

**CURRICULUM VITA (ABBREVIATED)**  
**TIINA ITKONEN**

Professor, Education and Political Science  
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**EDUCATION AND DEGREES**

PhD University of California, Santa Barbara, September, 2004  
(Educational Leadership and Political Science)  
M.S. University of Oregon, Special Education and Rehabilitation, 1989  
B.Ed. University of Oregon, Elementary Education, 1987  
University of Helsinki, Finland, Teacher Education 1984-1986

**PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**

**County Office of Education**

Santa Barbara County Education Office

Position: Behavior Specialist (August 1997 to June 2005)

Duties: Conduct functional assessments; consult and train special and general education teachers on behavioral supports; train school principals on special education policies and legislation; grant writing. First to hold this position (under Hughes bill in CA) in the Tri-Counties region

**Hawai'i State Department of Education, Special Education Section**

Position: Federal Project Coordinator (May 1995 to July 1996)

Duties: Coordinate Comprehensive State Personnel Development System under IDEA (annual budget 5 million USD); Statewide data collection and reporting to the United States Department of Education

**Leeward District, Special Education**

Position: Program Specialist (August 1993 to April 1995)

Duties: Provide technical assistance and training to special educators (in programs for students with mild, moderate, severe disabilities, and the juvenile justice system), school faculties, and administrators.  
Reason for leaving: Recruited to the state office.

**Teacher**

Inclusion Teacher, Special Education (August 1996 to August 1997). Launched the program in the inaugural county/district partnership; trained the teacher hired for the position in 1997

Special education high school teacher (1989 – 1992). First to develop an inclusive and a community-based program.  
California State Senate recognition for exemplary work for students with disabilities

**University Adjunct Positions**

Outreach coordinator (August 1992 to June 1993). University of Hawai'i, Statewide Systems Change Grant. Reason for leaving: Grant ended, recruited to work at the state department

Lecturer (one class a year 1994 – 2003 in teacher education):

University of Hawai'i at Manoa ("Including students with disabilities in general education in secondary schools")

**PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES**

Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist (CA), 2003

Behavior Intervention Case Manager (CA), 1998

Non-Violent Crisis Prevention and Intervention (CA), 1990

Multiple Subject, K-12 Teaching Credential (CA), 1989

Clear Specialist Credential, Severe Disabilities (CA), 1989

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

*Inclusive Excellence Award, School of Arts & Sciences, CSU Channel Islands (August, 2023)*

*Spirit of Excellence Award, CSU Channel Islands (July, 2022).*

*Chancellor's Office Certificate for Student Success Analytics (2021).*

*Autism Post-Secondary Educator Award, Ventura County Autism Society (2019).*

*OpenCI Ambassador (2016). Award for textbook-less courses to make higher education more affordable*

*Outstanding Dissertation Award 2004-2006. American Educational Research Association, Politics of Education Association (2006)*

*Santa Barbara County Education Office* for outstanding service on behalf of students with disabilities (1992)  
*California State Senate Recognition* for exemplary work toward inclusion for students with disabilities” (1992)  
*California Demonstration Site Teacher, Training and Resources for Community and Curriculum Integration, State of California* (1990-1992)

