

Alexis E. Cobo, Ed.D.

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Education

- 2023 **Ed.D. in Curriculum & Instruction, Educational Technology**
School of Teaching & Learning, University of Florida
Specialization: Computer Science Education
Dissertation: Creating Pathways to Inclusion in K-12 Computer Science Education: A Case Study on the Scratch Educator Meetup
Committee: Maya Israel, Anthony Botelho, Wanli Xing, and James Mcleskey
- 2007 **M.A. in Jewish Day School Education**
William Davidson Graduate School for Jewish Education, The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, New York, NY
- 2004 **B.A. in Jewish Studies, with Honors**
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Florida

Research Interests

I investigate computer science and AI literacy within K–12 education, examining how systemic policies, professional development frameworks, and inclusive curricular interventions impact student learning and teacher readiness, and how these insights can inform scalable, evidence-based systems change across diverse learning environments.

Research Experience

- 2025 - **Postdoctoral Research Associate**
CS Everyone Center for Computer Science Education, University of Florida
Supervisor: Maya Israel
Funded Research:
- Siegel Family Endowment, Support All Learners in Rural CS Education: A Network Improvement Community exploring the levers and barriers in rural educational contexts to reach the widest range of learners, including those with disabilities in CS/AI education.
 - Google for Education, An Integrated Efficacy Evaluation of AI in Education: Teacher, Study, and Administrator Impact: A Research-Industry-Practice Partnership between University of Florida, Google, and Miami-Dade County Public Schools exploring the impact of AI on instruction, professional development, and student use.
 - Gates Foundation, SPARK (Supporting Practical AI for Real K-12 Classrooms): An 18-month initiative to support Florida school districts to

test and refine their policy and implementation readiness for safe and response use. A partnership between Impact Florida, The CS Everyone Center, Google, and Microsoft.

- Google.org, Expanding CS and AI Education Capacity, Access, and Participation for Students with Disabilities through Scaled Teacher PD: Leading the creation of CAPE (Fletcher & Warner, 2021; McGill et al, 2023) aligned tools to support capacity building efforts for district cohorts in expanding professional development to broaden participation for students with disabilities in K-12 CS & AI education. Directing the full lifecycle development of two mission-critical K-12 micro-credential programs focused on AI and accessible pedagogy in CS education.
- NSF-funded, Universal Design for Computer Science Education -2. A Network Improvement Community (NIC), developing and facilitating teacher professional developing on CS/CT/instructional practices to meet the needs of the widest range of learners. Mentoring doctoral students in research design, data collection, and analysis.
- Principal Investigator (PI): US Department of Education EIR grant, investigating early-stage implementation models and ongoing structural support for elementary teachers integrating new curricula post-professional development. Co/PI: Bryan Twarek, Computer Science Teacher Association (CSTA) (E_CSPD_Week)
- Service: Florida K-12 AI Education Task Force, Convene and steward cross-sector stakeholders as an operational leader directing external communications, deliver presentations to diverse stakeholder groups, and architect the comprehensive public website to scale statewide guidance resources.

2023-2024 **Research Associate**
CSforALL

Principal Investigator (PI):

- NSF Grant Award 2122756, SCRIPT Crew TN: Impact of State-Wide SCRIPT on CS Education Pathways in TN: Facilitated project oversight including SCRIPT workshop development and implementation to support practice partners in intervention execution. implemented rigorous analytical methodologies to ensure findings were valid, reliable, transparent, and digitally accessible for a diverse community as well as institutional stakeholders.
- NSF Grant Award, BPC-A: Systemic Change for Broadening Participation in K12 CS Education Pathways: Collaborated across national networks to align research objectives with scalable pathways aimed at improving long-term outcomes to reach all learners in K-20 CS education.

2023-2020 **Graduate Research Assistant**
Creative Technology Research Lab, University of Florida

Supervisor: Maya Israel

Funded Research:

- Universal Design for Computer Science Education
 - Provided critical technical assistance and strategic alignment across multi-institutional Research-Practice Partnership (RPP) collaborations, bridging the gap between academic research, district administrative priorities, and community outcomes.
 - Developed and executed human-centered data instruments, including comprehensive survey instruments and qualitative interview protocols to track stakeholder progress and capture community-level feedback.
 - Utilized mixed-methods data analysis (including qualitative analysis of instructional design plans and descriptive statistics on pre/post-intervention surveys) to craft data-driven reports and local blueprints that demonstrate program impact.
 - Championed public engagement and asset development by curating web-based resources while translating project learnings into accessible formats disseminated via digital platforms and national conference presentations.

