

# Lissa M. D'Amour

lmdamour@ucalgary.ca

<http://werklund.ucalgary.ca/profiles/lissa-d-amour>

Citizenship: Canadian  
AB teaching cert. #103072E

Fluency: English, French

## CURRENT POSITION

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Werklund School of Education, University of Calgary  
Adjunct Assistant Professor

Calgary, AB

## SPECIALIST AREAS

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- Mathematics education, mathematics teacher development, embodied cognition, and spatial reasoning
- Complexity science (non-linear dynamic systems theory and learning)
- Addressing and mitigating anxiety in learners and learning systems
- Experience and cognition in learning, infant and child development, and affective neuroscience
- Interplay between teacher identity, school culture, and pedagogical practice in mathematics
- Gifted education
- Nature of science, its public understanding, and implications for science educational practice
- Sociocultural politics of education, critical theory, and historical shifts in best practices
- Gender studies and feminist pedagogies, especially care in educational practice

## EDUCATION

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**University of British Columbia**  
PhD, Curriculum Studies

Vancouver, BC  
June 2013

- Dissertation: *Addressing anxiety through mathematics: From demanding performances to giving audience.*
- Comprehensive Exam Papers:
  1. Trust and control in learning systems: A phenomenological and hermeneutic study
  2. Conditions of narcissism? Relational psychoanalytic and complexivist perspectives
  3. A pedagogy of attunement: *From 'doing and being done to' to 'being and being with'*

**University of Lethbridge**  
MEd

Lethbridge, AB  
August 2008

- Driving Question: What is the relationship between belief, identity, and knowing?
- Thesis: *An illustrative phenomenographic case study: Charting the landscape of "Public Understanding of Science"*

University of Lethbridge  
BEd with Great Distinction

Lethbridge, AB  
August 1978

University of Waterloo  
BSc Honours Kinesiology

Waterloo, ON  
May 1977

## AWARDS

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Partner Research School Grant – Study in teacher identity, practice, and math	2015–16
Doctoral SSHRC, Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship	2009–12
Doctoral Fellowships, UBC	2008–12

Faculty of Education Graduate Award, & Graduate Entrance Scholarships, UBC	2008
Master's SSHRC Scholarship	2003-04
Nominee, Provincial Excellence in Teaching Award, AB	2002
Teacher of the Year (peer selected), CAPE Charter School, Medicine Hat, AB	1996

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 SCHOLARLY WORKS – IN PROGRESS
 

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*Relational psychoanalysis at the heart of teaching and learning: How and why it matters now.* UK: Routledge. (Accepted under contract, due of February, 2019.)

“Caught in the controversy of math wars: Ambiguous circumstances, conflicting narratives, and the swing and counter-swing of a two-year change initiative.” (Paper in final revision stage.)

“An uneasy fit: Teacher identity, best practices, public expectation, and schooling circumstance in mathematics education.” (Presented at AERA 2016, full paper TBD.)

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 SELECTED SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS
 

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- D'Amour, L.** & Markides, J. (2017). Identities of exceptionality: The giving and making of selves in the eye of expectation's storm. In Lyle, E.R. (Ed.), *At the Intersection of Selves and Subject: Exploring the Curricular Landscape of Identity* (pp. 133–142). Rotterdam, The Netherlands: Sense Publishing.
- Thom, J.S., **D'Amour, L.**, Preciado-Babb, A.P., & Davis, B. (2015) Spatial knowing, doing, and being. In the Spatial Reasoning Study Group (SRSG). *Spatial reasoning in the early years: Principles, assertions and speculations.* UK: Routledge.
- D'Amour, L.**, Kahn, S., Davis, B., & Metz, M. (2014). Being well with mathematics-for-teaching (M4T): It's about knowing. In Preciado-Babb, A.P., Solares Rojas, A., & Francis, K. (Eds.), *What, how and why: An International conversation on mathematics teacher learning.* Mexico, Mexico: Universidad Pedagógica Nacional.
- Davis, B., Sumara, D., & **D'Amour, L.** (2012). Understanding school districts as learning systems: Some lessons from three cases of complex transformation. *Journal of Educational Change*, 13(3): 373–399.
- D'Amour, L.** (2010). Shifting associations: Mind, mathematics, and culture. In M. F. Pinto & T.F. Kawasaki (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 34<sup>th</sup> Conference of the International Group for the Psychology of Mathematics Education*, 2: 289–296. Belo Horizonte, Brazil: PME.
- D'Amour, L.** (2009). Unit 6: Geometry and measurement. In Reiger, A. (Ed.), *Math Makes Sense, Grade 6 (WNCP ed., pp. 198–243).* Toronto, ON: Pearson Education Canada.
- \***Howes, L.** with Mazurek, K. (2006). Ethical naturalism and education: A primer and exploration. *Gumanizacija Obrazovanja . (Russian-Humanization of Education) 1*, 81–100.
- Mrazek, R. & **Howes, L.** (2004). Illusions of Change in Science Education. *Gumanizacija Obrazovanja . (Russian-Humanization of Education), 1*, 113–134.
- Alberta Learning. (2004, August). *Mathematics Indicators: Grades 7-8-9.* Edmonton, AB: Author. [As **Lissa Howes**, member of collaborating author-team]. Retrieved from <https://archive.org/details/mathindicatorsg78904albe>
- Howes, L.** (2003). *District program review: Model & foundational work.* Med Hat, AB: MHSD #76.

