

Teaching and Research Interests

Teaching has been an integral part of my career. I have taught at several universities in the United States and Chile, with international experiences in México and Spain. During my years at the University of Houston, I have developed and taught several linguistic courses at the undergraduate level, and I developed a complete program in linguistics composed of a wide variety of courses at the graduate level. I have worked in the development of special Spanish courses for students with Hispanic heritage and in the creation of a placement exam for these students. I am comfortable teaching in a variety of ways: lecturing, discussions among students and instructor, or a combination of both. I am also comfortable teaching with or without the support of technology in the traditional classroom or on TV and WebCT, which have been part of my teaching experience. I have had the pleasure and the privilege to have developed an area in my field that has allowed me to direct students in an important number of dissertations. I worked closely with seven Ph.D. students in their dissertations and now they hold positions at important institutions like University of Massachusetts Amherst, University of Houston and North Carolina State University. At this moment I am directing seven Ph.D. dissertations and I have other students with whom I have built a professional relation to work in future dissertations.

I have conducted research on phenomena of linguistic change in several dialects of the Spanish speaking world. Of particular importance are my studies on processes of language change in progress that are taking place in the Spanish spoken in the United States due to its contact situation with English. I have published articles about the subject in diverse journals of the field in the United States, Europe, and Latin America, as well as the book *Ser y estar en el habla de Michoacán*, México (UNAM, 1994). I am co-editor of *Pablo Neruda: Algunos poemas, algunos discursos, algunas campanas* (Ediciones Escaparate, 2001) and *Pablo Neruda: Yo respondo con mi obra (1930-1959)*, an annotated collection of Neruda's unpublished writings with a long introductory study (Ediciones Universidad de Salamanca, 2004). At present I am working on the second volume of Neruda's writings (1960-1973). I am also working on a major project related to the Spanish clitic placement and the processes of change involved from the 16th century to the 20th century in Mexico and the United States, with written and oral data mainly from the Southwest and Texas, in particular. Three of my articles on the topic will appear soon in Spain and England in important journals of the discipline, and I am also developing a book length study on the topic.