Publications

**Denotes mentored a student*

***Denotes equal contribution as corresponding author*

Book Chapters

Closser A., Vest, N., Zhang, S., ****Cobo A.**, Lee, S., Esmailigourjar, S., Mateo, D., Rosenberg, A., Dever, D., Botelho, A., Poekert, P., Israel, M. (In Preparation). Exploring the Impact of AI in High School Education Through a Research, Practice, and Industry Partnership. In A. Dube, K. Robinson, D. Kotsopoulos, Thinking Numbers, Thinking Machines: Mathematical Learning and Cognition in the AI Age. Springer Publishing.

Israel, M., Chandler, L., ****Cobo, A.**, & Weisberg, L. (2023). Increasing access, participation, and inclusion within K-12 CS education through Universal Design for Learning and High Leverage Practices. In S. Sentence & N. Howard (Eds.), Computer science education (2nd ed.). Bloomsbury Publishing.

Conference Proceedings

Fan, Y., ***Cobo, A.**, Jang, J., & Israel, M. (In Preparation). Who Gets to Participate? An Urban District Analysis of Disability Intersections in K-12 CS Leveraging the CAPE Framework. *In the Proceedings of the 58th ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education (SIGCSE 2027)*, February 16-20, 2026, Sacramento, CA, USA.

***Cobo, A.**, Weisberg, L., Maharrani, D., & Israel, M. (2026, June 9). Designing for All: Leveraging Micro-Credentials to Increase Participation for Learners with Disabilities in K-12 CS Education. *In Proceedings of the 2026 RESPECT Annual Conference (RESPECT*

2026), June 9-10, 2026, Chicago, IL, USA. ACM, New York, NY, USA. 5 pages. [BEST PAPER AWARD]

Guo, M., Jeon, Y., **Cobo, A.**, Apraiz, K., & Israel, M. (2026, March 12). Exploring Preservice Teacher' Conceptual Trajectories While Teaching AI and STEM Integrated Unit. *In Proceedings of the 20th WiPSCE Conference on Primary and Secondary Computing Education Research (WiPCSE 26')*. ACM, Aachen, Germany, 6 pages.

Cobo, A. & Yadav, A. (2025, February 26 - March 1). Nudging the Field Towards Justice-Oriented Goals: Committing to CS Education. *In Proceedings of the 56th ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education V2 (SIGCSE 2025)*, February 26-March 1, 2025, Pittsburgh, PA, USA.

Yadav, A., **Cobo, A.**, & DeLyser, L. (2025, April 23-27). Catalyzing the Computer Science Education Community to Community to Commit to Justice. [Paper Session] *American Educational Research Association (AERA) annual conference, Denver, CO*, United States.

Bennett, A., Yan, W., **Cobo, A.**, & Israel, M. (April 23 - 27). A Cross-Case Analysis of Teachers with Experience Instructing Students with Disabilities in Computer Science Education [Individual Poster Session] *American Educational Research Association (AERA) annual conference, Denver, CO*, United States.

Cobo A., Wortel-London, S.B., & DeLyser L. (2024, May). A Field Catalyst Approach to Systems Change in K-12 CS Education. *In Proceedings of the 2024 RESPECT Annual Conference (RESPECT 2024)*, May 16-17, 2024, Atlanta, GA, USA. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 5 pages.

Perkins, A., ***Cobo A.**, Wortel-London, S.B., Jones, D.L., & James, D.E. (2024, May). From State Legislation to Implementation: Moving Towards Justice-Centered Computing. *In Proceedings of the 2024 RESPECT Annual Conference (RESPECT 2024)*, May 16-17, 2024, Atlanta, GA, USA. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 5 pages.

Yan, W., Bennett, A., ***Cobo, A.**, & Israel, M. (2024, March). A Cross-Case Analysis of Experienced Educators in CS Inclusion. *In Proceedings of the 55th ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education V. 2* (pp. 1863-1864).

Cobo, A., Wortel-London, S.B., DeLyser, L., & James, D. E. (2024, March). Small steps, big progress: Analyzing district led goals to advance CS education. *In Proceedings of the 55th ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education V. 1* (pp. 221-226).

