

ÉXITO ANNUAL REPORT

*Educational eXcellence in Inclusive Training
Opportunities*

2022-2023



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Executive Summary

The annual report highlights the main accomplishments of the 2022-2023 school year and future directions of the ÉXITO program.

The ÉXITO student cohort for 2022-2023 has doubled in size, going from 5 to 10 students. This cohort of students all received the URCA grant to conduct individual research related to Ethnic/Feminist Studies. Students have applied and been accepted to all graduate programs that they applied to, choosing between the top TEP&MA programs in the UC system.

2021-2022 cohort graduates:

Juana Martinez- UCLA Teacher Education Program

Vince Feliciano- Associate Teacher at Rocketship Public Schools

Amanda Doan- Year-long Study Abroad

ÉXITO had its inaugural Summer Institute June 2022. Twenty five educators participated and built community in their efforts towards implementing and teaching Ethnic Studies. This year, we hope to double in size in order to continue supporting Ethnic Studies within public education.

We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Hui-Ling Malone to our core faculty group.

The program has built its visibility within the university and community. We will begin our Speaker Series this Spring 2023, bringing award winning faculty and experts in the field to the UCSB community. We have partnered with the CA Global Education Project, CA Faculty Association, and local school districts like Santa Barbara and Oxnard Union.

Mission & Values

Our mission is to train current and future Ethnic Studies educators.



ÉXITO is the first program of its kind in the UC system providing a clearly structured pathway for future and current educators to become K-12 Ethnic Studies teachers. The ÉXITO program enables UCSB undergraduate future teachers to bring the broader world of ideas and approaches, derived from multiple cross-cultural histories and experiences into the classroom to strengthen their connection to their students, the vast majority of whom are ethnic minorities in California's public school system.

In our efforts to support current educators and districts in California, ÉXITO Summer Institute addresses the timely need for Ethnic Studies theoretical, practical, and pedagogical training.

Ethnic Studies programming tells the story of us all. It inspires imagination, cultivates curiosity and encourages critical thinking. Drawing upon many disciplines, students in ÉXITO are exposed to materials with roots in the lived experiences of many communities, including their own. They develop a stronger, deeper engagement of the fundamentals by expanding the sources of knowledge and seeing the stakes of their own life reflected in their school curriculum.



OUR TEAM

2022-2023

ÉXITO Administrative Team

<p>LISA SUN-HEE PARK</p> <p>Co-Director</p> <p>Department: Asian American Studies</p>	<p>REBECA MIRELES-RIOS</p> <p>Co-Director</p> <p>Department: Education</p>	<p>ADANARI ZARATE</p> <p>Associate Director Lecturer</p>
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Core Faculty

<p>INGRID BANKS</p> <p>Department: Black Studies</p>	<p>D. INÉS CASILLAS</p> <p>Department: Chicana/o Studies</p>
<p>DIANE FUJINO</p> <p>Department: Asian American Studies</p>	<p>LAURY OAKS</p> <p>Department: Feminist Studies</p>
<p>TERRANCE WOOTEN</p> <p>Department: Black Studies</p>	<p>HUI-LING MALONE</p> <p>Department: Education</p>

Meet Our Co-Directors

Dr. Lisa Sun-Hee Park



Q: What does your role and work in ÉXITO entail?

I serve as co-director and co-PI of ÉXITO. I work closely with Rebeca Mireles Rios and Adanari Zarate in the daily administration of ÉXITO, along with the larger core faculty team. In addition to day-to-day decision-making, my role primarily involves planning future events, meeting with various stakeholders and interested partners, supporting ÉXITO-related research, and promoting the overall visibility of ÉXITO.

Q: Tell us about yourself, educational background, and how you arrived here?

I'm an immigrant from South Korea. I arrived when I was seven years old and my first experience in a classroom was as a second grader in a new country where I did not know a single word of English. From those early years, I still remember my kind teachers in the English-as-a-second language program in Mountain View, CA. My family later moved to Albuquerque, NM and I still consider it my hometown. I went on to attend college in Texas, majoring in journalism, sociology, and women's studies; and then to graduate school in sociology at Northwestern University. Upon graduation, I finally found my intellectual home in Ethnic Studies – a discipline that did not exist as an option for me when I was a student. I have had the privilege of being a faculty member in the Department of Ethnic Studies at the University of Colorado, Boulder and UC-San Diego; and now, I am professor of Asian American Studies at UCSB. I view ÉXITO as the culmination of my educational journey and am honored to work with such amazing collaborators.

Q: What's been the biggest challenge so far about this work?

