

# Brianna J. Butera

Assistant Professor of Spanish  
World Languages & Literatures, University of Memphis  
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## EDUCATION

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Ph.D., Spanish Linguistics, Department of Spanish & Portuguese, UW-Madison	2018
M.A., Spanish, Department of Spanish & Portuguese, UW-Madison	2013
B.A., Spanish & French, Department of Languages, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire	2011
In Residence, Università per Stranieri di Siena, Siena, Italy	2014
In Residence, Université de Pau, Pau, France	2010
In Residence, Universidad de Valladolid, Valladolid, Spain	2009

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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2020 –	Assistant Professor of Spanish, World Languages & Literatures, University of Memphis
2019 – 2020	Visiting Assistant Professor, Modern Languages, University of Wisconsin-River Falls
2019 – 2020	Instructor, River Falls Community Education, River Falls, WI
Sum 2019	Faculty Lead, Spanish-Language Immersion in Costa Rica, Madison College
2018 – 2019	Visiting Assistant Professor, Languages, Literatures & Cultures, Rockford University
2018 – 2019	Lecturer, Department of Spanish & Portuguese, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Sum 2018	Faculty Lead, French Immersion in Quebec, Madison College
2016 – 2019	Instructor, Division of Continuing Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2015 – 2019	Instructor, Adult Continuing Education, Madison College
2015 – 2017	Teaching Fellow, Center for First-Year Experience, University of Wisconsin-Madison
2011 – 2018	TA, Department of Spanish & Portuguese, University of Wisconsin-Madison

## PUBLICATIONS

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Forthcoming	Butera, Brianna. Beyond Personal Transformation as a Spanish as a Heritage Language Educator: A Call to Action for Inclusive and Comprehensive Teacher Training. <i>Spanish as a Heritage Language Journal</i> .
2023	Butera, Brianna, Rajiv Rao, and Maryann Parada. A Preliminary Exploration of Declarative Intonation in the Chilean Diaspora of Sweden. <i>Languages</i> 2023, 8(4), 228. <a href="https://doi.org/10.3390/languages8040228">https://doi.org/10.3390/languages8040228</a>
2023	Butera, Brianna. Acoustic Variability of /ptk/ and /bdg/ in Spanish: A Pilot Study. <i>Languages</i> 2023, 8(3), 224. <a href="https://doi.org/10.3390/languages8030224">https://doi.org/10.3390/languages8030224</a>
2022	Bondarenko, Margaryta, Brianna Butera & Rajiv Rao. VOT of L3 Spanish /ptk/ by Multilingual Heritage Speakers of Ukrainian and Polish. <i>E-Journal ALL, EuroAmerican Journal of Applied Linguistics and Languages</i> , 9 (1).
2022	Rao, Rajiv, Ting Ye & Brianna Butera. The Prosodic Expression of Sarcasm vs. Sincerity by Heritage Speakers of Spanish. <i>Languages</i> 2022, 7, 17. <a href="https://doi.org/10.3390/languages7010017">https://doi.org/10.3390/languages7010017</a>

- 2020 Butera, Brianna, Rajiv Rao & Sandro Sessarego. Afro-Peruvian Spanish Intonation: A Case of Contact-Induced Language Change. In Rao, Rajiv (ed.), *Spanish phonetics and phonology in contact: Studies from Africa, the Americas, and Spain*, 208-226. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- 2020 Butera, Brianna, Sandro Sessarego & Rajiv Rao. Afro-Peruvian Spanish Declarative Intonation: Analysis and Implications. In Morales-Front, Alfonso, Michael J. Ferreira, Ronald P. Leow & Cristina Sanz (eds.), *Hispanic Linguistics: Current issues and new directions*, 230-247. Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- 2019 Sessarego, Sandro, Brianna Butera & Rajiv Rao. Aspectos de la entonación afroperuana. *Cuadernos de la ALFAL* 11.1: 199-215. Santiago.

#### CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

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- 2024 Butera, Brianna. Promoting Equitable Teaching and Learning Using Equity Audits. Presentation at the *ACTFL 2024 Annual Convention*. Philadelphia, PA. November 2024.
- 2024 Butera, Brianna. Retention and Achievement of Underrepresented Students in Spanish Programs: Promoting Equitable Teaching and Learning. Presentation at the *106<sup>th</sup> Association of American Teachers of Spanish & Portuguese (AATSP) Annual Conference*. Portland, OR. June-July 2024.
- 2024 Butera, Brianna, and Jaqueline Alaniz. Tejiendo Raíces: Using Multimodal Projects to Connect Community, Self, and Heritage in the SHL Classroom. Presentation at the *11<sup>th</sup> National Symposium on Spanish as a Heritage Language (NSSHL)*. University of Texas-San Antonio, San Antonio, TX, February 2024.
- 2023 Butera, Brianna. Community, Identity, and Family: Redesigning Spanish for Heritage Learners. Presentation at the *ACTFL 2023 Convention & World Languages Expo*. Chicago, IL. November 2023.
- 2023 Butera, Brianna. Developing Agency and Empowering Bilingualism among Heritage Language Learners. Presentation at *TWLTA West Regional Mini-Conference*. Rhodes College, Memphis, TN, April 2023.
- 2023 Butera, Brianna, Rajiv Rao, and Maryann Parada. A preliminary exploration of declarative intonation in Chilean diaspora in Sweden. Presentation at the *10<sup>th</sup> National Symposium on Spanish as a Heritage Language (NSSHL)*. Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, April 2023.
- 2022 Butera, Brianna. Estrategias: Enfrentando la blanquitud y el estatus no nativo en la enseñanza de lenguas de herencia. Electronic poster presentation at the *104<sup>th</sup> Association of American Teachers of Spanish & Portuguese (AATSP) Annual Conference*. San Juan, Puerto Rico. July 2022.
- 2022 Butera, Brianna. Building Trust and Community in the Heritage Language Classroom through Critical Language Awareness. Presentation at *TWLTA West Regional Mini-Conference*. University of Memphis, Memphis, TN. April 2022.
- 2022 Butera, Brianna. The White, Non-Native Speaking Professor: Reflexiones de enseñar el español de herencia. Presentation at the *9<sup>th</sup> National Symposium on Spanish as a Heritage Language (NSSHL)*. Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL, February 2022.

- 2021 Butera, Brianna. Español para hablantes de herencia. Presentation at *2021 Tennessee Foreign Language Teachers Association* (currently *TWLTA*) *Annual Conference*. Franklin, TN, November 2021.
- 2021 Butera, Brianna. Deciphering Dialects: When words vary amongst Spanish speaking populations. Guest panelist for a virtual panel hosted by the Office of Inclusion, Equity, and Diversity at UT Health Science Center for National Hispanic Heritage Month. September 2021.
- 2019 Butera, Brianna. A Lenition Continuum: Relative Intensity of Spanish Stop Consonants /ptk/ and /bdg/. Paper presented at *2019 Western Conference on Linguistics (WECOL)*. California State University, Fresno, Fresno, CA, November 2019.
- 2017 Rao, Rajiv, Sandro Sessarego & Brianna Butera. Notes on the declarative intonation of four Afro-Hispanic varieties. Paper presented at the *47<sup>th</sup> Linguistic Symposium on Romance Languages*. University of Delaware, Newark, DE, April 2017.
- 2017 Butera, Brianna, Sandro Sessarego, & Rajiv Rao. Aspects of Chinch Spanish Intonation. Paper presented at the *Society for Pidgin and Creole Linguistics*. University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX, January 2017.
- 2016 Butera, Brianna, Sandro Sessarego, & Rajiv Rao. Afro-Peruvian Spanish Declarative Intonation: Analysis and Implications. Paper presented at *Going Romance*. Campus Westend, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, Germany, December 2016.
- 2016 Butera, Brianna, Sandro Sessarego, & Rajiv Rao. Afro-Peruvian Spanish Declarative Intonation: Analysis and Implications. Paper presented at the *Hispanic Linguistics Symposium*. Georgetown University, Washington D.C., October 2016.
- 2015 Butera, Brianna. A lenition continuum across different varieties of Spanish. Paper presented at the *Workshop in General Linguistics*, UW-Madison, Madison, WI, April 2015.
- 2015 Butera, Brianna. A lenition continuum: Four varieties of Spanish. Paper presented at the *2015 Kaleidoscope Graduate Student Conference of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese*, UW-Madison, Madison, WI, March 2015.
- 2014 Butera, Brianna. The origins of consonantal lenition in Western Romance. Paper presented at the *2014 Kaleidoscope Graduate Student Conference of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese*, UW-Madison, Madison, WI. March 2014.
- 2013 Butera, Brianna. Los orígenes de la «lenición consonántica» en el Romance occidental. Paper presented at the *2<sup>nd</sup> UWM Symposium on Luso-Hispanic Linguistics*, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI, November 2013.

