

ROD JAMES LATORENO BANDE

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PROFILE

SPassionate science educator and licensed professional teacher with a strong foundation in physics, research, and innovative pedagogy. Graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Secondary Education in Science from Visayas State University in 2024, earning recognition for the best thesis among science majors. Published researcher with international webinar experience and active involvement as a panelist and consultant in academic research defenses. Adept at developing creative teaching methods, mentoring students, and integrating technology in science instruction. Currently expanding expertise through ongoing research projects and professional development in both education and photography.

EDUCATION

August 2020 – present

VISAYAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Teacher Education

Baybay City, Leyte

Bachelor of Secondary Education Major in Science (Cum Laude)

June 2019 – March 2020

BAYBAY CITY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

30 de Diciembre Street, City of Baybay

Senior High School Diploma, Graduated, March 2020

June 2014 – March 2018

BAYBAY NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

30 de Diciembre Street, City of Baybay

Junior High School With Honors, Graduated, March 2018

WORK EXPERIENCE

September 2023- November 2023

BAYBAY NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Student Teacher

Taught Grade 8 Physics using interactive and learner-centered approaches, fostering conceptual understanding and problem-solving skills. Served as a research consultant, guiding students in developing and refining their academic projects.

Attended seminar-workshops and exhibits that showcased students' and teachers' creativity and ignited critical thinking.

PAPER PRESENTATIONS

December 12, 2023

“Enhancing Grade 8 Proficiency in Analyzing Ohm’s Law Concepts through the GameMapPro Method”

Our action research paper was presented at the PhilRootcrops Department, where it earned 1st place for Best Presenter and Best Paper.

Ohm’s Law remains a complex topic for many Grade 8 students due to its abstract nature, making effective instructional strategies crucial for improving conceptual understanding. This action research aimed to address this challenge by implementing the GameMapPro method—an instructional strategy that combines game-based learning, concept mapping, and teacher-guided worksheets—in a public high school. A total of 28 participants were involved to improve their class proficiency level (CPL) in Ohm’s Law. To assess progress, pre-tests were administered before the intervention, and post-tests were given after each of the three instructional sessions using GameMapPro. Data triangulation, using scores, observations, and interviews, strengthened the validity and reliability of the results. CPLs improved significantly, rising from 14.29% to over 85% across the three sessions, while mean scores increased notably in each session. Observations and interviews further revealed increased student engagement and independent application of concepts. The findings indicate that GameMapPro is a practical approach for enhancing students' understanding of Ohm’s Law. However, limitations such as the small sample size and the localized context must be taken into account. This study suggests that interactive and integrative methods, such as GameMapPro, can enrich science education when adapted thoughtfully to specific classroom environments.

TRAININGS/ WEBINARS ATTENDED

- Physics meetup with **Prof. Thomas Broadhurst**
- Physics meetup with **Prof. Dr. Jessica Wade, BEM** – Award-winning physicist
- Physics meetup with **Prof. Rogier Windhorst** – NASA Interdisciplinary Scientist for the James Webb Space Telescope
- **Hex-Star Universe**: Topic on Nuclear Physics with **Dr. Pretam Kumar** (Bangladesh)
- **VSU CASTalks** – Visayas State University
- **VSU Department of Physics**: Emerging Trends in Physics and Applications
- **FCIC Research Workshop** – Franciscan College of the Immaculate Conception: FCIC.
- **PAFTE Region VIII** – Regional Pre-service Teachers' Congress 2024

ORGANIZATIONS

June 2023 – present

SWLC CYF Camps
Photographer/Media Head
United Church of Christ in the Philippines

From June 2023 to the present, an individual has held the position of Photographer/Media Head for the SWLC CYF Camps, which are part of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines. This role involves capturing and managing media for the camps' activities.

RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS

June 2024

BEST RESEARCH PRESENTOR
Visayas State University

June 2025

LATIN HONORS (GWA: 1.6)
Visayas State University

PUBLICATIONS

July 2025

Enhancing Grade 8 Proficiency in Analyzing Ohm's Law Concepts through the GameMapPro Method
Visayas State University

Reference: Bande, R. J., Cabahit, J. D., Macatual, K. M., Enero, C., Denden, R., & Bellen, J. (2025). Enhancing Grade 8 Proficiency in Analyzing Ohm's Law Concepts through the GameMapPro Method. *Journal of Interdisciplinary Perspectives*, 3(8), 670–681.
<https://doi.org/10.69569/jip.2025.428>

July 2025 - present

Understanding the Lived Experiences of Students Struggling with Physics Anxiety: A Descriptive Phenomenological Study
Visayas State University
(on-going publication)

SKILLS

- Academic Research
- Learning Assessment
- Photography
- Basic Computer
- MS Office

REFERENCES

Joy A. Bellen
Associate Professor II, *Science Education*
Faculty of Teacher Education
Visayas State University

Monien B. Borela
Research Director, BCSHS
Department of Education
Baybay City, Leyte

Ananias Yunzal Jr.
Instructor, VSU-LHS
Faculty of Teacher Education
Visayas State University