

DHANASHREE KARANDIKAR

Boston MA

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SUMMARY

Educator, anthropologist, and social impact researcher with 15+ years of experience across educational institutions, non-profits, and private sector environments. Extensive teaching experience in urban and rural India using education, research, and data-informed inquiry to improve learning outcomes, mental health, and overall well-being, particularly for minorities, indigenous communities, and other historically underserved groups.

As a researcher with a strong foundation in evidence-based research and a collaborative, interdisciplinary perspective, I am motivated to contribute to Curriculum Associates' mission of improving teaching and learning through rigorous educational research and analysis. I bring an analytic mindset, sensitivity to equity and context, and a passion for translating research into insights that support educators and students. I am also a mindfulness practitioner and amateur artist, bringing creativity, empathy, and reflective practice to collaborative research work.

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, LOWELL

PhD in Education (Research Evaluation in Education) 2st year

USA

Aug 2024 - Present

- Currently employed as a Research Assistant at the Center for Program Evaluation
- Research Interests: Learning Theories, Program Evaluation and Philosophy, Data Science
- Recipient of the Moloney Scholar's Fund for the Eco Sonic Playground Project

KING'S COLLEGE LONDON

London, UK

Master of Arts (Hons.); Education Management

Aug 2014 – Jul 2015

- Completed coursework on comparative education policies, focusing on connections between education and social justice
- Wrote and delivered dissertation on impact of education policies (RTE Article 14, IPC) on skilled labor market and vocational training in India
- Wrote and delivered a paper on English, the Arts & Language with a top mark

MUMBAI UNIVERSITY

Mumbai, India

Bachelor of Education (Teaching License)

Aug 2011 – May 2012

- Named '2012 Most Promising Teacher' from amongst ~500 teacher candidates across Maharashtra State
- Awarded for 'Best Community Project' at Shantivan (for patients of leprosy)
- Served as Cultural Secretary of the Teaching College, led community service projects involving ~100 students

UNIVERSITY OF KENT, CANTERBURY

Bachelor of Arts; Social Anthropology

Canterbury, UK

Sep 2007 – Jul 2010

- Served as University Representative for international students, personally mentored two international underclassmen

EXPERIENCE

INDEPENDENT TEACHING

Mumbai / Dahanu, India

Teacher & Community Leader

Apr 2020 – 2024

- Organized and ran outdoor school program for learners (ages 4-45) following the closure of all rural school systems in Dahanu during COVID, successfully taught over 80 students during this time
- Coached adult women from minority communities in English speaking and digital literacy; thus enabling them to secure employment opportunities and social freedom
- Taught online ESL courses for students age 13 and above, including language test training for immigration purposes and cultural acclimatization; supported over 25 students during this time

INTACH (INDIAN NATIONAL TRUST FOR ART AND CULTURAL HERITAGE)

Dahanu, India

Co-Chair of Dahanu Chapter

May 2019 – July 2024

- Led all operations of the Dahanu chapter of INTACH, one of ~200 branches across India charged with protecting and promoting tangible and intangible regional cultural heritage; doubled program impact during tenure
- Lead team of 8 employees (all from minority backgrounds) to conduct conservation projects, awareness drives, educational activities, school reform, youth programs, and fundraisers; collectively raised over \$3,000+ to support organization mission
- Secured over \$5,000 USD in grants to support chapter activities, including a student-run online magazine, donation drives for local orphanages, and obtaining a physical office space for the organization
- Launched the only fully student-run newsletter amongst all chapters of INTACH by recruiting and training members of local underprivileged indigenous Warli tribe to write copy, take photographs, and design graphics
- Designed evaluation and impact assessment tools

AGATSU FOUNDATION (Mental Health NGO)

Mumbai, India

Head of Research Department

Jun 2021 – Jan 2023

- Established departmental systems and processes, including creating documentation, crafting annual plans, and managing an annual budget of ~\$30,000 as part of the initial creation and set-up of the research department
- Created and ran a volunteer-based academic program and teaching-based research program to train students on qualitative research methods and deploy them on field research to understand and enable adolescent suicide prevention
- Qualitative study in suicide prevention (Interview Method)
- Trained 100 people as certified gatekeepers for suicide prevention

CREDO WORLD SCHOOL*English and Social Sciences Teacher*

Dahanu, India

Apr 2019 – Apr 2020

- Taught History, Political Science, and English for 120 students from grades 7-10
- Coordinated social science department's portion of the school-wide accreditation inspection program, enabling the school to successfully pass inspection and renew accreditation

LILAVATIBAI PODAR SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL*English Literature and Social Sciences Teacher*

Mumbai, India

Jun 2012 – Jul 2014

- Taught 600 students in grades 7-12; planned and designed school curricula for grades 7-10
- Served as School Coordinator, leading office administration for entire Middle School to improve

ASEEMA FOUNDATION: PALI-CHIMBAI MUNICIPAL SCHOOL*English and History Teacher*

Mumbai, India

Sep 2010 – Jul 2011

- Taught English and history to 100 students in grades 7-8, including remedial classes for underprivileged students
- Coordinated all social events for student body of over 500; volunteered help to secure temporary housing for students displaced by slum fires in 2010

CHAUCER COLLEGE, CANTERBURY*English as a Second Language Teacher*

Canterbury, UK

Aug 2008 – Aug 2009

- Taught 20 Japanese exchange students from beginner to advanced ESL to prepare for matriculation at UK universities

ADDITIONAL

- Licensed QPR Instructor/Instructor Trainer for Suicide Prevention from QPR Institute in Washington, USA
- Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults (CELTA) from Cambridge Assessment Board
- Completed the CITI Training Program (RCR & SBR)
- Fluent in Hindi, Marathi, Gujarati; currently learning Spanish

References available on request