

Yanira Oliveras-Ortiz, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Assistant Director, School of Education
The University of Texas at Tyler

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Curriculum & Instruction

Emphasis: Language & Literacy and Curriculum & Supervision
Title VII Bilingual Education Graduate Fellow
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pennsylvania, May 2014

Educational Leadership

18 semester doctoral credit hours: Educational Leadership
Dallas Baptist University
Dallas, Texas, 2012

Texas Association of School Administrators' Transformational Leadership Academy
Austin, Texas, 2012-2013

Principal Certification

University of Texas at Arlington
Arlington, Texas, 2002 & 2006

Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction

Emphasis: Language and Literacy
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pennsylvania, 1997

Bachelor of Science in Elementary & Kindergarten Education

The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pennsylvania, 1994

EXPERIENCE

2020-Present	Associate Professor
2020-Present	Assistant Director, School of Education
2020-Present	Co-Director, EdD in School Improvement Program
2018-Present	Coordinator, MEd in Curriculum & Instruction Program
2019-2020	Interim Assistant Director, School of Education
2015-2018	Principal Certification Program Coordinator
2014-2020	Assistant Professor

The University of Texas at Tyler

- Responsible for teaching three teacher preparation (undergraduate & graduate), Educational Leadership (graduate), and/or Curriculum & Instruction (graduate) courses per semester, including summer terms.

- Post-Baccalaureate Initial Teacher Certification Program Coordinator (January 2018 – Present)
- Responsible for collaborating with the Clinical Experiences Coordinator to address the needs of students in the BSIS program.
- Responsible for developing the School of Education course schedules, including course schedule for partnerships with local junior colleges (Panola & Kilgore Junior Colleges).
- Responsible for coordinating and leading the School of Education student orientations at the beginning of each semester, and the bridging ceremony at the end of the program.
- Liaison between the School of Education and adjunct instructors.
- Responsible for scheduling and coordinating the summer week-long EdD student orientation.
- Serve as the advisor to over 150 Curriculum & Instruction graduate students.
- Develop individualized degree plans and update the plans as the students advance through the program.
- Review students' academic records to determine completion of the degree requirements and recommend students for graduation.
- Gather program and student data to support accreditation and state accountability reporting.
- Chair, UT Tyler's Research Consortium for Belizean Studies (2020 – Present)
- College of Education & Psychology Representative, University Handbook of Operating Procedures Committee (2020 – Present)
- Chair, Design Team, New Bachelor of Education (2020 - Present)
- Collaborates with faculty members from the University of Belize, the Belize Ministry of Education, and UT Tyler in the design of educational research studies (2019-Present)
- Appointed by the Dean as a Member of Texas Education Agency Data Advisory Workgroup (2018- Present)
- Co-Leads educational research/instructor for the student trips to Belize (2016 – Present)
- Serves as the lead educational investigator for VLK Architects and collaborates in the design of research studies aimed at understanding the impact of learning space on student engagement (2016-Present)
- Texas Teacher Evaluation and Support System Appraiser Trainer (2016 – Present)
- Texas Pre-Service Teacher and Advanced Educator Certification Observation and Coaching Trainer (2017 – Present)
- Led the Writing and Design Team for College of Education and Psychology Ed.D. in School Improvement Proposal (Proposal approved by UT System Board of Regents – February 2019; Approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board – January 2020)
- University Graduate Council - College of Education & Psychology Elected Member (2017-2020)
 - Member of the Curriculum Sub-Committee
 - Member of the Syllabus Sub-Committee
 - Chair, Dissertation and Graduate Advocate Sub-Committee
 - Chair, UT Tyler Strategic Plan Graduate Programs Evaluation Metrics Task Force
 - Member of the Graduate Assistants Sub-Committee

- Developed and leads the “Teaching-to-Learn in Belize” study abroad program for pre-service teachers to provide job-embedded professional development to in-service teachers in remote villages in Belize (2019)
- Lead author of the UT Tyler application for membership in the University Council for Educational Administration (approved by the UCEA Plenum, March 2018).
- Worked with the Curriculum & Instruction faculty to redesign the Curriculum & Instruction degree to better meet the goals of the program. (2018)
- Led the development and implementation of Grad Teach, the UT Tyler post-baccalaureate initial teacher certification program (2017-2018)
- Principal Certification Program Coordinator (August 2015 – December 2017)
- Member of the College of Education and Psychology Curriculum & Assessment Committee (2014 – 2020)
- Co-Chair to the College of Education and Psychology Vision 2025 Committee (2015-16)
- Member of the University of Texas at Tyler Distance Education Committee (2015-2017)