### SELECTED SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS (doctoral and MA/BA student mentees in bold)

*Research agenda: Special education/disability law, policy and litigation*

- Itkonen, T., Tomlin, B., Correia, M., Sanchez, L., **Schneider, T., & Kooker, K.** (2022). *Schaffer v. Weast's* Effects on California Special Education Hearing Decisions. *Journal of Disability Policy Studies*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/10442073211066780>
- Pulkkinen, J., & Itkonen, T.** (in press). Special education policy implementation from the frontlines. In Malinen, O-P., Kontu, E., & Palmu, I. (Eds.) *Muutos kohti inklusiivista korkeakoulua [Change toward an Inclusive Higher Education]*. Suomen Kasvatustieteellinen Seura.
- Pesonen, H., Nieminen, J., & Itkonen, T.** (in press). Universal Design for Learning in inclusive higher education. In Malinen, O-P., Kontu, E., & Palmu, I. (Eds.) *Muutos kohti inklusiivista korkeakoulua [Change toward an Inclusive Higher Education]*. Suomen Kasvatustieteellinen Seura.
- Jahnukainen, M., & Itkonen, T. (2021). Steps to Inclusion? The Role of Tiered Intervention in Finland and in the United States. In Köpfer, Andreas; Powell, Justin J.W. & Zahnd, Raphael (Eds.) (2021): *International Handbook of Inclusive Education: Global, National and Local Perspectives*. Opladen & Toronto: Verlag Barbara Budrich.
- Itkonen, T., & **Capozzi, S.** (2021). Samuel taught us about inclusion. In **Pesonen, H., & Nieminen, J. H.** (Eds.) *Learning Differences in Higher Education* (pp. 160-163). Finland: PS-Kustannus.
- Pesonen, H., Itkonen, T., Nislin, M., & Nordahl-Hansen, A.** (2020). Framing Autism in Newspaper Media: An Example from Finland. *Advances in Autism*, Vol. ahead-of-print No. ahead-of-print. <https://doi.org/10.1108/AIA-01-2020-0003>
- Itkonen, T., Dean, M., Bourgeois, M., Lee, H., & Yao, R. (March, 2019). *Disability Accommodations in Higher Education: A Framework for Exploring Resource Distribution*. Conference proceedings, ISER- 568th International Conference on Education and Social Science (ICESS-2019). Port Louis, Mauritius.
- Jahnukainen, M. & Itkonen, T. (2015). Tiered intervention: History and trends in Finland and the United States. *Journal of Special Needs Education*, 31(1), 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08856257.2015.1108042>
- Pesonen, H. & Itkonen, T.** et al. (2015). The Implementation of New Special Education Legislation in Finland. *Educational Policy*, 29(1), 162-178. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0895904814556754>
- Itkonen, T., & Ream, R. (2013). Autism Advocacy: A Network Striving for Equity. *Peabody Journal of Education*, 88, 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0161956X.2013.752631>
- Wakelee, D. & Itkonen, T. (2013). The Politics of School District Budgeting: Using Simulations to Enhance Student Learning. *Journal of Political Science Education*, 9(2), 236-248. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15512169.2013.770995>
- Itkonen, T. & Jahnukainen, M. (2010). Disability or Learning Difficulty? Politicians or Teachers? Constructing Special Education Students in Finland and the United States. *Comparative Sociology*, 9(2), 182-201. DOI:[10.1163/156913210X12536181351033](https://doi.org/10.1163/156913210X12536181351033)
- Itkonen, T. (2009). *The Role of Special Education Interest Groups in National Policy*. Cambria Press.
- Itkonen, T. (2009). Stories of Hope and Decline: Interest Group Effectiveness in National Special Education Policy. *Education Policy*, 42(1): 43-65. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0895904808328526>
- Itkonen, T. *Toivon ja Tappion Tarinat: Eturyhmien Merkitys USA:n Erityispedagogiikassa [Stories of Hope and Decline: Interest Group Influence on Special Education Policy in the US.]* (2008). In Kivirauma, J (Ed.), *Handbook on Special Education Research*. Kehitysvammaliitto, Finland.
- Itkonen, T. (2007). Politics of passion: Collective action from pain and loss. *American Journal of Education*, 113(4), 577-604. <https://doi.org/10.1086/518489>
- Itkonen, T. & Jahnukainen, M. (2007). An analysis of accountability policies in Finland and the United States. *International Journal of Disability, Development, and Education*, 54(1), 5-23. <http://hdl.handle.net/10139/493>
- Itkonen, T. (2007). PL 94-142: Policy, Evolution, and a Landscape Shift. *Issues in Teacher Education*, 16(2): 7 -18.
- Leafstedt, J., Itkonen, T., Arner-Costello, F., Hardy, A., Korenstein, B., Medina, M., Medina, E., Murray, A. & Regester, A. (2007). "Was it Worth It? You Bet". Life Stories about the Impact of PL 94- 142. *Issues in Teacher Education*, 16(2): 19 – 32.
- Itkonen, T. (1998). MAPS-henkilökeskeinen suunnittelu [MAPS-person-centered planning]. In Ikonen, O. (Ed.), *Autismi [Autism]* (pp. 137-153). Jyväskylä, Finland: Atena Kustannus.
- Kennedy, C. H., Cushing, L. & Itkonen, T. (1997). General education participation improves the social contacts and friendship networks of students with severe disabilities. *Journal of Behavioral Education*, 7, 167-189.
- Kennedy, C. H., & Itkonen, T. (1996). Social relationships, influential variables, and change across the life span. In Kern-Koegel, L., Koegel, L. R., & Dunlap, G. (eds.): *Positive behavioral support: Including people with difficult behavior in the community*. Baltimore: Paul Brookes.