My biggest challenge is solidifying ÉXITO as a long-term program at UCSB. We were lucky to receive a \$3 million grant in 2020 to start this initiative but this is just the beginning. We have until September 2025 to build a stable infrastructure with viable, long-term funding sources that will support our mission to ensure excellent Ethnic Studies teachers and curriculum in our public school system. Given the deep social and political divisions across the nation and globally, I believe Ethnic Studies is more important than ever and I am dedicated to meeting this challenge.

Q: What excites you most about being part of ÉXITO? Do you have a favorite experience so far?

It is incredibly exciting to see ÉXITO come "alive." We can see evidence of this in the accomplishments of our undergraduate ÉXITO scholars, the collaborative research of our graduate students and faculty, and the enthusiasm of the ÉXITO Summer Institute participants. And, while it is difficult to identify a single experience as a favorite, I am reminded weekly during our administrative meetings how fortunate I am to work with Adanari and Rebeca as partners in this meaningful endeavor. It hardly feels like work.

Meet Our Co-Directors

Dr. Rebeca Mireles-Rios



Q: Tell us about yourself, educational background, and how you arrived here?

I was born and raised in San Francisco, California. My mom grew up in the Sunset District in a multi-generational home, learning English when she went to Kindergarten. My dad, born in Mexico, came to San Francisco when he was in elementary school and grew up in the Mission District. When I left home to go to UC Davis, I took my first Chicano Studies Course. I will never forget that classroom space, having a teacher I identified with, and learning pieces of my history I never knew. Through my involvement with the Chicano Studies Department and a student group on campus (MEChA), one of the Chicana administrators on campus took me to tour Stanford's Graduate Program in Education. I ended up going to UC Berkeley where I earned my K-12 Teaching Credential and MA in Education. I taught a 6th grade English/History Core in a middle school and taught an afterschool Chicanos in Film Course for several years.

Q: What's been the biggest challenge so far about this work?

One of the biggest challenges is thinking about the sustainability of the program and ensuring we have the funding to carry on the work we are doing.

Q: What does your role and work in ÉXITO entail?

I am the Co-Director and Co-PI of ÉXITO with Lisa Park. We work closely with our Associate Director Adanari Zarate. At our weekly meetings we problem solve through administrative hurdles, assess the needs of our students, and plan for the future of the program. Some of my main roles include working with graduate students on ÉXITO research projects and presentations, meeting with campus and school partners, and planning and thinking through events, meetings, and our Summer Institute. I am grateful to have Lisa and Adanari as thought partners throughout this process.

Q: What excites you most about being part of ÉXITO? Do you have a favorite experience so far?

There is so much that excites me about ÉXITO. I would have to say it is the people (faculty, graduate students, undergraduate students, teachers, and community members) that I have had the opportunity to meet with and work with because of ÉXITO. We are fortunate to have our Core Faculty Team (comprised of faculty from Feminist Studies, Asian American Studies, Black Studies, and Chicana and Chicano Studies) who are experts in their fields, leaders in Ethnic Studies Movements, and leaders on this campus. At our Summer Institute 2022, I was able to witness my colleagues share their knowledge with high school ethnic studies teachers. They reminded me why this work is so important.

Graduate Student Researchers

**Miriam
Burnett**

**Fall 2020 -
Spring 2023**

Department:
Education

**Royce
Olarte**

**Fall 2021-
Spring 2023**

Department:
Education

**Edward
Reyes**

**Fall 2022 -
Spring 2023**

Department:
Chicanx Studies

**Paula
Sevilla**

**Fall 2022 -
Spring 2023**

Department:
Education

A Spotlight on...

Miriam Burnett, M.A.



Miriam (middle) is starting her third year as a graduate student researcher with ÉXITO.

My research as a graduate student researcher (GSR) for ÉXITO is driven by a larger study based on a Department of Education grant. This may be the first time people understand how ethnic and feminist studies coursework has an influence on changes in perceptions of self, family, and of others from different backgrounds for STEM students. Soft skills are particularly important for considering nontraditional problem solving, and my work considers strengthening relationships between technical competencies and the cultural competencies, as both essential for success in the 21st century workplace.

The data was presented to me while working with the ÉXITO program as a GSR. While doing some coding, the team and I thought the STEM student responses were particularly unique. In the research I did, this may be the first time that many readers of our work are exposed to the cultural perspectives of STEM students after ethnic/feminist studies provided new approaches to thinking and learning how to better promote equality and use their platforms in STEM to bring forth more opportunities for social justice within those career and subject disciplines.

