EDUCATION

Ph.D., Adult, Professional and Community Education, Texas State University, August 7, 2020 Dissertation Title: TESOL Instructors' Perceptions and Praxis Teaching Adult Emergent Readers, Dissertation Advisor: Clarena Larrotta

M.Ed., Advanced Literacy, Concordia University Texas, April 2012

M.A., Linguistics, Louisiana State University, December 1995

B.A., Spanish, Louisiana State University, December 1992

B.A., Philosophy, Louisiana State University, December 1992

CERTIFICATIONS

Texas Educator Certificate, Bilingual Generalist-Spanish (Grades EC-4)

Texas Educator Certificate, Reading Specialist, (Grades EC-12)

TEA Reading Academy Cohort Leader Screener (ELA and Biliteracy), Passed

UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER, College of Education and Psychology, School of Education, Tyler, TX, *Assistant Professor of Practice* (January 2024 to Present) **UT Tyler Texas Reading Academies Administrator** (January 2025 to Present)

Courses taught:

- Literacy Development in the Early Years (READ 3320)
- Literacy Assessment and Instruction I (READ 4320)
- Teaching Writing in Language Arts (READ 3326)
- Best Practices for Curriculum and Instruction (EDUC 5316)

Tracked all students' progress through completion of the Texas Reading Academies (TRA) over multiple courses. Communicated with students about TRA requirement fulfillment.

UNIVERSIDAD DEL VALLE, Department of Education, Guatemala City, Guatemala *Instructor* (1998-1999)

Courses taught:

- Fundamentals of Language Learning and Teaching
- Phonetics I
- Teaching and Evaluating the Speaking Skill
- English Teaching Laboratory

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY, Department of Communication Disorders, Baton Rouge, LA *Graduate Teaching Assistant* (Fall 1994)

Course taught:

• Spoken American English

K-12 TEACHING AND TEACHER DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE

IRVING INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, Irving, TX

District Elementary Bilingual Programs Instructional Lead, Bilingual, ESL and Language Services Department (July 2022-Present)

- Planned and coordinated the English learner and dual language immersion programs in the district.
- Planned and provided professional development to district Instructional Coaches, Academic Specialists, teachers, and administrators.
- Collaborated across multiple departments on the dual language curriculum and district professional learning plan.
- Oversaw activities of District English Learner Instructional Coaches-Elementary.

Reading Academy Instructional Cohort Leader, Curriculum & Instruction Department (July 2020-June 2022)

- Coordinated planning for and delivery of House Bill 3 Texas Reading Academies for the district. Facilitated two Reading Academy cohorts.
- Provided professional development for Reading Academy participants, paraprofessionals, and administrators. Provided coaching and modeled lessons for Reading Academy participants.
- Collaborated on district ELAR goal setting and implementation plan. Vetted curriculum. Collaborated on scope and sequence for biliteracy curriculum.

HAYS CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, Camino Real Elementary School and Uhland Elementary School, Hays County, TX

Bilingual Dyslexia Teacher (2016-Present)

- Planned and Provided small group reading instruction to students with the characteristics of dyslexia.
- Evaluated students for dyslexia.
- Participated in Response to Intervention and 504 committees.
- Administered the STAAR test.

TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY, Central Texas Writing Project, Round Rock, TX Writing Camp Director and Teacher (2014-2019, Summer only)

- Directed multiple one-week and two-week writing camps for students from first through eleventh grades (2017-2019).
- Taught multiple two-week writing camps for elementary students and a one-week writing camp for high school students.

HAYS CONSOLIDATED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, Blanco Vista Elementary School, San Marcos, TX

Bilingual Reading Interventionist (2012-2016)

- Planned and provided reading intervention to first through third grade students.
- Planned and provided professional development for pre-k through fifth grade teachers on reading instruction.
- Provided instructional coaching on reading instruction to first grade teachers for one semester.
- Served as team leader for two years.
- Participated in Response to Intervention and 504 committees.

AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, J.J. Pickle Elementary School, Austin, TX *Bilingual Teacher* (2008- 2012)

• Taught first and second grade to bilingual students.

ESL and ESL TEACHER DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE

AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Adult Education, Austin, TX

ESL Instructor (Spring 2015-Summer 2016 and to present as substitute)

- Planned and taught multi-skill low-intermediate level ESL classes.
- Administered the BEST Plus oral and literacy tests.

