Dr. Verónica E. Valdez
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Bio

Dr. Valdez has over twenty years of experience working with culturally and linguistically diverse programs, teachers, students, families, and communities in several states across the U.S. As an Associate Professor in the College of Education’s Department of Education, Culture, and Society, Dr. Valdez teaches and supervises undergraduate and graduate courses related to the English as a Second Language (ESL) endorsement as well as graduate courses related to bi/multilingual language and literacy education policy and practices.

A critical language scholar, Dr. Valdez is guided by a commitment to social justice, equity, and diversity that holds an asset-based perspective toward students, families, and communities recognizing their cultural wealth and individual agency. She situates herself within a critical sociocultural framework that says we must understand phenomenon such as multilingualism and literacies as socially mediated processes that cannot be separated from the broader social cultural historical contexts and the dynamics of power in which they occur. Her interdisciplinary research is focused on four interrelated and often overlapping strands: language learning efforts that foster multilingualism/biliteracy in school and out-of-school contexts; educational language policy and planning and its equity impacts for ELs; Latin@s and education; and teacher education & practices that promote the values of multilingualism, multiculturalism, and social justice across educational settings.