GGSE and the faculty included in the ÉXITO program have given me the resources to pursue a higher education degree that I can be proud of moving forward. Staff and peers too, have embraced my research and often express to me that they have expanded their multicultural lens after casual encounters or within classroom conversations after becoming more familiar with ethnic and feminine studies content.

ÉXITO SCHOLARS

2022-2023 Academic School Year



DEVON TUMULAK

They/He

Major: Asian American
Studies

Minor: Education

Hometown:
Fairfield, CA.



LESLIE ARZATE

She/Her

Major:
Feminist
Studies

Hometown:
Arvin, CA.



**ANABEL
ROCHA AMBROSIO**

She/Her/Ella

Major: Linguistics &
Feminist Studies
Minor: Poverty, Inequality
& Social Justice

Hometown:
Bakersfield, CA.



HAELI ROSS

She/They

Major: English
Minor: Black Studies &
Education

Hometown:
Los Angeles, CA.



NATALIE MARTIN

She/Her

Major: Chicana/o/x
Studies
Minor: Education

Hometown:
Los Angeles, CA.



ÉXITO SCHOLARS

2022-2023 Academic School Year



ASHLEY JACK

She/Her

Major: Chicana/o/x
Studies

Minors: Spanish and
Education

Hometown:
Crescent City, CA.



ZACARIAS BERNAL

He/They

Major: Chicana/o/x
Studies

Minor:
Education

Hometown:
Montebello, CA.



CAILEY LARMORE

They/She

Major: Asian American
Studies & Psychology
Minor: Education

Hometown:
Santa Clara, CA.



LEVIN FETZER

They/Them/Theirs

Major: Feminist Studies

Hometown:
San Diego, CA.



NATALY RINCON

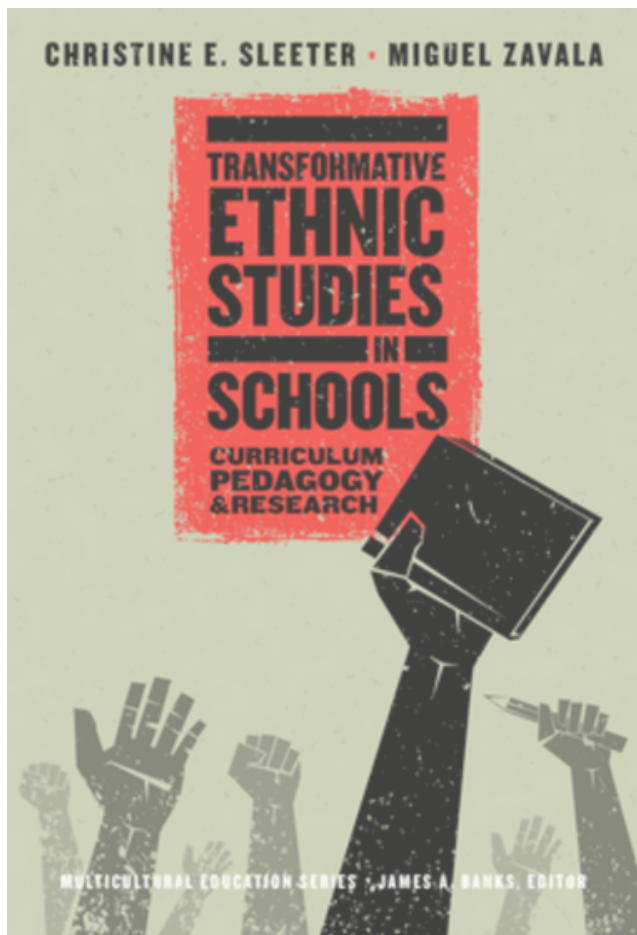
She/Her

Major: Chicana/o/x Studies

Hometown:
Lancaster, CA.



ÉXITO COURSES



ASAM/BLST/CHST/FEMST 101C: TEACHING FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Spring Quarter

