

Nooshin Darvishinia

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EDUCATION

Kansas State University Manhattan, KS

Doctor of Philosophy in Curriculum & Instruction (ABD; Anticipated May 2027)

Dissertation Title: “The Impact of Virtual Reality on English Language Learners in STEM Education”

Areas of Focus/Minor:

Educational Technology

Cumulative GPA: 4.00, Major GPA: 4.00

Kansas State University Manhattan, KS

Graduate Certificate (Educational Technology) 2024

Graduate Certificate (Adult Learning) Anticipated 2026

Islamic Azad University (Najafabad Branch)

Isfahan, Iran Master of Arts (Teaching English as a Foreign or Second Language) 2016

Sheikhbahaee University

Isfahan, Iran

Bachelor of Arts (English language and literature) 2011

TEACHING & MENTORSHIP

A. UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD

Spring 2024- Present

Kansas State University (College of Education)

EDCI 400

- Designed and delivered a practice-based literacy curriculum for ~50 undergraduate students focused on K–6 instruction.
- Integrated emerging technologies to support multimodal and culturally responsive literacy practices, including VR, AI, and telepresence robotics.
- Developed two original VR learning modules and trained students to design and experience 3D environments using Meta Quest 3 headsets.
- Facilitated authentic classroom connections by hosting K–12 educators and live-streaming classrooms via telepresence robots.
- Emphasized digital storytelling, inclusive technology practices, and real-world applications of new literacies.

EDCI 318

- Co-designed and delivered immersive VR- and AI-integrated course modules in an interdisciplinary course enrolling ~130 students.
- Prepared future educators to integrate emerging technologies (e.g., virtual simulations, AI-powered tutoring, adaptive learning platforms) in multilingual and diverse K–12 classrooms.

- Designed analytic assignments requiring students to critically evaluate three VR educational games for pedagogical value and classroom applicability.
- Embedded equity-driven and inclusive instructional practices through the use of learning management systems, digital assessments, and educational gaming tools.

*College of Education Nominee, **Graduate Student Teaching Excellence Award (GSC/MAGS)**, Kansas State University* 2025

B. K-12 AND INTERNATIONAL LITERACY INSTRUCTION

LECTURER

2018-2022

Islamic Azad University (Najafabad Branch)

- Taught an ESL course, English Reading and Comprehension, in the Department of English, enhancing students' language proficiency through tailored instruction and interactive learning activities.
- Led workshops on academic literacy, EAP writing in the Department of Engineering, equipping students with the academic writing skills necessary for success in technical fields.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTRUCTOR

2008-2022

Pooyesh Language Institute

- Designed and implemented a comprehensive English language curriculum, leading to significant improvements in students' language proficiency across reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills.
- Developed and delivered interactive lessons that engaged diverse student populations, fostering an inclusive and supportive learning environment.
- Conducted assessments and provided individualized feedback, helping students achieve their personal and academic language goals.
- Mentored and guided students through advanced language concepts, preparing them for academic and professional success in English-speaking environments.

IELTS TRAINER

2017-2020

Chalabi Learning Center

- Developed and delivered specialized preparation courses for the IELTS (International English Language Testing System), a globally recognized standardized test for English proficiency.
- Trained students to achieve high scores on the IELTS, focusing on all four test components: Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking, leading to improved success rates.
- Created customized lesson plans to address individual student needs, resulting in measurable improvements in their test performance and language proficiency.
- Provided ongoing support and resources to students, enhancing their readiness for academic and professional opportunities in English-speaking countries.
- Delivered academic reading and writing instruction for standardized English assessments.
- Created individualized plans targeting reading fluency, vocabulary development, and critical literacy.

- Worked closely with high-performing students preparing for academic programs abroad.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

LAB COORDINATOR

August 2025– Present

Immersive Learning Lab, Department of Curriculum & Instruction, Kansas State University.