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\* Note: Name change from Howes to D'Amour, October 2006

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 RESEARCH EXPERIENCE
 

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**Principal Investigator: A critical ethnography of teaching practice** 2015–16  
 Participatory ethnography in mathematics teaching: “How does practice make sense of the circumstances of teaching and the emotional-intellectual biographies of teachers as learners?”

**Principal Investigator: Developing pedagogical content knowledge in math** 2013–14  
 The effects of sustained & supported critical engagement with high quality curricular resources on teachers’ dispositions, pedagogical content knowledge, and habits in mathematics teaching and learning, and on their students’ attitudes, understandings, and achievement in mathematics.”

**Graduate research assistant** to Drs. Brent Davis and Dennis Sumara 2009  
 Assisted in AB Learning-commissioned study of Alberta Initiative for School Improvement.

**Graduate research assistant** to Dr. Richard Mrazek 2004  
 Developed position paper in science education, for the Science Council of Alberta.

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 LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE
 

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Co-Coordinator/Developer, Master’s interdisciplinary program, U of Calgary 2017–18  
 4–course suite: Teaching and Learning Mathematics  
<https://werklund.ucalgary.ca/gpe/teaching-learning-mathematics>.

**Director**, Early Mathematics Initiative (Math Minds), University of Calgary 2012–14  
 Developed 5-year strategic plan for Dr. Brent Davis, Research Chair.  
 Liaised with representatives from collaborating sectors (school district, non-profit, & funder).  
 Directed and collaborated with postdoctoral fellows and participant-teachers at the research site.

Coordinator/Developer, Master’s interdisciplinary program, University of Calgary 2013–14  
 4–course suite: Research and Practice in Mathematics Education, Elementary Focus.

**Interim Director**, Curriculum Coordination and Program Planning 2013–14  
 Supported implementation of new B.Ed. program.

**Conference Co-chair** (*with* Preciado-Babb, A. P.) 2011  
 Mathematics Education Graduate-Students’ Association (MEGA) International Conference.  
 Jointly hosted by University of British Columbia & Simon Fraser University at UBC.

**Consultant**, Medicine Hat School District 76, secondment to board office 2003  
 Designed district program review for implementation in ensuing school year.

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 TEACHING EXPERIENCE
 

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**Instructor, University of Calgary, AB** 2011–present

*Graduate Courses*

Collaboratory of Practice – Thesis development and refinement; Embodied Cognition in Math Learning; Math Education: Evolutionary Perspectives ; Introduction to Math Educational Research; Designing Tasks for the Math Classroom

*Undergraduate Courses*

Individual Learning – Theories and Applications (Plenary lecturer, Lab coordinator, Guest lecturer, and Course development consultant); Pragmatics of Teaching; Seminar in Issues in Learning and Teaching; Field Experience I and II; Science Specialization II; STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Education

**Teaching Assistant, University of British Columbia, BC** 2008–11

*Graduate Courses*

Mathematics Education Research; Mathematics for Teaching

*Undergraduate Courses*

Principles of Teaching (4 iterations over 2 years)

**Instructor, University of Alberta at Medicine Hat College, AB** 2006–08

*Undergraduate Courses*

Communication through Mathematics

Issues in Elementary Mathematics Education

Mathematical Literacy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

**Instructor, University of Lethbridge, AB** 2004–05

*Undergraduate Courses*

Orientation to Teaching

Evaluation of Learning [Authentic/Qualitative Assessment]

