

SOFÍA GELLON
sgellon@courgarnet.uh.edu

EDUCATION

- 2015 **Ph.D.** Spanish Linguistics, Department of Hispanic Studies, University of Houston.
Dissertation title: *La adquisición del orden verbo sujeto en español por estudiantes de herencia de español.*
- 2010 **M. A.** Spanish Linguistics, Department of Hispanic Studies, University of Houston.
- 1999 **B.A. in Education Sciences**, School of Philosophy and Literature, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina. Specialization: Education Technology.

EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

2022-Present **UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON, HISPANIC STUDIES DEPARTMENT**

Director of the Spanish Language Program

- Develop Syllabi and calendars for basic Spanish classes.
- Supervise 28 instructors
- Coordinate 36 Spanish courses
- Create and assign Canvas shells to instructors.
- Scheduling Spanish classes
- Hire new lecturers
- Train teaching assistants and lecturers
- Teach graduate and undergraduate classes

2017-2022 **TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY, FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT**

Visiting Instructor

- Customized syllabus and teaching materials based on students' needs and institutional aims.
- Fomented an inclusive learning environment to foster positive learning experiences.
- Adapted teaching technics to reach students with diverse backgrounds and learning experiences.
- Designed and implemented classroom activities to promote intercultural competence using authentic materials such as readings, videos, and films.
- Incorporated technology into the classroom to motivate student participation and diversify teaching strategies.

- Worked individually with striving students to help them succeed in class.
- Developed online exams for the Spanish Program.
- Trained professors of the Spanish Program on the use of Blackboard, MindTap (Cengage Platform), and Sanako (Language Lab Software).
- Organized and conducted student recruiting events.
- ✦ **Courses taught** (face-to-face and online):
 - Elementary Spanish as a Second Language I and II (131, 132.)

2021-present **ADVANCE PLACEMENT PROGRAM (AP)**

Spanish Language and Culture Reader

- Score students' responses in Spanish Language and Culture AP test.

2016-2021 **AVANT ASSESSMENT**

- Collected authentic Spanish texts to be included in a Spanish proficiency exam.
- Evaluated the level of difficulty of texts, questions, and answers of exams.
- Reviewed accuracy and naturality of texts and audio passages.

2008-2016 **UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON, HISPANIC STUDIES DEPARTMENT**

Teaching Assistant / Lecturer – Spanish

- Created syllabi and developed teaching materials designed for heritage learners.
- Created and implemented lessons based on a communicative approach.
- Selected new material such as readings, audios, and films taking in consideration different Spanish dialects and registers.
- Designed and developed exams, tests, and assignments.

✦ **Courses taught** (face-to-face and online):

- Elementary Spanish as a Second Language I and II (1501, 1502)
- Intermediate Spanish as a Second Language I and II (2301, 2302)
- Intensive Elementary Spanish for Heritage Learners (1507)
- Intermediate Spanish for Heritage Learners I and II (2307, 2308)
- Advance Spanish for Non-Heritage (3302)
- Spanish Grammar Review (3305)
- Public Speaking in Spanish (3307)
- Written Communication for Hispanic Heritage Learners (3308)

- Teaching Spanish to Heritage Language Learners (4785)
- 2011-2012 **Research Assistant – Heritage Language Program**
- Administrated the Heritage Placement Exam.
 - Developed sections of the Heritage Placement Exam.
- Fall 2009 **Spanish Tutor – Learning Support Services**
- Developed and implemented “Spanish Conversation Tables.”
 - Tutored students.
- Summer 2009 **SOL EDUCATION ABROAD, BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA**
- 2009 **Study Abroad Director of High School Program**
- Administered on-site finances and housing.
 - Organized field trips and after-school activities.
 - Managed student life issues.
 - Communicated with parents.
- 2002-2009 **BERLITZ HOUSTON LANGUAGE CENTER**
- 2006 **Language Instructional Supervisor**
- Hired, trained, and supervised instructors.
 - Monitored students’ progress and analyzed students’ needs.
- 2005 **Accounting Manager**
- Billing, collection, payroll, and inventory.
 - Scheduling teachers and students on a daily basis.
- 2002 **Spanish Teacher**
- Taught face-to-face and online classes, individual and group classes at all levels: beginning, intermediate, and advanced.
- 1999-2001 **NORA LEONI & ASSOCIATES, ARGENTINA – CONSULTING AND TRAINING**
- Educational Consultant**
- Designed and developed web-based training, manuals, and testing procedures.
 - Account manager for on-going projects with major businesses-Telefónica, Galicia Bank, and Bank of Boston.
- 1993-1999 **GALICIA BANK, ARGENTINA – HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

Training Manager

- Designed and developed employee training programs.
- Created training resources – manuals, instructor guides, etc.
- Administrated in-house courses.
- Trained new instructors.

1994-1995 **UNIVERSITY OF BUENOS AIRES, SCHOOL OF PHILOSOPHY AND LITERATURE, ARGENTINA**
Teaching Assistant – Genetic Psychology

AWARDS:

2013 The Teaching Excellence Award for Teaching Fellows, Department of Hispanic Studies, University of Houston.

CONFERENCES

March 2014 **Texas A&M University’s Fourth Hispanic Studies Annual Graduate Conference.** College Station, TX. “La adquisición de la posposición del sujeto por estudiantes de herencia y de español como segunda lengua”.

July 2013 **AATSP 95th Conference.** San Antonio, TX. “La adquisición del orden verbo sujeto en español por estudiantes de herencia”.

LANGUAGES

Spanish: native speaker.

English: near-native speaker.

Portuguese: listening and reading at a high-intermediate level.