

Claudia Molina
Assistant Professor of Spanish
Westmont College, Department of Modern Languages
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EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles

Ph.D. Hispanic Languages and Literatures. May 2025

Dissertation: *Ecofeminism: Animals in Contemporary Mexican Women's Fiction.*

Committee: Maarten van Delden (Chair), Lauren Derby, Verónica Cortínez, Jorge Marturano.

University of California, Los Angeles

M.A. Hispanic Languages and Literatures. 2020

University of Texas at Arlington

B.A. Spanish for Global Competence. 2017
Certification in Spanish for the professions.
Double minor in General Psychology and Mexican American Studies.

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, & AWARDS

2026-2027 Professional Development Grant by Westmont College

2023-2024 Department's nominee for the University Distinguished Teaching Award.

2021-2022 Eugene V. Cota-Robles Graduate Fellowship.

2018-2019 Eugene V. Cota-Robles Graduate Fellowship.

PUBLICATIONS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS

"Aullando como batzes: La animalización y mutilación de las voces indígenas entre los personajes femeninos de *Balún Canán*," *Revista de Literatura Mexicana Contemporánea*, No. 79. 2022.

"Golpe y memoria: la niñez como testigo de la violencia en Chile" Submitted to *Aisthesis Chilean Magazine*, under review.

“*En las garras del odio: Animales y violencia en dos cuentos de Carmen Báez.*” Article to be submitted to *Hispania*.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Golpes de sangre en ‘El hijo de la tiznada’ de Carmen Báez”. III Congreso Internacional de Literatura Mexicana, UNAM, Zoom. Septiembre 2026.

“Between Skin and Death: Human Hands on the Dead Animal Body in Angeles Mastretta”, Christian Association of World Languages Conference, Pepperdine University, Malibu. March 2026.

“Bajo la mirada cosificante: narrativa y memoria en la obra de Rosario Castellanos”, Round Table. XXVI Congreso de Literatura Mexicana Contemporánea, Zoom. Marzo 2021.

“Aullando como batzes: La incomprendibilidad en los personajes femeninos de *Balún Canán*”, Voices of Marginality Conference, University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder. March 2020.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2025-Present	Westmont College Assistant Professor of Spanish	
Spanish 3	Intermediate Spanish	Fall 2025
Spanish 125	Intro to Hispanic Literature	Fall 2025
Spanish 2	Elementary Spanish	Spring 2026
Spanish 180	Latin American Women Writers	Spring 2026
Spanish 1	Elementary Spanish	Mayterm 2026
Spanish 2	Elementary Spanish	Mayterm 2026
2018- 2025	UCLA Teaching Assistant (2018-2020) Teaching Associate (2020-2022) Teaching Fellow (2022-2025) Lecturer (2025)	
<i>Teaching Assistant (Syllabus and course designed by department-in person)</i>		
Spanish 1	Elementary Spanish	Fall 2019
Spanish 2	Elementary Spanish	Winter 2020

Spanish 3	Elementary Spanish	Spring 2020
Spanish 5	Intermediate Spanish	Fall 2022
Spanish 120	Literature in Historical Context	Winter 2023
Spanish 2	Elementary Spanish	Spring 2023
Spanish 1	Elementary Spanish	Summer 2023
Spanish 7A	Spanish for Heritage Speakers	Fall 2023
Spanish 42	Iberian Culture	Winter 2024

Teaching Assistant (Synchronous class syllabus and course designed by department and adapted to an online setting by me)

Spanish 1	Elementary Spanish	Winter 2021
Spanish 3	Elementary Spanish	Summer 2020
Spanish 3	Elementary Spanish	Spring 2021
Spanish 4	Intermediate Spanish	Fall 2020
Spanish 3	Elementary Spanish	Summer 2025

Teaching Assistant (Asynchronous class, course and syllabus designed by me and another graduate student)

Spanish 3	Elementary Spanish	Summer 2021
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Teaching Assistant (Course taught abroad. Granada, Spain)

Spanish 2 & 3	Elementary Spanish	Summer 2021
Spanish 25	Advanced Spanish Composition	Fall 2024
Spanish 27	Advanced Spanish Composition for Heritage Speakers	Winter 2025
Spanish 27	Advanced Spanish Composition for Heritage Speakers	Spring 2025

MENTORSHIP AND WORKSHOPS

Panelist, “Student Successful Scholar”, organized by Sonya Welch, Westmont College, March 2026.

Mentor, New graduate students at the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, March 2019-September 2020.

Panelist, “First Generation Graduate Panel,” (UCLA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Day). September 1, 2019.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Co-organizer, “Departmental Chapel 2026” Modern Languages Department, Westmont College, March 30.

Presenter, Laguna Blanca Academy prospective students, organized by Araceli Espinoza, Westmont College, March 13.

Featured Reader, Prospective Students Open House, Department of Environmental Studies, Westmont College, March 6 and April 17.

Guest speaker, “Language Acquisition: My personal journey” organized by Sally Hawkins, Westmont College, February 2026.

Co-organizer, “UCLA Graduate Student Orientation” (“Keys to succeed” and Panelist coordinator). September 2019.

Co-Organizer, “Taking it to the Streets” (Graduate Conference XVI, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, UCLA), April 2019.

Co-Editor-in-Chief, *Párrafo* (Graduate Student Magazine, Department of Spanish and Portuguese UCLA). 2020-2022.

Undergraduate Liaison Officer, Spanish and Portuguese Graduate Student Association. 2018-2019.

Moderator, “Norteñas y Contemporáneas: una conversación con tres cuentistas mexicanas” (Presentation, Department of Spanish and Portuguese UCLA. 2023.)

President, Spanish and Portuguese Graduate Student Association. 2023-2024.

Co-Organizer, “Metamorfosis mexicana: 200 años de cambios literarios y culturales” (Graduate Conference, Department of Spanish and Portuguese and Colegio de Jalisco, UCLA), October 2024.

Moderator, “Producción, circulación y consumo literario en el país” (Graduate conference, Department of Spanish and Portuguese and Colegio de Jalisco, UCLA. 2024.)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Station Leader and Volunteer, “VBS Zion Church”, Santa Barbara, July 2026.

Worship leader, “Zion Young Adults Retreat”, Santa Barbara Christian Camp, Summer 2026.

Supervisor, “Operation Christmas Child”, Samaritan’s Purse, Restauración Los Ángeles. 2023-Present.

Project leader, “Operation Christmas Child”, Samaritan’s Purse, Restauración Los Ángeles. 2021-2023

Associate Director, “Jóvenes Adultos en Español”, Restauración Los Ángeles. 2020-2025.

Young Adults mentor, “Jóvenes Adultos en Español”, Restauración Los Ángeles. 2022-Present.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese. 2025-Present.

Modern Language Association. 2021-Present.

McNair Scholar. 2016-Present.