

MEGAN SMITH

AI | YOUTH LEARNING | CURRICULUM DESIGN

Buffalo Grove, IL 60089 | 815.931.9692 | [LinkedIn](#) | [Portfolio](#)

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Curriculum designer and educator with 10+ years of experience creating and delivering research-based learning experiences for students, educators, and families. Designed 50+ original programs and delivered 135+ learning sessions annually across 14 partner schools, translating psychology, social science, and technology concepts into accessible, engaging instruction. Emerging work includes AI literacy and learning design. Experienced in youth development, social-emotional learning, and AI literacy with a focus on age-appropriate design, inclusion, and real-world impact.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- MOVE Fellow / Prompt Engineer (Project-Based) • Handshake** Oct 2025 - Present
Remote
- Evaluate and refine AI-generated educational content for safety, clarity, and ethics.
 - Collaborate with LLM research teams to improve inclusivity, instructional quality, and reliability of Gen AI tools.
- Elementary School Outreach Coordinator • Mount Prospect Public Library** Jul 2022 - Oct 2025
Mt Prospect, IL
- Designed 50+ K-5 curriculum programs spanning literacy, SEL, psychology and media literacy, translating complex social science concepts into engaging, age-appropriate learning experiences
 - Delivered 135+ learning sessions annually to students, educators, and families across 14 partner schools.
 - Adapted curriculum for diverse learners, including ESL students and varied classroom environments.
 - Created multimedia learning content including digital guides, book trailers, and Padlet study tools.
 - Collaborated with teachers and community partners to expand program reach and impact.
- Branch Associate • Palatine Public Library** Nov 2020 - Jul 2022
Palatine, IL
- Connected patrons with library resources and community services in a high-volume setting.
 - Designed and delivered early literacy programming grounded in best practices.
- School Age Childcare Site Coordinator • Foglia YMCA** May 2017 - Mar 2020
Lake Zurich, IL
- Facilitated Google's Be Internet Awesome parent workshops, expanding curriculum with emerging topics: deepfakes, finsta accounts, and youth social media behavior.
 - Supervised 15 staff and 150-200 children; ensured program quality, safety, and logistics.
 - Designed and led 2 week-long camps including a design thinking camp in which students created original board games, developing systems thinking, iteration, and problem-solving skills.
 - Promoted twice for excellence in curriculum design and staff training.
- Tutor (AP U.S. History, ACT English & Reading) • Academic Approach** Feb 2016 - Jul 2016
Chicago, IL
- Tutored students one-on-one and in groups; incorporated test anxiety management.
 - Interpreted test scores to support individualized learning plans.
- Undergraduate Outreach & Research Coordinator • Northern Illinois University** Oct 2014 - Jul 2015
DeKalb, IL
- Created and launched a new outreach program for University Honors.
 - Redesigned program website using organizational psychology and storytelling.
 - Increased Honors enrollment by 31% despite overall university decline.
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SELECTED INSTRUCTIONAL WORK

- The Science of Friendship:** SEL program incorporating Gottman-informed communication frameworks to help students identify healthy friendship patterns.
- Emotions in Graphics:** Interactive SEL + media literacy program using graphic novels and Paul Ekman's emotion research to teach students how facial cues communicate emotion.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Smith, M. G. (2024). **Want to Learn AI? Ask It!** *Public Libraries Online*.
- Smith, M. G. (2021). **Libraries and Mental Health Initiatives.** *Library Philosophy and Practice*.

EDUCATION

- M.A. Library & Information Science** – Dominican University
- M.A. Social Science** – University of Chicago
- B.A. Psychology & Political Science** – Northern Illinois University
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TECHNICAL & CREATIVE TOOLS

Google Workspace, Padlet, Kahoot, WordPress, Twine, Canva, Adobe Creative Suite, Screencastify, InVideo AI