

# Steve V. Coxon

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<http://stevecoxon.com>

## Education

August, 2008 – present

The College of William and Mary  
Ph.D. in Educational policy, planning, and leadership expected May, 2011

- Concentration: Gifted education
- Cognates: Educational technology and higher education
- G.P.A. 3.91 of 4.0
- \$14,250 in scholarships
- Graduate assistantship at the Center for Gifted Education

January, 1999 – May, 2000

Virginia Tech  
M.A.Ed. in Secondary English curriculum and instruction

- Q.C.A. 3.97 of 4.0
- Academic scholarship
- Teacher internship (student teaching), eighth grade language arts, Blacksburg Middle School, Blacksburg, VA
- Teacher internship (student aiding), eleventh grade English, Patrick Henry High School, Roanoke, VA
- Thesis on creative writing quality: *A comparison of responses to literature*

August, 1995 – Dec., 1998

Virginia Tech  
B.A. English, minor biology

- *Silhouette Literary Magazine* art editor, radio show host, benefits coordinator, 1997-2000
- *Collegiate Times* features assistant editor, writer, photographer, 1996-1998

## Academic Positions

August, 2010 –

Assistant professor: Gifted education  
Maryville University, St. Louis, MO

- Lead the Master of Arts in Education (Gifted education) program
- Lead the Gifted Area of Concentration certification
- Teach gifted-focused courses including survey of gifted education, curriculum and instruction of the gifted, psychology of the gifted, and creative problem solving
- Teach literacy and general education courses as assigned

August, 2009 – present

Assistant editor  
*Journal for the Education of the Gifted*, Williamsburg, VA

- Work directly with editor Dr. Tracy Cross
- Author and reviewer point of contact
- Edit articles for publication
- Extensive experience with APA style, 6th edition

Sept., 2009 – April, 2010

Field researcher, replication study of *Acid, Acid Everywhere* PBL unit effectiveness  
Center for Gifted Education, Williamsburg, VA

- Utilized the Classroom Observation Scales-Revised (COS-R) to conduct multiple classroom observations of a group of teachers of the gifted participating in a curriculum evaluation study
- Scored pre- and post-assessments of student understanding of scientific investigation for both the treatment groups and the comparison groups

- Served as the liaison between teachers, district gifted coordinator, and project lead
  - Conducted statistical analyses of collected data
- July, 2009
- Robotics teacher  
 Summer Enrichment Program, Center for Gifted Education, Williamsburg, VA
- Taught two sections of “LEGO WeDo: The science and engineering of robotics” for six- to nine-year-olds
  - Integrated the macro-concept of systems into the course
  - Involved students with learning about robotics including sensors, engineering including gear ratios, and computer programming including repeat loops
- September – December, 2008
- Reference editor  
 Center for Gifted Education, Williamsburg, VA
- Served as a liaison between authors and editors
  - Edited references for 45 chapters of T. Stambaugh, & B. MacFarlane (eds.), *Leading Change in Gifted Education* (2009). Waco, TX: Prufrock.
- August, 2008 – July, 2009
- Research assistant to Dr. Joyce VanTassel-Baska, Executive Director,  
 Center for Gifted Education, Williamsburg, VA
- Served as a liaison between authors and editors on two book projects
  - Revised and presented Project Clarion professional development modules
  - Conducted literature reviews to aid in chapter revisions and journal articles
  - Contributed to the revision of the Florida State Plan for the Gifted
- August, 2001 – May, 2008
- Fourth and fifth grade classroom teacher  
 Christiansburg Elementary School, Christiansburg, VA
- Supported gifted and special needs students in a full-inclusion classroom
  - Taught reading, writing, and science using project- and problem-based instruction
  - Taught mathematics using *Everyday Math*, Interact units, and *Hands-on Equations*
  - Coordinated annual field trips to Thomas Jefferson National Park, 2001-2008
  - Designed, set-up, and maintained display Congo River and Lake Malawi biotope aquariums for the school, 2002-2008
  - Morning Reading Intervention Program director, 2003-05
  - Web master, 2005-2008
  - Coordinated a field trip for seven fourth grade classes to Monticello and Ashlawn in Charlottesville, VA, 2008
- Summers, 2003, 2006, 2007
- Gifted summer enrichment program teacher  
 Montgomery County Public Schools, Christiansburg, VA
- Developed and implemented courses for gifted students in grades 3-11
  - Courses taught include LEGO robotics, engineering, chess, creative writing in hypertext, science processes, and dystopian literature
- July, 2005
- Humanities teacher  
 Summer academy, Blacksburg Middle School, Blacksburg, VA
- Taught humanities, including creative writing in hypertext
  - Program focused on traditionally underserved gifted middle school students
- August, 2000 – June, 2001
- English teacher  
 Multimedia Academy, Mt. Diablo High School, Concord, CA
- Senior world literature, junior American literature
  - Created literature-based projects for hypertext and animation

