

Curriculum Vitae
MARIA I. CASTILLO, Ed.D.
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EDUCATION

- **Ed.D. in Bilingual Education**, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, 2016
 Dissertation: *Using a Virtual World as a Communication Space to Supplement an Online Course Platform for Teaching Oral Communication Skills to Adult ESL Learners*
 Graduated cum laude
 - **M.A. in Bilingual Education**, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, 2010
 Thesis: *El rol de las experiencias fuera del salón de clases para los estudiantes internacionales en programas intensivos de inglés como segundo idioma*
 Graduated magna cum laude
 - **Bachelor's Degree in Psychology**, Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, 2007
 Graduated magna cum laude
 Passed the CNI EGEL Examination, required for a professional practice license (Centro Nacional de Evaluación para la Educación Superior, CENEVAL)
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TERTIARY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Adjunct Faculty**, San Jacinto College-South Campus, Houston Texas
 Starting 6/2025
Courses Taught
Undergraduate Level
- **Adjunct Professor**, American College of Education, Indianapolis, Indiana
 7/2022 – Present
Courses Taught
Graduate Level
 - BE6093 Capstone in Second Language Instruction (3 credits)
 - BE6083 Understanding Linguistics and Second Language Learners (3 credits)
 - BE6073 Professional Advocacy and Leadership for Second Language Learners (3 credits)
 - BE6063 Methods and Materials for Second Language Instruction (3 credits)
 - BE6053 Assessment Methods for Second Language Learners (3 credits)
 - BE6043 Advanced Foundations of Second Language Learners (3 credits)
 - TEL5081 Certificate Capstone Experience in Teaching English Learners (1 credit)
 - ES5073 Applied Linguistics (3 credits)
 - ES5063 Linguistics for TESOL (3 credits)

- BE5043 Cross-Cultural Studies for Teaching ELLs (3 credits)
- BE5033 Methods and Materials for Teaching English as a Second Language (3 credits)
- BE5013 Foundations of ESL and Bilingual Education (3 credits)

- **Adjunct Faculty**, Houston Community College-South Campus, Houston, Texas
 1/2023 – 11/2023
Courses Taught
Adult Level
 - ESLP 1001 5032 English as a Second Language for Professionals

- **VESL Instructor**, Interactive College of Technology-Southwest Houston Campus, Houston, Texas
 6/2021 – 2/2022
Courses Taught
Adult Level
 - SLP 203 Understanding American Culture
 - RWV 102 English in Everyday Life
 - RWV 101 Fundamentals of the English Language
 - Pre-ESL Beginning Literacy

- **ESOL/ESL Instructor**, Alvin Community College, Alvin, Texas
 1/2019 – 5/2021
Courses Taught
Undergraduate & Adult Level
 - NCCI 0101 Writing for Non-Native Speakers (3 Credits)
 - ESOL 0302 Reading and Writing (3 Credits)
 - ESOL 0301 Oral Communication (3 Credits)
 - CECOMG 1004 Communications Improvement III
 - CECOMG 1001 Communications Improvement II
 - CECOMG 1000 Communications Improvement I

- **ESOL/ESL Instructor**, Alvin Community College, Alvin, Texas
 6/2019 – 8/2019
Courses Taught
Undergraduate & Adult Level
 - ESOL 0301 Oral Communication (3 Credits)

- **EFL Instructor/Lecturer**, Chengdu University of Information Technology-Wangjiang Campus, Sichuan, China
 8/2016 – 10/2017
Courses Taught
Undergraduate Level
 - Oral English IV
 - Oral English III
 - Speech and Debate
 - British and American Culture

- Academic Speaking and Listening
 - Survey of American Culture
 - **ESL Instructor**, West Texas A&M University, Canyon, Texas
8/2015 – 5/2016
Courses Taught
Undergraduate Level
 - Pre-university Grammar
 - Pre-university Writing
 - Pre-university Reading
 - Intermediate Speaking and Listening
 - Intermediate Integrated Skills
 - Foundations Grammar
 - Foundations Integrated Skills
 - Foundations Speaking and Listening
 - Preparatory Grammar
 - Preparatory Integrated Skills
 - **Instructor of Record**, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, Texas
8/2011 – 12/2012
Courses Taught
Undergraduate Level
 - EDBL 4354 Applied Linguistics (3 credits)
 - EDBL 3308 Survey of Bilingual Education (3 credits)
 - **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, Texas
1/2011 – 5/2011
Courses Co-Taught
Undergraduate Level
 - EDBL 3308 Survey of Bilingual Education (3 credits)
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PK – 12 TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **K-12 Substitute Teacher**, Kingsville Independent School District, Kingsville, Texas
1/2009 – 12/2009
- **Research Assistant**, Jardín de Niños “Ferrocarriles Nacionales,” Soledad de Graciano Sánchez, San Luis Potosí, Mexico
1/2007 – 5/2007
- **Teaching Assistant Intern**, Fratney Elementary School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
8/2006 – 12/2006
- **Volunteer Teacher**, Escuela Primaria “Profesor Jesús Silva Herzog,” San Luis Potosí, Mexico,
1/2005 – 5/2005

