

Amanda Cadran

Edtech effectiveness evangelist, lifelong learner, mom

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Living Life

"The mind adapts and converts to its own purposes the obstacle to our acting. The impediment to action advances action. What stands in the way becomes the way."

MARCUS AURELIUS

Education

[NC State University](#)

PhD in Curriculum and Instruction
focus on Instructional Design &
The Ethics of Care framework
2016

Lehigh University
MA in Political Science
focus on public policy and advocacy
2003

Lehigh University
BA in English and Journalism
2003

Proud of...

2024 board member election to the [Imagine! Foundation](#) which provides a variety of services to people with intellectual and physical disabilities.

[Mental health advocacy](#) and peer facilitator with [Postpartum Support International](#) and others. Certified in Mental Health First Aid (Youth).

Hosting my weekly online radio show called [The Bar-Line Shift](#).

The opportunity to kickoff the [Women's History event](#) at my alma mater Lehigh University as a facilitator with other graduates and current students.

Selected Experience *(see LinkedIn for complete view)*

Program Director: Rapid Cycle Evaluation, Instructure

2021-present

Formerly: Customer Success Director>Director of Customer Success and Implementation (2016-2021 with no breaks in employment)

Working directly with school districts, state boards of education, non-profit organizations and educational providers to advance the knowledge of and capacity for rapid cycle evaluation in K-12 education.

- Hired as first customer success manager in 2016 and led that department and the creation of three others: Implementation (2018), Services (2019), and Rapid Cycle Evaluation (2021). In 2022, [LearnPlatform was acquired by Instructure](#).
- Design and implementation of the company's first structured process dedicated to rapid cycle evaluation, which resulted in a 175% increase in evaluations in its first six months and a 250% increase the amount of RCEs run from 2020 to 2022.
- Co-designed and co-taught a [hybrid project-based learning course](#) on rapid cycle evaluation through a grant-funded cohort of K-12 administrators during the '20-'21 school year; respondents indicated that their self-efficacy related to statistical analysis and the practical application of data increased. Course content has been used in multiple additional projects since.
- Planning and implementation of [projects](#) centered around [professional learning](#) and edtech [program adoption](#) with the states of [Texas](#), [South Carolina](#), [Utah](#), and [Massachusetts](#) at the SEA, regional, and district levels.
- Project lead working with educational networks and programs that reach across the United States and 200+ school districts including grant work funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Chan-Zuckerberg Initiative and others.

Research Fellow & Consultant, Aurora Institute, formerly the International Association for K-12 Online Learning (iNACOL)

2014-2016

This position began as a one-term fellowship with iNACOL and the Council of Chief School Officers (CCSSO), and was expanded to a second term and then a consultancy. Primary functions included working with state education agencies (SEA) educational plans and policies to identify barriers and opportunities for successful implementations of instructional technology.

- Completed and contributed to projects intended for legislators and K-12 leadership.
- [Presentations](#) and [webinars](#) with state, district, and network partners using compiled case studies to spark innovation for OER including educational leadership in Washington and North Carolina.
- Preparation for and participation in annual conferences and other events throughout the year as needed.

Consultant – Ignite Learning Partners

2015–2016

Provided research on educational technology trends, based on client's timelines and needs.

- Invited to the National Science Foundation to build policy agendas with Department of Education leaders and other nationally recognized practitioners and researchers.

Graduate Teaching Assistant – North Carolina State University

2012–2016

Developed new and updated instructional technology courses. Reviewed and graded student assignments and provided constructive critiques using a variety of communication methods. Courses included:

- Design and Evaluation of Instructional Materials
- Theoretical Foundations of Advanced Learning Environments
- Interdisciplinary Game-Based Learning Design
- Computer Applications and Curriculum Integration
- Advanced Multimedia Design and Applications in Instruction
- Online Collaborations in Education
- Technology Integration: Theory and Practice

Online Curriculum Course Designer and Instructor : Duke University Talent Identification Program

2010–2015

Through this work with middle and high school students, I developed and revised online education curriculum and facilitated positive learning experiences through consistent communication and interaction between administrators, students, and parents. This program also regularly supported international learners.

