type: *National Refereed*
- Freeman, R., White, B., Swim, T., & Norton-Smith, L. (2008, November). *Teachers, parents, and children as agents of change: Social justice and advocacy in the classroom and beyond*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Association for the Education of Young Children- Dallas, TX. 2008  
Type: *National Refereed*
- Freeman, R. (2007, February). *The use of developmentally appropriate teaching strategies in family child care*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Eastern Educational Research Association, Clearwater, FL. 2007  
Type: *Regional Refereed*
- Freeman, R., Tu, T., & White, B. (2007, June). *When young children learn in family child care programs: A place for pedagogical fidelity*. Paper presented at the International Learning Conference, Johannesburg, South Africa. NOTE: Information requested from the conference organizers stated: Proposals are reviewed (not blind), by a single individual; accept rate is approximately 50%. 2007  
Type: *International Refereed*
- Freeman, R. (2007, August). *Rich learning for young children – using open ended materials to guide children's problem solving, imagination, and reasoning*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Association for Family Child Care, Anaheim, CA. 2007

Type: *National Refereed*

Tu, T., Freeman, R., & White, B. (2007, June). *Implementing multicultural education in preK-3rd grade classrooms through the empowerment of teachers, children, and families*. Paper presented at the International Learning Conference, Johannesburg, South Africa. NOTE: Information requested from the conference organizers stated: Proposals are reviewed (not blind), by a single individual; accept rate is approximately 50%. 2007

Type: *International Refereed*

White, B., Freeman, R., Norton-Smith, L., & Swim, T. (2006, November). *The asking of good questions: Guiding pre-and in-service teachers from the scripted to the provocative*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, Atlanta, GA. 2006

Type: *National Refereed*

Freeman, R. (2005, April). *The teaching voice of family child care: Educational perceptions of Ohio providers*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children, Columbus, OH. 2005

Type: *State Refereed*

Freeman, R., Norton-Smith., Swim, T., & White, B. (2005, April). *Study groups as tools for reflective practice: How early childhood educators can become masters of the art*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children, Columbus, OH. 2005

Type: *State Refereed*

Freeman, R. (2005, October). *Why does Johnny read? How young children learn to read and write*. Paper presentation at the annual conference of the Ohio Library Council, Columbus, OH. 2005

Type: *State Refereed*

White, B., Freeman, R., Norton-Smith, L., & Swim, T. (2005, December). *Adult learners as researchers: How documentation, reflection and dialogue spark new pedagogy*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, Washington, D.C. 2005

Type: *National Refereed*

Freeman, R., Norton-Smith, L., Swim, T., & White, B. (2005, October). *Adult learners as researchers: How documentation, reflection and dialogue spark new pedagogy*. Paper presented at Head Start, Region V Annual Conference, Columbus, OH. 2005

Type: *Regional Refereed*

Swim, T., & Freeman, R. (2004, October). *Come imagine with me: Use your imagination to consider new solutions to problems and promote learning*. Address to the Super Saturday Training, Kids Play, Inc. Akron, OH, 2004

Type: *Local Invited*

White, B., Norton-Smith, L., Swim, T., & Freeman, R. (2004, November). *Study groups as tools for reflective practice and professional development: How early childhood educators can become masters of the art of teaching*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, Anaheim, CA. 2004

Type: *National Refereed*

- Freeman, R. (2003, May). *Practical ways to plan your days with children, and how to improve your environment*. Address to the Child Care Connections Annual Conference, Cuyahoga Falls, OH. 2003  
Type: *Local Invited*
- Freeman, R. & Vakil, S. (2003, March). *A promising look at Reggio/ special needs*. Paper presented at the annual Ohio Early Childhood Conference, Columbus, OH. 2003  
Type: *State Refereed*
- Swim, T.J., & Freeman, R. (2003, March). *Looking at curriculum: Using food as a medium for teaching*. Paper presented at the Indiana Early Childhood Conference, Indianapolis, IN. 2003  
Type: *State Refereed*
- Freeman, R. (2003, March). *Should food be used as learning materials? A critical discussion*. Paper presented at the Ohio Early Childhood Conference, Columbus, OH. 2003  
Type: *State Refereed*
- Freeman, R., & Swim, T. J. (2003, April). *Rethinking our culture of learning: Food as learning material*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Midwest Association for the Education of Young Children, Peoria, IL. 2003  
Type: *Regional Refereed*
- Freeman, R. (2002, March). *The provider's home environment: Beginning the dialogue to improve our understanding*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children, Columbus, OH. 2002  
Type: *State Refereed*
- Freeman, R., & Hutchins, P. (2000, May). *Lessons learned from the Reggio approach*. Paper presented at the State Homeless Education Conference, Mohican State Park, OH. 2001  
Type: *State Refereed*
- Freeman, R. (2001, March). *Family childcare - professional development trends: A forum*. Paper presented at the Akron Area Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference, Akron, OH. 2001  
Type: *Local Refereed*
- Colonna, D., Freeman, R., Hill, J., O'Connor, B., & Van Hooft, M. (2000, March). *Educating teachers: Response and preventions of school violence (K-12)*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Eastern Educational Research Association, Clearwater, FL. 2000  
Type: *Regional Refereed*
- Rasinski, T., & Freeman, R. (2000, September). *Child development overview and phonemic awareness in the child*. Paper presented at the Family Literacy/ABLE Conference, Mohican State Park, OH. 2000  
Type: *State Refereed*
- Freeman, R., & Morris, P. (2000, September). *A place called reggio*. Paper presented at Child Care Connection, Inventure Place, Akron, OH. 2000  
Type: *Local Refereed*