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

- **VESL Division Manager**, Interactive College of Technology-Southwest Houston Campus, Houston, Texas
6/ 2021 – 2/2022
 - **Curriculum Development Specialist**, Alvin Community College, Alvin, Texas
8/2018 – 5/2021
 - **Site Coordinator**, Peace Corps China and Chengdu University of Information Technology, Chengdu, Sichuan, China
1/2017 – 2/2017
 - **Project Coordinator**, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, Texas
8/2012 – 12/2014
 - **Secretary**, A Doctoral Organization for Bilingual Education (ADOBE), Kingsville, Texas
8/2012 – 12/2014
 - **Lead Project Assistant**, Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología, Academia Mexicana de Ciencias, and Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, San Luis Potosí, San Luis Potosí, Mexico
6/2007 – 8/2007
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TRAINING EXPERIENCE

- **English Language Specialist**, U.S. Department of State and Slovenian Armed Forces School of Foreign Languages, Begunje na Gorenjskem, Slovenia
9/2023 – 10/2023
- **Workshop Facilitator**, Peace Corps China and Chengdu University of Information Technology, Chengdu, Sichuan, China
1/2017 – 2/2017
- **Spanish Teacher Trainer**, Chengdu University of Information Technology-Wangjiang Campus, Sichuan, China
9/2017 – 10/2017
- **TEFL Teacher Trainer**, Panzhihua University, Sichuan, China
7/2017 – 8/2017
- **EFL Trainer**, Chengdu University of Information Technology-Wangjiang Campus, Sichuan, China
6/2017 – 7/2017
- **EFL Trainer**, Chengdu University of Information Technology-Long Yuan Campus, Sichuan, China
7/2016 – 8/2016
- **Program Facilitator**, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, Texas
8/2012 – 12/2014
- **Facilitator**, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León, Monterrey, Nuevo León, Mexico
7/2013 – 7/2013

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **MLL Alternate Reviewer**, EdReports, Durham, North Carolina
Starting 6/2025
- **Spanish Language Translator**, Global Language System, Raleigh, North Carolina
4/2022 – 11/2022
- **Spanish Language Interpreter**, LanguageLine Solutions, Monterey, California
4/2021 – 7/2021
- **Doctoral Research Assistant**, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, Texas
8/2011 – 12/2013
- **Doctoral Research Assistant**, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, Texas
8/2010 – 12/2010
- **Graduate Research Assistant**, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, Texas
8/2008 – 8/2010
- **Research Assistant**, Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, San Luis Potosí, San Luis Potosí, Mexico
8/2007 – 4/2008
- **Research Assistant**, Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, San Luis Potosí, San Luis Potosí, Mexico
7/2007 – 6/2008
- **Human Resources Intern**, Gobierno del Estado de San Luis Potosí, San Luis Potosí, San Luis Potosí, Mexico
1/2007 – 5/2007
- **Occupational Therapy Intern**, Asilo de Ancianos “Ignacio Montes de Oca,” San Luis Potosí, San Luis Potosí, Mexico
1/2006 – 6/2006
- **Spanish Translation Intern**, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
8/2006 – 9/2006
- **Clinical Psychology Intern**, Fraternidad Misionera Verbum Dei, Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico
7/2005 – 12/2005
- **Human Resources Intern**, Capillas “Valdivia del Country,” Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico
8/2005 – 9/2005

CERTIFICATIONS & CREDENTIALS

- **Academic Applications of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) Micro-Credential**, San Diego State University, 2025
 - **Delivering Best Practices in Distance and Blended Courses with AI**, TESOL EVO, 2025
 - **Immersive AI Companion Design**, TESOL EVO, 2025
 - **Foundations of User Experience Design**, Google & Coursera, 2024
 - **Start the UX Design Process: Empathize, Define, and Ideate**, Google & Coursera, 2024
 - **Quality Matters Rubric Application**, Quality Matters, 2023
 - **Introduction to Quality Matters**, Quality Matters, 2023
 - **Online Learning**, The Institute for Teaching & Learning Innovation, Houston Community College-South Campus, 2023
 - **Creating Presence in Online Courses**, Quality Matters, 2023
 - **Gamification Principles and Strategies**, Online Learning Consortium, 2023
 - **Game-Based Learning**, Online Learning Consortium, 2023
 - **Artificial Intelligence Demystified**, Online Learning Consortium, 2023
 - **Augmented and Virtual Reality in Higher Education**, Online Learning Consortium, 2023
 - **Social-Behavioral-Educational Researchers Course**, CITI Program, 2022
 - **Spanish Customer Service Interpreter Certificate**, LanguageLine Solutions, 2021
 - **ELT Leadership Management Certificate**, TESOL, 2019
 - **Online Teacher**, Distance Education Department, Alvin Community College, 2019
 - **TEFL/TESOL Certificate**, Accreditat, 2016
 - **Psychology License**, Dirección General de Profesiones, Secretaría de Educación Pública, 2008
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ACHIEVEMENTS & RECOGNITIONS