Israel, M., Li, W., Francsali, C., Bennett, A., Xu, Y., **Cobo, A.** (2023, May 4). Participation of students with disabilities in K-12 computer science education [Virtual Paper]. *American Educational Research Association (AERA) annual conference, Virtual Event*.

Yadav, A., Israel, M., Bouck, E., **Cobo, A.**, Samuels, J. (2022). Achieving CSforALL: Preparing special education pre-service teachers to bring computing to students with disabilities. In

Proceedings of the 53rd ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education (pp. 196-201).

Commissioned Publication

[Raspberry Pi Foundation Pedagogy Quick Read: Universal design for learning: Reaching all learners in CS Education](#)

Presentations

Conference Presentations

Cobo, A., De Jesús, S., Escobar, R., & Holter A. (2026, July 15). *From Standards to Action: Teacher-Led Policy and Advocacy in Computer Science*. Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA), Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA, United States.

Cobo, A., Guo, M., Lindsey, N. (2026, March). *Elementary AI Unplugged* [Demo Session]. 2026 University of Florida National AI Literacy Day: Forging the Future of Learning with AI, March 26-27, Gainesville, FL, USA.

Fugate, R. & **Cobo, A.** (2025, July 10). *From Awareness to Action: Teaching Accessibility and Inclusion as Core CS Competencies* [Poster Session]. Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA), annual conference, Cleveland, OH, United States.

Cobo A. (2024, September). *Building Professional Learning Communities for K-12 CS Educators to Support Accessibility Practices* [Research Panelist]. AccessComputing Workshop - CMD-IT/ACM Richard TAPIA Celebration of Diversity in Computing Conference, San Diego, CA, United States.

Cobo, A., Egwuekwe, M., McGill, M., & Thigpen, L. (2024, July). *Moving Tennessee Beyond Access: How SCRIPT Informs and Impacts Decisions Made in K-12 CS Education* [Structured Poster Session]. National Science Foundation CISE-CSforALL RPP PI Meeting, Las Vegas, NV, United States.

Cobo, A., Mosley, R., Tsan, J., & Hubbard-Cheuoua, A. (2024, July). *The CSforALL Alliance: Catalyzing the Field to BPC Through Member Actions* [Structured Poster Session]. National Science Foundation CISE-CSforALL RPP PI Meeting, Las Vegas, NV, United States.

Cobo, A., Tanimoto, L., & De Jesús, S. (2024, July). *Building a Chapter Advocacy Leader Toolkit*. [Hands on Workshop]. Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA), Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV, United States.

Isreal, M., & **Cobo, A.** (2023, December). *Strategies for including students with disabilities in K-12 CS education*. [Hands on Workshop]. Computer Science Week Celebration. Miami Computer Science Teachers Association, Miami, FL.

Edelman, J., **Cobo, A.**, Colley, C., McKinley, J. (2023, July 12). *Cultivating a creative coding community with Scratch educator meetups* [Mini session]. Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) annual conference, Virtual Event.

