

NOOR MUSTAFA ALI

nooralix5@gmail.com

San Diego, CA

EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin

Master of Curriculum and Instruction, Program Area: Early Childhood Education

GPA 4.00/4.00

Relevant Courses: Lifespan Development; Educational Research and Design; Psychology of Learning, Culture, Child Development and Education; Critical Pedagogy; Participatory Action Research

May 2023

Austin, TX

The University of Texas at El Paso

Bachelor of Education in Applied Learning & Development, Concentration: Education & Community Studies

GPA 4.00/4.00

Honors and Awards: *summa cum laude*, Dean's List 2018-2020

Relevant Courses: Developmental Variations, Gender, Health and Medicine, Development in Young Child and Youth, Play and Learn in Early Years, Global Business

Student Organizations: Woman in Business Association, First Gen Society, Muslim Students Association

December 2020

El Paso, TX

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE & INTERESTS

Strategies for Teaching Young Learners of English (STYLE)

Research Assistant

Fall 2024 – Present

The University of California at San Diego

Research Members: Alison Wishard Guerra, Ph.D., Shana Cohen, Ph.D., Monica Molgaard, Ph.D.

Research Topic: *Explore innovative strategies to enhance educational outcomes for diverse learners, particularly English learners.*

- o Transcribed and cleaned over four hours of interview data, correcting grammar and AI-generated errors while following transcript cleaning protocols to ensure accuracy.
- o Maintained updated records across Excel and Google Docs, and coordinated regularly with principal investigators to support timely, high-quality data management.
- o Serve as second author on a qualitative research project examining teacher identity and culturally relevant pedagogy, built collaboratively from conception through completion with faculty and graduate researchers.
- o Create a literature map, coded interview data using Dedoose, co-authored the AERA 2026 proposal, and actively contributed to weekly meetings focused on refining the research question, developing the codebook, and drafting the manuscript for publication.

The Steps to Family Childcare Success Program

The Center for Excellence in Early Development

Research Assistant

Summer 2024 – Fall 2024

San Diego State University

Project Lead: Sarah Garrity, Ed.D.; **Research Scientist:** Saralyn Miller, Ph.D.

Research Topic: *Guiding Family Childcare (FCC) providers to improve their financial literacy, knowledge of banking and credit systems in the United States, digital literacy, and increase their skills for running a successful business to improve enrollment and economic stability.*

- o Conduct extensive literature review on Shared Services Alliances, Family Childcare Home Education Networks, and Family Childcare Homes.
- o Systematically categorize and synthesize research literature to identify common patterns and themes.
- o Collaborate with principal investigators to enhance and refine the literature, incorporating feedback and suggestions for improvement.

Priscilla Pond Flawn Child & Family Lab Research Projects
Department of Human Development and Family Sciences
Graduate Research Assistant

Fall 2022 – Summer 2023
The University of Texas at Austin

Principle Investigators: Amy Bryan, Ph.D., Katharine Tillman, Ph.D., Nichole Perry, Ph.D.

Research Topics: *OLE Playground Certification, Loose Parts Play, Pretend Play, Physiological Co-Regulation between Children and Teachers, Pretend Play Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic*

- o Support research projects by collaborating with undergraduate research assistants and principal investigators. Responsibilities include conducting literature reviews and preparing materials for IRB approval and journal submissions.
- o Collect field data, subsequently code data, and manipulate data in various databases including *StataSE*.
- o Facilitate guidance for undergraduate research assistants through scaffolding extensions of their ideas, introducing and elaborating on research procedures, and advising on post-graduate plans.

The KIDS Lab
Department of Educational Psychology
Research Assistant

Fall 2022 – Spring 2023
The University of Texas at Austin

Principle Investigator: Laura E Quinones Camacho, Ph.D.

Research Topic: *Research the sociocultural and familial factors that influence children's social, emotional, and brain development*

- o Read and analyze literature reviews regarding research topics such as brain synchrony, and parasympathetic regulation.
- o Develop the lab space and material.
- o Collect and curate research materials, including literature reviews relevant to the research topics, for lab discussion.

Adolescent Development & Delinquency Lab
Department of Psychology
Undergraduate Research Assistant

Fall 2019 – Fall 2020
The University of Texas at El Paso

Principle Investigator: April Thomas, Ph.D.

(1) Research Topic: *Adolescent Sleep and Social Development Study*

- o Conduct in-depth three-hour structured interviews with parents and youth; target sample groups include community probation and incarcerated youth living on the border.
- o Administer behavioral tasks to collect data, focused on participants' realms of education, relationships, work, social life, and sleep activity.
- o Collaborate on initiatives targeting marginalized border youth, primarily Latinx and sometimes undocumented immigrants, who face injustices within the justice system and profiling.

