

XIMENA FRANCO, Ph. D.

ADDRESS

FPG Child Development Institute
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CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION

2007	Ph. D. in Psychology, 2007 Florida International University, Florida
2003	M.S. in Psychology, 2003 Florida International University, Florida
2000	B. A. in Psychology, 2000 Florida International University, Florida
1998	Associate in Arts, Psychology, 1998 Miami Dade Community College, Florida

OTHER EDUCATION/SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS

February, 2020	CLASS Pre-K TTT; Teachstone Affiliate
June, 2019	Introduction to Social Network Analysis using R and RStudio by Stats Camp

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AT FPG CHILD DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

2020 - Present	State Implementation and Scaling-up of Evidence-based Practices
2018 - Present	Advanced Research Scientist (Promotion)
2018 - Present	Co-Principal Investigator BEE Project: Bilingualism, Education, and Excellence
2018 – 2020	Principal Investigator Statewide Early Childhood B-5 Needs Assessment

(PDG B-5).

2016 - Present	Investigator Comprehensive Study of Early Education in Rural North Carolina
2016 - 2018	Principal Investigator Prekindergarten Education Monitoring System Design Consultation and Coordination
2016 - 2018	Co-Principal Investigator Creating Professional Development Resources for Child Care Providers Working with Dual Language Learners
2014 - 2017	Co-Principal Investigator Social Networks and Academic Engagement in a Bilingual Environment
2016 to 2017	Investigator Illinois Quality Rating and Improvement System Validation and Child Outcome Study
2014 to 2016	Co-Principal Investigator North Carolina Tiered Quality Improvement Rating System
2009 to 2015	Investigator/Project Director (2009-2014), Interim PI (2014-2015) Nuestros Niños School Readiness Program Responsible for training and supervision of 12 data collectors in CA, FL & NC, and coordinating data management & analysis with programmers and statisticians.
2012 to 2014	Investigator/Project Director Center for Early Care and Education Research; Dual Language Learners (CECER-DLL) Responsible for recruitment and assessment of 320 participants in multisite study (PA, FL, CA), and for coordinating data management & analysis with programmers and statisticians.

PUBLICATIONS

Publications in Peer Reviewed Journals

Castro, D., Scheffner-Hammer, C., **Franco, X.**, Burchinal, M., Cycyk, L., & Scarpino, S. (in press). Documenting bilingual experiences in the early years: Using the CECER-DLL child and family and teacher questionnaires. Manuscript submitted to *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition*

Burchinal, P., Bezdek, K., Foster, T., Bratsch-Hines, M., & **Franco, X.**, (resubmitted). Quality dimension and level of measurement: Relating early care and education quality and practice to preschool outcomes. Manuscript submitted to *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*.

Franco, X., Burchinal, P., Peisner-Feinberg, E. & Bratsch-Hines, M. (under review). Pre-Kindergarten dual language learners in rural North Carolina: Classroom practices and gains in language and academic outcome in English and Spanish. Manuscript to be submitted to *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*

Gardner-Neblett, N., **Franco, X.**, & Mincemoyer, C., & Morgan-Lopez, A. (2020). The impact of professional development and coaching on early language and literacy instructional practices. Manuscript submitted to *Journal of Early Childhood Teacher Education*. Advance Online Publication. doi: [10.1080/10901027.2020.1718805](https://doi.org/10.1080/10901027.2020.1718805)

Franco, X., Bryant, D., Gillanders, C., Castro, D., Zepeda, M., & Willoughby, M. (2019). Examining linguistic interactions of DLLs in preschool classrooms using the Language Interaction Snapshot (LISn). *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, 48, 50-61.

Bratsch-Hines, M; Burchinal, P., Peisner-Feinberg, E. & **Franco, X.** (2019). Frequency of instructional practices in rural prekindergarten classrooms and associations with child language and literacy skills. Manuscript submitted to *Early Childhood Research Quarterly*, 47, 74-88.