#### INVITED PRESENTATIONS

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- 2024 Multilingual & Multicultural Memphis in Action: Language, Education, and Community Engagement. Plenary panel organized with University of Memphis undergraduate and graduate students, members of the bilingual Hispanic/Latine community of Memphis.

Multilingual Memphis Regional Conference. Southwest Tennessee Community College. April 13, 2024.

2023 From Grad School to Tenure Track. Invited presentation by Dr. Rajiv Rao, University of Wisconsin-Madison. October 3, 2023 via Zoom.

2023 Afro-Peruvian Spanish Intonation. Invited presentation by Dr. Sandro Sessarego, University of Texas-Austin. March 21, 2023 via Zoom.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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2017 Acoustic analyst for Rajiv Rao's 2016-2017 UW-Madison Graduate School Fall Competition Project entitled 'The Expression of Pragmatic Meaning through Prosody in the Spanish of Heritage Speakers.

## FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS & AWARDS

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### Internal & External Support

2023 ACTFL Travel Stipend Award. Funding Received from the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages

2022 Travel Enrichment Fund Award. Funding received from the University of Memphis College of Arts and Sciences Travel Enrichment Fund.

2022 AATSP First Time Conference Attendee Travel Grant. Funding received from the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese.

2021 Professional Development Grant to attend 'Herramientas didácticas digitales para el aula de ELE: Las redes sociales' hosted by the University of Salamanca, Spain. October-November 2021. Funding received from Universidad de Salamanca Becas.

2019 Faculty and Instructional Academic Staff Professional Development Grant. Conference Presentation Funds for presentation at 2019 Western Conference on Linguistics (WECOL), California State University, Fresno, Fresno, CA, November 2019. Funding received from UW-River Falls, Faculty and Academic Staff Development Program.

2017 Conference Presentation Funds for presentation at the Hispanic Linguistics Symposium, Georgetown University, Washington D.C., October 2016. Funding received from UW-Madison, Department of Spanish & Portuguese.

2016 Conference Presentation Funds for presentation at the Hispanic Linguistics Symposium, Georgetown University, Washington D.C., October 2016. Funding received from the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF) and the Vilas Trust, Graduate School, UW-Madison.

### Research Fellowships

2024 Freeburg Fellows Program, Marcus W. Orr Center for the Humanities (MOCH). Project title: Retention and Achievement of Underrepresented Students in Spanish Programs: An Equity Audit and Needs Analysis to Promote Equitable Teaching and Learning.

2018 Mellon Wisconsin Summer Fellowship. Funding received from the College of Letters and Sciences at UW-Madison via the Mellon Foundation in partnership with the State of Wisconsin.

