

Flavia L. Belpoliti

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Areas of interest

Spanish Linguistics. Spanish Second Language Acquisition and Spanish Heritage Language Acquisition. Discourse Analysis and Discourse Linguistics.

Education

- 2011 PhD in Spanish Linguistics.
Dissertation: *Los conectores consecutivos en el español de herencia de Houston: un estudio de los efectos de la instrucción formal*.
Director: Dr. Manuel Gutiérrez. Department of Hispanic Studies, University of Houston.
- 2001 Postgraduates Studies. Master in Discourse Analysis.
College of Philosophy and Letters. Universidad de Buenos Aires.
- 1995 Bachelor Degree in Letters (*Summa cum Laude*).
College of Philosophy and History. Universidad del Salvador (USAL University).
Buenos Aires.

Professional Experience — Academic & Teaching

- 2014-present Assistant Professor of Spanish
Director of the Spanish Language Programs
Department of Literature and Languages. Texas A&M University - Commerce. Commerce, TX
- 2010-2014 Instructional Assistant Professor
Director of the Spanish Language Program
Department of Hispanic Studies. University of Houston. Houston, TX
- 2008-2010 Visiting Professor.
Coordinator of the Spanish for Heritage Learners Program.
Department of Hispanic Studies. University of Houston. Houston, TX
- 2006-2008 Spanish Adjunct.
Lone Star College, Cy Fair. Houston, TX
- 2004-2008 Spanish Lecturer. Spanish for Heritage Learners Program.
University of Houston. Houston, TX
- 2000-2003 Assistant Professor
Spanish Linguistics I and II.
Villasoles Institute. Sign Language Interpreter Career. Buenos Aires
- 1997-2003 Assistant Professor
General Linguistics.

USAL University, Faculty of Letters. Buenos Aires

1997-2002 Coordinator of Introductory Courses: “Reading-comprehension and textual production”
USAL University, Faculty of Letters. Buenos Aires

Courses taught

UNDERGRADUATE

- Spanish Grammar Review (University of Houston, TX)
- Spanish Grammar for Teachers – 4000 level (University of Houston, TX)
- Written Comm. for Spanish Heritage Learners (University of Houston, TX)
- Advance Oral Comm. for Spanish Heritage Learners (University of Houston, TX)
- Written Comm. for Second Language Learners (University of Houston, TX)
- Oral Comm. for Second Language Learners (University of Houston, TX)
- Intensive Elementary Spanish for Heritage Learners (University of Houston, TX)
- Intermediate Spanish for Heritage Learners I and II (University of Houston, TX)
- Beginning Spanish I and II (University of Houston; North Harris College- Tomball; Cy-Fair College, TX)
- Intermediate Spanish I and II (University of Houston, North Harris College; Cy-Fair College, TX)
- Spanish Language for English Translators I and II (University of El Salvador, Argentina)
- Intensive Spanish Grammar (University of El Salvador, Argentina)
- General Linguistics (University of El Salvador, Argentina)
- Semiology (CBC Program, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina)

GRADUATE

- Linguistic Tools for the Translator (intensive seminar) (University of Houston, TX)
- Introduction to Discourse Analysis. (University of Houston, TX)
- Second Language Teaching Methods (University of Houston, TX)
- Spanish Grammar for Teachers – 6000 level (University of Houston, TX)
- Introduction to Language Philosophy (Intensive Seminar. University of El Salvador, Argentina)

Professional Experience — Research

- 2012-2014 Curriculum Designer and Program Developer for the “Spanish-to-English Translation Certificate”. Department of Hispanic Studies and Continuing Education Program. University of Houston, TX
- 2011-2012 Co-writer and Developer of the QEP Grant: “Second Year-Spanish Student Success through Differentiated Instruction”. University of Houston, TX
- 2010-2012 Consultant. Project: “LearnSmart” and “Mundo Interactivo” online learning tools for *Puntos de Partida*, 9th edition. McGrawHill
- 2010-2011 Advisor and Reviewer. Project “Division of TA Online Training Modules”. UH Center for Teaching Excellence – Division of TA Training University of Houston, TX
- 2009-2010 Research Assistant. Project: “Spanish Language Variation and Transfer among Generations in Houston”. Director: Dr. Manuel Gutierrez. University of Houston, TX.

