

CURRICULUM VITAE
VANESSA DIAZ, Ph.D.

Psychology Department
890 Drillfield Dr.
Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA 24061
EMAIL: vdiaz@vt.edu

RESEARCH INTERESTS: Intelligence Gender Stereotypes, Female Representation in STEM, Socio-Cognitive Development, Bilingualism, Language Development, Executive Functioning, Metalinguistic Awareness,

EDUCATION

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| August 2015 | Doctor of Philosophy , University of Florida, Developmental Psychology with concentration in Neuroscience and Methodology. Gainesville, FL |
| May 2011 | Master of Science , University of Florida, Developmental Psychology. Gainesville, FL |
| April 2008 | Bachelor of Arts , Florida International University, Psychology (with honors); Minor in French Language and Culture. Summa Cum Laude, and Phi Beta Kappa. Miami, FL |

APPOINMENTS

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| August 2020-Present | Collegiate Assistant Professor , Virginia Tech, Department of Psychology. Blacksburg, VA. |
| August 2017-Present | Research Assistant Professor , Virginia Tech, Department of Psychology. Blacksburg, VA. |
| August 2016-May 2017 | Instructor , Virginia Tech, Department of Human Development and Family Sciences. Blacksburg, VA. |
| January-May 2016 | Instructor , University of Vermont, Human Development and Family Studies Program in the Department of Leadership and Developmental Sciences. Burlington, VT. |

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

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| May 2020 | Girls Launch! Kindergarten Science Outreach Continuation and Expansion, Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology (ICAT) Rapid Response Grant, \$10,000 |
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April 2020	Pathways Curriculum Development Grant, towards the development of a course entitled "Multilingual Development" to support the "Identity/Equity in the United States" General Education Area. Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia \$10,000
January 2019	Institute for Society, Culture, and Environment (ISCE) financial support provided towards the completion of the project " <i>Predictors of School Readiness and English Proficiency in Preschoolers</i> ". Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia. \$4,838
Fall 2018-Present	<i>Language Sciences Group</i> , Faculty Writing Groups grant from the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost, \$2,000 requested each year, Eska, J. PI, Diaz, V. CO-I 10%.
July 2017	Fellowship recipient to attend the Head Start Family and Child Experiences Survey Workshop, 2017 ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Science Research at the University of Michigan.
March 2017	Virginia Tech Curriculum Globalization Grant, from the Virginia Tech Global Education Office. \$5,000
January 2017	Virginia Tech Future Faculty Development Program. Part of InclusiveVT Diversity Initiative, Alumna.
March 2011	Jacqueline Goldman Research Award, University of Florida, \$2,000.
March 2010	Jacqueline Goldman Research Award, University of Florida, \$2,000.
Spring 2010	National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (honorable mention)
August 2009	Atlantic Coast Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (AC-SBE) Alliance Award from the National Science Foundation and the University of Florida's Office of Graduate Minority Programs (OGMP), \$1,500.
August 2009-2014	College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Graduate Alumni Fellowship, University of Florida.
April 2013, 2011	Graduate Student Council Competitive Travel Grants, University of Florida.
April 2011	Department of Psychology Competitive Travel Award, University of Florida.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW & REVISION

Diaz, V. "Minds in Action: Evidence that Linguistic Diversity Helps Children Build a Theory of Mind". Under invited revision for publication in *Bilingualism: Language and Cognition*.

PUBLICATIONS

Diaz, V.; Borjas, M.; Farrar, M.J. (2021) Is There an Association between Executive Function and Receptive Vocabulary in Bilingual Children? A Longitudinal Examination. *Children, 8, 44*. <https://doi.org/10.3390/children8010044>

Diaz, V., Runyon, K.*, Kroehler, C. (2020) Are Scientists Smart? Kindergarteners' Gendered Understanding and Use of Descriptors About Science and Intelligence. *Science Communication, 42(4)* 538–554.