- 2015 – 2016 Academic Opportunities Fellowship. Funding received from WARF via the State of Wisconsin's Advanced Opportunity Program and the Graduate School, part of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education at UW-Madison.
- 2014 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS) to study Italian language & culture in Siena, Italy. Funding received from the U.S. Department of Education via UW-Madison's National Resource Centers of the Institute for Regional and International Studies.
- 2012 – 2013 Academic Opportunities Fellowship. Funding received from WARF via the State of Wisconsin's Advanced Opportunity Program and the Graduate School, part of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education at UW-Madison.

### Teaching & Research Awards

- 2024 Nomination for the University of Memphis Alumni Association Distinguished Teaching Award.
- 2017 Capstone Ph.D. in Teaching Award, College of Letters & Science, UW-Madison
- 2017 Departmental Nominee: Teaching Fellows Award, College of Letters & Science, UW-Madison
- 2017 Honored Instructor Award, UW-Madison Housing, student nominated
- 2016 Honored Instructor Award, UW-Madison Housing, student nominated
- 2015 Ray Harris Hispanic Linguistics Award. Award received from the Ray Harris Hispanic Linguistics Award Fund via the Department of Spanish & Portuguese, UW-Madison
- 2015 Honored Instructor Award, UW-Madison Housing, student nominated
- 2014 Honored Instructor Award, UW-Madison Housing, student nominated
- 2013 Honored Instructor Award, UW-Madison Housing, student nominated
- 2012 Honored Instructor Award, UW-Madison Housing, student nominated

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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#### University of Memphis

- Spanish 1010: Elementary Spanish I
- Spanish 1010: Elementary Spanish I UMGlobal (2 sections)
- Spanish 2010: Intermediate Spanish I UMGlobal (2 sections)
- Spanish 3301: Conversation (3 sections)
- Spanish 3303: Composition (3 sections)
- Spanish 3308: Spanish Phonetics (3 sections)
- Spanish 3310: Spanish of Heritage Speakers (4 sections)
- Spanish 4707: Spanish in the US (2 sections)
- Spanish 7301: Spanish Phonology (2 sections)
- Spanish 7304: Evolution of Spanish
- Spanish 7306: Spanish in the US (2 sections)

University of Wisconsin-River Falls

Spanish 301: Spanish Conversation and Composition I (2 sections)  
 Spanish 302: Spanish Conversation and Composition II (2 sections)  
 Spanish 350: Spanish Phonetics (1 section)  
 Spanish 373: Spanish Translation for the Professions (1 section)  
 Spanish 374: Spanish Professional Writing (1 section)  
 Spanish 401: Advanced Spanish Communication (1 section)

Rockford University

Spanish 101: First Semester Spanish (3 sections)  
 Spanish 203: Third Semester Spanish (2 sections)  
 Spanish 309: History of the Language/Phonetics (1 section)  
 Spanish 311: Advanced Composition (1 section)  
 Languages, Literatures & Cultures 376: Intro to Romance Linguistics (1 section)

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Spanish 308: Advanced Reading and Writing (2 sections)  
 Spanish 341: Introduction to Hispanic Linguistics (2 sections)

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Spanish 101: First Semester Spanish (3 sections), Head Teaching Assistant (one semester)  
 Spanish 102: Second Semester Spanish (3 sections), Head Teaching Assistant  
 Spanish 203: Third Semester Spanish (6 sections)  
 Spanish 204: Fourth Semester Spanish (3 sections)  
 Spanish 226: Intermediate Language Practice, Emphasis on Writing and Grammar (2 sections)  
 Spanish 311: Advanced Spanish Language Practice (1 section)  
 Integrated Liberal Studies 138: Foundations of a Liberal Arts Education (3 sections)  
 Course Grader: Italian 429: Intro to Romance Languages (1 section)

River Falls Community Education

Spanish 1, Conversational Spanish (1 section)  
 Spanish 2, Conversational Spanish (1 section)

University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Continuing Studies

Spanish 0, Introduction to Spanish for True Beginners (2 sections)  
 Spanish 1, Introduction to Spanish I (5 sections)  
 Spanish 2, Introduction to Spanish II (2 sections)  
 Spanish 3, Intermediate Spanish I (3 sections)  
 Spanish 4, Intermediate Spanish II (1 section)

