Aurelia Isabel O'Neil, PhD

<u>LinkedIn</u> | Portfolio

Instructional Designer
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
Digital Learning & Academic Innovation
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Corpus Christi TX 78412
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RESEARCH INTEREST

Technology integration to support neurodivergent learners, with a focus on virtual reality (VR) and extended reality (XR) environments; instructional design strategies for students with dyslexia; educational technology interventions in literacy development; dyslexia-related educational policies; curriculum development for eLearning environments; accessible and inclusive instructional design for immersive simulations and emerging technologies.

EDUCATION

2025	Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, PhD in Curriculum & Instruction Emphasis in Instructional Design & Education Technologies o Dissertation: An Exploratory Cross-Case Analysis of Technology Integration in Dyslexia Interventions
2017	Capella University, Master of Science in Curriculum & Instruction
2014	Texas State University, Bachelor of Arts in English Minor in Psychology

HONORS & AWARDS

2025	People's Choice Award, 3-Minute Competition, Texas A&M University.
2023-2024	Graduate Assistant, Conrad Blucher Institute of Science & Surveying.
2022	3 rd Place Recipient, Invent for the Planet, Texas A&M University.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journals

Published

O'Neil, A., Valadez, C., & Izuagie, L. (2025). Dyslexic Voices Unveiled: Elevating Literate Selves with Virtual Reality. *Journal of Research in Childhood Education*. https://doi.org/10.1080/02568543.2025.2478131

- Spaniol, F., Valadez, C., Kesterson, M., Izuagie, L., Monrad, J., Shaikh, R., & **O'Neil, A**. (In Press). The Effect of Age on Eye-Hand Coordination of Adolescents. *Journal of Center for Educational Development, Evaluation, & Research*.
- **O'Neil, A**. (2023). Beyond boundaries: Navigating the art and ethics of hyper-reality design. *Critical Augmented and Virtual Reality Researchers Network (CAVRN)*. https://cavrn.org/beyond-boundaries-navigating-the-art-and-ethics-of-hyper-reality-design/

Under Review

O'Neil, A., Valadez, C., & Izuagie, L. (Under Review). Navigating Ethics in Augmented and Virtual Reality (AR/VR) Design for Students with Dyslexia. *Frontiers Virtual Reality*.

Book Chapters

- **O'Neil, A.** (In Press) Stirring Resilience in Arroz con Pollo: A Personal Narrative. *Recipes of Motherhood: Families, Communities, and the Power of Food Narratives Culinary Canvas Series.* Zhu, M. & Morrison, S (Eds.). Myers Education Press.
- Suryavanshi, R. & O'Neil, A. (In Press) Beyond Compliance: A Practical Guide for Accessible Adaptive Learning with AI in ADDIE. *Advancing Accessibility: Practical Strategies for Instructional Designers and Educators*. Reese, R. & Lomellini, A (Eds.). EdTech Books.

Practitioner Journals

- **O'Neil, A,** Valadez, C., Robertson, P. (2025). Clarifying the Roles: Understanding the Preparation of Educators Who Support Students with Dyslexia. *Literacy Today*, 42(3), 18.
- **O'Neil, A**. (In Press). Book Review of The Friendship Bench: How Fourteen Grandmothers Inspired a Mental Health Revolution by Dixon Chibanda. *Phi Kappa Phi Forum*.

RESEARCH

- 2025 **O'Neil, A.** (PI), Valadez, C. (Researcher), & Izuagie, L. (Student Researcher).

 Navigating Ethics in Augmented and Virtual Reality (AR/VR) Design for Students with Dyslexia. Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.
- Valadez, C. (PI), **O'Neil, A**. (Co-PI). Transformative Learning Through AI: Exploring Doctoral Students' Reflections on Educator Accountability and Inclusive Pedagogy in Scenario-Based Simulations. Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

- Bippert, K. (PI), **O'Neil, A**. (Student Researcher). *Exploring Banned Books Through VR: A Blended Learning Approach*. Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.
- Zhu, M. (PI), Morrison, S. (CO-PI), **O'Neil, A.**, & Shauger, R. (Researchers). _ Ludological Literacy: Enhancing Dyslexia Support Through Gamified XR (VR/AR/MR) Technologies in K-12 Education. Southeastern Oklahoma State University
- Valadez, C. (PI), **O'Neil,** A., & Izuagie, L (Student Researchers). Evaluating the Potential of Virtual Reality Dyslexia Interventions for Letter Recognition. Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.
- Valadez, C. (PI), **O'Neil, A.**, Izuagie, L., & Shaikh, R. (Student Researchers). The Impact of Health and Wellness Literacy on the Fitness Assessment & Physical Activity Enjoyment in Children Attending a Summer Program. Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

GRANTS

Federal Funded

O'Neil, A. (2022). Virtual Reality Literacy Application. SBIR/STTR National Science Foundation (NSF). Project Pitch Acceptance: 00045979 (*Unfunded:* \$1,075,000). Principal Investigator.

