

Roselia Mendez Murillo, PhD

Moody College of Communication
University of Texas, Austin
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EDUCATION

- 2018-2021 University of California, Santa Barbara
PhD in Communication
Advisor: Jennifer A. 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 Major

Academic Appointments

- 2022-Present University of Texas, Austin
Assistant Professor

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. **Mendez Murillo, R.**, Stephens, K. K., McGlone, M. S., Rabby, M., Faust, K. M., Kim, K & Castellanos, S. (in press). 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*. Published first online.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10410236.2026.2697981>
2. McGlone, M. S., Stephens, K. K., Rabby, M., **Mendez Murillo, R.**, Kim, K., Faust, K. M., & Castellanos, S. (2026). Water Conservation and Extreme Weather Preparedness Messages: Helping Utilities Communicate to Encourage Public Cooperation. *Journal of Contingencies and Crisis Management*, 34(1),
<https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-5973.70138>
3. Stephens, K. K., Rabby, M., McGlone, M. S., Kreiser, A., Kim, K., **Mendez Murillo, R.**, ... & Castellanos, S. (2026). Preparing for the Extreme Cold: Linking Motivations, Water Infrastructure, and Communication Practices to Protective

- Actions. *Weather, Climate, and Society*, 18(2), 519-529.
<https://doi.org/10.1175/WCAS-D-25-0064.1>
4. Kim, K., Rabby, M., McGlone, M. S., Stephens, K. K., **Mendez Murillo, R.**, Castellanos, S., & Faust, K. (2026). Water utility communication effectiveness: Regional behavioral response patterns in conservation messaging. *Journal of Environmental Management*, 401,
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvman.2026.128821>
 5. **Mendez Murillo, R.** (2025). Exploring Triggers and Communicative Resilience Processes in Latina/O/X/E Family Dyads Facing Migration-Related Separation. *Journal of Family Communication*, 25(4), 259-282.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/15267431.2025.2553320>
 6. 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*.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijdrr.2025.105982>
 7. Kim, K., Stephens, K. K., McGlone, M. S., Rabby, M., **Mendez Murillo, R.**, Castellanos, S., & Faust, K. M. (2025). Strengthening individual preparedness for extreme cold weather through enhanced messaging, risk perception, and trust. *Sustainable Cities and Society*, 121, 106164.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scs.2025.106164>
 8. **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*.
 9. 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*.
 10. **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*. Awarded **Ellen A. Wartella Distinguished Research Award**.
 11. **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*.

12. 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*.
13. 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*.
14. 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*.
15. **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*.
16. 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*.
17. 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*.
18. 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

1. **Mendez Murillo, R.**, & Hernandez, K.* (in press). Social Support in Families. In M. Faw, J. Pederson, A. Holmstrom, & A. High (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Supportive Communication*.
2. Sowards, S., Marentes, C., & **Mendez Murillo, R.** (Final draft). Soy porque somos: Injustice from within, justice from outside. In J. Olthof, P. Pietrucci, M. Stuckey, & L. Villadsen (Eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of Political Rhetoric!*.
3. Cornejo, M., **Mendez Murillo, R.**, & Premachandra, B., (1st draft). Legally Objectified Migrants and Their Communication in Relationships. In S. Faulkner & P. J. Lannutti (Eds.), *Handbook of Communication in Personal Relationships*.

4. **Mendez Murillo, R.** (2026). Incorporating Culture into Messages. In K. Stephens & K. Faust (Eds.), *Wiley Handbook of Infrastructure Communication*.
<https://doi.org/10.1002/9781394236855.ch26>
5. **Mendez Murillo, R.** (2025). Communication and Resilience in Marginalized, Stigmatized, and Disenfranchised Communities. In M. Doerfel, M. Venetis, & K. Scharp (Eds.), *Routledge Handbook of Communication and Resilience*.
<https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003495697-35>
6. 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

- Yang, X., Shaobing, S., Chen, S., **Mendez Murillo, R.**, & Su Yeong, K. Family dynamics and mental health of Mexican immigrant families following separation. *Youth & Society*.
- 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 Monographs*.

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

- Mendez Murillo, R.**, Cornejo, M., & Premachandra, B. Chisme as informational support for formally detained asylum seekers. Paper to be presented at the International Communication Association. June 2026.

