

# ALEXIS MEZA, M.A.

*Curriculum Vitae*

Ph.D. Student in Education  
Berkeley School of Education  
University of California Berkeley  
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## **EDUCATION**

- Ph.D.                    **University of California Berkeley** *expected graduation 2029*  
*Education emphasis in Critical Studies of Race, Class & Gender*
- M.A.                    **New York University (NYU)**  
*Higher Education and Student Affairs*
- B.A.                    **University of California Riverside (UCR)**  
*Psychology*
- B.A.                    **University of California Riverside (UCR)**  
*Education, Society, and Human Development concentration in Community Leadership, Policy, and Social Justice*
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## **RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP**

- 2024                    Cano Matute, A., **Meza, A.**, Claassen Thrush, E., & Rodriguez, L. F. (2024). Validating Chicana/o/x and Latina/o/x Students Through University “Entradas” at a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI). *Journal of Hispanic Higher Education*  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/15381927241271113>
- 2024                    Rincon B, Bravo DY, Arnold E, **Meza A** and Camacho-Thompson D (2024) Community and family relationships across the transition to medical school: links to student adjustment. *Front. Psychol.* 15:1330455. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2024.1330455
- 2023                    **Meza, A.** 'Pintando' a Hispanic Serving Institution: The Influence of Muralism on Chicana/Latinx Student Experience at the University of California HSI Campuses. *Journal of Student Affairs*, 19, 8-25.
- 2022                    Bravo. D.Y., Rincon, B., Arnold, E., **Meza, A.** Transformative views of culture and mental health: From equity and inclusion to cultural empowerment. *Encyclopedia of Mental Health*. Vol. 3.

## **BOOK CHAPTERS UNDER REVIEW**

Under Review      Cano-Matute, A., **Meza, A.**, Thrush, E.C., Rodriguez, L.F (forthcoming, 2024)  
Cosechando Exito: Growing Academic Familia's that Facilitate Student and Institutional Transformation. In Conchas, G, Q. & Acevedo, N. (Eds.) Somos Hija/o/xs del Maíz/We are Children of the Corn: Pillars of Hope Resistance, and Latina/o/x Educational Success. Harvard Education Press.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Fall 2024            **Co-Instructor:** Chicanx Latinx Studies 194A

Spring 2024        **Co-Instructor:** First-Year Leadership Development Seminar

Fall 2023            **Co-Instructor:** New Student Seminar

## **AWARDS**

2024                **UC Berkeley Chancellor's Fellowship**  
University of California Berkeley

2024                **E. George Payne Memorial Prize**  
New York University, Steinhardt

2023                **NYU Social Sector Diversity Leadership Fellowship**  
NYU Changemaker Center

2022                **Estudiante de Corazón Award Recipient**  
Chicano Student Programs, University of California Riverside

2022                **UC Regents Ramirez Scholarship Recipient**  
Dr. Marcela Ramirez-Stapleton

## **MEDIA**

2023                Garcia, G.A. (Host). (2023, September 24). Embodying Servingness: UCR Chicano Student Programs. (No.303) [Audio podcast episode]. In ¿Qué pasa, HSIs?.  
<https://www.ginaanngarcia.com/podcast/303>

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

2024                Cano Matute, A., **Meza, A.**, Claassen Thrush, E., & Rodriguez, L. F. Cosecha: Entradas to Validating Experiences at a Hispanic Serving Research University. Paper presentation at the Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institution Educators.

- 2024 **Meza, A.** 'Pintando' a Hispanic Serving Institution: The Influence of Muralism on Chicana/Latinx Student Experience at the University of California HSI Campuses. Paper presentation at the College of Arts Association.
- 2023 Garcia, E. & **Meza, A.** Unpacking the Graduate School Journey from a Higher Education and Student Affairs Perspective. Roundtable Presentation at the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators.
- 2022 Cano Matute, A., **Meza, A.**, Claassen Thrush, E., & Rodriguez, L. F. Entradas to Validating Experience for HSRI Latinx Students. Paper Presentation at the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities.
- 2021 **Meza, A.**, Rincon, B., Dighero, J., Camacho-Thompson, D, Bravo, D.Y. (2021, April). Self Care Practices and Career Identity Development among Cuban Medical School Students. Poster presented at Society of Research in Child Development (SRCD), Virtual.