2011 – 2014 Principal, Brandenburg Elementary

Irving Independent School District

- Title I Two-Way Dual Language School, Student Enrollment: 850 students
- Supervised a faculty and staff of 75

2007 – 2010 Principal, John R. Good Elementary

Irving Independent School District

- Title I One-Way Dual Language School, Student Enrollment: 950 students
- Supervised a faculty and staff of 90

2002 – 2007 Assistant Principal, John R. Good Elementary

2001 – 2002 Elementary Math Curriculum Coordinator

1997 – 2001 Bilingual Elementary Teacher

Irving Independent School District

1994 – 1995 Bilingual Kindergarten Teacher

Colegio San Agustin, Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico

TEACHING

Responsible for teaching 3 courses in fall and spring terms, and up to 4 courses in summer.

Educational Leadership Graduate-Level Courses

Developmental Supervision	Fall 2014-Summer 2018, Su. 2019
Special Topics: Educational Research in Belize	Summer 2017, 2018, 2019
Texas Teacher Evaluation & Support System	Summer 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020
The Practicum in the Principalship I	Fall 2014-Spring 2019
Leadership in the Restructured Schools	Summer 2018
The Principalship	Fall 2014-Fall 2017

Curriculum & Instruction Graduate-Level Courses

Tools Used in Instructional Coaching	Summer 2019, 2020
School Policies & Texas Students	Fall 2018, 2019, 2020
Instructional Coaching	Spring 2019, 2020, 2021
Teacher Learning and Professional Development	Fall 2018, 2019, 2020
Best Practices for Curriculum and Instruction	Spring 2019, 2020, 2021

Teacher Preparation Undergraduate-Level Course

Teaching Skills for the Intermediate and Secondary Teacher	Fall 2019
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SCHOLARSHIP

Refereed Journal Publications

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., Bouillion, D. E., & Asbury, L. (2020). Listening to High School Students: Purposefully Designed Spaces and the Impact on Students' Engagement in Learning. *Resubmitted.*

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., Bouillion, D. E., & Asbury, L. (2020). Learning spaces matter: Student engagement in new learning environments. *Journal of Education*.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0022057420908062>

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. & Hickey, W. D. (2019). Educational leadership in a Mayan village in southern Belize: Challenges faced by a Mayan woman principal. *Journal of Cases in Educational Leadership*, 1-21. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1555458919874420>

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2017). School administrators as instructional coaches: Teachers' trust and perceptions of administrators' capacity. *School Leadership Review*, 12(1), 38-45.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2015). The impact of high-stakes testing on school leadership. *School Leadership Review*, 10 (2), 7-19.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2015). Teacher effectiveness and student achievement on STAAR: Implications for school leaders. *Journal of Texas Women School Executives*, 4(1), 103-109.

Vaughn, V. & Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2015). Considering an overhaul to the new principal preparation program. *School Leadership Review*, 10 (1), 7- 15.

Editorially Reviewed Journal Publications

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2020). Study Abroad Experiences: Challenging Aspiring Leaders' Perceptions of Diversity. *Insight*, Fall 2020, 21-22.

Bouillion, D., Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., & Asbury, L. (2019). A synopsis of listening to high school students: How purposefully designed spaces impact their engagement in learning. *Experience*, 6.

Bouillion, D., Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., & Asbury, L. (2019). Purposeful design impacts student engagement. *Essentials Magazine*, Spring 2019, 16-19.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2018) Maximizing the impact of the supervision cycle embedded in T-TESS. *Texas Study*, 27(2), 21-23.

Jones, J. & Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2016). Preparing administrators to lead 21st century learning. *Texas School Business*, November/December, 23-24.

Books

Vornberg, J.A., Hickey, W.D., Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., & Templeton, N. R. (Eds.) (2020). *Texas Public School Organization and Administration* (17th ed). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.

