

# DR. DOZANDRI C. MENDOZA

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Pronouns: they.she.elle.ella

## Academic Positions

2025-                    **Assistant Professor of Sociolinguistics and Applied Linguistics,**  
Department of English  
Hunter College, City University of New York [CUNY]

## Education

2021-2025            **Ph.D. in Linguistics,**  
Latin American and Iberian Studies Graduate Affiliate  
Dissertation: *Dando Cunt and Walking with the Transcestrxs: The Semiotics of Puerto Rican Ballroom Performance*  
University of California, Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA

2019 - 2021           **M.A. in Linguistics,**  
Florida International University, Miami, FL

2013 - 2017           **B.A. in Linguistics,** Minor in Russian Studies,  
Macalester College, Saint Paul, MN  
Study Abroad: Eurasian Regional Language Program – Russian/Azerbaijani, American Councils, Baku, Azerbaijan

## Publications

### Peer-reviewed Articles and Chapters

2024                    **Mendoza, D.** That /s/ tiene tumbao: Chonga-fied Sibilants and the Disidentificatory Sociophonetics of Miami Latinx Drag, *Gender and Language*, 18.3

2024                    **Mendoza, D. & Vazquez Sanabria, D.** Cuir Dialogic Intimacies: Mapping *Lo Cuir* in Bad Bunny's Performance Repertoire. Book chapter in *The Bad Bunny Enigma: Culture, Resistance and Uncertainty*, Lexington Books.

2022                    **Mendoza, C.** *Drag & Drag Studies*. The Encyclopedia of Queer Studies in Education. Kamden K. Strunk & Stephanie Anne Shelton eds. Brill.

### Manuscripts in Preparation

- [In press] **Mendoza, D., Zimman, L., Bedin, C., Ali, K., Brown, C., Macias, N.** Telling a [racio]gender: morphosyntactic variation and identity attribution in transgender English/Spanish speakers' Pear Stories. *Penn Working Papers in Linguistics* 31.2 [PWPL 31.2]
- [In preparation] **Mendoza, D., Charity Hudley, A.\*, Muwwakkil, J.** Language activism & advocacy. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Linguistics*.
- [In preparation] **Mendoza, D.** The Scalp, [eds. Mary Bucholtz, Kira Hall, Kendra Calhoun, Montreal Benesch] In *Parsing the Body*.

## Invited Talks

- 2025 *The Bad Bunny Enigma: Culture, Resistance, and Uncertainty*  
Book release conversation, reflections on chapter contribution, Department of English, Facultad de Humanidades, University of Puerto Rico – Rio Piedras, San Juan, PR
- 2023 *Conejo Semiotics: Cuir Dialogic Intimacy in Bad Bunny's Performance Repertoire*  
Invited panelist and presenter on the *Queering Reggaetón* Panel, Thinking with Bad Bunny: Cultural Politics and the Future of Puerto Rico Symposium, CENTRO [Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños], New York, NY
- 2023 *Lavender Languages: Past, Present & Future*  
Invited plenary roundtable presenter at the Lavender Languages & Linguistics Conference, Boise State University, Boise, ID
- 2022 *Feeling Language in the Nightclub: Proprioception in Linguistic Analysis and the Semio-Somatic Vigilance of Trans Life*  
Invited talk at the Language Variation & Change [LV&C] Workshop, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2022 *Liberatory Linguistics in Artistic Perspective*  
Guest lecture as a representative of the Stanford BAD Lab w/PI: Dr. Anne Charity Hudley, SOCSCI 3500-03S Social Movements, Dr. Joshua Babcock, School of the Art Institute of Chicago [SAIC], *virtual*
- 2022 *That /s/ tiene tumbao: chonga-fied sibilants and queer Latinx sound*  
Invited talk, LabLunch, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom
- 2020 *Remote Phonetics via Zencastr*  
Invited methods presentation & tutorial with Experimental Linguistics Lab, Newcastle University, Newcastle, United Kingdom, *virtual*

