

Litzy Zoraida Ruiz
Curriculum Vitae

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Education

- 2006 Chapman University, Orange, California
Ph.D. in Education, Disability Studies
Anticipated completion, December 2016
- 2006 Chapman University, Orange, California
Master of Arts in Special Education
- 2002 California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, California
Bachelor of Arts Behavioral Science

Credentials and Certificates

- Clear Level II Education Specialist Instruction Credential
- CLAD

Employment

Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, California

Department of Teacher Education

**2013-present Assistant Chair, Department of Teacher Education,
Special Education**

Oversee all aspects of the Special Education Credential Programs including teacher candidate admissions, advising and through program completion. Ensure that assessment and accreditation reports are up to date and write reports to accreditation entities as appropriate. Create class schedules and assign instructors. Supervise and provide professional development to adjunct faculty, field supervisors and administrative staff.

**2008 – 2013 Director, Department of Teacher Education, Special
Education**

- Develop, update and maintain credential program courses taught on campus and online
- Supervise Adjunct Faculty and Field Supervisors
- Interview and hire new Full Time Faculty, Adjunct Faculty and Field Supervisors

- Supervise Administrative Staff
- Coordinate Field Supervision
- Update courses/curriculum as appropriate to align with Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) program standards
- Update credential program, as needed, to align with department program improvement goals as stated to accrediting bodies, Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC), Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)
- Participate in School of Education leadership committees

2008-present Assistant Professor

- Provide graduate level instruction for teacher candidates completing California credentials and Masters in Special Education.
- Fieldwork supervision and Clinical Practice supervision.
- Advise teacher candidates. Scholarly research activities, service activities serving on department and University committees, and collaborating with public and private schools.
- University Committee Member: Faculty Development Council

2007-2008 Adjunct Instructor - Azusa Pacific University, School of Education, Special Education

- Graduate Special Education Department Committee to develop Moderate/Severe Education Specialist Credential Program
- Provide graduate level instruction for students completing California credentials in the area of special education.

Courses taught - 2007 to present

- SPED 521 Collaboration, Inclusion, Community Integration – Moderate/Severe Disabilities
- SPED 531 Tests, Measurements and Instructional Planning – Mild/Moderate Disabilities
- SPED 507 Assessment and IEP Development for Students with Moderate/Severe Disabilities
- SPED 540 RTI and Brain-based Teaching and Learning for Students with Math Disorders
- SPED 536 RTI and Brain-based Teaching and Learning for Students with English Language Arts Disorders
- SPED 501 Instructional Strategies for Students with Moderate/Severe Disabilities
- SPED 502 Diagnostic and Prescriptive Interventions for Students with Moderate/Severe Disabilities
- SPED 541 Positive Behavior Supports
- SPED 503 Positive Behavior Supports to Students with Moderate/Severe Disabilities
- SPED 533 Assessment and IEP Development
- SPED 574 Literacy and Reading Instruction – Moderate to Severe Disabilities
- SPED 535 Counseling, Collaboration and Consultation – Mild to Moderate Disabilities
- SPED 538 Special Education Issues: Mild to Moderate Disabilities
- SPED 505/6 Educational Foundations: Classroom Management/Classroom Experience
- SPED 554 Advanced Study in Teaching Special Populations
- SPED 508 Current Trends in Transition Planning

2006-2008

Pomona Unified School District Pomona, California

Program/Inclusion Specialist

- Educational programming for students with mild/moderate/severe disabilities participating in general education classes as part of or their school day.
- Consult with students' school teams and provide training in developing appropriate practices such as, but not limited to, individualized adaptations to core curriculum and behavior supports.
- Design and facilitate small and large group professional development to teachers and para-educators in the areas of inclusive practices, curriculum adaptation and disability awareness for students with mild/moderate/severe disabilities.
- Maintain a current library of materials about best practices in inclusion for professionals and parents; including books for children about disability awareness, friendships and cultural differences.
- Facilitate Individual Education Program (IEP) meetings as related service provider (Inclusion Specialist) and Administrator Designee.

2003 - 2008

Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) -Autism Spectrum and Related Disorder (ASRD) Program Support teacher

- Provide program support to SELPA - Autism Spectrum and Related Disorders (ASRD) program classroom teachers.
- Provide staff development to teacher and para-educators in the areas classroom supports and instructional programming for students with Autism Spectrum and Related Disorders (ASRD), developmental disabilities and best practices in positive behavior supports, parent support and collaboration, and inclusion programming
- Perform administrative responsibilities at IEP meetings.

Beginning Teacher Support Assessment (BTSA) Mentor/Support Provider – Pomona Practitioners' College and Teacher Induction Academy

2006- 2008

- Plan, implement and monitor assistance and guidance programs for new teachers in the BTSA Induction Program.
- Mentor new teachers through the California Formative Assessment and Support System for Teachers (CFASST).
- Provide assistance in the planning, development and implementation of curriculum.

- Plan and provide staff development services related to teachers' professional goals and The California Standards for the Teaching Profession (CSTP).