- Israel, M., **Cobo, A.**, Chandler, L., Salgado-Ramirez, A., Bennett, A., Weisberg, L. (2023, April 15). *Scaffolding through multiple entry points to K-8 computer science participation and inclusion* [Structured poster session]. American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual conference, Chicago, IL, United States.
- Bennett, A., Israel, M., ***Cobo, A.**, Delgado, J. (2023, March). *Using the UDL for computer science interactive table* [Asynchronous poster session]. Universal Design for Learning Implement and Research Network (UDL-IRN), Virtual Event.
- Cobo, A.**, & Israel, M. (2023, February 2). *Increasing participation in K-12 CS education through UDL* [Online Workshop]. Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) Inland Empire, Virtual Event.
- Israel, M., & **Cobo A.**, (2022, December 10). *Strategies for including students with dis/abilities in K-12 CS education* [Hands-On Workshop]. Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) computer science education week, Miami, FL, United States.
- Israel, M., **Cobo A.**, Bennett A., Barrett, J. (2022, October 29). *Increasing participation in K-12 CS education through UDL* [Structured mini-session]. Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) how we teach CS, Virtual Event.
- Cobo, A.**, Bennett, A., Lash, T., Israel, M., Bergeron, L. (2022, July 17). *Disabilities Inclusion in CSforALL* [Hands-On Workshop]. Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) annual conference, Chicago, IL, United States.
- Israel, M., **Cobo A.**, Yan, W., Liu R., & Chandler, L. (2022, April 25). *Developing scaffolding debugging strategies to support metacognition during programming* [Symposium session]. American Educational Research Association (AERA) annual meeting, San Diego, CA, United States.
- *Cobo, A.**, Bennett, A., Chandler, L., Ramirez-Salgado, A., Weisberg, L., Williams, J. (2022, April 2). *Strategies for using Universal Design for Learning (UDL) in K-8 CS* [Breakout session]. Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) equity action summit, Virtual Event.
- Cobo, A.** (2021, July 14). *No more silos: CS in core curriculum with PBL* [Hands-On Workshop]. Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) annual conference, online due to COVID-19.
- Cobo, A.**, Lash, T., Israel, M. (2021, March 10). *Strategies for Using Universal Design for Learning (UDL) in Elementary CS to engage all learners* [Breakout session]. Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) equity action summit, Virtual Event.
- Sedgwick, V., Powers, K., **Cobo, A.** (2021, January 16). *Integrating AI in the K-5 classroom* [Breakout session]. Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) future of CS: Emerging concepts in CS education summit, Virtual Event.

Cobo, A. (2020, September). *Debugging: A practitioner's perspective*. The Lightning Debugging Symposium: A Conversation About Research and Practice in K-12 CS Education, Creative Technology Research Lab, University of Florida.

Gabaree, L., Rusk, N., Lee, M., ****Cobo, A.**, Trapp, J. (2019, June 24). *Scratch stories: Educators share their experiences and strategies* [Panel Discussion]. International Society for Technology Education (ISTE) annual conference, Philadelphia, PA, United States.

Cobo, A. (2018, July). *Scratching the Surface with Project-Based Learning* [Ignite Talk]. Scratch biennial conference, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, MA, United States.

Invited Talks

Cobo, A. (2026, July 21). *The Florida AI Landscape: Strategy, Policy, and the Path Forward* [Concurrent Session]. Northeast Florida Educational Consortium (NEFEC) Summer Leadership Conference, Ponte Verde Beach, Florida, USA.

Cobo, A. (2026, April 11). *Raising Creative Techies in the World of AI*. Code/Art Fest, Code/Art, Miami, Florida, USA.

Cobo, A. (2025, November 6). *AI in K-12 Education: Charting the Course in Florida*. Florida Organization of Instructional Leaders Annual Conference, Orlando, Florida, USA.

Cobo, A. & Thompson, T. (2025, October 21). *Moving Beyond a Mandate: A Conversation on Accessibility in Higher Education*. AIICE Alliance Webinar Series

Cobo, A. (2025, September 25). *Florida K-12 AI Education Task Force Updates*. Florida School Board Association AI/IT Committee.

Cobo, A. (2025, September 9). *Introducing the Florida K-12 AI Education Task Force*. Lastinger Center at the University of Florida College of Education.

University Teaching Experience

2025 - **Instructor of Record**
School of Human Development and Organizational Studies in Education
Department: Educational Leadership, University of Florida
Technology Leadership for School Leaders (EDA6271)

Spring 2025 **Guest Lecturer**
College of Education, Mercer University, Atlanta, GA
Curriculum & Instruction in Elementary Education (EMAT621)
Session Title: Elementary Educational Technology: Reaching All Learners

Spring 2021 **Guest Lecturer**
College of Education, University of Florida
Integrating Technology into Elementary Education (EME4401)
Session Title: Introduction to Computation Thinking