Principle Investigator: April Thomas, Ph.D.

(2) Research Topic: *Social Relationships Study*

- o Study the influence of relationships, specifically maternal and platonic relationships, of recruited adolescents by administering behavioral tasks focused on emotional and developmental factors in decision making.
- o Recruit study participants between the ages of 13-17 for participation.
- o Collect and review consent and assent signatures for all participants.

Principle Investigator: April Thomas, Ph.D.

(3) Research Topic: *Adolescents' Daily Experiences with the COVID -19 pandemic*

- o Conduct multiple phone interviews on a weekly basis to assess the emotional and physical impact of COVID-19 on adolescent development.
- o Document collected data in specified workbook.
- o Conduct daily follow-ups with participants regarding A.M. and P.M. surveys.

Cesar Rossatto, Ph.D.
Department of Education
Undergraduate Research Assistant

Summer 2020 – Fall 2020

Principle Investigator: Cesar Rossatto, Ph.D.

Research Topic: *Social Justice in Education and Critical Pedagogy*

- o Conduct social justice and anti-racism literature research, document references for school district publications.
- o Coordinate and organize virtual Ph.D. courses on Blackboard specifically focused on critical pedagogy in schools, multiculturalism, and social justice impacts on adolescence and teachers.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Early Childhood Education Center
The University of California at San Diego
Interim Lead Teacher & Teacher

Summer 2023 – Summer 2025

Goals: Plan and implement age-appropriate curriculum using Reggio Emilia and play-based learning. Follow licensing regulations, developmental profiles, and NAEYC standards. Promote equity, diversity, inclusion, and social-emotional development with most effective up-to-date approaches.

- o Collaborate with Alison Wishard Guerra, Ph.D. and Monica Molgaard, Ph.D. to translate anti-racist early childhood education into practice, supporting both teacher reflection and classroom transformation.
- o Mentor three undergraduate students in the Partners at Learning (PAL) program, guiding them through a full cycle of research development—including classroom observation, inquiry design, and final project presentation.
- o Serve as a key member of a hiring panel for over four teacher assistant positions at UCSD Early Childhood Education Center.
- o Invited guest lecturer for UC San Diego's Education Studies undergraduate course; led a session on responsive teaching practices and the role of classroom environments in fostering developmentally appropriate and inclusive care.
- o Manage and led infant and toddler classrooms, coordinating care and instructional planning across interdisciplinary teams of two to three teachers and up to five undergraduate students, ensuring consistency and collaboration in a high-quality, university-based early childhood program.
- o Lead parent-teacher conferences using developmental portfolios to support collaborative, culturally responsive communication with families.
- o Organize and host family days focused on community building, cultural celebration, and strengthening home-school partnerships.

Priscilla Pond Flawn Child & Family Lab
Department of Human Development and Family Sciences
Graduate Assistant and Teacher

Fall 2021 – Summer 2023
The University of Texas at Austin

Classroom Faculty Affiliations: Amy Bryan Ph.D., Sarah Ozuna Brown, M.S., Elizabeth Porter, M.F.A.

Goals: Meet the individual educational, social, and developmental growth needs of each child in the classroom lab.

- o Collect and organize developmental data on children through the specified database.
- o Facilitate and guide young children with an enriching and developmentally appropriate early learning opportunity.
- o Promote an educational setting in which university students may observe, participate, learn, and study children.

Introduction to Early Childhood Intervention
Department of Human Development and Family Sciences
Teaching Assistant

Spring 2022
The University of Texas at Austin

Faculty Affiliations: Rachel K Moyer-Trimyer

Goals: Support students' learning and understanding in the Early Childhood Intervention profession.

- o Reinforce course objectives and support students during classwork completion and office hours.
- o Attended classroom lectures to ensure up-to-date understanding of the material presented.
- o Provide feedback to the professor on student performance, progress and grades.

Elementary & Middle School Math Tutor

Fall 2020 – Winter 2023

Private

Remote

Goals: Assist in students' learning and understanding of classroom materials outside the classroom.

- o Identify individual developmental needs and implement customized mentoring for students.
- o Monitor students' academic improvement in school.
- o Communicate with parents, teachers, and other professionals involved in the student's life.

Palm Tree Academy

Fall 2020 – Summer 2021

Math Teacher: Kindergarten, First, Second and Third Grade

El Paso, TX

Goals: Craft curriculum to meet students' individualized learning and developmental needs while promoting agency, social justice, and personal growth.

