

Curriculum Vitae
Zlata Stankovic-Ramirez, Ph.D.
University of Texas at Dallas
Assistant Professor of Instruction - Psychology

EDUCATION

Ph.D.	2021	Child Development and Early Education Texas Woman's University, Denton, TX
M.S.	2009	Child Development Texas Woman's University, Denton, TX
B.A.	2005	Psychology Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX

DISSERTATION

“Prekindergarten Teachers’ Perspectives on Decision-making Regarding Initial Set up of Classroom Environments, Modifications During the Academic School Year, and Barriers Associated with Creating Optimal Physical Environments”.
January 2021, Texas Woman’s University (TWU), Faculty Advisor: Dr. Brigitte Vittrup.

SCHOLARSHIP

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z., & Vittrup, B. (in press). Prekindergarten Teachers’ Perspectives on Classroom Environments and Barriers to Optimal Learning Spaces. *Early Childhood Education Journal*.

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z. (2023). Seven tips on helping your only child welcome a new baby to The family. *Dimensions*, 51(1), 40-41.

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z., & Richards, P. (2023). How Child Guidance and Classroom Management Interplay with The Environment, The Child, The Teacher, and Administrators. *Early Years*, 44(1), 18-22.

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z., & Thompson, J. (2022). A new view of developmentally appropriate Practice: What early childhood educators know about wave, individuals, and equity. *TEPSA Leader: Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association*, 35(2), 1-7. www.tepsa.org/publications/tepsa-leader/#.

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z., & Washington, R., & Horn, S. (2021). Mentorship: A year long roadmap to improving quality in early childhood education. *Early Years*, 42(2), 8-17.

Thompson, J., & **Stankovic-Ramirez, Z.** (2021). What early childhood educators know about developmentally appropriate practice. *Phi Delta Kappan*, 103(2).

Walker, K. & **Stankovic-Ramirez, Z.** (2019). Deepening pre-service teachers' understanding of the creative process. *Early Years*, 40(3), 17-21.

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z., & Thompson, J. (2018). P.L.A.C.E.S.: An innovation in observing Children. *Texas Child Care Quarterly*, 42(2), 1-8.

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z., & Vittrup, B. (2018). Promoting positive gender development. *Texas Child Care Quarterly*, 41(4), 1-5.

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z., & Dutton, C. (2016). The classroom as a teaching tool: Evolving spaces to meet children's needs. *Texas Child Care Quarterly*, 40(2), 1-5.

EMPLOYMENT: (HIGHER EDUCATION)

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|---------------|--|
| 2023- present | Assistant Professor of Instruction- Psychology
School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences (BBS)
University of Texas at Dallas
Dallas, Texas |
| 2021-2023 | Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education
Foundations, Curriculum, and Instruction
Spadoni College of Education and Social Sciences
Coastal Carolina University
Conway, South Carolina |
| 2017-2021 | Graduate Teaching Assistant/Adjunct Professor of Child Development and Early Childhood Education
Human Development, Family Studies, and Counseling
Texas Woman's University
Denton, Texas |
| Spring 2021 | Adjunct Professor of Early Childhood Education
Department of Educator and Leadership Preparation
Texas A&M University- San Antonio
San Antonio, Texas |
| Spring 2021 | Adjunct Professor of Early Childhood Education
Department of Early Childhood Education
Grayson County College
Denison, Texas |
| 2012-2018 | Adjunct Professor of Early Childhood Education |

Department of Early Childhood Education
Dallas College (Eastfield College)
Mesquite, Texas

2018-2019 **Co-Instructor of Early Childhood Education (0-3)**
Dallas Montessori Teacher Education Program
Plano, Texas

TEACHING: (HIGHER EDUCATION)

UTD:

CLDP 3310: Child Development
HDCD 6V20: Practicum/Internship in Early Childhood Disorders
HDCD 6312: Atypical Development
HDCD 6315: Assessment Theory