- Initiated and shaped the proposal that led to the lab's establishment, in collaboration with the Department Chair.
- Built partnerships with K-State's Salina Technology Campus and industry collaborators to pursue grant funding and scale VR training programs nationwide.
- Supported graduate students' AI-focused research (project design, analysis, ethical AI use), contributing to a pipeline of research in AI in teaching and learning.
- Partner with the Rural Education Center and the Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom to recruit and train rural in-service teachers in immersive technology integration.
- Secure and deploy 200+ VR headsets and supporting equipment to expand access to K-12 classrooms and teacher training.
- Lead institutional initiatives in VR for teaching and learning, supporting faculty in integrating emerging technologies into the curriculum and in developing AI-enhanced, evidence-based teaching innovations.
- Provide support to the faculty in the Curriculum and Instruction department on the use of VR technologies and integration of immersive tools into their courses.

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT

August 2022 – Spring 2025

Rural Education Center, College of Education, Kansas State University

- Conducted qualitative interviews with 10+ STEM educators to examine the impact of virtual reality on English Language Learners' engagement and learning outcomes.
- Designed and distributed post-training surveys to 50+ STEM educators to evaluate VR's effectiveness in enhancing STEM instruction.
- Analyzed pre- and post-survey data using SPSS, NVivo, and ATLAS.ti to assess teacher readiness and attitudes toward immersive technologies.
- Co-authored peer-reviewed articles on educational technology and equity in STEM.
- Co-authored a published book chapter examining innovation in rural teacher education as part of a collaborative research project.
- Presented research findings at national conferences, including AERA, SITE, AACTE, Critical Questions in Education, and the Capitol Graduate Research Summit.
- Contributed to literature reviews and theoretical framework development using PRISMA guidelines and grounded theory methods.

- Delivered technical support to rural schools, improving the integration of educational technology in underserved areas.
- Assisted with the planning and execution of LEAPES and SOARING summer camps, facilitating STEM learning opportunities for students.
- Connected faculty from the Geoscience department to the SOARING project, leading to presentations on geoscience technologies for teachers and students at the summer camp.
- Served as Co-PI and contributed to the writing of a grant proposal about game-based learning in geoscience education; co-authored the narrative and research design for NSF IUSE-GEOPATHS submission (\$339,760 requested)
- Participated in hands-on sessions on aerospace engineering and robotics, enhancing the technical skills of teachers and students during the SOARING camp.
- Conducted interviews with teachers involved in the SOARING project, gathering qualitative data to assess the impact of the program on educational practices.
- Participated in bi-weekly meetings, contributing to research discussions and project planning.
- Coordinated social media communications for the Rural Education Center, increasing engagement through strategic announcements and content creation in collaboration with the COE Graphic Design Specialist.

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY INTERNSHIP

SUMMER INTERN– VR GRANT WRITING & OUTREACH

May 2025 – August 2025

Kansas State University, Salina Campus (College of Technology and Aviation)

- Writing and contributing to grant proposals supporting the integration of Virtual Reality (VR) in STEM education.
- Assisting with two immersive learning initiatives (K-12 Summer Camps):
NextGen Wildcat Scholars Camp (High School)
NextGen Elementary VR Camp
- Providing hands-on support for VR and STEM-focused activities across both programs.
- Facilitating AR/VR lab activities and interactive workshops engaging students in aviation, engineering, and emerging technologies.
- Collaborating with faculty and staff to ensure effective content delivery and enhance accessibility for diverse student populations.
- Collecting data from students and teachers to design VR STEM applications.

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles (Refereed)

Darvishinia, N. (2025). Innovation Within Constraint: Exploring How STEM Educators Use Virtual Reality to Support Multilingual Learners. *TechTrends* (under review).

Darvishinia, N., Rios, A. & Clark, J. S. (2025). Innovative Pathways in STEM: Virtual Reality for Empowering English Language Learners. *Journal of Interactive Learning Research*, 36(3), 269-292.