## Refereed Conference & Poster Presentations

- 2025 **Mendoza, D.** *Who Burned Paris?: Editing as Indexical Bleaching and the White(ned) Aesthetic Textuality of Mainstream Ballroom Artifacts*  
Talk at the Society for Linguistic Anthropology Biennial Conference 2025, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- 2024 **Mendoza, D., Zimman, L., Bedin, C., Ali, K., Brown, C., Macias, N.** *Telling a [racio]gender: Morphosyntactic variation and identity attribution in transgender English/Spanish speakers' "Pear Stories"*  
Talk at the 2024 NWAV [New Ways of Analyzing Variation] Conference, Florida International University & University of Miami, Miami, FL
- 2024 **Mendoza, D.** *Enregistered Choreographies at the Kiki: The Embodied Semiotics of Cunt on the Puerto Rican Vogue Performance Floor*  
Talk at Beyond Words: Persuasive Narratives and Multimodal Discourse, Vilnius University – Kaunas Faculty, Kaunas, Lithuania
- 2024 **Mendoza, D.** *Kiki Ball del Palabreo: Trans Participatory Performance Ethnography and the Linguist Beyond "Language"*  
Roundtable presentation as part of panel organized by M. Benesch & Archie Crowley, *Trans languages, trans lives: Offerings from language research to trans studies*, International Trans Studies Association Conference 2024, Northwestern University, Chicago, IL/Virtual
- 2024 **Mendoza, D.** *Cuntological Figures and the Enregisterment of Embodied Styles in Puerto Rican Vogue Performance*  
Talk at the 2024 Puerto Rican Studies Association [PRSA] conference, Santa Cruz, CA
- 2024 **Mendoza, D.** *Transcultural Citation[ality]: Tidalectic Interdiscursivity and Re-Emergent Diasporic Memory in Puerto Rican Ballroom*  
Talk at Symposium about Language and Society at Austin [SALSA], University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX
- 2023 **Mendoza, D.** *Transcultural Citation[ality]: The Semiotic Utility of Diasporic Relation in Puerto Rican Cuir/Trans Performance*  
Talk as part of organized panel *Trans-cending Realms and Selves, Pasts and Futures: Language and the Politics of Remembering*, serving as chair and co-organizer for this panel, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Toronto, Canada
- 2023 **Peñaloza Morales, M, Reddick, B, & Mendoza, D.** *Love, Florida: Meditations on Beautiful Horror, Cuir Aesthetic Resistance, and the End of the World*  
Co-panelist for roundtable, Annual Meeting of the American Studies Association, Montréal, QC, Canada
- 2022 **Mendoza, D.** *Navigating Cuerpes in San Juan: Exploring Proprioceptive Semiotic Discourse Analysis as a Trans Method*

- Talk as part of an organized panel with the Trans Research in Linguistics [TRILL] lab at UCSB, at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Seattle, WA
- 2022 **Mendoza, D.** *Contesting Cuerpxs, Coloniality & Cisheteropatriarchy: Linguistic Resistance in Trans Boricua Performance*
- Talk as part of co-organized panel titled *Cuerp-ologies en/de la Periferia : Countering Discourses of Deficiency in the Boricua Public Imaginary* at the 2022 Puerto Rican Studies Association Conference, Holyoke, MA
- 2022 **Mendoza, D.** *Feeling the Femme in Vogue: Linguistic Disidentification and the Chronotopic Performance of Ballroom Commentation*
- Talk at the Society for Linguistic Anthropology [SLA] 2022 Conference, Boulder, CO
- 2022 **Mendoza, D.** *Mobilizing Discourses of Patería Combativa: Pensamientos Toward a Trans Latinx [Linguistic] Critique*
- Talk on Advancing Trans Linguistics Panel, 96<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, virtual
- 2021 **Mendoza, D.** *Butch Force and Perlocutionary Queens: Vogue MC Chants as Gendered Speech Act and the Disidentificatory Lexicon of Ballroom*
- Individually-Volunteered Paper, Panel: Embodying Language, Linguaging Bodies, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, virtual
- 2021 **Mendoza, C.** *Di/s/identity and Cross-Modal Negotiation of Race and Gender: Dynamics of /s/ Production in Miami Latinx Drag*
- Talk at Lavender Languages and Linguistics 27, California Institute of Integral Studies, virtual
- 2021 **Mendoza, C.** *That /s/ tiene tumbao: Exploring the Bilingual Dimensions of [s+] production in Miami Latinx Drag*
- Talk at the 95<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America, virtual
- 2020 **Mendoza, C.** *That /s/ tiene tumbao: Investigating Acoustic Correlates of Femme Queerness in Bilingual Miami*
- Poster presentation at Acoustics Virtually Everywhere, the 179<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, virtual
- 2017 **Mendoza, C.** *Lingüística Maricona: Homophobic Slurs, Reclamation & Emotional Impact on U.S. Queer Cubanxs*
- Poster presentation at BLS 43: Berkeley Linguistics Society Conference at University of California Berkeley, Berkeley, CA
- 2016 **Mendoza, C.** *First Impressions: A Prosodic Analysis of Interactional Style & Social Perception*
- Talk at the Undergraduate Scarborough Linguistics Symposium at the University of Toronto, Scarborough, Scarborough, Canada