CCU:

EDEC 332: Child Development: The Young Child
EDEC 340: Early Childhood Field Experience: Prekindergarten (3-5)
EDEC 325: Guiding Young Children's Behavior and Classroom Management
EDEC 421: Child, Family, Teacher, & Community Relations

TWU:

FS 3413 Program Planning and Administration of Programs for Young Children
HDFS 3563 Creative Arts & Literature for Young Children

TexasA&M-SA

EDEC 3307 Child and Adolescent Development as it Impacts Instruction
EDEC 5310 Infants, Toddlers, Preschoolers and Families: The First Four Years

Eastfield:

CDEC 1311 Educating Young Children
CDA 1317 Introduction to Child Growth and Development
CDEC 1319 Child Guidance
CDEC 1323 Observation and Assessment
CDEC 1354 Child Growth and Development (& TECA)
CDEC 1356 Emergent Literacy
CDEC 1358 Creative Arts in Early Childhood
CDA 2322 Developmental Domains and Child Development
CDA 2324 Observations and Assessments of Programs
CDEC 2340 Instructional Techniques for Children with Special Needs

Grayson:

CDEC 2315 Diverse Cultural/Multilingual Education

Dallas Montessori Teacher Education Program:
Child Development for Montessori Guides (ages 0-3)

EMPLOYMENT (PRACTITIONER IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION FIELD)

2017-2021	CEO and President of Environment's Transformations Designed to Succeed Dallas, Texas
2019-2020	Texas Rising Star Mentor (TRS) ChildCare Group Dallas, Texas
2017-2019	Lab (School) Coordinator- Preschool Director Eastfield College (Dallas College) Mesquite, Texas
2013-2014	Education Specialist/Mentor Learning Care Group Arlington, Texas
2011-2012	Preschool Director Carpe Diem Frisco, Texas
1996-2006	Lead Teacher (ages birth to 5) Jewish Community Center Preschool Dallas, Texas

PRESENTATIONS

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z. (2023, September). **Keynote:** "Built Environments Promote Quality Early Childhood Education for ALL children". South Carolina Association for the Education of Young Children (SCAEYC), Columbia, SC.

Quong, J. & **Stankovic-Ramirez, Z.** (2023, June). Using creative arts virtually to create a community of learners: The Flip application as a response to the isolation of Covid-19 for online students (PLI), Portland, OR.

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z. (2023, February). What good directors know and do. Southern Early Childhood Association (SCECA), Myrtle Beach, SC.

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z. & Thompson, J. (2022, November). Developmentally appropriate practice: What early childhood teachers need to know about the changes in the 4th edition of Developmentally Appropriate Practice in Early Childhood Programs (NAEYC),

Washington, D.C. *virtual presentation*.

- Stankovic-Ramirez, Z.** (2022, June). Why physical classroom environments (built environments) matter. National Association for the Education of Young Children (PLI), Cleveland, OH.
- Stankovic-Ramirez, Z.** & Thompson, J. (2022, June). Exploring the changes of developmentally appropriate practice over four decades and four iterations in teacher preparation. National Association for the Education of Young Children (PLI), Cleveland, OH.
- Stankovic-Ramirez, Z.** & Walker, K. (2022, February). *Deepening pre-service teachers' understanding of the creative process*. Southern Early Childhood Association, Myrtle Beach, SC.
- Stankovic-Ramirez, Z.** & Richards, P. (2022, February). *Teaching from a child's perspective to support social and emotional development*. Southern Early Childhood Association, Myrtle Beach, SC.
- Stankovic-Ramirez, Z.,** & Duncan, D. (2021, October). *Emotionally healing environments: Designing classrooms for Covid-19 and beyond*. Texas Association for the Education of Young Children, Galveston, TX.
- Stankovic-Ramirez, Z.,** Washington, R., & Horn, S. (2021, October). *Mentorship: A yearlong roadmap to improving quality in early childhood education*. Texas Association for the Education of Young Children, Galveston, TX.
- Stankovic-Ramirez, Z.** (2021, April). *Partnering with parents*. Houston Association for the Education of Young Children, **Virtual**.
- Stankovic-Ramirez, Z.** (2021, March). *High quality environments: Infant, Toddlers, Twos*. San Antonio Voices for Children, **Virtual**.
- Stankovic-Ramirez, Z.** (2020, October). *Designing COVID-19 preschool environments; The butterfly approach*, Houston Association for the Education of Young Children, **Virtual**.
- Stankovic-Ramirez, Z.** (2019, June). *Panel member for NAEYC- Professional Learning Institute: ADR 101: The program Perspective*, National Association for the Education of Young Children, Long Beach, CA.
- Stankovic-Ramirez, Z.,** & Thompson, J. (2019, October). *Montessori works: here is why: DAP, NAEYC, and Lillard's work*. Texas Association for the Education of Young Children, Frisco, TX.
- Stankovic-Ramirez, Z.** (2018, October). *What good directors know and do: Administrator skills*. Texas Association for the Education of Young Children, Galveston, TX.