- **ACE Celebrity Recognition**, for exceptional performance based on student evaluations, awarded in two separate terms, American College of Education, 2025
- **Certificate of Appreciation**, for service as an English Language Specialist, Slovenian Armed Forces School of Foreign Languages, U.S. Department of State, 2024
- **Nominee**, American College of Education Celebrity Award, 2023
- **Recipient**, Macquarie Group Scholarship Award, Macquarie Group, 2022
- **Recipient**, "Teaching Superstar" Certificate Award, Office of the Texas Governor, 2020
- **Recipient**, Professional Development Travel Grant, Alvin Community College, 2018
- **Recipient**, Dubai Faculty-Led Program Competitive Grant Award, Texas A&M University-Kingsville (Program Closed Due to Lack of Funding), 2013
- **Recipient**, Conference Grant Award, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, 2013
- **Certificate of Appreciation**, for presenting at the 41st Annual NABE Conference, National Association for Bilingual Education, 2012
- **Certificate of Appreciation**, for volunteering for Latino Education and Advocacy Days (LEAD) Summit, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, 2011

- **Recipient**, Teaching/Research Assistantship Competitive Grant Award, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, 2010 – 2013
- **Recipient**, Inaugural Javelina Research Symposium Award for Best Poster Presentation, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, 2010
- **Recipient**, Graduate Research Assistantship Merit-Based Scholarship, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, 2008 to 2010
- **Certificate of Appreciation**, for volunteering as a research assistant for the project Aplicación y valoración del programa en lectura familiar, Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, San Luis Potosí, Mexico, 2006 – 2007
- **Recipient**, North American Conflict Resolution Program Study Abroad Competitive Scholarship, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 2006
- **Recipient**, Programa de Movilidad Estudiantil Santander Universia Study Abroad Competitive Scholarship, Universidad de Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico, 2005
- **Recipient**, Diploma for Outstanding Participation in the XVI Funakoshi Cup, Asociación Shotokan México-Japón A.C., San Luis Potosí, Mexico, 2004
- **Recipient**, Martial Arts Scholarship College-Based Award, Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, San Luis Potosí, Mexico, 2003

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

- Castillo, M. I., Ekiaka-Nzai, V., Chen-Lin, L., Laurence, E., & Medina, M. (2013, April). *Impact of cyberlearning technologies and curriculum on female adult learners' English-language proficiency development in South Texas*. Presentation at the Center for Scholastic Inquiry, International Academic Research Conference, Scottsdale, Arizona, United States.
- Feng, Y., Castillo, M. I., & Ekiaka-Nzai, V. (2013, April). *Mainstream English TV hinders U.S.-born Mexican-American children's bilingualism development in South Texas*. Presentation at the 2013 Southwest Teaching and Learning Conference, San Antonio, Texas, United States.
- Ekiaka-Oblazamengo, J., Castillo, M. I., & Ekiaka-Nzai, V. (2013, April). *Overcoming K-12 foreignlanguage instruction challenges: The Teen Cyber French Frame*. Presentation at the 2013 Southwest Teaching and Learning Conference, San Antonio, Texas, United States.
- Castillo, M. I., Ekiaka-Nzai, V., Chen-Lin, L., Laurence, E., & Medina, M. (2013, February). *The use of three-dimensional virtual worlds and cyberlearning technologies to enhance adult ESL learners' English-language proficiency*. Poster session presented at the Teaching with Technology Conference, College Station, Texas, United States.
- Castillo, M. I. (2012, May). *The role of orchestrated immersion outside the classroom for international students in intensive English programs (IEPs): A situational approach*. Paper presented at the 29th International Conference on English Teaching and Learning in the R.O.C., Chinese Culture University, Hwa Kang, Yangmingshan, Taipei, Taiwan.
- Castillo, M. I. (2011, November). *Using Second Life with adult ESL learners*. Poster session presented at the 9th Annual Pathways Student Research Symposium, College Station, Texas, United States.
- Kang-Fan, J., Ekiaka-Nzai, V., & Castillo, M. I. (2011, September). *Effective use of multimedia in multilevel classes*. Presentation at the 14th Universidad de México-San Antonio, English as a Second Language Conference, San Antonio, Texas, United States.

