

Katrina Short has joined the UFTeach staff as a teaching assistant. She is a doctoral student in the School of Teaching and Learning, seeking a degree in Instruction, Curriculum, and Teacher Education. Katrina comes to the UFTeach program from eighteen years teaching English and Reading to middle schoolers in Duval County. During that time, she regularly mentored pre-service teachers. She also spent three years as literacy coach, mentoring, teaching, and modeling best instructional practices for teachers. Involved each year as a member of her school's Design Team, she worked to establish and maintain professional learning communities within her school, focusing primarily on incorporating reading and writing across the content areas. Katrina earned her National Board certification in Early Adolescent Language Arts in 2000, and was selected as a Yale Fellow in 2006, writing curriculum while participating in the Yale Teacher's Initiative.

Katrina's current research interests involve the problem of teacher retention, which she feels could be increased by better preparing pre-service and beginning teachers for the challenges they will experience as they enter the classroom. UFTeach, with its emphasis on putting students into the classroom early in their college experience, is a perfect fit with her beliefs that the more prepared preservice teachers are, the better teachers they will be when they enter their own classrooms.