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z. (2018, October). *Panel member for NAEYC- Reaccreditation: Streamline process skills*, Texas Association for the Education of Young Children, Galveston, TX.

Thompson, J., & **Stankovic-Ramirez, Z.** (2018, June). *Playfulness in tech integration: Kids Having fun learning to CODE*. National Association for the Education of Young Children, Austin, TX.

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z., & Vittrup, B. (2017, October). *Listening to children's voices regarding classroom environments*. Texas Association for the Education of Young Children, San Antonio, TX.

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z. & Thompson, J. (2017, June). P.L.A.C.E.S. children grow. National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAECTE: National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators), San Francisco, CA.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z. & Duncan, S. (2023, June). *Connecting theories, pedagogy, and design of early childhood classrooms*. National Association for Early Childhood Teacher Educators (NAECTE). **Virtual.**

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z. & Quong, J. (2023, June). Using creative arts virtually to create a community of learners: The flip application as a response to the isolation of Covid-19 for online students. National Association for the Early Childhood Teacher Educators (NAECTE). **Virtual.**

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z., & Vittrup, B. (2021, October). *Prekindergarten teachers' perspectives on classroom environments and barriers to optimal learning spaces*. Texas Association for the Education of Young Children (TXAEYC), Galveston, TX.

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z., & Vittrup, B. (2017, March). *Listening to children's' voices regarding classroom environments*. Texas Woman's University (TWU), Denton, TX.

Stankovic-Ramirez, Z. (2016, March). *Kindergarten classroom*. Texas Woman's University (TWU). Denton, TX.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Leadership Experience:

- Chair of Membership, SCAECY, 2-year term, 2022-2023.
- Chair of Week of the Young Child, SCAECY, 1-year term, 2022-2023.
- Editorial Committee for Dimensions, SECA, 2-year term, 2022-2023.
- Vice President of Advocacy, TXAEYC, 2-year term, 2021-2023 (moved to SC).
- Co-President of Dallas Chapter of TXAEYC, 2-year term, 2017-2019.
- Vice President of Membership of Dallas Chapter of TXAEYC, 2-year term, 2016-2017.
- Vice President of Programs of Dallas Chapter of TXAEYC, 2-year term, 2014-2016.