Ziyagham, F., & **Darvishinia, N.** (2025). PLS-SEM Analysis of Factors Influencing Teachers' Intention to Adopt ChatGPT: An Extended UTAUT Model. *Journal of AI-Enhanced Learning*. 1(2), 447–487. [[link](#)]

Simmons, D. A., Clark, J. S., Goodson, L. A., **Darvishinia, N.**, & Ebrahimi, M. (2023). Exploring teachers' perceived needs for quality STEM learning experiences. *Journal of Technology and Teacher Education*, 31 (4).

Darvishinia, N. (2023). AI in education: Cracking the code through challenges: A content analysis of one of the recent issues of Educational Technology and Society (ET&S) *Journal on AI in education. Partners Universal International Innovation Journal*. [[link](#)]

Book Chapters (Refereed)

Clark, J. S., Wertzberger, E., & **Darvishinia, N.** (2023). *Rural Educational Contexts as Sites for Teacher Education to Innovate Teaching and Learning*. In M. Carmo (Ed.), *Education and New Developments* (Vol. 2, pp. 167-171). World Institute for Advanced Research and Science (WIARS), Portugal. ISBN: 2184-1489 (electronic version) / 2184-044X (printed version). [[link](#)]

Siqueiros, L. A., **Darvishinia, N.**, & Skelton, S. B. (2023). *Three Windows Into Authentic Dialogical Practice: Autoethnographic Studies in Critical Discourse(s)*. In S. L. Finley, P. Correll, C. Pearman, & S. Huffman (Eds.), *Cultivating Critical Discourse in the Classroom* (pp. 58-74). IGI Global. [[link](#)]

Manuscripts In Preparation

Darvishinia, N. *Virtual reality and STEM access for English Language Learners: A grounded theory study of educator perspectives in rural and urban schools*. Target journal: *Journal of Technology and Teacher Education*.

Darvishinia, N., Ellner, M., & Schutte, E. *Pre-service teachers' attitudes and intentions toward using ChatGPT in K–12 teaching and learning: An integrated AI acceptance–avoidance model study*. Target journal: *British Journal of Educational Technology*.

Darvishinia, N. *Evaluating a Virtual Reality Professional Development Program for STEM Teachers*. Target journal: *Technology, Pedagogy and Education*

Cherner, T., Delgado, P., & **Darvishinia, N.** *An Exploratory Study of Text Translation Using Large Language Models*.

Accepted Conference Presentation (Refereed)

Darvishinia, N. (2026). *STEM teachers' visions for using virtual reality to support multilingual learners*. Accepted for presentation at the Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education (SITE) International Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

Cherner, T., **Darvishinia, N.**, & Delgado, P. (2026). *Analysis of AI Detectors' Scoring Consistency of LLM-Translated Texts*. Accepted for presentation at the Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education (SITE) International Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

Darvishinia, N. (2026). Designing AI Instruction in Teacher Education: What Pre-Service Teacher Resistance Can Teach Us. Accepted for presentation at the Association of Teacher Educators of Kansas (ATE-K) Conference, Manhattan, KS.

Conference Proposals Under Review

Darvishinia, N. (2026). *Extending the Integrated AI Acceptance–Avoidance Model (IAAAM) to Teacher Education: Pre-Service Teachers’ Attitudes and Intentions Toward ChatGPT*. Manuscript submitted for presentation at EdMedia 2026, Edinburgh, Scotland.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Darvishinia, N., & Goodson, T. (2024). Diversity, representation, and accessibility concerns in game development. *arXiv*. [[link](#)]

Darvishinia, N. Letter to Paulo Freire on the impact of his pedagogy in modern education. *Global HeartMinds: Epistolary Encounters with Paulo Freire* (Under Review).

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS (Refereed)

Darvishinia, N., & Rios, A. R. (2025). *Bridging educational gaps with virtual reality for English Language Learners*. In SIG–Advanced Technologies for Learning, e-Lightening Ed-Talk Session 12. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Denver, CO. *AERA Online Paper Repository*. <https://doi.org/10.3102/2232801>

Darvishinia, N. & Goodson, T. (2025). *Enhancing Educator Engagement and Practical Impact through VR Training in K-12 STEM Education*. In R. Jake Cohen (Ed.), *Proceedings of Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference (SITE)* (pp. 3040-3046). Orlando, FL, USA: Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE).

