

Kayla Puente

University of California, Irvine, School of Education

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Education

Fall 2017 – present	Ph.D. Education with a Chicana/Latina Emphasis, University of California, Irvine.
2016	B.A. Psychology with a Minor in Sociology, Pomona College, Claremont, CA. <i>Senior Thesis:</i> Intrinsic Motivation Across Generations of Latino High School Students <i>Thesis Advisor:</i> Dr. Raymond Buriel

Honors and Awards

2019	Outstanding Social Justice Activist Award, Dynamic Womxn of UCI Awards 2019 Ceremony, University of California, Irvine
2018	Honorable Mention, National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program
2017	Eugene Cota-Robles Fellowship, School of Education, University of California, Irvine.
2016	Distinction in the Senior Exercise, Psychology Department, Pomona College.
2012-2014	Price Family 1 st Generation Scholarship

Research Experience

UC Links Graduate Research Assistant

Fall 2018-Spring 2020

University of California, Irvine

- Continue the partnership between the UCI School of Education and 5 afterschool programs located in Orange County and at UCI through email communications and meetings.
- Observe student engagement in activities related to literacy, digital literacy, and critical thinking and global skills to inform UC Links reporting.
- Maintain and update the Certificate in After School Education (CASE) program website in order to give current information to undergraduate students taking CASE courses.

Competitive Edge Summer Program

Summer 2017

University of California, Irvine

- Attended a two-month long summer program aimed at professional development and equipping incoming graduate students with campus resources.
- Participated in professional development workshops each week, such as a Teaching Assistant Strategies Workshop and Poster Presentation Workshop.
- Worked directly with Dr. Sandra Simpkins on a research project and produced a poster, which was presented at the end of the summer during the Symposium.

Senior Thesis

September 2015-May 2016

Department of Psychology, Pomona College

- Conducted and implemented an experimental psychology thesis, which involved creating survey materials and analyzing the collected data.
- Focused on evaluating intrinsic motivation among different generations of Latino high school students.

Undergraduate Assistant

September 2015-December 2015

Autism Center, Claremont McKenna College

- Provided behavioral therapy for children between the ages of 5-10 with Autism for four hours a week through a course offered at Claremont McKenna College.
- Worked with children on developing their social skills through creating lesson plans three times throughout the semester along with working individually with them during activities.

Research Assistant

January 2015-May 2015

Cultural Neuroscience Lab, Pomona College

- Performed and analyzed EEG readings on participants in order to study the interaction between culture and neurological mechanisms.
- Gained knowledge about group collaboration, research writing skills, and proper researcher-participant interaction.

Research Assistant

February 2014-December 2015

CARE Lab, Pomona College

- Assisted for five hours every week in various research projects including transcribing therapy sessions, coding facial expressions of children, and interviewing participants for research projects.

Manuscripts-in-Preparation

Ma, T. L., Zarrett, N., Yu. M., **Puente. K.**, Liu, Y., Vandell, D.L., & Simpkins, S. D. (Under Review). Profiles of children's characters and its longitudinal associations with academic and social functioning.

Puente, K., Gulseven, Z., Tulagan, N., Zarrett, N., Vandell, D. L., & Simpkins, S. D. (In Preparation). Developmental trajectories of children's self-control: Insights from mothers and teachers.

Puente, K., Starr, C. R., & Simpkins, S. D. (In Preparation). Developmental trajectories of science identity beliefs of White, Black, Latinx, and Asian adolescents: An intersectional approach to within-group differences.

Yu, M. V., Soto-Lara, S., Liu, Y., **Puente, K.**, Carranza Ramos, P., Pantano, A., & Simpkins, S. D. (Under Review). Cultural engagement in practice: A mixed-methods examination of Latinx youth's perspectives in an afterschool program.

Publications

Puente, K. & Simpkins, S. (2020). Understanding the role of older sibling support in the science motivation of Latinx adolescents. *International Journal of Gender, Science and Technology*, 11(3), 405-428. Retrieved

from: <http://genderandset.open.ac.uk/index.php/genderandset/article/view/661/1094>

Ma, T. L., Simpkins, S., & **Puente, K.** (2019). Latinx and White adolescents' reasons behind organized activity participation: The connections with cultural orientations, psychological engagement, and activity experiences. *Applied Developmental Science*, 1-15.