- Sowards, S., Marentes, C., & **Mendez Murillo, R.** Soy porque somos: Injustice from within, justice from outside. Paper to be presented at the International Communication Association.
- 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. Presented at National Communication Association. November 2025. **Top Paper**
- 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

- Victoria Salinas (2026)
- Nadya Zamora (2025)

PhD Committee Member (Comprehensive Exam/Prospectus/Dissertation)

- Ana Aguilar (2025)
- Julie Ball

- Maya Blitch (2026)
- Nancy Carlson
- Jonathon Espinoza
- Mathew Flores
- Soumya U Khedka
- Yixuan Liu
- Xiaotong Liu
- Paden Moore
- Cynthia Marentes
- Karly Quaack (2025)
- Fan Wang (2026)
- Jiayuan “Kross” Wen (2026)
- Natalie Wellman

MA Student’s Thesis Committee Member

- Karissa Hernandez (2023)
- Vanessa Lopez (2023)
- Emily Felt (2026)
- Emaly Aguilar (2026)

Undergraduate Student’s Thesis Advisor

- Jonathon Saldana (co-advisor; 2024)
- John Sylvalie (2026)

Undergraduate Student’s Thesis Committee/ Plan II

- Gordie O’Rorke (2026)

INVITED LECTURES

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|---------|---|
| 10/2024 | Guest Speaker. <i>Uncovering Cultural and Structural Elements to Improve the Lives of Migrant Families. Department of Developmental Psychology. University of Texas, Austin.</i> |
| 12/2022 | Guest Speaker. <i>Exploring How Cultural and Structural Elements Relate to Communal Coping for Separated Latina/o/x Immigrant Families. Center for women and gender Studies. University of Texas, Austin.</i> |
| 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. Department of Human Development and Family Studies. University of Texas, Austin.</i> |
| 09/2022 | Guest Speaker. <i>How Interpersonal Communication can Help Immigrant Lives & Research into Action. COM 301: Introduction to Communication Foundations.</i> |

- 11/2019 Guest Lecture, *Mixed Methods*. Communication Research Methods (COMM 310). California State University, Channel Islands.
- 06/2018 Guest Lecture, *Cultural Adaptations*. Research Methods (COMM 88). University of California, Santa Barbara.
- 03/2018 Guest Lecture, *Cultural Adaptations*. Intercultural Communication (COMM 183). University of California, Santa Barbara.
- 11/2016 Guest Lecture, *Communication Accommodation Theory*. Communication Theory (COMM 89). University of California, Santa Barbara.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 08/2022-08/2025 [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.
- 06/2025 [Funded]. **CoPI. The Center for Racial Justice and Equitable Futures.** Cornell University. Value: \$25,000
- 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
- 04/2023 [Funded] **CoPI. Migrations Initiative Cornell University. (\$10,000)**
- 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.

Editorial Board

- Editorial Board for *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*
- Editorial Board for *Personal Relationships*
- Editorial Board for special qualitative issue of *Journal of Communication*
- Editorial Board for special issue of *Journal of Family Communication*

AD HOC REVIEWING

- *Communication Monographs*
- *Communication Research*
- *International Journal of Communication*
- *Nature*
- *Journal of International and Intercultural Communication*
- *Journal of Language and Social Psychology*
- *Health Communication*
- *Atlantic Journal of Communication*
- *Western Journal of Communication*
- *Race and Social Problems*
- *Sociological Forum*

- *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*
- *Child: Care, Health & Development*

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

S2025- Present	Research Award Committee. Moody College of Communication
2023-Present	Faculty Member. Social Inequality, Health & Policy Bridging Disciplines Committee
2023-2026	Faculty Advisor. Lambda Pi Eta
2022-2023	Moody Faculty Advisory Council
2022	Panelist. Tacos & DEI, Diversity. Equity & Inclusion Committee in Communication Council
2022, 2023	Scholarship Selection Committee. Department of Communication, University of Texas, Austin.
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

2024-2025	Co-Chair. IDEA Committee Task Force. National Communication Association.
2023-2024	Member. IDEA Committee Task Force. National Communication Association.
2022-2024	Secretary. Interpersonal Communication Division. National Communication Association

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2018- Present	Member. National Communication Association.
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2017- Present **Member.** International Communication Association