- Castillo, M. I. (2010, November). *The role of out-of-classroom experiences for international students in intensive English programs (IEPs)*. Poster session presented at the 8th Annual Pathways Student Research Symposium, Canyon, Texas, United States.
 - Castillo, M. I. (2010, October). *El rol de las experiencias fuera del salón de clases para los estudiantes internacionales en programas intensivos de inglés como segundo idioma*. Paper presented at the Texas Association for Bilingual Education Conference, El Paso, Texas, United States.
 - Castillo, M. I. (2010, September). *The role of out-of-classroom experiences for international students in intensive English programs (IEPs)*. Poster session presented at the Inaugural Javelina Research Symposium, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, Texas, United States.
 - Torres, R., Castillo, M. I., Cárdenas, A., & Han, S. J. (2008, November). *La contribución de la tecnología a la educación*. Presentation at the Primer Encuentro de Egresados de Lingüística Aplicada y Estudiantes de Ciencias del Lenguaje, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León, San Nicolás de los Garza, Nuevo León, Mexico.
 - Castillo, M. I., & Romero-Contreras, S. (2008, April). *Un acercamiento al constructivismo como forma innovadora de enseñanza-aprendizaje*. Presentation at the XXXV Congreso del Consejo Nacional para la Enseñanza e Investigación en Psicología, Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico.
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GRANTS & COLLABORATIONS

- Assisted department personnel in drafting the third-year application for the Wagner-Peyser grant program administered by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC Contact Number: 2818WPB002).
 - Co-authored the proposal for NSF Grant 10-620 (Principal Investigator: Professor Dr. Valentín Ekiaka-Nzai).
 - Collaborated in developing an instructional model designed to improve foreign language learning in cyber learning environments (Registration Number: TXu 1-864-764).
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SCHOLARLY WORKS & CONTRIBUTIONS

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Castillo, M. I. (2015). El rol de las experiencias fuera del salón de clases para los estudiantes internacionales en programas intensivos de inglés como segundo idioma. *Mextesol Journal*, 39(1), 1–12. [\[Link\]](#)

BOOK REVIEWS

- Castillo, M. I. (2014, June). Review of the book *Attitudes to modern foreign-language learning: Insights from comparative education* by B. Bartram. Teachers College Record. [\[Link\]](#)
- Castillo, M. I. (2013, July/December). Review of the book *Narratives of place, belonging and language: An intercultural perspective* by M. N. Craith. *Colombian Journal of Applied Linguistics*, 15(2), 312–314. [\[Link\]](#)

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

- Castillo, M. I., Ekiaka-Nzai, V., Chen-Lin, L., Laurence, E., & Medina, M. (2013). Impact of cyberlearning technologies and curriculum on female adult learners' English-language proficiency development in South Texas. *Proceedings of the International Academic Research Conference* (pp. 169-173). Scottsdale, AR: Center for Scholastic Inquiry. [\[Link\]](#)
- Castillo, M. I. (2010). Orchestrated immersion outside the classroom for ESL students. *Proceedings of the 8th Annual Pathways Student Research Symposium* (p. 15). Canyon, TX: West Texas A&M University. [\[Link\]](#)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Castillo, M. I. (2021). *Curriculum framework for the ESL bridge program: A curriculum guide for the General Education and Academic Support Division* [PDF file]. Alvin, TX: Alvin Community College.
- Castillo, M. I. (2016). *Using a virtual world as a communication space to supplement an online course platform for teaching oral communication skills to adult ESL learners*. Texas A&M University-Kingsville, Kingsville, Texas: Department of Teacher and Bilingual Education. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED596393). [\[Link\]](#)
- Olague, R., Castillo, M. I., & Ekiaka-Nzai, V. (2013, August 18). An intercultural love story in a bicultural setting. *Multilingual Living Magazine*. [\[Link\]](#)
- Castillo, M. I. (2008, December 3). Calaveras literarias. *The South Texan*, 83(17), p. 4. [\[Link\]](#)
- Castillo, M. I. (2008, December 3). Tradiciones navideñas se celebran en TAMUK. *The South Texan*, 83(17), p. 5. [\[Link\]](#)
- Castillo, M. I. (2020, January 9). ESL bridge program. *Alvin Community College*. [\[Link\]](#)
- Castillo, M. I. (2009, July 12). *¡Presta atención!* [Video]. YouTube. [\[Link\]](#)

WORKSHOPS, DEMOS, & INVITED TALKS

- Castillo, M. I. (2023, October). Mastering effective corrective feedback for adult EFL learners. Professional development workshop for EFL teachers and testers at the School of Foreign Languages, Slovenian Armed Forces, Poljče, Begunje na Gorenjskem, Slovenia.
- Castillo, M. I. (2023, October). Mastering scaffolded instruction for adult EFL learners. Professional development workshop for EFL teachers and testers at the School of Foreign Languages, Slovenian Armed Forces, Poljče, Begunje na Gorenjskem, Slovenia.
- Castillo, M. I. (2023, October). Embracing AI tools in EFL classrooms. Professional development workshop for EFL teachers and testers at the School of Foreign Languages, Slovenian Armed Forces, Poljče, Begunje na Gorenjskem, Slovenia.
- Castillo, M. I. (2023, October). Promoting active learning in EFL classes: Empowering teachers for engaged student learning. Professional development workshop for EFL teachers and testers at the School of Foreign Languages, Slovenian Armed Forces, Poljče, Begunje na Gorenjskem, Slovenia.
- Castillo, M. I. (2023, October). Principles of adult learning in the EFL context: A workshop for teachers. Professional development workshop for EFL teachers and testers at the School of Foreign Languages, Slovenian Armed Forces, Poljče, Begunje na Gorenjskem, Slovenia.

