Terra A. Merry

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Profile

Compassionate educator experienced in K-12, higher education, professional development, and educator coaching transitioning to health promotion and education. Adaptable interdisciplinary thinker, positive communicator, and supportive leader. Skilled facilitator, instructional designer, researcher, writer, and editor.

Experience

Designer and Marketing Strategist
Salt Island Studio, Portsmouth, NH
2008 – Present

- Managed and created client projects in graphic design, web development, branding, marketing, photography, and videography
- Contributed scientific illustrations, photography, writing, and editing to Qatar's science textbooks

Technology Integrator & Instructor, Yoga & Wellness Instructor
Portsmouth High School, Portsmouth, NH
2008 – June 2025

- Designed and implemented instruction in graphic, web, and app design, animation, GIS, and yoga to support student and staff wellness
- Advised outing club, leadership skills, leave-no-trace, ecology, wilderness navigation, safety
- Strengthened yearbook program, systemized teaching of design process, page layout, graphic design, photography, and editing skills; increased sales revenue by an average of ten percent per year for three consecutive years
- Served as K-12 department chair, facilitated monthly meetings and empowered collaborative curriculum development process, advanced technology integration with colleagues

Science Curriculum and Instruction Program Specialist and Grant Coordinator
University of California Davis & Grant Joint Union High School District, Davis & Sacramento, CA
2006 – 2008

- Coached and trained teachers for the Sacramento Area Science Project in a research study; directed curriculum development and led assessment initiatives
- Implemented teacher observations, coaching conversations, and teaching demonstrations on inquiry and differentiation strategies, managed textbook adoption process
- Developed website with reading, writing, and dialogue strategies for teaching science literacy

Chemistry Instructor, *Campbell High School, Litchfield, NH,* 2005 – 2006

- Taught chemistry through inquiry-based laboratory investigation and science writing
- Co-advised Outing Club

Science Instructor, *The Victor School, Acton, MA,* 2003 – 2005

- Designed laboratory classroom for a therapeutic school, authored and adapted science curricula for biology, chemistry, physics, ecology, and anatomy and physiology courses
- Supported students and contributed to daily clinical rounds meetings

Science Instructor and Student Case Manager, *Goffstown High School, Goffstown, NH,* 2001 – 2003

Science Instructor, *Oak Hill School, Eugene, OR,* 2000 – 2001

Science Instructor, *Southeastern Regional, South Easton, MA,* 1999 – 2000

Science Instructor, *Rockland High School, Rockland, ME,* Spring 1999

Student Teaching Science Instructor, *Mount Desert Island High School, Mount Desert, ME,* Fall 1998

Adventure Team, Ropes Course, and Climbing Director, *Camp Collins, Gresham, OR,* Summer 1998

Lifeguard, WSI, and Swimming Instructor, *Camp Beech Cliff, Mount Desert, ME,* Summer 1997

Instructor and Trip Leader, *The Challenge Program, Vanderbilt, MI,* Summer 1996

Counselor in Training Program Co-Director, *Camp Pondicherry, Bridgeton, ME,* Summer 1995

Education

Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY, Doctorate of Education, Health Promotion and Education, Anticipated Graduation June 2028
Coursework:
ORLD 4091 Somatics: Mind/Body Approach to Leadership Development (Fall 2026)
HBSS 5112 Social Marketing and Health Communications (Fall 2026)
HBSS 7500: Dissertation Seminar in Adult Education (Fall 2026)
HBSS 5111 Planning Health Education Programs
HUDK 5135 Poverty, Inequality, and Child Development
ORLD 5062 Global and Strategic Human Resource Development in Organizations
HBSS 4114 Competence with Multicultural Populations: Research and Practice
HBSN 4199 Intro to Qualitative Research Methods for Health Care Professionals
HBSS 4100 Behavioral and Social Science Foundations of Health Promotion and Education
HBSS 5040 Research Methods in Health Behavior
HBSS 4118 Principles of Health-Related Behavioral & Social Change: Initiation to Maintenance

University of Maryland, College Park, MD, Master of Science in Chemical and Life Sciences

College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor, ME, Bachelor of Arts in Human Ecology

Skills

- Curriculum, instruction, and assessment design, teacher coaching, and group facilitation
- Yoga Instruction: 300 hour Ashtanga-based Vinyasa, 200 hour Yin, restorative, pranayama, mindfulness, meditation
- Outdoor Leadership: risk assessment, leave no trace, navigation, backcountry skills
- Languages: English (proficient), Italian (basic proficiency), French (basic proficiency)

- Teaching and Learning Apps: Canvas, Brightspace, Blackboard, Google Classroom
- Design and Technical Apps: Adobe Creative Cloud (Illustrator, InDesign, Photoshop, Lightroom, Animate, Premiere Pro, Audition), ArcViewGIS, DaVinci Resolve, Google SketchUp, TinkerCad, and Canva
- Web Design: HTML5, CSS3, Bootstrap, various CMS, accessibility, and universal design
- AI Tools: Adobe Firefly, Adobe Journey Agent, Adobe Workfront, ChatGPT, Jasper, Gemini, Google AI Studio, and Canvas AI