

SARAH PECENY

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EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

- 2016 M.A., SPANISH, UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO (UNM)
Specialization: Hispanic Linguistics
- 2009 B.A., LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES AND SPANISH, UNIVERSITY OF
Fall NEW MEXICO (UNM)
Summa Cum Laude, UNM University Honors Program Graduate
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EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- 2016-Present VISITING LECTURER I, HISPANIC LINGUISTICS
Fall Department of Spanish and Portuguese
University of New Mexico
MSC03-2100, Ortega Hall 235
1 University of New Mexico Albuquerque, NM 87131
- 2014-2016 GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT
Department of Spanish and Portuguese
University of New Mexico
MSC03-2100, Ortega Hall 235
1 University of New Mexico Albuquerque, NM 87131
- 2015 GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT FOR BILINGUAL LANGUAGE
Jan.-Sept. STUDY AT UNM
Title: ¿Qué saben los niños? A study of young children's Spanish grammar
Principal investigator: Naomi Shin
Co-PI: Barbara Rodríguez (UNM, Speech & Hearing Sciences)
- 2011-2014 PEDIATRIC STUDY RESEARCH COORDINATOR
NIH Grant-Funded Research
The Mind Research Network
1101 Yale Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106
- 2010-2011 CASE MANAGER
Youth Development, Inc. Juvenile Community Corrections
1500 Walter SE, Albuquerque, NM 87102
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TEACHING, RESEARCH, AND SERVICE INTERESTS

TEACHING

Teaching of the Spanish language has come to be one of my greatest passions. It is my hope that students will leave any given Spanish course with a newfound appreciation and deepened linguistic knowledge of the Spanish language, its variation, and the vibrant culture of those who speak it so that they feel like they can actually engage in meaningful conversations with those around them.

One of the highlights of my time as a graduate student in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at UNM was when I developed the SPAN 202: Introduction to Medical Spanish course for students who continue to need supplemental grammar instruction, but who may be interested in more specialized courses that might benefit them directly. It is one of my goals to see the further expansion of the Medical Spanish program to serve particular sections of the student body who may one day be serving members of our community in health related scenarios where there is dire need for more Spanish-speaking and culturally conscientious providers. In addition to this, I see an expansion of this course to an online platform to reach a larger student population and hopefully establish future study-abroad opportunities in medical contexts that would solidify and expand both the linguistic acquisition of Spanish and bring with it deeper cultural awareness.

RESEARCH

My time spent teaching beginner to intermediate level Spanish courses as a graduate student peaked my interests in measuring student outcomes in the classroom by looking at specific guidelines as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). I hope to conduct future research in the areas of proficiency and performance at these course levels in order to continue to move the department towards better quality and productive acquisition of the Spanish language by our students.

Other pertinent past graduate research includes research that occurred at UNM Hospital in the Newborn Mother-Baby Unit and Clinic, under UNM Professor Holly Jacobson's IRB Protocol (12-017): "Analysis of Linguistic and Paralinguistic Variables in Mediated Interaction." Data collected for this particular project helped to shed even more light on the importance of having Spanish available in the medical workplace. I hope to also continue pursuing research in order to further argue for the expansion of offering more specialized classes at the University to meet the needs of the community.

SERVICE

I am currently a member of the UNM Spanish and Portuguese Activity Committee. However, I am anxious to expand my involvement, not only within my own department, but also to other departments such as the Latin American and Iberian Institute, the Study Abroad Office, BA/MD Program, and especially with the Undergraduate student body. I understand the value of mentorship and participation with colleagues.

My past service in the community involves close to eight years working with a non-profit in Albuquerque that works hand in hand with a Salvadoran non-profit who serves a community of scholarship students in El Salvador. Throughout my time working with the organization, I served as a member of the board, led multiple delegations to El Salvador, and coordinated various fundraising efforts and events. I continue to search for other local non-profits in the community to dedicate my time since non-profit work has been such a rewarding part of my life for so many years.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. Melero García, Fernando & Sarah Peceny. Un análisis sociolingüístico de los titulares de prensa: la transitividad y la expresión de actos violentos en El Salvador. Paper presented at the 8th *International Workshop on Spanish Sociolinguistics*. San Juan, Puerto Rico. April 13-16, 2016.
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TEACHING

ALL COURSES TAUGHT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

VISITING LECTURER I

SPAN 201: Intermediate I Spanish (Fall 2016) (49 students)

SPAN 202: Introduction to Medical Spanish, Intermediate II (Fall 2016) (15 students)

GRADUATE STUDENT

SPAN 101: Elementary I Spanish (Fall 2014 (51 students), Spring 2015 (21 students), Fall 2015 (26 students), Spring 2016 (25 students))

SPAN 202: Introduction to Medical Spanish, Intermediate II Spanish (Fall 2015 (19 students), Spring 2016 (19 students))

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT TEACHER

UHON222: “Crossing Borders” (Spring 2009), University of New Mexico Honors Department Topic Course, Included Study-Aboard Component

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

SPAN 202: Introduction to Medical Spanish, Intermediate Spanish II, UNM.
Developed with UNM Professors Eva Rodríguez González and Verónica Plaza.
First taught in Fall 2015.

SERVICE

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES

Fall 2016 UNM Spanish and Portuguese Activities Committee Member

COMMUNITY SERVICE

2006-2014 Member and organizer of the Albuquerque Aquinas Newman Center El Salvador Ministry and 501c3 non-profit organization, Friends of the Children of El Salvador (FOCES)
