

Summer Foster, Ed.D.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University | Alva, OK 73717 580-327-8461 |
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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Dedicated Teacher Educator with a Doctor of Education in Administration and Leadership and over 25 years of experience in the field of education. Specializing in Early Childhood Development, Social-Emotional Learning (SEL), and Teacher Preparation. Proven track record in higher education instruction, curriculum development, and scholarly research focused on the intersection of mental health and academic success.

EDUCATION

Southern Nazarene University, Bethany, OK

- **Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Administration and Leadership**, Dec 2025

Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Weatherford, OK

- **Master of Education (M.Ed.) in School Counseling**, May 2010

Fort Hays State University, Hays, KS

- **Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education**, May 1997
 - *Honors: Cum Laude*
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor (Tenure Track) | 2021 – Present *Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Division of Education*

Higher Education Instruction: Developed and delivered core curriculum for the School of Professional Studies, focusing on evidence-based practices for pre-service teachers.

- *Early Childhood Focus:* Child Development (EDUC 3523), Assessment (EDUC 4532), Curriculum Development (EDUC 4503), Science/Social Studies Methods (EDUC 4543).
- *Elementary & Literacy Focus:* Foundations of Math Methods (EDUC 3043), Children's Literature (EDUC 3313), Literacy in Content Areas (EDUC 3422).

- *Foundational Courses:* Early Childhood Family and Community Relations (EDUC 3012), Elementary Creative Activities (EDUC 4203).

University Service:

- Mentoring pre-service teachers through clinical practice and certification preparation.
 - Collaborating on departmental accreditation and program review.
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SCHOLARSHIP & RESEARCH

Publications

- **Foster, S.** (2025). "Investing in Oklahoma's Future: Why Social-Emotional Learning Deserves Our Full Support." *Oklahoma Education Journal*, 3(6), 39–41.

Conference Presentations

- **Presenter**, "Integrating Service Learning into Teacher Preparation," *Oklahoma Service Learning Conference*, 2024.
 - **Attendee/Participant**, OACTE (*Oklahoma Association of Colleges for Teacher Education*) Conference, 2021–2023.
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K-12 PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Dodge City High School, Dodge City, KS *High School Counselor* | 2017 – 2021

- Led college/career readiness initiatives including ACT coordination and scholarship facilitation.
- Managed IEP/504 plans and facilitated Social-Emotional (SEL) curriculum.

Comanche Middle School, Dodge City, KS *School Counselor & Instructor* | 2010 – 2017

- Developed "Buddy Program" for inclusive social-emotional assistance.
- Served on the Building Leadership Team (BLT) and Student Improvement Team (SIT).

Elk City Public Schools, Elk City, OK *Elementary Instructor & Title I Specialist* | 2002 – 2010

- **Award: Teacher of the Year (2009)** for Fairview Elementary.
 - Member of the Response to Intervention (RtI) Team.
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CERTIFICATIONS & ENDORSEMENTS

- **Elementary Education (K-9)** – Standard Certification (KS/OK)
 - **School Counseling (Pre K-12)** – Standard Certification (KS/OK)
 - **Speech-Language Pathology (BS)** – Standard Certification (KS)
 - **Endorsement:** English as a Second Language (ESL)
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HONORS & LEADERSHIP

- **John Barton Teaching Award Nominee**, NWOSU (2024)
- **Board Member**, YMCA (2012-2015)
- **Site Council Member**, Sacred Heart Cathedral Catholic School (2012-2016)
- **Torch Award Nominee**, FHSU Dept. of Education (1997)
- **Academic All-American**, FHSU (1995, 1996)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- **NAEYC / OKAEYC** (National/Oklahoma Association for the Education of Young Children)
- **American School Counselor Association** (ASCA)
- **Association of Professional Oklahoma Educators** (APOE)