Darvishinia, N., & Clark, J. S. (2024). *Empowering rural education: Exploring the integration of robotics and remote sensing technologies*. *Proceedings of Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference (SITE)*, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Clark, J. S., Wertzberger, E., & **Darvishinia, N. (2024).** *Rural educational contexts as sites for teacher education to innovate teaching and learning*. The American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) Conference, Denver, Colorado.

Darvishinia, N., & Shahrokhi, M. (2021). *Impact of negotiated syllabus on Iranian students’ writing skill in an ESP context: The case of male and female business administration students*. The International Conference on Educational Sciences, Psychology & Humanities, Belgium.

Darvishinia, N., Simin, S., & Jannatifard, N. (2015). *How communicative intermediate Iranian students can learn English through learning phonetics*. The National Conference of Language, Literature, and Translation in Education, Maybod University, Iran.

INVITED LECTURES/ PRESENTATIONS

Darvishinia, N. (2025). *Bridging Educational Gaps With Virtual Reality for English Language Learners* (Poster 17). ED Talk, SIG–Advanced Technologies for Learning, Stage 1, American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado.

- Darvishinia, N.** (2025). *Exploring VR for English Language Learners in STEM: A Rapid Review*. Poster presentation, American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado.
- Darvishinia, N. & Goodson, T.** (2025). *Enhancing Educator Engagement and Practical Impact through VR Training in K-12 STEM Education*. Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education (SITE) Conference, Orlando, Florida.
- Darvishinia, N.** (2025). *VR Training for Educators: Enhancing Engagement and Practicality in Classrooms*, Capitol Graduate Research Summit, Kansas State Capitol, Topeka, Kansas.
- Darvishinia, N.** (2024 & 2025). *Diversity, Cognitive Load, and Equitable STEM Instruction*, Educational Psychology Undergraduate Course, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Kansas State University.
- Darvishinia, N.** (2025). *Exploring Virtual Reality's Role in Enhancing Equity and Learning Outcomes for English Language Learners in K-12 Education*, Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition, Kansas State University's Graduate Research Forum.
- Darvishinia, N.** (2023, 2024 & 2025). *Issues in Iran's Education System*, EDCI 311, Current Issues in Education, Global Perspectives, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Kansas State University.
- Darvishinia, N.** (2024). *Exploring the Applications of Virtual Reality in Academic Settings*, Center for Academic Innovation and Teaching & Learning Center, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas.
- Darvishinia, N.** (2024). *VR Training for Educators: Enhancing Engagement and Practicality in Classrooms*, Research and the State Event, Student Union, Kansas State University.
- Darvishinia, N.** (2024). *The Use of Virtual Reality in STEM Education*, Research and Creative Activities Fair, Kansas State University College of Education, Manhattan, Kansas.
- Darvishinia, N.** (2024). *Supporting English Language Learners in STEM: Cognitive Considerations for Inclusive Instruction*, Educational Psychology undergraduate course, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Kansas State University.
- Darvishinia, N.** (2024). *Iran Educational Landscape, Summer* Global Education Odyssey, Kansas State University College of Education, Manhattan, Kansas.
- Darvishinia, N., & Clark, J. S.** (2024). *Empowering Rural Education: Exploring the Integration of Robotics and Remote Sensing Technologies*, Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education (SITE) Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada.
- Clark, J. S., Wertzberger, E., & **Darvishinia, N.** (2024), *Rural Educational Contexts as Sites for Teacher Education to Innovate Teaching and Learning*, American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) Conference, Denver, Colorado.
- Darvishinia, N., & Clark, J. S.** (2023). *Teacher Instructional Approaches Towards Telepresence Robots in Education*, Critical Questions in Education, San Diego, California.
- Darvishinia, N.** (2023). *Wonders of Iran's Culture, Traditions, and Educational System*, International Week, Marlatt Elementary School, Manhattan, Kansas.