Castro, D., Gillanders, C., **Franco, X.**, Bryant, D., Willoughby, M., & Zepeda, M. (2017). Early education of dual language learners: A randomized control trial of the Nuestros Niños School Readiness Program. *Early Childhood Research Quarterly* 40, 188-203.

Gillanders, C., **Franco, X.**, Seidel, K., Castro, D. C., & Mendez, L. I. (2017). Young dual language learners' emergent writing development. *Early Child Development and Care*, 187, 371-382. doi: 10.1080/03004430.2016.1211124

Gillanders, C., Castro, D. C., & **Franco, X.** (2014). Learning words for life: Promoting vocabulary in dual language learners. *The Reading Teacher*, 68 (3):213-221.

Franco, X., Saavedra, L. M., & Silverman, W. K. (2007). Examining the external validity of comorbid patterns of anxiety. *Journal of Anxiety Disorders, 21*, 717-729.

Peer Reviewed Books & Book Chapters

Castro, D. C., & **Franco, X.** (in press). Equitable learning opportunities for young bilingual children: Strategies to promote oral language development. To appear in: Alanis, I. (Editor). *Advancing Equity in Early Childhood Education*. Washington, D.C.: National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Non-Peer Reviewed Books & Book Chapters

Halle, T., Castro, D., **Franco, X.**, McSwiggan, M., Hair, E., Wandner, L. (2011). The Role of Early Care and Education in the Development of Young Latino Dual Language Learners. In Cabrera, N., Villarruel, F. & Fitzgerald, H. (Eds). *Latino/a Adolescent Psychology and Mental Health. Volume I: Early to Middle Childhood-Development and Context*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO.

Franco, X. & Silverman W. K. (2005). School refusal. In C. B. Fisher, & R. M. Lerner (Eds.) *Applied developmental science: An encyclopedia of research, policies, and programs*. Thousand Oaks: Sage, VOL 2 (956-957). doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.4135/9781412950565.n362>

Franco, X., & Silverman W. K. (2003). School refusal. In T. H. Ollendick & C. S. Schroeder (Eds). *Encyclopedia of Clinical Child and Pediatric Psychology*. Kluwer Academic/Plenum Publishers.

Franco, X., & Silverman, W. K. (2003). School phobia and school refusal. In J. J. Ponzetti, Jr. (Ed.), *International Encyclopedia of marriage and family*, Vol. 3 (pp. 1410-1414). New York: MacMillan.

Publications for Practitioners and Policy Makers

Franco, X., Yazejian, N., LaForett, D., Peisner-Feinberg, E., Kasprzak, C. M., Bryant, D. M., . . . Zgourou, E. (2020). North Carolina statewide birth-5 needs assessment final report. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina, Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute.

Soliday-Hong, S., Yazejian, N., Zadronzy, S., Bratsch-Hines, M., **Franco, X.**, De Marco, A., . . . Jenkins, G. P. (2020). Babies First North Carolina program evaluation. Chapel Hill, NC: Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Bouza, J., Camacho-Thomson, D., Carlo, G., **Franco, X.**, Garcia Coll, C., Halgunseth, L.,

...White R., (2018, June). *The science is clear: Separating families has long-term damaging psychological and health consequences for children, families and communities*. Washington, D. C.: Society for Research in Child Development.

Yazejian, N., **Franco**, X., Bryant, D., Morgan, J., Simpson, T., & Kuhn, L. (2017, December). *North Carolina tiered quality rating and improvement system validation study final report*. Chapel Hill, NC: Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Selected Peer-Review Conference Presentations

Sullivan, Margaret M., Diehl, S., **Franco**, X., deRosset, L., Birken, S. A., & Aldridge, W. A. II. (2020, December). *Measuring the role of networks in driving effective program scale-up*. Poster accepted to the 13th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health, Boston, MA.
<https://www.academyhealth.org/events/site/13th-annual-conference-science-dissemination-and-implementation-health>.

LaForett, D., **Franco**, X., Simpson, M. T., Mumma, K., Nguyen, M., & Winsler, A. (2020). *Fidelity of implementation in Spanish-English dual language programming in early elementary classrooms*. To be presented at the meeting of the National Research Conference on Early Childhood.