Hickey, W. & Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2017). *Proficient to Distinguished: Mastering the T-TESS*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.

Vaughn, V., Miller, G., & Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (Eds.) (2015). *Preparing Future Ready Education Leaders Through Globalized Online Learning*. Ypsilanti, Michigan: NCPEA Publications.

Book Chapters

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., & Matney, A. E. (2020). Texas assessments and school accountability. In Vornberg, J., W. Hickey, Y. Oliveras-Ortiz, & N. Templeton (Eds.), *Texas Public School Organization and Administration* (17th ed). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., Hickey, W.D., & Jones, J. (2020). Leadership in rural Central America villages. In Strategic Leadership in PK-12 Settings. In J. O'Connor (Ed.) *Strategic Leadership in PK-12 Settings: Emerging Research and Opportunities*. IGI Global.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., Hickey, W. D. & Neel, J. (2019). The influence of short-term study abroad programs on pre- service and in-service educators' perspectives and sense of preparedness to work with diverse students. In L. Hemmer, P. Robertson, J. Sanders, & A. Mejia (Eds.) *In Crossing Boundaries/Crossing Borders: Narratives of Intercultural Experiences*. CEDER Yearbook, Texas A&M University Corpus Christi.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. & Simmons, Jo Ann. (2019). Teacher evaluation and differentiated instructional supervision: A system to promote teacher growth. In M.L. Derrington & J. Brandon (Eds.) *Differentiated Teacher Evaluation over the Career Span: Promoting Growth and Assuring Quality from Pre-Service to Retirement*. Palgrave MacMillan.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2018). Texas assessments and school accountability. In Vornberg, J. & W. Hickey (Eds.), *Texas Public School Organization and Administration* (16th ed). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2016). Texas assessments and school accountability. In Vornberg, J. & W. Hickey (Eds.), *Texas Public School Organization and Administration* (15th ed). Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2015). Developing aspiring principals' decision-making skills. In V. Vaughn, G. Miller, & Y. Oliveras-Ortiz (Eds.), *Preparing Future Ready Education Leaders Through Globalized Online Learning*. Ypsilanti, Michigan: NCPEA Publications.

Vaughn, V., Miller, G., & Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2015). A vision for designing and delivering online learning programs for 21st century learners. In V. Vaughn, G. Miller, & Y. Oliveras-Ortiz (Eds.), *Preparing Future Ready Education Leaders Through Globalized Online Learning*. Ypsilanti, Michigan: NCPEA Publications.

Vaughn, V., Miller, G., & Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2015). Trends for future ready leadership. In V. Vaughn, G. Miller, & Y. Oliveras-Ortiz (Eds.), *Preparing Future Ready Education Leaders Through Globalized Online Learning*. Ypsilanti, Michigan: NCPEA Publications.

Refereed Conference Presentations

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. & Hickey, W. (2020). Community-based servant leadership: A case study of a Belizean principal in a remote Mayan village. 2020 Virtual University Council for Educational Administration Convention.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., Bouillion, D. E., & Asbury, L. (2020). Enabling student agency in new purposefully designed learning spaces. TASA|TASB Virtual Convention, txEDCON2020.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., Bouillion, D. E., & Asbury, L. (2020). High-school students' perceptions: Purposefully designed spaces and engagement in learning. 2020 American Educational Research Association Annual Meetings. *Accepted*.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., Bouillion, D. E., & Asbury, L. (2019). Listening to high school students: How purposefully designed spaces influence their engagement in learning. 2019 University Council for Educational Administration 33rd Annual Convention.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. & Hickey, W. (2019). Short-term study abroad and the influence on aspiring principals' perspectives about diversity and educational issues. 2019 University Council for Educational Administration 33rd Annual Convention.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2019). Rethinking pre-service teachers' supervision in Belize. 2019 Council of Professors of Instructional Supervision Annual Conference. Augusta, GA.