K-12 Teaching Experience

- 2021-2023 **Director of Educational Technology & Innovation**
Donna Klein Jewish Academy, Boca Raton, FL
- Managed daily IT operations and strategic planning for K-12 infrastructure.
 - Pioneered the development and implementation of a K-12 curriculum spanning Educational Technology, Computer Science, and Innovation.
 - Oversaw teaching faculty members, including professional development and performance.
- 2020-2021 **Senior Curriculum Developer**
Code Ninjas, LLC
- Designed auxiliary curriculum for programs such as summer camps for 300 franchisees in US/Canada/UK.
- 2015-2020 **PK-5 Computer Science & Technology Specialist**
Pine Crest Preparatory School, Boca Raton, FL
- Developed and delivered a comprehensive PreK-5 Computer Science and Educational Technology curriculum.
 - Guided faculty in integrating CS and digital fluency skills across core content areas.
- 2012-2015 **PK-5 Academic Technology Specialist**
North Broward Preparatory School, Coconut Creek, FL
- Developed and delivered a comprehensive educational technology curriculum from PreK-5.
 - Assisted the Director of Educational Technology in implementing teacher professional development.
- 2010-2012 **Media Center & Kindergarten Teacher**
Donna Klein Jewish Academy, Boca Raton, FL
- Aligned K-4th grade curriculum to AASL Standards.
 - Piloted iPad curriculum to support technology integration from K-4
 - Delivered Kindergarten instruction.
- 2007-2008 **5th Grade English & History Teacher**
Donna Klein Jewish Academy, Boca Raton, FL
- Implemented an interdisciplinary curriculum for 5th grade students.

Professional Appointments

- 2025-2026 **Women in AI Fellow**
EDSAFE AI Alliance
- Year-long fellowship to support leaders who impact policy, research, and practice to enable an ethical AI ecosystem.

- 2024- **AccessComputing Partner**
AccessComputing Alliance
- Engage with other partners in monthly online meetings to support and mentor students with disabilities
- 2023- **Policy Committee Co-Chair**
Computer Science Teachers Association
- Lead the development and adoption of identity-inclusive and data-driven CSTA endorsed policy recommendations.
 - Drove cross-sector project management and strategic analysis on the 2025 CSTA Teacher Landscape Survey in close collaboration with the Kapor Center and AIICE Alliance Affiliates to identify systemic needs in the CS educational ecosystem.
- 2024-2026 **PK-12 CS Standards Advisor**
Computer Science Teachers Association
- Provide technical assistance to inform the overall revision process and direction, as well as offer regular feedback and resolve outstanding questions on CSTA PK-12 standards revisions.
- 2021-2022 **Educational Advisor**
GBH Kids/PBS Kids/Pipeline Studios
- Review television scripts for universal design and culturally relevant computational thinking content for PreK-1st grade audience throughout character/plot development on production of Work-It Out WOMBATS!
 - Show credits: "Crab Roll" & "Show & Smell"
- 2019-2023 **Grade-band 3-5 Working Group Member**
AI4K12
- Provided technical assistance for the drafting, editing, and revisions of the grade band 3-5 guidelines of the Five Big Ideas in AI.
 - Support social media, cross-partnership promotion, and activities development

Service & Outreach

Peer Reviewer

Present

- National Science Foundation
- Journal of Research on Technology Education
- Association of Computing Machinery (ACM) Transactions on Computing Education
- EAAI K-12 Paper Track
- ACM SIGCSE Reviewer
 - Senior Reviewer, 26'
- ACM RESPECT Reviewer

- University of Florida Journal of Undergraduate Research
- Scratch Conference Proposals
- CSTA Conference Proposals

Conference Committee

- 2025 - Organizing Committee
ACM-SIGSE RESPECT Conference
- **Accessibility Co-Chair**
- 2026- Organizing Committee
ACM-SIGSE Virtual Conference
- **Accessibility Co-Chair**

Meetup Organizer

- 2018-2024 **Creating Pathways Scratch Educator Meetup Organizer**
South Florida Scratch Educator Meetup Organizer
Scratch Foundation

K-12 School Service

- 2015-2020 **Pine Crest Preparatory School**
- First Lego League Robotics Coach & Tournament Organizer
 - Innovation Institute Professional Development Facilitator
 - Google Summit Chair

Awards & Honors

1. STARS Broadening Participation in Computing (BPC) Research Scholar (\$1500), 2023 - 2024
2. Computing Research Association (CRA) Grad Cohort for Women, 2022
3. Mentor Award, South Florida First Lego Robotics League, 2018
4. Growing Our Academic Leaders (GOAL) Cohort, Pine Crest Preparatory School, 2017-2018
5. University Scholars Program, University of Florida (\$1000), 2003-2004

Professional Affiliations

- Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), 2022 -
- SIGCSE, 2024 - Present
- SIGACCESS, 2025 - Present
- American Educational Research Association (AERA), 2023 -
- Council for Exceptional Children (CEC), 2022 -
- Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA), 2015 -
- International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), 2010 -