Winsler, A., Mumma, K., Nguyen, M., **Franco**, X., Simpson, M, T., & LaForett, D. (2020). *Students Engagement in Two-Way Immersion (Spanish-English) Classrooms in Kindergarten through 3rd Grade: Language of Instruction and Child Home Language*. To be presented at the meeting of the National Research Conference on Early Childhood.

Bezdek, K.G., Foster, T. F., **Franco**, X., & Burchinal, M. (2020). *Cross-domain, cross-language academic skill relations among Spanish-English dual-language learners*. To be presented at the meeting of the National Research Conference on Early Childhood.

Everett, A., Roppolo, R., **Franco**, X., Armstrong, J., Austen, J (February, 2020). *Building organizational capacity to implement Triple P: Can external implementation support help?* Presented at the 2020 Helping Families Change Conference, Brisbane, Australia

Diehl, S., **Franco**, X, deRosett, L., Aldridge, W. A (February, 2020). *Using social network analysis as a tool to drive Triple P communication strategies*. Presented at the 2020 Helping Families Change Conference, Brisbane, Australia

- Franco, X.**, Burchinal, P., Peisner-Feinberg, E. & Bratsch-Hines, M. (April, 2019). *English and Spanish gains across time of dual language learners in rural North Carolina*. Presented at the 2019 SRCD Biennial Meeting, Baltimore, DC.
- Franco, X.**; Peisner-Feinberg, E., & Burchinal, M. (June, 2018). *English and Spanish gains of dual language learners attending pre-kindergarten classrooms in rural North Carolina*. Paper presented at the meeting of the National Research Conference on Early Childhood, Arlington, VA.
- Franco, X.**, LaForett, D., Simpson, M., Bivins, E., & Odom, S. (April, 2017). *The social networks of students attending a dual language education setting: Patterns across and within home language groups*. Presented at the 2017 SRCD Biennial Meeting, Austin, Texas.
- LaForett, D., **Franco, X.**, Simpson, M., Bivins, E., & Odom, S. (April, 2017). *Does student home language background make a difference in classroom engagement? Findings from a dual language education setting*. Presented at the 2017 SRCD Biennial Meeting, Austin, Texas.
- Castro, D., Hammer, C., Burchinal, M., Espinosa, L; Garcia, E., **Franco, X.** (April, 2017). *Variability in exposure to and use of L1 and L2, quality of teaching practices, and the language development of bilingual children*. Presented at the 2017 SRCD Biennial Meeting, Austin, Texas.
- Gillanders, C., Castro, D., & **Franco, X.** (Aug, 2014). *Preparing early childhood educators to work with young dual language learners*. Presented at the NAEYC's 2014 National Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development, Minneapolis, MN.
- Castro, D., Scheffner Hammer, C., Espinosa, L., Burchinal, M., Garcia, E., **Franco, X.**, & Matera, C. (Jul, 2014). *Language exposure and use and its association with language abilities in Spanish-English dual language learners: Preliminary findings*. Presented at the Head Start 12th National Research Conference, Washington, DC.
- Castro, D., Gillanders, C., Bryant, D., **Franco, X.**, & Zepeda, M. (Jul, 2014). *Preschool interventions promoting the development of school readiness skills in English language learners: Results from three randomized control trials*. Presented at the Head Start 12th National Research Conference, Washington, DC.
- Gillanders, C., Castro, D., & **Franco, X.** (Nov, 2013). *The Nuestros Niños Program: Strategies for the development of vocabulary in dual language learners*. Presented at the 2013 NAEYC Annual Conference & Expo, Washington, DC.
- Franco, X.**, Castro, D., Gillanders, C., Bryant, D., Willoughby, M., & Zepeda, M. (Apr 2013). *Linguistic interactions and quality of classroom practices for Spanish-*

speaking dual language learners. Presented at the 2013 SRCDC Biennial Meeting, Seattle, Washington.

Castro, D., Gillanders, C., **Franco**, X., Bryant, D., Willoughby, M., & Zepeda, M. (Apr 2013). *Nuestros Niños Program: Promoting school readiness with dual language learners*. Presented at the 2013 SRCDC Biennial Meeting, Seattle, Washington.