- January, 1999 – June, 2000 Substitute teacher  
Montgomery County Public Schools, Montgomery County, VA
- Served in a variety of teaching capacities including two months as an elementary special education teacher
- June, 1999 Special education aide  
Christiansburg Elementary School, Christiansburg, VA
- Supported fourth graders with special needs during a summer math and reading program
- September, 1999 – Dec., 1999 Special education internship  
Price's Fork Elementary School, Blacksburg, VA
- Conducted targeted phonics instruction with a fourth grader with a severe reading disability

### **Selected Other Positions**

- Sept., 2003 – April, 2008 FIRST LEGO League coach  
Christiansburg Elementary School, Christiansburg, VA
- Guided ten elementary students through designing and programming LEGO robots for the competition annually
  - Facilitated student research and presentation for each year's topic
  - Coordinated parent volunteers and college mentors
  - Taught Robotic Invention System and NXT-G programming
  - Head judge, Division II, Blacksburg, VA, 2008
  - State competition judge for Robot Design, 2006
  - Team won the state competition Judges' Award, 2004 and 2005
  - Team won the regional competition Robot Design Award, 2003, 2004, and 2005
  - Team won several other awards from 2003-present
- January, 2005 – Sept., 2006 Foster parent  
Family Preservation Services, Christiansburg, VA
- Therapeutic foster parent for an elementary-aged boy
  - Taught bicycling, swimming, and snorkeling
  - Reading comprehension grade equivalent rose from 1.7 to 5.5
  - Facilitated successful transition back to biological family
- Committee Service**
- November, 2009 – present Environmental sustainability committee, graduate student representative  
The College of William and Mary's new School of Education, Williamsburg, VA
- Lead formal discussions regarding environmental sustainability in the transition to a new, LEED certified academic building
  - Prepare suggestions for the dean
- November, 2009 – present Graduate student committee member  
National Association for Gifted Children (NAGC)
- Revised a survey for members
- September, 2009 Peer Review Panel member  
American Educational Research Association (AERA)
- Invited submission reviewer for SIG, Research on Giftedness and Talent for the 2010 Annual Meeting of the AERA
  - Provided reviews of seven submissions

- September, 2005 – June, 2008 Gifted Evaluation Committee member  
Christiansburg Elementary School, Christiansburg, VA
- Worked in a team to select students for gifted services
  - Assessed portfolios with rubrics
  - Created model Differentiated Education Plans (DEPs)
  - Met with families and administrators to discuss gifted student needs
- September, 2004 – June, 2007 Safety Committee  
Christiansburg Elementary School, Christiansburg, VA
- Helped to revise the school’s safety plan book for possible emergencies
  - Participated in the creation of lock-down and evacuation procedures
  - Obtained and maintained Red Cross CPR and First Aid certification during that time
- September, 2003 – May, 2007 Superintendent’s Advisory Council representative  
Montgomery County Public Schools, Montgomery County, VA
- Represented Christiansburg Elementary School with the superintendent
  - Participated in monthly discussions of district-level issues
- September, 2002 – June, 2004 Curriculum with Coherence Committee co-chair  
Christiansburg Elementary School, Christiansburg, VA
- Facilitated a group focused on interdisciplinary alignment of curriculum
  - Made recommendations to the faculty and principal
- September, 2002 – June, 2004 Site Council member  
Christiansburg Elementary School, Christiansburg, VA
- Met monthly with select teachers and the principal to make school administration and academic recommendations

### **Honors and Awards**

- 2010 Joyce VanTassel-Baska Award for Excellence in Gifted Education
- 2008 Regional Volunteer Award, Blacksburg-region FIRST LEGO League
- 2004 Fulbright-Hays Grant to teach in Malawi, Africa
- 1995 National Merit Scholar Semifinalist

### **Grants**

- 2009 Assisted Drs. Bruce Bracken, Joyce VanTassel-Baska, and Lori Bland in the submission of proposals for two multi-year, multi-million dollar grants to fund Center for Gifted Education Projects.
- 2009 Assisted Drs. Bruce Bracken, Joyce VanTassel-Baska, and Lori Bland in a successful grant extension of Project Clarion, a \$3 million, 5-year Javits Program funded by the United States Department of Education.
- 2007 Appalachian Electric Power FIRST LEGO League grant, \$250
- 2006 Appalachian Electric Power FIRST LEGO League grant, \$250
- 2005 Appalachian Electric Power FIRST LEGO League grant, \$500

### **Refereed Publications**

Coxon, S. V., Bland, L. C., & Chandler, K. (in review). The changing weather: Developing conceptual understanding of weather phenomena in young children.

