

Roselia Mendez Murillo, PhD

Moody College of Communication
University of Texas, Austin
Austin, TX 78712
Roselia.mendezmurillo@austin.utexas.edu
(619) 655-6710

EDUCATION

2018-present University of California, Santa Barbara
PhD in Communication
Advisor: Jennifer Kam, PhD
Committee Members: Tamara Afifi, PhD and Andy Merolla, PhD
Awarded 2022 NCA Interpersonal Outstanding Dissertation

2016-2018 University of California, Santa Barbara
M.A. in Communication
Advisor: Jennifer Kam, PhD
Committee Members: Tamara Afifi, PhD and Howard Giles, PhD

2012-2016 University of California, Santa Barbara
B.A. in Communication
Distinction in the major

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Kim, K., Stephens, K.K., Rabby, M., McGlone, M.S., **Mendez Murillo, R.**, Castellanos, S., & Faust, K.M. (2025). Enhancing individual disaster preparedness by improving trust, risk perception, and message effectiveness. *Sustainable Cities and Societies*.

Mendez Murillo, R., & Kam, J. A. (2024). Relational Maintenance for Separated Latina/o/x/e Immigrant Parents and Their Children: A Focus on Primary Caregivers as Communication Gatekeepers. *Communication Research*.

Molina-Rogers, N., Kam, J. A., Cornejo, M., & **Mendez Murillo, R.** (2024). Using the structural influence model of communication to explore U.S. Latina/o/x undocumented immigrants' COVID-19 information acquisition, perceptions, and prevention behaviors. *Health Communication*.

Mendez Murillo, R., Kam, J., Merolla A. (2023). Extending Past Theorizing on Relational Maintenance by Exploring the Lived Experiences of Separated Latina/o/x/e Immigrant Families. *Human Communication Research*.

Mendez Murillo, R., & Kam, J. (2023). Exploring How Culture and Structural Barriers Promote or Inhibit Communal Coping for Separated Latinx Immigrant Families. *Journal of Communication*.

- King, J., Kam, J. A., Cornejo, M., **Mendez Murillo, R.** (2023) A Multilevel Approach to Exploring U.S. Undocumented College Students' Resilience Communication During the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Journal of Applied Communication Research*.
- Kam, J. A., Hopfer, S., Cornejo, M., **Mendez Murillo, R.**, & Juarez, D. (2023). Latina/o/x undocumented college students' perceived barriers and motivations for talking to a campus mental health professional: A focus on communication, culture, and structural barriers. *Communication Monographs*.
- Kam, J. A., Cornejo, M., **Mendez Murillo, R.**, & Afifi, T. D. (2022). Communicating allyship according to college students with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*.
- Mendez Murillo, R.**, & Kam, J. A. (2021). Spanish-Speaking Family Members and Non-Spanish Speakers' Supportive and Unsupportive Communication for Latina/o/x Language Brokers. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*.
- Kam, J. A., Marcoulides, K., Steuber Fazio, K. R., **Mendez Murillo, R.**, & Cornejo, M. (2021). Latina/o/x immigrant youth's motivations for disclosing their family-undocumented experiences to a teacher(s): A latent transition analysis. *Journal of Communication*.
- Kam, J. A., **Mendez Murillo, R.**, Cornejo, M., & Mendoza, N. (2020). The importance of norms and efficacy in predicting undocumented college students' intentions to talk to an on-campus mental health professional. *Health Communication*.
- Kam, J. A., Steuber Fazio, K. R., & **Mendez Murillo, R.** (2019). Disclosing one's undocumented status to non-family members: Exploring the perspectives of undocumented youth of Mexican origin. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- Cornejo, M., & **Mendez Murillo, R.** (in progress). Legally Objectified Migrants and Their Communication in Relationships. In S. Faulkner & P. J. Lannutti (Eds.), *Handbook of Communication in Personal Relationships*.
- Mendez Murillo, R.** (in progress). Communication and Resilience in Marginalized, Stigmatized, and Disenfranchised Communities. In M. Doerfel, M. Venetis, & K. Scharp (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Communication and Resilience*.
- Mendez Murillo, R.** (in progress). Incorporating Culture into Messages. In K. Stephens & Ka. Faust (Eds.), *Wiley Handbook of Infrastructure Communication*.

Mendez Murillo, R., & Hernandez, K.* (in progress). Social Support in Families. In M. Faw, J. Pederson, A. Holmstrom, & A. High (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Supportive Communication*.

