



**VIRGINIA GOMES**

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### My Deepest Belief:

**I believe education is the most important asset a person can pursue in life. Through quality education a person will understand their calling and ways to ultimately improve their lives and the lives of others. I also know in my core that Cooperation and Solidarity should be the premises of a quality and equitable education.**

### EDUCATION

- **PhD, University of Maryland - International Education Policy PhD – Fall 2020 – in progress**
- 2011 - M.Ed., Florida Atlantic University. Major: Social Foundations: Multicultural Education
- 2000 – M.B.A., Fundação Getúlio Vargas/Brazil
- 1994 - B.S., State University of Ceara/Brazil. Major: Business Administration

### EMPLOYMENT

- **Graduate Assistant at College of Education** in the International Education Policy Department at University of Maryland – **July 2021 to present**
- **College Advisor at College Academy** – August 2012 – June 2020 - Advise students on their new college path after high school including choosing a university, major, requirements to apply, financial aid, and scholarships. Communication with students and parents through website, texting system, online meeting, monthly evening seminars, online university meeting, college tours, scholarship seminar for students after school, classroom visits, interview workshops for scholarship and university interviews.
- **Guidance Support Clerk at Quiet Waters Elementary School** – August 2006 to June 2009. Assist newcomers, especially immigrant families. Translate and interpret parent/teacher conferences, guidance counselor/student conferences and ESE conferences in Portuguese, Spanish and French. Provide computer support, coordinating Kids of Character Program, facilitating testing.

### AWARDS

- 2021 and 2022 - College of Education Scholarship
- 2020 – University of Maryland Dean’s Fellowship from the Graduate School and Departmental Fellowship
- 2019 – Staff of Character for Broward County – Sun Sentinel award
- 2019 - The College Success Award recognizes public high schools that are doing a great job preparing students for college and beyond. Your school was **one of only 1,722 public high schools**, or about 20 percent of total eligible schools across twenty-five states that won this year's award.
- 2015 - Ross Roberts Broward County Mentor of the Year 2015 – Ford Salute to Education Program
- 2015 - Paul Harris Fellow 2015 – Rotary International

### ARTICLES/PODCASTS/CONFERENCES

Jing Lin, Erin Sorensen, **Virginia Gomes** & Denise McHugh (2023) Love as the Foundation for Reconciliation and Peace: Embodying Interconnection and Oneness through Contemplative Education, Peace Review, DOI: 10.1080/10402659.2022.2162335

PODCAST (May 2023): [A Candid Conversation on Catholicism](https://virginiagomes.wixsite.com/virginiaspodcasts/post/world-religions-and-education).  
<https://virginiagomes.wixsite.com/virginiaspodcasts/post/world-religions-and-education>

PODCAST (May 2023): [A Candid Conversation about Privatization of Education](https://virginiagomes.wixsite.com/virginiaspodcasts/post/critical-policy-analysis-of-urban-education-class-in-spring-2023).  
<https://virginiagomes.wixsite.com/virginiaspodcasts/post/critical-policy-analysis-of-urban-education-class-in-spring-2023>

2023 – CIES - Comparative and International Education Symposium Conference – Feb 14-22 Highlighted Session: The Power of Contemplative Learning for Integrating our Body, Heart, Mind and Spirit, and for Radical Re-envisioning of Education

2023 -Essay for CIES theme - [Educating and Embodying Deep Values for a More Equitable World for both Humans and Beyond Humans](#) – [click to read](#)

2023 – AERA – April 13-16 - Tackling Climate Change through Critical, Contemplative, and Transformative Experiential Teaching and Learning

2022 - Student Research Symposium - Coping with Covid: The Experiences of Students from a Cooperative Learning School in Rural Brazil During the Covid-19 Pandemic

2021 - Graduate Student Research Conference - Education Transformation: A Solution Through Cooperative Learning in Rural Latin America

2021 - 4th World Council of Comparative Education Societies Symposium - Coping with COVID: The Experiences of Students from a Cooperative Learning School in Rural Brazil During the Covid -19 Pandemic

### **FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

**French** - fluent      **Portuguese** - fluent      **Spanish** - communicates well

### **PART-TIME TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- **BOSS Program at Children Service Council of Broward Consultant/Trainer - July 2016 – July 2018.** Monthly meetings with 12 Best Opportunity for Student Success (BOSS) coaches from 6 Broward County high schools to present postsecondary opportunities.
- **ESOL Instructor** – Broward College, Florida – Project Renew for Refugees – January 2012 – August 2012
- **Adjunct Professor part-time** – Florida Atlantic University – Cross Cultural Management – Summer 2004

### **PAST - PRESENT VOLUNTEER WORK/MEMBERSHIP in the last 10 years**

- [Movimento PRECE](#), Pentecoste, Brazil – Researcher and member since Fall 2020
- The Alternatives Project – [www.thealternativesproject.org](http://www.thealternativesproject.org) – Focused group member since 2022
- Comparative and International Education (CIE) member since 2021
- American Educational Research Association – AERA – member since 2023
- UMD College of Education IEP Board Co-Chair – 2021- to present
- UMD HESI Preview Programming/WebTech Committee – 2021 - 2022 - 2023
- UMD IEP Pro-seminar speaker volunteer – 2021 - 2023
- UMD – HESI Preview Video Collaborator 2021 - [Link to video](#)
- St. Camillus Food Pantry volunteer – February 2021 – March 2022
- Brazilian Voices Arts and Healing Program - since 2011 - [www.brazilianvoices.org](http://www.brazilianvoices.org)
- Arts and Literacy Program developer in Brazil – 2015-2017 –
- (<https://viriniagomes.wixsite.com/literarte>)

You can also find me at:  
[facebook.com/viriniacarv.gomes](https://facebook.com/viriniacarv.gomes)  
[instagram.com/gomesvirinia15/](https://instagram.com/gomesvirinia15/)  
[twitter.com/gomesv0515](https://twitter.com/gomesv0515)  
[linkedin.com/in/virinia-gomes-250811107/](https://linkedin.com/in/virinia-gomes-250811107/)