Education Specialist (2003-2007) SELPA ASRD Mild/Moderate/Severe Program

- Develop and implement age-appropriate curriculum and strategies for educational and behavioral skill development of students with mild/moderate/severe disabilities
- Serve as consultant to general education and special education educators, administrators and para-educators
- Facilitate Individual Education Program (IEP) meetings for students as part of the annual and three-year assessment process
- Conduct functional behavior assessments (FBAs)
- Develop and implement behavior intervention plans
- Provide staff development to teachers and para-educators on topics related to special education and the inclusion of students with moderate to severe disabilities in general education
- Consult with general education teachers, administrators and para-educators on issues related student's learning and behavior (disability awareness, positive behavior support, sensory diets and school work/homework strategies)
- Serve as a consultant to the school site Student Success Team (SST)
- Serve on School Climate Committee, Safety Committee and PTA.

Master/Supervising Teacher

For teacher candidates completing their Education Specialist credential programs from the following Universities:

2005 to 2008

- National University
- California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

**Pomona Practitioners' College – Teacher Induction Program
Special Populations Course Instructor**

2006 - 2008

- Provide graduate level instruction in the area of special education to general education teachers working on completion of Level II general education teaching credentials
- Provide graduate level instruction for students completing Education Specialist Instruction Credential K-12 Moderate/Severe K-12 Disabilities. Topics taught include:

- Pervasive Developmental Disorders
- Visual Strategies, Sensory Strategies and Social Skills for Students with Autistic Spectrum Disorder

Scholarly Activities

- Gabel, S. L., Reid, D., Pearson, H., Ruiz, L., & Hume-Dawson, R. (2015). Disability and Diversity on CSU Websites: A Critical Discourse Study. *Journal of Diversity in Higher Education*. Advance online publication. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/a0039256>
- Ruiz, L. Z. (2012, February). Teaching effective multisensory writing strategies to students with learning differences. Presentation at The Organization for Special Educators CARS+, Riverside, California
- California Council on Teacher Education (CCTE)- California Association of Professors in Special Education (CAPSE) Sig - San Diego, California (October, 2011)
- California Council on Teacher Education (CCTE)- California Association of Professors in Special Education (CAPSE) Sig - San Jose, California (April, 2011)
- Barreras, R. B., & Ruiz, L. Z. (2011, March). Wisdom for Christian educators working in the public schools. Presentation at the Common Day of Learning (CDL), Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, California
- Barreras, R. B., & Ruiz, L. Z. (2011, February). Consultation for the inclusion of students with moderate to severe disabilities in the general education classroom. Presentation at The Organization for Special Educators CARS+, Sacramento, California
- Barreras, R. B., & Ruiz, L. Z. (2011, February). Using response to intervention with adolescents at-risk for emotional disturbance. Presentation at The Organization for Special Educators CARS+, Sacramento, California
- Barreras, R. B., & Ruiz, L. Z. (2010, May). An intervention-based approach to the identification and treatment of adolescents at-risk for emotional/behavioral disorders (EBD). Paper Presentation at the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Denver Colorado
- Barreras, R. B., & Ruiz, L. Z. (2010, March). Shepherding God's children through goodness and compassion. Presentation at the Common Day of Learning (CDL), Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, California
- Workshop presented at the Hawaii International Conference on Education HICE, Honolulu, Hawaii: Response to intervention (RTI) and neuropsychology: A paradigm shifts in higher education

- Workshop for Interns: Response to Intervention – Azusa Pacific University - Los Angeles Regional Center (2008)
- Presentation to faculty and adjunct instructors: Response to intervention and brain-based teaching and learning, Azusa Pacific University – Special Education Department Symposium (2008)
- Monthly trainings for paraprofessionals working with Students Moderate to Severe disabilities, Pomona USD (2006 to 2008)
- Monthly trainings for paraprofessionals working with Students with Moderate to Severe disabilities who are fully included in general education settings - Pomona USD (2006 to 2008)
- Visual Strategies in the Classroom for teachers of Students with Moderate to Severe Disabilities, Pomona USD (2007)
- Touch Math training for general education and special education teachers. Differentiating instruction for Students with Moderate to Severe Disabilities. Professional Staff Development, Pomona USD (2006 to 2008)
- Chapman University 4th Annual Symposium of Instructional Strategies for Students with Special Needs (2006)
 - Presented on Social Skills Training for Students with Moderate to Severe Disabilities
- Chapman University 3rd Annual Symposium of Instructional Strategies for Students with Special Needs (2005)
 - Helped coordinate symposium and lead publishing committee

AWARDS

- Chapman University, Orange, California
 - Outstanding Credential Student, Special Education - For both Current and Future Contributions to the Field of Education
- Pomona Unified School District – San Antonio Elementary
 - Certificate of Appreciation for Service to Students, Parents, and Staff (2002 – 2007)

LANGUAGES

- English – speak fluently, read and write
- Spanish – speak fluently, read and write

MEMBERSHIPS

- The American Educational Research Association (AERA)
- The American Psychological Association (APA)
- The Arc
- California Council on Teacher Education (CCTE)
- Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)

- The Organization for Special Educators (CARS+)
- Equity, Opportunity and Inclusion for People with Disabilities (TASH)
- The National Down Syndrome Society

REFERENCES

Available upon request