Bland, L. C., Coxon, S. V., VanTassel-Baska, J., & Chandler, K. (in press). Science in the city: Meeting the needs of urban gifted students through Project Clarion. *Gifted Child Quarterly*.

Coxon, S. V. (2010). FIRST LEGO League, the sport of the mind. *Teaching for High Potential*, Winter, 6-8.

### **Unrefereed Publications**

Coxon, S. V. (2009). Challenging neglected spatially gifted students with FIRST LEGO League. In J. VanTassel-Baska (ed.), *Addendum to Leading Change in Gifted Education*. Williamsburg, VA: Center for Gifted Education. Available for download at [http://cfge.wm.edu/Documents/Festschrift\\_Supplement.pdf#page=25](http://cfge.wm.edu/Documents/Festschrift_Supplement.pdf#page=25)

### **Curriculum Units**

Coxon, S. V. (in preparation). Primary innovators: STEM learning with LEGO WeDo robotics. Williamsburg, VA: Center for Gifted Education.

Coxon, S. V. (in preparation). Navigator novel study guide: *A Long Way from Chicago*. Williamsburg, VA: Center for Gifted Education.

Coxon, S. V. (in revision). *STEMbotics: Using Edward deBono's Six Thinking Hats and LEGO NXT robotics to understand STEM careers*. Williamsburg, VA: Center for Gifted Education. Available for download at [http://stevecoxon.com/STEMbotics\\_unit\\_Coxon.doc](http://stevecoxon.com/STEMbotics_unit_Coxon.doc)

### **Curriculum Unit Revisions**

Center for Gifted Education. (2010). *How the Sun makes our day*. Waco, TX: Prufrock.

Center for Gifted Education. (2010). *Survive and thrive*. Waco, TX: Prufrock.

Center for Gifted Education. (2010). *Invitation to invent..* Waco, TX: Prufrock.

### **Evaluation Reports**

Coxon, S. V. (2009). Needs assessment and evaluation report on Montgomery County Public Schools, College of William and Mary: Williamsburg, VA.

VanTassel-Baska, J., & Coxon, S. V. (2009). Needs assessment and evaluation report on Cumberland Valley Public Schools, Center for Gifted Education: Williamsburg, VA.

### **Conference Presentations**

Coxon, S. V. (2010, November). *The changing weather: Developing a conceptual understanding of weather phenomena in young children*. National Association for Gifted Children, Atlanta, GA.

Coxon, S. V. (2010, November). *The mother of invention: Involving elementary students in the invention process*. National Association for Gifted Children, Atlanta, GA.

Coxon, S. V. (2010, March). *The changing weather: Developing a conceptual understanding of weather phenomena in young children*. National Curriculum Networking Conference, Center for Gifted Education, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.

Coxon, S. V. (2010, March). *Activities to challenge spatially gifted students*. National Curriculum Networking Conference, Center for Gifted Education, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.

- Coxon, S. V. (2010, March). *STEMbotics: Using LEGO NXT robotics to engage students in STEM career possibilities*. National Curriculum Networking Conference, Center for Gifted Education, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2010, February). *Coaching a FIRST LEGO Robotics team*. Children's Engineering Convention, Richmond, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2010, February). *LEGO WeDo*. Children's Engineering Convention, Richmond, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, November). *Making scientists out of primary students: Project Clarion*. National Association for Gifted Children, St. Louis, MO.
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, November). *STEMbotics: Using robotics to understand STEM systems*. National Association for Gifted Children, St. Louis, MO.
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, October). *Using LEGO Robotics to enhance student understanding of STEM careers*. Virginia Association for the Gifted, Virginia Conference on Gifted Education, Williamsburg, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, October). *Computer programming for kids*. Virginia Association for the Gifted, Virginia Conference on Gifted Education, Williamsburg, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, October). *Build it! Inexpensive activities for enhancing spatial reasoning*. Virginia Association for the Gifted, Virginia Conference on Gifted Education, Williamsburg, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, September). *Critical thinking models for understanding environmental issues*. Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Virginia Naturally, Emerging Leaders Workshop, Williamsburg, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, March). *Build It! Fun activities for problem solving and spatial reasoning*. National Curriculum Networking Conference, Center for Gifted Education, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, February). *Build It! Fun activities for problem solving and spatial reasoning*. Children's Engineering Convention, Richmond, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2008, March). *LEGO robotics: Science, engineering, and computer programming logic*. National Curriculum Networking Conference, Center for Gifted Education, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2008, March). *Build It! Fun activities for problem solving and spatial reasoning*. National Curriculum Networking Conference, Center for Gifted Education, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2007, March). *Robots gone wild: LEGO and logic*. National Curriculum Networking Conference, Center for Gifted Education, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.