- Kennedy, C. H., Itkonen, T., & Lindquist, K. (1995). Comparing interspersed requests and social comments as antecedent interventions to increase compliance. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 28*, 97-98.
- Kennedy, C. H., & Itkonen, T. (1994). Some effects of regular class participation on the social contacts and social networks of high school students with severe disabilities. *Journal of the Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps, 19*(1), 1-10.
- Kennedy, C. H., & Itkonen, T. (1993). Effects of setting events on the problem behavior of students with severe disabilities. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis, 26*, 312-327.

#### **SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS in 2022-2023 (MA/BA students mentees in bold)**

- Itkonen, T., Tomlin, B., & Correia, M. (April 16, 2023). *The Effect of Translator Use in Special Education Hearing Outcomes*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association, Chicago Illinois.
- O'Neil Gonzalez, K., & Itkonen, T. (March 8, 2023). *Coming Together and Moving Beyond: Magnifying the "Silent A" in DEI*. Presentation at the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Pacific Rim Conference, Honolulu Hawai'i.
- Itkonen, T., Correia, M., Tomlin, B., **Schneider, T.**, Sanchez, L., **Luong, K.**, & **Grindey, T.** (April 22, 2022). *The Effect of District and Student Characteristics on California's Special Education Due Process Hearing Decisions*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association Annual Conference, San Diego CA.
- Itkonen, T., Resnick, M., & **Clay, J.** (March 12, 2022). *From Accommodations Compliance to Inclusion Culture: Experiences from a Hispanic Serving Institution*. Paper presented at the Pacific Rim Conference on Disability, Honolulu HI (virtual).
- Resnick, M., **Slocum, R.**, Itkonen, T., Dean, M., & Olson, K. (January 7, 2022). *The Impact of COVID-19 on Students with Disabilities, Their Accommodations, and Retention on a University Campus*. Paper to be presented at the Council of Exceptional Children Conference, Florida (virtual).

#### **UNIVERSITY TEACHING (2019 to date)**

*MA in Educational Leadership and Administrative Credential*

EDUC 620: Thesis seminar (developed course)

EDUC 623: Organizations in Diverse Communities

*MA in Education, Disability Studies*

SPED 641: Advanced Disability Studies, Law and Policy

*Teacher education*

SPED 542: Managing Learning Environments, Positive Behavioral Supports

SPED/PSYCH 345: Individuals with Disabilities in Society

*Other coursework in MA in Education, disability studies and in Political Science*

#### **OTHER ACADEMIC MERITS**

*EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBER: Journal of Disability Policy Studies (to present)*

*GUEST EDITOR: Nordic Journal of Studies in Education Policy (2023-2024)*

*PhD DISSERTATION OPPONENT*

University of Helsinki, (inclusive education), Finland, March 2021

Nord University, (teacher education), Norway, March 2020

University of Jyväskylä, (special education policy), Finland, May 2019

*PhD DISSERTATION COMMITTEE MEMBER*

University of Helsinki, 2014 to 2016

University of California Riverside, Fall 2011 to 2015

University of Jyväskylä, Finland, Fall 2011 to 2018

*PhD DISSERTATION EXTERNAL PRE-EXAMINER ("ESITARKASTAJA")*

University of Helsinki, 2015, 2020 and 2022

Åbo Akademi i Vasa, 2014 and 2019

University of Jyväskylä, 2011 and 2019

*INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND APPOINTMENTS*

Nordic Educational Research Association, c-chair politics of education steering committee, 2022 to present  
International Relations Committee, American Educational Research Association, 2008 -2011, appointed by the President of AERA

Chair of National Membership Committee, Politics of Education Association (AERA), 2010-2011, elected  
National Membership Committee, Politics of Education Association (AERA), 2007 to 2010

*Senior Honorary Lecturer*, Inclusive Education, Turun Yliopisto, 2007 to present

Merit-based Honorary Adjunct Professor; Finnish

*Senior Honorary Lecturer*, Special Education Policy, Åbo Akademi i Vasa, 2007 to present. Merit-based  
Honorary Adjunct Professor; Swedish