Committee Experience:

- Editorial Board, SECE, Spring 2022 - 2023
- Faculty Search Committee for ECE department, CCU, Spring 2022
- Professional Development Funding Committee, CCU, Fall 2021
- Judge for a 3M (3-minute thesis competition), BH Futures Foundation, Summer 2021
- HPIO Committee Member for TXAEYC, 2021-2023 (moved to SC)
- “Honeycomb Hypothesis with Dr. Sandra Duncan, Guest Lecturer”, Texas A&M Commerce, committee member and organizer for WOYC/NAEYC, Spring 2021
- Advocacy for Early Childhood Education Committee Member, 2020-2023
- Project Galleria for TXAEYC Conference Committee Member, Fall 2020-2021
- Child Development/Early Childhood Education/Teacher Education Curriculum Committee Member preparing for NAEYC re-accreditation, Eastfield, 2018-2019
- Child Development Eastfield’s College Children’s Laboratory School re-accreditation for NAEYC visit Committee Member, Eastfield, 2018-2019

Educational Outreach:

- ❖ “Place Matters: Built Environments Impact Child and Human Development”, Grow a Reader, Frisco Library, Summer 2023
- ❖ “Seven Tips to Help Your Only Child Welcome a New Baby to the Family”, Nurtured Noggin Podcast, Spring 2023
- ❖ “No Small Matter” Documentary (Dallas Chapter of TXAEYC and Childcare Group) brought to the Dallas Community (Angelica Theater) to advocate for ECE in DFW, Fall 2019
- ❖ “No Small Matter” Documentary (Jewish Community Center of Dallas), coordinated event to show the documentary to staff, families, and community to advocate for ECE in DFW, Spring 2021

Professional Development Trainings given to the ECE field:

Planning Your Day and Communicating Effectively
 Montessori Works: Here is Why
 What Successful Directors Know and Do
 What is Normal Anyways?
 Communication in the Early Years
 Outdoor Environments and Inspiring Spaces
 Indoor Environments and Frog Street

Texas Work Force: Spring 2020
 Dallas Montessori: August 2019
 Texas Work Force: April 2019
 Dallas Montessori: August 2018
 Camp Fire: December 2017
 Casa De Paz: October 2017
 Kids Care Center: April 2017

Cries to Conversations
Environments for Preschool Age Children
Cognition and Emotion in Children
DAP Environments: Indoor and Outdoor
Culturally Sensitive Infant and Toddler Care
Professional Development and Admin

Eastfield: July 2017
Camp Fire: June 2017
United Way: October 2016
Dallas Chapter of TXAEYC: July 2016
Eastfield: June 2016
Dallas Chapter of TXAEYC: September 2015

RECOGNITION

Professional Recognition:

Nomination: Award for Outstanding Teaching 2022 – Coastal Carolina University
Nomination: Professor of the Year 2022 by ECE students- Coastal Carolina University
Nomination: Professor of the Year 2021 by ECE students- Coastal Carolina University
Exchange Leader- The Early Childhood Leader's Magazine, Exchange, 43(4), No. 260, July/August 2021- Selected as a member of the Exchange Leadership Initiative

Academic Recognition:

Experiential Graduate Student Scholar Program – “Listening to Children’s Voices Regarding Classroom Environments”, 2016-2017 school year, \$1,000.

GRANTS/AWARDS

Travel Awards:

Spadoni College of Education, Travel award for NAEYC-PLI \$1500- Summer 2023
Spadoni College of Education, Travel award for NAYC-PLI, \$1750 – Summer 2022
Family Sciences Department, Travel award for NAEYC, Fall 2016, \$600
Graduate School, TWU, Graduate Student Councils, Travel Award for TXAEYC Conference, Fall 2018, \$500

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- ❖ NAEYC- National Association for the Education of Young Children, **2012-Present**
 - 1) TXAEYC- Texas Association for the Education of Young Children, 2014-2021
 - 2) DAEYC- Dallas Association for the Education of Young Children, 2014-2019
 - 3) SCAEYC- S. Carolina Association for the Education of Young Children, **2021-Present**
- ❖ SECA- Editorial Board Committee, **2021- Present**
- ❖ SRCD- Society for Research in Child Development, **2018-Present**
- ❖ NAECTE- National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators, **2018-Present**
- ❖ Phi Delta Kappa- International association for leaders in education, 2021-2022
- ❖ ALE- Association for Learning Environments, 2019-2020