Tiffany Rodríguez-Cruz

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# Education

**PhD** The Pennsylvania State University, University Park

Dual-Title in Spanish Linguistics and Language Science 2022-2025

Department of Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese [Expected]

**MA** The Pennsylvania State University, University Park

Spanish Linguistics 2020-2022

Department of Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese [Expected]

**BA** University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus

Double major in Socio-cultural Anthropology, Hispanic Linguistics

Minor in Chinese (Mandarin)

Summa Cum Laude, 3.98 of 4.0 GPA scale June 2020

# Graduate Research Experience

**Phonology**, Dr. John Lipski, Pennsylvania State University, University Park Campus, August 2020 to December 2020

* Applying theories and previous findings in phonology to develop a research paper in a topic of interest [**Stress Placement in Reggaeton Songs: A Phonological Approach**] and preparing an abstract for conference submission.
* Reading articles and book chapters on linguistic theory.

**Morphology**, Dr. Mike Putnam, Pennsylvania State University, University Park Campus, August 2020 to December 2020

* Applying theories in morphology to write a squib in a topic of interest [**Puerto Rican Spanglish Verbal Morphology: A DM perspective**].
* Reading articles and book chapters on linguistic theory.

**Generative Syntax**, Dr. Karen Miller, Pennsylvania State University, University Park Campus, August 2020 to December 2020

* Applying generative syntax theories to develop a comparative research paper in a syntactic structure of interest [**Complementizers in Spanish, English and Mandarin**].
* Reading articles and book chapters on linguistic theory.

**Functional Syntax**, Dr. Rena Torres Cacoullos, Pennsylvania State University, University Park Campus, January 2021 to May 2021

* Applying theories and methods of corpus linguistics to develop a group research paper in a topic of interest [with Andrew Fleming, **Questioning the Semantic Constructions of the Human: Gendered Roles and Pronouns in ‘Nature’ Documentaries**] and preparing an abstract for conference submission.
* Reading articles and book chapters on linguistic theory.

**Second Language Acquisition**, Dr. Manuel Pulido, Pennsylvania State University, University Park Campus, January 2021 to May 2021

* Applying theories and methods of SLA and psycholinguistics to develop a research paper in a topic of interest [**Language, Emotions and Sensory Input**] and preparing an abstract.
* Reading articles and book chapters on linguistic theory.

**Statistics**, Dr. Matthew Carlson, Pennsylvania State University, University Park Campus, January 2021 to May 2021

* Applying theories and methods of statistics to develop an analysis and interpretation of a data set using R Studio.
* Reading articles and book chapters on statistics and linguistic theory.

# Teaching Experience

**Spanish 3**, Spanish 3 Instructor, Spanish Basic Language Program, Pennsylvania State University, University Park Campus, January 2021 to present

* Teaching Spanish as a second language to L1 English speakers.
* Preparing materials, grading and answering questions from students.

# Undergraduate Research Experience

**Linguistic Anthropology**, Dr. Evelyn Dean Olmsted, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, January 2017 to July 2017

* Write a short research paper in a topic of interest [**Language and gender**], incorporating theoretical framework and concepts studied throughout the semester.
* Reading articles and books on anthropological and linguistic theory.

**Anthropology Seminar**, Dr. Paola Schiappacasse, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, August 2018 to December 2018

* Develop an Undergraduate Thesis in a topic of interest [***Dragon Ears: Perception of Chinese lexical tones in children with cochlear implants in China between 1995-2010***], studying diverse methodologies, reference styles and managing different databases.
* Efficient and organized work under the guidance of a mentor to meet the expectations of a thorough research assignment by handing in bi-weekly reports of the progress made and finally giving an oral presentation.
* Reading books, articles and published thesis to condense the information.
* Making arguments according to the knowledge acquired.
* Learning different references systems and using them for bibliography purposes.

**Psycholinguistics**, Prof. Rosa E. Guzzardo Tamargo, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, August 2018 to December 2018

* Researching multiple topics and writing short papers on each experiment throughout the semester.
  + Lexicon
  + Speech error
  + Tip of the tongue phenomenon
  + Syntactic priming
  + Structural preferences (to solve ambiguous sentences)

**Spanish Morphosyntax**, Prof. Rosa E. Guzzardo Tamargo, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, January 2019 to May 2019

* Researching a topic of interest in the course [***Syntactic preferences in cases of code-switching by bilingual Puerto Rican college students of the UPRRP.***] and writing a thorough group paper.
  + **Rodríguez Cruz, T.**, Acevedo Vélez, L. D., Román Irizzary, A., & Ríos Ghigliotty, J. N. (2020). Preferencia sintáctica de alternancia de código en estudiantes universitarios bilingües puertorriqueños. In N. R. Faraclas, R. Severing, C. Weijer, E. Echteld, & W. Rutgers (Eds.), Negotiating Crosswinds: Trans-linguality, Trans-culturality and Trans-identification in the Greater Caribbean (pp. 197–208). Willemstad, Curaçao: University of Curaçao.

**Hispanic Dialectology**, Dr. Luis Ortiz, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, August 2019 to present

* Researching a topic of interest related to the course [***Socio-phonetic perception of /s/ in the Spanish of Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic: A study on variations, attitudes and stereotypes.***], writing a paper and preparing a presentation.
  + **Rodríguez Cruz, T.** (2019) Socio-phonetic perception of /s/ in the Spanish of Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic: A study on variations, attitudes and stereotypes. [On-going research]

# Conferences and Presentations

**Rodríguez Cruz, T.**, Acevedo Vélez, L.D., Román Irizarry, A. Ríos Ghigliotty, J.N. (2019, October). **Syntactic preferences in cases of code-switching by bilingual Puerto Rican college students of the UPRRP.**In Prof. Nicholas Faraclas & Prof. Dannabang Kuwabong, *Caribe Plurilingüe XIII*. University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, Instituto de Estudios del Caribe.

# Honors and Awards

**U.S. Department of State- Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) June-August 2019**

Group-based intensive language instruction and structured cultural enrichment experience in Suzhou, China with the target language of Chinese (Mandarin).

# Languages

**Spanish**: Native Language.

**English**: Second Language.

**Mandarin Chinese**: Intermediate High Listener, Reader, Writer and Speaker.

**Portuguese**: Intermediate Listener and Reader/ Basic Speaker and Writer.

# Lab Experience

**Dussias’ Brain Tracking Lab**

Pennsylvania State University, Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese

August 2020 to present

**Cognition of Adult Language Acquisition (COALA) Lab**

Pennsylvania State University, Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese

August 2020 to present

# Mentoring and Volunteer Work

**Benevento Mentorship Program for new graduate students**

Pennsylvania State University, Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese

August 2021 to present

**Ad Hoc Committee Member of the Spanish, Italian and Portuguese Graduate Student Organization (SIPGSO)**

Pennsylvania State University, Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese

August 2021 to May 2022

**Mentoring students in the National Science Foundation funded Partnership for International Research and Education Program at The Brain Tracking Lab**

Pennsylvania State University, Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese

August 2020 to present

**Tutor of Mandarin Chinese for students at a beginner level**

University of Puerto Rico, School of Humanities, Department of Foreign Languages

August 2018 to December 2019

# Trainings & Certificates

SPSS

R Studio

Praat

GoldVarb

ELAN

Gorilla

Prolific

Experiment Builder

Qualtrics

Microsoft Office

Teaching with Technology (TWT)

CATS IRB Submission

CITI Program

* Social & Behavioral Human Research
* Biomedical Human Subject Research (IRB)
* Internet Research – SBR
* Vulnerable Subjects – Research involving Minors