

# ELIZABETH AUTIO

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## Professional Focus

Evaluation leader and former teacher who bridges rigorous research with real-world implementation. Specializes in translating complex data into clear insights that support learning, reflection, and strategic decision-making. Brings practitioner perspective to collaborative evaluation design, helping nonprofit and education partners use evidence to strengthen programs and advance outcomes.

## Experience

### Feedback Loop

Portland, OR

#### Founder & Principal Analyst

2016 – Present

Lead evaluator and learning partner supporting education and social impact organizations in translating evidence into strategic insight, program improvement, and equitable outcomes.

- Partner with nonprofit and education leaders to frame evaluation questions that align evidence with strategic priorities.
- Design mixed-methods evaluations integrating administrative data, surveys, interviews and focus groups to capture program, participant, and community experience.
- Conduct rigorous analyses that surface impact, implementation drivers, and opportunities for improvement.
- Facilitate collaborative sense-making discussions where staff and partners interpret findings together and translate insights into practical program improvements.
- Develop clear evidence-based narratives, visuals, and recommendations that support decision-making and organizational learning.
- Coach organizations in data use and evaluation strategy, strengthening long-term capacity for evidence-based practice.

### The Ivy School, Franciscan Montessori Earth School

Portland, OR

#### Middle School Teacher

2021 – 2024

- Taught seventh- and eighth-grade social studies and language arts.
- Advised student council, newspaper, and literary journal.

### Education Northwest

Portland, OR

#### Senior Associate (2012-2014), Research & Evaluation Analyst (2003-2012)

2003-2014

- Led and contributed to large-scale, equity-focused evaluations across PK–12 and higher education.
- Designed studies that connected rigorous methods to real-world policy and practice needs.
- Authored and co-authored evaluation reports and research syntheses for diverse audiences, used by state and federal agencies.
- Presented findings at local and national conferences.

## Selected Publications

Autio, E. (2019). *A crisis of disrupted learning: Conditions in our schools and recommended solutions*. Oregon Education Association.

Autio, E., & Deussen, T. (2016). Recruiting rural schools for education research: Challenges and strategies. In *Rural educational research: State of the science and emerging directions*. Springer.

Deussen, T., Autio, E., Miller, B., Turnbaugh Lockwood, A., & Turnbaugh Lockwood, A. (2008). *What teachers should know about instruction for English language learners*. Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory.

Deussen, T., Coskie, T., Robinson, L., & Autio, E. (2007). "Coach" can mean many things: Five categories of literacy coaches in *Reading First* (Issues & Answers Report No. REL 2007–005). Institute of Education Sciences.

## Education

**University of Washington & Institute for Education Sciences**

Seattle, WA

**Innovation Science for Education Analytics Fellow**

Jan 2026 – Present

- Fellowship focused on human-centered AI partnership in data science and evaluation.
- Developing applied skills in AI-assisted analysis, coding, data mining, and AI-powered education tools.

**Columbia University**

New York, NY

Master of Public Administration, Advanced Policy Analysis & Education Policy

**Oberlin College**

Oberlin, OH

Bachelor of Arts, History (major); English (minor)

**Pacific University**

Forest Grove, OR

Resident Teacher Licensing Program (Alternative Pathway)

- Non-degree, year-long residency-based teacher preparation program leading to Oregon licensure in Social Studies and Language Arts

## Core Tools and Skills

**Facilitation & Knowledge Use**

- Stakeholder engagement, focus groups, interviews, surveys, collaborative sensemaking, data-informed decision support

**Analysis & Modeling**

- Quantitative and mixed-methods analysis; Stata, SPSS, Excel, Python

**Data Visualization & Communication**

- Tableau, Excel; reporting and visual storytelling

**Additional Qualifications**

- Teaching License: K–12 Social Studies & Language Arts
- Languages: Spanish (A2 – Beginner)
- Memberships: Oregon Program Evaluators Network, American Evaluation Association