Diaz, V. & Farrar M.J. (2018) Do Bilingual and Monolingual Preschoolers Acquire False Belief Understanding Similarly? The Role of Executive Functioning and Language. *First Language, 38(4)*, 382-398.

Diaz, V. & Farrar M.J. (2018) The missing explanation of the false-belief advantage in bilingual children: A longitudinal study. *Developmental Science, 21(4)*, e12594.

Ebner, N., Kamin, H., **Diaz, V.**, Cohen R., McDonald K. (2015) Hormones as “Difference Makers” in Cognitive and Socioemotional Aging Processes. *Frontiers in Psychology, 5*:1595.

MEDIA MENTIONS

October 2020 Interviewed for “El Planeta”, “Herencia Hispana”, and “El Tiempo Latino” newspapers for the LatinX community in different cities in the United States. Part of a special edition of Hispanic heritage month featuring LatinX individuals in academia/STEM. “*Vanessa Diaz: A Colombian dedicated to the study of the benefits of bilingualism*” (In Spanish: “*Vannesa Díaz: una colombiana dedicada a estudiar los beneficios de ser bilingüe*”)

August 2020 Interviewed for “Latinos Who Tech” Podcast for Latinos that work in science and technology for episode titled “The future of Higher Education featuring: Vanessa Diaz”

October 2019 Interviewed (In Spanish) for “Conexiones” Podcast on stories of Latinos in STEM, for episode titled “Beyond Spanglish: Vanessa Diaz, Researcher at Virginia Tech University (Más Allá del Spanglish: Vanessa Diaz, Investigadora en la Universidad de Virginia Tech)”.

January 2019 Interviewed (In Spanish) for “La Jefa” Parenting Podcast on research backed parenting, for episode entitled “Respectful Parenting (Crianza Respetuosa)”.

January 2018 Interviewed for “The benefits of being bilingual” by Lily Carroll for the Collegiate Times Newspaper. Blacksburg, Virginia.

INVITED TALKS & GUEST LECTURES

December 2020 “*Ethnic Identity Development & Biculturalism*” Video Lecture for international teaching collaboration.

- October 2020 *"Gender Development in Latin America"* Video Lecture for international teaching collaboration.
- April 2020 *"Multilingual Development"* Guest video lecture interview for Julie Dunsmore Life Span Development course.
- March 2020 "Gender and Linguistic Diversity in Psychology: Findings from Cognitive Development and Stereotypes about Intelligence". Invited talk at the Department of Psychology University of Hawai'i Mānoa Diversity Colloquium Series. Canceled due to COVID-19.
- November 2019 "Girls Launch: Bringing Female Scientists to Kindergarten Classrooms". Invited talk given at "Women in (Geo)Sciences" group. Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia.
- April 2019 *"Socio-Cognitive Development in Bilingual Children"* Guest Lecture for Abby Walker's Language and the Mind course. Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia.
- February 2018 *"The Cognitive Effects of Bilingualism or Babies are Linguistic Geniuses"* FaculTea Speaker Series Residential College at West Ambler Johnston. Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia.
- December 2017 *"Socio-Cognitive Development in Bilingual Children"* Guest Lecture for Abby Walker's Language and the Mind course. Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia.
- October 2017 *"Socio-Cognitive Development in Bilingual Children"* Guest Lecture for Aarnes Gudmestad's Graduate Bilingualism in the Spanish-Speaking World course. Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia.
- May 2017 *"Raising a Bilingual Child"* Guest Lecture for Robin Panneton's undergraduate Language Development course. Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Diaz, V., Runyon, K., Kim, S.A. (April 2021) *"Executive Functioning Predicts School Readiness for Monolinguals but not Bilinguals: The Role of Metalinguistic Awareness"* Flash Talk Paper presentation at the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Biannual Meeting.

