

Sara Valdez

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Objective

Currently enrolled in a graduate school and teaching credential program to become a high school science teacher. Technical background includes an undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering and professional experience working in the semiconductor industry. Education experience includes working in various organizations to inspire and equip students with STEM skills and awareness. Teaching experience includes a student-teaching residency at a public middle school in South Los Angeles. Highly motivated to pursue a professional teaching position in the Los Angeles area to help young minds understand and engage with the world around them through the STEM fields. Determined to promote diversity and inclusion for underrepresented communities by fostering a transformative STEM educational atmosphere.

Education

Single Subject Preliminary Credential - Physics

Master of Arts in Integrated STEM Education

California State University, Los Angeles

- Part of the **LAUTR** (Los Angeles Urban Teaching Residency) intensive program that prepares aspiring teachers for urban school setting through practical coursework and a year-long classroom training with mentor teacher.
- Coursework is guided by the principles of social justice, educational equity, and transformative teaching.
- Participated in a series of Nanoscience workshops for teachers at the **UCLA California NanoScience Institute** (ongoing).

Expected Completion May 2019

Expected Completion May 2020

Los Angeles, California, USA

Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering

University of California, Berkeley

- Coursework focus: Materials, Biomechanics, Dynamics, Design Graphics & Mechanics, and Education.
- Manufacturing Machine Shop Certification – Engine lathes, vertical and horizontal milling machines, drill presses, off-hand grinders, belt sanders, band saws, and more.

Completion 2009

Berkeley, California, USA

Teaching Experience

Student Teacher – 8th grade Physical Science

Thomas Alva Edison Middle School

- Collaborates with mentor teacher by engaging in various co-teaching methods such as one-teach/one-assist, station teaching, and parallel teaching.
- Develops daily lesson plans, unit plans, and hands-on experimental labs following the California NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards) framework for middle school.
- Integrates coursework theory and puts into practice innovative teaching strategies that foster equitable learning and an inclusive classroom environment.
- Motivated a group of students to submit proposal for **UCLA's Nanovation Competition 2019**. The challenge was to write a business proposal for an idea that will use nanotechnology to improve their lives. Team was accepted and will be participating in the upcoming competition in May 2019.

August 2018 - Present

Los Angeles, California, USA

English Teaching Fellow

Institución Educativa Técnica Comercial, Las Américas

(via Heart for Change, Colombia Bilingüe, Colombian Ministry of Education)

- Responsible for teaching English to eight classes of 9th, 10th, & 11th grade students, ages ranging from 13–18 years old.
- Organized innovative and creative lessons for students in accordance with the Colombian English curriculum.
- Led various extra-curricular clubs outside of the classroom for students to further develop their English language skills. Clubs included general conversation clubs and "Project Passion" for advanced students.

January 2016 – December 2016

Cali, Colombia

Professional Engineering Experience

Intel Corporation

Materials Engineer

- Managed Intel's global quartz suppliers and ensured that Intel's quality standards were continually met.
- Promptly resolved material quality issues, and developed solutions for future technology needs.
- Conducted training classes for domestic and international Intel employees to guarantee proper handling and maintenance of quartz parts.
- Collaborated with business partners on high-impact projects in various global sites such as Israel, UK, and Ireland.

February 2010 – January 2015

Hillsboro, Oregon, USA