

Luisiana Meléndez Rojas

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Education

Ph.D. in Child Development-Erikson Institute/Loyola University-Chicago, IL
May 2008

M.Ed. in Child Development-Erikson Institute/Loyola University-Chicago, IL
January 1996

BA in Psychology- Universidad Nacional Pedro Henríquez Ureña- Santo Domingo, Dominican
Republic- January 1983

Select Experiences-

Director-Bilingual ESL Certificate Program -Erikson Institute	September 2007 to present
Clinical Professor- Erikson Institute	September 2018 to present
Assistant Clinical Professor-Erikson Institute	September 2013 to August 2018
Associate Clinical Professor-Erikson Institute	September 2007 to August 2013

Other

Co-author Gateways competencies attached to credential early childhood practitioners working with linguistically diverse children and families. Gateways for Opportunity-Illinois.	2019-2021
Member Chicago Board of Education	2019 to present
Co-Chair Chicago Consortium for School Research Steering Committee	9/2018- 6/2019
Member Every Child Ready Chicago Workgroup	2020 to present

Select Publications

Meléndez, L & Syc, S. (2021). Rethinking an Early Care and Education Program: Responding to Linguistic Diversity. In Z. Kinkead-Clark and K.A. Escayg: Reconceptualising quality early childhood education, care, and development: Perspectives from the others. Palgrave Macmill.

Melendez, L. & Syc, S. (2021). The Early Education and Care of Emergent Bilingual and Multilingual Infants and Toddlers. Exchange, September-October, 14-18

Meléndez, L. & Chamberlain, P. (2018). Serving young dual language learners in Illinois. State Education Standard, 1(1) p30-34

Meléndez, L (2015). Using Children's Books as a Social Studies Curriculum Strategy. Young Child, 70, 48- 55

Ray, A. & Meléndez, L. (2012). More than the Sum of Its Parts: Creating Multicultural and Linguistically Responsive Early Childhood Classrooms. In J. P. Roopnarine & J. Johnson (Eds.), Approaches to Early Childhood Education

In Preparation:

Melendez, L. (n.d.) Action Research in an Early Childhood Online Graduate Program

Melendez, L. (n.d.) Student teaching during the Covid-19 pandemic: Reflections of a faculty advisor.

Recent Presentations

Preparing Educators for the Gateways Bilingual/ESL Credential April 2022
Gateways Higher Education Forum, IL

Preparing Early Childhood Educators for Equity: Critical ESL/Bilingual Competencies. April 2021
Gateways Higher Education Forum, IL

Panel Moderator: **A national conversations about race in early childhood leadership.** November 12, 2020
Conference sponsored by Bright Horizon and the National Head Start Association

Recent Research Experience

- **Principal Investigator**-Action Research: A tool for the professional growth of early childhood practitioners. Fall 2017 to spring 2020
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- **Co-Investigator:** Inquiry into practice guidelines for birth-to-three programs regarding work with dual language infants, toddler and families. Fall of 2013 to August 2017
- **Principal Investigator.** Every Child Ready for Kindergarten. A project in collaboration with the Evanston Community Foundation and District 65, Evanston, IL. Spring 2011 to Spring 2012.

Courses

- Emergent Literacy for New Language Learners Summer 2019 to present
- Foundations of American Schooling and Bilingual Education Fall 2009 to present
- Family and Culture January 2008 to present
- Methods and Materials for Teaching Language Young Language Learners II: Reflective Practice Fall 2003 to present

Communication

Strong oral and written communication skills in Spanish and English.

Other Professional Experiences

- Early Childhood Consultant for West Chicago District 33- West Chicago, IL
November 2021 to present
- Member Every Child Ready Chicago Workgroup-Chicago IL
2020 to present
- Consultant on bi/multilingualism for Wren Works Consulting, LLC for work with School District
87-Berkely, IL- September 2021 to January 2022
- Chicago Consortium of School Research Steering Committee- September 2014 to August 2018
- Early Childhood Committee Illinois Bilingual Advisory Council- Fall 2012 to present
- Advisory Board for ExceleRate Illinois Cultural and Linguistic Responsiveness Award of Excellence.
September 2014 to July 2017
- Member Latino Advisory Board to Chicago Public Schools- January 2015 to Fall 2017