- Castillo, M. I. (2023, October). Connecting through conversation: Practical speaking skills. Teaching demonstration planned and led for faculty members and their students at the School of Foreign Languages, Slovenian Armed Forces, Ajševica, Nova Gorica, Slovenia.
- Castillo, M. I. (2023, October). Mastering speaking skills: STANAG 6001 reading & listening level 3 preparation. Teaching demonstration planned and led for faculty members and their students at the School of Foreign Languages, Slovenian Armed Forces, Poljče, Begunje na Gorenjskem, Slovenia.
- Castillo, M. I. (2023, October). Crafting cohesive paragraphs: STANAG 6001 writing level 2 preparation. Teaching demonstration planned and led for faculty members and their students at the School of Foreign Languages, Slovenian Armed Forces, Poljče, Begunje na Gorenjskem, Slovenia.
- Castillo, M. I. (2023, October). Mastering listening skills: STANAG 6001 reading & listening level 3 preparation. Teaching demonstration planned and led for faculty members and their students at the School of Foreign Languages, Slovenian Armed Forces, Poljče, Begunje na Gorenjskem, Slovenia.
- Castillo, M. I. (2023, October). Mastering listening skills: STANAG 6001 level 2 preparation. Teaching demonstration planned and led for faculty members and their students at the School of Foreign Languages, Slovenian Armed Forces, Poljče, Begunje na Gorenjskem, Slovenia.
- Castillo, M. I. (2023, October). Speaking and vocabulary demo lesson. Teaching demonstration planned and led for faculty members and their students at the School of Foreign Languages, Slovenian Armed Forces, Poljče, Begunje na Gorenjskem, Slovenia.
- Castillo, M. I. (2023, October). Vocabulary demo lesson II. Teaching demonstration planned and led for faculty members and their students at the School of Foreign Languages, Slovenian Armed Forces, Poljče, Begunje na Gorenjskem, Slovenia.
- Castillo, M. I. (2023, October). Vocabulary demo lesson I. Teaching demonstration planned and led for faculty members and their students at the School of Foreign Languages, Slovenian Armed Forces, Poljče, Begunje na Gorenjskem, Slovenia.
- Castillo, M. I. (2023, October). Grammar demo lesson. Teaching demonstration planned and led for faculty members and their students at the School of Foreign Languages, Slovenian Armed Forces, Poljče, Begunje na Gorenjskem, Slovenia.
- Castillo, M. I. (2023, October). Task-based demo speaking lesson II. Teaching demonstration planned and led for faculty members and their students at the School of Foreign Languages, Slovenian Armed Forces, Poljče, Begunje na Gorenjskem, Slovenia.
- Castillo, M. I. (2023, October). Task-based demo speaking lesson I. Teaching demonstration planned and led for faculty members and their students at the School of Foreign Languages, Slovenian Armed Forces, Poljče, Begunje na Gorenjskem, Slovenia.
- Castillo, M. I. (2022, November). A vocabulary teaching demo. Teaching demonstration planned and led for faculty members and their students at the College Preparatory Department, San Jacinto College-South Campus, Houston, Texas, United States.
- Castillo, M. I. (2021, October). Integrating CLMS into the classroom: In-service teacher training. Training course for faculty's ongoing education needs. VESL Division, Interactive College of Technology-Southwest Houston Campus, Houston, Texas, United States.
- Castillo, M. I. (2019, February). Life as a Peace Corps volunteer in China. Invited talk at the Girls Scouts World Thinking Day, League City, Texas, United States.

