

¡LO HICIMOS! THE IMPORTANCE OF MULTILINGUAL PEDAGOGIES IN FIRST-YEAR COMPOSITION (FYC)

Presented By **Affiliations**
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Does it matter if we encourage languages other than "standard" English in the classroom? This is a question I have explored as an undergraduate, multilingual writer and SSI. This project has enabled me to gather preliminary data on student's perspectives of linguistic diversity in academic and outside settings. The goal was to use this data to refine our research design, interview questions, and interview protocol.

01 Readings and Coding

- Read multiple scholarly articles on the importance of studying and understanding multilingual students' needs in FYC
- Read multiple articles on qualitative interview design
- Coded 40 literacy narratives for presence of Language Brokering, i.e. translating, and testing our code in order to refine it

02 POPULATION

- 8 participants in total
- Self-identified Spanish speakers
- Self-identified Hispanic/Latine, first-gen
- Self-Identified second years

03 INTERVIEW PROTOCOL AND PROMPTS

- Conducted Zoom interviews ranging 30-40 minutes
- 4 individual and 2 group interviews
- **Interview Questions:**
 - 1. Brainstorm a list of instances or activities when you would typically use more than one language (i.e. in conversation with friends, translating for parents, etc).
 - 2. Can you tell us about a time when your knowledge of multiple dialects/languages was especially helpful, to you or to others?
 - 3. Is this activity something that is routine or regularly occurring? How often does this kind of activity happen?
 - 4. What do you think you learned from those experiences that has been useful to you in other kinds of situations?
 - 5. Do you think these kinds of experiences and/or lessons might apply to academic or school writing? If so, how? (Can you give examples?)

04 CONCLUSIONS

- Verified that the interview questions were understandable and answerable
- New themes of:
 - Appreciation for research being done on their population
 - Tension of having to choose "standard" English over Spanish in writing assignments
 - Making an extra effort to connect to Spanish in order to improve their verbal, written, and social skills
 - Translating their inner thoughts from Spanish to English and vice versa when dissecting prompts, reading, writing, and speaking
 - Agreement that knowing more than one language is very helpful in academic and outside situations

05 REFLECTION

Overall, I was able to gain a multitude of qualitative research skills, I developed my preferred style of interviewing, and have found my niche of studying multilingual students in Writing Studies. This SSI has prepared me for my future grad school research and has enabled me to find my place in academia among my idols who recreate language!