Lambropoulos, L., Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., & Bouillion, D. (2019). Career-inspired learning spaces and authentic engagement at Energy Institute High School. 2019 Texas Association of School Administrators/Texas Association of School Boards Convention. Dallas, TX.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. & Hickey, W. (2019). The principalship in rural Central America: Leadership beyond the schoolhouse. 2019 American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting. Toronto, Canada.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., Bouillion, D. E., & Asbury, L. (2019). Learning spaces matter: Students, teachers, and principals' perceptions of student engagement in new learning spaces. National School Boards Association 79th Annual Conference. Philadelphia, PA.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., Bouillion, D. E., & Asbury, L. (2018). The impact of learning environments on student engagement. 2018 EDspaces: The Future of Educational Facilities Conference. Tampa, FL.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. & Hickey, W. (2018). Film: Transforming education in Belize. UCEA 6th Annual Film Festival. Houston, TX.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., Bouillion, D. E., & Asbury, L. (2018). Student engagement in new learning spaces: Students, teachers and principals' perceptions. University Council for Educational Administration 32nd Annual Convention. Houston, TX.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2018). Teacher evaluations for instructional supervision: Lessons learned from a practicing principal. Invited to the Supervision & Instructional Leadership SIG Teacher Evaluation Panel. 2018 American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting. New York, NY.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., Bouillion, D. E., & Asbury, L. (2018). The impact of learning environments on student engagement. Learning Environments SIG. 2018 American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting. New York, NY.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., Bouillion, D., & Asbury, L. (2018). Panel: The impact of learning environments on student engagement. SXSW Edu. Austin, TX.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., Bouillion, D., & Asbury, L. (2018). Learning environments and student Engagement. Texas Association of School of Administrators' Mid-Winter Conference. Austin, TX.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., Bouillion, D., & Asbury, L. (2017). The Impact of learning environments on student engagement. Texas Association of School Administrators & Texas Association of School Boards Convention. Dallas, TX,

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2017). Teaching principals in rural Belize: What can we learn from their practices as instructional supervisors? Council of Professors of Instructional Supervision Annual Conference. Austin, TX.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., & Mette, I. (2017). Film: (Re)Defining supervision in the age of accountability and reform. UCEA 5th Annual Film Festival. Denver, CO.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. & Vaughn, W. (2017). Navigating the dissonance between the principal as evaluator and supervisor. Texas Council of Professors of Educational Administrators Conference at the Texas Association of School Administrators Midwinter Conference. Austin, TX.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2016). School principals as instructional leaders: Factors that impact their practices. Council of Professors of Instructional Supervision Fall Conference. Tampa, FL.

Backor, K. & Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2016). Effective communication for instructional supervision: Is there a need for change? Council of Professors of Instructional Supervision Fall Conference. Tampa, FL.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2015). Instructional leadership amidst the accountability frenzy: Using quality data to drive instruction. Advancing Improvement in Education Conference. San Antonio, TX.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2015). Instructional leadership amidst the accountability frenzy. Council of Professors of Instructional Supervision (COPIS) Fall Conference. Ft. Worth, TX.

Other Publications and Presentations

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2020). *Teaching by reaching: Environment and student Learning*. [Invited Speaker, Podcast]. Pressing Onward.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2020). *Convention Debrief: Themes, meaning and application to scholarship*. University Council for Educational Administration Jackson Scholars Network Series. [Invited Panelist].

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., Bouillion, D., & Asbury, L. (2019). Research Paper Commissioned by VLK Architects. *Listening to high school students: How purposefully designed spaces impact their engagement in learning*. Houston, TX: VLK Architects.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., Bouillion, D., & Asbury, L. (2017). Research Paper Commissioned by VLK Architects. *The impact of learning environments on student engagement*. Houston, TX: VLK Architects.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2017). Conference Workshop: Levering Depth of Knowledge to Promote Teacher Growth. Advancing Improvement in Education 2017 Conference. San Antonio, TX.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. (2017). Conference Workshop: Depth of Knowledge: An Instructional Planning Tool for Rigorous Instruction. National Association of Bilingual Education. Dallas, TX.

Jones, J., Montgomery Sheffield, M., Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. & Strauss, M. (2017). Conference Workshop: The Executive Search: Maneuvering Through the Maze of the Application Process. Texas Council of Woman School Executives 33rd Annual Conference. Austin, TX.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. & Fabela, N. (2016). Conference Workshop: Depth of Knowledge: An Instructional Planning Tool for Rigorous Instruction. Texas Association of Bilingual Education. Galveston, TX.