- 2007-2009 Research Assistant. Project: "Computerized Placement Exam for Heritage Speakers of Spanish". Director: Dr. M. Fairclough. University of Houston, TX.
- 2008 Lead Researcher. Project: "LiveMocha System Evaluation: Toward optimality". Live Mocha Language Learning. Bellevue, WA
- 2001-2003 Junior Researcher. Project: *UBACYT UO18* "Conceptual Change and Metacognition: from the informal argumentative discourse to the academic argumentative discourse". University of Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 1999-2001 External Consultant. Project: *Curriculum Development and Articulation - Third Level of General Basic Education* "Language Practices". Curricular Direction. Secretary of Education of the Government of the City of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Publications

- 1999 "Jaqueline Authier-Revuz: un discurso habitado" In: *Gramma Magazine*, USAL Press. Buenos Aires.
- 1999 "De la expropiación a la apropiación: algunas estrategias identitarias en el reclamo de tierras mapuche." *Acts of VIII International Congress of SAL*.
- 2001 "M. Bakhtine: a critic bibliographic review" *Gramma Magazine*, N. 34. USAL Press, Buenos Aires.
- 2011 "*Spanish Boot Camp: Differentiated Instruction through Online Learning Modules*". *SOCALLT Proceedings 2011*. (in press)
- 2011 *Cuadros (four-semester Spanish textbook) 2012*. "Instructor Manual-Lesson Plans Teaching Suggestions" . Cengage
- 2012 *Puentes 6th Ed. (Spanish High Beginners Spanish textbook) 2012*. Testing Program, Strand A Cengage.

In collaboration

- 2013 Belpoliti, F. and Plascencia-Vela, A. "Translation Techniques in the Spanish for Heritage Learners' Classroom: Promoting Lexical Development". Dina Tzagari and George Floros (Eds.) *Translation in Language Teaching and Assessment*. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Press, 65-92
- 2010 Fairclough M., Belpoliti F. and Bermejo E. 2010. "Developing an Electronic Placement Exam for Heritage Learners of Spanish: Challenges and Payoffs". *Hispania*, 93- 2, 273-291
- 2008 Marc Zimmerman , Flavia Belpoliti and Cardenio Bedoya. 2008, *Orbis/Urbis Latino. Los hispanos en la ciudades de los Estados Unidos*. Bravo y Allende/Global CASA
- 2002 Belpoliti, F, Lonchuck M, and Rubione, A. 2003. *Lecturas sobre la abducción de Charles Sanders Peirce*. Ebook-Ethos: Ciencias de la Conducta, Educación. Availble at: <http://www.libronauta.com>
- 2002 "Reglas inferenciales del modelo abductivo en la reformulación metacognitiva para la interpretación de textos literarios". In: *Acts of Internacional Congress in honor to Oswald Ducrot*. Buenos Aires, 2002
- 2001 "La perspectiva metacognitiva en el desarrollo de competencias de comprensión lectora a partir de géneros literarios" *Acts of Internacional Symposium of the Reading Association for*

Latin America, Buenos Aires- October 2001.

2000 “Decir la disforia: acercamiento a la dimensión tímica del narrador en cinco relatos de J. L. Borges” In: *Acts of IV Sessions on Spanish Language*. USAL Press, Buenos Aires.