### **Workshop presentations**

- Bland, L. C., & Coxon, S. V. (2009, January). *Think like a scientist: Project Clarion*. Fairfax County Public Schools, Falls Church, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, September). *Acid, Acid Everywhere: PBL training for fifth grade gifted educators*. Hampton County Public Schools, Hampton, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, August). *Think like a scientist: Project Clarion*. Isle of Wight County Public Schools, Isle of Wight, VA.

- Coxon, S. V. (2009, August). *Think like a scientist: Project Clarion*. Halifax County Public Schools, South Boston, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, July). *Think like a scientist: Project Clarion*. Washington County Public Schools, Abingdon, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, June). *The Center for Gifted Education science units*. Summer Institute, Center for Gifted Education, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA. [Three day session]
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, June). *Think like a scientist: Project Clarion*. Giles County Public Schools, Pearisburg, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, June). *Think like a scientist: Project Clarion*. Roanoke County Public Schools, Roanoke, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, May). *Think like a scientist: Project Clarion*. Rockbridge County Public Schools, Lexington City Public Schools, Nelson County Public Schools, Washington and Lee University education department leadership, Lexington, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, May). *Think like a scientist: Project Clarion*. Page County Public Schools, Luray, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, May). *Think like a scientist: Project Clarion*. Campbell County Public Schools, Rustburg, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, April). *Think like a scientist: Project Clarion*. Montgomery County Public Schools, Pulaski County Public Schools, Christiansburg, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2009, April). *Think like a scientist: Project Clarion*. Middlesex County Public Schools, Saluda, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2006, March). *Build It! Fun activities for problem solving and spatial reasoning*. Differentiation Marketplace, Montgomery County Public Schools, Christiansburg, VA.
- Robbins, J., & Coxon, S. V. (2009, March). *Think like a scientist: Project Clarion*. Orange County Public Schools, Orange, VA.

### **Invited talks**

- Coxon, S. V. (2010, April). *Advocacy*. Gifted Program Planning. The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2010, April). *The profession of teaching*. Social and Philosophical Foundations of Education. The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2010, March). *LEGO robotics*. Super Saturday for Parents of Gifted Children. Spotsylvania County Public Schools, Spotsylvania, VA.
- Coxon, S. V. (2004, August – 2006, December). *Education in Malawi, Africa*. Several churches and schools, Radford, Christiansburg, and Blacksburg, VA.
- Kim, M., & Coxon, S. V. (2009, December). *Advanced Placement overview for visiting Japanese teachers*. The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.
- Rose, V., & Coxon, S. V. (2009, March). *Problem-based learning: Saturday Enrichment Program faculty development*. Center for Gifted Education, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.

### **Certifications**

August, 2001

Elementary Education preK-6 and English 6-12 in Virginia (valid through 2010)

June, 2000 English Education 6-12 in California

### **Memberships**

April, 2009 – present Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education

March, 2009 – present American Educational Research Association

October, 2006 – present National Association for Gifted Children

Sept., 2001– August, 2008 Virginia Education Association

Sept., 2001– August, 2008 Montgomery County Education Association

### **Selected Travel Experience**

August, 2009 France and the Netherlands

June, 2007 Thailand

July, 2006 St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands; England; Scotland

July – August, 2004 Malawi

- Six weeks modeling the teaching of writing and science on a Fulbright-Hays Grant
- Hosted a Malawian teacher in my home and in my classroom in October, 2004

2000 – 2003 Denmark, Sweden, the Netherlands, Russia, Mexico, Luxembourg, Belgium, Germany, and Austria

May – July, 1998 England, Scotland, Spain, France, Italy, Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Germany, and the Netherlands

- Six weeks of literary study abroad in the U.K.
- Six weeks of continental travel