Kam, J. A., **Mendez Murillo, R.,** & Cornejo, M. (2020). Immigration and family communication: Resilience, solidarity, and thriving. In J. Soliz & C. Warner Colaner (Eds.), *Navigating relationships in the modern family: Communication, identity, and difference* (pp. 103-122). New York, New York: Peter Lang.

UNDER REVIEW

Mendez Murillo, R. (Revise & Resubmit) Exploring the triggers and resilience processes among separated Latina/o/x/e parents and caregivers. *Journal of Family Communication*.

Mendez Murillo, R., Stephens, K. K., McGlone, M. S., Rabby, M., Faust, K. M., Kim, K. & Castellanos, S. (Revise & Resubmit). Bridging risk and culture: Communicative strategies for encouraging health-protective behaviors in Spanish-speaking Latina/o/x/e communities during extreme weather emergencies. *Health Communication*.

McGlone, M. S., Stephens, K. K., Rabby, M., **Mendez Murillo, R.,** Kim, K., Faust, & K. M., Castellanos, S. Water conservation and extreme weather preparedness messages: Helping utilities communicate to encourage public cooperation. *Communication Research*.

Kim, K., Yang, E., Stephens, K. K., Rabby, M., **Mendez Murillo, R.,** McGlone, M. S., Castellanos, S., and Faust, K. M. (2025). Clear or compliant? The tension between regulatory requirements and public comprehension in boil water advisories. *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*.

Kim, K., Kam, J., Delgado Solis, R., Vazquez, K., **Mendez Murillo, R.,** Cornejo, M., & High, A. Exploring the effects and content of gratitude expressions in Latina/o/x/e couples experiencing migration-based family separation: A mixed-methods study. *Communication Research*.

Stephens, K. K., Rabby, M., McGlone, M.S., **Mendez Murillo, R.,** Castellanos, S., & Faust, K. M., (Under Review). Wrapped pipe dreams: Using protection motivation theory to understand what motivates people to prepare for extreme cold weather. *Weather, Climate, Society*.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Mendez Murillo, R., Cornejo, M., & Premachandra, B., Chisme as informational support for formally detained asylum seekers.

Cornejo, M., **Mendez Murillo, R.,** & Premachandra, B., How can we expand on interpersonal communication theories to elevate the voices of objectified migrants in u.s. immigration detention?

Premachandra, B., Cornejo, M., & **Mendez Murillo, R.** Rooted in resilience and sustained by support: understanding support-seeking in latine undocumented undergraduates post-covid.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

McGlone, M. S., Stephens, K. K., Rabby, M., **Mendez Murillo, R.**, Kim, K., Faust, & K. M., Castellanos, S. Water Conservation and Extreme Weather Preparedness Messages: Helping Utilities Communicate to Encourage Public Cooperation. Paper to be presented at the International Communication Association. June 2025. **Top Paper Panel**

Mendez Murillo, R., Stephens, K. K., Rabby, M., McGlone, M. S., Castellanos, S., & Faust, K. M. Embracing Greater Regard: Exploring the Role of Cultural and Structural Elements influencing Protective Behaviors in Spanish-Speaking Latina/o/x/e Children and Adults. Paper to be Presented at National Communication Association November 2024.

Stephens, K. K., Rabby, M., McGlone, M. S., Kreiser, A., Kim, K., **Mendez Murillo, R.**, Faust, K. & Castellanos, S.,(2024, Nov.). *Wrapped pipe dreams: Using protection motivation theory to understand what motivates people to prepare for extreme cold weather*. Paper presented at the NCA Conference, New Orleans, LA.

Mendez Murillo, R., & Kam, J. Relational Maintenance for Separated Latina/o/x/e Immigrant Parents and their Children: A Focus on Primary Caregivers as Communication Gatekeepers. Paper Presented at National Communication Association November 2023. **Top Paper**.

Molina-Rogers, N., Kam, J. A., Cornejo, M., & **Mendez Murillo, R.** (under review). Using the structural influence model of communication to explore U.S. Latina/o/x undocumented immigrants' COVID-19 information acquisition, perceptions, and prevention behaviors. Paper to be Presented at National Communication Association November 2023.

Mendez Murillo, R., & Kam, J Extending Past Theorizing on Relational Maintenance by Exploring the Lived Experiences of Separated Latina/o/x/e Immigrant Families. Paper presented at International Communication Association May 2023. **Top Paper Panel**.

