



## The UMBC Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages Program Presents

### An Intimate Conversation with P-12 ESOL Teachers at Different Stages of their Careers

A virtual session sponsored by the TESOL club



*Monica Ivy*  
Burleigh Manor Middle School



*Katherine Kirsch*  
Jackson Road Elementary School



*Noora Mahmassani*  
Sudbrook Magnet Middle School



*Sarah Gawens*  
Sargent Shriver Elementary School

Monday  
November 29  
4:30-5:30 pm  
Eastern US Time

Free registration  
by e-mail to  
TESOL@umbc.edu

Are you planning to teach in a public school? If so, you don't want to miss this opportunity to hear what it's really like teaching in the field from four ESOL teachers at different stages of their careers.

**Monica Ivy** is an ESOL teacher at Burleigh Manor Middle School, Howard County. She has been teaching since 1997 in varying capacities. Monica has experience as a classroom teacher (4th- 5th grades) and as an ESOL teacher at the Preschool, Elementary, Middle and Adult levels. She is currently mentoring teachers and facilitating adolescents' literacy. She got her M.A.Ed in Literacy as a Reading Specialist at Loyola University Maryland and her M.A.Ed in Curriculum & Instruction specializing in Multicultural/Multilingual Education at George Mason University.

**Katherine Kirsch** graduated from UMBC in 2017, with a MA in TESOL. This is her 6th year as an ESOL teacher at Jackson Road Elementary School in Montgomery County. After two years teaching in Kindergarten, second and third grades, Katherine migrated to upper elementary, where she loves working with the older students. Teaching is Katherine's second career, having spent a dozen years in the labor movement.

**Noora Mahmassani** is a 2019 graduate of UMBC's MA TESOL Program. Noora started her teaching career with two years as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant in Mexico City, Mexico. This is her fourth year as a Middle School ESOL teacher with Baltimore County Public Schools. She has hosted a UMBC student intern, written ESOL curriculum for BCPS, taught BCPS's pilot bilingual summer school program, and currently teaches evening adult ESL classes with the Esperanza Center.

**Sarah Gawens** is in her first year as an ESOL teacher at Sargent Shriver Elementary in Silver Spring, MD. She previously was a volunteer ESL instructor and tutor for the Frederick County Literacy Council from 2018-2020 and the York County Literacy Council from 2015-2018. She was an adjunct ESL professor for Frederick Community College for the 2018-2019 academic year. Sarah holds a BA in Fine Arts from Mount St. Mary's University and is now completing her MA TESOL with P-12 teaching certification at UMBC.