Runyon, K., Diaz, V., Kroehler, C. (April 2021) *"What do Scientists Look like? Drawing Scientists in Kindergarten and Middle School"* Poster presentation at the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Biannual Meeting.

Diaz, V. Dunsmore, J., Von Salich, M. (February 2021) *"International Teaching Collaborations: Diversifying Content and Instruction In-Person and Online"* Practice Session at the Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy. Virginia Tech.

Runyon, K., Diaz, V., Smith C. (October 2019). *Do Children Think That Scientists are Smart? The Influence of Gender on Kindergarteners' Understanding and Use of Descriptors About Science and Intelligence.* Paper presented at the Cognitive Development Society Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky.

Diaz, V., Runyon, K., Smith, C. (October 2019). *Differences in School Readiness Predictors for Dual Language Learning and Monolingual Preschoolers: The Role of Executive Functioning, Metalinguistic*

Awareness, and Theory of Mind. Poster presented at the Cognitive Development Society Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky.

Smith, C., Runyon, K., Diaz, V. (October 2019). *Who do Kindergarten girls see doing science? Effects of Females in STEM Classroom Visits*. Poster presented at the Cognitive Development Society Meeting, Louisville, Kentucky.

Diaz V. & Borjas M. (March, 2019). *Longitudinal Relationships between Language Proficiency and Executive Function in Bilingual and Monolingual Preschoolers*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Biannual Meeting. Baltimore, Maryland

Diaz V. & Hill, J. (March, 2019) *How to get Students to REALLY Read Before Class: Promoting Reading Comprehension and Meaningful Discussions Through Active Reading Guides*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Developmental Science Teaching Institute, Pre-Conference Meeting. Baltimore, Maryland.

Borjas, M. & Diaz V. (2018). *Examining the Relationship Between Language Proficiency an Executive Functioning in Monolingual and Bilingual Children*. Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program Research Symposium at Virginia Tech. Blacksburg, VA.

Borjas, M. & Diaz V. (2018). *Examining the Relationship Between Language Proficiency an Executive Functioning in Monolingual and Bilingual Children*. Undergraduate Research Day at University of Houston. Houston, TX.

Diaz, V. (June, 2018). *Bilingualism & Development: Teaching a Special Topics Senior Seminar in Psychology*. Talk given at the Eastern Teaching of Psychology (ETOP) Conference, James Madison University. Staunton, Virginia.

Diaz, V. (October, 2017). *Developing Bilinguals: Cognitive Development and Academic Achievement in a Linguistically Divided World*. Poster accepted for presentation at the Cognitive Development Society (CDS) Meeting, Portland, Oregon.

Diaz, V. & Farrar, M.J. (March, 2015). *Are There Different Pathways to Theory of Mind for Monolingual and Bilingual Preschoolers? A Longitudinal Examination*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) Biannual Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Desai, A., Diaz, V., Ebner, N. C. (2014). Effects of the neuropeptide Oxytocin on Altruism and Generosity in Aging. Poster presented at the Department of Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference. (2nd place winner)

Diaz, V. & Farrar, M.J. (April, 2013). *Theory of Mind, Executive Functioning, Metalinguistic Awareness, and Language in Spanish-English Bilingual Children*. Paper presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biannual Meeting, Washington Convention Center, Seattle, WA.

Diaz, V. & Farrar, M.J. (April, 2011). *Theory of Mind, Executive Functioning and Language in Spanish-English Bilingual Children*. Poster session presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biannual Meeting, Palais des Congres, Montreal, QC.

Diaz, V. (October, 2010). *Bilingualism, Theory of Mind, Executive Functioning and Language in Preschool Children* (Preliminary data). Poster session presented at the 2010 UF-NSF Research Day at the University of Florida, Gainesville, FL.

Rodriguez, E., Diaz, V., Carol, R., Abril, L., Hyman, A., & Schreiber, N. (March, 2007). *Interviewing Techniques in Lay Interviewers: Are They Intuitively Good?* Poster presented at Off the Witness Stand: Using Psychology in the Practice of Justice, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, NY.