King, J., Kam, J. A., Cornejo, M., **Mendez Murillo, R.** A Multilevel Approach to Exploring U.S. Undocumented College Students' Resilience Communication During the COVID-19 Pandemic. Paper presented at National Communication Association November 2022. **Top Paper Panel**

Kam, J. A., Hopfer, S., Cornejo, M., **Mendez Murillo, R.**, Juarez, D. (November 2022). A Communication-Focused Health Belief Model Grounded in Undocumented College Students' Lived Experiences with Mental Health Strain. Paper presented at National Communication Association.

Mendez Murillo, R., & Kam, J. (November 2022). Exploring How Culture and Structural Barriers Promote or Inhibit Communal Coping for Separated Latinx Immigrant Families. Paper presented at National Communication Association.

Kam, J. A., **Mendez Murillo, R.**, Cornejo, M., & Mendoza, N. (November, 2020). *The importance of norms and efficacy in predicting undocumented college students' intentions to talk to an on-campus mental health professional*. Paper presented at the National Communication Association, Indianapolis, Indiana. **Top Paper Panel.** Health Communication Division.

Mendez Murillo, R., & Kam, J. A. (November, 2018). *How family members and people from U.S. mainstream culture communicate support to Latina/o early adolescent language brokers*. Paper presented at the National Communication Association, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Kam, J. A., Steuber Fazio, K. R., **Mendez Murillo, R.** (November, 2018). *Disclosing one's undocumented status to non-family members: Exploring the perspectives of undocumented youth of Mexican origin*. Paper presented at the National Communication Association, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Kam, J. A., Marcoulides, K., Steuber, K. R., **Mendez Murillo, R.** (May, 2017). *Uncovering patterns of family-undocumented-status disclosures for Latina/o early adolescents: A latent transition analysis*. Paper presented at the International Communication Association, San Diego, CA. **Top Paper Panel.** Interpersonal Communication Division.

TEACHING

- *Dark Side of Interpersonal Communication (Undergraduate level)*
- *Risk Communication (Undergraduate level)*
- *Immigration and Communication (Undergraduate & Graduate level)*
- *Language, Communication, Culture (Undergraduate level)*
- *Intercultural Communication (Graduate level)*
- *Qualitative Methods (Graduate level)*

Master's Advisor

- Nadya Zamora (2025)
- Victoria Salinas

PhD Committee Member

- Jonathon Espinoza
- Ana Aguilar
- Karly Quaack
- Jiayuan “Kross” Wen
- Nancy Carlson
- Maya Blitch
- Yixuan Liu

- Fan Wang
- Natalie Wellman
- Soumya U Khedka
- Carlson Nancy

Masters Reader

- Karissa Hernandez (2023)
- Vanessa Lopez (2023)

Undergraduate Thesis Advisor

- Jonathon Saldana (co-advisor)

INVITED LECTURES

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| 10/2024 | Guest Speaker. <i>Uncovering Cultural and Structural Elements to Improve the Lives of Migrant Families</i> . Department of Developmental Psychology. University of Texas, Austin. |
| 12/2022 | Guest Speaker. <i>Exploring How Cultural and Structural Elements Relate to Communal Coping for Separated Latina/o/x Immigrant Families</i> . Center for women and gender Studies. University of Texas, Austin. |
| 11/2022 | Guest Talk. <i>Extending Past Theorizing on Relational Maintenance and Coping by Exploring the Lived Experiences of Separated Latina/o/x Immigrant Families</i> . Department of Human Development and Family Studies. University of Texas, Austin. |
| 09/2022 | Guest Speaker. <i>How Interpersonal Communication can Help Immigrant Lives & Research into Action</i> . COM 301: Introduction to Communication Foundations. |
| 11/2019 | Guest Lecture, <i>Mixed Methods</i> . Communication Research Methods (COMM 310). California State University, Channel Islands. |
| 06/2018 | Guest Lecture, <i>Cultural Adaptations</i> . Research Methods (COMM 88). University of California, Santa Barbara. |
| 03/2018 | Guest Lecture, <i>Cultural Adaptations</i> . Intercultural Communication (COMM 183). University of California, Santa Barbara. |
| 11/2016 | Guest Lecture, <i>Communication Accommodation Theory</i> . Communication Theory (COMM 89). University of California, Santa Barbara. |