- o Adapt teaching methods and curriculum to address COVID-19 challenges while supporting students and families through the pandemic's stresses.
- o Mentor third-grade STEM projects, and guiding students in school-wide competitions.
- o Taught a diverse population, including first generation and immigrant Arab, Hispanic, and Indian children from low-income housing, and supported non-Hispanic minority students with identity struggles while growing up on the border.
- o Develop and implement standards-aligned lesson plans across K–3, balancing foundational math skills with student-centered learning.
- o Prepared third-grade students for state standardized testing while maintaining a supportive, equity-focused classroom environment.

STARTALK: Language Immersion Summer Program College of Liberal Arts

Summer 2017

Academic Assistant

The University of Texas at El Paso

Principal Investigator: Maissa Khatib, Ph.D.

Research Topic: *Foreign Language Immersion including Arabic and Portuguese*

- o Create a rich and authentic Arabic classroom cultural environment utilizing native Arabic language, self-modeling, and daily set-ups.
- o Assist in developing the appropriate toolset for Arabic language development through Arabic language teachings and fieldtrips.

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC SERVICE

Participant for *Use of Digital Technologies in Early Childhood Classrooms* with Dr. Tia Madkin. Spring 2024 – Summer 2024

Educacion Para Compartir (Education for Sharing) Participant Fall 2023 – Present

Healthy Early Years Clinic Participant Fall 2023 – Spring 2024

Preventative Health and Safety Attendee Fall 2023

Guide for Texas Rowing for All: Program for Youth with Disabilities Summer 2019, 2022

Event Volunteer at EPISD Elementary Schools 2016 - 2020

Freddy Klayel El Paso Independent School District ("EPISD") Trustee Campaign Intern Spring – Summer 2019

Robert's Elementary School: Book Buddy After School Program Tutor Fall 2019

Montessori School: Summer "Camp Heroes" Program Leader Summer of 2016, 17, 18, 19

Palm Tree Academy Summer School Assistant
Franklin High School Child Guidance Laboratory
TOTAL ESTIMATED HOURS: 2,000+

Summer of 2014, 15, 16
Fall 2017 – Spring 2018

HONORS, AWARDS, & CERTIFICATIONS

The Staff Recognition and Appreciation (STAR) Award Fall 2024

The University of California at San Diego

The Staff Recognition and Appreciation (STAR) Program allows departments to provide a discretionary, non-base building cash award to eligible employees to recognize and reward excellence in university service; significant achievements and contributions; and outstanding individual and team contributions.

Summa cum laude Fall 2020

The University of Texas at El Paso

Awarded to students who achieve a 4.00 grade point average and rank top 1-5% of their graduating class.

Dean's List Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020

The University of Texas at El Paso

The Dean's List at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) recognizes students who have demonstrated academic excellence and are among the top percentage of students at the university.

Certifications: *California Child Development Teacher Permit; Nurturing Responsive Care for Infants & Toddlers Certification; Biomedical Research Certification; Mandated Reporter; First Aid & CPR Certification; Educacion Para Compartir Certification; Preventative Health, Safety and Nutrition Course; UT Austin Early Childhood Education Nutrition Course; Priscilla Pond Flawn Child & Family Laboratory Summer Institute, 2023, 2024, 2025; Trauma-Informed Care and Resilience Certified*

REFERENCES

Amy Bryan, PhD – *Director of Priscilla Pond Flawn Child and Family Laboratory, aebryan@utexas.edu*

Noah De Lissovoy, PhD – *Professor at The University of Texas at Austin, delissovoy@austin.utexas.edu*

Josh Kavanagh, MBA, CAPP – *Assistant Vice Chancellor for Transportation & Activation at UCSD, jnkavanagh@ucsd.edu*

Leia Wilson – *Director of UC San Diego Early Childhood Education Center, lew034@ucsd.edu*

Nichole Orozco-Khamsi, MMath - *Principal at Palm Tree Academy, ptaprincipal@gmail.com*

Donna Mojarro – *Coordinator, Education & Operations at UCSD Early Childhood Education Center, dlruiz@ucsd.edu*

Rachel K Moyer-Trimyer – *Lecturer at The University of Texas at Austin, Rachel.moyer-trimyer@utexas.edu*

Cesar Rossatto, PhD – *Associate Professor at The University of Texas at El Paso, crossatto@utep.edu*

Desiree Pallais, PhD – *Assistant Professor at The University of Texas at Austin, desiree.pallais@utexas.edu*

Michelle Perez, PhD – *Endowed Chair of Early Childhood Education at University of North Texas, michelle.perez@unt.edu*

Lucy Santamaria – *Manager, Education & Operations at UCSD Early Childhood Education Center, lsantamaria@ucsd.edu*

April Thomas, PhD – *Assistant Professor at The University of Texas at El Paso, athomas5@utep.edu*