- Implemented major restructuring of online Fourth and Fifth Grade online programming.
- Utilization of best practices for virtual learning to design coursework and facilitate learning, including:
 - Academic Writing and Research
 - News Writing in the Digital Age
 - Writing the Personal Essay
 - Writing the Persuasive Essay
 - Short Fiction Workshop

Teacher (Middle School ELA; K–8 tech), Edtech Facilitator and Edtech Director

2004–2016

I'm an educator and always will be. I want to work with a group to understand their needs, design goals and support their progress. This can be for a program, a project, or the people wrapped in it! It is important to approach all work with a growth mindset, and lead others in that way. I learned those skills through work in the Diocese of Raleigh, North Carolina.

When I'm Not Working...

Reading

- *Prince & the Purple Rain Studio Sessions* – Duane Tudahl
- *The Daily Stoic* – Ryan Holiday
- *Condé Nast Traveler* (the next best thing to being there!)

Listening

- *Italo Disco: Essential Italian Disco Classics 1977–1985*
- *Better Will Come* by Flamingosis
- [The Allergies July 2024 Funk of the Month Playlist](#) (Spotify)
- *Hidden Brain* podcast (NPR)

Cooking

- Homemade gelato
- Injera, doro wat
- Anything spicy

Selected Published & Academic Work

- Cadran, A. (2016) "[A Descriptive Case Study of the Ethics of Care Fostered by a Statewide Blended Teaching Model in Support of Site-Based Exceptional Children Teachers.](#)" Dissertation. North Carolina State University.
- Cadran, A. (2014). [State of the states: Open educational resources in K-12 education. Council of State School Officers and iNACOL.](#)
- Cadran, A. (2014): "As We Are: The Ethics of Care in a Blended Co-Teaching Environment." Pilot dissertation study. North Carolina State University.
- Cadran, A. (2008). [This I Believe Middle School Curriculum.](#) This I Believe, Inc.
- Cadran, A. (2003). "The State and Society in Nigeria: Religious Dichotomies Force the Struggle for Democracy." Graduate thesis. Lehigh University.
- Cadran, Amanda (2002). "Media and the Race for Fame on Mount Everest." Undergraduate senior honors thesis. Lehigh University.

Selected Presentations & Panels

- Cadran, A. (2024). [The Project Management Survival Guide. Pandamonium.](#) Salt Lake City, UT.
- Cadran, A. Driscoll, A., Jenkins, S. et al. "[The State of Equity in Our Community: A Panel Discussion.](#)" Phish Studies Conference. Oregon State University. Corvallis, OR.
- Cadran, A., Trimble, S., & Warford, J. "[Evaluating Your Education Technology for Impact.](#)" Online panel webinar.
- Bailey, C., Skaris, J., Schwab, G. & Cadran, A. (2023). [EdTech Evaluation in Practice: More Evidence, Better Decisions, Improved Student Outcomes.](#) Online panel webinar. The Journal.
- Bradshaw, L., Gray, S., and Cadran, A. (2022) [Improving EdTech Effectiveness through Collaboration.](#) Online panel webinar. Instructure.
- Styers, M. & Cadran, A. (2021) [Turn Your EdTech Evidence into Action: How to Tell if Your EdTech is Actually Working.](#) Online webinar. Instructure.
- Cadran, A. & Doney, J. (2021). "[Evolving with Evidence: The Critical Role of Network, IT, and Tech Departments.](#)" Utah Education Telehealth Network conference, Richfield, UT.
- Cadran, A. (2021). "[Understanding the Effectiveness of Your LEA's Edtech: A Cohort Approach.](#)" Utah Rural Schools Association conference, Richfield, UT.
- Cadran, A. et al. (2021): "Principles of Rapid Cycle Evaluation: [Session 1](#) & [Session 2.](#)" KIPP Foundation Data Retreat, Virtual.
- Call, T. et al. (2021): [Supporting LEAs in Uncertain Times: A Cohort Approach](#)" Utah Coalition for Educational Technology, Virtual.
- Alley, J., Cadran, A., & Hedgecock, R. (2021): "[Understanding the Effectiveness of Your LEA's Edtech: A Cohort Approach.](#)" Utah Coalition for Educational Technology, Virtual.
- Cadran, A. and Pierce, K. (2020): "[Teacher Engagement and Support During Uncertain Times.](#)" Virtual. Instructure.
- Cadran, A. (2020): Webinar series for the Utah State Board of Education. Presented virtually.
- Cadran, A. et al. (2020): "[Building Collective Efficacy at Your School Using Data-Driven Decision-Making.](#)" Utah Coalition for Educational Technology. Price, UT.
- Starr, J., Gryllos, S., & Cadran, A. (2019): "[Discover A Digital Products Library for Massachusetts Schools!](#)" MassCUE Fall Conference. Foxborough, MA.
- Hung, C. and Cadran, A. (2019): "[Mission Meet Metrics: KIPP DC's Journey.](#)" KIPP Foundation data retreat. Chicago, IL.
- Shaw, J. & Cadran, A. (2019): "[Students with Special Needs: When Equity Met Outcomes.](#)" SxSW Edu. Austin, TX.
- Cadran, A. (2019): [Mentor Session leader.](#) SxSW Interactive. Austin, TX.
- Durfee, M. and Cadran, A. (2019): "[State-Supported Tools that Make Analyzing Data Simple.](#)" Utah Coalition for Educational Technology. Price, UT.
- Gryllos, S. and Cadran, A. (2019): "[District Edtech Assessments and Product Usage Analytics: The Who, Why, and How.](#)" MAPLE/LearnLaunch. Webinar.
- Berman, M. and Cadran, A. (2018): "[Addressing Software Procurement Challenges: A Campus System Proof-of-Concept.](#)" WCET. Portland, OR.
- Borgen, J. and Cadran, A. (2018): "[No More Random Apps of Technology: Crowdsourcing Compliance & The Future of Edtech Management.](#)" CETPA. Sacramento, CA.

Selected Presentations, Continued

- Berman, M. and Cadran, A. (2018): "[CSUPASS – CSU Procurement of Accessible, Secure Software.](#)" California State University Information Technology Summit. Sacramento, CA.
- Mishleau, B. and Cadran, A. (2018): "[Practical Research for Personalized Learning Programs: Using Evidence for Evaluation.](#)" iLearn Collaborative Conference. Denver, CO.
- Shaw, J., Glickman, S., and Cadran, A. (2018): "[Identifying Promising Strategies for Diverse Learners.](#)" BLPC. Providence, RI.
- Wermers, M., Lieberman, J., and Cadran, A. (2017). "[Drive Edtech Outcomes in Your District.](#)" Statewide conference. MassCUE and M.A.S.S. 2017 Technology Conference. Foxborough, MA.
- Cadran, A. (2017). "[The ATLAS Network Effect.](#)" Annual conference. Association of Technology Leaders in Independent Schools. Los Angeles.
- Cadran, A. (2016). "Growth Mindset and You: Engaging Your Students through Change." District-level conference. Diocese of Raleigh. Raleigh, NC.
- Cadran, A. (2016). "LearnCertified Training." Wake County Public Schools Spring Convergence Workshop. Wake County Public Schools. Raleigh, North Carolina.
- Cadran, A. et al., (2016. 2015). "Keys To Success' Graduate Student Panel." Graduate Student Drive-In Conference. North Carolina State University College of Education.
- Cadran, A. and Soots, B. (2016). "[OER: Tools and Promising Practices for Teachers.](#)" Webinar. International Association for K-12 Online Learning. Online.
- Cadran, A. (2016). "An Introduction to the Growth Mindset for Educators." Professional development workshop. Diocese of Raleigh. Apex, NC.
- Cadran, A. (2016). "[Teaching Blended Learning Courses to Occupational Course of Study Students: A Quantitative Analysis of Care.](#)" Paper presentation. 39th Annual Conference of the Eastern Educational Research Association. Hilton Head, SC. (Also participated as a session chair)
- Cadran, et al, (2015). "OER in Public Education: Trends, Challenges, and Applications." OER Summit. San Diego County, CFF, Team Red.
- Cadran, A. (2015). "[As We Are: Ethics of Care in a Blended Teaching Model.](#)" Graduate Student Research Symposium. North Carolina State University. Raleigh, NC.