Examining Linguistic Bias: Building Linguistically Inclusive Spaces for Teaching and Learning

Friday, March 12, 2021
Zoom | 9-10:30 am PST

Institutions of higher education and the education system in general often privilege English as the language of communication and instruction. We inadvertently stifle multilingual students’ learning, meaning-making, and communicative potential, and we stifle our own abilities to use our language resources as we learn with our students.

Through a series of personal anecdotes, we will explore how linguistic racism prevails in educational spaces and how we can challenge it. We can all work collectively to build more just and inclusive languaging spaces across disciplines, professions, and communities by 1. reflecting on and identifying our own linguistic bias and how we may be contributing to English-only ideologies in education and 2. identifying a concrete action we can take today that centers on building linguistically inclusive spaces for teaching and learning.

Dr. Cavazos teaches undergraduate and graduate coursework in writing studies. Her pedagogical and scholarly interests include: language difference in the teaching of writing, translingual writing across communities, professional development in higher education, and border rhetorics. She was awarded the University of Texas System 2017 Regents’ Outstanding Teaching Award and the 2017 UTRGV Excellence Award in Teaching. She is committed to designing linguistically inclusive pedagogies, which can lead to students’ academic success across academic disciplines in higher education.

Zoom registration: https://www.tinyurl.com/AlyssaCavazos