Presentations

- Yu, M. B., Pantano, A., Simpkins, S.D., & **Puente, K.** (2020, April). *Diversifying underrepresented minority youths' math learning experiences and educational pathways to address Anthropocene issues*. In M. B. Yu & C. Underwood (Chairs) On the ground responses to the Anthropocene context: Civic and STEM engagement as global citizenship. Poster accepted for the annual meeting for the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA. (Conference cancelled)
- Puente, K.**, & Simpkins, S. (2020, March). *Math and Science Identity Trajectories Among Latinx Students from High School and Beyond*. Poster accepted at the biennial meeting for the Society for Research on Adolescence, San Diego, CA (Conference cancelled).
- Ma, T. L., Zarrett, N., Yu, M., **Puente, K.**, Liu, Y., Simpkins, S. D., & Vandell, D. (2020, March). *The stability and changes of patterns across youth character virtues during the transition from preadolescence to adolescence*. In T. Ma (Chair). Changes and Stability of Adolescent Character Virtues: The Longitudinal Links to Social-Emotional and Academic Functioning. Paper prepared to present at the biennial meeting for the Society for Research on Adolescence, San Diego, CA. (Conference cancelled)
- Yu, M.B., **Puente, K.**, Pantano, A., & Simpkins, S.D. (2020, February). *Diversifying underrepresented minority youths' math learning experiences and educational pathways to address Anthropocene issues*. Poster presented at the University Community Links Annual Conference, University of California, Berkeley.
- Puente, K.**, Yu, M., Pantano, A., & Simpkins, S. (2020, February). Math CEO video project. *UC Links digital workshop*. Presented at the University Community Links Conference, University of California, Berkeley.
- Puente, K.**, Tulagan, N., Simpkins, S. D., Vandell, D., & Zarrett, N. (2019, March). *Developmental trajectories of youth emotion regulation and self-control: Insights from mothers and teachers*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Baltimore, MA.
- Puente, K.**, & Simpkins, S. (2019, March). *The role of sibling support in the science motivation of high school Latinx students*. Paper presented at the Society for Research in Child Development Biennial Meeting, Baltimore, MA.
- Yu, M., **Puente, K.**, Simpkins, S., Lao, J. (2019, March). *Strengthening university students' mentoring practices in a math enrichment program*. Presented at the University Community Links conference, University of California, Berkeley.
- Puente, K.**, & Simpkins, S. (2018, September). *The role of siblings and familism values in the science motivation of Latinx high school students*. Poster session presented at the School of Education's First Year Poster Session, University of California, Irvine.
- Puente, K.**, & Simpkins, S. (2017, August). *Biculturalism and its Effect on the Relationship between Science Engagement and Science Motivation*. Poster session presented at the meeting of Competitive Edge Summer Program Symposium, University of California, Irvine.

Puente, K., & Buriel, R. (2016, May). *Intrinsic motivation across generations of Latino high school students.* Thesis presentation presented at Pomona College.

Conferences Attended

February 2020	UC Links Conference – University of California, Berkeley
March 2019	Society for Research in Child Development – Baltimore, Maryland
March 2019	UC Links Conference – University of California, Berkeley
August 2018	UC Adolescent Consortium – University of California, Los Angeles
April 2018	Society for Research on Adolescence – Minneapolis, Minnesota

Professional Memberships:

Society for Research in Child Development, 2019 – present
Society for Research on Adolescence, 2018 – present
Latinx Caucus of the Society for Research in Child Development, 2018 - present

Professional Development

Fall 2019	Attended Activate to Captivate Public Speaking course
Fall 2019	Attended University Teaching: Concepts and Practices course
Summer 2018	Attended Certificate in Mentoring Excellence Program, University of California, Irvine.
April 2018	Attended Tri-Caucus Pre-Conference, Society for Research on Child Development, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Teaching and Mentoring Experience

Graduate Student Mentor

School of Education DECADE, University of California, Irvine **September 2018 – present**

- Mentor a first year Ph.D. student in the School of Education on the Ph.D. journey and process by offering knowledge on resources and my own experiences.

Teaching Fellow

June 2015-July 2015

Breakthrough Houston Collaborative

- Taught two Geometry classes composed of 12 rising ninth graders.
- Co-taught one Psychology class to rising 7th, 8th, and 9th graders with another Teaching Fellow.
- Created a safe and fun learning environment through cheers and relationship-building.

Counselor

June 2013

Young Owls Leadership Program, Rice University

- Mentored 9 high school students about the college process and experience along with 2 other advisors for two weeks at Rice University.

Community Engagement and Leadership

DECADE Mentorship Program Committee Member **Summer 2018 – present**

DECADE Higher Education Outreach Committee Member **Summer 2018 – Spring 2019**

DECADE Member**October 2017 – present***School of Education DECADE, University of California, Irvine*

- Match current Ph.D. students to incoming Ph.D. students in order to provide incoming students with a mentor.
- Work with undergraduate student organizations to organize workshops designed for undergraduate students on topics such as: graduate application process, undergraduate research assistant positions, etc.
- Attend monthly, hourly meetings where event planning and resources needed are discussed.

Student Representative**December 2015 – February 2016***Department of Chicano/a Studies, Pomona College*

- Coordinated student participation in the process of choosing a new professor who would have a joint position in the Psychology and Chicano Studies.
- Engaged in Skype interviews and conversations about potential candidates and gave personal and student input to professors reviewing candidates.

Tutor**January 2014 – December 2015***Upward Bound, Harvey Mudd College*

- Tutored three high school students on various subjects for two and a half hours on Saturdays.
- Motivated and encouraged them to use study skills, such as reviewing notes, which would help them gain an understanding on how to be successful both in their studies in high school and in college.

Sponsor**August 2013 – May 2016***Chicano Latino Student Affairs, Claremont Colleges*

- Trained for one week prior to fall semester on how best to assist incoming minority students whom identified as Latino/Latina.
- Mentored eight students throughout their time at Pomona.

Education Outreach Coordinator**September 2013 – May 2014****Member****January 2013 – May 2016***Improving Dreams, Equality, Access and Success, Claremont Colleges*

- Joined organization that focuses on supporting undocumented students through community outreach both on campus and the surrounding community.
- Managed the off-campus team of the organization by planning events and high school visits.
- Introduced college process resources and materials to high school students, including those who were undocumented.

Skills

Language: Fluent in Spanish**Research Software Programs:** SPSS, Qualtrics, Stata, Mplus