Presentations – Conferences, Seminars and Workshops

- 2014 Consorcio ELSE Simposium. Round table: *Evaluating Spanish Language Competence*. Panelists: Flavia Belpoliti, Marta Fairclough and Rafael Salaberry. Rice University, Houston, TX. May 1 and 2.
- 2014 Symposium on Spanish as a Heritage Language. Lubbock, TX, February 20-22, 2014
Presentation: “*Lexical creation: Spanish Heritage Learners’ exploitation of the Spanish and English derivational systems*”.
- 2013 LASSO 42nd Annual Conference and Annual Meeting. New Brunswick, NJ, September 19-21, 2013
Presentation: “*Giving advice in the Spanish Health Profession: Culture and Pragmatic Content in the Spanish for Health Professions Curriculum*”
- 2013 19th International Congress of Linguists. Geneva, Switzerland, July 21-27, 2013.
“*Emerging Literacy in Spanish Among Hispanic Heritage University Students in the US: A Pilot Study*”. (Presentation with Marta Fairclough)
- 2013 95th Annual AATSP Conference. San Antonio, TX, July 8-12th, 2013.
Presentation: “*Inquire-based Pedagogy in the Spanish for Heritage Classroom: Cultural Projects and Proficiency Gains*”.
- 2013 2nd Symposium of Spanish in Texas. University of Texas at Austin. Austin, TX, May11, 2013.
Guest Speaker. Presentation: “*Moving Forward: A Spanish High Beginners’ Course*”
- 2013 24th Conference on Spanish in the United States and 9th Conference on Spanish in Contact with Other Languages. McAllen, TX, March 6-9, 2013
a. “*Houston’s Hispanic Community: Understanding Culture Through Research in the SHL Classroom*”. (Presented with Marta Fairclough)
b. “*Translation Techniques in the Spanish for Heritage Learners’ Classroom: Vocabulary Expansion*” (Presentation with Encarna Bermejo and Amira Plascencia):
- 2012 “Language Matters”. Texas A&M University, College Station, TX. February 10th, 2012
Guest Speaker. Presentation: “*Lexical Range of Heritage Learners of Spanish: impact of three semesters of college Spanish*”.
- 2012 The Digital Humanities: A Revolution in Research and Funding Workshop. University of Houston, January 27nd, 2012. Attendee
- 2011 CLASS Faculty Research and Creative Arts Showcase. University of Houston, November 2nd., 2011. Presentation: “*Developing and Implementing the Spanish Heritage Learner’s Placement Exam*”. Poster Presentation
- 2011 UH Teaching Excellence in the 21st Century Conference. University of Houston, October 14th 2011.
Panel session. “*How Can Effective Teaching Be Taught?*” (Panelist)
- 2011 LASSO 40th Annual Conference and Annual Meeting. South Padre Island, Texas, Sept.

- 2011
Presentation: *“Advancing Writing Proficiency: Insights from a Spanish Heritage Speakers’ Placement Exam”*
- 2011 NCAT & Person Course Redesign Workshop. Orlando, Florida, Sept. 2011
Attendee
- 2011 SOCALLT 2011 Annual Conference. Austin. April 2011
Presentation: *“Spanish Boot Camp: Differentiated Instruction through Online Learning Modules”*
- 2011 23rd. Spanish in the US Conference: Spanish in the Public Sphere. Sacramento, March 2011
Presentation: *“Advancing oral proficiency: insights from a Spanish Placement Exam for Heritage Speakers”*
- 2010 SOCALLT 2010 Annual Conference. Hot Springs, Arkansas. May 2010
Presentation *“Developing and Implementing an Online Exam: a Technical Conversation”*
- 2010 UH Faculty Showcase 2010: University of Houston, April 2010
Guest Speaker. Presentation: *“Vamos a Hablar: Using Wimba Voice Tool in the Spanish Program”*.
- 2009 UH Faculty Showcase 2009: University of Houston. February 2009
Presentation: *“Wimba Voice Tool in the Spanish Program”*.
- 2008 AAAL 2008 Annual Conference. Washington DC, March 2008
Presentation: *“Creating a Computerized Placement Exam for Heritage Speakers of Spanish: Preliminary Results from the Pilot Test”*. (Presented with Marta Fairclough and Encarna Bermejo)
- 2008 UH Faculty Showcase. University of Houston. February 2008
Presentation: *“A Computerized Placement Exam for Heritage Speakers of Spanish: Challenges and Payoffs”*. (Presented with Marta Fairclough)
- 2007 11th Hispanic Linguistics Symposium. UNAM – UTSA. San Antonio, TX. November 2007
Presentation: *“Creating a Computerized Placement Exam for Heritage Speakers of Spanish: Preliminary Study”* (presented with Marta Fairclough and Encarna Bermejo)
- 2006 40th ACTFL Convention. Nashville, TN. November 2006
Presentation: *“Creating textual cohesion: strategies for transferring, translating and reshaping literacy skills from English to Spanish in SNS”* (presented with Encarna Bermejo)
- 2006 35th LASSO Conference. TAMIU, Laredo, TX. September 2006
Presentation: *“Heritage Speakers’ unfinished acquisition of the Spanish verbal system: compensating strategies”*
- 2005 9th Hispanic Linguistics Symposium. Penn State University, Pennsylvania. November 2005.
Presentation: *“Toward modality: acquisition of modal verbs in Spanish”*
- 2005 34th. LASSO Conference. Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX, October 2005.
Presentation: *“Entonces en encadenamientos consecutivos: aporte para el estudio de los conectores en el español de US”*
- 2002 International Congress in honor of Oswald Ducrot. Buenos Aires.