Hyman, A.R., Schreiber, N., Abril, L., Pena, C., Carol, R., Rodriguez, E., & Diaz, V. (March, 2007). *Investigative Interviewing and Memory: How Accurate are Interviewers' Recollections of Investigative Interviews?* Poster presented at Off the Witness Stand: Using Psychology in the Practice of Justice, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, NY

Schreiber, N., Evans, J., Ham, L., Garcia, T., Rose, S., Pignatello, V., Carol, R., Perry, A., Villalba, D., Diaz, V., Rodriguez, E., Turner, G., Abril, L. & Alonso, T. (July, 2007). *Intoxicated Witnesses: Are they more vulnerable to misinformation?* Paper to be presented at the 5 eventh Biennial Meeting of the Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition, Bates College, Lewiston, MN.

Hyman, A., Schreiber, N., Abril, L., Pena, C., Carol, R., Rodriguez, E., & Diaz, V. (July, 2007). *Investigative Interviewing and Memory: How Accurate are Interviewers' Recollections of Investigative Interviews after Retention Interval is Manipulated?* Paper to be presented at Society for Applied Research in Memory and Cognition Seventh Biennial Meeting, Bates College, Lewiston, ME.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2020-Spring 2021 **Instructor of Record:** PSYC2034- Developmental Psychology, Virginia Tech.

Fall 2017- Spring 2021 **Instructor of Record:** Proposed and developed PSY4364- Bilingualism & Development Senior Seminar, Virginia Tech.

Spring 2017 **Instructor of Record** for HD5984 - Cognitive Development Graduate Seminar.
Instructor of Record for HD3224 – Middle Child & Adolescence, Virginia Tech.

Fall 2016 **Instructor of Record** for HD1004 – Human Development I, Virginia Tech.
Instructor of Record for HD3224 – Middle Child & Adolescence, Virginia Tech.

Spring 2016 **Instructor of Record** Proposed and developed HDF5 295 - Immigrant Families, Child Development & Acculturation, University of Vermont.

Summer 2014 **Instructor of Record** for PSY2012 General Psychology, University of Florida.

Spring 2014 **Instructor of Record** for DEP3051 - Developmental Psychology, University of Florida.

Spring 2012 **Instructor of Record** for PSY2012 - General Psychology, University of Florida.

Fall 2014 **Teaching Assistant** for DEP3053 - Developmental Psychology, *Online*.
Instructor: Marina Klimenko, University of Florida.

- Fall 2013 **Teaching Assistant** for PSB3002 - Biological Psychology.
Instructor: Donald Stehouwer, University of Florida
- Fall 2011 **Teaching Assistant** for DEP6099 - Survey of Developmental Psychology Graduate Seminar. Duties included assisting in grading graduate student papers. Instructor: Julia Graber, University of Florida.
- Fall 2009, Spring 2010, Summer 2010, Spring 2015 **Teaching Assistant** for DEP3053 - Developmental Psychology.
Instructors: Jeffrey Farrar and Scott Miller, University of Florida.
- August 2011 Participant in Psychology Department Graduate Instructors Orientation Workshop, University of Florida.
- August 2009 Teaching Assistants Orientation Workshop, University of Florida.

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

- June 2008-July 2009 **Mental Health Counselor:** Fellowship House, Inc. Psychosocial Rehabilitation Center, Miami, FL. Duties included: Conduct group counseling and mental health education sessions for court-ordered release program for mentally ill adults with substance abuse disorders and a criminal record.