State Funded

O'Neil, A. (2023). Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries (*Funded:* \$5,000). George W. Presidential Center. Principal Investigator.

Local or Internally Funded

O'Neil, A. (2023). Student Research Grant (*Funded:* \$800). Research & Innovation Center at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Co-Principal Investigator.

PRESENTATIONS

Conferences

International

O'Neil, A., Valadez, C., & Izuagie, Lawrence (June 2025). Dyslexic Voices Unveiled: Elevating Literate Selves with Game-Based Virtual Reality. *International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)*. Conference, San Antonio, TX.

O'Neil, A. & Bippert, K. (June 2025). Exploring Book Censorship: Knowledge Building Through Virtual Reality and Critical Dialogue. *International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)*. Conference, San Antonio, TX.

National

- O'Neil, A., Valadez, C., & Izuagie, Lawrence (May 2025). Navigating Ethics in Augmented and Virtual Reality (AR/VR) Design for Students with Dyslexia. *Standford's Meaningful XR Conference (MXR)*. Conference, Sacramento, CA.
- O'Neil, A., Valadez, C., & Izuagie, Lawrence (November 2024). Dyslexic Voices Unveiled: Elevating Literate Selves with Game-Based Virtual Reality. *Association of Literacy Educators & Researchers (ALER)*. Conference, Orlando, FL.
- O'Neil, A. (March 2023). Investigating XRs Influence in Multisensory Learning. *South by Southwest Education (SXSW Edu)*. Conference, Austin, TX.

State & Local

- O'Neil, A., & Holland, S. (April 2024). Establishing A Point of Beginning: a Novel Approach to Online Asynchronous Geospatial Science Education for Texas High School Students. Symposium for Student Innovation, Research, and Creative Activities (SSIRCA). Conference, Corpus Christi, TX.
- O'Neil, A. (October 2023). Implications of artificial intelligence and extended reality technologies in education. *The School and University Partnership Conference of Education (SUPCE)*. Conference, Corpus Christi, TX.
- O'Neil, A., & Sharpe, S. (October 2023). Creating immersive virtual reality learning spaces without coding. *The School and University Partnership Conference of Education (SUPCE)*. Conference, Corpus Christi, TX.
- O'Neil, A. (May 2023). Investigating XR's Influence in Multisensory Learning. *Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD)*. Conference, Corpus Christi, TX.
- O'Neil, A., Benedetti, G., Flores, B., & Massey, S. (October 2022). Fantastic four: Rethinking the Profession of teaching through equitable solutions. *The School and University Partnership Conference of Education (SUPCE)*. Conference, Corpus Christi, TX.

Invited Interviews

Podcast

Frehlich, C. (Host). (2018-Present). *The Literate Self: Dyslexia, Identity, and Immersive VR*[Audio Podcast]. VR in Education.
https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/episode-145-the-literate-self-dyslexia-identity/id13
33244708?i=1000703907730

CERTIFICATIONS

Peer Reviewer Course (PRC). Quality Matters. (Interminable).

Applying the QM Rubric (APPQMR). Quality Matters. (Interminable).

Certified ScrumMaster (CSM). Scrum Alliance. (March 2027).

Virtual Reality Instructional Designer. New Mexico State University. (Interminable).

Instructional Design. *ELVTR*. (Interminable).

Social & Behavioral Research. CITI Program. (June 2026).

Professional Pedagogy & Responsibilities (PPR). Texas Education Agency. (October 2027).

English as a Second Language Supplemental Support, Grades 4-8th. *Texas Education Agency*. (October 2027).

Texas Reading Academies. Texas Education Agency. (Interminable).

SERVICE

Conference Paper Review

International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)		
Stanford's Meaningful XR Conference (Frontiers Virtual Reality)		
International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)		
Stanford's Meaningful XR Conference (Journal of Media Psychology)		
Community Activities		
Judge at Symposium for Student Innovation, Research, and Creative Activities (SSIRCA). Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.		
Judge at Invent for the Planet. Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.		
Kid Ministry Coordinator & Curriculum Developer. Resolute Church.		
Instructional Coach Consultant. Corpus Christi ISD.		
Curriculum Specialist. Church Unlimited.		

AFFILIATIONS

Professional Affiliations

2023- Researcher, Critical Augmented and Virtual Reality Research Network (CAVRN)

Student Organizations

2023- 2025 Member, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

2023-2024	President, XR Visionary Society
2023-2024	Public Relations Officer, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD)
	Development (ASCD)

TEACHING PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022-2023	Instructional Coach, Corpus Christi ISD
2021-2022	Virtual Reading Interventionist, K12 Stride
2019-2021	7th Grade English & Language Arts Teacher, London ISD
2016-2019	7 th Grade Inclusion English & Language Arts Teacher, Tuloso-Midway ISD
2015-2016	7th Grade English & Language Arts Teacher & Dyslexia Teacher, Alice ISD