

Education

- Ph.C. **University of Washington.** Hispanic Literature. (2022)
(Candidacy conferred by the Graduate School on 3/18/2022)
- Recipient of the UW Graduate School's Top Scholar Award in 2017
- M.A. **Washington State University.** Foreign Languages and Cultures. (2015)
- B.A. **University of Washington.** Spanish. (2009)
- Named to Dean's List in Summer 2006 & Spring 2007
- A.S. **Cascadia College.** Associate of Science. (2005)
- Named to Honors list, Vice President's list, and the President's list
 - Recipient of Cascadia C.C. Foundation Scholarship
 - Phi Theta Kappa member
 - Attended Leadership Conference for Community Colleges in Wenatchee, WA

Work Experience

- ❖ UW Spanish & Portuguese Studies Department Fall 2016 – Present

Predoctoral Instructor

Courses taught:

- Spanish 101 (Elementary Spanish)
- Spanish 103 (Elementary Spanish)
- Spanish 110 (Accelerated Elementary Spanish)
- Spanish 202 (Intermediate Spanish)
- Spanish 203 (Intermediate Spanish)
- Spanish 301 (Advanced Spanish)
- Spanish 302 (Advanced Spanish)
- Spanish 322 (Hispanic Cultural Studies)

I have taught many of these courses numerous times over the lapse of more than seven years as a Predoctoral Instructor at the University of Washington, where I currently work and I'm a doctoral candidate. In every single course, I have integrated the study of Hispanic poetry – by carefully selecting poems (and sometimes translations) depending on the level of proficiency of my students. I'm a firm believer that an education in the humanities is a fundamental pillar in every student's education. I incorporate social justice-oriented literature in my classes as well, giving a voice to those who have been historically marginalized. As an educator, I'm also an advocate of equity, diversity, and inclusion.

- WSU Foreign Languages and Cultures Department Fall 2009 – Spring 2011

Spanish Teaching Assistant

Courses taught:

- Spanish 101 (Introduction to Spanish)
- Spanish 102 (Second semester Spanish)
- Spanish 203 (Third semester Spanish)

- Spanish 205 (Intermediate conversation)
- Spanish 305 (Advanced-intermediate conversation)

- UW CLUE Fall 2007 – Spring 2009
Academic Tutor: Spanish language and literature
 - Helped students with their assignments (including editing essays, explained grammatical concepts, understanding literature), and taught students study skills.

- OMA Instructional Center Fall 2005 – Fall 2006
Academic Tutor: mathematics and later Spanish
 - Helped students with their assignments, understanding concepts and teaching them study skills.

- Cascadia Community College IT Department Spring 2003 – Spring 2004
Computer Lab Assistant
 - Helped students with computing related questions at Cascadia C.C. Open Learning Center.
 - Tasks included maintaining a software sales database and assisting student government staff and officers.

- Cascadia Community College Student Programs Winter 2003 – Spring 2005
Student Programs Assistant
 - Maintained a software sales database and assisted student government staff and officers.

- Productos Agrícolas F. Soleimani 1996-2001
Assisted parents in a family business.

Publications/Presentations

- Poem “Si viene la muerte” in Wetlands Review, a literary magazine from UWB and Cascadia College. Spring 2005
- Poem “L’alegría” in Wetlands Review. Spring 2006
- Hijo de Latacunga. With a prologue by Edgar O’Hara. Seattle: The Papiers di Palferno. Winter 2017

Community Activities

- From December 2004 to late 2007, I voluntarily tutored a Hispanic elementary school student to improve his math, reading, and writing skills.
- From 2000 to 2002, I taught a class equivalent to Sunday school in my neighborhood in Ecuador.

Languages, cultural knowledge, and international travel

Languages in order of proficiency:

- Spanish: written and spoken with native proficiency.
- English: written and spoken with near-native proficiency.
- Farsi: spoken with native proficiency & basic knowledge of how to read and write. I took classes in college as an undergraduate to learn how to read and write, and in my private time I continue practicing. I also took an additional year of graduate language courses in Farsi at the UW.
- Reading knowledge in French – took one year in college.

Places I have traveled to and lived in:

- Ecuador: most of its regions. I lived in Ecuador from 1983 to 2001, the whole length of my childhood and adolescence, and returned there briefly in 2002. I lived in several cities along the Andes Mountain range.
- Israel: Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa, and Akka. I visited Israel, a region of the world that is considered the Holy Land of many Abrahamic religions. My visit there took place in the winter of 2009, some months before I started to work on my master's degree. I went there to visit the Baha'i holy places. I returned in 2010 to also visit the holy places of the Jewish and Christian faiths.
- United States: I have been living in the state of Washington since 2001. I have visited other states, including California, Arizona, Oregon, and Idaho. I currently want to visit New Orleans.
- Canada: Vancouver, BC. Went to visit in the spring of 2005.

Cultural knowledge:

- Hispanic: I was born and raised in Ecuador, a small country in South America. I lived there until I was 18 years old. My knowledge of Hispanic cultures is not merely learned in a college classroom. I am Hispanic.
- Persian: My parents are Persian. They moved to America in the late 70s. Being a child of a dual cultural heritage, I grew up speaking both Spanish and Persian with native proficiency. I have had the privilege of being part of two cultures simultaneously. In many ways, I am very Persian. I read and

listen to the poetry of classical poets like Khayyam, Nezami, and Saadi, as well as more contemporary ones, like Sohrab Sepehri.

- American: After living more than two decades in the United States, studying here, and teaching, I have come to love and embrace American culture and literature. I am, indeed, tricultural and trilingual.