Darvishinia, N. (2022). *Tour to Iran*, Clay Center School, Manhattan, Kansas.

CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

MACE 2024 – **Mid-America Association for Computers in Education**, Kansas State University, Manhattan.

ISTELive 2024 – **International Society for Technology in Education**, Colorado Convention Center, Denver.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Editorial Review Board, International Journal of E-Learning

Peer Reviewer, IGI Global

Peer Reviewer, Journal of Research on Technology in Education

Peer Reviewer, Journal of Action in Teacher Education

Peer Reviewer, International Journal of Multicultural Education

Peer Reviewer, International Journal of English Teaching and Learning.

Peer Reviewer, Sage Open

English Education SIG Co-chair, Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education (SITE)

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Kansas State University

Committee Member, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee

- Participated in committee meetings to review and evaluate funding proposals submitted by student organizations.
- Assessed proposals for alignment with institutional mission and DEIB priorities to determine funding decisions.
- Contributed to the allocation of funding supporting cultural initiatives and LGBTQ+ student programming across campus.

Committee Member, College of Education Technology Committee

- Contributed to college-wide discussions on the evolving role of educational technology, with a focus on artificial intelligence, ethics, and faculty support.
- Reviewed and evaluated instructional quality, accessibility compliance (WCAG 2.1), and alignment with course objectives for open e-textbook proposals submitted by faculty across departments.
- Provided feedback on AI policy development.
- Reviewed and evaluated faculty-facing resources on AI policy and instructional use to support syllabus design and assignment-level implementation.
- Collaborated with the faculty advisor to propose follow-up professional learning resources for the Faculty Assembly, including adaptable syllabus language and assignment-level AI use examples.
- Advised on strategies for supporting faculty and preservice teachers in navigating AI adoption, ethical considerations, and instructional decision-making.
- Contributed research-informed perspectives on AI acceptance, risk perception, and instructional use drawn from teacher preparation coursework and ongoing scholarship

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

President

May 2024 – August 2025

Education Graduate Student Organization, Kansas State University.

- Updated the EGSO website with current team members and coordinated with the College of Education marketing specialist to ensure accurate and timely updates.
- Organized and led regular meetings with the EGSO faculty advisor, vice president, and team members to align on strategic goals and activities.
- Announced and promoted open positions to the entire College of Education graduate student body, fostering inclusive participation and engagement.
- Collaborated with the EGSO team to select and invite guest lecturers, ensuring a diverse and relevant lineup for upcoming events.

Team Leader and Instructor

July 2023

Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom, Wheat Center, Manhattan, Kansas.

- Led and conducted VR Training for 39 STEM Teachers which focused on integrating virtual reality (VR) in STEM education.
- Developed and administered surveys before and after the training to assess teachers' needs, design tailored content and evaluate the effectiveness of the instruction.
- Created a VR training curriculum based on participants' prior knowledge and specific interests, enhancing their understanding and practical skills.
- Worked closely with the Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom (KFAC) and Kansas State University Library, securing VR headsets and relevant software for hands-on activities.
- Led a team of three in providing technical support throughout the training, ensuring smooth operation and effective learning experiences.
- Coordinated with Meta Quest to install necessary VR applications on 39 headsets, enhancing the training's interactive elements.
- Received enthusiastic feedback from participants and event organizers, highlighting the program's success and impact on STEM education.

Vice President and Professional Development Committee Chair

Nov 2022- May 2024

Education Graduate Student Organization, Kansas State University.

- Led a team of four to organize and conduct panel sessions focused on mastering conference presentation skills for graduate students.
- Worked closely with the Global Campus and the Department of Leadership Studies to develop and implement microcredentialing for the sessions, providing attendees with recognized credentials.
- Coordinated with six faculty members from various departments within the College of Education to deliver expert-led sessions on effective conference presentation techniques.
- Designed and facilitated workshops that equipped graduate students with the necessary skills and confidence to excel in academic conference presentations.