Presentation: “*La abducción y otros mecanismos explicativos en la estructura narrativa policial*”

- 2001 VII Sessions on Psychology Research. University of Buenos Aires.
Presentation: “*El desarrollo de competencias de comprensión y producción de textos a partir del género policial*”
- 2000 VIII International Congress of SAL. Mar del Plata, Buenos Aires.
Presentation: “*Un caso de polémica social: Carpa Blanca y educación argentina*”

Service to the Profession

- 2013 External reviewer for the San Jacinto College (South Campus) Spanish Language Program.
- 2012 External reviewer for the San Jacinto College (North Campus) Spanish Language Program.
- 2012 Consultant – Main reviewer of Episode 4 of “*Mundo Interactivo*”, online language activities for *Puntos de Partida* 9ed., McGraw Hill.
- 2009-present Reviewer for *Hispania—A journal devoted to the teaching of Spanish and Portuguese*, AATSP journal
- 2011 Spanish Translation. *UH Staff Moral Survey*. Collaboration with the UH Staff Council.
- 2011 Spanish Reader- Pearson Foundation “Read for the Record Event”. Poe Elementary School, Oct 6th 2011
- 2011 Focus group – review of *Mundo Interactivo* (McGraw Hill), a set of online modular projects based on Spanish first-year materials
- 2011 Focus group –review of *Puntos de Partida, 9th edition* (McGraw Hill)
- 2010 Coordinator of the first “Discovery Languages at UH” in partnership with the Department of Modern Languages and the Language Acquisition Center at UH. The event promoted the study of languages and raised awareness about the benefits of bilingualism among UH students.
- 2010 Focus group – review of *Enlaces 2nd edition* (McGraw Hill)
- 2008-2011 Department Outreach. Presented in several meeting sessions of ISD Spanish Coordinators (Harris County, TX) in order to promote the Heritage Language Program among high school educators and survey teaching practices in Spanish classrooms with large Heritage Learners’ populations.

Affiliations

- American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)
- The American Association of Teachers of Portuguese and Spanish (AATPS)
- The Linguistics Association of the Southwest (LASSO)
- International Association for Translation and Intercultural Studies (IATIS)

Academic Honors

Recipient, UH Teaching Excellence – Teaching Group (2012)

Recipient, Teaching Excellence Award for Teaching Fellows, University of Houston (2008)

Recipient, Uriegas Scholarship for Travel, University of Houston (2008, 2009, 2010)

Recipient, Graduate Assistantship Scholarship, University of Houston (2004-2006)

Graduated with Suma Cum Laude, USAL University (1993)

Languages

Spanish. English. Italian (intermediate level)

Information Technology

Advanced user of MSFT Windows and MSFT Office Suit

Learning platforms (Vista, Blackboard, Moodle)

McGraw Hill Connect Digital Consultant