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. & Jones, J. (2016). An intellectual space for educational leaders' diversity and social justice discourse. (Editorial piece). *Diversity, Social Justice, and the Educational Leader*, 1(1), 1-4.

Grants & Contracts

Instructional Supervision, Teacher Efficacy and Student Achievement: Defining Practices that Mitigate Educational Inequities in Belize. (2021). Spencer Foundation Racial Equity Special Research Grant. (\$74,950.00) *Under Review*.

Addressing the Gaps in Teacher Preparation to Strengthen Primary Education in Marginalized Communities in Belize. (2020). U.S. Embassy in Belmopan. (\$241,502.00). *Funded*

Research Project: The impact of learning spaces on student engagement. (2018-2020). TransCend4. (\$13,000). *Funded*.

Grant Manager & Instructional Coach: Greenville Independent School District Contract. (2015). Funded by 2015-16 Professional Development Partnerships for Advanced Math & Science Courses Grant. Texas Education Agency. (\$23,000). *Funded*.

The impact of decontextualized test preparation and research-based instructional practices on economically disadvantaged students' achievement on the STAAR. (2015). The University of Texas at Tyler College of Education and Psychology Summer Grant Writing Program. (\$1,500). *Funded*.

SERVICE

Relevant Service to the Profession

Board Member, Texas Council of Professors of Educational Administration (2021-Present, 2017-2019)

U.S. Chair, Consortium for Belize Educational Cooperation Study Abroad Committee (2020-Present)

Virtual Conference Coordinator, Winter 2021 Consortium for Belize Educational Cooperation Conference Planning Committee. Hosted by Centro Escolar Mexico Junior College, Belize. (February 2021)

Member, Texas Association of School Administrators Higher Education Committee (2020-Present)

Chair, *American Educational Research Association's Supervision and Instructional Leadership SIG* (2019- 2021)

Professional Development Designer, *Rethinking Pre-Service Teachers Field Supervision*, *Belize Ministry of Education* (2019-Present)

Member, 2020 *University Council for Educational Administration* Convention Planning Committee. (2019-2020)

Chair, Summer 2020 Consortium for Belize Educational Cooperation Conference Planning Committee. Hosted by UT Tyler. (July 2020)

Coordinator, Online Instruction Webinars for University of Belize Faculty.
Presenter, Principles of Online Learning Webinar. (May 2020)

Member, 2020 Council of Professors of Instructional Supervision Annual Conference Planning Committee.

Founder & co-editor, *Diversity, Social Justice & the Educational Leader* (2016-Present)

Manuscript Reviewer, *Journal of Education* (2018-Present)

Manuscript Reviewer, *Journal of Educational Supervision* (2019-Present)

Relevant K-12 Service

School Board President, The University of Texas at Tyler University Academy. (June 2016-Present)

Hickey, W. & Oliveras-Ortiz, Y. *Improving Student Learning through Instructional Coaching*. 2018-2019 Belize Ministry of Education Toledo District Continuing Professional Development. Punta Gorda, Belize. (August 2018)

Oliveras-Ortiz, Y., Hines, B. & Light, A. *Science through Project-Based Learning*. 2018-2019 Belize Ministry of Education Toledo District Continuing Professional Development. Punta Gorda, Belize. (August 2018)

Bilingual/ESL Program Evaluation and Program Model & Implementation Proposal.
Midland ISD (October 2017 – March 2018)
Wichita Falls ISD (January – May 2016)

Dalhart ISD Bilingual Program Implementation. Developed the program model and implementation timeline, and coached teachers. (April 2017 – January 2018)

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Crystal Talon Award for Excellence in Scholarship, 2017
Robert R. Muntz Library, The University of Texas at Tyler

UT Tyler Inaugural Executive Leadership Fellow, 2018
The University of Texas at Tyler

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Educational Research Association
- Council of Professional of Instructional Supervision
- Texas Association of School Administrators
- Texas Council of Professors of Educational Administration
- Texas Council of Women School Executives
- Institutional Membership, UT Tyler Plenum Representative, University Council for Educational Administration
- Institutional Membership, U.S. Chair Study Abroad Committee, Consortium for Belize Educational Cooperation