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

- 2024- Present **BERKELEY HIGHER EDUCATION RESEARCH Lab**  
*GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCHER*
- 2021-2023 **CO-RESEARCHER** | PI: Arlene Cano Matute, Ph.D.  
*ENCUENTROS, STUDENT PARTICIPATORY ACTIONS RESEARCH & CO-RESEARCHER DEVELOPMENT (ESPARiTU)*
- Advanced knowledge of Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) by exploring the extent to which these institutions have served Chicana/o/x and Latina/o/x students to operationalize a more holistic and historical understanding of serving.
  - Conducted archival research and oral history interviews for the UCR Chicano/Latino origins and evolution of servingness.
- 2020-2022 **RESEARCH ASSISTANT** | PI: Diamond Y. Bravo, Ph.D.  
*CULTURAL RESILIENCY & MOTIVATION LAB*
- In partnership with the University of Havana, Cuba collecting mixed methods data from undergraduate students in STEM courses to understand STEM motivation.
  - Conducted literature review and ran the analysis using SPSS software
  - Used qualitative and quantitative methodology, to review 886 self-reported surveys.
  - Translated qualitative data from Spanish to English
  - Assisted in publishing an international manuscript on the mentorship and well-being of Cuban medical students.
  - Analyzed career identity development of Cuban medical

- students
- Utilized latent class analysis to analyze self-care practices among Cuban medical students.
- Developed survey questionnaires and program evaluations.

2021-2022

**RESEARCH ASSISTANT | PI: Diamond Y. Bravo**

*ENDORISING LATINX/E/O/A CULTURAL WEALTH VIA MURALS*

- Collected interdisciplinary historical and contemporary data on murals in the Inland Empire and UCR
- Conducted focus groups of first-year UCR students' experiences at Hispanic Serving Institution.
- Devised an artistic design connecting qualitative inquiry of Chicano/Latino student's experience into a culturally centered mural

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2024-Present

**CASA MORA GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOW**

**LATINO STUDENT RESOURCE CENTER**

- Instruct seminars for first-time Latino freshmen at Berkeley learn to familiarize themselves with key campus resources such as the Chicano Latino Student Development Office/Center, Undocumented Student Program, Educational Opportunity Program, Tang Center, and much more.
- Collaborate and build curriculum with Assistant Director and Director of Latino Student Resource Center

2022-2024

**NYU OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND BELONGING**

**GRADUATE STUDENT COORDINATOR**

- Work closely with the Vice Dean of Equity and Belonging and Director of Equity Initiatives on writing equitable institutional policy and initiatives.
- Oversees Faculty First-Look Program that invites scholars of color and others underrepresented in the Academy completing their Ph.D. Ed. D, or other relevant terminal degrees to provide a glimpse into faculty careers and increase faculty diversity.
- Serve as a Co-Instructor for the First Year Leadership Development course for undergraduate BIPOC students which is dedicated to developing students' inner leadership skills.
- Assist in coordinating experiential learning in Washington D.C focused on social justice themes and historical context of African American history in the United States, through site visits, lectures, and workshops.

