

Monica Gonzalez
1858 Marne Road
Bolingbrook, IL. 69490
(630) 618-6637 (cell)
monica.gonzalez@colorado.edu

Education

Ph.D. **University of Colorado, Boulder**
In progress Curriculum and Instruction
Literacy Studies

M.Ed **University of Utah**
2013 Department of Education, Culture and Society

B.A. **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**
2011 Major: Latino/a Studies
Major : Spanish

Research Interests

Critical and culturally relevant curriculum and pedagogies
Bilingual education
Language and literacy
Curriculum and language policies
Latina/o and Chicana/o student experiences
Chicana feminisms
Critical Race Theory (CRT/ Latina/o Critical Theory (LatCrit)

Awards and Recognitions

2011 Latino/a Congratulatory Student Leadership Award
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2011 Member of first graduating class of the Department of Latino/a Studies
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2010 I4I Scholarship
University of Illinois at Urbana- Champaign

2009 Founder of the Swan Scholarship
Gamma Phi Omega Intl. Sorority, Inc. –Lambda Chapter
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Scholarly Activities

Manuscripts

DeNicolò, C.P., Gonzalez, M., Morales, S., Romani, L. (Submitted to The Journal of Latinos and

Education). Teaching Through *Testimonio*: Writing personal narratives in a third grade classroom.

Socorro, M., Gonzalez, M., Romani, L. DeNicolo, C.P. (In Progress). *Echalé Ganas: Testimonio as Reflection, Reflections on Testimonio*.

Presentations

Gonzalez, M. (May 2013). Exploring music as a literacy practice: Enacting agency in third space. Presentation at The College of Education Graduate Student Research Fair at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Gonzalez, M., Mendoza, S., Morales, S., (April, 2013). Relationship building in Nepantla: Our path towards *conociendo nos/otras*. Panel Presentation at the National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies (NACCS) conference in San Antonio, Texas

Fierros, C.O., Gonzalez, M., Gutierrez-Maldonado, R., Huante- Tzintzun, N., Mendoza, S., Morales, S. (October 2012). Navigating with/in Borderlands: Narratives, Spaces of Contention and Possibilities of Hope. Panel presentation at American Educational Studies Association (AESA) conference in Seattle, Washington.

Gonzalez, M. (July 2012). Don't Teach Them They're Oppressed: Color blind ideology and its exclusionary practices in education. Presentation at Mujeres Activistas en Letras y Cambio Social (MALCS) conference in Santa Barbara, California

Gonzalez, M., Mendoza, S. (2012). Understanding Internalized Racism. Undergraduate course guest lecture. March 2008, Weber State University.

Gonzalez, M., Morales, S., Romani, L. (November 2011). Teaching Through *Testimonio*: Writing personal narratives in a third grade classroom. Panel Presentation at the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) conference in Chicago, Illinois.

Gonzalez, M. (May 2011). Don't Teach Them They're Oppressed: Color blind ideology and its exclusionary practices in education. Presentation at the Latino/a Studies Senior Symposium at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign

Research Experience

June 2013- August 2013

Research Assistant

Testimonio Project lead by Dr. Christina DeNicolo
Wayne State University

Coded field notes taken during a study on literacy and learning practices of first grade students in a bilingual education classroom. Transcribed participant interviews and classroom audio files. Assisted in data analysis for first grade class study as a part of the larger *testimonio* project.

August 2012- May 2013 **Research Assistant and Coordinator**
Adelante Partnership, Salt Lake City, UT

Worked as co-instructor/co-coordinator for the cultural enrichment and university engagement components of *Adelante: A College Awareness and Preparatory Partnership* with Jackson Elementary School. Developed and taught a ballet folklórico curriculum for students in the dance program. Organized and attended university fieldtrips with students. Worked closely with all coordinators and co-directors/founders on other components of the partnership as well as research on academic outcomes and experiences of students involved with the partnership.

June 2012- August 2012 **Research Assistant**
Testimonio Project lead by Dr. Christina DeNicolo
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Organized and de-identified artifacts collected in kindergarten and 1st grade classrooms by the primary researcher. Transcribed, coded and analyzed interviews conducted with students who participated in the 3rd grade classroom *testimonio* study.

May 2011- August 2011 **Research Assistant**
Testimonio Project lead by Dr. Christina DeNicolo
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Worked on-site with primary researcher in a study that examined the use of *testimonio* in a 3rd grade bilingual classroom. Engaged in instruction and *testimonio* writing with the students and assisted in interviews with students and teacher. Recorded field notes, organized and de-identified artifacts, coded and analyzed data.

Community Engagement, Leadership, and Outreach Experience

May 2013- July 2013 Uprising Volunteer
Universidad Popular
Worked closely with youth in various academic, cultural enrichment, and physical activities. Assisted in curriculum and grant writing for summer programming.

August 2011- May 2013 Oral History Project Volunteer
Adelante Partnership
Work with students on projects focusing on family, culture, and language. Facilitate class discussions and assist in the process of creating the final project.

September 2012- May 2013 Latinas Telling *Testimonios*
Engage with other graduate and undergraduate Latinas to create a welcoming, supportive and inspiring space for collaboration and community.

- August 2010- August 2011* Student Staff Member
La Casa Cultural Latina
Recruited Latino/a students for programs, volunteer opportunities and involvement in the cultural center. Planned events for Latino/a students as well and community members
- September 2008- May 2011* Group Leader
Girl Scouts of Central Illinois
Created a safe and fun environment for 10-15 young girls, prepared weekly lesson plans on various topics such as self-esteem, nutrition, and education. Assisted in reading practice in both Spanish and English.
- April 2008- May 2011* Undergraduate Executive Board Member
Gamma Phi Omega Intl. Sorority, Inc.
Served as the head of the executive board while overseeing the work of the sorority chairs and membership educators. Represented the chapter in the United Greek Council and the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs.
- August 2007- May 2010* Tutor/Mentor
America Reads/Counts
Worked closely with ESL and Bilingual Outreach teachers at a local middle school. Monitored students grades and assisted with any homework and projects. Met with students 3-4 times a week to discuss school and personal issues important to them.

Skills

Languages: Fluent in English and Spanish
Computer: Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint