

**Mari Riojas-Cortez, Ph.D.**  
**California State University Channel Islands**  
**School of Education Early Childhood Studies**  
**1 University Dr., Madera Hall 2721, Camarillo, CA 93012**  
[Mari.riojas-cortez@csuci.edu](mailto:Mari.riojas-cortez@csuci.edu) 210-685-1393

**ACADEMIC TRAINING**

Doctor of Philosophy, Curriculum & Instruction/Specializations Early Childhood Education and Multilingual Studies (Bilingual Education)  
The University of Texas at Austin December 1998

Master of Arts, Education, Concentration: Educational Leadership  
The University of Texas at San Antonio December 1991

Bachelor of Arts, Multinational Organizational Studies, Concentration: Spanish  
St. Mary's University December 1987

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (selected experience)**

Professor & Chair	California State University-Channel Islands, Early Childhood Studies 2020 Present
Professor	The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) Department of Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching 1998-2020 (Dept. Chair 2012-2018)
Bilingual Teacher	Stonewall Child Development Center (public school) Harlandale Independent School District, San Antonio, TX (Texas Teacher Educator Certificate Bilingual/ESL Grades PK-6) Effective date July, 26, 1993 expiration Date: Life)

**AWARDS AND HONORS**

	Service Learning through COVID Award CSUCI Center for Community Engagement 2021
	Outstanding Early Childhood Teacher Educator Award NAECTE (National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators) 2019
Exchange Leader	2019 Exchange Leadership Initiative Childcare Exchange
Teacher of the Year	Top Ten Finalist St. Mary's University/Luby's Cafeteria Inc. 1994
Teacher of the Year	Trinity University Prize for Excellence in Teaching (Campus Level) 1993

**SCHOLARSHIP (selected publications)**

**Riojas-Cortez, M.,** Martinez, M. (2022). Read-alouds: A case study of two preschoolers on the autism spectrum. *The Reading Teacher*, 76(2), 169-175.

**Riojas-Cortez, M. (ed.)** (2021). *Keeping up with the times: Diversity and inclusion in early childhood*. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers: Lanham, MD.

**Riojas-Cortez, M. (ed.)** (2021). *Diversifying pedagogy in early childhood teacher educator programs*. Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. Lanham, MD

Berger, E. H. & **Riojas-Cortez, M.** (2020). *Families as partners in education working together* (10<sup>th</sup> edition). Upper Saddle River, N. J.: Pearson

**Riojas-Cortez, M.** (2017). *La familia como sistema de apoyo en el desarrollo de los niños bilingües*. In M. Guerrero, M. C. Guerrero, L. Soltero-González, & K. Escamilla *Abriendo brecha: Antología crítica sobre la educación bilingüe de doble inmersión*. Dual Language Education of New Mexico.

**Riojas-Cortez, M. & Cataldo, R.** (2016). Using children's literature to understand values, traditions, and beliefs within Latin@ family systems. In Clark, E. R., Smith, H. L., & Flores, B. B. *Multicultural literature for Latino bilingual children: Their words, their worlds*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

Gillanders, C., **Riojas-Cortez, M.**, Laser, A., Miller, C., Rudman, N. (2020) Preparing Latin@ early childhood educators. *Journal of Early Childhood Teacher Education*. DOI: [10.1080/10901027.2020.1778143](https://doi.org/10.1080/10901027.2020.1778143)

Huerta, M. E. & **Riojas-Cortez, M.** (2014). Playful dialogues of a bilingual child in everyday conversation. *International Multilingual Research Journal*, 8, 231-249.

**Riojas-Cortez, M.** (2011). Culture, play and family: Three elements assisting in the development of a child on the autism spectrum. *Young Children*, 66(5), 94-99.

Smith, H. L., & **Riojas-Cortez, M.** (2010). *Cartitas de cariño: Little notes to say you care*. *Language Arts*, 88(2), 125-133.

**Riojas-Cortez, M. & Flores, B. B.** (2009). Supporting preschoolers' social development in school through funds of knowledge. *Journal of Early Childhood Research*, 7(2), 185-199.

**Riojas-Cortez, M.** (2001). Preschoolers' funds of knowledge displayed through sociodramatic play episodes in a bilingual classroom. *Early Childhood Education Journal*, 29(1), pp.35-40

### **COURSES TAUGHT (Selected)**

**CSUCI** ECS 221 Child, Family & Community in Southern California

ECS 320 Teaching and Learning Programs for Early Care and Development

ECS 456 Family and Community Engagement

ECS 471 Preschool/Primary Student Teaching Seminar and Supervision

**UTSA** ECE 3313 Play, Creativity & Learning in EC-6<sup>th</sup>

ECE 3603 Language Development in EC-6<sup>th</sup>

ECE 4303 Approaches to Teaching PK-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

C & I 4303 Approaches to Teaching Social Studies, Fine Arts and Language Arts EC-4<sup>th</sup>

Graduate: ECE 5503 Curriculum for Preschool and Primary Children

ECE 6653 Action Research in Early Childhood