<p>McIrvine, P., Briggs, B., &amp; Freeman, R. &amp; Barbour, N. (1998, November). <i>Joining a profession: Family child care practitioners and the CDA process</i>. Paper presented at the annual conference of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, Toronto, Canada.</p> <p>Type: <i>National Refereed</i></p>	1998
<p>Freeman, R. (1996, September). <i>How to manage the long day with children in your home</i>. Address to the Stark County Regulatory Agency, Canton, OH.</p> <p>Type: <i>Local Invited</i></p>	1996
<p>Freeman, R. (1995, October). <i>Using free, easy-to-access materials</i>. Address to the Portage County Regulatory Agency, Ravenna, OH.</p> <p>Type: <i>Local Invited</i></p>	1995
<p>Freeman, R. (1993, March). <i>Roundtable discussion on issues and concerns for family childcare providers</i>. Paper presented at the Akron Area Association for the Education of Young Children Annual Conference, Akron, OH.</p> <p>Type: <i>Local Refereed</i></p>	1993
<p>Freeman, R. (1992, March). <i>Art activities for home daycare providers</i>. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Akron Area Association for the Education of Young Children, Akron, OH.</p> <p>Type: <i>Local Refereed</i></p>	1992

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## Service

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<p><b>Editorial Board, <a href="http://scholarlypartnershipsedu">scholarlypartnershipsedu</a></b></p> <p><i>(<a href="http://scholarlypartnershipsedu">Scholarlypartnershipsedu</a> is a scholarly peer-reviewed journal supported by the Scholar-Practitioner Center for the Advancement of Educational Leadership and Learning Organizations in the School of Education at Indiana University–Purdue University Fort Wayne.)</i></p> <p>Type: <i>University</i></p>	2006 - 2006
<p><b>Representative, Reggio Study Group</b></p> <p><i>Liaison for Reggio Study Group (managing two-way flow of internet exchanges between Dr. Forman (Harvard), and Akron Area Reggio Study Group Listserv Members 2002-2003)</i></p>	2002 - 2003
<p><b>Member, NEOPN</b></p> <p><i>Charter member, network coordinator of the first local association of family childcare providers in the Akron area (Northeast Ohio Provider's Network –NEOPN) 1991-1996</i></p>	1991 - 1996
<p><b>Member, Akron Public Schools</b></p> <p><i>Staff Development Planning Committee Member, 1980-1981</i></p>	1980 - 1981
<p><b>Committee, Akron Public Schools</b></p> <p><i>Curriculum Selection Committee</i></p>	1980 - 1981

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## Grants

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<p><b>PI, A Collaborative Investigation of Science and Mathematics Inquiry</b></p>	2006 - 2006
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Scholarly Research Award, Phi Delta Kappa, Kent State University.

Awarded: \$500.00 (0 0)

Phi Delta Kappa - Service

**PI, Investigating Family Child Care Providers' Understanding of Development and Learning for Young Children**

**2003 - 2004**

*Two focus groups were held with each of three local family child care associations in the Northeast Ohio region. The focus groups investigated providers' perceptions of teaching and learning regarding the young children they care for in their homes.*

Collaboration with: Ramona Freeman, Terri Swim

Submitted: \$1,500.00

Status: Awarded

Awarded: \$1,500.00 (0 0)

Ohio Association for the Education of Young Children - Applied Research