Zepeda, M., Castro, D., & **Franco**, X. (Oct 2012) *The Nuestros Niños Program: Understanding socio-emotional development in young dual language learners*. Presented at the On New Shores 2012 Conference, Guelph, Ontario.

Castro, D., **Franco**, X., Gillanders, C., Bryant, D., & Zepeda, M. (June 2012) *The Nuestros Niños Program: Understanding socio-emotional development with dual language learners*. Presented at the Head Start 11th National Research Conference, Washington, DC.

Castro, D., **Franco**, X., Gillanders, C., Bryant, D., & Zepeda, M. (Mar 2012). *The Nuestros Niños Program: Understanding the role of language and culture on dual language learners' socio-emotional development*. Presented at the 2012 SRCDC Themed Meeting: Positive Development of Minority Children, Tampa, FL.

Gillanders, C., Castro, D., & **Franco**, X. (Sep 2011). *El Programa Nuestros Niños: Estrategias para el desarrollo del primer idioma en niños bilingües (Nuestros Niños Program: Strategies for the development of the primary language in dual Language learners)*. Presented at the 2011 NAEYC Annual Conference & Expo, Orlando, FL.

Castro, D., Gillanders, C., & **Franco**, X. (Sep 2011). *Promoting school readiness for young dual language learners*. Presented at the 2011 NAEYC Annual Conference & Expo, Orlando, FL.

Invited Conference Presentations

Gillanders, C., Castro, D. C., **Franco**, X., Mendez, L. (July 2018). *Young Dual Language Learners' Emergent Writing Development*. Presented at the International Literacy Association Conference, Austin, TX.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES

Gardner-Neblett, N., **Franco**, X., & Simpson, T. (2016). *Dual language learners: strategies for successful opportunities in ECE*. Available at <http://extension.psu.edu/youth/betterkidcare/lessons/dll>.

SERVICE AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH PRODUCTS

Ayankoya, B., De Marco, A. C., Morgan, J.D., LaForett, D. R., **Franco, X.**, Morgan, W., & FPG's Race, Culture, and Ethnicity Committee. (2018, May). *What Racism Looks Like: An Infographic*. Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Available at: <http://fpg.unc.edu/sites/fpg.unc.edu/files/resources/other-resources/What%20Racism%20Looks%20Like.pdf>

Ayankoya, B., De Marco, A. C., Morgan, J.D., LaForett, D. R., **Franco, X.**, Morgan, W., & FPG's Race, Culture, and Ethnicity Committee. (2018, January). *Racial Microaggressions Perpetuate Inequity: An Infographic*. Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Available at: <http://fpg.unc.edu/sites/fpg.unc.edu/files/resources/other-resources/RacialMicroaggressionsPerpetuateInequity.pdf>

Ayankoya, B., De Marco, A. C., Morgan, J.D., LaForett, D. R., **Franco, X.**, Morgan, W., & FPG's Race, Culture, and Ethnicity Committee. (2017, June). *Racial (In)Equity: An Infographic*. Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Available at: <http://fpg.unc.edu/sites/fpg.unc.edu/files/resources/reports-and-policy-briefs/Racial%20%28In%29Equity%20infographic.pdf>

De Marco, A. C., Morgan, J.D., Ayankoya, B., & **FPG's Race, Culture, and Ethnicity Committee**. (2017, June). *A Brief Primer on Racial Equity: A Handout*. Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Available at: <http://fpg.unc.edu/sites/fpg.unc.edu/files/resources/other-resources/Brief%20PrimerRacialEquityHandOut.pdf>

Morgan, W., Ayankoya, B., De Marco, A. C., Morgan, J.D., LaForett, D. R., **Franco, X.**, Morgan, W., & FPG's Race, Culture, and Ethnicity Committee. (2017, September). *Racial Inequities in School Discipline: An Infographic*. Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Available at: <http://fpg.unc.edu/sites/fpg.unc.edu/files/resources/other-resources/RacialInequitiesSchoolDiscipline.pdf>