Spring 2022

Enrollment: 25

Spring 2023

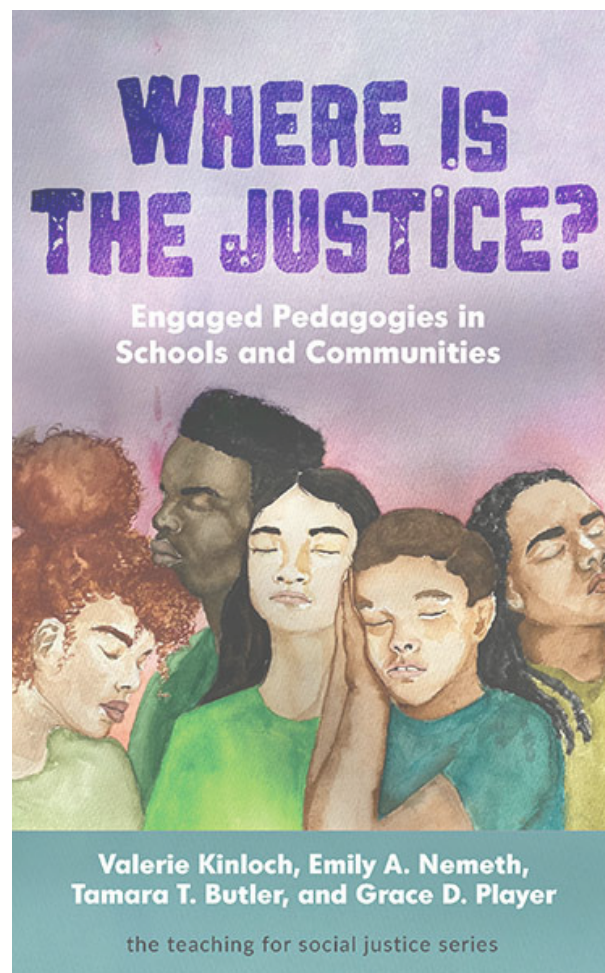
Enrollment: 40

ASAM/BLST/CHST/FEMST 194 A-B-C: ETHNIC STUDIES TEACHER EDUCATION SEMINAR

Year-long ÉXITO Seminar

Fall 2022-Spring 2023

Enrollment: 10



ÉXITO Summer Institute 2022

Partnering with Districts & Inservice Educators

ÉXITO's Summer Institute is a timely answer to the support districts and educators need as they seek to meet California's new Ethnic Studies high school requirement. Through the 5-day institute, K-12 educators gain theoretical and practical knowledge from award winning UCSB faculty in Asian American, Black, Chicana/o, Feminist and Education Studies.



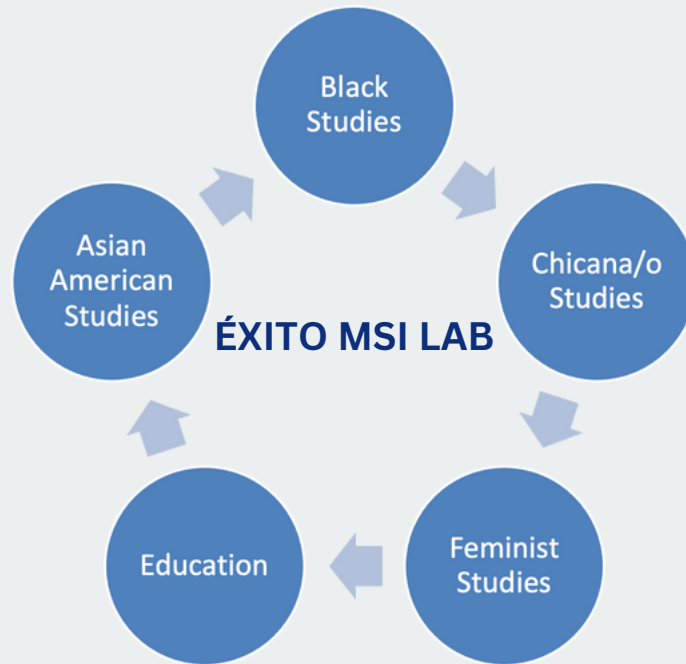
35+ hours of hands-on training
Leading faculty in the field
Resources handbook
Networking with other K-12 educators



25 educators from five districts:

Santa Barbara Unified School District,
Oxnard Union School District, Ventura Unified School District,
Conejo Valley Unified School District, and
Minneapolis Public Schools District

RESEARCH



The purpose of the ÉXITO MSI Research Lab is to collaborate as Ethnic Studies and Feminist Studies faculty and graduate students to produce theoretical and practical contributions to the fields of Ethnic Studies and Education.

Current Projects

Large Scale Longitudinal Study at UC Santa Barbara

- introductory undergraduate courses within ASAM, BLST, CHST, FEMST
- thousands of UCSB students have been surveyed and follow-up qualitative interviews are planned

Central Coast Policy Brief: Ethnic Studies Implementation

- surveying 36 districts that constitute the Central Coast of California

ÉXITO Speaker Series

- highlight Ethnic Studies, Feminist Studies, and Education scholars' research and work
- accessible to UCSB community

