Congratulations to our UITE Graduates on their New Teaching Positions!
Maria Plancarte

The Urban Institute for Teacher Education has showed me various tools that I will utilize in the classroom. I also had the privilege of being placed in various scenarios that allowed me to grow not just as an individual, but as a future teacher. I have decided to stay in Salt Lake City, Utah for the 2016-2017 academic school year.
Rogelio Ramos

The Urban Institute for Teacher Education (UITE) has provided me with the essential tools in providing successful education experiences to all students. A native from San Diego, California, I have decided to remain in Salt Lake City, Utah for the 2016-2017 academic school year. Finally, the time at the U has also provided me with variety of career offers in my field. GO UTES!
Taylor Harms

After four years here at the U, I will be getting my degree in Elementary Education. I student taught in a third grade classroom, which helped me realize my love of the younger grades. From the second I walked into Woodrow Wilson, I knew I had to teach there. It’s kind of hard to explain but it just felt right. I was a nervous wreck waiting for them to call me telling me if I got the position, luckily they called me with good news. After meeting the team, I am sure this is the place I am supposed to be. Thanks to the program and student teaching, I am so ready to be in charge of my own classroom and to start my career.

“Next year I will be teaching second grade at Woodrow Wilson Elementary.”
Elizabeth Healey

In Fall 2016 I will be starting a Masters in Art Education through the Department of Art Administration, Education and Policy at The Ohio State University. I hope to be able to use this Masters and my degree from The University of Utah to combine my two passions: the arts and working with children. While working on my Masters, I will be teaching an undergraduate course "Visual Culture: Investigating Diversity & Social Justice" for the 2016-2017 academic year. I will be a Ute til I die, but for the next few years I'll be a Buckeye!
For the upcoming year, I am taking my teaching experience and skills I have gained from the U's education program to China as an English teacher in a kindergarten classroom. I have also arranged a backpacking trip that will take me through 12 countries in six weeks. I know that these experiences will significantly impact my performance and effectiveness as a teacher. There is always going to be more to learn, regardless of your profession, age, or where you are in the world. My journey begins in China, and I can't yet say when I'll be back and ready to take a position as an elementary school teacher in Utah. I'm so excited to start making progress on that bucket list that won't seem to stop growing, and probably will never stop! For now, I've got 'graduate from college' proudly checked off.
The UITE prepared me to teach by providing excellent experiences in and out of the classroom. My student teaching experience played a very large part by exposing me to a diverse class of students from August through April and gave me the opportunity to work with and learn from an amazing site teacher.

“I will be working at Oakdale Elementary in Canyons School District in a 1st grade class.”
UITE helped to prepare me through excellent academic courses which covered all of the important areas; content areas, teaching methodology, behavior management, assessment, differentiation and more. The courses were excellent and represented the cutting edge of educational research. I was also given many opportunities for practical experience inside elementary classrooms with supervision and guidance. During my student teaching year I was part of cohort of fellow students where I felt supported and connect to a community. Peggy McCandless was our cohort leader and she was always sympathetic and available to help with any of my concerns. I feel excited and prepared to join the teaching profession.

“I will be working at Upland Terrace Elementary in the 4th Grade.”

Shelly Hamula
Codi Chua

The Urban Institute for Teacher Education (UITE) program at the University of Utah is very rigorous. All of the professors in the program push you to do your best. Because of UITE, I feel more confident going into my first year of teaching with many ideas and techniques that I learned from my professors.

“I have been hired to teach 1st grade at Bell View Elementary.”
“Northridge High School in Layton hired me as a full-time Spanish 2/3/4 teacher for next school year.”

My experience with UITE helped prepare me to be a youth advocate for students of all backgrounds. Not only was I challenged to solve problems that arise in a typical urban classroom, but I was also encouraged to create lesson plans that motivated students to take pride in their work. My goal now is to take what I have learned about community-based learning and apply it in my own classroom. I want my students to be leaders by taking ownership of their work and improving their communities.
I feel that my cohort leader was instrumental in helping me feel prepared. I really loved having so much time in the classroom to prepare myself for this coming year. My site teacher worked really well together and I feel lucky to have been placed at the school I was.

“"I was hired at Armstrong Academy in Granite School District teaching 5th grade.""
I feel so prepared to become a teacher. This program has not only taught me how to teach curriculum and manage behaviors, but it has also taught me how to be an effective role model for my students. I have learned how to be a cheerleader, counselor, referee, and guardian for my students. This program allowed me to become immersed in a classroom for almost an entire school year. I have been able to see my students grow and learn throughout the year. I have also developed individual relationships with all of my students that I will never forget! I am so excited to begin my career as an educator, and I couldn't have done it without the support of the staff and my colleagues in the College of Education.

“I have been hired to teach Kindergarten next year at Jeremy Ranch Elementary School in Park City!”

Allison Bowers
The UITE prepared me through the hands on learning opportunities that preservice learning provided. I was also prepared throughout the course work by learning from knowledgeable professors and assignments that pertain to the field. Student teaching provided me the opportunity to gain experience from a mentor teacher.

“I have been hired at Marley Park Elementary in Surprise, Arizona, 4th grade.”
I loved being an education student at the University of Utah. The Urban Institute for Teacher Education provided me with amazing opportunities to explore the wonderful diversity Utah public schools have. I loved working with children that came from all walks of life and these experiences taught me more about the world and myself than I could have ever imagined.

“This fall I will be teaching 6th grade at Upland Terrace Elementary.”

Emily Vineyard
The University of Utah helped me to achieve my goals by helping me to experience real world situations, learn alongside my peers in engaging classrooms, and showing me how classrooms/schools work in an urban neighborhood. I am very excited to start my career teaching 6th grade!

"After graduating from the University of Utah, I accepted a teaching position at Academy Park Elementary in the 6th grade."

Kali Lolofie
The Urban Institute of Teacher Education (UITE) at the University of Utah helped shape my pedagogical approach and provided many opportunities to practice my skills in various classrooms. As the name implies, urban education and diverse classrooms are focal points within the program. Consequently, I feel prepared to teach in many different classroom environments. UITE values critical thinking skills and pushes students to question personal biases. These skills and practices transfer into personal teaching philosophies and ultimately to students in elementary and secondary classrooms.

“I will be teaching History at West Jordan Middle School.”
Melissa Cosgrove

“I have been hired to teach 9th grade English at Granger High School.”
I have been hired to teach at Kearns High school. I will teach Dance and Advanced Ballroom.

The UITE prepared me to work with diverse students with an array of backgrounds, while being fully supported by my cohort and cohort leaders (specifically Udita). Udita helped me to question and better understand the many stressors that a teacher can experience in an urban school, such as burnout, having a work-life balance, and understanding yourself better through your students. I was also pushed to understand and question how assessment can play a role in my classroom (which is usually just assessed through performance assessments).