- 2015 **Mendoza, C.** *First Impressions: A Prosodic Analysis of Interactional Style & Social Perception*  
Talk at the Leadership Alliance National Symposium, Stamford, CT

## Invited Presentations & Workshops

- 2025 *Feeling “Cunty”: Language, The Senses, and the Trans Pedagogies of the Puerto Rican Ballroom*  
Invited workshop, Hunter College [CUNY] Linguistics Club, New York, NY
- 2021 *Feeling Femme and the Language of Vogue: The Semiotics and Sociohistorical Linguistics of Sensoriality in Ballroom*  
Invited talk, Linguistics Learning Circle [LLC], Florida International University, Miami, FL, virtual
- 2021 *Patxs and Duckwalks: Ballroom Culture, Activism, & Trans Euphoria in Latinx America*  
Invited talk, Hispanic Heritage Month & LGBTQ+ History Month, Centro Hispano, University of North Carolina, Wilmington, virtual
- 2021 *The Sounds of Queer: White Cisheteronormativity & The /s/ of Miami’s Latinx Chonga Drag*  
Invited guest lecture, LCD 244 Language and Social Diversity, Instructor: Chu May Paing, Queens College, Flushing, NY
- 2020 *Pajara/s/ in Wigs: Bilingualism, Latinidad & Gendered Sociophonetics in Miami’s Queer Barrio*  
Invited talk with the Linguistic Society of America, Queer and Trans Sociophonetics Webinar, virtual
- 2020 *Queering Spanglish & Reclaiming our LGBTQ+ Historias: A Tribute to the Mariposas and Marimachas*  
Invited keynote talk at De Colores: Unpacking Queer Identity for Latinx, Centro Hispano, University of North Carolina, Wilmington, virtual
- 2019 *UndocuAlly Workshop: Empowering Campus Advocacy Through Affirming our Immigrant Roots*  
Invited talk at the 2019 Southeastern LatinX Student Leadership Conference at Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC
- 2018 *Exploring Trans Identity – Unlearning Gender, Critical Allyship Practice and Community Uplift*  
Talk/Workshop at the 2018 Festival of Excellence at Southern Utah University, Cedar City, UT

## Additional Educational Experience

- 2023 Berlin Summer University of the Arts:  
*Pause and Participate. Play and Photograph.*  
Intensive seminar on theory of photography, ethics, participatory art practices, and game production  
Universität der Künste Berlin [University of the Arts Berlin], Berlin, Germany
- 2022 Lavender Languages Institute (LLI),  
Florida Atlantic University  
Coursework: Quare Linguistics [Dr. Nikki Lane]; Queer & Trans Semiotics [Dr. J. Calder]

## Public Writing & Audio

- 2025 Shading U.S. Empire in Puerto Rico's Ballroom Scene [Essay]  
*SAPIENS, an editorially-independent magazine of the Wenner-Gren Foundation*
- 2025 A Linguist's Night at the Ball [Podcast Episode]  
*SAPIENS: A Podcast for Everything Human [Season 8], SAPIENS, an editorially-independent magazine of the Wenner-Gren Foundation*