- Castillo, M. I. (2018, August). Curriculum development in language teaching. Training session planned and led for faculty and staff members at the Division of General Education & Academic Support, Alvin Community College, Alvin, Texas, United States.
 - Castillo, M. I., & Morris, L. D. (2015, September). Experiences of teaching English to culturally diverse students. Information session for students participating in the bilingual education program at West Texas A&M University, Canyon, Texas, United States.
 - Castillo, M. I., & Ekiaka-Nzai, V. (2014, October). Teaching English language: The Cyber Languages Model. Teaching demonstration at the 41st Mextesol International Convention, Puebla, Puebla, Mexico.
 - Ekiaka-Nzai, V., Castillo, M. I., Ekiaka-Oblazamengo, J., Medina, M., & Khonde, T. (2014, October). Teaching ESL from the Cyber-Languages Model approach. Teaching demonstration at the Texas Association for Bilingual Education, 42nd Annual Conference, McAllen, Texas, United States.
 - Reyna, C., Ekiaka-Nzai, V., & Castillo, M. I. (2013, February). The impact of cyberreading workstations on at-risk Mexican American elementary students' vocabulary skills. Teaching demonstration at the National Association for Bilingual Education, 42nd Annual International Bilingual/Multicultural Education Conference, Orlando, Florida, United States.
 - Kang-Fan, J., Castillo, M. I., Díaz-Gudiño, A., & Ekiaka-Nzai, V. (2012, February). Custom elearning and multimedia applications for K-12 classrooms. Teaching demonstration at the National Association for Bilingual Education, 41st Annual International Bilingual/Multicultural Education Conference, Dallas, Texas, United States.
 - Castillo, M. I., Kang-Fan, J., Díaz-Gudiño, A., & Ekiaka-Nzai, V. (2012, February). Using Second Life in the adult ESL classroom. Teaching demonstration at the National Association for Bilingual Education, 41st Annual International Bilingual/Multicultural Education Conference, Dallas, Texas, United States.
 - Goswami, J. S., & Castillo, M. I. (2011, January). Sheltered instruction (SI) for English-language learners (ELLs). Professional development workshop for ESL teachers at the Presbyterian Pan American School, Kingsville, Texas, United States.
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PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Autism Speaks Advocacy Community
- Community College Baccalaureate Association (CCBA)
- Texas Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages: Region 5 (TexTESOL V)
- National Peace Corps Association (NPCA)
- Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
- Teachers Without Borders (TWB)
- American Educational Research Association (AERA)
- National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE)
- Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE)
- Kappa Delta Pi (KDP), International Honor Society in Education

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

TEACHER TRAINING

- The AI Authoring Advantage: Balancing Speed and Substance in Course Creation, Quality Matters, 2025
- Designing for Everyone: Accessibility, Usability, and the New ADA Ruling, Quality Matters, 2025
- Academic Engagement, San Jacinto College-South Campus, 2024
- Integrating Technology into Adult Education, Texas Center for the Advancement of Literacy & Learning, 2023
- Burlington English Training, Houston Community College-South Campus-South Campus, 2023
- Pathful Explores, Essential Ed, and Burlington English, Houston Community College-South Campus, 2023
- Tech and Tell: Wonderopolis - A "Wonder Land" of Resources for Educators, Texas Workforce Commission, 2023
- Tech and Tell: This Isn't Your Dad's History Lesson, Texas Workforce Commission, 2023
- Tech and Tell: HyperDocs: Taking it to the Next Level, Texas Workforce Commission, 2023
- Holy Hippocampus: How Adults Learn, Texas Workforce Commission, 2023
- Tech and Tell: Have You Heard the Word About Vocabulary.com?, Texas Workforce Commission, 2023
- Goal-Driven Learning, Texas Workforce Commission, 2023
- HCC Instructional Week, Houston Community College-South Campus, 2023
- Antisocial Language Teaching: English and the Pervasive Pathology of Whiteness, TESOL Webinar, 2022
- Supporting Indigenous Multilingual Learners: Exploring Issues of Vulnerability, Social Equity, and Double Standard, TESOL Webinar, 2022
- ACE New Faculty Mentoring Program, American College of Education, 2022
- Across the Curriculum Conference, Alvin Community College, 2021
- TYCA-SW Professional Development Series, Two-Year College English Association, 2020
- Across the Curriculum Conference, Alvin Community College, 2020
- Reaching Neurodiverse Students, Alvin Community College, 2019
- How Can I Engage Online Students, Alvin Community College, 2019
- Action Research in Your Language Classroom, TESOL Virtual Seminar, 2019
- TexTESOL 2019 State Conference, TESOL, 2019
- Creating Online Learning Tasks, TESOL Virtual Seminar, 2019
- Across the Curriculum Conference, Alvin Community College, 2019
- TexTESOL 2018 State Conference, TESOL, 2018
- Active Learning Strategies Professional Development Series, Alvin Community College, WagnerPeyser Grant, and Texas Department of Workforce Development, 2018
- EPIC Educator Series, Alvin Community College, 2018
- TEFL Training, Peace Corps China, 2016 - 2017
- Stewards of Children Online Training, West Texas A&M University, 2015
- Preparing Future Faculty Program, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, 2012 - 2013
- Instructional Coaching Program, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, 2012

- Professional Development/AVID Strategies Workshop, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, 2011