Studying the Impact of Ethnic Studies on Santa Barbara Schools

- led by Diane Fujino, Laury Oaks, and Arnelson Concordia

RESEARCH

- Burnett, M. (2022). Cultivating equity in stem education using ethnic studies. 3rd Annual STENT Conference: Building a Community of Supervisors for Equity and Justice, UC Davis, Online.
- Burnett, M. (2022). Improving cultural pre-college science experiences through culturally relevant pedagogies. Center For Black Studies Research Postdoctoral Panel, UC Santa Barbara, Hybrid.
- Burnett, M. (2021). Leading social and education justice: Service and research for communities. CalTeach Symposium: Hosted by UC Merced, Online.
- Nguyen, J. (2022). "A syllabi analysis of Ethnic Studies conceptual frameworks within Teacher Education program courses: Implications for training K-12 Ethnic Studies educators". MA Thesis.
- Nguyen, J., Nishimura, M., Zarate, A., Mireles-Rios, R., Hercules, A., Park, L. (2022). "“I wish I would have learned this in high school”: Building critical consciousness in undergraduate Ethnic and Gender Studies courses". American Educational Research Association (AERA) Conference: San Diego, California.
- Solis, B., Wright, C., Mireles-Rios, R., Park, L., Banks, I., Zarate, A. (2022). "Benefits of Ethnic Studies courses among transfer students at a minority-serving institution. American Educational Research Association (AERA) Conference: San Diego, California.
- Zarate, A., (2023). What is Ethnic Studies? California Global Education Project. University of California, Santa Barbara.
- Zarate, A. (2023). "ÉXITO: Preparing future Ethnic Studies educators". Ethnic Studies Summit. Sacramento State University.

COMMUNITY EDUCATOR PARTNERSHIPS

ÉXITO is working in collaboration with
and in support of...

University of California, Santa Barbara

Dean Charles Hale, Social Sciences

Dean Jeff Milem, Gevirtz Graduate School
of Education (GGSE)

Leila J. Rupp, Interim Graduate Dean
GGSE Teacher Education Program
Chicano Studies Institute (CSI)

Undergraduate Research Consortium

High School Districts

Santa Barbara Unified

Oxnard Union

Rio School District

Ventura Unified

Conejo Valley Unified

Local Cooperating Teachers

Abel Gonzalez

Alejandrina Lorenzano

Anna Guerrero

Carlos Estrada

Joseph Velasco

María Lorenzano

Miranda Jue

San Marcos

Dos Pueblos

Dos Pueblos

Alta Vista

Santa Barbara

San Marcos

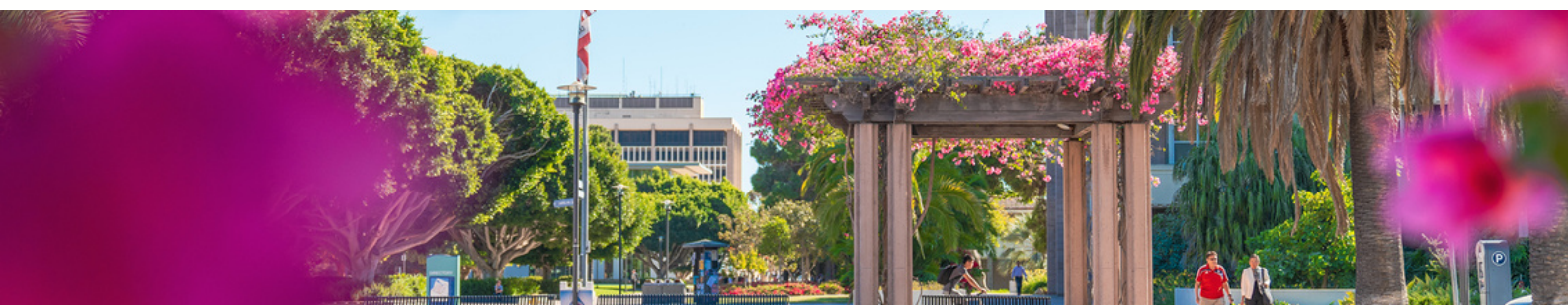
Santa Barbara

&

Artnelson Concordia

Secondary Ethnic Studies Instructional Support Specialist

Association of Raza Educators (A.R.E) Santa Barbara



ÉXITO DONORS

The ÉXITO program and its students would like to thank the generosity and support of:



The Slick Family Foundation



Caroline Cho and Kent Jenkins

"To me, ÉXITO is all about allowing teenagers to feel that their stories matter, because they can relate in some way to the stories their teachers tell. With open eyes come open hearts. And that is when things can change for the better."

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about the ÉXITO program and to connect with us:

Visit us at
<https://exito.ucsb.edu>



Contact

Dr. Adanari Zarate
Associate Director
adanari_zarate@ucsb.edu

Become a donor

Kelly Adams
kelly.adams@ucsb.edu