Seminar in Teaching

Curriculum and Instruction [Math]

Field Experience supervision, Professional Semester II

**Teacher, Alberta, K–12** 1978–1982, 1988–2008 (Full- & Part-time)

Math, Science, Health, French, Spanish, Computer Programming, Visual Com, Phys Ed, Art

Medicine Hat School District 76, (Gr. 7–12) 10 yrs

Centre for Academic and Personal Excellence, Medicine Hat Charter School, (Gr. 1–9) 6 yrs

French immersion, Homeschooling parent (Gr. 3–6) 2.5 yrs

Montessori (Pre-school - Volunteer) 0.5 yrs

Lethbridge School District 51, (Gr. 7–12) 1.5 yrs

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS: CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

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**D'Amour, L.** (2017, June). *Supporting relationships in mathematics*. Presentation at 3rd Werklund Symposium: Emerging Insights into Mathematics Education, University of Calgary, AB.

**D'Amour, L.** (2017, May). *Relational mutuality: Implications for curriculum theory*. Roundtable paper presentation at American Education Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX.

**D'Amour, L.** (2017, February). *Don't count me out: A meditation on learner and teacher abandonments*. Presentation at Provoking Curriculum Conference, Montreal, QC.

**D'Amour, L., Blake, S., Dunseith, N., MacDonald, J., Markides, J. & Markides, D.** (2016, August). *From critical capacity-building spaces, through shared engagement, to collaborative research: Partnering paths laid in walking*. Presentation at Partner Research School Conference, Calgary, AB.

**D'Amour, L. & Frank, J.** (2016, August). *Supporting relationships: Teacher attachment and the subjects and objects of learning*. Presentation at Partner Research School Conference, Calgary, AB.

Francis, K., Gereluk, D., **D'Amour, L.**, Cockett, P., Last, S., & Sengupta, P. (2016, May). *Collaborative designing and implementing a STEM education course*. Presentation at the 44<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Canadian Society for the Study of Education (CSSE),

Calgary, AB.

**D'Amour, L.** (2016, May). *Classroom management and domination*. Presentation at Rouge Conference: Teaching for Democracy and Justice in an Age of Inequality, Calgary, AB.

**D'Amour, L.** & Markides, J. (2016, April). *Supporting & leading from the inside-out: Negotiating fit between teacher identity, best practices, & schooling circumstance*. Research presented at uLead 2016 Annual Summit of Educational Leadership, Banff, AB.

**D'Amour, L.** (2016, April). *An uneasy fit: Teacher identity, best practices, public expectation, and schooling circumstance*. Research presented at 100<sup>th</sup> Annual AERA Meeting, Washington, DC.

**D'Amour, L.** (2014, May). *Addressing anxiety through mathematics*. Doctoral research presented at the Annual Canadian Mathematics Education Study Group (CMESG) meeting, Edmonton, AB.

**D'Amour, L.** (2014, July). *From demanding performances to giving audience*. Research presented at The Learner Conference, New York, NY.

Drefs, M. & **D'Amour, L.** (2014, July). *The application of ambiguous figures to mathematics: In search of the spatial components of number*. Poster presented at the Psychology of Mathematics Education (PME) Conference in Vancouver, BC.

**D'Amour, L.** (2012, December). *Complicating the conversation about anxiety. "Brown bag"* presentation, University of Calgary, Calgary, AB.

**D'Amour, L.** (2012, May). *Confluence and connection: Teaching as provoking and supporting learners. "Brown bag"* presentation, University of Calgary, Calgary, AB.

**D'Amour, L.** (2011, June). *Toward a phenomenology of trust for teaching and learning*. Presentation at CSSE conference. Fredericton, NB: University of New Brunswick.

**D'Amour, L.** (2010, July). *Shifting associations: Mind, mathematics, and culture*. Paper presented at the Psychology of Mathematics Education (PME) Conference in Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

**D'Amour, L.** (2011, February). *Trust as Commodity: Exploring the interplay of trust and control in teaching and learning*. Paper presented at the Mathematics Education Graduate-Students' Association (MEGA) conference at UBC, Vancouver, BC.

**D'Amour, L.** (2010, April). *Trust in the middle*. Presentation for the Education in Curriculum & Pedagogy (EDCP) Graduate Student Research Symposium at UBC, Vancouver, BC.

