

UNIVERSITY of  
**HOUSTON**



**Name:** Virginia Snodgrass Rangel

**Department/College:** Educational Leadership & Policy Studies

**Research Area:** Education

**Biography:**

I received my B.A. in International Studies from Middlebury College, and her M.A. in Government and Ph.D. in Educational Administration from The University of Texas at Austin. After graduation from UT-Austin, I was the Associate Director of Research at Rice University's Center for Digital Learning and Scholarship, where my team and I researched the effectiveness and implementation of a PreK-12 online science curriculum, STEMscopes, as well as the use of learning analytics in program evaluation. We won an NSF DRK-12 grant to support our work, specifically to student how middle school teachers use data in their daily work and to collaborate with them to improve the online curriculum's data dashboard. My research interests are diverse, and include science education, teacher leadership, data use policy and practice, policy implementation, program evaluation, and school reform. Currently, I'm working on publishing findings from our work on our NSF project, and I am developing two new projects in very different areas. One is on high school reform here in Texas, and the second is on a human capital reform initiative at a local charter school network. While my current research focuses on education policy in the U.S., my background in comparative politics and policy, particularly in Latin America, keeps me interested in developments abroad. Having lived in Chile for almost two years, I am looking forward to finding a way to weave Chilean education reform and politics back into my research agenda and to incorporate UH undergraduate students into that work.