Madison College

Adult Continuing Education Spanish 1, Conversational Spanish (1 section)  
 Adult Continuing Education Spanish 2, Conversational Spanish (3 sections)  
 Adult Continuing Education Spanish 3, Conversational Spanish (2 sections)  
 Adult Continuing Education Spanish 4, Conversational Spanish (2 sections)

Madison College Education Abroad

French 1: First Semester French, French Immersion in Quebec (1 section)

French 5: Fifth Semester French, French Immersion in Quebec (1 section)

Spanish 2: Second Semester Spanish, Spanish-Language Immersion in Costa Rica (1 section)

Spanish 3: Third Semester Spanish, Spanish-Language Immersion in Costa Rica (1 section)

Spanish 5: Fifth Semester Spanish, Spanish-Language Immersion in Costa Rica (1 section)

**SERVICE**

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2021 –	Director, Spanish Basic Language Program, University of Memphis
2021 –	Supervisor, Spanish Graduate Teaching Assistants, University of Memphis
2021 –	Student Conduct Board Member, University of Memphis
2021 –	Dual Enrollment Development, University of Memphis
2021	Spanish Club, Meet Your Professors, University of Memphis (October)
2021	Departmental Instructor Search Committee, University of Memphis (November)
2021	WLL Department Chair Search Committee, University of Memphis
2021	Departmental Instructor Search Committee, University of Memphis (June)
2021	Spanish Club, Meet Your Professor, University of Memphis (February)
2021	Outstanding Senior Award Ranking Committee, University of Memphis
2021	Mary Pettus Thomas Memorial Scholarship Committee, University of Memphis
2021	Presenter: Spanish for Heritage Speakers. World Language Expo, University of Memphis
2021	ESP/Upswing Tutoring Workshop Host, University of Memphis
2021	Discover Your Major Day, University of Memphis
2020	Hybrid Teaching Ad-Hoc Committee, University of Memphis
2019 – 2020	Curriculum Committee, UW-River Falls
2019	McNair Visit Day Panelist, UW-Madison
2019	Director, Spanish Coffee Hour, Rockford University
2018	McNair Visit Day Panelist, UW-Madison
2017	2017 Kaleidoscope Graduate Student Conference Moderator, UW-Madison
2017	2017 Kaleidoscope Graduate Student Conference Logistics Committee, UW-Madison
2016 – 2017	Chair's Advisory Committee Graduate Student Representative, UW-Madison
2016 – 2017	Graduate Student Mentor, UW-Madison
2016	5 <sup>th</sup> Luso-Hispanic Linguistics Symposium Moderator, UW-Madison
2016	2016 Kaleidoscope Graduate Student Conference Moderator, UW-Madison
2016	2016 Kaleidoscope Graduate Student Conference Logistics Committee, UW-Madison
2015 – 2016	Restructuring Committee Graduate Student Representative, UW-Madison
2015 – 2016	Graduate Studies Committee Graduate Student Representative, UW-Madison
2015	2015 Kaleidoscope Graduate Student Conference Logistics Committee, UW-Madison
2014	2014 Kaleidoscope Graduate Student Conference Reading Group Leader, UW-Madison
2012 – 2013	Graduate Student Mentor, UW-Madison

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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2021	ACTFL Virtual OPI Assessment Workshop
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**LANGUAGES**

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English	native reading, writing and speaking proficiency
Spanish	near-native reading, writing, and speaking proficiency
French	advanced reading, writing, and speaking proficiency
Italian	high intermediate reading, writing, and speaking proficiency
Portuguese	high intermediate reading, writing, and elementary speaking proficiency
Latin	reading knowledge

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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American Association of University Supervisors, Coordinators, and Directors of Language Programs (AAUSC)

American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)

American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP)

Tennessee World Language Teaching Association (TWLTA)