

Mónica Lucía Zambrano Garza

Educational Leadership • Instructional Design • Educational Technology

Monterrey, Mexico • Mexican and Spanish citizenship • English / Spanish

monica.lucia.zambrano@gmail.com • linkedin.com/in/monicazambranogarza

EXPLORE MY WORK — monicazambranogarza.com

Learning through people, places, and shared experience.

Seven years in U.S. and international schools, including leadership of approximately 25 staff serving 160 students. Experienced in teacher supervision, instructional coaching, curriculum implementation, student support, and family engagement. M.Ed. in Curriculum & Instruction, specializing in Learning, Design & Technology.

Lived in Switzerland, Austin, Houston, and Monterrey; traveled to more than 70 countries. Brings curiosity, appreciation for different cultures, and openness to unfamiliar perspectives.

School Leadership and Teaching

American School Foundation of Monterrey

Monterrey, Mexico • August 2020 – June 2023

Head of Grade Level, 2022–2023 • Grade 6 Team Leader, 2021–2022

Grade 6 Social Studies Teacher — Ancient Civilizations

- Supervised and supported approximately 25 staff serving 160 students; helped teachers with student behavior, classroom relationships, and team collaboration.
- Facilitated professional learning communities and Student of Concern meetings; coordinated student support, family communication, and social-emotional learning with counselors, administrators, and instructional coaches.
- Taught inquiry-based Ancient Civilizations through evidence, writing, and historical perspectives. Implemented PREZKOR Publishing in 2021–2022: student teams reviewed and revised work and designs, then assembled publications in Canva.

Briarmeadow Charter School • Houston ISD

Houston, Texas • August 2016 – May 2020

Middle School English Language Arts and Reading Department Chair, 2017–2020

Grade 6 Teacher • Pre-AP English Language Arts and Reading • World Culture Studies

- Collaborated on vertical curriculum alignment, instructional planning, standards-based assessment, and differentiation for multilingual learners.
- Integrated theater and the arts, planned virtual reality lessons, and protected 40 minutes of daily sustained silent reading; built routines for choice, peer feedback, and revision.

Awards at Briarmeadow

Teacher of the Year • 2018–2019

English as a Second Language Teacher of the Year • 2017–2018 and 2019–2020

Beginning Teacher of the Year • 2016–2017

Earlier Experience

First Grade Aide, St. Austin Catholic School, Austin, Texas • April–June 2016.

Retained following the student teaching internship.

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Family & Professional Development • 2023–2026

Took a planned career break to focus on raising my son while continuing to develop my interests in instructional design, educational technology, and meaningful learning experiences.

Instructional Design and Community Leadership

PREZKOR • Founder & Product Lead • February 2026–Present

Developing PREZKOR to help teachers facilitate high-quality, standards-aligned learning through clear objectives, meaningful student work, structured peer feedback, revision, and teacher-guided publishing. The goal is to make effective instructional practices easier to implement while giving students greater responsibility for their learning. The software remains in development, building on collaborative publishing practices implemented in my ASFM classroom.

Family-Led Community Pilot • Volunteer Systems & Community Lead

June 2026–Present • Currently involved as a parent and volunteer

Co-created an opt-in community for 74 families across six classrooms, with onboarding, a private directory, interest groups, and calendars. Coordinated a 120-person welcome event with volunteers and designed an AI-assisted activity connecting new and returning families within their children's classrooms.

Hosted 170 people for Halloween and designed a classroom “neighborhood” in a playroom, with family photos and trick-or-treating between groups. Coordinated the entire Bioparque Estrella outing. Completed a structured administrative handoff in September 2026 and continue contributing as a parent and volunteer.

Collaborative Publishing • Master's Capstone

University of Houston • 2020

- Designed an online-magazine workshop for beginning teachers, including learner analysis, learning objectives, publishing guidance, and a self-assessment checklist.
- Formatively evaluated the workshop with four beginning teachers; identified challenges combining live instruction, creation, and feedback, and planned an asynchronous sequence.

Children's Writing • Independent Author • Current

Developing two original children's books for shared reading that explore values, everyday routines, and lessons children can carry into the next day. Designed to support language and family connection while helping children understand what to expect and how to respond.

Education and Professional Learning

M.Ed. in Curriculum & Instruction

University of Houston, United States of America • 2018 – 2020 • GPA 4.0

Specialization: Learning, Design & Technology. Graduate certificates in Online Teaching and Learning; Designing and Developing Educational Graphics; and Designing and Developing Educational Multimedia.

B.A. in English Language Arts & Reading — Elementary Education

St. Edward's University, United States of America • 2012 – 2016 • Magna Cum Laude

Coaching and Supervising Your Team

Principals' Training Center / Teacher Leadership Institute • Completed 2022

Additional professional learning: Concept-Based Teaching, ASFM (2021); Kagan Cooperative Learning and Neuhaus Unlocking Literacy (2019); Rice University Pre-AP Summer Institute (30 hours, 2017).