2019-2022

**CHICANO STUDENT PROGRAMS**

**COMMITTEE & MARKETING COORDINATOR**

- Work closely with University Administration, Student Leadership, and resource centers
- Lead Coordinator of Chicano Latino Youth Conference, Semana De La Mujer Series workshops, and Chicano Latino Graduation Ceremony
- Work closely with University Marketing and Communication team

- Assist the Director & Assistant Director of Chicano Student Program with planning, organizing, and communicating within department units
- Help provide students with guidance, support, and resources

2019-2022

**CHICANO LATINO YOUTH CONFERENCE**

*COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR & ARTIST*

- Facilitated & led the committee with planning, fundraising, and promoting the Chicano Latino Youth Conference where the overall objective is to increase the enrollment of
- Chicano/Latino in 4-year universities, promote cultural awareness, and engage social activism among participants.
- Successfully obtained a \$10,000 Outreach Grant from the University of California Riverside
- 1200 high schools attended this conference to demystify the admission process toward higher education

2019-2022

**SEMANA DE LA MUJER SERIES**

*COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR & ARTIST*

- Facilitate weekly meetings and co-constructed agendas
- Planned and organized 7 workshops to highlight the contributions of Chicana/Latinas at UCR and empower all womxn
- Contacted and networked with faculty for potential workshop speakers/presenters

2019-2022

**CHICANO LATINO GRADUATION CEREMONY**

*COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR & ARTIST | OCTOBER 2019-AUGUST 2022*

- Facilitate weekly meetings and assisted with organizing the ceremony keynote speaker, student speaker, itinerary, and entertainment.
- Successfully obtained funding from the Chancellors' Distinguished Grant.
- Held meetings with campus leadership on financial commitment and support of the ceremony.
- Regularly met with Campus Marketing and Communication to promote the ceremony, through various mediums and various social media outlets

**INVITED TALKS**

2022

**Meza, A.** Starting Undergraduate Research Project. Panelist for Chicano Student Programs Adelante Series.

2021

**Meza, A.** Rompiendo el Machismo/Dismantling Toxic Masculinity. Panelist at the 30<sup>th</sup> annual Mujer Conference. Riverside, CA

2020

**Meza, A.** Spanish Language Family Orientation. Panelist for Spanish-speaking parents for entering UCR students.

2020

**Meza, A.** Brown Scholars: The Importance of Comunidad in Higher Education.

Speaker/Presenter MEChA 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Student Empowerment Conference. Riverside, CA

2019 **Meza A.** Mundo Hall: My Experience as a Student of Color. Student panel for first-year Chicanx/Latinx students. Riverside, CA

## **SERVICE**

2023-2024 **NYU STEINHARDT LATINX GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION**  
*VICE-PRESIDENT*

- Serve as the organizational ambassador and responsible for initiating and maintaining external partnerships within NYU.
- Curate Latinx-centered professional and social development opportunities within NYU's networks as well as external opportunities.

2022-2023 **NYU ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS PROFESSIONALS**  
*RECRUITMENT/ ORIENTATION CHAIR*

- Co-collaborated with NYU Higher Education and Student Affairs (HESA) Graduate Program on organizing an Interview and Recruitment Day for prospective masters students that will aid them in their matriculation and transition into the graduate program.

2020-2021 **CHICANO LINK PEER MENTOR**  
*PEER MENTOR*

- Mentored first-year Chicanx/Latinx students navigate higher education by providing resources, academic advising, taking classes, and experiencing college life.

2020-2021 **HERMANOS UNIDOS DE UC RIVERSIDE**  
*CO-CHAIRMAN*

- Lead and plan the organization's board meetings, general body meetings, and ongoing projects.
- Assisting board members accountable with ongoing projects.
- Being a resource for general members.
- Quarterly meetings with the student-life advisor and Hermanos Unidos National Board.

2019-2020 **HERMANOS UNIDOS DE UC RIVERSIDE**  
*CHAIR OF COMMUNITY SERVICE |*

- Worked closely with college access programs to recruit students from historically marginalized backgrounds across California to invite students and parents to empowerment workshops to demystify higher education using storytelling methodology.

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institution Educators (AHSIE)  
National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA)  
Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU)  
Hermanos Unidos de UC Riverside (HU)  
Chicano Student Programs (CSP)