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

CURRENT FUNDING

(LaForett, PI)

07/18 to 06/21

U.S. Department of Education (\$1,400,000, total costs)

Young Children in Dual Language Education Programs: Language of Instruction, Engagement, Self-concept, Approaches to Learning, and Student-Teacher Relationships as Contributors to Academic Outcomes

Role: Co-Principal Investigator

(Seifer, PI)

6/16 to 05/21

U.S. Department of Education (\$3,999,296, total costs)

Comprehensive Study of Early Learning in Rural North Carolina

Role: Investigator

(Aldridge, PI)

12/17 to 05/21

Duke Endowment (\$889,100, total costs)

The Implementation Capacity for Triple P (ICTP) Projects in North Carolina and South Carolina, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Role: Co-Investigator

(Ward, Caryn, PI)

09/19 to 08/22

RTI International

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Data Analysis and Research Partner

Role: Investigator

COMPLETED FUNDING (last 3 years)

(Franco, PI)

03/19 to 02/20

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)/Division of Child Development and Early Education (\$524,935, total costs)

Statewide Early Childhood B-5 Needs Assessment (PDG B-5).

Role: Principal Investigator

(Hong, PI)

12/19 to 02/20

Child Care Services Association (\$74,975, total costs)

Babies First North Carolina Program Evaluation Model

Role: Investigator

(Franco, PI)

06/16 to 12/18

The Lewin Group-FPG Subcontract (\$117,982, total costs)

Vermont Agency of Education

PreK Monitoring System Design Consultation and Coordination

Role: Principal Investigator

(LaForett, PI)

09/14 to 06/19

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (\$100,000, total costs)

Social Networks and Academic Engagement in a Bilingual Educational Environment

Role: Co-Principal Investigator

(Hong, PI)

12/17 to 12/18

Heising Simons Foundation (\$100,000, total costs)

Project Title: Systematic Review of Literature on Early Childhood Education

Role: Research Assistant

(Gardner-Neblett, PI)

02/16 to 12/17

Better Kid Care, The Pennsylvania State University (\$50,000, total costs)

Creating Professional Development Resources for Child Care Providers Working with Dual Language Learners

Role: Co-Principal Investigator

REVIEWER FOR PROFESSIONAL JOURNALS

December 2019 to present

Topics in Early Childhood Special Education

April 2019 to present

Early Child Development and Care

June 2018 to present

Early Childhood Research Quarterly

April 2015 to present

Journal of Psychiatric Research

April 2011 to present

Journal of Early Intervention

January 2006 to December 2008

Journal of Anxiety Disorders

January 2006 to December 2008

Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology

REVIEWER FOR PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

2021 Society for Research on Child Development

2020 National Research Conference on Early Childhood

2013 Head Start 12th National Research Conference

2011 Society for Research on Child Development: 2012 Developmental Methodology Themed Meeting

2011 Head Start 11th National Research Conference

AWARDS

2018 UNC Diversity Award: Intergroup collaboration. FPG Race, Culture, and Ethnicity Research Collaborative

2011 The Joanne Erwick Roberts Early Career Award (\$500)

PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2019 – Present	Member-SRCD Communication Advisory Panel
2013 - Present	Panel Reviewer for the Office of Planning, Research and evaluation (OPRE). Administration for Children and Families (ACF)
2014 - Present	Co-Leader for FPG’s International Initiative
2015 - 2019	Treasurer- Society for Research in Child Development-Latino Caucus
2010 - 2018	Member of the Race, Culture, and Ethnicity Research Collaborative (R.A.C.E.R)
2016	Member, FPG Strategy and Vision Committee-Research
2011 to 2017	Advisory Council member for KidScope Early Intervention & Family Support Program
2014 to 2016	Member of the FPG Management Team
2014 to 2016	Co-Leader for FPG’s strategic area on Race, Ethnicity, Linguistic, Cultural and Socioeconomic Diversity

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society for Research in Child Development, Latino Caucus
American Psychological Association, Division 53
National Association for the Education of Young Children