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

- Leading With Emotional Intelligence, American College of Education, 2024
- Leadership Culture Code Training, American College of Education, 2022
- Manager Leadership Training, Interactive College of Technology-Chamblee Campus, 2021
- Project Design and Management, Peace Corps China, 2017
- Cross-Cultural and Community Development Training, Peace Corps China, 2016 - 2017
- Diversity Week Lecture Series, West Texas A&M University, 2015
- Penn Equity Institute for Doctoral Students Module Series, Pennsylvania State University, 2015
- Multicultural Student Leadership Summit, Baylor University, 2013
- Student Organization Leadership Conference, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, 2012
- Primer encuentro de integración y liderazgo, Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, 2003

SERVICE TRAINING

- MLL Reviewer Training, EdReports, 2025
- Dissertation Committee Training, American College of Education, 2024
- ELA Professional Learning Specialist Training, Amplify, Brooklyn, New York, 2022
- Child Abuse Prevention Training, YMCA of Greater Houston, 2021
- Post-Secondary Education Programs Pre-Service Training for Contracted Personnel, Texas Department of Criminal Justice, 2019
- Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Basic Training, Asociación Civil de Servicio Social, Servicios de Emergencia y Asistencia a la Comunidad, 2002

INTERDISCIPLINARY TRAINING

- Estadística con apoyo de los programas Excel y SPSS, Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, 2007
- Economic Growth and Poverty: Does a Rising Tide Lift All Boats, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 2006
- The History of Latinos in Milwaukee, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 2006
- Psicología aplicada y globalización: Problemáticas emergentes, Universidad de Guadalajara, 2005
- VI Seminario internacional de karate-do Venezuela-México, Kuniba Kai México, 2004
- Seminario de arbitraje del deporte federado, Asociación Potosina de Karate-Do y Artes Marciales Afines A.C., 2004
- Una perspectiva filosófica de la psicología y las humanidades, Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, 2003
- Taller de Constelaciones Familiares, Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, 2003
- Relaciones objetales: Constitución de la subjetividad y perspectivas clínicas, Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, 2003
- Una mirada al complejo de Edipo desde la teoría de la cultura, Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, 2003
- Hablemos hoy de drogas: Consecuencias relacionadas con su uso, Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, 2002
- Programa de Acondicionamiento Físico, Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, 2002

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- **MLL Alternate Reviewer (2025):** Hired to evaluate instructional materials for EdReports to support educators with high-quality resources.
- **STANAG 6001 Exam Moderator (2023):** I helped the Slovenian Armed Forces, through the U.S. Department of State, improve English proficiency for military students.
- **Translator (2022 – 2024):** I transcribe and translate Spanish audio into English for Global Language System.
- **Interpreter (2021):** I provided real-time Spanish-English interpretation for LanguageLine Solutions.
- **Translator (2006):** I translated academic materials at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies.
- **Tutor (2018 – 2020):** I coached Spanish-speaking students at Alvin Community College to improve their academic performance.
- **DEI Volunteer (2017):** Appointed to support Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiatives for the Peace Corps in China.
- **Cultural Liaison (2016 – 2017):** I facilitated U.S. faculty recruitment and cross-cultural collaborations at Chengdu University of Information Technology.
- **Manuscript Reviewer (2013 – 2015):** I reviewed academic manuscripts for the *Journal of Latinos and Education* and served as an associate editor for the *Virtual Multilingual Journal*.
- **Editorial Contributor (2013):** I collaborated on the *Journal of Communication and Peace Culture*.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- **Dissertation Committee Member (2024 – Present):** I guide doctoral candidates through their dissertations, contributing to studies in leadership, instructional technology, second language instruction, and curriculum and instruction.
 - *Completed:* Rashi Kohli, Ed.D. in Instructional Technology. Title: "A Qualitative Case Study Design for Exploring School Teachers' Experiences in Transitioning from Obsolete Technology to AI-Based Technology Tools"
 - *In progress:* Toni Minter, Ed.D. in Leadership. Title: "Exploring Teacher Perceptions of Black and Brown Students' Access to Advanced Coursework in Urban Middle Schools in Illinois: A Phenomenological Study"
 - *In progress:* John Claybon, Ed.D. in Leadership. Title: "How African American and Latinx Faculty Impact Completion Rates of Community College IT Students in Oklahoma: A Qualitative Phenomenological Study"
 - *In progress:* Gerar Pope, Ed.D. in Leadership. Title: "Exploring Lived Experiences with HBCU Participants in a Career Pathways Initiative"
 - *In progress:* Andrea McNeil, Ed.D. in Leadership. Title: "Jamaican Teachers' Lived Experiences of Cultural Exchange Visa Programs: A Phenomenological Study"
 - *In progress:* Sarah Quezada, Ed.D. in Second Language Instruction. Title: "International Homeroom Teachers' Experiences with ESL Professional Development in International Schools in Singapore: A Qualitative Case Study"