## Creative Projects, Design & Consulting

- 2023 Kiki Ball del Palabreo; [Production Team]  
A kiki ball focused on the Puerto Rican diaspora and its connection to Ballroom's verbal art traditions, co-sponsored by Laborivogue and La Isla
- 2023 Rostra Política: In Honor of Boricua Ballroom [Solo Exhibition]  
An exploratory performance art and participatory art installation  
Universität der Künste, part of *Pause and Participate. Play and Photograph.* Exhibition Vernissage, Berlin, Germany
- 2022 Logo design for Department of Linguistics, UCSB  
Trans Research in Linguistics Lab [TRILL] & Making Hands Lab
- 2022 Visual design for: A Model of Black College Students' Linguistic and Racial Identities, Book project, Talking College: Making Space for Black Language Practices in Higher Education – Teachers College Press [2022], Charity Hudley, A.; Mallinson, C; Bucholtz, M.

2016 LAYERS presented by Black Liberation Affairs Committee [BLAC] x Black History Month Committee [BHM] x The Spark  
 Role: curation, graphic design, staging  
 Fashion and performance-based production with Twin Cities and Macalester College artists about marginalized identity and intersectionality.  
 Weyerhaeuser Chapel, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN

## Grants, Scholarships & Research Fellowships

2024-2025	SAPIENS Public Scholars Training Fellowship [Wenner-Gren Foundation]
2024	LAIS Alumni Research Award, Latin American & Iberian Studies Program
2024	Individualized Professional Skills Program Grant, Graduate Division, University of California, Santa Barbara
2023	Society for Visual Anthropology/Robert Lemelson Foundation Fellowship
2023	Interdisciplinary Humanities Center [IHC] Visual, Performing, and Media Arts Award
2022	Honorable Mention, Predoctoral Fellowship Program, Ford Foundation
2022	Lavender Languages Institute [LLI] Full Scholarship
2021-2026	Doctoral Scholars Fellowship University of California, Santa Barbara
2021	Danelle Storm Rosati and Mario M. Rosati for Excellence and Innovation in Language Fund Award  Additional stipend support during first year of doctoral program University of California, Santa Barbara
2021	Intersectional Racial Justice Research Grant Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara
2021	Duberman-Zal Fellowship Center for LGBTQ+ Studies [CLAGS], New York, NY
2020 [postponed due to COVID-19, did not accept]	Title VIII Fellowship – Indiana University, Bloomington Funding to travel to Samarkand, Uzbekistan for Uzbek language learning & cultural immersion
2015	Leadership Alliance Mellon Initiative [LAMI] Fellowship Center for Humanities, New York University, New York, NY
2012	FIU – TERRA Environmental Research Institute Summer Research Internship Program, Project on Language & Spatial Development, Florida International University, Miami, FL  Research Project: Language Priming Effects on Typological Expression of Motion Verbs in Bilingual English/Spanish Speakers

Awarded 1<sup>st</sup> Place Oral Presentation

## Travel Awards

2021	Committee on Ethnic Diversity in Linguistics [CEDL] Registration Award, Linguistic Society of America
2020	Student Participation Grant, Acoustical Society of America
2020	Graduate and Professional Student Committee [GPSC] Travel Grant, Florida International University
2017	Student Travel Fund Grant, Macalester College
2016	Student Travel Fund Grant, Macalester College

## Media Projects

2021	Research Consultant, LGBTQIA+ Glossary Project Collaborative partnership project between VideoOut, Google News Initiative, Polygraph, Men's Health Researched the history and sociolinguistic context of 25 terms.
2020	Language, Race & Solidarity for Black Lives Invited podcast episode, Redesign America, hosted by Mustafa Ali-Smith

## Teaching Experience

2024	Adjunct Faculty, Departments of Anthropology & Linguistics [Instructor of Record] – University of Alaska, Fairbanks ANTH/LING 486/686 – Language & Power [cross-listed; undergraduate & graduate], Fall 2024
2023-	Associate [Instructor of Record] – University of California, Santa Barbara LING 132 – Language, Gender & Sexuality, Summer 2024 LING 180 – Language, Race & Ethnicity, Summer 2023 CHST/LING 187 – Language, Power & Learning [cross-listed], Spring 2023
2022-	Teaching Assistant – University of California, Santa Barbara INT W 20 – Introduction to the Research University, Summer 2022 LING 132 – Language, Gender & Sexuality, Fall 2022 LING 70 – Language in Society, Winter 2023
2020-2021	Teaching Assistant – Florida International University LIN 4640 – Languages & Cultures of the World, Spring 2020 LIN 3013 – General Linguistics, Fall 2021, Spring 2021