GRANTS AND AWARDS

08/2022-

- 08/20225 [Funded]. **CoPI. National Science Foundation.**
CALM Before the Storm: Culturally Appropriate Language and Messaging
for Influencing End User Behavior During Impending Infrastructure Failures
Award # 2228706, BCS. Value: \$750,000.
- 05/2024 **Ellen A. Wartella Distinguished Research Award**, Moody College of
Communication (University of Texas, Austin).
- 07/2023 [Awarded]. **Summer Research Award**. University of Texas, Austin. Value:
\$9,000
- 2022 **Top Interpersonal Dissertation**. National Communication Association.
- 04/2023 **[Funded] CoPI. Migrations Initiative Cornell University. (\$10,000)**
*We were competitively selected to receive this grant that funded a study to explore
undocumented college students' social, health, and educational experiences
post COVID-19. Sixty semi-structured interviews will be conducted with
Latina/o/x undocumented undergraduates from (1) a west coast community
college; (2) a south-central public university; and (3) an east coast ivy league
university. Our project will include the themes of (a) racial justice, by
focusing on the experiences of undocumented students post-COVID-19 and
inquiring about the different messages (e.g., supportive, anti-immigrant)
students receive from peers, friends, professors, staff; and (b) migration, by
directly working with undocumented immigrants across three different states
as participants and community research members*
- 07/2024 [Not awarded] **Senior personnel**. National Science Foundation.
- 07/2023 [Not awarded] **Senior personnel**. National Science Foundation.
- 08/2022 [Not Funded]. **CoPI. Department of Energy.**
Rapid Automated Communication and Energy Restoration for Austin, TX.
Value: \$3,000,000.
- 08/2022 **Center for Women's and Gender Studies**. Faculty Development Program
Value: \$2,000
- 2022 **Top Interpersonal Dissertation**. National Communication Association.
- 2020-2021 **Fellow**. University of California President's Pre-Professoriate Fellowship. UC
Santa Barbara.
 - \$30,000 stipend for the 2020-21 academic year
 - \$10,000 grant for professional development

- Release from teaching for academic year to conduct study on family separation and reunification

2019-2021	Fellow. National Science Foundation and Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Hispanic Serving Institution. UC Santa Barbara, UC Merced, CSU Channel Islands, CSU Fresno.
2020-2021.	Chicano Studies Institute (CSI) Dissertation Funding (\$2,250). UC Santa Barbara.
SP 2020	Outstanding Graduate Student Service Award, Department of Communication, UC Santa Barbara
SP 2019	Humanities & Social Sciences Research Grant (\$3,000). UC Santa Barbara.
SU 2019	Hispanic Serving Institution and Student Affairs Assessment Grant (\$2,000). UC Santa Barbara.
FA 2019	National Communication Association Student Caucus Travel Grant (\$170).
FA 2018	Graduate Student Association Travel Grant (\$200). UC Santa Barbara.

AD HOC REVIEWING

- Editorial Board for special qualitative issue of *Journal of Communication*
- Editorial Board for *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*
- Editorial Board for *Personal Relationships*
- *Editorial Board for special issue of Journal of Family Communication*
- *Communication Monographs*
- *Communication Research*
- *International Journal of Communication*
- *Journal of International and Intercultural Communication*
- *Journal of Language and Social Psychology*
- *Health Communication*
- *Atlantic Journal of Communication*
- *Western Journal of Communication*
- *Sociological Forum*
- *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*
- *Child: Care, Health & Development*

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2023-Present	Faculty Advisor. Lambda Pi Eta
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2023-Present	Faculty Member. Social Inequality, Health & Policy Bridging Disciplines Committee
Spring 2025	Committee Member. Ellen A. Wartella Distinguished Award Reviewer
2022-2023	Moody Faculty Advisory Council
2022	Panelist. Tacos & DEI, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee in Communication Council
2022, 2023	Scholarship Selection Committee
2018-2021	Graduate Student Committee Member, Human Subjects Committee, UC Santa Barbara.
2020-2021	Senior Graduate Mentor, Graduate Scholars Program, UC Santa Barbara.
2019-2020	Graduate Student Representative, Diversity and Communication Search Committee. Department of Communication, UC Santa Barbara.

CONFERENCE RELATED SERVICE

2022-Present	Secretary. Interpersonal Communication Division. National Communication Association
2023-Present	Co-Chair. IDEA Committee Task Force. National Communication Association.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2018-present	Member. National Communication Association
2017-present	Member. International Communication Association