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She holds a PhD in Applied Linguistics from the Pennsylvania State University and her area of expertise is second language acquisition.

She currently is a professor in the Department of Languages and Culture Studies and a Faculty Fellow with the Center for Teaching and Learning at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Her work includes the publication of *Más allá de las palabras*, a second-year Spanish as L2 college textbook published by John Wiley & Sons, and research articles on vocabulary acquisition, testing reading comprehension, and developing writing proficiency in L2. This work has been published in the *Canadian Modern Language Review*, *Foreign Language Annals*, *NECTFL Review*, and *Revista de Lingüística Teórica y Aplicada*.

Her latest project is a course redesign that involved the implementation of a shift in first-year college Spanish as L2 from face-to-face instruction to blended instruction. This project was carried out over three years by a team of instructors and advisors from the Center for Teaching and Learning at UNC Charlotte and was completed in the first quarter of 2011. She is currently researching different aspects of this course redesign project.