- *In progress*: Zena Mohsen, Ed.D. Second Language Instruction. Title: "Classroom Teachers' Perceptions on the Implementation of Michael Heggerty with English Learners: A Qualitative Exploratory Case Study"
- *In progress*: Parvati Devi Dasi, Ed.D. Curriculum and Instruction. Title: "A Quantitative Correlational Analysis of Black High School Student Achievement"
- *In progress*: Steven Campbell, Ed.D. in Instructional Technology. Title: "A Quasi-Experimental Quantitative Study on the Impact of 1:1 Tablet Integration in Language Arts Achievement in Florida K-12 Schools"
- *In progress*: Jadalee Hicher, Ed.D. in Second Language Instruction. Title: "Effectiveness of the Multilingual Learner Program in a Rural School District in South Carolina: A Qualitative Case Study"
- *In progress*: Sara Matlack, Ed.D. in Second Language Instruction. Title: "Online Language Instructors' Perceptions of Curriculum Implementation: An Exploratory Case Study"
- *In progress*: Thomas Furr, Ed.D. Curriculum and Instruction. Title: "Teacher Perceptions of the Impact of Teacher Feedback on Relationship-Building in High School: A Basic Qualitative Study"
- *In progress*: Migdalia Hernandez, Ed.D. in Second Language Instruction. Title: "Educators' Integration of Modern Digital Technologies: An Exploratory Qualitative Case Study in Multicultural Schools"
- *In progress*: Sonya Rodriguez, Ed.D. Curriculum and Instruction. Title: "Teacher Perceptions of SEL with Latino English Learners: A Qualitative Case Study"
- *In progress*: Alejandra Escovar, Ed.D. Curriculum and Instruction. Title: "Exploratory Case Study on Barriers to STEM Integration in Dominican Public Schools"
- *In progress*: Susan Saadat, Ed.D. in Second Language Instruction. Title: "Teacher Perceptions of Secondary Multilingual Learners in California: A Phenomenological Study"
- **Compliance Ambassador (2022)**: Appointed to support adherence to ESL division policies at Interactive College of Technology.
- **Orientation Leader (2021 – 2022)**: I advised on curriculum and program development to improve educational offerings in the ESL division at Interactive College of Technology.
- **PAC Meeting Committee Member (2021)**: I contributed to curriculum planning at Interactive College of Technology.
- **Recruiter (2007, 2011, 2018 – 2021)**: I recruited students for ESL, bilingual education, and psychology programs at Alvin Community College, Texas A&M University-Kingsville, and Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí.
- **Contest Judge (2016)**: I evaluated writing and speech contests at Chengdu University of Information Technology.
- **Symposium Organizer (2011 – 2013)**: I led bilingual education symposiums at Texas A&M University-Kingsville.
- **ADOBE Secretary (2012 – 2014)**: I managed records and events for the Doctoral Organization for Bilingual Education.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- **Science Fair Judge (2011 – 2012)**: I evaluated projects at T.G. Allen Elementary School in Corpus Christi, TX.
- **Library Volunteer (2006)**: I supported literacy initiatives at Fratney Elementary School in Milwaukee, WI.

VOLUNTEER WORK

- **Peace Corps Teacher Trainer (2016–2017):** I taught English and trained educators in Chengdu and Panzhihua, China.
- **Peace Corps Speaker (2017–2018):** I shared my Peace Corps experiences at school events in North Carolina and Texas to support cultural exchange.
- **English Tutor (2016):** I provided personalized tutoring in Chengdu, China.
- **Girl Scouts Advocate (2015):** I supported troop activities in Amarillo, TX.
- **Primary School Teacher (2005):** I taught elementary students in San Luis Potosí, Mexico.
- **Karate Coach (2004):** I coached youth karate at Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí.

CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

- **Architectural Control Committee Member (2025 – Present):** I was elected volunteer for Clearcrot Homeowners' Association, Inc., helping review and approve residential improvement projects to maintain neighborhood standards.
- **Community Volunteer (2015 – 2020):** I've supported organizations like Target Hunger, The Beacon, and Ware Living Center in Texas.

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS & EXPERTISE
EDUCATIONAL

- Instructional Material Evaluation
- Curriculum Development
- Assessment Strategies
- Educational Material Creation
- English for Diverse Purposes
- Classroom Management
- Resource-Limited Teaching
- Technology Integration and Instructional Design (Online, Virtual, Traditional, and Hybrid Environments)

LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

- Leadership and Strategic Management
- Program Planning, Coordination, and Execution
- Project Management
- Needs Assessment
- Conflict Resolution
- Risk and Stress Management
- Teacher Training and Faculty Development
- Workshop Facilitation
- Cross-Cultural Proficiency

TECHNOLOGY

- Content Creation and Design
- Data Analysis & Visualization
- Collaboration & Communication Platforms
- Interactive & Assessment Tools
- Learning Management Systems (LMS)
- Emerging Technologies & AI

LANGUAGE & COMMUNICATION

- Bilingual Fluency: Spanish and English
- Transcription and Translation
- Consecutive Interpretation
- Academic Writing, Editing, Proofreading

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Dissertation Review and Feedback