**D'Amour, L.** (2010, April). *Shifting mathematical habits*. Presentation for the *EDCP* Graduate Student Research Symposium at UBC, Vancouver, BC.

**D'Amour, L.** (2010, February). *Working Middle*. Paper presented at the MEGA conference, University of Calgary, AB. Retrieved from <https://www.ucalgary.ca/MEGA/node/17>

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#### TEACHING AND LEARNING – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

"Why what works works: A Learning Event for Tutors." Calgary Libraries. (Jan, 2014).

"Math learning: Where is the body?" Presentation for Calgary Catholic School District (CSSD) professional development day. Calgary, AB. (Dec, 2013)

"A view through the learning sciences: Occasioning sense-making: 'huh?' & 'a-ha!' moments." Presentation to Regina & Area District Consultants. Regina, SK. (February, 2013)

"Anxiety, ambiguity, & agency in learners." Presentation for CSSD professional development day. Calgary, AB. (February, 2013)

***Early Mathematics Initiative: Half-day teacher workshops, CSSD Researcher School.***

"Stories of shifting practice. Chrono-mapping lesson videos. Curricula & innovation to year's end" (with S. Sabbaghan, M. Metz, S. Khan, K. Meyer, & M. J. Moreau). (Apr, 2014)

"Scaling up to a demonstration school: Emerging protocols for lesson viewing" (with R. Ferreirinha & S. Khan). (Mar, 2014)

"From concept study to lesson study" (with S. Sabbaghan, M. Metz, S. Khan, & M. J. Moreau). (Feb, 2014)

"Working with a wide gap & leaning into the math: Preliminary data analysis, participatory cultures, & curriculum-conceptual continuity" (with S. Sabbaghan, M. Metz, M. J. Moreau, & S. Khan). (Jan, 2014)

"Concept study in multiplication across the grades" (with S. Khan & M. Metz). (Jan, 2014)

"Consolidating learning and planning forward: Small group sessions" (with M. Metz, M. J. Moreau, & S. Khan). (Dec, 2013)

"Rotating sessions: Using technology; Moving from implementation to improvisation; Journaling; & Ways of varying tasks" (with S. Sabbaghan, S. Khan, & M. Metz). (Nov, 2013).

"Variation theory in action: Surprises and significant moments in the classroom; Video-viewing: The parsing and pacing of a lesson; and Structuring reflections" (with S. Khan & M. Metz). (Oct, 2013).

"Systematic recursion: Expanding the example space –bonus questions (extrapolating) & scaffolding (interpolating)" (with S. Khan & M. Metz). (Oct, 2013)

"Motivation & making sense of patterns through micro-successes" (with M. J. Moreau, S. Khan, & M. Metz). (Sep, 2013)

"Getting to know the Math resources: What matters here?" (with M. J. Moreau). (Sep, 2013)

"Pedagogical principles for prompting success" (with S. Khan & M. Metz). (Aug, 2013)

"Taking stock & moving forward: Anxiety, sense-making, & the critical use of resources" (with M. J. Moreau). (March, 2013)

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**LEADERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS as PRACTICING TEACHER**

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Alberta Initiative for School Improvement (AIS) at Alexander Junior High School,  
 Team facilitator: (2007–08) Assessment for Critical Thinking;  
 Lead Teacher: (2005–06) Curriculum integration; (2000–01) Differentiated instruction

\*Howes, L. (2006, October). *Mathematics, language, and culture*. Presentation at the Mathematics Council of the Alberta Teachers' Association (MCATA) Conference 2006. Pathways to Understanding. Jasper, AB.

Howes, L. (2005, November). *Approaching proportional reasoning with the junior high student in mind*. Presentation at MCATA Conference 2005. *Mathematics for Teaching*. Edmonton, AB.

Howes, L. (2005, March & 2004, October). Math workshops, Sunnyside School, Lethbridge,

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AB.

Howes, L. (2003, March). Technology to support student learning. Workshop presentation for Medicine Hat School District 76, Medicine Hat, AB.

Howes, L. (2003, June). Framing the District program review. Presentation at the MHS76 School Board and Administrative Personnel annual retreat. Cypress Hills, SK.

Howes, L. & Haney, D. (2002, February & 2001, October). Safe and Caring Schools half-day workshops: Parts 1 & 2. MDS76, Medicine Hat, AB.