MENTORING

- Fall 2020-Present Member of Graduate Student Madeleine Bruce's Preliminary Exams and Doctoral committee
- Fall 2018-May 2020 Member of Graduate Student Jefferson Salan's Master's thesis committee.
- August 2018- Present Senior Fellow at West Ambler Johnston Residential College, Virginia Tech.
- May-July 2018 Hosting Maria Borjas (University of Houston), a Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program (MAOP) Intern during the summer at my research lab in Virginia Tech. Maria prepared a final presentation, which will be presented at research conferences.
- February 2018 "My Professional journey as an unrepresented minority scholar" panelist at VT-PREP, IMSD, & Carver Forum. Forum supporting underrepresented graduate students in biomedical and behavioral sciences and engineering, Virginia Tech.
- Fall 2017-2018 Expert adviser for Woodbridge Senior High School student Alyssa Brocker Advanced Placement Capstone program. The student is carrying out an original research project to write up and present to a panel. Her research is on the importance of nostalgia in developing a Latinx identity for Latinx adolescents in the United States.
- Fall 2016 Mentor and supervisor for graduate student Jameson Natwick, as part of Human Development's teaching apprenticeship program for graduate students. Mentorship

included providing intensive feedback on guest lectures, teaching assistant duties, and development of the student's course materials. Virginia Tech.

- Spring 2014 Supervisor for Anand Desai undergraduate Interdisciplinary senior thesis in Neurobiological Sciences, University of Florida.
- Spring 2014 Supervisor for Amber Schaefer undergraduate teaching assistant, University of Florida.
- Spring 2012 Supervisor for Jeisha Matos-Torres undergraduate honors thesis for McNair undergraduate Fellowship, <http://mcnairscholars.com/>, University of Florida.
- Spring 2012 Supervisor for Albert Perera undergraduate teaching assistant, University of Florida.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- 2011-To Date Society for Research in Child Development, Latinx Caucus
- September 2017 National Latinx Psychological Association
- August 2009 Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Alliance
- April 2008 Phi Beta Kappa
- January 2007 Pi Delta Phi: French Honor Society

REVIEWER

Developmental neuropsychology, Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology, International Journal of Bilingualism, International Journal of Bilingual Education and Bilingualism, Infancy, Ethnic and Racial Issues NIH reviewer, SRCD Biennial Meeting Reviewer, SRCD Small Grants Reviewer, Clinical Child and Family Psychology Review.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- Summer 2020 Psychology presenter for the College of Science "Science Un-Camp!" for children "*Zoom an expert!: The Psychological Science of the film 'Inside out'*".
- Summer 2020 College of Science Representative to the Hispanic College Institute
- Summer 2020 College of Science Representative to the Black College Institute
- Fall 2019 College of Science Representative to the "Fall Visitation" Luncheon during VT Open House. Program designed to attract underrepresented high school seniors and/or first-generation students to Virginia Tech.
- May 2018 Search committee member for a Collegiate Faculty member in Behavioral

	Decision Science, Psychology Department, Virginia Tech.
January 2018	Future Faculty Development Program Panelist, Virginia Tech
2017-Present	Member of the Women’s Alliance and Hispanic/Latinx Caucus at Virginia Tech
2011-2013	Psychology Department Representative at the Graduate Student Council at the University of Florida
Spring 2011	Co-Organizer of the Graduate Student Council Research Conference at the University of Florida
Spring 2010-2012	Co-Organizer of the Department of Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference
Spring 2010-2015	Prospective Graduate Student Liaison for Developmental Psychology Doctoral Program in the Department of Psychology, University of Florida

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

February 2018	“The Benefits of Bilingualism” Lecture at MOM’s of Christiansburg Community Group
Fall 2017-Present	“Girls Launch” Kindergarten classroom visits in Giles County. Female scientists in STEM present their research to combat the emergence of intelligence gender stereotypes in kindergarten-age children. Co-Director.

SPECIAL SKILLS

Languages: Fluent in English, Spanish, and French

Methodological Skills: Multivariate Data Analysis, Longitudinal Data Analysis, Structural Equation Modeling, Program Evaluation.

REFERENCES UPON REQUEST