2017	Preceptor [Teaching Assistant] – Macalester College LING 175 – Sociolinguistics
2015-2017	Teaching Assistant/Tutor – Macalester College Russian – all levels German – elementary-intermediate

## Mentorship Experience

2022-2025	Black Academic Development [BAD] Lab Summer Virtual Internship Mentor, Stanford Graduate School of Education [GSE], Stanford University, Stanford, CA [Summer 2023, Summer 2024, Summer 2025] PI: Dr. Anne Charity Hudley NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduates [REU] Program, Award #: 2228283
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## Administrative & Research Employment

2021-2023	Graduate Assistant for Education Initiatives/Graduate Student Assistant Resource Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity [RCSGD], University of California, Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA
2020 [postponed due to COVID-19]	Research Assistant, Center for Humanities in an Urban Environment, Florida International University Research Project: Use and maintenance of languages other than English among Coral Gables school children
2019	Study Abroad Coordinator [P/T] Office of International Education, Miami Dade College, Miami, FL
2018-2019	Coordinator of Multicultural Student Life – Latinx/Asian-American/Native American Club Advisor Office of Multicultural Student Life, University of Tennessee – Knoxville, Knoxville, TN
2017-2018	Coordinator, Center for Diversity & Inclusion – LGBTQIA+ Club Advisor Center for Diversity & Inclusion, Southern Utah University Cedar City, UT

## Campus Recognition

2021	Best Thesis Award, School of Arts, Society & Environment, CASE, Florida International University
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2021	Exemplary Service Award, School of Arts, Society & Environment, CASE, Florida International University
2020	Outstanding Academic Achievement Award, School of Arts, Society & Environment, CASE, Florida International University
2017	Outstanding DML Senior Award, Department of Multicultural Life, Macalester College
2013-2017	Catharine Lealtad Scholarship, Macalester College

## Campus Involvement & Service

2021-2022	Member, Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics & Native Americans in Science, UCSB Chapter
2021	RCSGD Associate Director Hiring Committee Member
2020-2021	President, FIU Graduate Linguistics Association
2018	Pride Alliance Co-Chair, Southern Utah University
2018	Utah Division of Indian Affairs/SUU Scholarship Committee
2018	College Access Network of Utah, LGBTQ+ Committee
2018	Staff Association Scholarship Committee, Southern Utah University
2017	Diversity & Inclusion Officer, Macalester College Student Government [MCSG]
2017	Secretary General, Macalester College Model United Nations

## Other Professional Service

2025-	Member-at-Large, Association for Latinx and Latina/o Anthropologists [ALLA]
2024-2025	Program Committee, 2025 Society for Linguistic Anthropology Conference
2023-2025	Anthropology News Co-Editor, Association for Latinx and Latina/o Anthropologists [ALLA] Section

## Languages & Skills

Languages:	English [Native] – Miami, FL variety
	Spanish [Native] – Cuban/Puerto Rican variety
	Russian [Advanced] – Speaking/reading, [Intermediate] - writing
	Azerbaijani [Intermediate]
	Brazilian Portuguese [Intermediate]

Language Certificates:	Advanced Mid Proficiency, Russian, ACTFL Oral Proficiency Certificate Intermediate High Proficiency, Azerbaijani, ACTFL Oral Proficiency Certificate
Linguistics/Audio Software:	Praat, Audacity, Zencastr [Podcasting]
Computing:	Statistical Analysis on RStudio, Python, Google Suite, Microsoft Office Suite
Transcription:	International Phonetic Alphabet, Basic ToBI Intonation Labeling

## Professional Memberships

2019-present	Linguistic Society of America [LSA]
2021-present	American Anthropological Association [AAA]
2021-present	Association of Latinx and Latina/o Anthropologists [ALLA]
2021-present	Society for Linguistic Anthropology [SLA]
2021-present	Puerto Rican Studies Association [PRSA]
2023-present	American Studies Association [ASA]
2023-present	Society for Visual Anthropology [SVA]