

# Dr. Judith Martínez-García



Dr. B. Judith Martínez-García is from Monterrey, Mexico. She has a background in Secondary Education from the Normal School of Monterrey and a Law Degree from Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León. Dr. Martínez earned a Masters in the Arts of Teaching from Missouri State University and holds a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature and Cultural Studies from the University of Arkansas, with emphasis in the Hispanic Studies Interdisciplinary track.

Dr. Martínez has been at Missouri State University since fall of 2002 where part of her charge included the development of the Hispanic Initiative Program (HIP) for the College of Education. She has provided field experiences in diverse settings for pre-service teachers and also coordinated programs with area public schools, parents, and various communities to identify and recruit students from diverse backgrounds for Missouri State University. Judith also co-founded the STEP (Student Transition Education Program), and the Latino Leadership Institute (LLI) at Missouri State University to mentor and develop Latino Students on Campus and beyond.

Dr. Martínez has taught in K-12 settings in Mexico at the American School Foundation of Monterrey and at the College Level at the Normal School of Monterrey. She has also taught at Sparta R-III District and Central High School in Springfield, Mo. She teaches Language, Culture, and Literature courses as a tenured Professor in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages in the College of Arts and Letters. She is also a Certified Diversity Professional and a Certified Moral Courage Mentor. She has been recognized with the Board of Governors Award, the Excellence in Teaching Lawrence Award, and the Missouri State University Research Award. Her research interest focuses on the analysis of representations of violence of contemporary Latin American Literature and Culture such as poverty, narco-narrative, patriarchy, and forced migration.

She is also the Director of the Bear Bridge Mentoring Program for Faculty at MSU and runs other programs for faculty development. Judith is a member of the Southeast Rotarian Club, and the Junior League of Springfield. She serves in the Leadership Springfield Board and is a Leadership Springfield graduate of Class 43.