## Gevirtz Research Institute CORE LUNCH SERIES

Conversations on Research in Education

## "A blessing and a curse: Modeling flexibility with mixture models" Karen Nylund-Gibson Assistant Professor of Research Methodology Gevirtz School Education Department



Understanding differences between subgroups—girls versus boys, drug users vs. non-drug users—is often of interest to social science researchers. Mixture models provide a framework for making these comparisons when the subgroups are not directly observable. This nontechnical talk will highlight the flexibility and promise of mixture models for latent subgroup comparisons using examples from Education, Psychology, and Prevention Science. We will also discuss the need for "best practices" for applied work—an active area of research.

## Wednesday, November 14, 2012 12–1 pm Education 2209

All members of the UCSB community are invited to attend.

Please bring your lunch. Light refreshments will be served.

Please RSVP to Carla Whitacre (cwhitacre@education.ucsb.edu) by Monday, Nov. 12