Director of Studies

Oct 2017-Dec 2020

Chalabi Learning Center, a subsidiary of Chalabi Holdings Limited, Isfahan, Iran

- Held regular meetings with English language instructors to discuss curriculum development, teaching strategies, and student progress, ensuring high-quality education delivery.
- Led the recruitment process for new teachers, including interviewing, onboarding, and overseeing the Teacher Training Course (TTC) to prepare them for classroom success.
- Assigned classes to instructors based on their expertise and availability, optimizing resource allocation and ensuring a well-organized schedule.
- Supervised the overall educational program, ensuring alignment with the center's goals and standards, while fostering a supportive and collaborative work environment.

GRANT ACTIVITY

CO-PI/Collaborator**Submitted / Pending Proposals**

- INNOVATE-KS: Immersive VR-AI for Equitable STEM Teaching in Rural Kansas. (2025). \$5,000,000. STEM K–12 Research & Development Program, National Science Foundation (NSF).

Funded

- Graduate RSCAD Grant (\$975). (2025). Preparing Teachers for Contextualized Innovation: Rural STEM Educators' Perspectives on Virtual Reality for English Language Learners. Kansas State University Graduate School. Competitive internal research grant supporting dissertation data collection, rural school site visits, professional development workshops, participant incentives, materials, and transcription costs.
- KSU Rural Kansas School Equipment (\$1,484,215). (2024). Advancing Digital Opportunities to Promote Technology (ADOPT) Program. KS Dept. of Commerce. Topeka, KS.
- Advancing Rural Career and Technical Education through Immersive Reality Environments (ARCTEAIRE). (2023). \$184,000. USDA DLT Grant Program. Washington D.C.
- Applied Research and Innovation Scholarship for Engineering Students in Advanced Aerospace Technologies, AI, and Cybersecurity (ARISE). (2023). \$4,000,000. Department of Defense, National Defense Education Program (NDEP) for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). Washington D.C.

Unfunded

- Geoscience Resources, Approaches, and Data Analytics for Innovative and Engaging Teaching (GRADIEnT). (2023). \$339,760. IUSE GEOPATHs, National Science Foundation (NSF). Wash. D.C.
- Kansas Rural Innovation Academy for Teaching Enrichment (KRIATE). (2023). \$5,000,000. NSF DRK-12 Grant Program. Washington D.C.
- Teaching Innovations for Learning and Literacy in Agricultural Education (TILLAGE). (2023). \$499,880. USDA, NIFA REEU Grant Program. Washington, D.C.

- Spencer Dissertation Fellowship (2024). \$27,500

MEDIA

Academic blog [TechTalk with Nooshin](#)

Authored articles exploring the intersection of Education and Technology.

Actively engaged with fellow academics, fostering a community for knowledge exchange and discussions.

Interview at GoLive Event at the College of Education

Discussed the goals and activities of the Education Graduate Student Organization (EGSO) within the College of Education and provided information about upcoming events and opportunities for graduate students to get involved.

CERTIFICATIONS

Empowering Learning with Technology Webinar, ISTE & ASCD (2024)

Responsible Conduct of Research, CITI Program (2023)

Human Subjects Research, CITI Program (2023)

Research in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools, CITI Program (2023)

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Lewermark Literary Competition Scholarship. [[Link](#)] \$3000

K-State Alumni Association International Scholarship \$750

Student Opportunity Award \$2108

Graduate School Travel Award \$450

Diversity for Community Committee Award \$750

Blue Key Senior Honorary Leadership Scholarship \$500

HONORS

Alpha Alpha Alpha (Tri-Alpha) Honor Society (2024)

Recognized for academic achievement as a first-generation college student at Kansas State University.

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society (2026)

Inducted in recognition of academic excellence; membership awarded to the top 10% of graduate students.