AUSTIN ENGLISH ACADEMY, Austin, TX

ESL Instructor (July 1999-December 2000 and October 2005-July 2008)

- Taught beginner to advanced level reading, writing, listening, speaking, grammar, pronunciation and TOEFL preparation classes.
- Designed and taught a mass media-based course for advanced learners.

INSTITUTO GUATEMALTECO AMERICANO, Guatemala City, Guatemala **EFL Instructor and Instructor Trainer** (July 1997-June 1999)

- Taught beginner to advanced level multi-skill EFL classes.
- Trained new teachers of adult learners.
- Trained K-12 teachers in local schools.
- Designed and taught an idioms course for advanced learners.

AMERICAN LANGUAGE ACADEMY, Nicholls State University, Thibodeaux, LA **ESL Instructor and Teacher Trainer** (August 1995- June 1997)

- Taught beginner to advanced levels of ESL grammar, reading, writing and oral communication to adult learners.
- Administered the institutional TOEFL test.
- Instructed in two instructor training seminars for international EFL teachers.
- Served as acting Director of Curriculum during the director's absence.

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY, Central American Program of Undergraduate Scholarships VIII and IX, English Language and Orientation Program, Baton Rouge, LA *Language Coordinator* (Spring and Summer 1994 and 1995)

• Designed and implemented a supplemental ESL program for Central American Fulbright scholarship students.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES, Migration and Refugee Services, Baton Rouge, LA *ESL Instructor* (Fall 1993 and Summer 1995)

• Taught multi-skill ESL classes to beginning-level learners of various nationalities.

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY, Central American Program of Undergraduate Scholarships VII, Baton Rouge, LA

ESL Tutor (Spring and Summer 1993)

• Taught ESL conversation, listening comprehension and TOEFL practice classes to Central American Fulbright scholars preparing to enter their university programs.

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY, English Language and Orientation Program, Baton Rouge, LA *ESL Conversation Leader* (8 classes, Fall 1991 to Fall 1993)

Taught ESL conversation classes to adult learners.

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY, Department of English, Baton Rouge, LA *ESL Tutor* (Fall 1993)

• Tutored international graduate students in English pronunciation.

CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

National Association for Bilingual Education

• Leveraging L1: Strategies for Cross-linguistic Transfer, Co-presenter, March 30, 2024

Irving Independent School District

- Literacy Leaders Academy: The Science of Teaching Reading, Phonological Awareness, Oral Language, mClass and the Assessment Instructional Cycle, Co-presenter, 2022-2023 and 2021-2022 School Years
- Dual Language Essentials, Co-presenter, Fall and Spring 2022-2023
- Paired Literacy, Co-presenter, Fall and Spring 2022-2023
- The Bridge, Co-presenter, Fall and Spring 2022-2023
- Leveraging L1: Strategies for Cross-Linguistic Transfer, Co-presenter, Fall and Spring 2022-2023
- Decodable Text Routine, Co-presenter, Fall 2022
- Data Driven Word Study, Presenter, Spring 2022
- Alphabet Knowledge Routine, Presenter, Fall 2021
- *mClass*, Presenter, Fall 2021
- Using Decodable Books, Co-presenter, Spring 2021
- Phonological Awareness, Co-presenter, Fall 2020
- The Science of Teaching Reading, Co-presenter, Fall 2020 and Spring 2021
- Paraprofessional Literacy Academy, Co-presenter, Fall 2020

Bilingual - ESL Education Association of the Metroplex Symposium

• Leveraging L1: Strategies for Cross-linguistic Transfer, Co-presenter, April 1, 2023

American Association for Adult and Continuing Education Annual Conference

- The Challenges and Benefits Adult ESL Learners Face with Online Learning, Co-presenter, October 5, 2018
- Strengthening Community-Based Organizations Through Appreciative Inquiry, Copresenter, November 17, 2017

National Council for Teachers of English Annual Convention

• Heart Maps: Digging Deeply into Identity with Community College Students, Round Table Presenter, November 20, 2016

Austin Community College, Professional Development Workshop

• Grammar and Phonetics, Co-presenter, August 11, 2015

Instituto Guatemalteco Americano National Conference for Teachers of English

• Using Authentic Materials in the EFL Classroom, Presenter, October 24, 1999

LANGUAGES

English (native)
Spanish (advanced oral and written fluency)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Literacy Education and Secondary Language Learning for Adults (2019-Present)

Society for the Scientific Study of Reading (2022-Present)

TESOL International Association (2010-2012; 2018-Present)